

# NEWSLETTER

Historical Society  
XXVIII

Spring 2014



Holderness

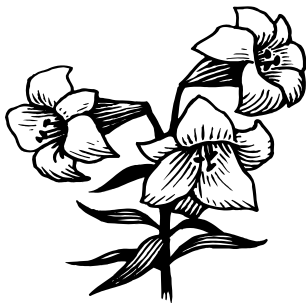
Volume

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## Frances Louisa Goodrich: A Summer Resident

Frances Goodrich spent summers in Holderness from 1880 to 1943. A Presbyterian minister's daughter, she was born in Binghamton, NY and grew up in Cleveland but, after her father's death in 1874, the family returned to New Haven, CT. Her father, William, and her great-grandfather, Noah Webster, the dictionary creator, were Yale graduates. Her mother, Mary, joined acquaintances from New Haven and had "Briarwood" built on Coxboro Rd. in 1880. Then, in 1906, Mary purchased "Pinecrest" just adjacent (the first summer "cottage" in Holderness, built in 1870) from heirs of Professor Norton. A home for her chauffeur was built across the street. Mary created a family "compound" which her other daughter Julia and son Chauncey (a minister like his father) and his family also enjoyed for all those summers. Frances and Julia had "Briarwood;" Chauncey had "Pinecrest." A 50<sup>th</sup> celebration party was held in 1930. Chauncey's daughters owned the property until 1978.



Two watercolors painted by Francis L. Goodrich that are on display in the Historical Society museum.

Frances Goodrich studied at the Yale School of Fine Art, the only Yale school which admitted women in the 1870s. She painted many watercolors but decided to make painting an avocation while she devoted her time to social service. She took an interest in missions to the poor in Appalachia and began working in 1890 as an assistant to a teacher in day schools provided by the Presbyterian Women's Board of Home Missions in North Carolina. She raised money for additional schools from congregations in the North. In 1897 she began a day school in Allanstand. She then began Allanstand Cottage Industries to organize production of crafts by the students' mothers and grandmothers. She appreciated the handicrafts--furniture, baskets, fans, quilts and coverlets-- of mountain women and encouraged them to make money by making and selling their work in her Allanstand log cabin. She corresponded with Gustav Stickley and had items from Allanstand included in his exhibition of Arts and Crafts in 1902. In 1908 she opened an Allanstand shop in Asheville, NC. It was one of the earliest shops of its kind in the U.S. Her work eventually led in 1930 to the Southern Highland Craft Guild, an organization which still exists.

Continued, page 2

Text here

## The President's Corner

We will be presenting two programs this year, which you can find listed on a separate page of the Newsletter. We look forward to seeing you in attendance at these programs.

This summer we are planning a special exhibit of photographs taken in Holderness and on Squam through the past years. If you have any old photos of Holderness and Squam that you would be willing to share we would be happy to include all contributions in our exhibit. We can scan the originals and return them to you. An ongoing project is a collection of pictures and stories of Holderness historic buildings. Does your home or building have a story? Please share it with us. If you have any information that you would be willing to contribute to this collection, it would be most welcome and will serve to preserve our town's history and give it perspective. We are completing the work of cataloging all of our books and pamphlets to make research simpler. We now have a library area that allows people to research families, cemeteries, camps, historical events, and places. Our documentary is another project still in the works. You can view a preview of the documentary and memorabilia of Holderness 250th in the museum on Saturdays this summer.

Thank you for your continued support by way of membership dues and contributions. If you have not renewed your membership for 2014, please use the enclosed envelope to do so. Please join us this year. Your ideas, suggestions, and help will be enthusiastically welcomed, particularly on the Publicity, Museum Docents and Curators, and Program assistants committees. We are a small group of active members and we could frankly use some help. Please contact me or any other board member if you can help or for more information.

Linda Foerderer

[FPLinda@aol.com](mailto:FPLinda@aol.com) (603) 968-7487 mid April to November 1 or (561) 279-9720 November to mid April.



Continued from page 1

Goodrich must have been aware of the Boston Arts and Crafts Society founded in 1897 to preserve handicrafts. According to Rachel Carley writing in Squam, the home industries movement encouraged country women to sell their handicrafts both for the economic benefit and to help preserve traditional skills. She points out that Mary Coolidge who helped set up Sandwich Home Industries here in New Hampshire was a member of the Boston group. In a 1935 letter, Goodrich talks about the "well-established craft center at Sandwich fostered by Mrs. Coolidge of Boston". She also writes of a visit to the Bristol showroom of the NH League of Crafts where the products "are of a high order of merit." In 1929 Yale published Mountain Homespun, Goodrich's book about the mountain crafts. Half the book gives detailed information about setting up looms, weaving patterns for coverlets and producing dyes for the wool and cotton used in making them. The other half depicts the women of the area, their dialect, their way of thinking, their hard work. In 1989, the book was reprinted with additional photos. Jan Davidson, a textile expert, wrote an extended introduction about Goodrich's life and work. Davidson and other purists critiqued the way Goodrich changed the traditional way of weaving and joining the pieces as well as providing Scandinavian looms, but she gave Goodrich credit for improving the lives of the women by giving them pride in their work, income to assist their children and helping build a sense of community.

While in Holderness, Goodrich produced many Squam watercolors. Her friend Helen Nicolay, daughter of Abraham Lincoln's secretary, whose home was off Shepard Hill Road, was a writer and artist as well. The two women ran a teahouse at #6 Cuxboro Rd one summer. According to a relative who gave the Historical Society several Goodrich watercolors to exhibit, some were hung in the teahouse.

Exerts from her eulogy "...One could not meet her even casually without being impressed by her personality, her keen mind, discriminating opinions and lively wit..." She had "...especially an unaffected simplicity...very like that of the people among whom she had chosen to live and whom she loved and appreciated in rare degree."

Goodrich is well-represented at the Historical Society. Her niece Eleanor presented the Society with the new edition of Mountain Homespun in 1989 in memory of her "Aunt Fan." There is also a Goodrich family photo album with pictures of their Squam summers, her brother's home in Brunswick, ME and the family's many European trips as well as a few Asheville images.

Missy Mason



## Treasurer's Report

Thank you to our members and donors who have sent contributions. We have just had the water turned on so we'll be ready for visitors. After many years, we will need to paint the buildings exterior this summer. Our windows are another priority. If you have not yet contributed, please return the envelope enclosed in this newsletter.

Thank You!

M. Mason



## In Memoriam

We were sad to learn of the death on May 4 of Nancy Grady, a long time supporter of the Historical Society. Last year she gave a talk of How the Islands of Squam Got Their Names and provided a copy to us. She had previously given us a copy of Annals of Burleigh, the 1995 history that she wrote about the Websters and Burleigh Farm detailing their 100 year attachment to Squam. She assisted her sister Susan with the framed postcard enlargements which decorate the walls of our museum. She helped us in many ways and will be missed.



## Summer Celebration

Summer celebration is scheduled to take place on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. Come enjoy the music and fireworks on Little Squam and celebrate summer!

## Squam NHRP Committee News

The Squam NHRP Committee, chaired by Betsy Whitmore, has been meeting under the auspices of the Squam Lakes Conservation Society. Their consultant, Elizabeth Hengen of Concord, received news last year in April of acceptance of Camp Ossipee, Livermore Cove, into the National Register of Historic Places. In June Rockywold-Deephaven Camps were accepted. In December Watch Rock near Camp Deerwood was accepted; the main camp on this property was built in 1926 for Herbert and Elizabeth Gallaudet. There are an earlier fishing camp and pump house on the property as well. The Committee has donated copies of Mrs. Hengen's very detailed documentation of these historic camps to the Historical Society and they are available for reading there.



From Historical Society photo collection - foundation of St. Peter's in the Mount taken August 27, 1888.



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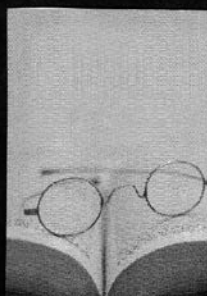


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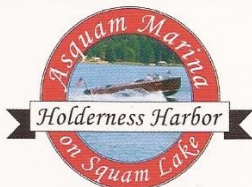
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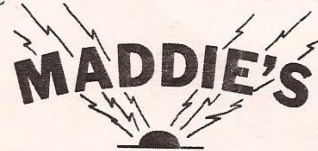


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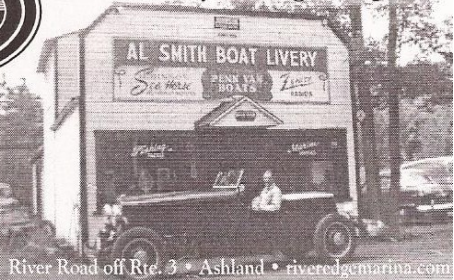
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## Having a Gathering?

The Holderness Historical Society Meeting Room is available for gatherings of up to 50 people. There is a fully supplied kitchen and two restrooms. The rental fee varies between \$80 and \$155 depending on the number of guests. Local civic groups may use it without charge. For more information or to reserve, please contact Linda Foerderer 968-7487 or Missy Mason 968-3334.



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## Special Exhibit

We will have a special exhibit in the museum this summer of photographs taken in Holderness and on Squam from our collection. There will be a section of unidentified people and places that we hope someone will recognize and tell us about.



Little Squam from Camp Estes 1903



Steamer Halcyon 1903

Photos above taken by Carol L Tilden & John CE Restall

## Great Falls...Little's Falls...Livermore Falls

The 1761 Charter of the Town of Holderness sets out a township six miles square "butted and bounded as follows, viz. Beginning at a red oak tree at the foot of the great Falls of the Pemigewasset River, thence running East six miles..."

With the Friends of the Pemi working to improve this scenic corner of Holderness (and Campton and Plymouth), we have looked into its history.

David Ruell, Ashland, has typed Holderness Town Meeting minutes from 1700's to 1869 when Ashland separated from Holderness. A recent look through these records uncovered something which would have changed our history. Arthur Livermore, son and heir of Samuel Livermore who was so important in Town and New Hampshire history, owned more than 500 acres. Samuel had bought it from the former colonial governor Benning Wentworth who had chosen the best lands for his portion when the township was laid out. Arthur's house stood where the Holderness School is today; his farm extended to the Pemigewasset River. The Trinity Episcopal Chapel was on his land, too. At this time, Arthur was paying 4% of all taxes Holderness collected. But in 1823 Arthur, a three-time U.S. congressman, decided to petition for his lands to be annexed to Plymouth. A special Town Meeting was held and, not surprisingly, the Selectmen, residents and Episcopal Church were all against the move. Livermore tried again in 1825. His petition, according to Ruell, states "that his Homestead Farm...is separated from the rest of said town by an extensive tract of poor land" and remote from the post office, businesses, the "place of holding Town meetings" and the schoolhouse in his district. At a special Holderness Town Meeting June 25, 1825, the vote was 127 to 1 against the petition. The Plymouth vote was 41 to 25 in favor. The New Hampshire House town committee postponed action on the petition in 1825, 1826 and 1827. Plymouth voters became less interested as time passed. Ruell writes that Livermore finally moved to Campton in 1827. His move and the name change for the falls are documented in the Campton Historical Society pamphlet which we have received permission to reprint and include in this newsletter.

These minutes are available at the Holderness Library in the lower level meeting room. There you will also find a loose-leaf notebook, Holderness History, with news clippings, speeches, term papers, pamphlets and other printed materials. There are county and state volumes as well as some family histories and copies of local cemetery records compiled by Laura and George Heath and Norton Bagley. (A retired PSU professor, Bagley, who was in his nineties, died during the past winter.)

Missy Mason



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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

A friendly reminder to all members who have not paid this year's dues **NOW** is the time! We do not send out notices and your support is so vital so please take a moment to renew using the enclosed envelope. We would like to thank all of our members who have continued to keep their membership current. Your membership money is important to the financial day to day running of the historical society.

Appreciatively,  
Cynthia Murray  
Membership Chairman



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## Flowers on the Bridge

What a winter!! It will be so wonderful to see the bridge flowers again and it won't be long!! Holderness residents and our tourists will be able to enjoy them once more in the Spring, Summer and Fall.

Keep in mind that we need contributions to fund this program. Any amount, however small is always welcome to help purchase the plants, planting materials and other expenses. We thank all of you who have so generously helped us over the past years. A contribution can be made to Holderness Historical Society, PO Box 319, Holderness, NH 03245. In the memo line of your check indicate *Flowers on the Bridge*. Thank you so much AND as they are saying these days "Think Spring"!!

Liz Greason and Cynthia Murray

## MUSEUM SUMMER HOURS

The museum will be open on Saturdays from the last week of June thru Labor Day from 10 AM to 12 noon. Please come visit and explore.

We have a special exhibit planned for this year of our collection of photographs taken in Holderness and on Squam through past years.

### *Prescription for Joy:*

Smile, Breathe Deeply, Relax, Enjoy, Be at Peace, Trust, Be Trustworthy, Bend, Plant a Geranium, Stick it in your Hat, Have Patience, Love Yourself, Love Others, Sing and Dance, Make Music, Slow Down, Stay Balanced, Laugh Heartily, Have Compassion, Skip, Count Your Blessings, Bless Others, Have Fun, Read a Good Book, Write Your Story, Nourish your Body, Mind and Spirit, Twirl, Stretch, Experiment, Learn a Lesson, Grow and Change, Be aware of your Thoughts, Have Good Ones, Choose Happiness, Smell the Flowers, Be of Service, Give a Gift, Be a Blessing, Really See, Listen, Feel, Touch, Snuggle, Be Still, Hum, Appreciate Solitude, Commune with God, Walk in Nature, Live in the Moment, Giggle, Release Judgments, Let Go, Move Forward, Touch, Hug, Be with a Child, Be a Child, Be Adventurous, Take a Chance, Be Happy, Grin, Embrace your Journey, Have a Vision, Be a Friend, Make a Friend, Stay in Touch, Celebrate, Whistle, Be Grateful, Cherish Life.

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