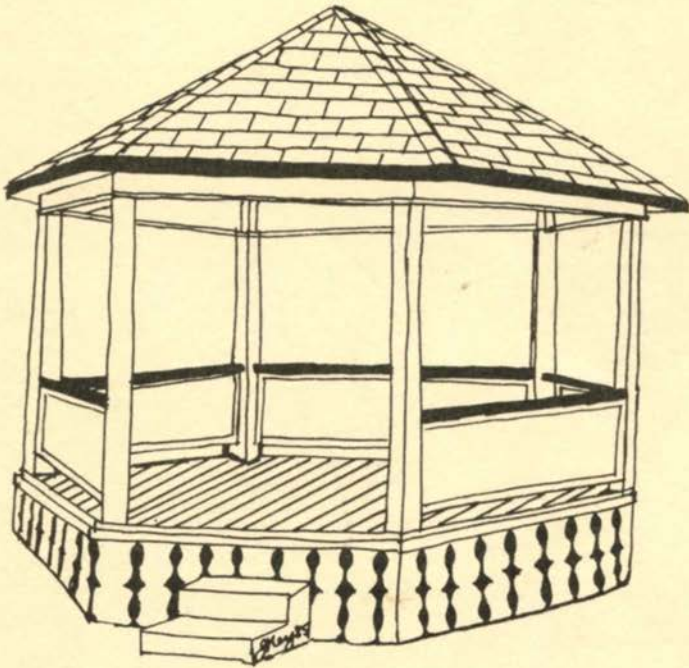


# WHEELOCK

**Bicentennial Edition**



This book is the work of two Wheelock Bicentennial Committees, as listed on page 2 .

We are grateful to all who have helped us during these past ten years: the various people who have been interviewed, the staff of the Vermont Historical Society who helped us in our search through the O. D. Mathewson papers, and the following newspapers - *The Weekly News of Lyndonville*, *The Caledonian Record of St. Johnsbury*, *The Barton Chronicle*.

Eleanor J. Hutchinson showed us the way, with her "Town of Wheelock, Vermont's Gift to Dartmouth College", published in 1961, and now out of print.

Wheelock History - Bicentennial Edition might never have been produced had it not been for Mrs. Fred Pillsbury. Frances guided us all the way, and was our leader in the true sense of the word.

My thanks to Mrs. Robert W. Smith. Janet typed the manuscript we sent to the printer.

Allis Beaumont Reid, Editor

Wheelock, June 19, 1985

All contributed material, including that not used in this book, will be turned over to the Vermont Historical Society.



## Bicentennial Committee 1973-85

In 1973, the Bicentennial Committee of the Town of Wheelock was formed, meeting in the home of Fredrick and Frances Pillsbury. Some of the older members remembered the Bandstand, destroyed in the hurricane of 1938, and so this was chosen to be the project for 1976. The committee members visited other towns, and finally procured a plan. Then it was time to find out the cost of material, and to apply to the Vermont Bicentennial Commission for a grant, which had to be matched on a three to one basis.

While waiting to construct the Bandstand, the Town applied for and was awarded a National Bicentennial Flag. This was presented to the Town by Arthur Mooney, a member of the Vermont Bicentennial Commission, during Field Day on July 20, 1974. Stephen R. Wheelock was the speaker. A member of the Vermont Environmental Board, he represented Governor Thomas P. Salmon.

On October 11, 1975, Mr. Raymond Murray and his team of horses, took children and adults on hay rides to see some of the sites of the historical markers which had been put up years ago, by Mr. Ferdinand Chase. Janet Smith and Leota Poulin worked hard to find the sites, as most of the markers have been stolen over the years.

This hay-ride was a fund raiser for the Bicentennial, but it was also part of the celebration of the 175th Anniversary of the organization of the South Wheelock Free Will Baptist Church.

Money was raised by dances, barbecues, dinners, and quilt raffles. Finally the wood, cement for the foundation, paint, and white pebbles were purchased. The men gathered to work, and the Bandstand became a reality.

On September 19, 1976, the Town's people gathered at 2:00 PM in front of the Town Hall. Rev. Mr. Campbell of the Lyndonville Congregational Church gave the invocation: "First of all, we are grateful that we live in this land where we have freedom of speech, where we have the opportunity for doing things such as this. Then we are so thankful that we live within this state. We are grateful for the town of Wheelock. It has meant so much, not only in the state of Vermont, but throughout the United States. How many young people have been brought up in this community and have gone out to find their place in the world? We pray, O God, as this bandstand is dedicated this afternoon, that it might always be a reminder that we do this in the land of the free and the home of the brave. But above all, that we live under your guidance, to bless us and this community, and this time, today."

Charlotte Niles, the daughter of Casius "Cash" Mosher who lived in Wheelock with his family, for several years, played the organ on the bandstand. "It is particularly appropriate that Mrs. Niles is here today, because the original bandstand was built for her father and his band. Mrs. Mosher was in the audience.

Carolyn Nolan (Mrs. John Nolan) read several poems by Vermont poets, about Vermont villages and their people.

Dr. A. John Holden, former Commissioner of Education and interim president of Lyndon State College was the speaker. He spoke of the area as he had known it in his younger days, of Vermont and what the Bicentennial means to people in the state and in the country.

Girl Scout Brownies played some old-time games, under the leadership of Pat Francis. The two Legislators for this district spoke, Cola Hudson and Leland Simpson. The crowd sang Yankee Doodle, Glory, Glory Hallelujah, and America the Beautiful. They had sung the Star Spangled Banner after Mr. Campbell's prayer. Then, as Mrs. Niles played, everyone went in to see the exhibits in Town Hall and to have refreshments.

The Bandstand has been used several times since then, for concerts by bands and individual musicians, by speakers and on Field Days. Some had been afraid of vandalism when the idea of building it was first presented, but it has stayed white and clean through the years.

The Committee stopped meeting until 1983, when it reconvened to prepare for the celebration of the Town Bicentennial, celebrating its charter dated June 14, 1785. A book to update the history of the Town was proposed at the time of the National Bicentennial, but though some reports and interviews had been made, nothing had come of it. On being reactivated, the Committee went to work in earnest, and this book is the result. It had been hoped that the history by Eleanor Jones Hutchinson "Town of Wheelock, Vermont's Gift to Dartmouth College" could be reprinted. Unfortunately, there were too few subscriptions, and so it is planned to have the book photo copied.

## Members of the Wheelock Bicentennial Committee 1973-1976

Chairman	Mrs. Fredrick L. Pillsbury (Frances)
Vice-Chairman	Mrs. Charles Ker Reid II (Allis Beaumont)
Secretary	Miss Jennie Fox
Treasurer	Mr. Raymond Poulin
Sub-committee Chairmen	Miss Donna Cole
	Mr. Melvin Hudson
	Mrs. Howard Little
	Mrs. Arther Menuit (Beth)
	Mr. Jeff Murtiff
	Mrs. Noel Noyes (Mary)
	Mrs. Preston "Jack" Smith (Audrey)
	Mrs. Robert W. Smith (Janet)
	Mrs. Ronald Snelling (Verna)
	Mrs. Donald C. Witte

## 1983-1985

Co-chairmen	Mrs. Pillsbury and Mrs. Reid
Secretary	Mrs. Warren "Jack" Baker (Patricia)
Treasurer	Mrs. Robert W. Smith
	Mrs. Noel Noyes (Mary)
	Ms. Leigh Pierce
	Mrs. Raymond Poulin (Leota)
	Mrs. Harris W. Simpson, Jr. (Linda)
	Mrs. Duane Willey (Patricia)
	Mrs. Dale Zentz (Anita)



The town of Wheelock is in the Northwest part of Caledonia County, lat. 44°-33'N and long. 72°-5'W. The town is bounded on the North by Sheffield, East by Sutton and Lyndon, South by Danville, Southwest by Stannard and West by the County Line. The six square miles are divided by a chain of mountains, running from North to South, with Wheelock Mountain, 2783 feet, the highest elevation between Mount Mansfield and Burke Mountain. The other two peaks are Mt. Ide, 2633 feet, and Mt. Dunn, 1965 feet. Flagg Pond, covering about 100 acres, on the West side of town, flows into the Lamoille River and on to Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence. Chandler Pond, near South Wheelock, empties into the South Wheelock Branch of the Passumpsic River and thence into the Connecticut.

The sharp point of land within Wheelock's boundaries to the North is supposed to have been given to the Town to give it the necessary water power. There were many falls along Miller's Run and the South Wheelock Branch of the Passumpsic supplying water for the mills.

The Caledonian Record reported in their issue of September 16, 1970, that after the plans were completed for the new Interstate, the Highway Department "responded to the Audobon Society by changing the plans for I-91, so that the scenic falls on Mathewson Brook in Wheelock would not be destroyed."

The original center of activity was in what is now known as South Wheelock. The village, now, is a one mile strip on Route 122. The farms of the 1800's have almost disappeared, except for those on the Stannard Mountain Road, and those near the Sheffield line. Many old roads have been "thrown up" for trails. Over 5000 acres in Wheelock are now owned by paper companies or pulp dealers.

West Wheelock is a small community on Route 16, on the western boundary of Town.

Originally named "Bamf", then "Santa Marie" in honor of Rev. Wheelock's daughter Maria, these six square miles were given by charter "to Dartmouth College and Moore Indian Charity School, institutions situate at Hanover, New Hampshire; one moiety to the College and the other moiety to the school." They were named after the Rev. Eleazor Wheelock, "the first officer of the aforesaid institutions."

In the early days, Rev. Mr. Wheelock used to come to town and stay a few days, to personally collect the rents due from the land holders, "offering a tot of rum to ease the pain of payments," and it was said that "as long as grass grows and water flows, the land belongs to Dartmouth."

Rental of the land was figured on the base of one acre valued at one English crown. Town residents paid personal property, school, Poll and state taxes in 1806, but the

College and School received "rents and profits" from the use and sale of the land. The land and buildings were omitted from the state taxes.

In November 1857, a Representative from Wheelock won approval of a bill in the State Legislature, which gives permission to the Town to tax real estate, through the vote of the Town. An article must be inserted in the warning for Town Meeting, every year, "to see if the Town will direct listers to set the real estate in the grand list for Town purposes."

In the 1970's there were still some acres on which owners paid rent to Dartmouth, but by 1984 the University had divested itself of all lands.

The Trustees of Dartmouth College voted in April 1930, "unless otherwise modified, grants of full tuition scholarship be made to any son of the Town of Wheelock, Vermont, either by birth or residence, who may desire to enter Dartmouth College, who may present adequate preparation and come suitably recommended." There have been eight "Wheelock Scholars" at Dartmouth: William Taylor, Ozora Davis, Ozias Mathewson, Harland Deos, Winston Shorey, Neil Barber, A. Ranald Bailey and Robert St. Louis. Mr. St. Louis had finished his studies in mid-year, and was killed in an accident, one week before graduation. In the Fall of 1984, Maura Nolan was accepted for the class of 1988, thereby being the first woman from Wheelock to enter Dartmouth.

Wheelock's neighborly "hub" activities were in evidence the year after it was settled in 1790, when Abraham Morrill was asked to give warning of a Town Meeting to be held in Lyndon on July fourth, and to preside at that meeting until a moderator was elected. In March 1792, at Wheelock's first Town Meeting, Mr. Morrill was elected Town Clerk.

In this same year, Mr. Morrill and Capt. Joshua Weeks chose the water power of Miller's Run in Wheelock Hollow, to power the first gristmill. It was "modernized" in 1846 and, though damaged in the flood of 1869, was still in evidence in 1941.

The "stage coach" County Road, through the central part of town, was a continuation of the road through Danville, and later extended northward as the area was settled. The first post office was in Abner Hoyt's home, near the South Wheelock Cemetery, and was there until his death. This was the first frame house in Wheelock. On this road, going North, were the Town Pound, Town House, Meeting House, Church, Fifield Tavern, Dartmouth warehouse and, at Morgan's Corners, the first store, owned by Ward Bradley.

Mail was also brought on horseback, over the mountain from Greensboro, the post-boy then continuing on to Lyndon. A post office remained in South Wheelock until September 14, 1905 in the house presently owned by Douglas and Wendy Bora.

Col. John Chase, with his partner Edward Gilman, began commercial operations in Wheelock Village. In 1808 he had a carding mill and a cloth dressing establishment. He also kept a tavern at the west end of town.

Mr. Bradley sold his store and purchased one in Wheelock Village, which Erastus Fairbanks had started in 1814. Mr. Fairbanks went on to St. Johnsbury, to start the manufacture of the famous Fairbanks scales, which his brother, Thaddeus had invented to weigh hemp.

It was to these stores that settlers in Barton, Brownington and other towns came for their supplies. Mr. Bradley listed 176 items in 1818. It is possibly because of friendships made here, that men from Wheelock went to Barton to raise the first frame barn in that town.

Mr. Bradley sold the store in 1851. Later storekeepers included George Orcutt, Warner Willey, who had the post office in the store, and George Roberts, who had a wagon with which he delivered goods to the out-lying residents once a week. Irving Brown was the last postmaster.

Another store was opened across the way by Clifton Sanborn, later purchased by Raymond Poulin who closed the store in the fifties. After twenty-five years without a store, Hugh and Annetta Schultz purchased the house and the store, in 1979. The buildings were quickly rebuilt after a fire in 1982 and the store now serves Wheelock, Sheffield and the surrounding area.

Wheelock has been without a post office since August 31, 1955 and is now served by Rural Route 2 out of the Lyndonville Post Office. This has caused Wheelock to lose much of its identity, because businesses and institutions tend to use only the post office address, so those who do not use rural service get their mail in a post box either in Lyndonville, Sheffield or Greensboro Bend.

In 1834, the Hon. Thomas Jefferson Cree moved to Wheelock Hollow on his wedding day, and in that same year, was appointed the first postmaster in the village. During the War of the Rebellion, the men gathered each night at "post time" to await the coming of the stage with its few daily papers, when Judge Cree would read aloud the news from the front. Nearly every family must have had some member, or near relative, in the army, for out of a population of 835, 86 men went to fight for the Union. Wheelock men have always served their country, in all its wars.

The first industry in Wheelock was potash. Wheelock was settled at the end of the potash boom, and for several years this was the cash crop which the farmers depended on as they cleared their land for fields. This was followed through the years with sawmills, gristmills, potato whisky distilleries, tanneries and a woolen mill. In 1862 Osborn Ward made threshing machines in the latter.

Stephen C. Cree bought the business in 1865 and formed the Wheelock Manufacturing Company which made flexible metal tubing sold all over the country. In 1943 Mr. Cree moved the company to St. Johnsbury after a fire, and sold it in 1948 to Chicago Metal Hose which went out of business. Vermont Flexible Tubing of Lyndonville was started by Gordon Smith and his son Howard in 1950, who were employees of Wheelock Manufacturing Company.

Other business included a starch factory, owned by Albustus Allen from 1854 until it burned in 1861; a creamery in Wheelock Village until the mid-1900's; saw mills; a manufacturer of cedar oil; blacksmiths; and harness makers.

In the early days of Wheelock, Col John Bean put up travellers at his house on the County Road. He later deeded the property to his son-in-law, Col. Edward Fifield, and it became known as the Fifield Tavern, with the adjacent land used as the Town Drill Field. When he went west to Ohio, Col Fifield sold the Tavern to Elijah Bagley, and it became known as "Bagley's Stand."

In 1830, Samuel Ayer, a tanner and shoemaker of Wheelock was also trading in ashes. He was so successful that he built the Brock Hotel, which is still standing, though empty. It was purchased in February, 1985 by Richard Brown of Peacham.

Behind this Brick Hotel, on the hill where the north lane of I-91 is now, was a sulphur spring, with another spring at the west end of Town. In 1836 these springs were called "medical springs", the water was bottled and sold as an advertised cureall for many ailments. In the 1850's, health resorts were springing up and the Caledonia Mineral Springs Hotel took advantage of their natural resources, and the mineral water was sold to the patrons of the hotel. Royal Winter, then owner of the Hotel, enlarged the building, put on a new roof, and advertised widely that he could put up one hundred guests. Unfortunately the new roof was too heavy for the walls, the advertising didn't bring enough customers, and the waters did not fulfill the promises.

The ballroom of the hotel was on the second floor. Someone described the dances on a post card: "Old Brick Tavern were we used to dance the old fashioned up and down the center, cross over, down the outside, cut the pigeon wing, then all hands round. Oh, but it was great fun!"

Elsewhere in Town an original lessee, Joseph Venen, is said to have kept a tavern near the Danville line, and for a time, Jesse Leavenworth, Jr. was "mine host" somewhere near the millsite in South Wheelock.

The forests of Wheelock produce pulp, cedar logs and maple syrup. In 1870, 25,000 trees were tapped, with 5000 more available. The trees yielded an average of three pounds of syrup per tree. There are still a few sugar houses left.

In earlier years, before the West opened up, Wheelock was a sheep raising town, with 4787 sheep in 1840. At the same time there were 1472 head of cattle and over 1000 swine.



Bob Ramsey, a well known fiddler for whom Ramsey Four Corners was named, was the father of the Merino sheep industry in this area, with 1400 in his pasture. Sheep used to be taken down to the twin bridges at Miller's Run, to be washed before shearing. In the past ten years people have started raising sheep again, and some are also spinning by hand.

Charles H. Goss owned the Chandler Farm which is now farmed by Duane Willey, the farm above it where Wayne Smith now lives, the Tom Hall farm, the Raeburn Baker farm and probably had an interest in the James Rock farm.

Mr. Goss had 3000 sheep on the Chandler Pond and Baker farms in the 1930's and also raised turkeys.

Horace Goss, Mr. Goss' father built the Stannard Mountain Road that goes from Lyndon Corner, through South Wheelock, to Stannard and on to Greensboro Bend in 1869. A stone commemorating the event stands at the summit of the road. Mr. Goss is buried in the Wheelock Village Cemetery.

The hills were covered by farms in the last century and for the first part of this one. It has been said that, when the trains came, the young people left. Now the interstate highways are bringing them back.

In the 1800's, the Sparhawk Place on the Mountain, had a barn 150 feet long. There were many barns over 90 feet.

In 1920, 12,571 acres were farmed. 90 farms, 1036 acres on two farms, were owned by T. N. Vail, President of American Telephone and Telegraph. In 1950, there were 76 farms with at least 3830 acres. Unfortunately, 24 farmers did not list their acreage. Many farms were about 150 acres "too much for one man, not enough for two." In 1984, Wheelock had six farmers, working 1415 acres, and one farmer rented additional land. Twenty-five years ago there were some fifteen farms, but now there are six left.

There are about 130 houses in town now, and 59 vacation homes and camps. The highest census was in 1810 when there were 964 residents. In 1970 the census gave the town 220, and in 1980 - 444. In 1984, 220 residents were registered to vote.

In the late 1960's Land/Vest, Inc. owned Chandler Farm and had plans ready for a development, but then they discovered that the land would not support the number of homes under the conditions set forth in Act 250.

Many people were concerned when they found that land was to be valued at resale price and not as land use as they had thought.

There were many apple orchards in Wheelock, the largest on the Chase property on Route 122. Apples grown here were Alexanders, Astrachans, Fameuses, Wealthys, Yellow Transparents, Peach, "Hard and Sweet" and Russet. Many of the trees froze in 1918 during that hard winter, and since then most of the orchards have disappeared, though some trees are still bearing, most of them available to the deer!

At the Town Meeting in 1794 it was "voted to raise twenty pounds to hire a schooling this year." By an Act of the General Assembly of Vermont, in 1797, each organized town was required to "keep and support a school, or schools, for the instruction of youth in English, reading, writing and arithmetic." Districts could be designated or changed, as required.

In 1806, at a meeting in South Wheelock, it was voted to build a school house 20 x 26 feet. The building burned before it was finished, but the townspeople voted to rebuild and completed it "except for plastering" by the summer of 1807. Ten years later there were eight school districts; and in 1829, 315 students were enrolled in the 12 districts.

Near the meeting house and the first Free Will Baptist Church, on the stagecoach (county) road, a school was built in 1860, now known as the Red Schoolhouse. It was used until 1892 and is now a private home. The population decreased and by 1886 there were nine school districts and nine common schools, which employed two males and 13 females at weekly salaries, including board, of \$6.33 for the men and \$4.15 for the women. There were then 198 students in town, 11 of whom attended private schools. In 1969 Lyndon Institute was designated as the town high school, and in 1984-85 Wheelock sent 30 students there.

Even in the "olden days", District School meetings were not always well attended, and those who criticized the most were, then as now, those who stayed home. There was objection to maintaining schools, because of the expense, and it was argued that education was for families who could afford it for their children. People voted for school support when they had school age children and against it when they did not.

The Wheelock Village School was originally located between the brook and the Old Brick Hotel. A second school was built in 1815, and a third in 1838. This latter was moved beyond the Town Hall in 1853 and sold for \$13.50. A fourth school was built on the hill beyond Town Hall in 1861 for \$1200 on land purchased from T. J. Cree for \$25.00. This school burned on December 2, 1969. Ray Poulin, who was at home because of the flu, was able to remove two gas tanks which threatened the school. A relocatable modular school building was erected the following year, but in the meantime the children were in class at Lyndon State College for the balance of the year, and at Burklyn Hall in East Burke the following fall.

Union District 37, combining Sheffield and Wheelock, was formed in 1971. The first through fourth grades continued in Wheelock, with the fifth through eighth grades going to the Sheffield school. Miller's Run School was built on Route 122 in Sheffield, and opened for all the children of both towns, in January 1976. For over a hundred years, the high school children of both towns have gone to Lyndon Institute in Lyndon Center, eight miles East of Wheelock.

Around 1860 there "was nearly a boom scare", as an institution of higher learning was to be built in this section of the county. The water from sulphur springs being thought to have high medicinal value, it was hoped that the committee looking for the most likely site would choose Wheelock Hollow. The momentous decision was made at last, and the news was brought to the village by the stage driver, who arrived singing:

"Lyndon has the miserable thing,  
Sutton has the measles,  
Wheelock has the stinking spring  
Pop, goes the weasel."

Lyndon Institute was born. Fifty years ago, it also housed a Normal School, which was the beginning of Teacher's College, and which, in 1968, became Lyndon State College.

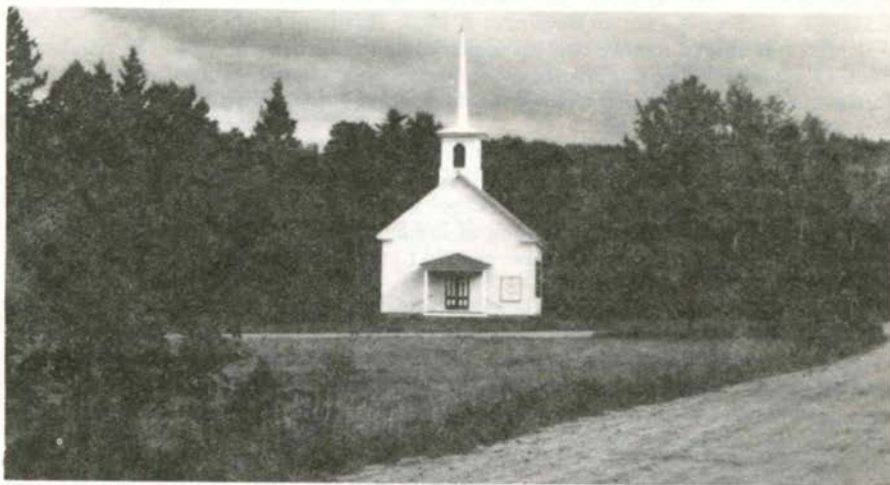
Three of the old one-room schools are still standing: Chandler Pond and the Red School House are both private homes; the Sherburne School, also known as the Mountain School, stands empty.

The alumni of the Chandler, Mountain and Peak Schools joined with those of the Red School House, to form an Association in 1909, seventeen years after the last classes were held in the latter school. People who helped build horsesheds were given a share in the Association. For many years reunions were held each summer, and various groups used the building during the year for meetings, dances and such. Mr. Goss restored the old school at that time. Many interior changes took place in the building. Beside the original building, an ell was built, with separate entrance. This contained a cloak room, kitchen with range, cupboards, running water and a bathroom. The tub was used at many functions as a safe repository for sleeping babies. A huge stone fireplace was built, with a number painted on the stone designating the farm from which it came. The members of the Association were able to use the building for camping, without charge. Mr. Goss came up to a chicken pie supper and took kids for a ride in his car-their first ride-when Fred Pillsbury was in his teens (b. 1900).

Some of the early dances held at the Red School House were neighborhood affairs, with floor managers volunteering or being chosen. Cash Mosher would play the violin. The dancers chipped in to pay the violinist and the pianist (if there was one). Then things "went elite" and it was decided to have a paid orchestra and floor manager. The weekly dances, once respectable enough for Normal School students at Lyndon Institute to attend, eventually became so rowdy that C. H. Goss called a meeting of the stockholders, bought all the shares, became sole owner of the property and stopped the dances. For a time, the Association continued with its annual meetings, but Mr. Goss' descendants

eventually decided to sell the building and lot. The Association met for a few more years, with friends and members of the South Wheelock Free Will Baptist Society, at the Church, combining with Old Home Day.

In 1963, members of the Association decided to disband, and the bulk of their remaining funds was given to the Church, the interest on one amount to be divided between the Church and the South Wheelock Cemetery, the oldest public cemetery to be maintained throughout the years.



The South Wheelock Free Will Baptist Church was organized on October 6, 1800, with Elder Joseph Boody of Stratford, N.H. as leader. Nine members from Wheelock, and the Free Will Baptists of Sheffield, made a combined congregation of 77. The Wheelock Quarterly Meeting was organized in 1802. By 1860 there were nineteen churches in this Meeting, but by 1912, the Wheelock Quarterly Meeting was one of the three left in the state, and included thirteen churches.

In 1828, the Freewill Baptists of South Wheelock built their first church, one mile south of the old Meeting House. It was a large building, seating 350, and was 44 x 56 feet. "Owing to the large size of the old church and its inability to be heated, there began to be an agitation for a new and smaller church, and one more accessible to the greater number of attendees." Moses Chandler offered to give the site, "if the church could be located at the four corners near Deacon Cofran's home..." The old church was torn down in 1884, and the timbers and wood were used for the present Church.

At about the same time, the Freewill Baptists of Wheelock Hollow wanted their own church, and built one at the site where the Town Hall now stands. This church was torn down in 1961 and the pulpit chairs given to the South Wheelock Church, whose pulpit was built by Stephen G. Cree. Some say that the pews of the South Wheelock Church came from the original church "on the hill". In 1930 electricity was put in this Church. George Berry of Sheffield says that C. H. Goss said "Hurry up - Fred Pillsbury wants to be married there".

Non-denominational services are now held on Christmas, Easter and on Sundays during the summer.

"The Parsonage" was owned by a cooper named Brown, before it was purchased by Mrs. Goss, mother of C.H. Goss. She moved to the Rock place. Though bought for a parsonage, no parson has ever lived there. It is supposed to be haunted: someone walks up and down stairs, and sometimes an old man with a long beard has been seen outside.

It is now owned by Leigh Pierce where she has the "Gentle Wind Bakery".

The Wheelock Bible Fellowship was organized in 1982 and meets every Sunday in the Town Hall.

It is impossible to mention all of Wheelock's noteworthy sons and daughters, educators, ministers and priests, lawyers, physicians, statesmen and businessmen. We should mention Charles Goss, the founder of C. H. Goss and Co. of St. Johnsbury, a great benefactor of the town; the Rev. Ozora Stearns Davis, former president of Chicago Theological Seminary; Ferdinand Chase, founder and owner of Loon Lake Health Resort in New York, who in 1915 had markers put up at many historical spots in town, erected a large soldiers' monument on the Green in the Village, the grindstone monuments to soldiers of the Revolution and the War of 1812, and the kiosk over the mineral springs. Others were: Associate Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court, William H. Taylor; his brother, Frank B. Taylor, an organizer of the Granit Trust Co.; Josiah Willard, whose daughter, Frances, was the founder of the Women's Christian Temperance Union; Dr. Winston K. Shorey, until 1973 Dean of the School of Medicine of the University of Arkansas Medical Center; Guy Aldrich, who was Secretary of the National YMCA; Louis Sherry, famous restaurateur and hotel owner in New York City in the first half of this century and Susie Rogers Taplin, Superintendent of Schools. Eugene St. Louis of West Wheelock served the Town faithfully for twenty-five years as Moderator, as well as thirty years as tax collector.

O. D. Mathewson, long time Headmaster of Lyndon Institute, Dartmouth graduate and Wheelock native, was responsible for persuading Dartmouth to give full tuition scholarship to Wheelock students.

In the early part of this century Mr. Dowd started a phone company which Timothy Buckley and his brothers purchased; the Green Mountain Telephone Company, known locally as "The Clothes Line". There was one phone in Lyndonville, and the company served Lyndon Center, Wheelock, Sheffield, Stannard, Glover, Barton, North to Troy, and South to Molly's Pond. The original "central" was on the Buckley Farm, now owned by Allis Reid, and was moved from there to the house opposite the twin bridges, in the Village, now owned by Richard Wright. Many people had both the "Buckley phone" and one owned by the company which served the Lyndonville area. They would take messages from the subscribers on one line and pass them on to those on the other. In the early 1920's, the monthly charge for a phone was \$1.50, with 25-30 people on each line. There were no toll charges on the Buckley line. Operators worked 24-hour shifts, and received about \$12.50 a week in wages. The phone lines were attached to any handy tree, fence post, or if need be, a short pole was erected for the purpose. The company was sold to the New England Telephone in 1947.

In 1939, Cliff Sanborn and Arthur Bailey, whose houses were on the two roads going toward South Wheelock, decided they wanted electric lights. Newport Electric served the Village but wanted \$800 to bring service up onto the hill. Lyndonville Electric said they would bring it in from the Sinon Place, now known as Pineberry Farm, the farmhouse owned by John Horton, the rest of the land owned by Moffatt Forest Products.

The two men had to cut the right of way, and the poles, then scatter them and dig the holes, in exchange for power. They paid Tim Buckley \$10 a pole for cutting the poles on his land opposite the John Rock Crossroad. All went well until they started digging the holes, when they hit ledge every time. Discouraged, they went to talk to the manager of Lyndonville Electric. The next morning a truck, with five men, drills and dynamite arrived on the scene. They had to drill all but six of the 52 holes, and the company made no charge. Later this line was extended down through the woods to Hubie Davis' and then back over the hill to the Harley Deos place, now the summer home of Justus and Evelyn Buchler. When the New England Telephone Company came through this area, they used these light poles for their lines, rather than using the Buckley method.

In the first half of this century, people thought nothing of hitching up a team of horses and going to a neighbor's house, even if it meant several miles, on a Saturday night for a "kitchen junket" or for a family card game, or just to see friends of an evening. There

were amateur theatricals, spelling bees, box suppers and real Christmas parties for the school children. Barn raisings were also fun times, though mixed generously with hard work - the men building the barn and the women preparing dinner.

Wheelock still has "mud days" though not nearly as bad as they used to be. Sometimes even the schools would have to close. In swampy areas, logs were laid across the road, making a "corduroy road". The work in the old days was hard labor, and farmers often paid their taxes by working on the road, with oxen and horses. In the winter, snow rollers were used, usually after the storm. They were about four feet high and made in two sections of seven feet each, with a shaft through the middle and a heavy wooden frame all around with a platform to ride on. Four to six horses pulled this, depending on the storm. If the snow was too deep for the horses, the men would have to shovel some to get them through, and if the snow had drifted on a slope, they had to shovel some onto the road so it would be level after the roller went by.

Today we have trucks, graders and snow plows. Perhaps the work is easier, but now the men are out in storms and bad weather, keeping the roads passable at all times. It is said that at one time there were one hundred miles of road, but in 1985 we have a total of thirty-three miles which includes Class 4 roads.

In 1973, the Town submitted an application for funds for a new bridge on the Stanard Mountain Road, "where there had been four major crashes in two decades". In 1981, the Town finally had action from the State and the bridge was built. The South Wheelock Branch River was altered somewhat and the cost was cut because the landowners surrounding the bridge donated the land.

In the past, as now, if you got stuck in the mud or snow bank, you got a farmer with a team, to pull you out, or you dug.

The first snow plow the town bought was a very cumbersome outfit and when the wings were up they could flop back and forth about two feet. About the first time the snowplow was used it was plowing a man's dooryard, going by close to the house. The wing flopped the wrong way and went through the living room window. The owner came out and announced that his yard needed plowing, not the livingroom!

Schools used to have vacation in mud time. One teacher, going to school, found the ruts deep and filled with water, with a muskrat swimming. Her husband didn't believe her, but the next time he went out - the muskrat was there, swimming.

Farmers used to make the most of mud time, getting up at all hours to help a motorist. The story goes that one farmer had a hole in the dooryard in front of his barn. As so often in Vermont the road went between barn and house. He charged one dollar every time his horses pulled out a stuck car. Every night he filled the hole with water, to be sure to have business the next day.

When there was a need houses were moved on rollers, with chains, in Wheelock as in all of Vermont. Now, it is done with cranes and big trucks. Mr. Bean remembered seeing the Pillsbury house pulled down the road by forty (40) yoke of oxen. He was 5 years old in 1910 and watched as the house went past Loch Lyndon, the Pendleton Farm. It was moved three times before being placed where it now is. The farm was paid for all in potato whiskey.

## Moving the Schoolhouse

Janet Smith interview with Arthur Bailey

It had been decided the Town needed a grader shed. At the same time, the Town had one unused schoolhouse known as the Peak School. It would have to be brought down to the Village. This school was down the hill from where the marker is for the first Peak School.

The day before moving day, several men gathered to hoist the school onto skids. These skids were 40 feet long spruce poles, chained together, that had been cut down in Albert Peak's woods. As the men were working, their attention was called to Albert's house - it was on fire! Smoke was rolling out around the eaves everywhere. The fire department had been called and arrived shortly to save the house. Extensive damage had been done but the house had been saved.

Moving day turned out to be quite an experience. They hitched Hovey's Garage wrecker onto that schoolhouse. The idea had been to hoist the front end and drag the back - but the front end of the wrecker came right off the ground! So they quickly hunted up a bulldozer, hooked the bulldozer to the front of the wrecker and away they went. What a procession - a bulldozer, a wrecker and a schoolhouse! The little bridge at the foot of the hill from the school used to have an iron rail on it until the school came through; it had to be removed. Tim Buckley moved his telephone lines as the school came along. In one spot the line caught on the ridge pole no matter what they did. Tim, with his long forked pole, could raise the line no further so he told them to bring the schoolhouse along. Down came telephone lines, poles and all. When they got the school to the double bridges in the Village, they knew they were going to have a tight squeeze - should have four inches to spare on each side! Trouble was the school could not come square into the bridge. The old school was going to hit before it could be straightened out onto the bridge. A call for help brought a nearby farmer with a tractor. He pulled on one corner and lined up the school with the bridge. All's well!

At about this same time the old hearse house was moved from the lower end of the Old Village Cemetery to sit beside the town shed to use for storage. This act rather irritated some of the local ladies who dearly wanted that hearse house attached to the Town Hall and converted into a kitchen. The old hearse that the Town had stopped maintaining some years before was sold at this time for \$25.

## The Community Club Christmas Party of Today

by Anita Zentz

The Community Club has sponsored the Christmas party for many years, but in 1978 something unique was started. Everyone in the Town was invited to bring a dish and a pot-luck supper was enjoyed. This was an opportunity to see and visit with your neighbors over the mountain, even if one didn't get a chance to see them all year, also to welcome new people in Town.

A social hour was spent by greeting friends and singing Carols until the jolly old man arrived with candy canes and presents for the pre-schoolers. A good time was had by young and old. There appear to be more and more people attending the Christmas Party at the old Town Hall.

The Community Club also fixes and takes a basket of goodies to all Wheelock Senior Citizens over 65 each Christmas.

The Club has put on many fund raising events through the years: such as an annual Chicken Pie Supper, Field Day, and the ladies have a quilting bee and raffle off a quilt each year.

Money raised from these events went to help pay for street lights in the Village and at the South Church in South Wheelock. They have helped to restore many historical sites, seeing that flowers were at the monuments at each end of Town and that a flag was flown at the park. The latter is very costly, as the flag is very often stolen.

The Club has given to the Heart Fund, the Cancer Fund, RIF, the Shriners, Girl Scouts, etc. They send cards to hospitalized residents and, if the patient has a long stay, a fruit basket or plant is given to hasten their recovery.

In a taped interview with Daisy Davis in 1977, she told about the formation of the Community Club from the three clubs in Town. The people could not afford three organizations, and so, though there were some bad feelings, the one club prevailed. "One of the things the new organization did was make different arrangements for hot lunches at school." There were seven Davis children, and so she would take corn chowder, hash, etc. Mr. Tyler, the teacher, would bring something once a week, and some of the parents at other times. The Community Club had the electric lights installed. Members raised money in the same ways they do now, through suppers, dances, auctions, etc.

## The Town Hall Renovations

by Janet Smith, Town Clerk

The Town Hall and the Church stood on the Green, with the School on the hill above. The Church was torn down in 1961 because attendance had fallen off and some repair was needed. The Town Hall had no cellar and no plumbing, and it was decided to move the Hall onto the former site of the Church.

In 1972 the foundation was poured and a vault was made to house the Town Records next to the Town Clerk's office, "so they would not be in someone's home, to be moved each time a new Clerk was elected". Due to a fire in 1943 in the Cree Manufacturing Co. where they were kept, Town Vital Statistic Records for the period early 1800 to 1856 have been lost. Before this period, some of the Vital Statistics are in the Land Record books.

A small kitchen was also installed, as were flush toilets. The Wheelock Community Club has put in a mini-kitchen upstairs, helped to buy tables and chairs, bought dishes and silverware, a large hot water tank, refrigerator, steam table, stoves, pots and pans, put up curtains and had additional outlets installed.

The Wheelock Town Hall is a very **used** building. Every Sunday the Wheelock Brethern Church meets here; each Tuesday during the summer the Wheelock Community Summer Band has practice here; each Wednesday the Fire Department used to have Bingo; and at least once a month there are Selectmen's Meetings and Modern Woodmen Club meetings. Also bridal showers, dinners, the annual Community Christmas party, all Town Meetings and elections.

In the late 1970's, the Annual Vermont Shape Note Singing Convention was held here. The tradition was started in the late 18th and early 19th Centuries by itinerant singing masters, including the composers Justin Morgan and Hezekiah Moore.

Organizations in Town: Community Club, Sheffield-Wheelock Fire Department, Sheffield-Wheelock Firemen's Auxiliary, Miller's Run P.T.G., 4-H, Girl Scouts and Brownies, Boy Scouts, Bicentennial Committee, Field Day Committee.

The Fire Curtain on the stage of the Town Hall is signed by Robert Naves and depicts Willoughby Lake. Mr. Naves signed some of the curtains he painted for 52 towns during the early forties. This curtain was painted in 1940. Mr. Naves' family is from the Northeast Kingdom.

## Social Life

The Social Life of Wheelock has changed a great deal in recent years. Glenn Young once remarked that it was strange that, in the days when you had to harness a team, people thought nothing of visiting their friends and neighbors, but now, even though everyone has an automobile, they stay home and watch TV.

In the thirties, people went to Barton and Orleans, or to St. Johnsbury, to hear speakers, attend concerts and the theater. Today there is much available in Lyndonville, at Lyndon Institute, Lyndon State College and in St. Johnsbury, but few people from Wheelock are present.

Leota Poulin says that "card parties were a form of entertainment in the middle fifties and early sixties, and were also a way of raising money for community purposes. To save heating the Town Hall, the games were played in different homes from week to week. The charge was by donation and the entire family came because they all played the game of Whist, except the babes and very young school children. An incentive to draw people were prizes for the person with high and low, for both men and women. 'Lunch' was served by the host and hostess. It really was a most enjoyable time for one and all, in spite of the fact that not a lot of money was earned."

The Poulins had "many a lively game at their home when the kitchen, dining room and living room would be filled to capacity by the young and old, with some who came from Sheffield and Lyndonville."



## The Bandstand

In an article in the Caledonian Record of October 14, 1981, Mrs. Reta H. Morse tells us that the "first bandstand was built about 1902 to accommodate Mosher's Brass Band." "Cash" Mosher, and his brothers had come from Holland with their parents, Thomas and Anastasia in the 1890's. The band played in the area and were very famous. The family lived in Wheelock until 1904, and then Cash returned with his family in 1925. Cash's daughter, Charlotte Niles, continues to play the piano and organ, and in 1976 played at the dedication of the new bandstand, built to replace one which had been badly damaged in the hurricane of 1938.

In 1976, the new bandstand was built by local residents, with funds raised by food sales, dances and in other ways, as well as by a matching grant from the Vermont Bicentennial Commission. At one of the dances, Mrs. Niles and Delmar Leach played and Hayden Tanner acted as caller.



The bandstand has been used in subsequent years for the newly formed "Wheelock Band", and for Field Day and other events.

## Barns

Wheelock barns covered the hillsides. Leota Poulin writes of "Old Time Barn Raising". "If you go into an old-fashioned barn, you will see at once that it is built in a pretty substantial manner. A closer inspection shows that it was built in a day when good lumber was plentiful, else why those ten inch posts and all the beams forty feet in length, not to mention the wide and clear boards to be seen on every hand? Every barn, shed and outbuilding was made of timber with mortise and tenon, with wooden pins and brace. At first carpenters used "scribe rule" which meant that each stick was fitted for its particular place; was in fact, an individual stick not to be interchanged with any other in the barn."

"No one, however, should get the impression that a raising was an affair for men only. The men had to be fed, especially at 'huskins and raisins'. Pies made of dried apples and pumpkin filled the shelves of the milkhouse. The shelves were also filled with baked beans, brown bread, ginger bread and 'morn a bushel of donuts'. Many of the women came with men, some like the Queen of Sheba, to see and be seen, while others came in a spirit of friendliness."

Wheelock barns and houses were often moved from one place to another, and still are today. The wood from old barns and houses are used for new buildings.

Fred Pillsbury said that part of the Emerson barn of South Wheelock, is now in the Pendleton barn at Loch Lyndon, part of whose property is in Wheelock. "Some of the wood was rotten, but it was alright to use if kept covered." Mr. Pendleton ordered sheep pens built, and Mr. Pillsbury warned the contractor to be careful, because the barn was different in length on the two sides.

The barn at Chandler Farm is similar to the one that was at the Vail Mansion (now Lyndon State College). T. N. Vail, President of American Telephone and Telegraph owned both farms. Harold Brown relates that Mr. Vail imported sixty-five Poles and Russians to enlarge Chandler Pond so as to supply water to the fountains at Vail Mansion.

## Allard Hill

Buildings are returning to Allard Hill. This section of Town is reached through Sheffield, and six families have moved into the area: Frank and Phyllis Head, William Holladay and Robert and Marie Johnson in 1974; Tony and Pat Ameo, Robert and Janet Smith and William and Barbara Whitlock in 1979.

Janet Smith writes "The winter of 1982-83 Groveton Paper (Diamond International) logged in Piperville. The big chipper sat near where the old schoolhouse used to be. Their 'landing' opened up a large section of that area. The road out by Ramsay Four Corners and the road down to Sheffield Village (Allard Hill) were both kept open by the Company for their logging trucks, big 18-wheelers."

"To meet one of these trucks on Allard Hill was a hair-raising experience. Once a truck started up, they did not want to stop! Many times I have met one - stopped, slammed my 4-wheel drive car into reverse and backed as fast as possible to a place where it was safe (?) for us to pass. Other times I have dropped **down** around a corner, to find an 18-wheeler jackknifed in the hill. Apply brakes, hug the snowbank and hope for the best! Groveton Paper tried to send out ten truckloads a day."

## Fires

There have been some bad fires in recent years. In May, 1981 the Willson barn burned to the ground and they lost many animals and much hay. The attached house was badly damaged and several cords of wood in the cellar burned. Little of the contents were saved, though the shell is safe and the house is being rebuilt.

The Davis house, also down by the twin bridges, was burned on Christmas in 1983. Late in the 1970's the Peak barn was lost and the house damaged. In May, 1985 the Peak house again burned, this time completely destroying it. Other houses with fires were Skinner and Haug. Fires previously mentioned were at the Village school and the Village store.

Wheelock had a fire which has lived in history because everyone was so affected by it. Roy Cloukia, a well-known tenor, lived here with his family. Someone stored some black powder in an unused chicken house. The children, who had gotten cold, went inside and lit a fire. Four children were killed.

## Floods

Wheelock has suffered from two floods in this century, 1927 and 1973.

Many of the mills along Miller's Run were lost during the flood of 1927. These are covered in "Town of Wheelock, Vermont's Gift to Dartmouth College" by Eleanor Jones Hutchinson.

There are two stories, however. Fred Pillsbury, a member of the National Guard, was called on to deliver the mail and was the last person to go over the bridge near the Fold.

The bridge in the Burrough was washed out, and Harold Brown's hired hand had gotten across the brook with the cream for the North Danville Creamery, but on the way back, the whiffle tree broke on the wagon. Fred Pillsbury, with other men, was rebuilding the bridge. He went over to the ruins of the Parker and Young mill, found a "piano body wagon", removed the brace at the back, replaced the whiffle tree and sent the hired man on his way. He used old fence wire to fasten the whiffle tree together.

In the Burlington Free Press on June 23, 1973 it was reported that "local residents reported the rain Thursday (June 21) night was equal to or heavier than that in the 1927 flood." "Route 122 was closed its entire length." "A bridge in South Wheelock was affected."

The Caledonian Record of St. Johnsbury, in its issue of June 25, reported that a Bailey Bridge had been installed on Route 122 in Wheelock, to replace the old bridge which was destroyed by rushing storm waters which made that section of 122 impassable.

On June 22 the same paper reported that the water on the road was four feet deep in spots.

Residents of Wheelock and Sheffield were able to use the unfinished I-91 at Sheffield in order to get to Glover and Lyndonville.

Fortunately, no one was hurt, and there was minor damage to buildings.

## Indians

There does not seem to be much available about Indians in this area. Albert Peak said that there was a place on his property that he thought had been used by Indians to store food. Several people have found stones that they believe to be arrow heads. There seems to be an Indian Marker near the old Town Pond. There is a cave that has drawings in it, but is somewhat blocked by stones.

Dister Deos, a Basque who walked down from Quebec "carrying his bureau on his back" with all his possessions, married an Abenaki.

## Prohibition Era

Anecdotes from various people

Which probably have a basis in fact.

Two brothers had an airplane which crashed in Lake Memphramagog. In 1931-32 they were caught by the Border Patrol for bootlegging, and tried in Wheelock. All school children attended the trial.

Fred Pillsbury tells about being in Lyndonville, when a lawman came up to him and said that he was about to go up near Fred's house to make an arrest, but he was sorry, because the man he had to arrest didn't have anything to do with the crime; it was just that the stuff was stored on his property. Fred felt that he had been told this, so that he could go up and warn the man, which he did. A relative had used one of the buildings on the farm in which to store the bootleg stock. The Sheriff never went to the farm because he was sure that his warning would be passed to the innocent person concerned.

When Harold Brown was about nine, he and his father looked out the kitchen window about supper time and saw cows coming down the road. Their farm was in the valley north of the Stannard Mountain Road, in the vicinity of the Mountain School House. His father wondered how the cows got out and then they saw a man behind the cows, who explained that the cows were down at the gate so he let them out and drove them along. He helped milk the cows, stayed to supper and spent the night. The next morning after helping with the chores, he left, driving the cows back to the pasture. The next day, when they read the paper, they saw a picture of their overnight guest. It was the outlaw, John Dillinger, who had gone north, (through Sheffield) stolen a car, gone as far as Barton, cut the phone and telegraph wires in Barton, then down the Greensboro Road and escaped.

Earl Blodgett lived the other side of Ramsay Four Corners. One day a "booze car" that was being chased by officers, went up that road and parked behind Blodgett's house. Earl knew the car was there but did not report it. When arrested he turned state's evidence. The car belonged to Dave Porter, a lawyer in St. Johnsbury, who was notorious for having his car stolen.

O'Brien, who was going down Route 122, was being followed by a custom's officer. By DeGreenia's he swerved to avoid the Grady children who were crossing the road, and went into a tree. He escaped to the Grady's cellar and officers followed him there because of the trail of blood. He served a year in prison, but was let out because he was dying from his chest injuries. He told Fred Pillsbury, on the street in Lyndonville, he didn't blame the officer, because Sheriff Flint had warned him more than once to stop his booze running and that St. Johnsbury wasn't big enough for both of them and he intended to stay. O'Brien therefore moved to the 'Ville. (The Grady children are Marion Peak Batchelder and Lois Hudson Chester.)

## Morgan Horses

The grandfather of Charles H. Goss, David Goss of St. Johnsbury, owned Justin Morgan in 1804. He bought the horse from his brother John of Randolph, Vermont, and kept the horse until 1811 when he returned him to Randolph. Justin Morgan lived to be

thirty-one years old and died in Chelsea in 1821. He sired twelve or fourteen sons that were kept as studs.

The Morgan Horse was very popular in Wheelock as a work horse, a riding horse and a racing horse. The breed seemed to be endowed with great endurance and intelligence.

Moses Melvin raised the larger strain of Morgans on his farm, now known as Pineberry, in the early 1800's. These horses were known as the Melvin Morgans, and were direct descendants of Justin Morgan, the first Morgan. Melvin had two studs and the colts were sold throughout the country.

One very famous horse from the farm was the Hawkins Horse, a true Morgan, foaled in 1806. This horse spent many years in the Hawkins family as a parade horse in the militia. He was jet black and said to be the best acting and finest looking horse in the State. After 1820 he was sold into Stanstead, Quebec. His off-springs there were among the fastest trotters in that part of Canada.

There were two definite strains of Morgan; one quite large, 1100 pounds or so and the smaller strain, 800 to 900 pounds. The color ranged from a rather light brown to black. A trait of the Morgan seemed to be their ability to show off - at the right moment. It is said they had two speeds, just as slow as they could go or just as fast as they could go - the latter especially through villages. Mailmen liked the Morgans because they could be trained so easily.

Fred Pillsbury had a Morgan, Named "Jip" in the early 1900's that had somewhat of a reputation - not such a good one. Evidently a previous owner had abused the animal. Once Fred had broken the horse to his way of thinking, it was a "one-man horse". This horse was a pacer as opposed to a trotter. This side to side gait was more conducive to riding, I'm told. He had a habit of switching his tail in the face of the driver, but Fred quickly solved that problem; he braided a strap into that horse's tail and tied it down! Many people wanted to see old Jip race in the famous races on Main Street in Lyndonville, but, with his unpredictable disposition, Fred didn't dare let him. Fred had enough trouble with him when someone wanted to pass him on the road. This was not to be!

When it came time for shoeing Jip, only one blacksmith could do it. Jip would even lift the appropriate foot when it was needed. But, if the whole process did not proceed the way Jip thought is should, the blacksmith got a swift kick. As for the livery stable, forget it! Fred had to take care of his own horse while everyone else gave that horse a wide berth.

Driving the descendant of a Melvin Morgan, Fred went one winter's evening (1926) to call on his best girl and future wife, who was teaching in Kirby. (This Morgan, Dick, had belonged to the girl's grandfather, Andrew Jackson Heath of Wheelock.) Because of a snow storm the day before the young man chose not to go the usual way, down over Vail Hill. Soon after he began the return trip, he fell asleep. He was totally unaware that the horse continued retracing the route they had traveled earlier that evening, safely negotiating the Folsom railroad crossing, the crossing on Broad Street in Lyndonville and the one at Lyndon Corner. Awakening when the horse made a turn near home, he thanked his lucky stars that he had a "knowing horse".

Charlie Noyes raised the Larger Morgans in South Wheelock around 1920. With the coming of automobiles, all horses started to fade from the scene. The State of Vermont runs the State Morgan Horse Farm in Randolph, Vt., as the Morgan is the official State Animal.

There are an estimated 7,500 registered Morgans in the U.S. now.

## “Interviews With Town Residents”

### From a taped interview with Katy Buck in 1976 by Leota Poulin

Mrs. Buck had been owner and operator of Buck's Creamery in Wheelock. When interviewed she was 97 and in the St. Johnsbury Convalescent Center.

Mr. Buck and one man went out and gathered the milk in big cans in Wheelock and Sheffield. It was set in pans overnight and the next morning was put into a big churn and churned into butter. They churned over 300 pounds at a time, and the buttermilk was used to feed the hogs. The Bucks built the creamery in 1910 and Mrs. Buck ran the creamery alone for a year after her husband died. The inspector came once a month, as they do now, and they were paid according to the amount of butterfat tested in the milk. They shipped about 90 pounds of butter by freight to Boston each week. Fred and Alma Grady and Herb Stahler brought their milk to the creamery.

Mrs. Buck remembered Martin Daniels. Cora Daniels did a lot for the Baptist Church in Wheelock. It was not large but the attendance was good.

The church was torn down and the post office discontinued. “The town's people tried to keep the post office.”

### From a taped interview with Jim and Hazel Allard October, 1976, by Leota Poulin

Jim and Hazel Allard are former residents of Wheelock. Hazel will be 85 this year and Jimmy will be 86.

Jimmy Allard moved to Wheelock in 1898 at the age of eight to live with his grandfather on the farm on Allard Hill. “He (Grandfather Allard) had eight or ten cows and he raised Morgan horses more than anything else. His name is in the books about the Morgan horses. He sold two Morgan horses to Rowell Barber. He in turn shod them, broke them and sold them for \$600 - big money then.” Jim lived there until he was fourteen.

“Grandfather Allard died and they had an auction. My father bid \$10 to bid the place off and I took it over; this was in 1913.” Later his father sold the farm and eventually Chet Ash bought it. “Chet let the taxes run up to \$700.” In 1926 Jim told the Selectmen if they'd cut the taxes in half he'd buy it. They did. He cut wood on the property to pay for it.

When Jim worked at the Old Hotel, “Alden Rennie run the hotel. Alden, his brother and his son Harry, they owned that sawmill up there.” Dewey Deos owned the mill last; it burned in the 1940's. “The porch was on the hotel when I worked there. The sulphur spring water was piped down there to the little house beside the sidewalk through some old pump logs. The traveling men stayed there and got their meals. Every Sunday people would come from St. Johnsbury with horse and buggy for Sunday dinner in the summer time, about every good Sunday - 35 or 40 people came. That barn was 40 by 60 feet. There was 30 horse stalls where the horses were put while the people ate. Florence Wishart cooked the meals.” Jim stayed at the hotel and ate there. The only heat was from fireplaces.

"Hazel came to Wheelock in 1911 and her first teaching job was at Chandler Pond school. She taught 27 students there for one year. She had seven grades in a one-room school house. There was nine grades and one boy was seventeen. He had passed the ninth grade and couldn't go to high school. He wanted to come back and go over what he had learned. He wanted to be a bookkeeper. Hazel bought a book and so did he and they learned bookkeeping together!"

"Hazel also taught in Piperville. When she met a load of logs, the driver would lead her horse by. A lady named Nora Dunphy was superintendent; she was teaching there but didn't care to teach, so Hazel did. In those days there was three terms in the year. The first term was in April instead of being in September."

"Hazel was boarding with the Orcutts. Mrs. Orcutt took her to Lyndonville to the dentist, then took the team to Jim Allard's mothers. While Hazel was having her teeth done the dentist, Dr. Carter, told her fortune. "He said I was going to meet and marry a light complected, short man. 'Oh, no, I am not I don't like short nor blonde men.' When I went over to get into the wagon with Mrs. Orcutt, Jim was standing there." They were married a couple of years later in her home town of Highgate. They lived in Sheffield for a time, but "work was scarce so we moved up to the farm and stayed there eight years. We had two children - Conrad died in the service." They have lived in Lyndon Center for the past 51 years.

"There was a grist mill beside the saw mill. Don McLean came from Canada down here to run it. They lived where Rob Smith lives (in the Village). The Smith place is also known as the old Judge Taylor place. They had a small store at the end of the grist mill. There was a foot bridge that went over to the house across the river. Rodney Orcutt lived there." Jim thinks Orcutts built the bridge.

"The Cree Mill was located where the Town built their town garage. Luke Cree was the founder of the Flexible Tubing business. The tubing, at that time, was used on ships and was very important to shipping."

"Frank Pearl used to live where Anne and Bill Allen live now. Ray and Leota Poulin bought it from Don and Etta Drake and they from Steve Cree. It is right beside Bradley's store - where Ray and Leota Poulin lived. Ripley had a store there."

There was a blacksmith in Wheelock by the name of Dwyer. "Before Dwyer had the blacksmith shop, Will Stafford run it. Dwyer came up from Boston, learned the trade and took it over and run it."

"Leslie Hill lived on Wheelock Mountain - Noyes has a camp up there. This Leslie was a dentist. He made a set of new upper teeth for my grandmother and he charged her \$5. Imagine!"

## From a taped interview in 1985 with Harold Brown

"Vail came to this area about 1920. He enlarged Chandler Pond to bring water to the Speedwell Farms. Catherine Vail had a \$500 Morgan horse. In 1920 Harold's father went to work for Vail as head coachman.

"The '1912 School House' was moved to its present site from higher up on Stannard Mountain. Below the Mountain School there used to be twin mills. They took a lot of lumber off this country. The tallest tree was a white spruce that was 120 feet high. There was also a kerosene sawmill in the field on the right, and another across from the church. There was a mill run by steam across from the Walter Hall farm in 1941 or 1942. The U.S. Bobbin Company had a sawmill on the Burrough Brook. They sawed about 800,000 feet of lumber there that summer and the sawdust grew to be 30 feet high, up into the trees."

"There used to be drives during the war (World War II) on iron, rags, paper and other raw materials used to recycle. A man named Shingle came from St. Johnsbury for them, and sold them; he became a wealthy man."

"When driving to school one morning, about 1933 or 34, it was 68° below zero. I was the only student there. Rachel Clark, the school teacher, sent me home at noon. The mare had been put in a barn, but icicles hung down to her knees from the bridle."

From a taped interview with Dean & Helen McDowell  
Made in 1976 by Leota Poulin  
At their home in Sheffield

Mr. McDowell has just celebrated his 80th birthday, his wife is younger.

Mr. McDowell says "I can't imagine the people of Wheelock letting that church be torn down. When the town's people tried to prevent it, we were told by a certain group of five or six people that we were not members of that church and had no say in the matter."

The door steps of the McDowell house came from the old church.

Ray Poulin went to see Selectman Kenneth Hopp to have the Selectmen fight for the church bell, but it was melted down. The pulpit chairs, the collection plate and a pulpit bible were given to the South Wheelock Church through Fred and Frances Pillsbury.

"We (the Wheelock Church) had a summer pastor, Rev. Robert Strong, who wanted to board up the windows through the winter but he was not allowed to. We used to get missionary money (we were a missionary district); we worked through a minister in Lyndon Center who used to get as much as \$900 for working with us heathens living here in Wheelock."

When Dean lived in Wheelock, "There were two classes of people that lived there: retired farmers and Civil War veterans. These old people had the best time as anyone ever saw in your life. There were two halls then and there would be something going on at least three times a week. You couldn't believe how far people would come in with a team to those suppers."

"The veterans took pride in being veterans. They all had blue suits and the trappings that went with them. The veterans wore their suits at the parades and when Wheelock had a parade, it was a parade!"

During the Civil War you could hire someone to go to war in your place. Cree paid a man \$900 to go in his place. That is how he got to be a Civil War Veteran. A lot of the prominent citizens did the same thing. If a man was drafted and he did not wish to go to war, he could hire someone to go in his place and the man that did the hiring was the name that was put down as the veteran. Back during World War II you bought a farm and lived on it. That kept the men from going to war."

Mr. McDowell was born in Greensboro Bend and the family moved to Wheelock in 1907 when he was six years old. His father was not really interested in a dairy-farm. "He had a lot of cows. When people had to pay their taxes in the fall, Dad would buy cows real cheap and winter them, and sell them for considerable more in the spring. \$50 was a good price then, and that was put into the paper. Now the price would be \$750."

McDowell owned several places, one was The Marsh Way place. Mr. Way moved into the Village to the Brick Hotel. "He was about 60 years old. One day he and his wife got to scrapping and she had her brother come and get her. When she got her suitcase and was leaving, Marsh followed her right out and hit her over the head with a piece of stove wood and killed her, right there in the dooryard."

The McDowell family left their farm, now the Willson place, when Dean was eleven years old, and went to Sheffield. Dean had curls and Charlie Mosher had fire red hair and curls until he was fourteen years old. "In those days you wanted to be able to fight to wear curls that old. He did. A man named Will cut hair. One Sunday I told Will my mother wanted my curls cut off. I carried them home in a paper bag and my mother cried and swore when she saw me, but there was nothing she could do."

Dean's father cut off about one hundred thousand feet of lumber and Dean drove the team to take the logs to Ranney's mill in Wheelock. "Old Andy Roberts came down and brought a load of wood. He was greatly against education and when his boy, Richard, was fourteen he gave the boy a choice between going to high school or having a car. I had just graduated from high school. I rolled the logs out; had a log pile on both sides between the road and the island towards the road, so they would roll right into the water, you see, and float down to the mill. Old Andrew came along and said 'Does a man need a college education to roll logs like that?' Damned old cuss, I could have killed him if I could have got hold of him. Ranney was an honest man, must of been, for he used everybody just alike. He sawed the logs into boards but he bought very few logs. He also made cider and shingles."

"When they had dances at Mechanics Hall upstairs, the floor would shake and the dancers thought it would come crashing down. The town's people served suppers on the first floor. They had an oyster supper there one night and Will Snelling cooked the oysters. Roy Wilkins and I got a jug of hard cider somewhere and Will kept sampling it and finally fell asleep in the woodbox. Roy and I served the oysters."

### From interview with Mildred Young (Mrs. Glenn Young) In 1984

The Youngs lived on the Wynne farm in South Wheelock and sold it when their son went to college. They then moved into one of the stores in the Village, but never ran the store nor the post office which had been there.

"School busing started during the 50's. Until then the parents were paid for transporting their children to school."

"The roads did not get the attention they should have. Melvin Hudson was the road commissioner. He worked hard and put in long hours trying to keep the roads in a passable condition. He was also an extremely independent man. When a taxpayer tried to hurry him or criticized his road work, he would like as not leave the taxpayer sit for a few hours to cool his disposition. Happy was the day that the Town of Lyndon black-topped the Lyndon portion of the South Wheelock Road."

The Republican Caucus used to meet in the Young home. Glenn was a Republican and Mildred was a Democrat. They never talked politics.

"When Fred and Frances Pillsbury moved back to South Wheelock about 1944, the South Wheelock church was closed. Dewey Deos spoke to Fred about being a trustee and reopening the church. Services were held only in the summer. At one time there was a church in Wheelock Village where the Town Hall stands now. Herb Stahler refinished the chairs that are now used in the South Wheelock church."

### From an interview with Marion Weed in 1985 by Leigh Pierce

Marion Weed went to the Chandler Pond School, a one room school with one teacher. The grades were divided by aisles and there were 31 students in the school.

Mr. Weed's grandfather built the house now known as The Fold or Cornerstone. It had hard wood floors and marble slabs in the bathrooms and was built about 1912. After his death, the house was owned by various people, among them a Dr. Merkley who turned the farm into an alcohol rehabilitation center. John Rockefeller's grandson,



Spellman Prentiss, lived there during the early forties, and "spoiled the beautiful white New England house by painting it a dark color."

Mrs. Weed's grandfather was a carpenter and built the barns at the Darling (Burklyn in East Burke) and Speedwell (T. N. Vail in Lyndon) farms. She remembers going with him to call on Mr. Vail at his farm located where Lyndon State College is now. He wanted Mr. Weed to "feel out the farmers from Chandler Pond to the Vail property, to see how cheaply Vail could buy the land from them to put a line of water from Chandler Pond to his place to feed the fountains at the mansion." The Pond was dammed up and the line was laid.

"Ethel Bean was to play the church organ but she wasn't there, so I was made to play. Bill Bean, her father, sang bass. I was about 12 years old." She later played the piano with Cash Mosher who played the fiddle.

"The government regulation, such as not straining the milk in the stable and demanding more sanitation, put some Wheelock farms out of business. The milk inspectors were very strict. The farmers had to buy milk bulk-tanks and put in cement floors."

### Interview with Ada Sheldon, 1976

"George and Alma (Thomas) Orcott lived in the house at the two bridges in Wheelock Village. Owned the store in the house presently owned by Glenn Young on the north side of 122, in the village, also the Post Office. He moved to the house across the street from the store, owned by Raymond Poulin.

Dr. Dan Leslie, dentist, pulled all of Ada's upper teeth in 1905. She had to wait three months before she could get a plate. Total bill - \$10. She wore the teeth until 1972, when she fell and the teeth fell out because they were loose.

"Wheelock is now on its toes. No Smith boys lived there for awhile, but now they are coming back and they want it to go. They've made the town. Wheelock went down hill after the flood of 1927 and is now coming back."

### From an interview with Eugene St. Louis Town Moderator; July 1976

In 1918 more than half of the taxes came from West Wheelock where there were large farms, forests and stock on the west side of the ridge.

Dr. Sparhawk had a very beautiful old house, regarded as the best finished house in town.

"Meade Hill was named for a man of that name." Mr. St. Louis lived on what is known as the "Lovejoy Lease" and has a photocopy of the lease from Dartmouth. St. Clair has 16 acres, De Mars and Le Baron also own part of the land. St. Louis' deed calls for 55 acres but he only had 29, a "chunk was stolen".

"Flag Pond" was named for the Flagg family. "Map of West Wheelock Cemetery should be made. Unless someone is willing to scratch their head and tell the truth and not lie, there is no map. Always taken care of by Leavitt who is gone. His sons live in Hardwick and Greensboro and they took care of the cemetery, possibly ten years ago. Children pulled up all the steel markers showing veterans graves - no map."



### The following two stories from Leota Poulin

"Melvin Hudson used to police the dances at Wheelock. We never had any trouble but once. A young man was up from Lyndonville and he was lit to the gills and he got to raising the devil in the hall. I never saw Melvin work so tactfully in all my life; he just kept talking and talking and got the man outdoors."

"Dewey Deos was a carpenter of sorts and when we owned and operated the Wheelock store, we hired him to put a roof on the barn. About the only one who was not working was Pink (Clarence Pinkham), so Dewey hired him to help with the roof. Pink went up the ladder with a cigarette stuck out of the corner of his mouth and he came down that ladder twice as fast as he went up. Dewey never wanted any smoking. He was absolutely furious for the wood on that roof was tinder dry. Dewey said 'You smoke, you don't work'. Dewey never overcharged and was everyone's friend."

# The Sheffield-Wheelock Fire Department

Volunteer Members from Wheelock in 1985 are as follows:

Fire Chief: Robert Smith  
Anthony Ameo  
Mark Bush  
Charles Camber  
Richard Davis  
Phil DeGreenia  
Arthur Dionisio  
Kevin Goldrick  
Peter Miller  
John Nolan  
Gaylon Smith  
Preston Smith  
Raymond Therrien  
George Trembley  
William Whitlock

The Firemen's Auxiliary are:

Patricia Ameo  
Donna Camber  
Carolyn Nolan  
Audrey Smith  
Janet Smith  
Linda Stephan  
Anita Zentz

There are many people in Town who may not attend meetings, but help in anyway they can, when asked.

In 1975 a new Town Garage was built, which housed the fire truck and in 1984, due to the efforts of many, a sub-station was built in South Wheelock to house a pumper. The land was donated by Vincent and Lessia Stephan and the labor was donated by the firemen and others interested.

Some Fire Department and Auxiliary members have taken a C.P.R. course and have been instructed in Advanced First Aid so as to be able to handle some emergencies. Some of the women had been trained to drive the firetruck, handle the hose (someone has to sit on it!), and run the portable pump; thus giving the men time to get to the fire from work in Lyndonville and elsewhere.

## Vietnam Era Veterans from Wheelock

Baker, Duane  
Cutter, Linda A.  
Ingalls, Gayle N.  
Ingalls, Nancy R.  
Leroux, Marc D.  
Leroux, Marcel L.  
Murray, Chester C.

Norcross, Rodney B.  
Poulin, Robert E.  
Poulin, Russell E.  
Ross, David H.  
Smith, Bradley I.  
Smith, Preston T.  
Willson, James M.

Note: The name of Raymond Hudson was omitted from the listing of veterans of the Korean Conflict as listed in "Wheelock, Vermont's Gift to Dartmouth College", by Eleanor Jones Hutchinson.

## Town of Wheelock, Officers

### Moderator

Eugene St. Louis 1962-73  
Malcolm Stone 1974-77  
Robert Johnson 1978-

### Clerk

Marion Peak 1962-70  
Mavis Remick 1971-73  
Audrey Smith 1974  
Anita Zentz 1975-77  
Janet Smith 1978-

### Treasurer

Raymond Poulin 1962-64  
Marion Peak 1965-70  
Mavis Remick 1971  
Raymond Poulin 1972-73  
Audrey Smith 1974  
Anita Zentz 1975-77  
Janet Smith 1978-

## Selectmen of the Town of Wheelock from 1962

Glenn Young 1962-65  
Albert Peak 1962-63  
Lucien Leroux 1962-71  
Duane Smith 1964-66  
Nelson Brill 1966-71  
Irvin Peak 1967  
Royden Schwartz 1968-71  
Russell Stahler 1972-75  
Robert Smith 1972-76  
Raeburn Baker 1972-74  
Malcolm Stone 1975-77  
Arthur Menut 1976  
David Smith 1977-  
John Nolan 1977-  
George Trembley 1978-

## State Representatives and Senators Representing the Town of Wheelock

Year	Representative	Senator	Senator
1961	George R. Sherburn	George C. Morse	Graham S. Newell
1963	Irvin Peak	George C. Morse	Graham S. Newell
1965	Herbert H. Stahler	George C. Morse	Douglas Kitchel
1967	W. Arthur Simpson	George C. Morse	Douglas Kitchel
1969	Harry U. Lawrence & John McLaughry	George C. Morse	Douglas Kitchel
1971	Harry U. Lawrence & John McLaughry	George C. Morse	Graham Newell
1973	Cola Hudson & Harry Lawrence	Gerald Morse	Graham Newell
1975	Cola Hudson & Leland Simpson	Gerald Morse	Graham Newell
1977	Cola Hudson & Leland Simpson	Gerald Morse	Graham Newell
1979	Cola Hudson & Leland Simpson	Gerald Morse	Harry Lawrence
1981	Cola Hudson & Leland Simpson	Gerald Morse	Scudder Parker
1983	Wayne Gadapee	Gerald Morse	Scudder Parker
1985	Wayne Gadapee	Gerald Morse	Scudder Parker

## Wheelock Births

Year	Child	Father	Mother's Maiden Name
1962	Michelle Leroux	Lucien Leroux	Jeannette Messier
	Marcia Drown	Donald Drown	Romona Smith
	Gary Walker	Gordon Walker	Freda Cleverley
1963	Jeffrey Davis	Roger Davis	Alice Cook
1964	Rose Withers	Wayland Withers	Betty Wright
	Lucy Mathewson	Hugh Mathewson	Sandra Proof
	Dwight Stahler	Francis Stahler	Bernice Legare
1965	George Withers	Wayland Withers	Betty Wright
	Tracy S. Louis	Eugene St. Louis, Jr.	June Thompson
	Tedd Mathewson	Hugh Mathewson	Sandra Proof
	Rickey Young	Wendell Young	Virginia Fenoff
	Felix Mitchell	John Mitchell	Monique Leroux
	Erma Emery	Lloyd Emery	Gertrude Brown
	Stuart Brill	Nelson Brill	Shirley Bishop
1966	Carrie Mathewson	Hugh Mathewson	Sandra Proof
	Dawn Stahler	Francis Stahler	Bernice Legare
1967	Debra Walker	Willie Walker	Geneva Gilman
	Noel Noyes	Noel Noyes	Mary Gilbert
	Dennis Desrochers	Richard Desrochers	Jean Mitchem
	Gordon Mathewson	Hugh Mathewson	Sandra Proof

1968	Brian Langmaid David Willson Scott Bliss Laurence Riendeau	Ronald Langmaid David Willson Wayne Bliss Gaston Riendeau	Linda Murray Marie Reynolds Wilda Wehlage Beatrice Chouinard
1969	Burnadette Mathewson Emery Gilman Pamela Desrochers	Hugh Mathewson Wilbur Gilman Richard Desrochers	Sandra Proof Ruby Silver Jean Mitchem
1970	Anita Magoon Kathleen Cole Linda Willson	Robert Magoon Gilbert Cole James Willson	Nancy Remick June Stephan Rosalie Griffith
1971	Valerie Berry	Gilbert Berry	Catherine Hall
1972	Paul Hudson Stanley Cole Daniel Camber Scott Baker	Clinton Hudson Gilbert Cole Charles Car.ber Warren Baker	Patricia Giroux June Stephan Donna Smith Patricia Miller
1973	Regina Murray Vanessa Berry Angela Emery Micki Smith Robin Piper James Stephan Kirsten Witte	Roger Murray Gilbert Berry Howard Emery Preston Smith Robert Piper Thomas Stephan, Sr. Donald Witte	Ruth Bristol Catherine Hall Pamela Robitaille Audrey Rainey June Cox Linda Emmerson June Pedersen
1974	Amelia Menut Keith Hudson Jenny Murtiff Renee Stahler Frank Head Scott Norcross Tobias Kaplan Auron Farrington	Arthur Menut, II Erton Hudson William Murtiff Larry Stahler Frank Head, Jr. Gary Norcross Gary Kaplan Mark Farrington	Elizabeth Irish Elizabeth Surridge Mildred Whipple Donna Beer Phyllis Petrella Sherrilyn Gray Shirlee Barron Cynthia Perkins
1975	Douglas Miller Abraham McNally Heather Willey Jessica Call	John Miller Gregory McNally, Jr. Duane Willey Raymond Call	Louise Cox Edith Young Patricia Roy Lorraine St. Louis
1976	Chad Hudson Matthew Johnson Stephanie Burgess Heather Stahler Kristina Langmaid Chantell Lynaugh Eric Miller Anneka Palmer	Clinton Hudson Robert Johnson, Jr. Stephen Burgess Larry Stahler Dennis Langmaid John Lynaugh Peter Miller Foster Palmer	Patricia Giroux Marie Berry Nancy Amidon Donna Beer Shirley Burrington Marcia Dusik Barbara Kershner Linda Hoe
1977	Daniel Nolan John Drown Nicole Poginy Sebastian Rossi Angela Goldrick Autumn Taylor	John Nolan Edward Drown Rosaire Poginy Ronald Rossi Kevin Goldrick Daniel Taylor	Carolyn Curran Priscilla McKinstry Katherine Lenton Carol Strong Cheryl True Elaine
1978	Nathan Bandy James Baldwin Dasha Castellano Mandy Poginy	Francis Bandy Daniel Baldwin Allen Castellano Rosaire Poginy	Jacqueline Allard Deborah Sabens Kathy Bonovich Katherine Lenton
1979	Daniel Norcross Billie Bandy Zachariah Farrington	Gary Norcross Francis Bandy Michael Farrington	Sherrilyn Gray Jacqueline Allard Margaret Hubbard

	David Martin	Peter Martin	Barbara Sewell
	Kenneth Goldrick	Kevin Goldrick	Cheryl True
	Nicholas Crandall	Walter Crandall, III	Barbara Friscia
	Jennifer Brady	Kenneth Brady, Jr.	Patricia
1980	Jackson Mitchell, III	Jackson Mitchell, Jr.	Kathleen Drummond
	William Boykin-Morris	Walter Morris, Jr.	Catherine Boykin
	Matthew Holden	Mark Holden	Ermelinda Cruz
	Allison Roslund	Arthur Roslund, Jr.	Julia Knapp
	Darcy Mitchell	Jackson Mitchell, Jr.	Kathleen Drummond
	Daniel Baldwin, Jr.	Daniel Baldwin	Deborah Sabens
1981	Daniel Farrington	Michael Farrington	Margaret Hubbard
	Tiffany Rice	John Rice	Sandra Simpson
	Kristen Pinsonneault	Jospeh Pinsonneault	Judith Vasquez
	Daron Hume	Douglas Hume	Faye Willey
	Conor Elmes	Robert Elmes	Martha Leitz
	Jacob Grant	Michael Grant	Susan Guyette
	David Pruikisma	Thomas Pruikisma	Sherry Boynton
	Morgan Murray	Roger Murray	Nancy Phillips
	Sarah Willson	James Willson	Diane Walker
	Joshua Crandall	Walter Crandall	Barbara Friscia
1982	Kenneth Schmidt	Allan Schmidt	Katherine Baker
	Christine Riendeau	Richard Riendeau	Jennifer Harrington
	Charles Camber II	Charles Camber	Donna Smith
	William Winsor, Jr.	William Winsor	Susan Peters
	Judith Kulberg	A. Peter Kulberg	Jo Anne Farrington
	Justin Murray	Roger Murray	Nancy Phillips
	David Simpson	William Simpson	Alice Gould
1983	Matthew Gilman	Stanley Gilman	Beverly Willey
	Alicia Holden	Mark Holden	Ermelinda Cruz
1984	Dustin Castellano	Allen Castellano	Kathy Bonovich
	Ashley Roslund	Arthur Roslund, Jr.	Julia Knapp
	Steward Holden	Mark Holden	Ermelinda Cruz
	David Newberry	David Newberry	Germaine Pattok
	Wendy Mitchell	Jackson Mitchell, Jr.	Kathleen Drummond
	Joshua Tavares	Gerald Tavares	Cathie Chilton

## Wheelock Deaths of Residents

Year	Name	Father	Mother's Maiden Name
1962	Wendel Stone	Fred Stone	Winnie Smith
	Harley Deos	Alonzo Deos	Mary Ingram
1963	Ethel Rock	William Bean	Collista Sanderson
1964	Grace Stahler	Willie Hill	Josephine Hall
	Perley Gilman	James Gilman	Alice Bushaw
1965	Dewey Deoss	Orlando Deoss	Mary Tallman
	Tedd Mathewson	Hugh Mathewson	Sandra Proof
1966	Hazel Powers	Edward Aldrich	Clara Bailey
	Harry Meserve	Charles Meserve	Ella Bailey
	Fred Grady	William Grady	Margaret Forbes
1967	Alice Gilman	Oliver Bushaw	Sophia
	Raoul Messier	Alcidas Messier	Oslie Beauregard
1968	Irvin Peak	George Peak	Delphine Pillsbury

1969	Waler Stearns Cecil Smith Alma Grady Alice Bernier	William Smith Merrit Welch William Bernier	Jennie Ingalls Agnes Phillips Albertini Castongway
1970	Henry St. Denis Hazen Brown Louis Lacasse Caissus Robinson	Hnthime St. Denis Addi Brown John Lacasse Alexander Robinson	Laura Riendeau Hattie Emily Gardner Myrtle Watkins
1971	Gideon J. Martineau David Gaylor Beatrice Meserve	Allan Gaylor	Margaret Bocash
1972	Julian Hodgedon Wilbur Gilman Albert Peak	Earl Hodgedon James Gilman William Peak	Addie Bennett Alice Busham Kate Ransom
1974	Herbert Stahler Jeffrey Drew	Harry Stahler George Drew	Sarah Mullen Carol Tatro
1975	Harvey Langmaid Melvin Hudson	George Langmaid Alfred Hudson	Cora Hastings Mattie Dunn
1976	Jennie Chesley	Fred Craig	Rosa LaClair
1977	Alma Noyes	George Peak	Delphine Pillsbury
1978	Glenn Young Dorothy Cree Catherine Buck	Erastus Young George MacDonald	Mary Sweet Reba
1979	Randolph Gaylor Malcolm Stone	Allan Gaylor Malcolm Stone, Sr.	Margaret Bocash Marion Lewis
1980	Lincoln Willson Eugene St. Louis	Samuel Willson Charles St. Louis	Pearl Smith Sally Willey
1981	Virtulon Chesley Stephen Robinson	Frank Chesley Alexander Robinson	Gertie Willard Myrtle Watkins
1983	J. Wesley Withers Rhoda Rundell	William Withers Forest Simms	Ruth Taylor Lucille Beverage
1984	Fred Pillsbury	James Pillsbury	Nancy Thomas

### Number of Farmers and Acres Owned from Wheelock Grand Lists

- 1920 — 90 farmers with 12,571 acres; T. N. Vail, Pres. of A.T. & T., owning 1,036 acres  
 1930 — 77 farmers with 10,411 acres  
 1940 — 69 farmers with no acreage listed  
 1950 — 52 farmers with 3,830 acres, but 24 did not list acreage  
 1960 — 32 farmers with 7,674 acres  
 1970 — 5 farmers with 2,036 acres  
 1980-84 — 5 resident owners, 1 non-resident owner and leased, with 1,384 acres

### Wheelock Farmers and Acreage — 1960

P. & N. Allen & Bixby	375
James & Hazel Allard	140
H. A. Brown	200
Raeburn & Erma Baker	331
Justus & Evelyn Buchler	180
Virtulon & Jennie Chesley	401
Katherine Cottle	150
George Davis Est.	160
Milo & Irene Dezan	150



Ernest & Eunice Demars	200
Dewey O. Deos	200
Wilber & Perley Gilman	113
Melvin & Verla Hudson	75
O. M. & R. Jolin	240
Rose Jolin	439
Joseph King	136
Lucien & Jeannette Leroux	1315
Karl & A. Manneck	373
Lawrence & Leona Mitchem	111
Raymond & Pearl Murray	150
Hugh & Sandra Mathewson	328
Herbert Noyes	210
Fred & Frances Pillsbury	90
Irvin & Marion Peak	304
Albert & Lena Peak	326
Hazel Powers	84
Henry & Kathleen Ross	116
Cecil & Doris Smith	350
Lynn & Dora Skinner	80
Eugene & Blanche St. Louis	53
Russell & Norma Stahler	144
Walter & James Stearns	50

## FARMERS IN WHEELOCK IN 1985

Joseph Wynne - replacement heifers
Lincoln and Yvette Willson - dairy
Wendell Chesley - dairy
Raeburn and Erma Baker - dairy
Raymond, Pearl and Roger Murray - pulling horses
Duane and Patricia Willey - dairy
Warren and Patricia Baker - rabbits, replacement heifers
Douglas and Wendy Bora - rabbits
Priscilla Drown - rabbits
Peter and Barbara Martin - maple syrup
Richard Riendeau - dairy
Robert and Janet Smith - maple syrup

## INDUSTRIES IN WHEELOCK IN 1985

### AUTOMOTIVE

Timothy Baker - auto body repair
Gerald Boulay - Bud's Auto Body
Alan O. Friend - AMF Auto Repair - foreign cars (all makes)
Thomas Stephan - Stephan Motors - repairs & auto body work

## FOOD SERVICE

Richard & Sandra Davis - "Family Venture" - pizza & sub shop  
Martha Elmes - A Moveable Feast - catering  
Leigh Pierce - Gentle Wind Bakery  
Hugh & Annetta Schultz - Wheelock Village Store

## FOREST PRODUCTS

Warren & Patricia Baker - JB Timber - sawmill  
Douglas & Wendy Bora - sawmill  
Duwayne Masure - logger  
Jackson Mitchell, Jr. - firewood  
Larry Moffatt - Moffatt Forest Products - Christmas trees  
Mary Noyes - Christmas wreaths  
Alston Rowell - R. & C. Tree Service  
David Smith - logger  
Robert Smith - firewood  
Wayne Smith - logger

## GENERAL SERVICES

Harold Burrington - heavy equipment, L & B Water Works, supplies water to the homes in the Village  
Charles Conroy - General Refrigeration & Sheet Metal  
Henry Davis - small engine repair  
Harris Stimpson, Jr. - building contractor  
William Thorpe - welding

## MISCELLANEOUS

Thomas Ney - Wheelock Mountain Trading Co. - stamps & coins  
Curtis Sjolander - Kingdom Computer Concepts - computer consulting, software development  
Duane & Gaylon Smith - breeders and trainers of bear dogs

## MEDICAL

Catherine Boykin  
Marie Johnson - LPN  
Peter Miller - DDS  
Julia Roslund - MSW  
Annetta Schultz - RN  
Joan Sjolander - BSN RN  
Anita Zentz - LPN

## ARTISTS

Emma Barber - Emma's Ceramics  
Barbara Crandall - visual artist  
Martha Elmes - visual artist  
Gregory McNally - Fall Brook Pottery, potter  
Joyce Ney - sculptures & silk screening  
Elaine Noyes - visual artist

Arthur Roslund - commercial photographer  
Ann Young - sculptor & ceramist, visual artist

## MUSICIANS

Marie Johnson  
Leigh Pierce  
Ronald Rossi - "North Wind" and "Rude Rock" bands

## EDUCATORS IN WHEELLOCK IN 1985

Jerry Tavares - L.I.  
Cathie Tavares - L.I.  
Joseph Wynne - L.S.C.  
Ronald Rossi - L.S.C.  
Arthur Roslund - L.S.C.  
William Allen - L.S.C.  
Carolyn Nolan - elementary  
Frances Pillsbury - retired elementary  
Terri Peake - elementary  
Suzanne Gallagher - Librarian at L.S.C.  
Evelyn Shirk Buchler - N.Y. State Univ. - summer resident  
Barbara Crandall - Lake Region H.S. - Art, Dept. Chairman  
Deborah Spencer - Brighton Elementary - Special Ed., Resource Room  
Barbara Miller - His Lambs Nursery School, Lyndon Center - U.D. 37 music  
Catherine Boykin, RN - L.I. Faculty & Director of Nursing  
Martha Elms - Burke, Art  
Richard Wright - L.S.C.



## The Old Village Store

Near the crossroads in the Village  
of a Northern Vermont Town  
Stood a building well remembered  
Although it long ago burned down.

It was a good two story building  
With its Verandah broad and wide  
And two giant plate glass windows  
Just to let daylight inside.

To the left just as one entered  
Stood the safe, so large and strong  
Next the line of Postal Boxes  
That seemed oh so high and long.

Next the Candy Case, where brother  
For a penny at that time  
You could buy yourself more sweetness  
Then you can now for a dime.

To the right, were kept the dry goods  
Bolts of cloth were on display  
Many ladies made their dresses  
In that almost forgotten day.

Here were stockings, caps and mittens  
Many kinds of shoes on hand  
And the good old Ball Band Rubbers  
Called the best ones in the land.

In the South Corner near the river  
At times called The Loafers Room,  
Housed all kinds of nails and hardware  
From the mouse trap to the broom.

It was here the Store Court gathered  
Solemnly were discussions made  
Many and hotly contested  
Were the Checker Games there played.

Every evening here they gathered  
While they waited for the stage  
Folks were living then my children  
In the Horse and buggy age.

Picture a December evening  
Winter's silence calm and still  
Broken by the children laughing  
as they coast down Baptist Hill.

All at once the gloom is shattered  
Driven back into the night  
By the glare from the great windows  
As the store puts on its light.

One by one the Store Court gathers  
From homes up the street and down  
Men of age and much respected  
Lifetime residents of the town.

Checker games are soon in progress  
Stories told, and then the news  
It was the privilege of each member  
Then and there to state his views.

Soon they hear the sound of sleigh Bells  
Chiming sweetly in the night  
As the stage from down to Lyndon  
Comes a-trotting into sight.

Soon it stops by the Verandah  
Where the passengers alight.  
While Foss says "Now by Goll Harry  
Chilly coming up tonight."

When at last the mail is sorted  
Passed out and good nights are said  
Store Court members that have gathered  
Homeward go to seek their beds.

Time has changed all this my brother  
Store Court members long at rest  
Many a name almost forgotten  
Yet their spirits still are Blest.

May we keep the peace and friendship  
That was there upon that night  
While the wheels of Progress roll on  
In a way that is just and Right.

Yes, at times there comes a longing  
To be Young, just one night more  
And go spend a pleasant evening  
In that Good Old Village Store.

**“Wheelock — Bicentennial Edition — 1985”**

ERRATA

Bicentennial Committee 1973 - 1976

Anita Zentz  
Kerry Smith  
Robert C. Smith

“Bandstand Builders”

John Nolan  
Robert W. Smith  
Duane Smith  
Arthur Menut  
Bruce Norcross  
Dale Zentz  
Ronald Snelling  
Howard Little

Photographs

Page 1 - bottom photograph  
Wheelock Village - 1985  
page 3 - Wheelock Village - 1985  
page 13 - June 14, 1985  
Bicentennial Celebration  
of signing of Charter, (June 15, 1785)  
page 23 - Mechanics Hall - 1985  
now owned by Ronald and Verna Snelling  
page 32 - Wheelock Village Store

Text

page 31 - Medical, Catherine Boykin, R.N.  
page 33 - “Old Village Store”  
poem by Cecil Smith, 1900-69

Cover design by Joyce Ney