# HISTORY

OF THE

TOWN OF

# WAITSFIELD, VERMONT

1789 – 2000

BY

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# INTRODUCTION

The primary purpose of this endeavor is to update the HISTORY OF WAITSFIELD by Matt Bushnell Jones. The Jones' history includes the years 1782 to 1908. This new volume is an attempt to detail more fully some of the early information. It is an attempt to clarify some aspects of the first recorded history and to amplify the facts already recorded. This new volume then attempts to continue the history from the end of the Jones' history to the present - 1900 to 2000. Undoubtedly, there are omissions in this new attempt as well. There are errors in the spelling of proper names because of the many sources used and the difficulty in reading some of the records. Frequently, the same name appears in different forms within the same source. There are literally hundreds of stories told by individuals in the many interviews, but selections had to be made. As Mr. Matt Jones indicated in his text, much of the early history has been lost, and this is true of some of the later history because people simply felt it was not important or that time would stand still. Also in 1960, a sudden influx of people from other states swept into the valley and a new culture was born. New houses were built, old houses were completely changed, new roads were built - the landscape literally changed. Old facts and historical names were forgotten and new names established as fact, thus making this search at times extremely difficult. A perfect example should be given to denote fact. The Jasper Walton building (by the village bridge) was called "The Tin Shop." It was a tin shop, hardware, plumbing store for years. It was the Griffith and Neil Hardware Store when the fire was on the side porch. It was the Eaton General Store for years. Later, it became Bisbee and Bisbee Hardware, Plumbing and Sheet Metal. Throughout the many proprietors, this building remained primarily in its original architectural structure and referred to as "The Tin Shop." There were a few changes in the porch structure and the addition of the barn. In 1980's, a new resident through a grant began to completely "renovate" some of these historical structures. This building was suddenly changed and called the "Blue Building." The past was wiped away.

This author admittedly wishes he had asked questions of earlier generations when they were living. This author also wished he had started this historical effort earlier. An earlier attempt would have made for more accuracy. Omissions or errors are deeply regretted, but it certainly should be an incentive for future historians to continue these historical efforts so that the valley's history does not get lost completely. There is no endeavor to include a genealogy, that task would take years to complete. Also, decendents of early family lines are limited.

The dating of original building structures begins with 1793/94 because the first sawmill was constructed on Mill Brook in 1793 thus there could not have been permanent structures until at least that date. Other mills soon developed and permanent structures were built rapidly to withstand the climate.

Also it should be noted that the properties in the Valley remained for years very much in the hands of the same family. However, by 1960 rapid changes were taking place and properties changed hands frequently. Therefore, there is little attempt to record in this volume those changes. For example, in 1978 there was some $2.9 million dollars worth of real estate changed hands. These records are easily found in the Town Clerks office whereas older historical facts needed to be searched out in many different souces.

Sincere gratitude is expressed to the people who graciously gave information, who spent hours relating information they personally remembered, and to those who loaned scrapbooks, clippings,

and pictures. Special recognition to John "Jack" Smith who graciously gave hours of his time gathering information, searching for pictures and assisting in proofreading this volume. Thank you to Philip B. Jones for valuable material from the Jones family and his acceptance of my using the Matt B. Jones History of Waitsfield as a beginning source for this book. A sincere thank you to the Waitsfield Historical Society and the Vermont Historical Society.

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

Waitsfield lies on the eastern edge of the Green Mountains and on the western edge of the Vermont Piedmont physiographic province. The Mad River, which begins some ten miles south of Waitsfield, is a major tributary of the Winooski River. This is the principal drainage system of north central Vermont. Mad River flows north and west and the Mad River – Winooski River system reaches Lake Champlain at Burlington some 47 miles from its beginning.

Near the late Pleistocene period, the valley was inundated by glacial meltwater that was dammed by retreating ice in the Green Mountain and the Champlain valley. Originally, high level lakes called Winooski Lake and Mansfield Lake covered the area. As the ice age disappeared, these lakes became Lake Vermont which occupied Mad River Valley. This was called the Quaker Springs stage. The Mad River valley was covered by glacial and postglacial deposits including lake-bottom sediments, fluvial gravels, and alluvium. The Mad River has meandered back and forth across the valley floor for thousands of years. The river and its tributaries frequently flood. Much of the flooding is the result of melting snow on the Green Mountains at springtime. However, severe floods have occurred to affect the Mad River valley – July 1830, October 1869, November 1927, hurricane 1938, and June 1998.

Vermont, which includes the Mad River valley, is divided into three prehistoric periods – the Paleoindian Period (9500 to 8500 BC), the Archaic Period (8000 to 900 BC), and the Woodland Period (900 BC to 1600 AD). Most researchers agree that Native American contacts in Vermont occurred from around 1600 to 1760 AD. The first two periods, Paleoindian and Archaic, were hunter/gather periods. The Woodland Period saw the beginning of ceramics. This allowed for durable containers that could withstand the rigors of cooking with direct heat and provide waterproof storage. This led to the more sedentary, long-term settlers. At the time of the European contact in the seventeenth century, the late Woodland groups inhabiting the Connecticut River valley and perhaps Mad River valley were the Western Abenaki. "The Western Abenaki were organized into several major bands or organizations, each occupying its own village site. Subsistence strategies alternated between the village setting where crops were grown and surplus foodstuffs stored, and periodic dispersion into smaller groups that traveled to other locations, primarily to hunt." Archaeological studies indicate that the Mad River valley was primarily an area where Native Americans traveled through for hunting purposes. There is very little evidence other than trails and one area near the Barnard/Carpenter farm, that factually prove any Native American contact. However, there has been a thin scattering of prehistoric artifacts recovered from sites around the Mad River valley. There are some indications that in some areas there is a potential for deeply buried archaeological deposits due to flooding sediments. The diggings that have been done along Route 100 have revealed early settlers ware – 1762 – 1820 cream ware and other items indigenous to Benjamin Wait and followers in 1789.

Once Waitsfield was chartered, it developed in three areas. These areas were the Village around Benjamin Wait and Waitsfield Common around the many eastern settlers, then a little later Irasville around mills and store of Ira Richardson. Interestingly, these three areas still remain the developed areas, particularly the Village and Irasville. There is strong evidence that the eastern slopes developed because of open areas and good soil. There were small wooded areas to be cleared, but there were also large clear areas. Large orchards were planted by the early settlers on the eastern slopes.

Many of these orchards can be found in 2000. Most of the farms were on the eastern slopes and a few on the valley floor.

By the 1800's, the Mad River valley raised sheep, cattle and grew corn, wheat, rye, barley, oats, flax, buckwheat, potatoes, and hay. Cheese, butter, and maple sugar were the cornerstone of the valley's economy by the 1850's. From the 1820's on, raising livestock was an important factor in the local economy. Wool products and dairying became the leading farm activities from 1820's to 1840's. For a time there was considerable interest in breeding horses in the 1850's. This interest in horses was to return in 1999/2000. In the 1860's, stands of valuable timber, such as spruce, ash, pine, and basswood, covered the upper hillsides. Sugar maples were abundant and hemlock bark supported local tanneries.

Events began to change the agricultural scene in 1940's. By 1963, there were only 31 dairy farms left in Waitsfield. By 2000, there were only five dairy farms and one of these 5 was an extremely one man operation. The economic problems brought on by the decline in the dairy and maple sugaring were ameliorated by the growth of tourism – 1960 – 2000.

# A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Millions of years of ice age and intense pressure from moving glaciers pushed up Granite Mountains leaving a lush green valley and an untamed river. In Vermont the formation of talc, slate, limestone created a sweet soil within the mountain valleys. There was an abundance of trees, but there were also open fields waiting to be cultivated. This particular isolated green valley and surrounding hillsides of some 23,850 acres became the Town of Waitsfield, chartered in 1782.

This was more than a lush green valley; it was a state of mind, a place of breath taking beauty. It was, in fact, an adult character. This adult character already possessed a mature physical quality and an imaginative idealism: - staunch independence, a self-sufficiency and resilience, a profound individualism that demanded freedom and patriotism. It required hard labor, conservative thinking, and Protestantism. It was democratic and for its time well educated. This character, like the river, was fresh, swift and clear. But without warning it could and did rise-up in uncontrollable independent fury.

These treasured characteristics were already ingrained in the stoic granite Rock Mountains and untamed river, but its heart and soul were as sweet as the maple syrup it laboriously produced. The sweet soil was the incubator that guaranteed this growth.

The first settlers felt this culture, embraced its qualities and practiced its ideology. The founder, Benjamin Wait, had practiced this life style as a young man and soldier. He had searched for a fulfillment of this idealism. In Windsor, he found divisiveness of loyalties between New York and New Hampshire. He had witnessed an armed mob of men protest a court. He had had a brother killed, a fellow soldier die fighting for freedom and unquestioned patriotism. So it was not so strange that Benjamin Wait would take his family and venture into a valley already an adult character ingrained with his idealism. It was a town to which he could give his name. It was indeed his resting-place.

This was Waitsfield and this was its people for 175 years. Then the valley began to shudder as developers, at first, silently crept in. The real native inhabitants remained isolated and silent with only a whisper of doubt between well established neighbors. Then a light breeze began to push the myth and wisdom into the maple groves. A new character and a new culture grabbed and consumed the valley. A new life style of wine, horses, canoes, bicycles, affluence, and "I have the answer" touched the valley floor. Slowly the old "adult character" closed its front door and its back door. The quaint, unique valley of breathless beauty became a hippie/yuppie culture with idealistic planning boards, zoning boards, greenback orators known as "do gooders." Once they had established their territory, they refused the likes to others.

To paraphrase William Butler Yeats: It was no longer the country of men and women who loved the adult character, the individualism, the democracy, the freedom, the independence, and the valley of tranquillity.

Even the river gave away its purity. This lush green valley gave up its character; gave up its farms, its mills, and its trust in neighbors. It gave up. The Valley changed historically and culturally by 2000 AD.

# CHAPTER I
# GENERAL BENJAMIN WAIT

Some have been mystified and have searched for the logical reason that enticed General Benjamin Wait to leave his comfortable home in Windsor, Vermont at the age of 53 and venture into the wilderness of Waitsfield Valley. It does not take long for a reader of Benjamin Wait's life to discover the adult man yearning for a place that would accept and cultivate his idealism. The Mad River Valley had already embraced and expressed this mature idealism. It was a place adroitly prepared to receive this man, his idealism, and his adult character, to bear his name and always to remain his resting-place.

Benjamin Wait was a man who thrived on adventure and challenges. He was a man who had a desire to lead and create a design – his own design. It would be a natural challenge to venture into the Mad River Valley, a tranquil valley of enormous beauty, a valley with the power and strength of the granite rock well established – a design that was a Benjamin Wait design. It was time for Benjamin Wait to settle down quietly with family and friends.

Benjamin Wait was born in Sudbury, Massachusetts on February 13, 1736. He was the fourth of seven children born to John and Annah Wait. John Wait married a second time and established an inn, Waite's Tavern, in Brookfield, Massachusetts. John Wait had five more children. (The original name was spelled Waite, but Benjamin Wait signed his name at least in Waitsfield as Wait). This tavern was the resting-place for many soldiers returning from battles between the British and French. It was the ideal breeding ground for boys to absorb stories of heroes, of bloodshed, and of adventure. It was Benjamin's brother, Joseph, who led the way into the military. However, Benjamin would stand by his older brother's side during several critical times in his life. Much has been written about Joseph Waite, but it was during the campaign of 1755 that Benjamin Wait followed his brother into the service. Benjamin was 18 years old. He joined the Massachusetts regiment under the command of General Shirley. He was sent to capture Fort Niagara. This first encounter was a resounding defeat for General Shirley. They were forced to retreat and set up a makeshift fort where they spent the winter in Oswego, NY on Lake Ontario. Benjamin Wait witnessed the death of hundreds of his comrades due to starvation, frostbite and illness.

Benjamin Wait went on to endure capture by the French General Montcalm, running the American Native war gauntlet, and supposedly escaping from a French ship carrying him as prisoner back to France. Descriptions of these adventures are recorded in different manners in differing sources. Quoted from his grandson concerning the Native American gauntlet saying Benjamin fought back. "He ran through with clenched fists as vicious as a wild bull, knocking them from one side to the other, and when they see him approaching they had little time enough to take care of themselves." From Matt B. Jones writing – Wait was rescued from the natives by a French women, who hid him in a cask in her cellar before turning him over to the French who sent him overseas to France. A British man-of-war intercepted the French ship and took Benjamin Wait to England from which he returned to America. The accuracy of these stories shall remain with Benjamin Wait; however, General Wait did endure many horrible experiences.

Benjamin Wait continued to serve through several battles, when during the winter of 1758, Joseph was experiencing a turbulent time at Fort Ticonderoga. Joseph managed to escape from a battle near the Fort with natives. Meanwhile, Benjamin had experienced a successful Louisburg

campaign and his path was about to cross with Joseph. Benjamin re-enlisted in the company of Rangers led by Captain Joseph Waite. The two brothers remained together over the next several years. By the fall of 1759, the Rangers were to be involved in a horrendous journey from Crown Point to Missisquoi Bay and on up the St. Lawrence River. After many losses due to illness, injury, and an accidental gunpowder explosion, they reached and attacked the St. Francis village. They totally destroyed the village. Unable to return the same way, their leader Major Robert Rogers decided to traverse the wilderness to Lake Memphremagog and on to the Connecticut River. After several days, Major Rogers realized that they needed to split up and rejoin where the Connecticut River meets the Ammonoosuck River (now Wells River).

Joseph Waite with his brother, Benjamin, led one group on this retreat. Out of food and nearly starving, they reach a supposed re-supply location only to find the re-supply troop had left fearing attack. There are several stories about this re-supply location. The most repeated story is that Joseph in a moment of good luck shot a deer that was used to feed the starving men and revive them. These men, after being renourished, left a piece of the deer meat nailed to a tree for the next retreating troops. It was found and gave much needed sustenance to the second group. As the story goes, the spot where this occurrence took place was on a little river that flows into the Connecticut, named Waits River. A nearby town was named Waits Town, but later became Bradford. Many of these accounts can be found in "A History of Bradford Vermont" by Harold W. Haskins from which this material is taken.

The Wait brothers would go on to participate in several battles against the French going as far west as Detroit and Illinois. Benjamin and Joseph were not always together in these campaigns. In October 1761, Benjamin Wait headed home to Brookfield. He was 25 years old and had participated in over 40 battles throughout New England. Benjamin Wait evidently remained in Brookfield and helped with the family business for some six years. Their father, John Waite, died in 1761. In 1767, Benjamin Wait married Sarah Gilbert. Soon thereafter, they left with Joseph for Grants in New Hampshire and Vermont. Benjamin arrived in Windsor, Vermont. Joseph and Benjamin Wait were to play a major role in establishing the town of Windsor. They were involved in debates between New Hampshire and New York over the territory that would become Vermont, including a physical skirmish with New York's Cumberland County Sheriff Daniel Whipple. The Wait brothers were freed from jail by a band of local residents and the Sheriff was held prisoner in Joseph Wait's house for a time.

Out of this turmoil in Windsor and the debates between the State of New Hampshire and New York, the homegrown militia called the Green Mountain Boys was formed. This group was the major force behind the successful attempts to kept New York from establishing a foothold in Vermont. Benjamin and Joseph Wait made contact with Colonel Ethan Allen and played a part with the Green Mountain Boys in the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in May 1775. Many issues would arise to place Benjamin Wait in conflict with the two sides. He again, as a Major, traveled to Lake Champlain near the vicinity of Fort Ticonderoga to cut off British General John Burgoyne and his troops. Burgoyne never reached Albany, New York, his destination, but was captured with his forces by the "citizen soldiers" of New England. Benjamin Wait found himself again called to duty on January 20, 1784 when a small uprising occurred in Battleboro, Vermont. This resistance was quickly quelled peacefully and Wait returned to Windsor. Benjamin Wait's final conflict was over a disagreement concerning the "sitting of the court in Windsor." Sheriff Benjamin Wait found it necessary to lead a group of 40 militia to a house where "the rioters were assembled and believed to be

discussing the rescue of an imprisoned companion." A bloody skirmish took place and Benjamin Wait received a head injury though the 27 instigators were captured. Benjamin Wait spent 26 days recuperating at home. He would later bemoan the fact that he had gone through many battles as a young man only to be "nearly killed trying to throw some of his old comrades in jail."

It was time for Benjamin Wait to turn his attending to a new adventure and a Valley waiting for his leadership. It was 1789; the world was changing:

> In Paris the Bastille was stormed – the French Revolution was on.
>
> Mozart performed a series of variations of Handel's Messiah
>
> Two books of William Blake poems were published.
>
> The United States inaugurated George Washington as its first President.
>
> Americans observed Thanksgiving as an official holiday for the first time.

Benjamin Wait left, with his family, their comfortable home in Windsor, Vermont and traveled over basically non-existent roads into Mad River Valley carrying very little of their belongings on horseback. (Some sources say wagon; some say ox cart, but horse back is most credible.) Certainly his lifestyle changed from his dress in the Court House of Windsor, to the cabin in Mad River Valley. The family took up the techniques Benjamin Wait had learned early in life from the natives. His hunting shirt that hung down to the thighs and his deer skin breeches with deer skin moccasins on his feet was certainly a different life style. It had to be a nostalgic desire for a simpler life in a peaceful valley of breath taking beauty.

Later pictures show Benjamin Wait returning to a more formal dress of the time as easier conditions evolved, the Town was settled, and General Benjamin Wait became the aging Father of the Town.

Perhaps this desire for a simpler life away from politics may explain why Benjamin Wait did not want Waitsfield to become the place for the Vermont Capital. Tradition has long held that Waitsfield was to be the location of the State Capital. So this historical citation does not get lost in these two volumes of history, it is noted here on the early pages. Many of the "old Timers" would occasionally say, "Well, if the capital had only been put here, we would be in better shape." This idea was usually pushed aside as a myth of the past even though it was repeated. However, the following article can be found in the Burlington Free Press, July 19, 1945. "Waitsfield Once Considered as Site for State Capital – Tradition has it that the commissioners appointed to locate a site for the capital city of the state of Vermont, finding Waitsfield near the geographical center of the state, stuck their stake for that purpose where the village now stands; but Gen. Wait, owner of more than half the township's 23,000 acres, declared he wouldn't stand for having his meadow cut-up. So the state capital was located in Montpelier, 15 miles away."

## CHAPTER II
## IN THE BEGINNING

The Town of Waitsfield was chartered on February 25, 1782 by the Governor, Council and General Assembly of the State of Vermont and signed by Joseph Fay Secretary and Thomas Chittenden. The town was chartered in the southeastern corner of Chittenden County. In 1810, parts of Chittenden, Addison, Orange and Caledonia Counties were reorganized into a new county called Jefferson. This county was renamed Washington County in 1814. This land was given to Roger Enos, Benjamin Wait and a company of seventy people. It was designed to have been divided into 75 equal shares (five of which were to be set apart for public use), each containing 318 acres. This did not happen. General Wait and his sons, Ezra, Benjamin Jr., and Gilbert, who were minors and quite young when their father caused their names to be inserted in the charter, were the only persons of the seventy original proprietors who ever came to Waitsfield to reside. The first proprietors, in order to claim the lots drawn had to "cultivate five acres of land and build a house at least eighteen feet square on the floor or have one family settled on each respective right or share of land." If this specification was not met, they would forfeit their share and it would be given to a new proprietor who would cultivate the land and build a dwelling. At a meeting on August 28, 1788 officers were elected and it was voted that the township be lotted "into two divisions of 150 acres each." There were supposedly 23,850 acres in the town. Exactly what determined the two divisions is not clear.

The first proprietors meeting was held in Windsor, June 30, 1788. The second meeting was held in Hartland, VT on November 4, 1788. The third meeting was held in Woodstock, VT on June 2, 1789. The fourth meeting was held in Waitsfield at Benjamin Wait's home September 23, 1789.

The town was surveyed by William Strong who according to all records did not complete a very accurate survey. However, on November 4, 1788, a survey and plan was submitted to the proprietors at a meeting held in Hartford, Vt. The first division drawing was done on November 4, 1788. On June 2, 1789 in Woodstock, VT, the proprietors accepted the town plan. The plan was to divide the town into 150 Lots of 150 acres each. leaving a narrow strip of land on the east side of the town, and several small gores of land along the diagonal south line to be surveyed and divided several years later. There is an existing drawing done by Edmund Rice date 1816 which shows 148 lots plus the 75 gore lots which formed the town. Many of the propietors, including General Wait, were not happy with their original lots drawn. General Wait drew a lot at the Warren line, east of the point where the highway now enters from East Warren. Ezra Wait drew an adjoining lot in the same mountain range. Gilbert Wait drew a lot southwest of Palmer Hill. General Wait also drew the lot sometimes designated as Old Scrag and over into Northfield. Ezra also drew the lot on the Old Colony Road [old Nathan Boyce Farm] and Gilbert drew the lot at the southern edge of the village [on the old original town road].

It should be noted here that there was considerable exchange of Lots in these early years. Most of the original owners of Lots did not come to Waitsfield and develop the Lots as specified. Thus at the fourth meeting at Benjamin Wait's house many of the Lots were sold to the early settlers who actually came to the Valley. Again in the 1820's another large exchange took place. For example, Samuel Broomer and Jeremiah Platt purchased 2010 acres of land in 1822 at the time that Waitsfield gave land to Northfield. Broomer and Platt according to the records purchased Lot 6, original

owner Joseph Farnswoth – 150 acres; Lot 23, original owner John Marsh – 150 acres; Lot 25, original owner Charles Kilborn – 150 acres; Lot 30, original owner Aaron Whipple – 150 acres; Lot 40, original owner Stephen Whipple – 150 acres; Lot 68, original owner Solomon Strong – 150 acres; Lot 149, original owner James Matthews – 150 acres, ( Rice map does not show lot 149) for a total of 2010 acres.

The Daniel Thanin estate – Alex Thanin trustee sold September 15, 1817 to James H. Langdon and Jeduthan Loomis the following Lots: Lot 69 original owner Charles Kingsbury – 150 acres; Lot 149 original owner James Matthews – 150 acres; Lot 68 original owner Solomon Strong – 150 acres; Lot 40 original owner James Tilden – 150 acres; Lot 30 original owner Aaron Whipple – 150 acres; Lot 25 original owner Charles Killam – 150 acres; Lot 23 original owner John Marsh – 150 acres; Lot 24 original owner Amasa Brown – 150 acres. It can be readily seen that some of the same Lots on the Northfield line were exchanged over a short period of time.

Jonathan Lewis deeded the north side of Lot 27 to Waitsfield. The original owner was Mr. Lee. This Lot also was just over the Northfield line.

Lot 69 which was Bald Mountain was sold to Silas Frank on January 1, 1798 containing 18 acres by the selectmen Jared Skinner, Stephen Pierce and Benjamin Wait.

Stephen Freeman deeded Lot 127 (Ministry Lot) to Selectmen December 28, 1795.

John Burdick owned Lots 64 and 51 in 1808.

Jason Carpenter bought Lot 110 from Lincoln B. Lockwood for $1000 in the 1840's.

Hiram Stevens sold Lot 24 to Phinas Smith in 1837.

William Cookman sold Lot 23 to Betsey Gallup in 1830.

Aron A. Fisk sold Lot 32 to James Webster in 1830's.

Therefore, it can be historically noted that land changed hands readily during the early years of settlement and Lot lines soon became insignificant.

Nevertheless, General Benjamin Wait came to Waitsfield in the Spring of 1789 and during that summer built a "comfortable log cabin that was rolled up ... as a shelter for the family..." on a knoll west of the river - the present cemetery site in the village. Very soon therafter "a house, commodious for the times [was] erected on the terrace just north of the village, near the northerly line of lot 134." It appears that several families came with Benjamin Wait. There are several reasons for believing this to be true. One prevailing fact indicates that on September 23, 1789, a meeting was held at Benjamin Waits home where delinquent land was bid off because many proprietors had allowed their rights to lapse. Thus there had to be families present to make bids for the various lots. The prevailing price at the time was l pound 10 shillings for 2 - 150 acre lots. Benjamin Wait, himself, purchased 750 acres in this manner and thus lived on lots other than the original lots shown on the Rice map of 1816. The people who came with Wait in June of 1789 and were evidently at this September, 1789 meeting were Thomas Sherman, Ezra Wait, Jeduthan Wait (Benjamin's half-brother), Beriah Sherman, Francis Dana, William Bartlett, Phinias Rider, Isaac Palmater, Salma Rider, David Symonds, Moses Chase, and Samuel Pike. Thus the US census of 1791 shows 21 free white males 16 years or older, 16 free white males under 16 years of age, and 24 free white females divided into thirteen familes living in the Town. These families were living on the following lots: Benjamin Wait on lot 134, Benjamin Wait Jr. on lot 132, Gilbert Wait on lot

136, Ezra Wait on lot 133, Jeduthan Wait on lot 136 (shared lot 136 with Gilbert), David Symonds on lot 125 & 126, Phineas Rider on lot 123, Thomas Sherman & Beriah Sherman on lot 110, Salma Rider on lot 107, Samuel Rice on lot 81, Moses Chase on lot 74, William Bartlett on lot 104, Francis Dana on lot 144, Joshua Pike on Roxbury mountain road on some of the gore lots 54 to 59, and Isaac Palmater lot not found but indication are he was near the common on East Road. It is interesting that these people settled at opposite ends of the town with the exception of the Waits. Was this an indication of the desire to own land and have independence; a sign these people liked being isolated (a reason for coming to Waitsfield in the first place); or was this a matter of merely selecting the piece of property they wished to develop for themselves and the family members? The answer to these questions will never be known, but all of these factors probably played a part in their decisions; however, the desire to own land and have independence is the most likely answer. It is interesting to note historically that of the thirteen earliest settlers, eleven had been soldiers of the Revolutionary War. Only two had seen no military service: Francis Dana of Cornish and David Symonds from Hillsboro, New Hampshire.

Another fact that remains somewhat of a mystery is the drawing of the second division lots. The following notes have been found: " two lots of 150 acres each in 1st Division. One lot of 18 acres in the 2nd Division. 1st Division of that part lying west of the mountain was made in 1788. The second lots from Mountain line are actually 180 rods wide; 5th range only 120 rods wide; 6th range 180 rods wide. Mr. Salma Rider lot 107 was 200 acres while John Burdick lot 127 was 115 acres. Survey of 2nd division was to consist of 70 lots of 18 acres each. The survey was made by Stephen Maine in 1795. The gore lots were twice as wide as Mr. Strong had put down. Mr. Maine was told by Benjamin Wait to continue surveying and these lots (gore) as 36 acres instead of 18." It appears accurate to say that the 1st Division lot drawings were supposedly for 300 acres in size. The 2nd Division lot drawings was to divide the 300 acres into two 150 acre lots and thus increasing the number of lots but reducing the size of each lot.

After considerable research it appears that because there was no government mandate establishing surverying standards until 1805, the early surveys were done with individual surveyors making their own decisions as to sections, lots and sizes based upon their best jusdgement. Thus there were variations and many errors in the original surveying. The division drawings noted above was merely an attempt to equalize the original lots drawn which really did not correct the situation. Thus the original lots were soon done away with and new boundaries established according to government mandates which again did not totally solve the problem, but it does explain the early variations.

As has been noted at the August 28, 1788 meeting, it was voted to divide the town into "two division" drawings. The second division drawing was done in 1795 with 75 lots drawn. This second division drawing was after Benjamin Wait's September 23, 1789 meeting, after the bidding was done for the delinquent lots, and after the lots were being settled. Evidently nothing was ever done with this drawing of lots. There is no further information concerning lot divisions or drawings. This may have involved the gore lots, there were 75, and the lots on the Northfield side of the mountain along the Mount Waitsfield ridge. Most of these lots were given to the town of Northfield in 1822. In 1822, "four tier of lots, including the small gore lots of the second division on the east side of the town," were set off to Northfield. And in 1846, six more tier of lots, a total of 8,310 acres, were taken from the original grant of six miles square, nearly one-third of the town, leaving approximately 15,540 acres. Nevertheless, Waitsfield became a town with established residents in 1789.

*"The Only Way to Go in the Beginning"*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

These people arrived in Waitsfield by some means and from some direction. There has been several suggestions as to the means and direction. It is clear that the only trails or paths through the area were Indian trails. The direction from which these people came gives some indication of the development of the paths and eventually the roads in the town. There has been some speculation that Benjamin Wait came by horse and ox cart. This may have been the case; however, in a letter written by Mr. Harry Jones (born in Waitsfield December 17, 1808) recalling the old meeting house on the Common, Mr. Jones says, "when I was a small boy the old folks, old men, women and children all had to go to meeting. Those who could not go afoot could go horseback. The only way they could go as long ago as I can remember. Soon after that the wagons came in use." Thus it seems accurate that Benjamin Wait came by no other means than by horseback, and packs. These people came from the Windsor area and many from Weathersfield, VT.

Several of the men had served in the military under General Benjamin Wait. All logical indications are that they came from Windsor to Woodstock, VT, to Barnard, to Gaysville, to Stockbridge, to Rochester, and then to Kingston, now called Granville. Part of this logic is drawn from the verified fact that Wait came from Kingston to Waitsfield. The road that these early settlers took from Granville was on the East side of the brook that runs into Granville. The road ran along the lower level of the east ridge to the area where the White River and Mad River start. The road is still visible. There was also a road over the mountain from this road into Braintree. The path to Waitsfield then continued to follow Mad River and turned straight north through Plunkton or what is often referred to as Prickley Mountain or Alpine Village in more recent times. It then followed the Roxbury Road now called Sherman Road to the junction of the present East Warren Road and the Common Road. It followed down the present East Warren Road to the village.

This first path into Waitsfield, therefore, came from Kingston across the branches of Fay Brook to the village. It crossed the river near the present covered bridge, and continued west to the so called village square. The path then turned slightly north through what became the Methodist church parsonage site onto the western terrace near the present home of Irene Mehuron. The path then went North and South.

This second major path North and South went on top the ledges west of the village and came back East to Jeduthan Wait's house in 1789 (now the Wait Inn Motel). This path then went south by the ledge where it turned directly east going along the eastern edge of the terrace of Irasville This original path continued along the terrace edge and went down a slight grade and crossed Mill Brook at a site slightly south of the present bridge. It turned slightly southwest onto Dana Hill where Francis Dana had a home on Lot 144. This southern end of the old road has been walked and sited by this author and John "Jack" Smith in 2000. The old road is particularly visible behind Stanley Orr property and the telephone TV dishes.

This second path North followed along the western foot hills past Benjamin Wait and Benjamin Wait Jr residence and continued north along the present road position to David Symonds home, known since 1865 as the Wallis farm. It then continued to the Phineas Rider home (in recent years the Todd Tucker home). This path did not go across the river or continue further into Moretown until several years later.

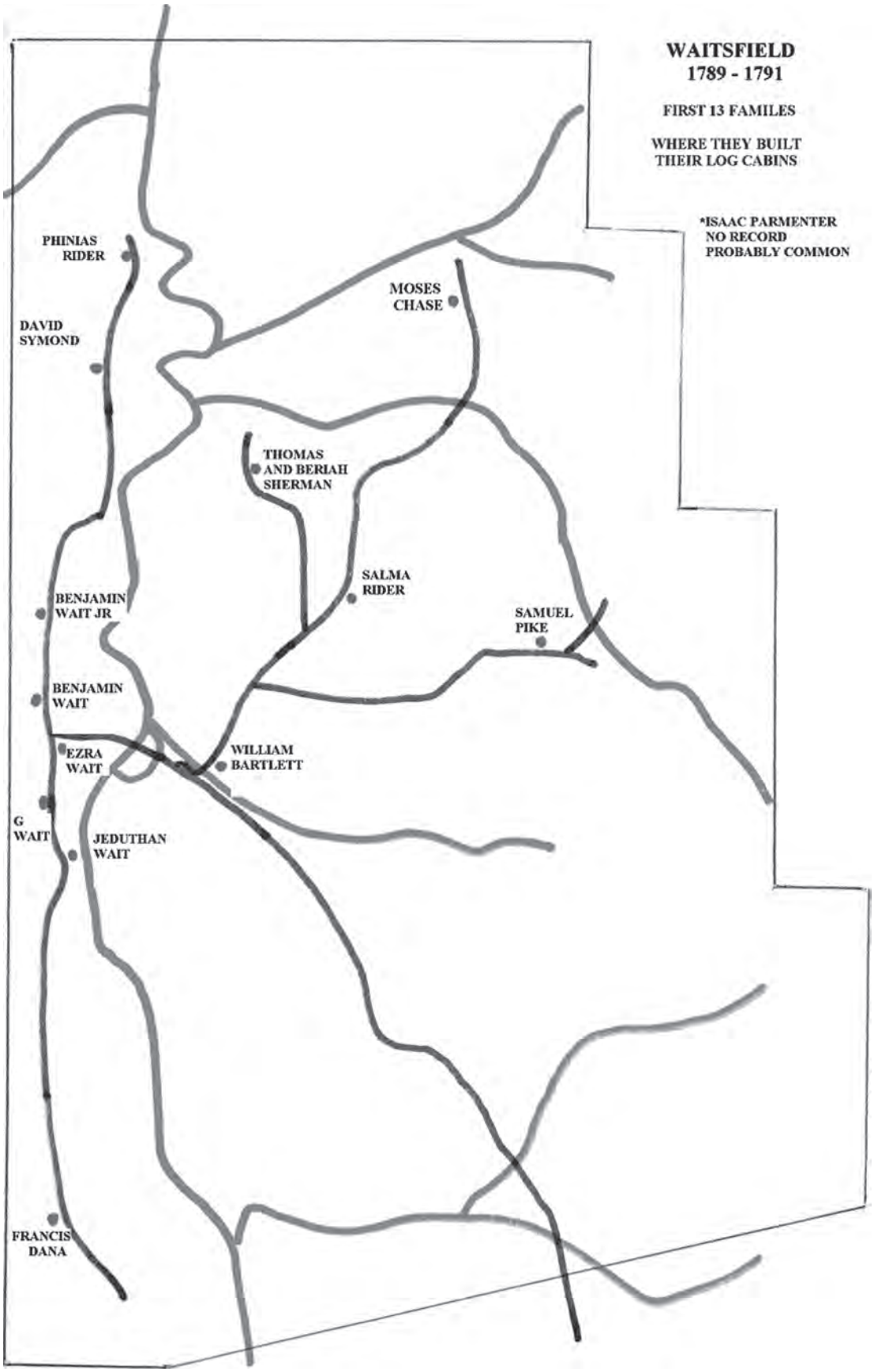
The third major path also left the village and at the foot of Mill Hill turned north and followed the terrace behind what is now known as Fletcher Joslin's home. It crossed Clay Brook below the present bridge and continued onto Waitsfield Common where Salma Rider lived.

A path left this East artery on what is referred to as the Cross Road and continued onto Palmer Hill to the home of Samuel Pike. A path also left this third artery at the Common and went north down what is now called the North Road to the Beriah and Thomas Sherman home. The North Road did not continue further for several years.

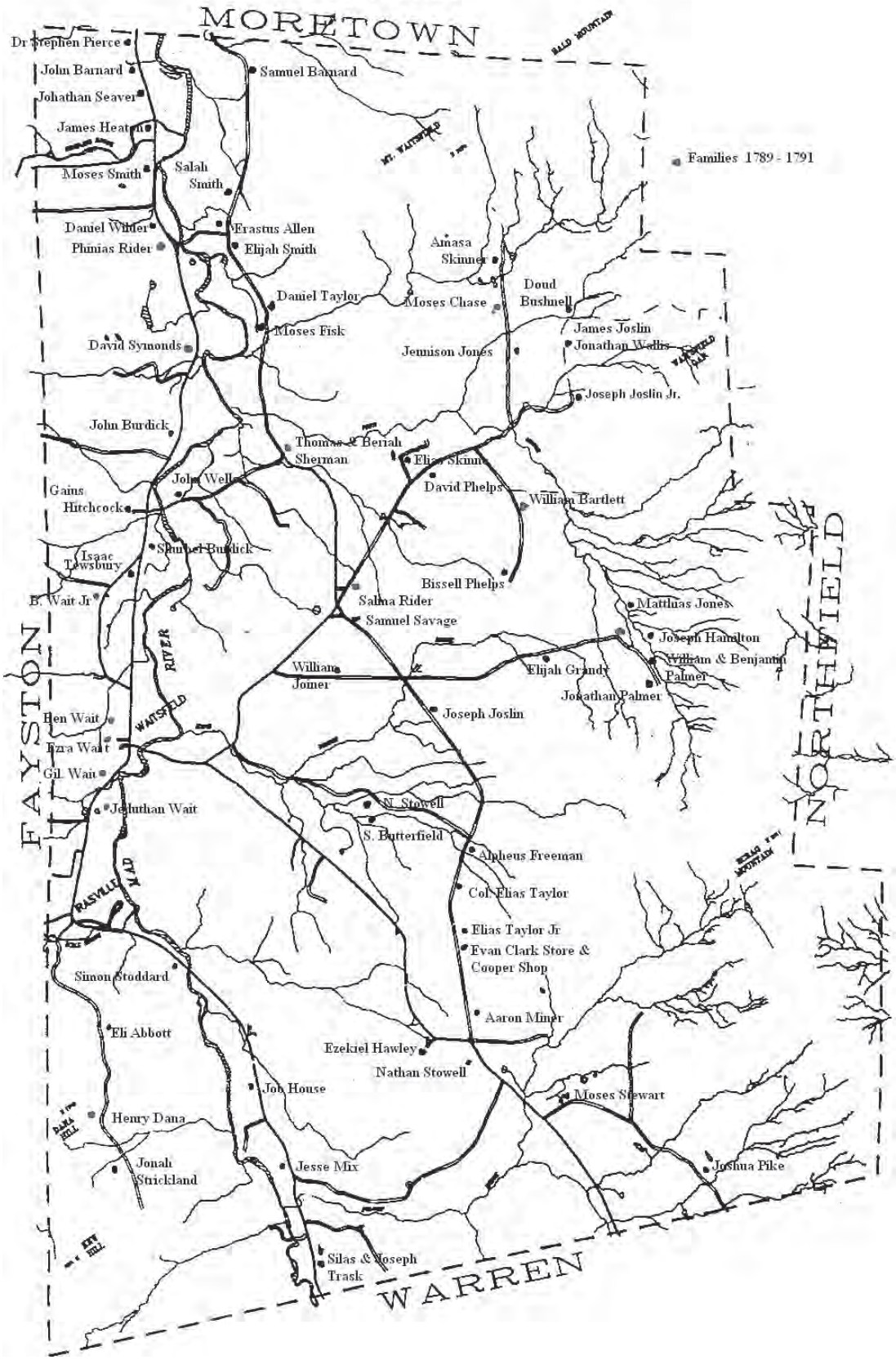
This Eastern path continued East from the Common by the Salma Rider home on the Common and continued East across Pine Brook then North toward Moretown Common to Moses Chase home and then to Amasa Skinner's house under and to the west of Bald Mountain. To the East of Moses Chase and Amasa Skinner and also under Bald Mountain, Doud Bushnell built his house. The path to Mr. Bushnell's house cut east just before Moses Chase property.

This was Waitsfield in 1789 to 1791; thirteen families with 61 people living several miles apart on merely bridle paths in log cabins ready to accept the challenges of cultivating five acres of land and building a house eighteen feet square.

Each family settled nearly at the extremes of the town boundaries. However, these original paths became the established roads once surveying began officially. These original paths or roads were called historically: **Roxbury Road, Common Road, North Road, Old Colony Road, Dana Hill Road, Palmer Hill Road, Cross Road, and East Road.**


WAITSFIELD
1789 - 1791
FIRST 13 FAMILES
WHERE THEY BUILT
THEIR LOG CABINS
*ISAAC PARMENTER
NO RECORD
PROBABLY COMMON
PHINIAS
RIDER
DAVID
SYMOND
MOSES
CHASE
THOMAS
AND BERIAH
SHERMAN
SALMA
RIDER
BENJAMIN
WAIT JR
SAMUEL
PIKE
BENJAMIN
WAIT
EZRA
WAIT
WILLIAM
BARTLETT
G
WAIT
JEDUTHAN
WAIT
FRANCIS
DANA

**WAITSFIELD**
**1791 - 1801**



## WAITSFIELD FAMILY LOCATION

1791 – 1801

This map shows the location of the families listed as living and voting in Waitsfield from 1789 to 1801. It is interesting to note that the first settlers went nearly to the far corners of the Town. They obviously did not want to settle close to neighbors (nor were they concerned about "sprawl"). The attempt to identify all the locations of early settlers proved impossible. Some of the people listed were only in Waitsfield a brief time and their log homes soon disappeared. A list is provided to show the families whose house location was not identifiable. However, this is an attempt to picture the settlement of the Town during the first 10 years.

Gray Dots: First families in Waitsfield 1789

Family Dwellings not identified:

- Elijah Freeman 1794 (settled in NW district)
- Joseph Barns 1795
- Elijah Sperry 1795
- Nathan Sterling 1793
- Elias Wells 1794 left in 1797
- John Weston 1794 left in 1797
- William Wheeler 1795
- William Allen 1797
- Calvin Chamberlain 1797
- David Chamberlain 1797
- Harba Child 1797
- Durian Still 1797
- Roswell Lee 1797
- John Lamb 1797
- John McCloud 1797
- Job Tyler 1797
- Joseph Merrill 1798
- Peley Moore 1798
- John Goss 1799
- Vespasian Hoisington 1799
- Joseph Lee 1800

# CHAPTER III

## EARLY DEVELOPMENT
## TRAILS TO ROADS
## 1789 – 2000

The original roads into Waitsfield were American Native trails and wild animal paths. The early settlers followed these trails on horseback from Granville where the early roads ended from the south. Once the log cabins were built, oxen and horses were used to transfer household goods into the valley. Most sources seem to strongly indicate that this movement of household goods was done early winter after the ground was frozen and trees cleared. According to one authentic source, the first four- wheeled wagon was brought over the Lincoln Gap road about 1810. According to this source, it was literally carried by a person, piece by piece, over the mountain during a two-week period. The wagon was purchased in Burlington and brought into the Bristol area then carried over the mountain. See "The Mad River Valley Crucible of Change" produced in 1997 by the Vermont Folklife Center, Middlebury, VT. (This is a tape)

Historically the people chose the hills or high terraces on which to build their homes and roads. Two sources seem to clarify this fact. The hills were chosen "partially because roads could be made more cheaply than in the somewhat marshy valleys." Once the glaciers some 10,000 years ago left the valley, the valley was clean of vegetation, but the sweet new soil left by the receding glacier made the hills inviting. However, the valley was marshy and the Mad River flooded frequently. The areas had to be cleared, but much of the area was void of thick forest.

These original paths became widened by use once horses and oxen became part of the valley inhabitants. However, they remained dirt roads for many years. It is interesting to note that most of these original paths in Waitsfield became the permanent roads. As the Jones History states, on November 4, 1788, William Strong, the surveyor was paid for clearing a road into Waitsfield and a committee consisting of Sanford Kingsbury, David Currier and William Sweeter with the assistance of Benjamin Wait were also to look at places for roads into Waitsfield. The committee reported on June 2, 1789: "we have looked three ways that we were directed, and found the way through Warren Hollow will accommodate the settle [sic] of the town best. We find there may be a road to Northfield that will accommodate the settlement of the east part of the town. The road through Warren will strike Waitsfield south line near the fifth range line, from Fayston, thence keeping on that line through said town to the north line, and then turning down to the river. We find that there will be another wanting to leave the above road on Lot No. 90 or 88, and turn down to the river to strike what is called the Great Eddy, from thence down the river to Moretown line." It is interesting that they did not mention a northern entrance.

In 1790, one year after Benjamin Wait came to town, a tax of two pence per acre was levied to build roads. This is another indication that Benjamin Wait did not come alone with his family, but that other people came with him. As conditions changed with the roads, horse drawn vehicles, the buggy, the surrey, and the wagon, came into use in the summer. In the winter, they used the sleigh and sleds. In the winter, roads were rolled with large horse drawn wooden rollers. The town owned four snow rollers at one time. James E. Newcomb, wheelwright, built at least three of these rollers. This rolling of the roads in winter continued until 1935 on some roads.

The first roads were merely paths; however, roads were laid out and surveyed. Most of the

original roads were established as 4 rod roads using this as the right of way. There were some 1.5 and 2.5 and 3 rod roads. Waitsfield Records show that many of the roads were resurveyed after the original 1796 survey. (See later descriptions of surveys) In more recent times with the heavy traffic and the need for wider roads particularly for the safety factor, State Highways have increased this road designation. These designations also became a way to give road classification.

In recent years particularly with new people coming into the valley, there has been a cry to save the scenic roads in Waitsfield. The historical fact is that there is not a single road in Waitsfield that has not been rebuilt several times over the years, particularly since 1946. The so called scenic roads disappeared many years ago with the introduction of the automobile. Stone walls which lined most of the roads have been bulldozed inward to form a foundation plus leaving room to expand the width of the road and allow for ditches. Trees were cut; gravel was hauled in so that nearly every road is at least 5 to 6 feet higher then originally existed. The trees that lined some of the present day roads (2000) are second and third generation trees which have sprung up in the changing soil. It should also be noted historically that roadsides were kept mowed and cared for by the adjoining land owner as a matter of pride. So trees and brush were not allowed to grow. This practice also helped to keep the roads from drifting full of snow in the winter.

Land was kept cleared of trees because fields were needed for crops and pastures were needed for grazing cattle. Large areas which now have grown up to trees, willy-nilly, were clear farming fields in the 1800 and early 1900's. There are pictures in existence to give proof of this fact. An historical example is the North Road which in 2000 has a portion paved and the "scenic" road completely changed. Part of the North Road was closed to automobile traffic during the winter through the early 1900's. This road was narrow, steeper, and had the original stonewalls on both sides of the road from the edge of the woods to the Common. The edge of the woods was near the present day White Pine Road entrance. The present road looks nothing like it did originally. The Brook Road is another example of a complete change in its original orientation and scenic view. Many new private roads have come into existence since 1970 with the construction of homes which has totally changed the landscape so that the statement often heard "we want to keep it the way it used to be" is historically impossible.

The first dirt roads were easily washed away by high water and the poorly constructed wooden bridges were frequently destroyed. Spring time, when the frost began to leave the ground, left the roads nearly impassable. Even as recent as the 1920's and 30's, people readily recall the "mud season" when travel was difficult. Even horses and wagons found the mud difficult to traverse.

The first paths throughout town were well established long before official surveys were begun. As previously noted, these original paths remained the position of most of the later permanent roads. However, it must be historically noted that there were many roads surveyed and used for a time and then discontinued. The first American Native path in Waitsfield to be surveyed was March 11, 1796. This was perhaps the first official highway in town. This road surveyed 4 rods wide entered the town line at Lot 119 northern boundary following substantially the present Route 100 to Old Colony Road and then through the covered bridge. On the same date, 1796, the road was surveyed from the "Great Eddy" following present Mill Hill Road, the East Warren Road through Lots 135, 102, 99, 97, 92, 91, 46 to Gore Lot 52 to the Warren line. **This road was called the Roxbury Road for many, many years.** Later, a 4 rod road went straight south from the Roxbury Road in Lot 92 to the Warren line in Lot 148. **This was called the Kingston Road.**

It is the Roxbury Road from Plunkton that Benjamin Wait and his followers took down to the Valley floor. It was here at the junction of this path and the path north and south that Ezra Wait built his house.

The main artery south of the Village was surveyed in March 1796. This 4 rod road left the Roxbury Road by Ezra Wait's barn and went under the terrace west of the Village and then turned down through Lot 136 and then easterly to Jeduthan Wait's House. This main artery then left Jeduthan Wait's house south around the ledge turning east through what is now Andy Baird Jr. property and followed along the easterly edge of the terrace, that the Mehuron strip mall and Irasville Cemetery now occupies. The road continued down the slight hill to Mill Brook and onto Dana Hill as previously noted to the house of Henry Dana in Lot 142. The present road directly across Irasville was done about 1844. This road was a 4 rod road from Jeduthan Waits barn to the top of the dugway by Phileman Whitcombs house. The old road along the easterly terrace was discontinued with one exception. The southerly end was maintained into an area behind the Methodist Church where picnics and community events were held for many years.

The road south along the river through lots 138, 139, 96, 94 to the Warren line was surveyed about 1812. However, the entire road from Waitsfield to Granville was surveyed in 1836. Information taken from files in the Vermont Historical Society Library: In 1836, Hiram Jones was selected as "one of a committee to survey the road from Waitsfield to Granville, which at that time was considered a work of no small magnitude."

The road from Jeduthan Wait's house north into the village was done in two sections. The first section from Jeduthan Wait's house past Newcomb's house and shop to Hiram Stoddard's house (Stella Jones house in 2000) was done in 1820 and turned west over the terrace to the Billings house (Williams' law office in 2000). The second section from Stoddard's house to the Village Square was done in 1833. The original old path west behind the village was then abandoned.

The first northern artery left Ezra Wait's house in 1790 and went along the foot of the westerly terrace past General Wait's house around the ledge (Louise Moulton house in 2000) then followed the present Old County Road (Old Colony Road) to the present location of Route 100 and North to Phineas Rider house (Todd Tucker house in 2000). This road was officially surveyed much later and did not continue to the Moretown line until after the survey of 1796.

This northern artery from Ezra Wait's house past Benjamin Waits house to the ledges on Old County Road was abandoned in July, 1838. The village main street north was surveyed in 1835 and completed in 1837. This was the present Route 100 (Main Street) through the Village. The Old County Road was then connected at its present location to Main Street (Route 100).

The present highway from the old high school to the northern junction of Old County Road (by Kenyon's Store) was done in 1848. This road was originally called Meadow Road, then River Road, then Route 100, now Main Street. According to information found in the Vermont Historical Society Library, this road was laid out in 1832: "November, 1832 – road Northwest corner of new school house and 13 rods thence north 48 degrees S 47 rods through land of Dan Richardson to the land of George B. Carroll continuing to land of Daniel Nourse … to land of Orson Skinner leading from O. Skinner house to Moretown, thence to main road leading from Waitsfield to Middlesex" was laid out. The Jones History states: "In 1848, the meadow road, so-called, extending from a point near the present village school-house to another junction with the old road in lot 130 was laid out … through the land of Dan Richardson, George Carroll and Daniel Nourse to the

land of Orson Skinner, thence through his land to the road leading from Waitsfield to Middlesex." However, according to Jones, "the town would not proceed with the construction of the road until Orson Skinner, Samuel Chipman, Ira Richardson, James M. Richardson, John Walton and Calvin Fullerton offered to give bond that they would build the road 'to be built one rod wide from the center of the ditches and well built and turnpiked.'"

On the same date, March 1796, the dirt trail from the Roxbury Road north to the Common, starting in Lot 90 following the location of the present road, was surveyed at 4 rods. A slight exception to this was at the Palmer Hill junction. The original Common Road went west on the Cross Road a short distance and turned north across the field, following the fence line, just east of the Joiner farm to the Common in front of the Savage home. In June, 1797 this road (Cross Road) was continued westerly to the Common Road running from the Village. In 1807, the road across the field to the Common was discontinued and a new road was surveyed across Lot 105 to the Common, the present site of the road. Waitsfield Common was surveyed September 26, 1796.

The Palmer Hill Road was surveyed at the same time. This slight variation to the Common was changed to its present location in 1807. Also a new road was built onto Palmer Hill in 1902/03.

Very early a road existed between the Roxbury Road west to Route 100. This road was originally called Summerville Road (Somerville Road) because of early settlers here. It also was later called (Roulston Road, Raulstone Road) then Rolston. The top section near the Roxbury Road was laid out in a different location at 1.5 rods. Samuel Bowman and Abel Spaulding lived on the banks of Fay Brook in Lot 147. Parker Worcester lived in Lot 147 and deeded Lot 147 to Robert Leach in 1814. It appears that the Roulston Road went from the Roxbury Road in a slightly different path then the present road and led to these early log homes, but went no further until much later. The road from Route 100 appears to run east for a short distance where Silas Trask may have had a saw mill for a brief time. These two road portions probably did not connect for several years.

There was a path from the village to the Common and East hill to Moses Chase house in 1790. Also the Cross Road southeast from this path and onto Palmer Hill was established at the same time. However, in January, 1797, the road from the Village to the Common was surveyed following basically the same location as the present road except that it turned north at the foot of Mill Hill running "through the mill-yard to the top of the terrace along Clay Brook behind what is now Fletcher Joslin house, crossed the gorge and proceeded … to James Joslin place and onto the Common." [Taken from the Jones History] This easterly artery continued by Salma Rider on the Common over Pine Brook and then north to Moses Chase property and Amasa Skinner property under Bald Mountain. This road later continued to Moretown Common in 1803. The Jones History says that this extension from Amasa Skinner home to Moretown Common was abandoned in 1822. This cannot be accurate because in the records found in the Vermont Historical Library shows a request dated March 29, 1841 from several residents of the area to have "Waitsfield continue the road from Waitsfield to Moretown of some 100 rods of travelable condition through John A. Thurstin land." Also, this author remembers this Moretown Common road being used even in 1930's though it was a very crude road. It can still be readily followed through the notch between Mount Waitsfield and Bald Mountain going past Russ Bennett house on the Moretown side of the mountain.

The portion of this Common Road which ran through the mill-yard in the Village along the Clay Brook terrace was changed in 1808 to the present position over Mill Hill running in front of the cemetery and to the junction of Roxbury Road across to the High Bridge.

In June 1796, the survey was continued from the Common down the North Road again holding to the present day location across Pine Brook to the Erastus Allen farm (Palmer farm) where it turned directly west to the Rider and Wilder farms. This was a 4 rod road. The North Road did not continue to Moretown until 1807; however, a path followed the river to serve Salah Smith and Rufus Barnard.

In 1807, the so-called Mad River Turnpike was surveyed from Moretown to Waitsfield following the east side of the river. This survey continued to follow the North Road over Waitsfield Common and continued through East Warren into Hancock, but nothing was further done with this survey. However, it should be historically noted that this **entire** road along the east side of Waitsfield to the Warren line was call the North Road for many years. The portion from the Common to Warren Line became known in later years as the Common Road.

The North Road from the Allen/Palmer Messer farm to the Moretown line did not originally follow the present position. It originally followed along the Mad River and was relocated about 1840 to the present higher ground. It is noted in the Jones Book that this portion of the North Road was "laid out through lots 116,118 and 119 to Moretown line in March 1797." However, this author found the following information.

The following was found in the records in the Vermont Historical Society Library: Rufus Barnard [lived on the Carpenter farm, last farm on Waitsfield line] February 28, 1835 gave permission for the town to build a road across his land – "as the selectmen … shall think proper … whenever it shall become necessary by the wearing of the river to remove the road from the place where it now is, …by the wearing and washing away of the road by mad river." There are records showing that Capt. Barnard discussed this road change several times with the selectmen because he felt it was cutting across his property and causing drainage problems.

Roads were built over the eastern mountain range to Moretown, Northfield, and Roxbury. At first, this was necessary because the Town extended over the mountain range by some 69 lots plus 45 Gore lots. These lots were given to Northfield in 1822 and 1846; however, the road to Northfield was maintained and used until the 1938 hurricane so badly damaged the road that it was abandoned. The road to Moretown Common was abandoned about 1923. The road over Roxbury Mountain was relocated from the original location – it now joins the old Kingston Road (East Warren Road) in East Warren.

In the February 14, 1902, Town Report, the voters were to consider co-operating with "the town of Northfield in regard to laying out a highway over the mountain range between the two towns, south of the present highway over that range, and in a route with easier grade." This became the present Roxbury Mountain Road now in Warren. There have been only two roads over the Northfield Range, the road over the mountain just south of Bald Mountain and the original Roxbury Mountain road just north of the present Roxbury Mountain highway. This present Roxbury Mountain Road with "the easier grade" was done about 1915, replacing the original road and connecting in East Warren to the Plunkton Road.

Information from records in Vermont Historical Society library relates to the road over Northfield Mountain: "Petitioned for road improvement to Joseph Joslyn house (Ronk Road) December 13, 1841. Petitioned by Pardon Bushnell (lived under Bald Mountain); Joseph Joslyn (lived on the curve of road (Ronk Place); Church Wallis (lived in Joseph Wallis house mid way between Pardon Bushnell and Joseph Joslyn) and Henry Dewey (place unknown). Petition denied."

The original road Old County Road (Old Colony Road) though used from 1790 on was not officially surveyed and laid out until 1855. From records found in the Vermont Historical Society Library: June 6, 1855: "A.G. Murray, Ira Richardson, Pardon Bushnell, Selectmen … have laid out and surveyed a publick (sic) highway from where Joseph Haselton now lives (top of ledges of Old Country Road) across said Haselton's land and through the land of C.E. Joslin (Walter Joslin farm Old County Road), E. W. Bisbee (original house near Kenyon Store farm in 2000) and Amasa Russ (Armstrong home in 2000) connecting with the road west side of the river and near the Russ Bridge so called. …a good and substantial bridge across near the mouth of Russ Brook (Route 100 cement bridge) and a road east of said bridge to E. W. Bisbee's west line also from said bridge east to the now highway to be completed in suitable time for publick [sic] travel this coming winter." Author's note: There were two houses originally on the east side of Route 100 between the present Tremblay Road and the present Kenyon's Store farm. The house nearest the Tremblay Road (the Pines picnic area) was a hired man's house for the Burdick farm; this house was torn down in 1800's. The Burdick house stood near the present Kenyon House. E. W. Bisbee lived in the Burdick house 1855 to 1863. The original house burned and the present buildings were built by Wesley Tucker about 1880.

The last road to be built was in May, 1856. This was the west end present Tremblay Road which connected across Mad River to Route 100. The following information found in the Vermont Historical Society Library: "May 23, 1856, surveyed road commencing at the gate on the line fence between E. W. Bisbee and Dural Kelsey near the river thence N 10 degrees E 9 rods etc terminating at highway leading from E. W. Bisbee to main road west of Mad River." Author's note: A road had been established from the North Road to the Lockwood/Burdick farm in later years known as the Earl Jones farm now the Waitsfield Inn. E. W. Bisbee had traded this farm with the Burdicks in 1863 (see end of Chapter XII Route 100). The above information verifies the connecting of this road across Mad River to Route 100.

There was a survey done in the early 1800's for a road from Route 100 between the present Tremblay Road and the original Burdick House (Kenyon Farm Store) across Mad River and onto Waitsfield Common, but this road was never built. The Rolston Road was done in early 1800's. The Brook Road was laid out about 1805, but remained a dirt road with only two houses until into the 1970's.

It should be historically noted that there were four roads into Fayston. The first was Route 17 into South Fayston; the second was the original Center Fayston Road which left the Old County Road by "Tex" Thompson (Wait/Joslin/Cota) and angled into Center Fayston. This road changed to the present Center Fayston Road by the Burdick house (Jones/Campbellfarm) on Route 100. The third road was a North Fayston Road leaving Route 100 just beyond the Wilder Farm which angled into North Fayston on what has been referred to as the Airport Road. The fourth road is the present North Fayston Road which leaves Route 100 further north near Shepherd's Brook into North Fayston.

All roads were therefore officially surveyed starting in 1790 to 1855. They were all dirt roads with very crude bridges all of which were easily washed away. Many different sources testify to this fact. As major destruction of roads and bridges appear in 1798 (probably before but no record could be found); in 1806, 1814, 1824, 1834, 1850, 1858, 1869, 1870, 1903, 1912, 1927, 1938, 1973, 1976, 1998. Spring time when the snow melted and the frost left the ground known as "mud season" the dirt roads were nearly impassable. Even horses and wagons found the mud difficult to traverse.

About 1890, they began to use gravel, began better road drainage, and began to build the roads higher all of which improved the road system. However, it did not eliminate the mud problem completely. By 1933, Route 100 was beginning to be paved. It was paved to the junction of Old Colony Road about 1941, but not finished until after WW II. It was not until after World War II that major improvements began to take place. Even the back roads began to get the attention of the Selectmen. Much of this was brought about by the automobiles and trucks that were by then using the highways.

At this point, however, we cannot forget the bridges in Waitsfield. Town Reports were constantly requesting money to build and repair bridges so it seems historically proper to record the building of the bridges and changes that occurred.

A temporary bridge was built over the Mad River at the "Great Eddy" in the village in 1791. This bridge was damaged in 1806 and 1807 and completely destroyed in 1814, 1824 and again in 1830. At this time "provisions were made for erecting the present covered bridge at the "Great Eddy," a work that was completed in 1833, the tax therefore being payable in labor at 8 cents an hour for 'good common labor'" Taken from the Jones History. It should be noted that there are three sources found by this author which says the bridge was built in 1831 not 1833. The Village Bridge has withstood all floods since that time, but it has had many repairs from damage caused by large trucks and equipment. In 1972, a truck and fork lift took out three of the 8" timbers supporting the roof and in the words of Doc Bisbee, "the fourth one stopped him." This prompted the old argument about putting in a steel bridge or another bridge beside the covered bridge. In fact drawings were completed with this design in mind. Then in December 1972, snow collapsed the covered walkway. Fortunately there was no-one in the walkway. However, the story goes that Eric Haskin, then 12 years old, started walking through the catwalk when he realized it was on a slant. He immediately went back and walked through the bridge proper to seek help. He found help from Mr. Viens, a town road crew member, who boarded up the walkway. A cable kept the walkway from falling into the river. Because of the tension placed on the bridge, men from Bonnette's garage cut the cable and the walkway fell into the river. These major repairs were completed in October of 1973 with a valley dedication. Emily Eaton did the ribbon cutting. Though the bridge is considered the second oldest covered bridge in Vermont, some question that, since it has been damaged and restored so many times. Historically it should be pointed out that this bridge was originally called the Great Bridge. [Historical Address Centennial Celebration 1889, page 24] Old time residents recall the signs on the bridge which warned against "passing through this bridge faster than a walk" and warned of a $2 fine for violators.

*Waitsfield Village Covered Bridge Built 1833*

*Footbridge Collapsed in 1972*

*Drawing of Proposed Bridge Beside the Village Bridge*

The proposed bridge alongside the Village Bridge was never done. The covered bridge was repaired by Milton Graton in 1972 with dedication in 1973. The bid to build the new bridge was $100,000. The contracting bid to repair the covered bridge was $19,500. The steel and cement open bridge was to be 6' away from the old bridge.

A bridge was built in 1792 at the Rider/Wilder farm location originally called the North Bridge and then called Lower Bridge. This bridge was made more permanent in 1796, but again destroyed in 1798 and again rebuilt. In 1816 this bridge was condemned and in 1824 this bridge was destroyed along with all the bridges over Mad River. A permanent covered bridge was built here in 1852. The covered bridge was replaced by a cement bridge in 1956/57 at a cost of $10,055.47. Historically this was originally called the North Bridge, then Lower Bridge, then Upper Bridge, then the Palmer Bridge, then the Messer Bridge.

*Dedication of Repaired Village Bridge in 1973*

A bridge was built over Mill Brook to Dana Hill in 1792. Henry and Foster Dana were instructed to cover this bridge in 1796 at a cost of $25.83. There is some indication that this bridge was moved from a location further east to its present location in 1802 and made a permanent covered bridge. However, this covered bridge was destroyed several times – 1808, 1824, 1830, 1858, 1869, 1927 and 1938 when it was replaced by a cement bridge. It was flooded again in 1945 when the mill was washed away.

A covered bridge was built over Mill Brook near the Tannery and Brick Yard east of Heaton's Mill in 1802. This covered bridge was replaced by a cement bridge at the time Route 100 was changed in the dug way and paved about 1948.

A covered bridge was built over Mad River by Dr. Simeon Stoddard (Lareau/American Flat-

*North Bridge/Palmer Bridge*

*Mill Brook Bridge Route 17 Lumber from Richardson Mill*
*Clyde Norton House background- Courtesy Clarence Gallagher*

bread) in 1802. Information taken from records in Vermont Historical Society Library: "Ezra Jones was bonded March 23, 1818 … shall keep and support bridge frame across Mad River near Simeon Stoddard for 8 years." This was the result of the bridge being destroyed by flood in 1814. The Jones History gives some details as how the first bridge should be built. A picture of this bridge is in the Chapter IX Warren to Irasville. This covered bridge was torn down when Route 100 was moved away from the Lareau Farm and crossed in its present position further north about 1948.

The last covered bridge over Mad River south was near the Wait/Ford/Bragg farm. This bridge was built about 1860 and remained until about 1998, though damaged many times and rebuilt.

*Mill Brook Bridge*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

*Stoddard Bridge*

The last covered bridge to be built over Mad River was the Lower Bridge (now called Tremblay Road) about 1858. Information taken from records in Vermont Historical Library: May 23, 1856, surveyed road commencing at the gate on the line fence between E. W. Bisbee and Dural Kelsey near the river thence N 10 degrees E 9 rods etc - terminating at highway leading from E. W. Bisbee to main road west of Mad River." E. W. Bisbee lived in the original Burdick house as well as the Lockwood house. This bridge was evidently rebuilt in 1890. Town Report 1890: "Expenses of new bridge near the Lockwood Farm - $815.92 (E.W. Bisbee lived here in 1863). This covered bridge was replaced by a steel bridge and than a cement bridge in 1982/83 at a cost of $292,500.

A truss covered bridge was built over Pine Brook on the North Road in 1805. (One source says "built in 1872") However, there was a bridge long before 1872. The bridge was in need of repair in 1974 because of flooding and ice. A vote was taken December 16, 1974 to decide if a cement floor would be used or timber and steel I beams. By a vote of 73 to 37, it was decided to use timber and thus the bridge remained on the National Register of Historic Places. The estimated cost for this

*Pine Brook Bridge - Courtesy of Loretta Wimble*
*Note Salisbury House/ Wimble House in Background*

repair was $14,000. This covered bridge still stands in 2004. It has been repaired several times.

A bridge was also built over Pine Brook to the Bushnell Farm near the Skinner saw mill in 1819. This bridge was washed away in the 1927 flood and again in the 1938 hurricane after which it was never rebuilt. This bridge was at the end of Bushnell Road.

Another bridge was built over Pine Brook further east to Moses Chase farm and the Ronk Road in 1796. It was made more permanent in 1810 and a cement bridge was built in this location in 1926 at a cost of $5,593.46. It was destroyed in the 1938 hurricane and a wooden structure has been over Pine Brook to the present time.

There were three bridges on the Ronk Road. These were destroyed many times and replaced over the years. Bridges still exist over the Ronk Brook that meanders down from Bald Mountain.

A bridge was built over Pine Brook on the Reed Road in 1800. This bridge was repaired many times, but was completely destroyed in the 1938 hurricane and was never rebuilt.

*High Bridge Courtesy of Lois Pestle Richardson*

The road leading to Waitsfield Common had to cross Clay Brook. A temporary bridge was built north of the present bridge in about 1792. A more permanent bridge called the High Bridge was built by John Beaman in 1806. The Town "allowed him $10 on his highway taxes for this service." A permanent covered bridge was built on this location in 1855 and remained until 1958 when a cement bridge replaced it at a cost of $18,997.47. This bridge and the approach were repaired in 1976.

*Shepherd Brook Covered Bridge*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

*Route 100 Running South Toward Wilder Farm*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

The bridge over Shepherd's Brook (Sheperd/Shepard) was built in 1797. This bridge was moved and rebuilt in 1802. The original location is not known; however, this account of moving the bridge was found in information in the Vermont Historical Library. It was rebuilt after the 1858 flood. A new covered bridge was built here in 1887. The cement bridge was built in 1937/1938 when Route 100 was paved.

The present Village Bridge, the Andrus Bridge over Mad River (Butternut Hill), the Stoddard Bridge by Lareau farm, the Mill Brook bridge by (Old Tannery) Route 100, the Mill Brook Bridge by Richardson's Mill, the Upper Bridge (The Pines, Tremblay), the Lower Bridge Rider/Palmer farm, the Shepherd's Brook Bridge by Turner's farm, the Pine Brook Bridge on the North Road, and the High Bridge over Clay Brook (Joslin Hill Road) were all originally covered bridges.

It should be clearly understood that these roads were merely dirt roads built for horse and buggy. The bridges were wooden structures built by hard hand labor. The foundations were rock skillfully laid to withstand rushing water. In most instances, the structures were covered. This not only protected the wood from rain and snow, but it also afforded shelter for buggies, sleighs, horses and people. There were many hand made culvert type structures to protect the road from small streams. These culverts originally were hand laid stones often with large flat rock laid across the top. Some of the culverts were made of wooden planks.

Over the years these roads have been improved. Unfortunately, most of the covered bridges have been destroyed. There are two exceptions – the Village Bridge, which is the second oldest covered bridge in Vermont, and the Pine Brook Bridge on the North Road.

The Town Report - February 1890 shows the Town Property inventory comparison:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 "Victor" road machine | Evener & 2 whiffletrees |
| 2 ropes for tying oxen | 2 wrenches |
| 3 bridge & street lamps | 1 guide post not set |
| 3 snow rollers | 2 spread chains |
| 2 feed boxes | 1 iron bar |
| 1 oil can | 3 steel drills |
| 1 ¼ barrel cement | 3 eveners |

J. S. Newcomb built the three snow rollers for the Town for $165.46.

The Town Report inventory of Town Property in 1900/01 was as follows:

1 – western road machine with evener and 2 whiffletrees

| | |
|---|---|
| 4 – snow rollers | 1 – tamper |
| 3 – eveners | 2 – steel lamps |
| 2 – wrenches | 1 – oil can |
| 2 – spreader chains | 1 – shovel |
| 1 – iron bar | 1 – pedometer |
| 3 – steel drills | 1 – snow plow with sled |
| Guidepost not set | 1 - sledge hammer |

There are other historical accounts in the Jones' "HISTORY OF WAITSFIELD." In addition, some historical perspective is recorded here beginning with 1900. In 1900, total orders drawn on highways - $1,334.87 and for personal services - $58.70. To put this in perspective the labor costs in 1900 were considerable less than in 2000. For example, "Work on the Canal Bridge, M. J. Waterman, 1 day - $1.25. V. D. Griffith, 2 men and team for 2 days - $8.00." The cost of eight loads of gravel was shown at .40 cents. James Ryle received $1.95 for 192 feet of plank.

In 1910, the Town Report shows a large expenditure on bridges: "work on the bridge near George Andrus, the bridge near C.K. Folsom, the bridge near J. Ryle, the bridge near D.H. Skinner, the Village Bridge, the bridge near F. F. Wilder, the bridge near H. Miner, the bridge near Chase place, the bridge near Seaver's Mill, the bridge near George Berry, the Ford Bridge, the bridge near Richardson's Mill, the bridges on East Hill, the bridge on Palmer Hill." Total highway orders drawn, by Road Commissioner J. A. Smith, were $2,083.15. This was related to a flood.

A dike was built in the village as a protection after the 1927 flood. This dike cost $1847.32 of which $1,667.78 was donated money from individuals. This dike or wall still exists in 2000. Total **flood work** on roads in 1928 was $5334.37. The Jones Bridge, (Tremblay Road), was repaired at a cost of $4,851.47 with State contract of $5,200. This flood work was done totally by local government.

*Snow Roller*

In 1929, a major change took place as to road maintenance and equipment. Until this time, hand labor and teams of horses were used exclusively. Even in winter, the roads were rolled by large wooden horse drawn rollers. Horse drawn road scrapers were used in summer and on some roads, horse drawn snowplows on sleds were used in winter. In the winter, bridges were "snowed" (snow was shoveled onto the bridges) so sleighs and sleds could easily cross them. In 1924, a Town Meeting discussion occurred concerning purchasing a "motor road machine." In 1929, the Town purchased a "road machine and tractor" from R. I. Files Tractor Co., for $2,302.00. Thus road equipment began to change. Winter rollers were used on some roads until 1935. In 1935 Town Report Article 14 states: "What action will the Town take concerning the plowing of highway in winter for motor vehicles." In 1936, Town Report Article 17 states: "To see if Town will instruct the Selectmen to buy a snow plow for the Town tractor." Article passed.

These changes took place because of new machinery, but more drastically because of the automobile. Route 100 was beginning to be paved in 1933. Town Report – "black top $4,425.32." In 1934, "black top $5,724.66. In 1943, the Town paid the balance of $4,350 for a snowplow for the tractor. The original small caterpillar tractor model D2, operated for many years by Ernest Tucker and Henry Bettis, had a small snowplow with wings, which were raised and lowered by chains on pulleys. For many years, Clarence Gallagher Sr. could be seen sitting on the back of this tractor in very cold weather (no cab for protection) raising and lowering the wings for Ernest Tucker who operated the tractor. The new plow purchased in 1943 was for the larger Town tractor with hydraulic lifts.

The 1928/1929 Town Report notes the building of the "cement sidewalk in the village at a cost of $232.01. This is probably the "island sidewalk," East of the bridge.

The foot bridge on the Village Covered bridge was built by Arthur Poland. The 1937 Town Report states "foot bridge expenses." There seems to be some debate as to the accuracy of this date and the exact date of the construction of the foot bridge. However, from all the research it appears accurate to say it was finished in 1940.

The McCullough Turnpike was finally finished in 1957. In the **Barre Argus Leader**, January 7, 1958 appears an article stating, "A new road, threading its way through a breech in the Green Mountains … called McCullough Turnpike offers easy accessibility to Mad River Valley. The McCullough Turnpike, long a controversial issue in the state Legislature was completed last autumn [1957] after two years of construction work."

In 1958, a cement bridge at a cost of $18,997.47 replaced the High Bridge (the covered bridge over Clay Brook). Work was begun to black top the Common Road, which was completed in 1965. The black topping of the East Warren Road was begun in 1959 and finished in 1970. The North Road was black topped in 1977/1978/1979. Tremblay Road was paved in 1982. The Tremblay Bridge was replaced by a cement bridge in 1982/83 at a cost of $292,500.

Town road system continues to change. The 2000 Town report gives the following information:

Road Department: Labor 2000 - $85,971

Equipment operation and repairs:

| | |
|---|---|
| Insurance | 2000 - $ 3.784 |
| Gas, Oil, Grease | $ 898 |
| Diesel | $ 9,128 |
| Dodge One Ton 1996 | $ 2,410 |
| Int'l Dump Truck 1994 | $ 2,149 |
| Int'l Dump Truck 1997 | $17,130 |
| Cat. Loader 1994 | $ 1,098 |
| Galion Grader | $13,183 |
| Cat. Backhoe | $ 1,098 |
| Garage expense | $12,318 |
| Chipper and Rake | $ 128 |
| Plow blades/shoes/chains | $ 2,961 |

Subtotal: Road Department Expenses for 2000 - $413,300.

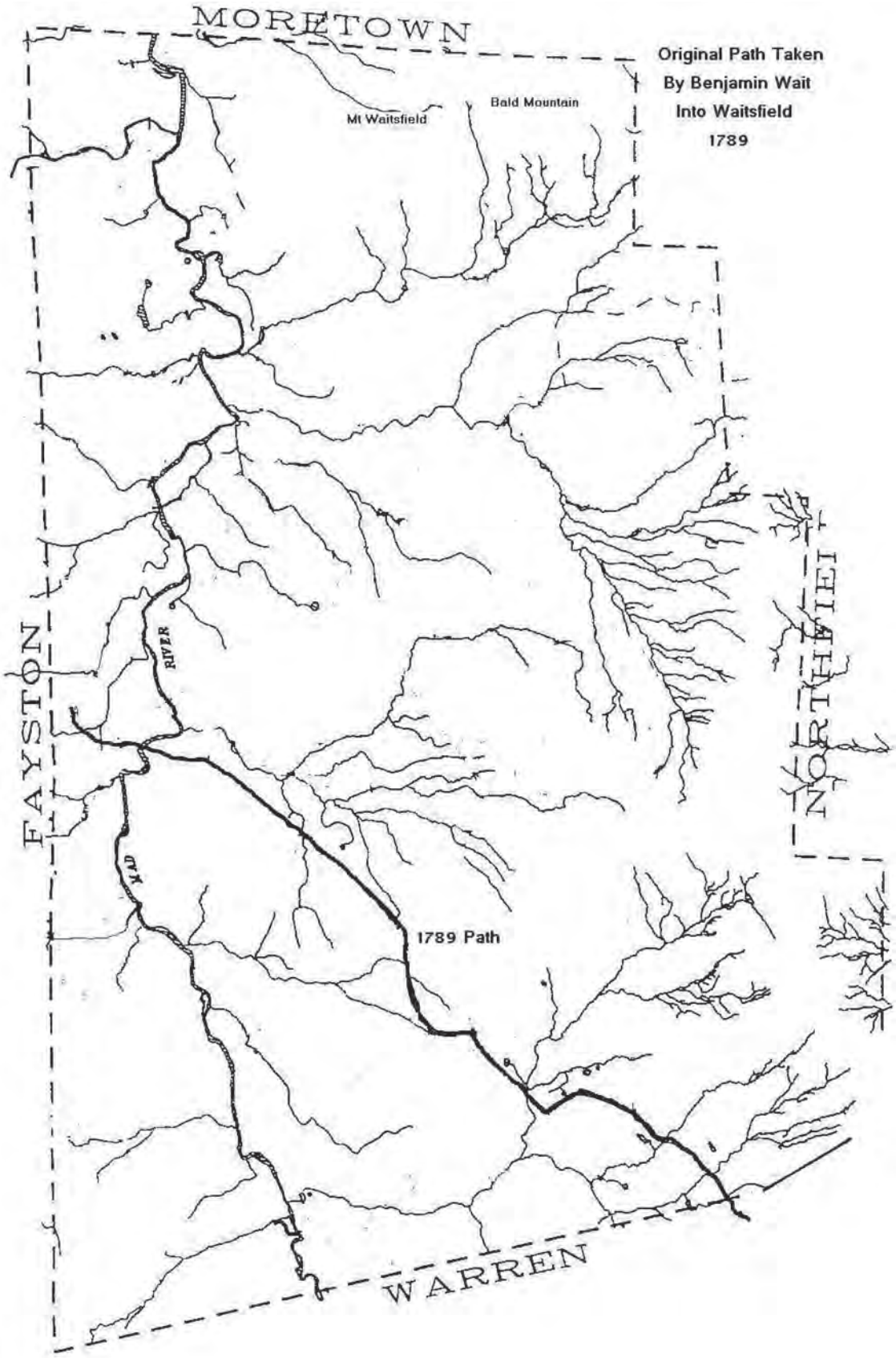
**Total orders drawn in 1900 - $1,334.87.**

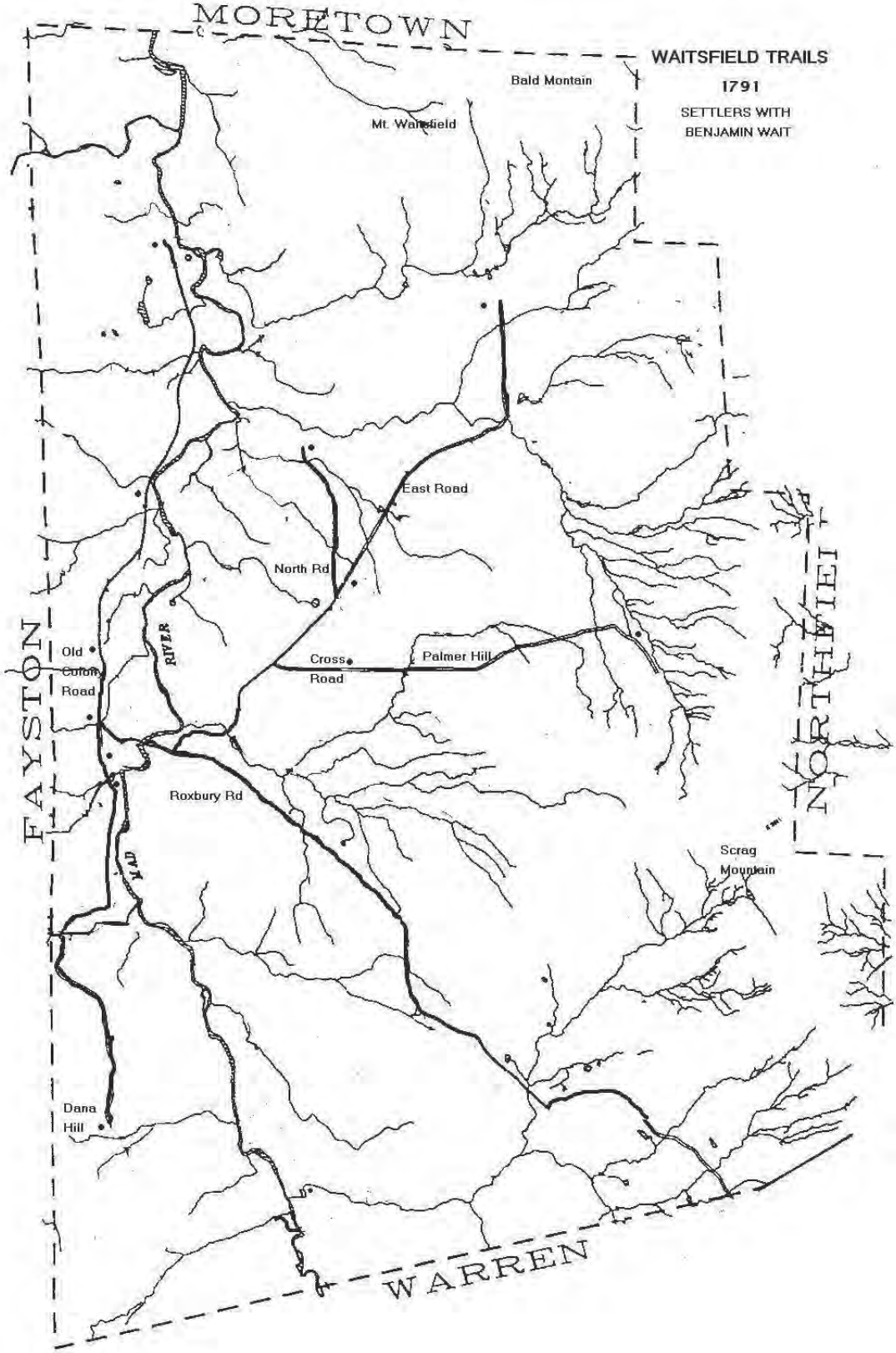
In 2000, Waitsfield has approximately 36 miles of Town roads, including 9.5 miles of class 2 roads; 20 miles of class 3, and 7 miles of class 4 roads. The class 2 roads serve as major routes giving improved access from town to town. These roads include North Fayston Road, Joslin Hill Road, North Road, Common Road, and Bridge Street/East Warren Road. The class 3 roads are roads that are negotiable in all seasons, but less negotiable at times. Class 4 roads are not maintained for year-round travel. These roads do not include State Highway 100 nor does it include the many Private roads that have been built since 1970 and maintained by the home owners.

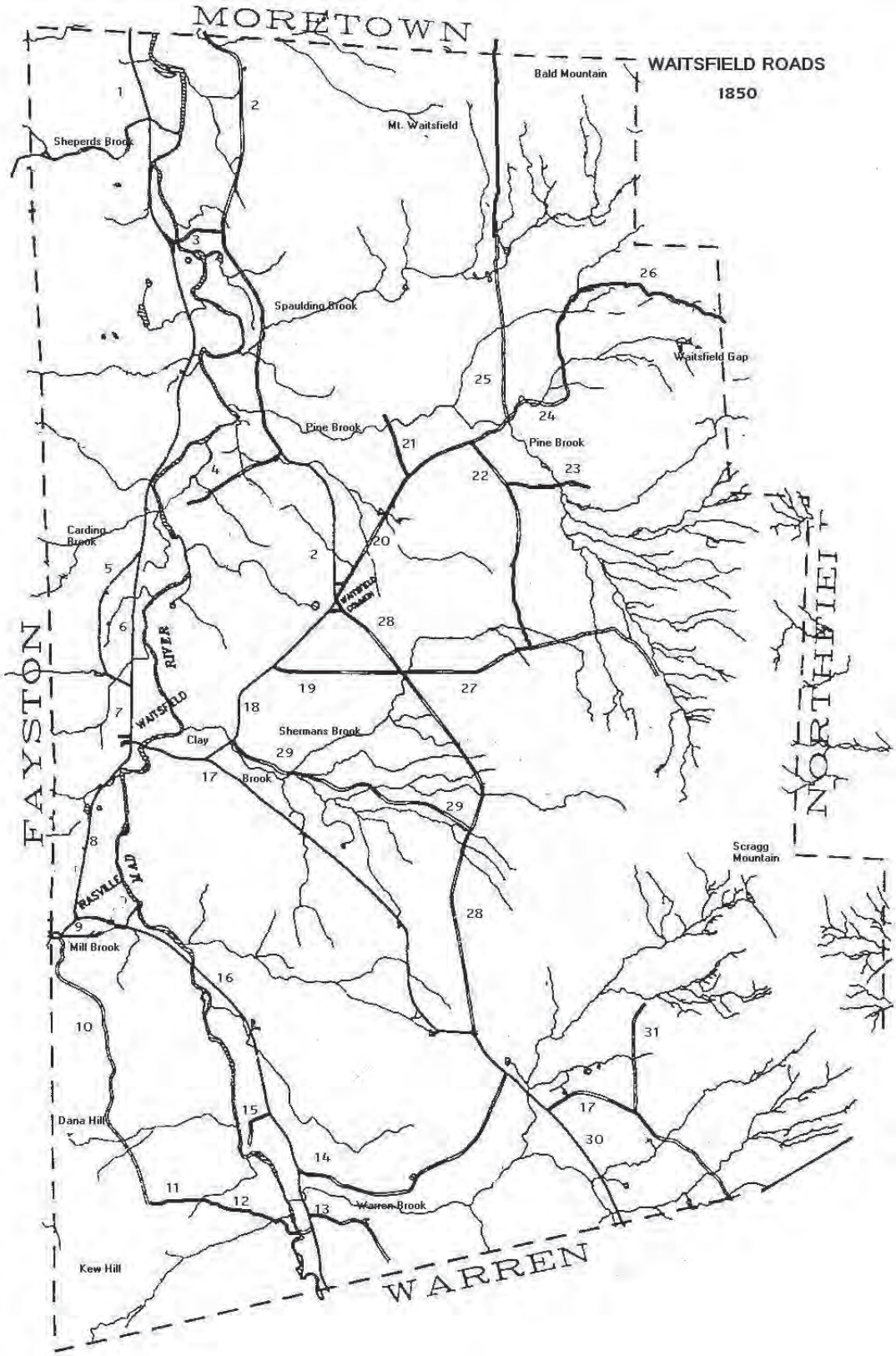
There has been a tremendous increase in the highway usage since the coming of the ski industry. This traffic is not just the added automobile travel, but the large increase in commercial trucks servicing the ski area, the local lodges, restaurants, and stores.

There has been an effort to maintain the so identified "Scenic Roads" in Waitsfield. Some citizens want to maintain the narrow gravel or dirt road with its trees, stonewalls, ditches, barbed wire fences and narrow wooden bridges. The debate over well-maintained highways, traffic safety needs, and the scenic road preservation concept is well rehearsed by the new generation in 2000. A good example of this debate concerns the short piece of Route 17 by the dug way. The State Department of Highway wants to build a new bridge over Mill Brook and enlarge the intersection with Route 100. The bridge must be replaced and for highway safety the intersection needs consideration. However, Waitsfield Select Board wants it done their way with the basic argument being that the State recommendation would "create too much black top at the intersection." This is an indication of Waitsfield's changing culture in 2000.

All roads in 2000 are maintained with all motorized equipment. All roads are plowed with trucks with plows mounted on the front. With the advent of the skiing industry, it is very seldom that automobiles cannot utilize the State and Town roads.

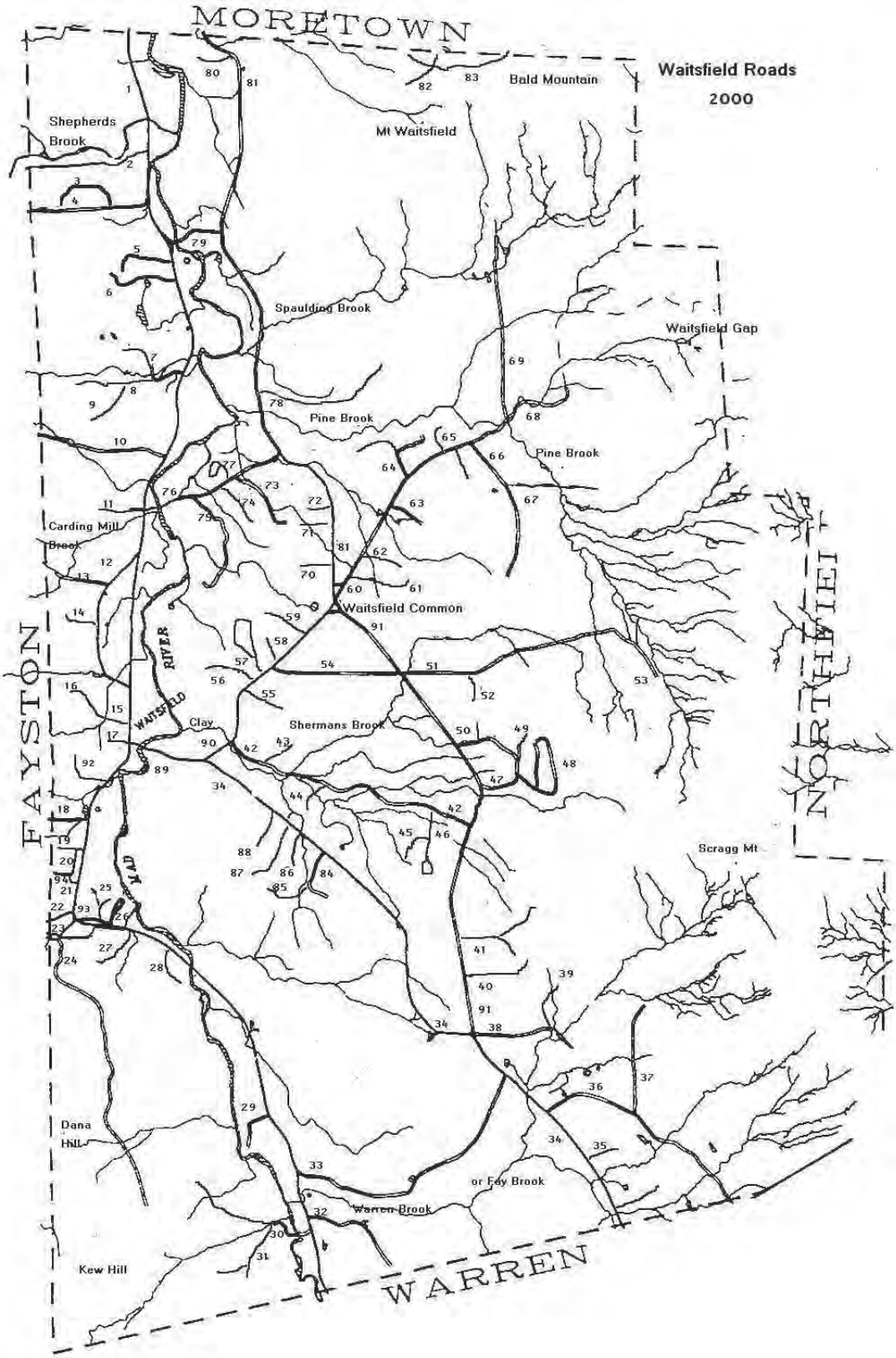

MORETOWN
Original Path Taken
By Benjamin Wait
Into Waitsfield
1789
Mt Waitsfield
Bald Mountain
FAYSTON
NORTHFIELD
OLD RIVER
1789 Path
WARREN


MORETOWN
WAITSFIELD TRAILS
1791
SETTLERS WITH
BENJAMIN WAIT
Bald Montain
Mt. Waitsfield
East Road
North Rd
Cross
Road
Palmer Hill
Old
Cutoff
Road
RIVER
Roxbury Rd
Scrag
Mountain
Dana
Hill
FAYSTON
NORTHFIELD
WARREN


WAITSFIELD ROADS
1850
MORETOWN
FAYSTON
NORTHFIELD
WARREN
Bald Mountain
Mt. Waitsfield
Sheperds Brook
Spaulding Brook
Waitsfield Gap
Pine Brook
Pine Brook
Carding Brook
WAITSFIELD CORNER
WAITSFIELD RIVER
Clay Brook
Shermans Brook
RASVILLE
Mill Brook
Scragg Mountain
Dana Hill
Warren Brook
Kew Hill

# WAITSFIELD ROADS 1850
## KEY

1. Main Road
2. North Road
3. Rider Road
4. Lockwood Road
5. Old Colony Road
6. Meadow Road
7. Main Street
8. Irasville Flats
9. Dugway Road
10. Dana Hill
11. Pent Road
12. Wait Road
13. House Road
14. Rolston Road
15. Poland Road
16. Warren Road
17. Roxbury Road
18. Common Road
19. Cross Road
20. East Hill Road
21. Bushnell Road
22. Phelps Road
23. Reed Road
24. Joslin Road
25. Moretown Common Road
26. Northfield Mountain Road
27. Palmer Hill Road
28. Common Road
29. Brook Road
30. Kingston Road
31. Nutting Road


MORETOWN
Waitsfield Roads
2000
Bald Mountain
Mt Waitsfield
Shepherds Brook
Spaulding Brook
Waitsfield Gap
Pine Brook
Pine Brook
Carding Mill Brook
Waitsfield Common
WAITSFIELD RIVER
Clay
Shermans Brook
FAYSTON
NORTHFIELD
Scragg Mt
Dana Hill
or Fay Brook
Warren Brook
Kew Hill
WARREN

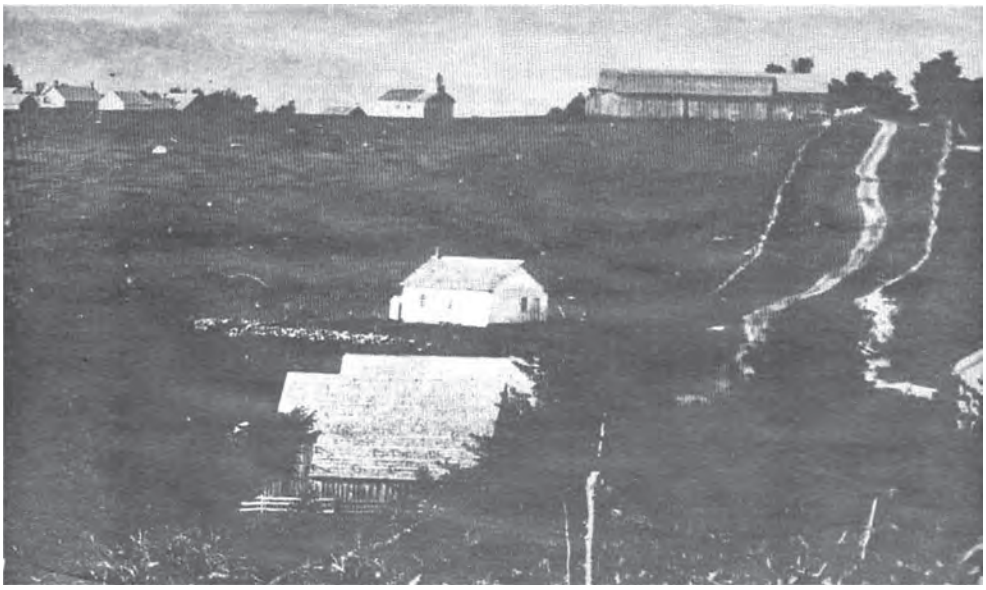
# WAITSFIELD ROADS 2000
# KEY

1.Main Street
2.North Fayston Road
3. Mad River Park Road
4. Airport Road
5. Hartshorn Road
6. Quarry Road
7. Riverview Road
8. Wallis Drive
9. Farnsworth Road
10. Center Fayston Road
11. Armstrong Road
12. Old County Road
13. Old Center Fayston Road
14. Brightenback Road
15. Parsonage Drive
16. Mehuron Drive
17. Farr Lane
18. Carroll Road
19. Mad River Canoe Road
20. Slow Road
21. Mad River Green Road
22. Bragg Hill Road
23. Route 17
24. Dana Hill Road
25. Butcher House Drive
26. Fiddlers Green Road
27. Eagles Nest Road
28. Lareau Drive
29. Kingsbury Road
30. Butternut Hill Road
31. River Ridge Road
32. Bundy Road
33. Rolston Road
34. East Warren Road
35. Mobus Road
36. Sherman Road
37. Bowen Road
38. Ryle Road
39. Eurich Farm Road
40. Old Summer Camp Road
41. Scrag Mt. Road
42. Brook Road
43. Hummingbird Lane
44. Deer Run Lake Road
45. High Bridge Extension
46. High Bridge Hill Road
47. Schuss Road
48. Sugar Glen Road
49. Snow Shoe Road
50. Ski Valley Acres Road
51. Palmer Hill Road
52. Sharkey Road
53. Priest's Camp Road
54. Cross Road
55. Strong Road
56. Cassius Ridge Road
57. Spring Hill Road
58. Little Fox Road
59. Elkhorn Road
60. East Road

# WAITSFIELD ROADS 2000
# KEY

61. Graves Farm Road
62. Thistle Road
63. Raphael Road
64. Bushnell Road
65. Barnabus Road
66. Long Road
67. Reed Road
68. Ronk Road
69. Floodwood Road
70. North Ridge Road
71. Big Rock Road
72. White Pine Road
73. York Road
74. Pine Brook Road
75. Village Woods Road
76. Tremblay Road
77. Verdmont Road (Trailer Park)
78. Bent Hill Road
79. Meadows Road
80. Loose Cow Road
81. North Road
82. Paddy Hill Road
83. South Hill Road
84. Palmer Hill Road
85. Sugar House Lane
86. Maple Lane
87. Hastings Road
88. Pine Hill Lane
89. Bridge Street
90. Joslin Hill Road
91. Common Road
92. Radcliffe Drive
93. Dugway Road
94. Post Office Road

# CHAPTER IV
# WAITSFIELD COMMON AND EAST HILL



*Waitsfield Common -Church with Steeple- Lower Center #3 School-*
*Barns at Savage/Tucker/von Trapp Farm*

Waitsfield Common is located on a plateau at the western slope of the Northfield range of the Green Mountains. At the core of this district is the well-preserved 1798 public common. The earliest settler was Salma Rider in 1791. This area is distinct in its eighteenth-century hilltop settlement. The von Trapp farm (S.S. Savage/Tucker) in this district has operated continuously since 1810. The second Sign Post in the Town was on the Common. The Common is accessible from Waitsfield Village by a two mile winding road originally called the Common Road (now referred to as the Joslin Hill Road). This road is in the same basic area as originally established in 1791 except for the beginning at Mill Hill where it turned north and east around the plateau. This small section was abandoned in 1808 to its present location. There was an access north from the Common to the Beriah Sherman house in 1791 called and still called the North Road. An access road to the East was established by 1791, crossing Pine Brook branching north to Moses Chase and Amasa Skinner homes in 1791 and 1798. This was called the Moretown Common Road (now Floodwood Road). This road, after crossing Pine brook, also continued east, called Northfield Road and later Ronk Road continuing to the Doud Bushnell house at the base of Bald Mountain. From Doud Bushnell's house, this road continued over the Northfield Mountain Ridge into Northfield.

This entire area was agricultural. Some of the land had to be "cut over" cleared, but much of it was open farmland. Interestingly, this Common and East Hill area has kept its distinctive historic characteristics from 1790 to 2000. There has been some building and the loss of some farm buildings, but no major developments. Roads are in their original locations (some abandoned). There are still clearly visible cellar holes and foundations and many of the original houses. The first cemetery in town is in excellent condition and currently used, as well as being expanded. The first Black person in Waitsfield is buried in this cemetery. The Common served as the trading cen-

ter with its stores, blacksmith shops, potash works, and cooper shop. The first powered spinning wheel was at the Doud Bushnell farm under Bald Mountain. A sawmill operated on Pine Brook down Bushnell Road beyond the Joel Skinner home.

Waitsfield Common was the center of Town and the center of business activity long before there were places of business in the village. What is known as the Common proper was a small 9 acre portion from Lot 105 and Lot 106. Samuel Stow Savage, who owned Lot 105, sold to the Town four acres of the northwest corner of his Lot 105 on September 4, 1797 for $10. On May 15, 1798, the Town purchased five acres of Lot 106 from Ezra Jones for $20. The official transaction papers of Samuel S. Savage state: "Beginning at the Northwest corner of said (Lot) thence Running South 46 degrees E. 12 Rod and 20 Links. Thence S. 40 degrees E 40 Rods. Thence North 46 degrees W. 12 Rods. Thence North 40 degrees E. 40 Rods to the first mentioned bound containing four acres of land." The official transaction of Ezra Jones is not as clearly stated. However, these nine acres formed the Common proper measuring 626.13 feet square for a total of 392,038.77 square feet. A mathematical note: an acre is 43,560 square feet, making these nine acres a total of 392,040 square feet. Author's note: Much has been written about these nine acres and how they were acquired; most are incorrect. This author located the original deeds of the land to the Town of Waitsfield thus the above information is accurate.

These measurements are easily verified by starting at the northwestern corner of the original Common cemetery, (the cemetery has been enlarged to the north by 3/4 of an acre), going East 626.13 feet, then south along the Savage property stonewall 626.13 feet, then along the north edge of the road that forms the southern limits of the Common 626.13, then north back to the original corner 626.13. This indicated exactly the nine acres of the Commons proper and formed the square which this author's grandfather, Egbert Savage, said was the original Common. The **original cemetery** area consisted of one acre of this 9 acre parcel. The measurement of "the cemetery was 20 rods by 8 rods starting with 11 rods in from the southwest corner of the Common and 7 rods in from the northwest corner of the Common." In 1992, the Town sold .64th of an acre of the northeast portion of the Common to Owen Wimble. Owen Wimble had purchased the old Freeman/Almon Joslin farm that borders the Common on the northeast. In 1990, the Town also purchased ¾th of an acre of land on the northwest side of the old cemetery to increase the size of the Common Cemetery. The Town also sold .16 of an acre on the south west corner for the right-of- way to the new house west of the cemetery.

The original settler on the Common was Salma Rider in 1791. He built a house east of the Common just beyond what in the year 2000 is the Owen Wimble home. The remains of the Rider house no longer exist.

On what is called the Cross Road, William Joiner built a house in 1790. This farm was the property of Luke Joslin from 1808-1834. Luke Joslin was the father of Aurilla Joslin Bisbee wife of John B. Bisbee.

The Bisbee connection to this farm is historically interesting because it indicates some of the motivations for people moving about in the early years. John B. Bisbee used to go around grafting fruit trees. He came to Waitsfield and Luke Joslin hired John Bisbee to graft some trees for him. John Bisbee became interested in Luke Joslin's daughter, Aurilla. John B. Bisbee returned to Springfield, VT and persuaded his father to move to Waitsfield. Thus John and Nancy Bisbee moved their family to Waitsfield and John B. (son of John and Nancy Bisbee) married Aurilla Joslin.

*Joiner/Bisbee House on the Cross Road*

*Joiner/Bisbee Barn on the Cross Road*

*Bisbee Sugar House Showing the Way It Was Done in 1900*

John B. Bisbee's brother, Elijah Wyatt Bisbee, had a son, Burton Dewey Bisbee, who married Lucia Joslin and purchased this farm in 1885. Burton D. Bisbee continued to farm here for many years. In 1902, the original barn burned and was rebuilt. This second barn was torn down in 2002 and a new house built just east of the old barn. Burton Bisbee's oldest son, Philip E. Bisbee was married in 1921 and continued to farm the property until 1946. The property has been sold several times.

Ezra Jones built a house west of the Common in 1797. Ezra Jones left the 150-acre farm to his son, Charles in 1838. Charles Jones in turn sold the property to Cyrus Joslin in 1859. John Baird bought the farm in 1868 and sold it in 1874 to Charles and Aurilla Ramsay. The Ramsey's in turn left the farm to their daughter Jessie Graves and her husband John Graves in 1897. John Graves had a disease in the cattle and had to destroy all the barns. In about 1905/06, John rebuilt the large barn and ell that formed the milking stable. In 1920, John and Jessie Graves left the farm to their son William J. Graves, who left it to his son, William "Bover" Graves. The original house burned in 1946 and Bover Graves built a house on the original location. The larger barn with an ell housed cattle and hay for many years. In 1957, Bover Graves tore down the ell and made the ground level under the large barn into a milking parlor. This larger barn was damaged by a wind storm and was completely torn down about 1967. In the summer of 2000, Bover Graves' brother, Ronald Graves, purchased the property and built a home just north of the old home foundation. Bover Graves's house was moved east to the farm property line and placed on a new foundation and is the property of Scott Kingsbury.

It was in Ezra Jones home that some Town Meetings were held as early as 1803. When Ezra Jones sold five acres of his lot to the town to form Waitsfield Common, he stipulated that "if the town should move the center from that place," the property would return to him. The center of town did shift in 1823 after Roderick Richardson closed his store on the Common. A debate did arise for a number of years as to what portion of the original property should be returned to Ezra Jones' heirs. Contrary to some reports, the land where the church and horse sheds stood was given to the town and became part of the cemetery. There appears to be no record of any of the Common property being returned to the original heirs.

*Ezra Jones house on Waitsfield Common before 1903*

*Beverly, Barbara, Bover Graves in front of the second barn buildings*
*Ezra Jones Farm*

*Bover Graves' house built 1947*
*The original Ezra Jones house burned in 1946*

*Frederick Richardson house*

*Dr. Frederick Richardson house and Elisha Richardson house in 1910*

On the southwestern corner of the Common proper, Dr. Frederick Richardson built a house in 1802. There was a barn just south of the house. The house faces southeast and originally had two front doors. One door faced directly onto the road (where the present day fireplace sits) and the second front door faced the driveway and entered a small hallway and stairway leading to the second floor. All of the original houses on the Common faced southeast and with the exception of Roderick Richardson house were of the same architectural style. The shed and wing to the Richardson house were constructed later; however, the shed was part of a small barn that was to the south of the house. There is some speculation that the roof may have been raised to form a second floor. This house remained in the Richardson family until 1890's. Elisha B. Richardson owned this property in 1858. He owned this house and his own house across the road that had been built by his father in 1835. The two properties shared a common water supply from a spring and later a pump house directly below the Elisha Richardson house. This water system was still operating for both properties into the 1970's. Mr. S. Woods may have owned the property in the 1840's. The Elisha Richardson house became known as the Edward A Fisk house. Elisha Richardson lived in his father's house and left it to his wife Betsy and their son, Frederick Albert. They continued to live here until the property was purchased by Burton Dewey Bisbee in the 1890's and remained in the Bisbee family until 1948. Burton Dewey and Lucia (Joslin) Bisbee lived here until after Lucia's death in March 1922. The property then went to Burton's son, Philip Bisbee. In 1932, Lucia Jean

Bisbee sister of Phil Bisbee, purchased the property. She used the house as a summer home until 1946. Gertrude Bisbee Howard and Eva Annie Bisbee Freeman also used the house occasionally during the summer. In 1946, the property was purchased by Clarence "Doc" and Dorothy Bisbee and served as their home until 1948. Clarence Bisbee extensively remodeled this house in 1946. The large front door was removed and a fireplace installed in its place. The two front rooms were opened into one room and electricity and a furnace were installed. It was sold to the Wheelers in 1948. It was further remodeled in the 1970's and again in 2006. The house has been sold several times in 1990's.

*Philip Gustin House Remodeled in 1998*
*The basic structure is the same as the original*

A few feet to the east of Dr. Frederick Richardson, Philip Gustin built a house and blacksmith shop in 1802. The Blacksmith shop was a few feet to the East of the house. The blacksmith shop was a small square building approximately 16' X 16'. Only part of a wall and rubble remained in 1930's. Mr. Gustin had a small store in his home, but he was soon in bankruptcy and sold at auction in 1806. Suel Willis, a blacksmith, owned the property in 1813 to 1820. Rodolphus Bates lived here in 1823 to 1833 and Thomas Tinkham lived here and operated the blacksmith shop from 1833 to 1858. He also owned a farm on Lot 77 across Pine Brook. Amaniah and/or Joseph Chandler lived here from 1866 to 1874. Edwin Persons, a blacksmith, owned the property from 1885 to 1889. The property was purchased by Moses Long in 1889 and remained in the Long family for several generations. Moses Long's daughter, Iola married Arthur Miller in 1903. Iola used this house as a summer home in the 1930's and 1940's. Moses Long's grandson, Herbert Spaulding, lived here until his death in 1997. The house again had a small store in the 1930's - mostly candy and baked goods. There was a barn to the south of the Gustin house that was torn down in the early 1940's. A smaller barn was moved up next to the house to form an ell. Debra VanDyke completely remodeled the house in 1999. The exterior is true to the original building. A garage built in 2000 rests on the site of the Gustin blacksmith shop. Debra VanDyke owns the property in 2000.

On the southeasterly corner of the Common was the home of the Savage line. Samuel Stow Savage built the house in 1794. Samuel Stow Savage also built the brick house in 1810 which in 2000 is known as the vonTrapp farm. Samuel S. Savage lost most of his property due to debts in the 1830's. Samuel S. Savage died in 1841. Matthew C. Savage lived here in the 1840's. Lucius

D. Savage lived here with his wife Emily Annette (Joslin) "Nette" until he left for the Civil War May 22, 186l. His family went to Rochester. He had one son, Charles at this time. He walked over Northfield Mountain to the train June 4, 1861. He took training in Montpelier and Burlington and left for Washington D.C. June 24, 1861. He went from there to Bush Hill, VA then to Fairfax Station, VA. He was wounded and taken prisoner. He was exchanged, but nearly died of a leg wound. He returned home November 27, 1862 on crutches. He finally got off the crutches January 1864. His discharge was stolen and someone else collected his back pay. Mr. Savage kept a lengthy diary the summary of which can be found in the Vermont Historical Society written by John Waite. The house was occupied by Franklin and Maria Reed until about 1860 when the original house on the southeast corner of the Common came back into the Savage family - owned by Samuel S. Savage's grandson, Charles, in 1870's. In the 1870's, Charles and Phoebe Savage moved to Kansas and left the house to their son, Edward M. Savage. Edward M. and Clara Savage lived here 1867 to 1904. Edward and Clara Savage moved to Proctor, VT about 1905. In 1911, they left the house to their son, Egbert Savage. The house was used by the Egbert Savage family as a summer home for many years when the family lived in Proctor, VT. Dorothy Savage Bisbee, daughter of Egbert Savage, and this author's mother, told many stories concerning their horse and surrey journey over Brandon Mountain to Waitsfield. They spent one night in the Rochester Inn and then came through Granville woods the next day. They had to walk much of the way because the surrey was so laden down with trunks it was too much for the horse, Corbit. The Egbert Savage family later moved to the Common where Egbert Savage continued to live until the house burned in 1936. After the fire, the property was owned by Lucius "Lute" M. Savage, brother of Egbert Savage, and then owned by his son, Harold and Addie Savage. It was sold to Clarence and Dorothy Bisbee in 1948 who sold to Owen Wimble in 1950. In 1977, Francis Wurtz built an A-framed house on the Savage property. Francis Wurtz owns the property in 2000.

*Waitsfield Common as it looked in 1940*

*Samuel S. Savage House Common*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

In the picture above of the Samuel S. Savage House note the position of the Common Road and the North Road. The house stood on the southeast corner of the Common proper. The picture was takes around 1910. The house was built around 1795.

The Common has been designated as a Historical Site; however, much of the area has changed because of additional building. A section of the East side of the Common was sold to Owen Wimble and his son built a modern house in the area adjacent to the Savage property. A modern house has been built to the west of the cemetery. An A Frame house has been built on the S.S. Savage site and the historic houses have been remodeled and additions made to the Dr. Frederick Richardson House as well as portions of the Roderick Richardson Sr. house have been removed.

*Samuel S. Savage House taken around 1910... Burned in 1936*

*S.S.Savage Brick House/ Tucker/ von Trapp*

*Savage/Tucker/vonTrapp Farm*
*This barn built about 1900*

South of the original Savage house, Samuel S. Savage built a brick farmhouse in 1810 known as the Savage farm. The brick probably came from the clay pit found near the farm and the Joiner farm.. The house is one of the few brick houses in town. Early pictures show two large barns across the road built by Aaron Palmer. Alvaro Tucker built the present barn on the same side of the road as the house. Clarence Tucker remodeled the lower level in the 1930's to accommodate milking cows and meet regulations. After Samuel Savage death in 1841 the farm was sold to Cyrus and Dewitt Strow who sold it to Aaron Palmer in 1847. There is some confusion on the actual owners of this property. It is very likely that others owned the property before Aaron Palmer because of Samuel Savage indebtedness. Nevertheless, Aaron Palmer gave the farm to his son, William who operated it until 1898 when he sold it to his cousin, Alvaro Tucker and his wife Ida Tucker. The farm was then passed to their son, Clarence and Charlotte Tucker in the 1920's. Clarence operated it until he sold it to Edward and Myrtie Jones in 1945. They sold the farm to their daughter and son-in-law, Mahlan and Florence Jamieson in 1948. It was sold to Werner and Erica von Trapp in 1958. Werner and Erica are retired. Martin and Kelly von Trapp operate the farm in 2000. Across the road from the von Trapp farm, Toby and Sally von Trapp now have a home and greenhouse business that comprises about 10 acres of land from the Samuel Savage farm and 5 acres from the Gustin property. Toby and Sally von Trapp built a log house and were starting a truck garden farm which turned into a successful greenhouse operation by 2000.

Werner von Trapp served with the 10th Mountain Division in Italy during World War II. Werner worked on the Stowe family farm and sang tenor with the Family Singers for 20 years. He married Erika, a childhood friend, in October, 1948.

On the northeastern corner of the Common Alpheus Freeman probably built the house in 1797. Alpheus Freeman did purchased Lot 86 and was here in 1800 but left town by 1804. Constant Freeman occupied this house on the Common in 1810, but he moved to Moretown by 1812. Simon Pratt purchased the property in 1815. He sold the house to Moses Chase in 1817. After Moses Chase death in 1831, it was sold to Elisha Hitcock who sold it to John Waterman in 1846. Waterman sold it immediately to Almon Joslin in 1847. In 1855, Simeon Pratt deeded land east of the South side of the Common to Almon Joslin. The original property had increased in size considerably - to at least 100 acres. Almon Joslin had built a large dairy barn east of the house. In 1909, it

*Freeman/Wimble House*

was sold to Gerald Martin. Gerald Martin lived here until 1940. In 1941, Clarence Tucker owned the farm. Mahlan Jamieson owned the property when he purchased the Clarence Tucker farm in the 1940's. Elvin Graves owned and farmed part of this property in the 1940's. Maynard Gallison lived in the house in 1947 - 1950. In 1980, it became the home of Owen Wimble.

Just to the East of this property Salma Rider built a house in 1791 and was the first resident on the Common. The buildings and the foundations can no longer be traced. Salma Rider and his second wife Eunice may have lived in 1820's on the Common Road south of the junction of the Cross Road in what has been called the Joseph Joslin Sr. place later the Freeman house now owned by Christopher Pierson. Grave stones with Salma Riders name and death date have been found in the cellar floor during excavation and remodeling of the foundation of the present house.

North of the Common cemetery on the North Road stood the house and shoe shop of Julian Dumas built in 1812. He married Relief Hitchcock and later operated a tavern in the village. In 1835, the Congregational Church purchased the Dumas house and shoe shop for its first parsonage. Sarah R.Dumas married Almon Joslin who lived on the east corner of the Common. Josette Dumas married Cornelius Joslyn who lived in the house that stood on the East Side of the North Road across from the Richardson house (Harry Smith house). The Dumas buildings and the Cornelius Joslyn buildings have not existed for many years.

Just west of the Dumas house was the first Town Pound where stray animals were kept and owners fined. There were two other pounds on the Common.

A few feet further north of the Dumas house, was the first home of Roderick Richardson Sr. built about 1806. It also served as a store until 1823. Mr. Richardson moved into the Village in 1817. He also operated a potash works to the north of the house. The property then changed hands several times. In 1842, the property was sold to Pardon Bushnell, farmer and cooper. There was a large barn to the west of the house for dairy cattle and hay storage. There was also a small barn between the house and the larger dairy barn. In 1864, Florence McCarty owned the property. Florence brother, Eugene McCarty, owned a farm on the Moretown Common Road across Pine Brook known as the Jennison Jones farm. Hezekiah and Mary (McKay) Smith owned this property in 1903 until Hezekiah's death. Their son, Harry Smith, continued to operate the farm with his brother Earl for many years until Harry began to lease the property in the 1940's. Harry lived

*Roderick Richardson/Smith House*

there until his death in 1988. The property was sold at auction to Shea in 1991. M. Shea owns the property in 2000.

Across the road to the east of the Roderick Richardson Sr. home was the Cornelius E. Joslin home in1841. Cornelius Joslin married Josette Dumas. This may have been the home of James Rider in the 1820's. Salma Rider gave the land on the South side of East Road to his son, Asahel, and the property on the north side of East Road to his son, James. James may have built the house. Earl Jones also had a summer milking barn at the corner of the North Road and East Road from 1900 to 1940. Earl Jones summer milking barn was located on old stone foundation of the Rider/ Cornelius Joslyn buildings. In 1882, the Cornelius Joslyn house was sold to Nelson and Annie Phelps. Annie Phelps was the daughter of Cornelius Joslyn; her sister, Lucia R. Joslyn married Burton D. Bisbee. The property was sold to Florence McCarty in 1884 then to William Elliot in 1886. The house burned sometime prior to 1921 only stone rubble remains.

*Elisha Richardson house (John Graves) in 1945*

On the southwest corner of the Common across the road from Dr. Frederick Richardson was the house Dr. Richardson built for his son, Elisha B. Richardson in 1832. Elisah Richardson also owned his father's house in 1858. Edward A. Fisk married Lillian Ramsey daughter of Charles Ramsey who lived on the old Ezra Jones farm. As a result of the marriage, this property was owned by Edward A. and Lillian Fisk in 1873 and by 1896 was owned by Fred Fisk. Edward Fisk lived in Fayston for several years and was representative in Fayston in 1902. Fred Fisk sold the house to John and Jessie Graves in 1919. John Graves added a shed and barn to the north end of the house. In 1944, it became the property of their son, Elvin Graves who lived there until 1980. Elvin Graves operated a small dairy and sold and delivered milk around the valley for many years. The original house burned in 1980. The property was sold in 1983 to Gerald and Karen Miller and a new house was built in 1985. This new house still stands on the original site of the first house and is the home of Gerald Miller.

The first Congregational Church meeting house was built in 1808 and dedicated December 21, 1809. The Church was on a little rise between the cemetery and the road, just inside the present Common cemetery. The Church and horse sheds were the only buildings on the Common proper. The first cemetery was to the northwest of the horse sheds. After the demolition of the church building, the cemetery was extended to include the area occupied by the church. In 1797, there was an effort made to have the Northeast School District join in constructing "a combination meeting-house and school house on the Common." Salah Smith had started a wooden frame for such a structure, but the Town later refused to pay for the structure after the joint effort failed. This wooden frame was torn down. After several more years of debate, work began in 1807 on a structure which was to be 40' X 54', with 24 foot posts. The drawing of the church by Rev. Perrin Fisk (1792-1846) is not totally accurate. For example, and contrary to belief, the church had a steeple. A steeple was authorized in September 1807. Further, there exists a photograph of the Common which shows the steeple.

Permission was given "to certain pew owners" to build a steeple "14 feet square and 44 feet high provided they make doors into it." The building faced in a southeasterly direction and stood on a little rise near the South Gate of the present Common Cemetery. The building was unpainted and had no heat until 1838. There were two horse sheds to the west of the Church. The Church building was last used by the Wesleyan Methodist Society. The church building fell into complete disrepair and was torn down about 1852. See Ecclesiastical Chapter for church building details.

*East Hill Road toward Bald Mt. Nov. 1939*

There are signs that there were many log cabins built near the Common in the early years, but there is no record of the buildings and they have long disappeared.

Continuing east from the Common on what in 2000 is known as East Road was the home of Salma Rider. He built the house in 1791. The buildings no longer exist. Beyond Salma Rider home was a blacksmith shop on the south side of the road. Salma Rider supposedly gave all the property to his sons Asahel and James before his death in 1822. "The property on the right side of the (East) road went to Asahel and the property on the left side of the road went to James."

Continuing east was the home of Barnabas Dean. Levi Seaver lived here in the early 1800's. The buildings no longer exist.

Next, on the south side of the road, was the home of Rev. Lyman Prindle, Wesleyan Methodist minister in Waitsfield about 1850. The buildings no longer exist.

Two new houses have been built in this immediate area in 1960's and in 2002.

Next in 1970's, Elvin Graves Jr. built on part of his father's property, south side of East Road. Later two trailer homes were placed behind this property in 1980's on Thistle Road.

Next on the little rise was the home of a Taylor, probably Daniel Taylor who came to Waitsfield in 1792. An early map shows a C. Taylor living there; however, there is no record of a C. Taylor in Waitsfield unless it was a Moses Chandler Taylor who went by his middle name. Moses Taylor was in Waitsfield in the 1790's. Later a Miller family lived on this property and for years it was referred to as Miller Hollow. (However, there is no record of a Miller in Waitsfield at that time). The buildings no longer exist.

In 1965, Charles Goodman Sr. built a house on the north side of East Road across from the above mentioned Miller property. Charles Goodman Jr. lives in and owns his father's property in 2000.

On the north side of East Road further east is the house #611 Felton and Maime Michael built a house in 1975. They live here in 2000.

On the south side of East Road beyond Charles Goodman Jr. is the Raphael Road built in 1985. There are four new non historic homes in 2000 on this road. House numbers on this road are #109 Zopfi Stephans, house #96 Scarps Park II, house #222, and house #200.

*Phelps Barn Typical of all early barns Picture in 2000*

Further on where Bushnell Road turns north, still on the south side of East Road was the farm of David Phelps in 1800. David Phelps was Treasurer of Waitsfield in 1806-7. He left Waitsfield in 1823. It is possible that members of the family operated the farm after this time; however, most of them moved to New York and Wisconsin about this time. The cellar foundation can still be found in 2000 as well as one of the barns still stands on the north side of East Road.

Across East Road to the north, two houses numbers 715 and 713 were built in the 1970's and exist in 2000. The second house from the road on this short drive burned in 1998 and has been rebuilt.

For several years, 1926 to 1940, Earl Jones owned part of the David Phelps land across from Bushnell Road. He used this as a pasture during those years. On the north side of East Road, Elvin Graves also utilized the fields belonging to the original Phelps farm. Elvin Graves also utilized the fields of the Almon Joslin property - the Martin farm during the 1940's and 50's.

The first house on the corner of Bushnell Road and East Road is a new house built in 1999 by Charles Goodman Jr. and sold to Nancy Combs Kennison. She sold the property to Jeff and Tracy Lynn in 2000.

Following Bushnell Road, the second house on the right was the home of Joel Skinner built about 1818; he exchanged with Rev. Amariah Chandler, the second minister of the Congregational Church from 1810 - 1830. Rev. Chandler first lived in the Valley and farmed and taught school to supplement his salary. He taught in the Northeast School District and in 1821 moved closer to the school, when he exchanged with Joel Skinner for the house that sat on the property now owned by Richard and Emily Bisbee. This property came into the hands of the Bushnells. Charles E. Jones married Amanda M. Joslin whose mother was Lucy Bushnell Joslin. Lucy was the daughter of Doud and Lucy Bushnell; Lucy married Bethuel Joslin and they lived in the original house on this property in 1837. Amanda Bushnell was born in the original house on this property. Amanda Joslin married Charles E. Jones. Earl A. Jones was Charles E. Jones grandson. Earl A Jones owned the farm on what is now the Tremblay Road. The farm in 2000 is the Waitsfield Inn Bed and Breakfast. It is through this connection that Earl A. Jones gained possession of the property on Bushnell Road. It was later the Tremblay property when Edgar Tremblay purchased the Jones farm. Clarence Bisbee purchased this acre of land from Edgar Tremblay and built the present house. There had not been a house here since late 1850's.

*Eli Skinner House and Barn (Picture in 1940)*

Next was the home of Eli Skinner who came to Waitsfield in 1794, built his house on Lot 109 Bushnell Rd. Eli Skinner lived here until 1835. The property has changed owners many times. Alfred Joslin lived here in the 1840's. Jedediah Bushnell apparently lived here in 1850's after he married Naomi Joslin. Clarence Bettis purchased the farm for $500 in 1923 and lived here until 1948, when they moved to Roxbury. David LaCaire purchased the property in the 1950's. In 1961, Kelly Johnson purchased the property. Mr. Johnson remodeled the house and demolished the barn. Mr. Johnson then built a large house up the hill east of the original Eli Skinner house. In 2000, Kelly Johnson's daughter, Marise (Johnson) Lane, owns the Eli Skinner house as well as her father's house.

Further north on Bushnell Road on the banks of Pine Brook, Joel Skinner built a sawmill in 1821. He operated the mill for several years. The lumber for the Jedediah Bushnell farm buildings across Pine Brook came from this mill. It is not clear when the mill ceased to operate – probably about 1830.

*Jedediah Bushnell house in 1900 (Fielder house)*

A bridge was built in 1819 across Pine Brook near Joel Skinner's mill to the Jedediah Bushnell farm. Eli Skinner may have farmed some of this land prior to Jedediah Bushnell. Jedediah built the farm buildings in 1840 from lumber cut in Joel Skinner's mill. The barn foundation and the house cellar walls are still very visible in 2000. Jedediah came to Waitsfield with his father, Doud Bushnell, in the summer of 1798. Wallis Haskins lived here in the 1920's. In more recent years, this property has often been referred to as the Fielder farm. The property has been owned by several different people over the years. In 2004, it belongs to the Toby Richards family. There have been no buildings on the property since early 1930's. The 1927 flood destroyed the bridge; it was repaired, but later abandoned when it was completely destroyed by the 1938 hurricane. Because of the Bushnell family this road was called the Bushnell Road.

There was a "pent road" from the Bushnell Road just at the top of the terrace before the road went down to Pine Brook. This "pent road" went west through the field and woods to the North Road on the south side of Pine Brook. This was a wagon trail, but cars were known to have used it. Part of the road is still visible in 2000. This road entered the North Road at the point a few feet south of the Tremblay Road intersection, the present driveway of the Wilson home.

On this pent road just off Bushnell Road, a house was built in the 1960's. This house burned and was rebuilt in the 1970's. This house was a hunting camp and then left abandoned for several years. It was owned in 1995 by Chris and Colleen Brian. It was sold to Charles Sonhieme in 2000.

*Joseph and Margaret Corliss standing by their house 1938*

This house has been resold in 2003. A deer camp at the beginning of this road off Bushnell Road has existed since about 1960. Some of the land in this area was purchased by the town for a gravel pit and later used to dump brush. An attempt was made in 2003 to drill a town well for village water in the area of the gravel pit which proved to be a folly.

Returning to East Road and continuing east, there is a new road called Barnabus Road established as a private road in the 1970's. There are now six homes on this road built in the 1980's and 90's. See map at end of this chapter. Further up East Road near the top of the hill is a recent house built about 1980. On the south side in this same area a recent road leads to house #960, the Burge home.

Continuing on East Road at the top of the hill on the left side is a house built by Rhodolphus Bates in 1815. Robert Bates may have occupied this house. Several people lived here prior to 1925. In 1925 to 1948 Joseph Corliss owned it. Thomas Phelps owned and occupied the house for a time in the 1970's when the house burned. A modern house was been built on the location in 1980.

Just to the East and on the right side of the road, Nathaniel Joslin Sr., who came to Waitsfield in 1810, settled on this lot and built a house. Two large barns were built across the road. Henry Jones later occupied this farm in 1815 - 1829. Timothy Reed owned the farm from 1830 to 1840. Robert Bates owned the property for a short time as well as a farm on Lot 79. Ira Bates owned his father's farms in the 1870's. In 1923, Clarence Bisbee purchased the farm. Clarence Bisbee married Dorothy May Savage in 1922. They lived and operated the farm until they sold to George Armstrong in 1946. Mr. Armstrong lived on the property and sold it to Rowland "Toby" Richards in 1960's. Richard and Nancy Rivers Sr. lived and rented the house from 1960 to 1972. It is still owned by the Richards family.

This was one of the few farms in the valley that had its own electric power plant and indoor plumbing starting in the late 1800's. The house and the barns were wired and a 110 volt generator provided the electricity. Later that system was changed to a 32-volt delco gasoline operated generator. The water supply for the entire farm buildings came from under the western slope of the ledges just south of the farm property line. This spring is fed by a large aquifer that exists in the valley along Pine Brook. The aquifer was the cause of a complicated debate from 1995 to 2000. The water from the spring was piped across the farm field on the west and into the second floor of

*Nathaniel Joslin (Clarence Bisbee farm) before the barn roof collapsed c. 1926*

*Nathaniel Joslin farm, owned by Clarence Bisbee 1923-1946. Picture 1930*

the house. The overflow then went to the barn to water the cattle. There were two large barns on the north side of the road with the two-story house on the south side of the road. The house had a porch across the front and west side for many years. Central wood heating system was installed in 1936 and remained in the house in use until 1999. The barn nearest the road was torn down about 1970. The second barn still stands. However, that barn was remodeled after the snow collapsed the roof in 1928. The cement basement was poured and the cattle moved to the ground floor with large haymows along the west side of the building. It was the typical dairy farm found in the valley. Though much of the work was done by hand and with horses, Clarence Bisbee had a Fordson tractor that was utilized especially for power. At one time, Clarence Bisbee raised potatoes in large amounts for commercial sale. A large sugar orchard was also utilized.

This house was the center of East Hill activity as it was the end of the school bus line. At one time in the 1930's, as many as 21 children gathered at this farm to board the bus. In the worst of winter, it was not unusual to have a team of horses arrive with a double sled with a canvas top to take the children to school in the village. A truck with a handmade wooden body on the back served as the school bus through most of 1930 to 1946.

The rural mail was finally delivered to this house for the first time in November, 1943. Mr. Harold Hayes and C.A. "Doc" Bisbee with the help of Senator Aiken succeeded in getting the rural mail delivery up East Road. The mail had been delivered to Waitsfield Common starting in 1901. Harold Hayes was the rural mail carrier for the valley for many years. The rural electric power

*East Hill Looking to Bald Mt from Bisbee Farm in 1938*

came to the East Hill in 1948. The farm was to be owned and operated by David D. Bisbee, oldest son of "Doc" and Dorothy Bisbee; however, fate changed those plans when David was killed in World War II at the Battle of the Bulge in 1945. Clarence Bisbee then sold the farm in 1946. It is owned by Rowland "Toby" Richards family in 2000.

Continuing east at the fork of the Northfield Road and the Palmer Hill Road, was the Northeast School House. These roads are now called East Road and Long Road. This was the school in which Rev. Chandler, who lived on Bushnell Road where Richard Bisbee now lives, taught. This was the third school house built in the Northeast District; there had been a long standing argument as to where the school should be. The first building was built in 1798 on Pine Brook, south side of the road on the little rise about 800 feet from Pine Brook and remained until 1834. After much debate, the second building was built in 1834 half way between the two mentioned buildings. This second school was on the north side of the road on the small level ground at the top of the first hill from Pine Brook. The second school remained until 1867 when it was voted to build the third schoolhouse building at the fork of the two roads. This last school was closed in 1919. It was torn down and used by Leon Joslyn to build his house on Route 100 just south of the Village and next to Arvad's restaurant. This old school structure for a time in recent years was the Waitsfield Chamber of Commerce and Scoop Shop. In 2000, it is the Pizza Shop and Scoop Shop.

*Jennison Farm in 1860's*

*Jennison /Jones Farm, Picture taken 1940's*

Now continuing north from Pine Brook up the steep hill on the Moretown Common Road (now called Floodwood Road) was the farm of Jennison Jones. He came to Waitsfield in 1797 and settled on this lot. It was later the Eugene McCarty farm in the 1850's. Eugene McCarty was brother to Florence McCarty who owned the Roderick Richardson farm on the Common. Eugene McCarty lived briefly on the farm east of Pine Brook know as the Piper farm. Wallace McClain lived here about 1933 to 1935. Earl Jones later owned this property. The Warren Damon (Earl Jones' hired man) family lived on this property for several years- 1939 to 1944. The original house still stands in 2000. There was a large barn on the west side of the road for horses, cattle, and hay. It was torn down in the 1960's. Harry Cutts owned the property for several years - 1942 to 1948. Earl Rivers Jr. purchased the property from Harry Cutts about 1950 and operated the farm until about 1960 when he sold it to Howard Munn. Howard Munn sold the property to Rowland "Toby" Richards about 1965. John Thompson lived here and managed the properties for Mr. Richards until 2000. The house is now used as the caretaker residence.

Further north is the farm of Moses Chase who settled here in 1790. He built his house in 1795. Moses Chase probably came to Waitsfield with Benjamin Wait. His wife Hannah Spaulding loved the outdoors and spent a great deal of time planting flowers and fruit trees. It is a fact that this farm had a huge orchard and large flower beds everywhere in the early 1900's. This author and Doris Cutts, who lived on this farm in 1930's, remember well an orchard of some 50 trees or more, a large daffodil bed in the middle of the orchard, large white roses, oriental poppies, bluebells, sweet Williams, red roses and shrubs everywhere around the house. The son, Moses, married Temperance, daughter of Amasa Skinner who lived on next farm north. Thomas Prentis later owned the farm in 1830. Later, J. Granfield owned the farm. Patrick Moriarty, who came from Ireland to America in 1847, settled on this farm in 1848. Patrick Moriarty moved in 1860 to the dead end road off the Old Roxbury Road (the old Bowen Road) where he lived until 1870. Nathan Boyce, mill owner and farmer, lived on the Moses Chase farm 1858 to 1905. Mr. Eldridge owned the farm 1908 to 1932. Harry Cutts moved onto the farm in 1931 and purchased the farm in 1932. Harry Cutts family lived here until 1948 when the house was sold and torn apart for the beautiful woodwork and stair railings inside. Rowland "Toby" Richards purchased this property along with the other farms in the area.

The stories are told about Moses Chase, who built the house in 1795, driving a team of oxen early in the morning to the Greene mill on Mill Brook in Irasville. He would get a load of lumber and haul the lumber back to his lot. It was an all day trip. It is said that people could hear him hollering at the oxen the entire trip as he kept encouraging them to pull the load up the long steep hills to his farm. This was a very large and beautiful house. The buildings no longer exist, but the cellar hole and barn foundations are visible. This farm for many years had one of the best apple orchards in the Valley. Doris Cutts, who lived here as a child, verifies the fact that she counted the rooms and doors in the house when they moved in – there were 21 rooms and 38 doors.

A description of the house is important to historically show the craftsmanship, talent and the desire for homes in the early settlement. The first view, as one drove into the driveway, was an ornate portico by the entrance. As one proceeded past the portico, there was a large bay window which extended to the second floor. The master bedroom had the upper bay window. There was a porch about 20 feet long that extended the rest of the way along the house. There was a sun room with 7 windows that went the full width of the house. There was a formal parlor, two kitchens (winter and summer kitchens) – the winter kitchen had a large fireplace. There was a formal dining room that opened into a large pantry and also opened into the parlor. There was a beautiful

stair case that led to 8 bedrooms. The room at the immediate top of the stairs was completely oval. There was a long hall that led out to the toilet which was in the house but at the farthest distance from the living quarters as possible. This was indeed one of the elaborate homes for the times and crafted by one person. Toby Richards owns the property in 2000. The buildings have been gone for many years.

*Skinner/Shea House – Courtesy of Roland Richards*

*Skinner/Shea House 2000*

The last farm on the Moretown Common Road was originally the farm built in 1798 by Amasa Skinner. A Mr. Haley lived here in the early 1800's. In 1865, it was owned by Dennis Shea for 40 years. Frank Warner family lived here 1933 to 1935. Harry Cutts lived here briefly 1936 and Irish Courier in the 1940's. Other people lived here briefly through these years. Earl Jones owned the property for many years. Behind this house was a large sugar orchard operated by Earl Jones. He had a large double sugaring evaporator for boiling sap. This was the only double boiling hearth in Waitsfield. The Skinner house was vacant for several years. Kenneth and Doris (Cutts) Fackender purchased the property in 1956. They sold the property to Rowland "Toby" Richards. The house was extensively remodeled inside and an attachment built on. The main building remains basically as it was originally. In 2000, the house is owned and occupied summers by Rowland "Toby" Richards. This was and is the last house before going over the mountain ridge onto Moretown Common. The old road can be easily followed; however, it has not been in use since about 1935.

There was a pent road that went west from this area following basically Spaulding Brook by Abel Spaulding's house to the North Road.

It is necessary to reverse course on the Moretown Common road to just south of the Moses Chase farm house. A road extended east to the Northfield Mountain Road. Just north of the junction of these roads the road curved over the mountain to Northfield. At this curve was the farm of Doud Bushnell, father of Jedediah Bushnell. Doud Bushnell came to Waitsfield in 1798 and settled on lot 73. Behind this house is a stream which Doud Bushnell "harnessed to turn the spinning wheels of his good wife and her neighbors … the only power-driven spindles ever operated in the town." The farm was later owned by Rufus Bucklin in 1850 (he was selectman in 1872), later by William F. Wilder in 1870's, and in the 1900's became known as the Mountain Maid Place. In the early 1900's, a lady lived on this farm with her sister and an old man; (this author cannot remember their names nor can anyone from this era). About 1935, the people simply vanished during the night and no one ever heard from them nor knew where they went. The farm was never occupied

after that date though the buildings stood for many years. The cellar hole and stone walls of the barn still are visible. Just above this farm on the Northfield Mountain, George Wallis and Clarence Bisbee each maintained a summer pasture for young cattle. Otis Wallis, who died in 2003, vividly, recalls driving cattle from the mountain down to the river farm (the old Symonds farm) in a heavy snowstorm. This author remembers well helping to build fence on the mountain pasture. The road over the mountain to Northfield was used until the 1938 hurricane washed out much of the road. The veterinarian, Dr. Welch, from Northfield, would come over that road to treat the cattle on the farms in the valley in the 1930's.

Following this Northfield Mountain Road south, the first farm from the Doud Bushnell farm was the farm of James Joslin Sr., established in 1797. Jonathan Wallis, in 1802, arrived in this location and built a log cabin nearby. James Joslin Sr. later built the brick house on what is known as Joslin Hill Road and moved to that location. The brick house still stands and is still owned by relatives of James Joslin. Jonathan Wallis then purchased the original Joslin farm on the Northfield Road.. Mr. Wallis brought with him a Negro slave called Sam. The Jones' History relates that story. The foundation of the Joslin house is still visible as well as the Well he dug. The barn that stood across the road from the house was still being used in the early 1900's. In 1829, this was the farm of Benjamin Reed. Frederick Albert Richardson owned this farm 1861 to 1901. Frederick Richardson married Loretta Reed, daughter of Benjamin and Arathusa (Joslin) Reed. Arathusa was the daughter of Joseph Joslin who lived on the next farm south. Thus these farms were in related families for years. Frederick Richardson died in 1901. Members of the family lived here for a short period and then the farm was abandoned. Rowland "Toby" Richards owns the property in 2000.

Continuing south on the mountain road is the farm of Joseph Joslin Jr. who came to Waitsfield in 1798 and settled on Lot 75. His son, Alfred Joslin, owned the farm in 1848. In the 1890, C. H. Ronk owned the farm. The Ronks came from the mid-west and attempted to raise beef cattle and sheep. During their stay, twin girls were born, but they lived only a few days. They were buried in the very large and beautiful flower garden that used to exist behind the original house. The house, like the Moses Chase house, was a very large two story house. The interior was spacious with beautiful wood work. According to papers found in the Vermont Historical Library the following was found: "Joseph and Abagail Joslyn deeded to Alfred Joslyn 262 acres of Lot 75 in 1852." Alfred was the son of Joseph Joslyn. Abagail; was Joseph's third wife. In the deed, "Joseph and Abagail reserved two rooms on the lower floor on the south side for the two of them, Joseph and Abagail. If Joseph died then a room on the southwest side was reserved for Abagail as long as she lived." Abagail died April 28, 1865 and Joseph died July 17, 1865.

There was a large barn across the road to the west of the house. A large and plentiful orchard stood northwest of the barn. This orchard was still producing a variety of good apples in 1940. The buildings no longer exist. This farm setting is the most picturesque spot and view in all of Waitsfield. As a result of the Ronk family, the road through the 1900's was referred to as the Ronk Road and has caused some local confusion, as many people wanted to call it the Reed Road. It has recently been named the Ronk Road; however, in earlier years, it was referred to as the Northfield Mountain Road. After C. H. Ronk left, the buildings were empty for a time, and then Leslie Reed lived on the farm. The original Reed home was located further south across the fields still on the East Side of Pine Brook. This Reed home burned in 1933, and Leslie Reed moved to the Ronk farm after the fire. This was the reason for the road confusion. Also note: Benjamin Reed lived just north on the James Joslin farm. After Leslie Reed left the farm about 1938, the buildings were empty until Thomas Phelps

occupied the buildings until they were no longer safe. The buildings fell down and were finally destroyed by Rowland "Toby" Richards who now owns the property in 2000.

Now following the Ronk Road west back to Pine Brook, a complete loop has been made in the most Easterly settled part of the Town. As we reach Pine Brook, we note that the Moretown Road has now been named Floodwoods Road. This is in part Toby Richards' idea. He is the present owner of the seven farms on this loop. There is indication that a large number of young men who formed the militia group called "Floodwood" that marched to Plattsburg NY in 1812, came from this Eastern part of Town. The Jones' History discusses some of this. Thus Mr. Richards has chosen to call this area Floodwood in recognition of these men.

We will continue to back track across Pine Brook and west to the corner where the third Northeast School House stood. At this point, we will turn South along what is now called the Long Road, then turn east again onto the Reed Road. This road crosses Pine Brook where on top of the hill was the farm of Benjamin Reed, Sr., in 1827. Benjamin Reed, Jr. lived here in 1838. He married Arathusa, daughter of Joseph and Nancy Joslin who lived nearby. Later, Ezra O. Joslin lived here briefly in 1842. Then DeWitt Strow lived here in 1844. DeWitt Strow was the son of John and Jerusha (Reed) Strow. Leslie Reed lived here until 1933 when the house burned.

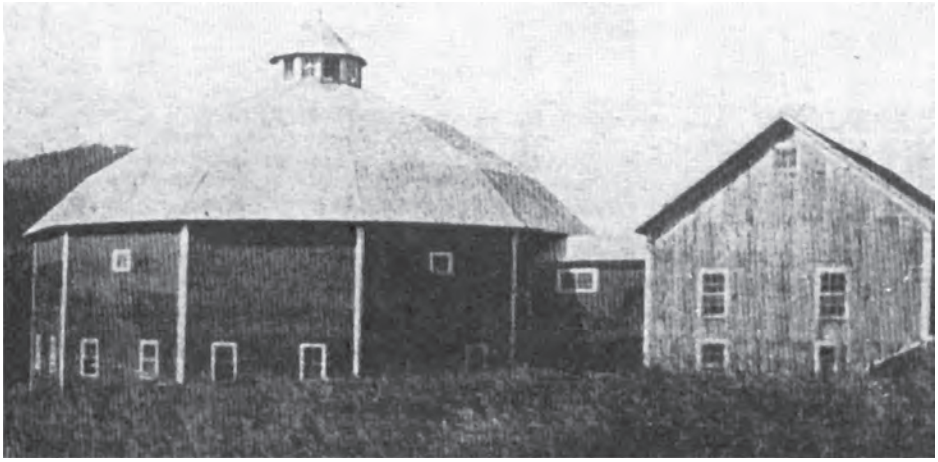
Across the road to the south was the farm of Thomas Piper, a hatter, in 1816. The following was found in records in Vermont Historical Library: "Lot 77 original John Barrett lst Division – 70 acres Aaron Phelps (deeded) to Thomas Piper in 1816." Thus this property was drawn by John Barrett and sold to Aaron Phelps who sold to Thomas Piper. Records indicate that Thomas Piper had difficulties in Waitsfield and left. Other people who have lived on these farms were P. Mary; Thomas Tinkham in 1816; Thomas Tinkham came to Waitsfield with Thomas Piper and lived on the farm next to Thomas Piper. He also ran the Gustin Blacksmith shop on the Common and farmed. Mr. Tinkham later moved to the Common and the Gustin house. Eugene McCarty lived on this farm. Eugene McCarty evidently lived on this Piper farm briefly before purchasing the Jennison Jones farm on the Moretown Common Road. This area has not been farmed since the 1930's. Foundations can be found in these locations; however, no buildings have been visible since 1933. The 1938 hurricane completely washed out the bridge over Pine Brook and it was never rebuilt.

Unfortunately, pictures of all these farm buildings on the Northfield Road and Reed Road could not be found.

*Bartlett/Long House*

Now returning to the Long Road and continuing South, we come to the farm of Nathaniel Bartlett who came to Waitsfield in 1791 and settled on this lot 1791 – 1807. Nathaniel Bartlett built this home about 1795. He was a voter in Waitsfield in 1804, but his name disappears from the records in 1807. Christopher Bartlett who came to Waitsfield in 1809 settled on this farm until 1850 when he left for Michigan. Christopher Bartlett marched with the Waitsfield Company in 1814 for Plattsburg. The 1858 map shows J. Bates and L. Bates living of these farms; however, there appears to be no records of a J. Bates or a L. Bates in Waitsfield. Robert Bates owned the Nathaniel Joslin farm previously written about and shown on the 1873 map. It appears that Robert Bates and later his son, Ira Bates operated the Nathaniel Joslin farm prior to Clarence Bisbee purchasing the property as well as the Bartlett farm prior to Andrew Long purchasing it. Ira Bates married Elizabeth Jones, daughter of Jennison Jones, who owned the farm across Pine Brook just before Moses Chase farm. The Bates' then owned and operated the Bissell Phelps farms Lots 79-80 during 1823 to 1875 as well as Reuben Bates. Andrew Long owned the Bartlett farm in 1845. Willard E. Long, son of Andrew Long owned the farm in 1887. His son, Carl Long inherited the farm and cut logs on the property well into the 1940's. Elsie Long, Carl Long's sister, tells about going to school in the "#2 schoolhouse" when she was very small. Her teacher then was May Foley. This was 1902. Other teachers here were Blanche McAllister, Maude Richardson, and Lilla Poland. Carl and Elsie Long's parents, Willard E. Long, moved to the village and lived in the Julian Dumas house behind the grist mill near the village sawmill. They were both well known through the 1900's. Carl continued to keep the farm operating and operated a grocery store in the village. William Hall lived on the Long farm and operated it for Carl Long from the 1920's to 1938. The house was originally a very pleasant one and a half story house. There was a large barn to the east of the house. Herb and Maggie Corliss lived on the farm about 1940 to 1947. Charles and Freda Preston owned and operated the farm from 1948 to 1950. Harold Austin owned the farm in the 1950 to 1980's. Mrs. Houston who drilled the infamous aquifer, which caused so much local consternation as well as lengthy legal expense, owns the Long property in 2000. Much of the controversy centered upon the newly formed control boards and their desire to control development. A historical note, the people who settled this area and farmed the land for many years were well aware of the water in this area and the abundance of springs.

Next up the hill, we come to the farm of Bissell Phelps who settled there in 1797. Ira Bates farmed both the Nathaniel Joslin farm and Bartlett farm with his father for a time. He later owned



*Bertrand Joslyn Dodecagon Barn c. 1915*

*Joslyn/Rivers Farm after rebuilding 1960*

the Phelps' farm in 1845. Then John G. Lewis, Ira Bates' son-in-law, owned the farm in 1863. Mr. Lewis was a Waitsfield Selectman in 1888-89. The farm was then owned and operated by Bertrand L. Joslyn in 1892. Bertrand L. Joslyn married Mary Lewis daughter of John G and Sarah (Bates) Lewis. These farms were in the families for some years. Bertrand Joslyn's son, Harold Joslin lived here for a few years before moving into the Fullerton house in the Village –1919. About 1926, Earl Rivers purchased the farm. Earl Rivers operated the farm until 1979, when Richard and Nancy Rivers Sr. purchased the farm from his father. Richard and Nancy Rivers Sr. operated the farm until 1989. They sold the farm to Mathew Madix. Mr. Madix built a house down the hill east of the barn. He sold the farm house to a teacher at Green Mountain School who moved the original house back from its original foundation. The original barn was a small structure similar to the single barn board structures throughout the valley. About 1910, Bert Joslyn designed a dodecagon barn similar to the one on the Dan Bisbee farm and the Julius Joslyn farm. The major difference with this barn was the metal roof which Bert Joslyn had seen advertised by the Edwards Co. of Chicago. Bert Joslyn ordered the metal and had it installed. It was the only such metal barn roof in Waitsfield. The foundation for this barn was done by George Long and Leon Joslyn with hand mixed cement. The wooden structure was started by Bill Strong and finished by Alfred Savage and Leslie Reed. This barn like the others had a cupola directly over the silo to provide ventilation. This new "round" barn originally had a horse barn and shed attached to it near the road. About 1955 the heavy snow collapsed the roof of the deteriorating barn and it was torn down. Arthur Livingston built a new barn for Earl Rivers Sr. in 1960. Mr. Madix sold the farm in 2000.

This Long Road in the early years continued onto Palmer Hill, but was abandoned in the late 1850's.

Several new homes have been built since 1960's at the end of this Long Road. Arnold Burbank built a house on the west side of the road just north of the Rivers/Madix farm house in 1979 and lives there in 2000.

On top of the ledges, David Millstone built a house in 1960's. It burned (lighting). It was re-built and owned by Dennis Love and then sold to a Mr. Martin who owns it in 2000. There are two modern houses on this drive- house #422 and #424.

Beyond the old Joslyn/Rivers/Madix farm, Ron and Barb LaBrusciano built a house in 1990's and live there in 2000. Just south of Mr. LaBrusciano house on the east side of the road is the

house of Bonnie, Gaelic, and Irene McTigue built in 1980's. On the west side of this old road Harriett Trebault moved a sugar house into this area just south of the farm house and remodeled it into a house in 1977. Kare Osgood lives here in 2000. Continuing south on this road is the Hugh Campbell house built in 1980's. His daughter, Polly and Bill Moore live there in 2000.

A few historical comments should be made about this part of Waitsfield. Moses Chase settled this section of town very early - 1789/90. The first road connecting to the Northfield lots came through this section of Town. There were six farms between the Common and so called East Hill (Salma Rider, Blacksmith Shop, Barnabas Dean, Levi Seaver, Rev. Paul Prindle, Chandler Taylor, David Phelps, and Eli Skinner).

Beginning with the East Hill farm of Nathaniel Joslin, there were eleven farms in this eastern section of Waitsfield. There was one school to serve just this section of town. In 1935, there were five farms occupied. All eleven original farm properties were being utilized. In 1935, there were 20 children from this eastern section attending school in the Village. During the early 1900's, the Harry Cutts family lived on the old Moses Chase farm; on the Jennison Jones farm (owned by Earl Jones) lived the Warren Damon family; on the Nathaniel Joslin farm lived the Clarence Bisbee family; on the Bissell Phelps farm lived the Earl Rivers family; and on the Christopher Bartlett farm lived William Hall. These were fully operational dairy farms. Carl Long owned the Bartlett farm and took many, many feet of logs from the Northfield Mountain. There were large sugar orchards on most of these farms that provided additional income to these families. It was an interesting sight and experience to watch Warren Damon operate the double arch evaporators boiling sap at the same time – not an easy task. The sugarhouse was just north of the Shea house and west of the Moretown Common Road under Bald Mountain. Clarence Bisbee at one time raised and sold potatoes as a diversified farm operation. Most of this entire area was open farm fields even up the Northfield Mountain. The only exception to this was the large sugar orchards. Other people who lived on East hill during this time were Joseph Corliss in the small house just west of the Bisbee farm; Leslie Reed on the Ronk farm and a Richardson family lived in the Damon house (the old Jennison Jones farm).

The young people who grew up on East hill have fond memories or sliding parties, skiing parties, climbing Mount Alice, building a swimming pool on Pine Brook, and working every day on the farms. If anyone participated in athletic programs at school, it was expected that they would walk home from the games – basketball or baseball. No-one had cars to drive and if they did, no one spent money on gasoline. It was not unusual in winter for the children on East hill to be picked up with a team of horses and a covered sled. The children walked behind the sled to keep warm. The only reason they waited for the horses was the assured excuse for being late for school..

Winter roads and mud season presented huge obstacles to reaching the village whether for groceries or school. In winter, the horse and sleigh was common. This author remembers driving to church with the horse and sleigh and upon returning to the Common, it was decided to visit my grandfather, Bert Savage. As my mother and I turned to his house on the south east corner of the Common, the sleigh overturned and we fell out in the snow. The horse merely stopped, waited for us to right the sleigh and we were on our way, laughing merrily about the incident. In mud season, it was impossible for motor vehicles to travel the roads. Many times cars had to be pulled to their destination by a team of horses. One winter, the banks of snow were so high and so drifted shut that the caterpillar tractor plow, which the Town had just purchased, could not cut through the drifts on East Road. So Mr. Tucker, the operator, had to go back and forth, bank to bank for over a mile

in order to open the road for cars. The snow banks were six feet over an average person's head.

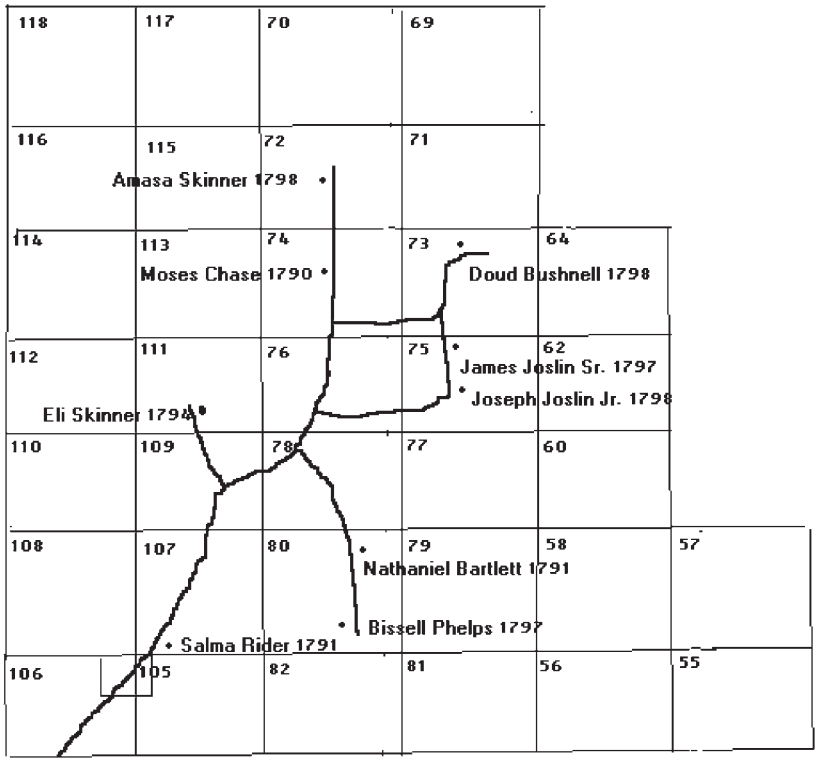
When there was not work on the farms to be done, the entertainment was home made. The young people made their own ski areas, their own skating places, and their own swimming areas. All the young people played together so there was no lack of a social life. The "Doc" and "Dot" Bisbee farmhouse was the scene of many sliding parties complete with hot chocolate and pop corn. Summer picnics on Pine Brook were common. It was a fantastic place for young people to grow up.

Though the depression had found its way to Vermont, the farmers had their own food. Large gardens were a necessity and everything was canned in the famous Ball glass jars. Nothing was wasted. Animals were killed for meat products in the winter when it could be frozen or put in large clay crocks and salted or pickled. Only the basic needs were purchased such as: salt, sugar, flour, molasses, and seasonings. In the 1930's, this author remembers bottling many quarts of raw milk for five cents a quart. Life may have been hard, but life was fun, free, fresh, and unforgiving.

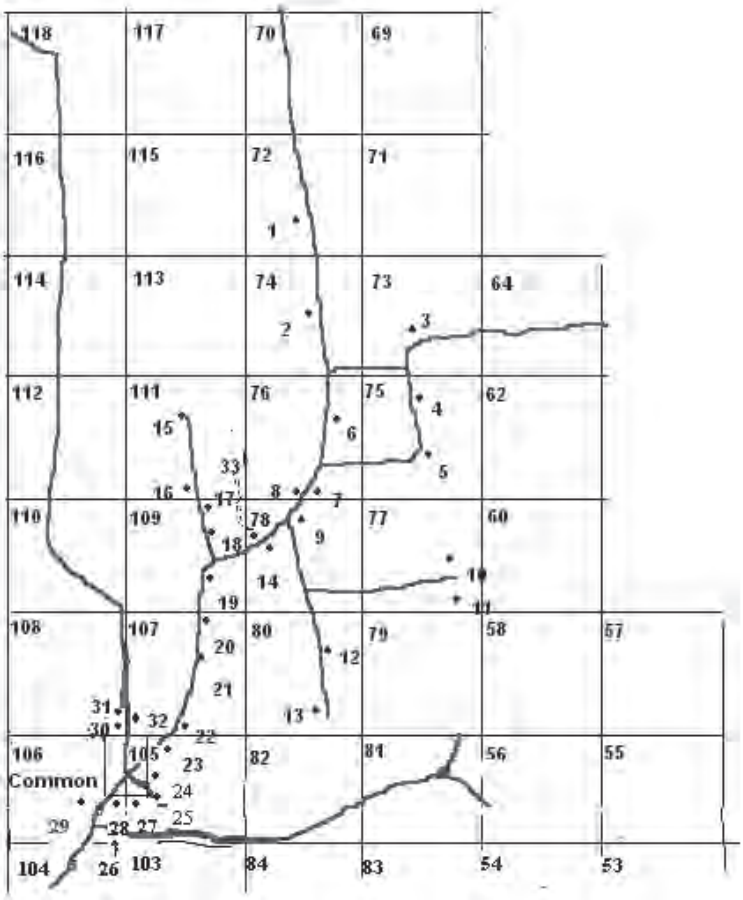
By 1946, East Hill was nearly void of families. Leslie Reed left in 1934; William Hall in 1939; Warren Damon in 1942; Harry Cutts in 1948; Earl Rivers' sons continued on the farm until 1980's. In 1947, Fred Armstrong purchased the Bisbee farm and lived there for a brief time. The other farms were left abandoned. Toby Richards purchased the seven farms (Nathaniel Joslin, Jennison Jones, Moses Chase, Dennis Shea, Doud Bushnell, Jonathan Wallis, Joseph Joslin Jr. as well as some wooded land owned by Ward Lumber Company) in 1965 and has raised Belted Galloway cattle and semi-farmed the land. He has also not allowed the properties to be developed which has left East Hill very much as it was in 1791 except for the loss of many farm buildings and the outcropping of trees. The southern part of East hill has developed some private homes as previously indicated. From 1920 to 1950, there were no houses between the Common and the Clarence Bisbee farm except for the Eli Skinner place (Bettis/Johnson) on Bushnell Road. However, since 1960, there have been many houses built between the Common and the Clarence Bisbee farm.

On the old Salma Rider property in 1970's, a road was constructed southeast into the field called Graves Farm Road. This was the Rider/Joslin/Martin/Tucker farm. These fields were farmed by Elvin Graves for several years. This was the reason for naming a road after recent property owners, but it is not historical. Eight houses have been built on this road. Two sisters first purchased approximately 3 acres of land in the 1970's and divided it into two one and a half acre parcels where houses were constructed. Therefore, beginning at the East Road entrance to this Graves Road is the house built in 1990 by Tarchines and in 2000 owned by Steve and Ruth Lacey. Next is the house first built in 1970's and purchased in 1997 by Jim and Amy Caffry. Next is the second portion of the sister's property which has been owned by Branwell and Michelle Lepp since 1997. Next is the house built by Alan Clark in 1991 and owned in 2000 by Sandra Bruggeman. The next house was built in 1997 and owned by John and Sandra Reilly. Next Steve and Judy Gross built their house in 1990. Much of this section of land was originally purchased by Novgroski, Bruggeman, Reilly, and Gross and subdivided into four lots. The last house on this road is the home of Ruth Moriarty who purchased the property in 1987.

## EAST ROAD 1790 - 1799

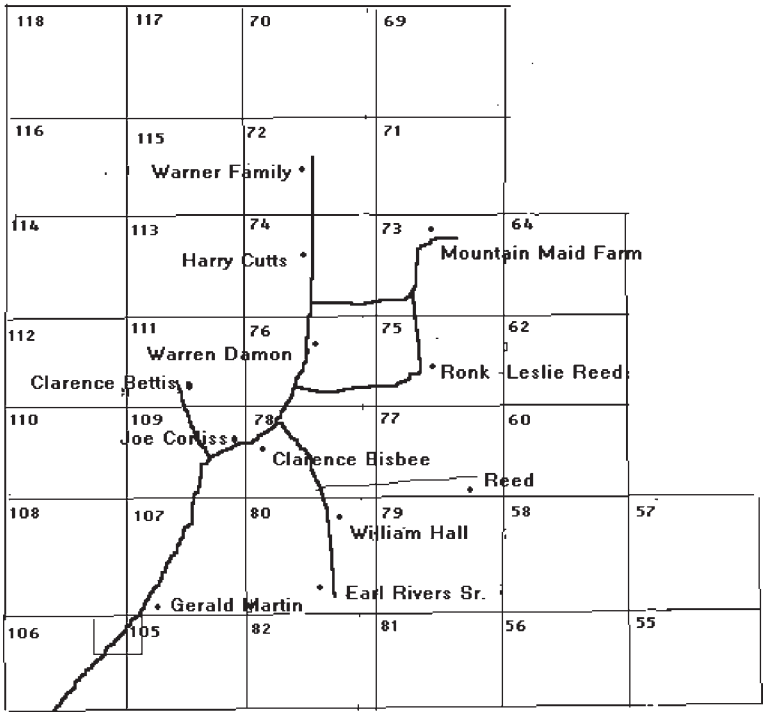


## COMMON AND EAST HILL
## 1800

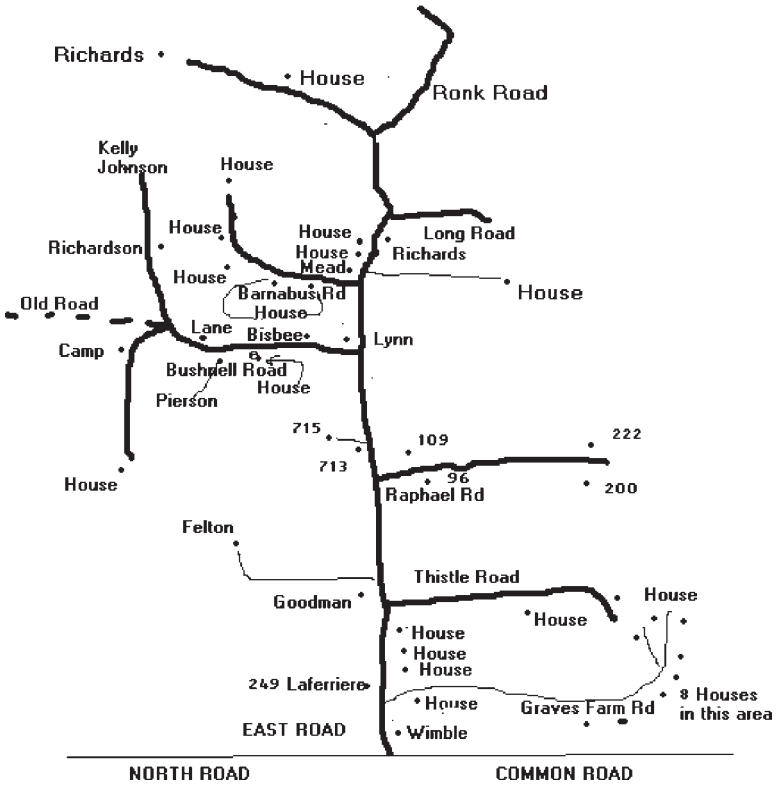



1. Amasa Skinner
2. Moses Chase
3. Doud Bushnell
4. James Joslin;Jonathan Wallis
5. Joseph Joslin
6. Jennison Jones
7. First School
8. Second School
9. Third School
10. Franklin Reed
11. Thomas Tinkham
12. Christopher Bartlett
13. Bissell Phelps
14. Nathaniel Joslin
15. Jedediah Bushnell
16. Skinner Mill
17. Eli Skinner
18. Rev. Chandler
19. David Phelps
20. Lyman Prindle
21. Barnabus Deam
22. Salma Rider
23. Alpheus Freeman
24. Samuel S. Savage
25. Samuel S. Savage
26. William Joiner
27. Philip Gustin
28. Frederick Richardson
29. Ezra Jones
30. Julian Dumas
31. Roderick Richardson
32. Cornelius E. Joslin
33. Robert Bates

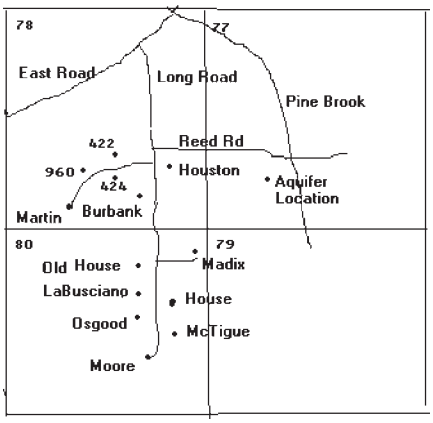
## EAST ROAD 1930 - 1950




## EAST ROAD 2000




## LONG ROAD 2000



## CHAPTER V
## EAST WARREN ROAD

This chapter, to be historically correct, should be entitled the **Roxbury Road** because this path originally followed by Benjamin Wait was called the Roxbury Road for many years. In fact, this entrance into Waitsfield soon became two paths – the original Kingston Road from Plunkton across Warren Brook now Fay Brook and the Roxbury Road which was east of the Kingston Road entered Waitsfield at Gore Lots 53-52 and connected with the Kingston Road just south of Fay Brook.

The first settlement was on the Roxbury Road where Joshua Pike established a home in Gore Lot 53 just over the Waitsfield line. Samuel Pike, father of Joshua Pike, had settled on Palmer Hill earlier. All early maps show Joshua Pike living on the original lot.

North of Joshua Pike in Gore Lot 54, Jonas Spaulding settled in 1797 and built a home. Mr. Spaulding left in 1830. Patrick Moriarty may have lived here briefly in 1830 before moving to the Bowen Road where he lived in 1870. Thomas Ferris lived here in the 1850's. In 1856, Henry Campbell lived here with his brother, Hiland Campbell. The local story is told that they both lived on the farm, but were not very compatible. The barn was on one side of the road and the house on the other. So one brother stayed in the house and built a barn and the other brother went across the road to the barn and built a house.

North and east of Joshua Pike in Lot 45, John and Nancy Chamberland Bisbee came in 1836 and settled briefly. John Bisbee died in 1853. They did not live here long and no-one else lived on this property although stone fences and stone piles still give evidence of a house there.

The next settlement north was the home of Caleb Colton built in 1805. His son, Oliver Colton, lived here after his father. An early map shows an Avery N. Hawley living here in 1862. Alphi and Pansey Mae Sherman lived here for several years during the 1900's. Most of these old buildings no longer exist; however, new homes have been built on this road since 1960.

A road called the Bowen Road runs north from the Roxbury road near the Caleb Colton and Oliver Colton property. At the end of this road was the home of Lyman Nutting built in 1823. He lived here until 1830. He sold to Patrick Moriarty who lived here until 1870. Mr. Moriarty originally settled on the Moses Chase farm under Bald Mountain, but moved here in 1830. There have been no buildings here for many years. However, this area has become a development issue for the town in 1998 to 2000. There is an effort to keep developments from occuring above 1500 feet elevation.

Near the junction of the Roxbury Road and the Kingston Road is the large farm of Moses Stewart in 1794. It was later owned by Leonard Berry – 1865 to 1870. Chester Dana lived here in 1870 to 1940. Ross Goodyear owned the property 1941 to 1945, when he sold it to Wendell "Ike" Folsom who moved onto the farm in July, 1945. Wendell and Trudy Folsom lived here until they sold the farm to the Great Lakes Carbon Corporation in 1970. The Folsom's continued to live here and operate the property for the Great Lakes Corporation. Wendell and Trudy Folsom later built a house near the Waitsfield line on part of their old property in 1980. They live in their new house in 2000.

Along this Kingston Road from the junction of the Roxbury Road to the Warren line, several

families had homes in the early years. The home of Philo Lewis was built in 1836 near the Warren line. Mr. Lewis lived here until 1856.

Near the top of the hill on the west side of the road was the home of Oliver Wood built in 1810. Elijah Berry lived here in 1840's. George Berry lived here in the 1860's. There appears to be two more old cellar holes in this area, but there is no record of homes here. They may have been barns or merely log cabins for a brief time. These old buildings no longer exist.

However, new homes have been built on this section of road since 1960. Wendell and Trudy Folsom on the east side. Their daughter and son-in-law, Nick and Robin Brackett built a house just north of Folsoms on the east side.

On the west side of this road several modern homes have been built since the 1970's.

This Kingston Road followed the same path as the present road and connected to the Roxbury Road at the top of the hill above Warren Brook. This entire road is now called East Warren Road and continues down the old trail toward the village until it connects with the Joslin Hill Road.

We will continue north along the East Warren Road. At the bottom of the hill Fay Brook (originally Warren Brook, sometimes now called Folsom Brook) rushes west toward Mad River. At this spot was the home of Nelson Pike. His father, Joshua Pike, had settled on the old Roxbury Road by 1797. Joshua Pike was very active in town affairs. He may have built some of the buildings in this area. Not much is known about Nelson Pike who is shown living here on the 1858 map. An 1873 map, shows George W. Fisher and his cooper shop on this location. Mr. Fisher married Marcia Joslin who was related to Cyrus Joslin who lived just up the hill. There was a sawmill on the west side of the road, but there are no real records of the mill. Ed Eurich recalls an old boiler that rested beside the brook. Mr. Fisher was selectman in 1877-78 and in 1881. The Ashley's lived on this property – may have been Stebbins Ashley Jr., who was a cooper. Ed Eurich remembers an Ashley living here in the 1920/30's. Una Gabaree Edgerly moved onto the property in 1960's. Una married Robert Broadwell and they lived on the property in the 1970's. Una Gabaree Broadwell's son, Gary Edgerly, lived on the property on 2000, but all the buildings have been torn down in 2003.

At the top of the hill on the corner of the East Warren Road and the Rolston road is the property often referred to as the Tom Neill place, Lot 92. A house was built here by Moses Rice about 1819. The early Waitsfield map in the Jones Book shows Ziba Rice living on this property. Ziba Rice was born Ziba Royce. In 1819, he married Sophia Taylor daughter of Elias Taylor who owned the Joslin farms. The Royce family had two son's, Ziba and Salmon, who changed their names from Royce to Rice. The records found state "Salmon and brother Ziba changed their name from Royce to Rice." Salmon Rice lived at the corner of Brook Road and Joslin Hill Road. Records show that Ziba Rice deeded Lot 92 to Waitsfield in 1800's (this may have been a lease or rent agreement because records show several people rented this property from the Town because it was originally drawn as "the ministry Lot." Records show that Solomon Spaulding gave a quit claim deed to Waitsfield of Lot 92 in January 12, 1813. Solomon Spaulding was a brick layer and lived in Waitsfield 1809 to 1812. William Lord also gave a quit claim deed to Waitsfield January 23, 1810 of Lot 92; this was undoubtedly a rent agreement. Ziba Rice also lived in the Kidder house in the village. These two men Ziba and Salmon were excellent cabinet makers and carpenters.

Nevertheless, the original house on the Rolston Road was probably built around 1819/20. In 1858, this house was occupied by Samuel P. Ellis. Mr. Ellis married Rebecca Richardson, daughter

of Roswell Richardson. Roswell Richardson was engaged in the sawmill business. It appears that Moses Rice, Samuel Ellis, and Roswell Richardson were all involved in the Green mill operation. Moses Rice came to Waitsfield in 1817 and lived here and probably built the house. The 1873 map shows Joseph Farr living in this house. The original house burned in 1930's. Richard and Mavis Dodds had built a house on the southeast corner of the East Warren Road and the Common Road. After the fire, the Richard Dodds' house was moved down to the corner of the Rolston Road and East Warren Road where the Rice house had been. People who have lived here during much of the 1900's: Tom Neill, Moriarty, Robert Broadwell, and others. Warren Ketcham built an addition to the present house. In 2000, it is owned by the Halls.

*Stowell/Eurich House Picture in 2000*

The Ed Eurich house is the first house on the west side of the East Warren road from the just mentioned corner. This house was built by Nathan Stowell Sr., in 1798. Mr. Stowell came to Waitsfield in 1797, went to Granville in 1802, but returned to this farm in 1807. Fisher Stowell, a relative of Nathan Stowell, lived on this farm around 1815. John Baird, who married Margaret Somerville, lived on this farm in 1844. An 1858 map shows a William Baird living on the farm. William Baird was the father of John Baird. An 1873 map shows a John Somerville living on this property. John Somerville owned the Leach farm further down on the Rolston Road in the 1840's; he may have lived on the Stowell farm after his son, William, took over the (Leach) farm and just prior to his death in 1904. Emory and Bessie (Patterson) Somerville were the next occupants of this home in the early 1900's. They were followed by Rolland and Edith (Dodds) Stafford. Rolland and Edith Stafford moved from here to the Dr. William Joslin farm on the corner of the Common Road and the Palmer Hill road. Allen and Ada Dodds followed the Staffords on this Stowell property. Allen and Ada Dodds were followed by Gordon and Joann Eurich who were followed by Ed and Alleen Eurich, who occupy the house in 2000.

Across the East Warren Road from the Eurich property is a house probably built around 1824 by the Stowells or Joseph Joslin. Joseph Joslin owned much of the property on the East side of the road. Keziah Stowell married Ahira Joslin, daughter of James Joslin; James Joslin and Cyrus Joslin were brothers and their father was Joseph Joslin. This property became the home of Cyrus and Calista (Campbell) Joslin about 1824. Elijah and Lydia (Brown) Bisbee lived on this property

*Stowell/Bonnette House*

for a time around 1845. Elijah Bisbee was brother of John B. Bisbee. John B. Bisbee married Aurilla Joslin, daughter of Luke Joslin. Luke Joslin and Cyrus Joslin were brothers. An 1873 map shows Ephraim C. Campbell living on this property. Ephraim and Calista Campbell were brother and sister and their father was Capt. John Campbell who owned the large farm known in the 1900's as the Neill farm. This Stowell/Joslin property became the home of Pearle and Mabel Bonnette for many years - through much of the 1900's. Claude Bonnette lived here after his father's death. Claude had a twin brother Clyde who was killed in a lumber accident East of the property in the so called basin. After Claude's death the property was sold to John Simko. Anna Marie Simko lives on the property in 2000.

## ROLSTON ROAD

The Rolston Road (original sources spell this Roulston) runs from the East Warren Road to Route 100 entering East Warren Road just north of Fay Brook. Following the Rolston Road west, on the north side was the Robert Leach farm. Mr. Leach came to Waitsfield in 1818 and built this house. He remained here until 1859. John Somerville moved onto this farm in the 1860's. He lived here until his son, William Somerville, took over the farm in the late 1870's. John then moved to the Stowell house. William Neill moved onto the farm in the early 1900. It is now occupied by Jean Sherman in 2000.

Further west on the Rolston Road, on the north side, was a house built by Parker Worcester probably about 1803. Parker Worcester came to Waitsfield in 1802. He deeded Lot 147 on June 15, 1814 to John Leach, brother to Robert Leach. There is some indication that Robert Leach owned the farm prior to John. However, records show that Parker Worcester lived on the Rolston Road and left in 1814. This became the home of John Quimby in 1836, whose father had settled on Palmer Hill. He was followed by S. Rolston around the 1860's. Interestingly, the Jones book does not mention an S. Rolston although an early Waitsfield map shows an S. Rolston living here when John Somerville lived on the farm just East. The Robert Rose home is near this same building site in 2000.

On the south side of the Rolston road across from the Somerville farm on Fay Brook (earlier known as Warren Brook and sometimes as the Folsom Brook) were two log homes of Samuel Bowman and Abel Spaulding. It has been said that it was a desolate area and extremely difficult road (path). They

soon left the property and no-one else lived there. At first, the road did not continue beyond Somerville farm, but later it was extended through the woods to Route 100, but never officially surveyed. (See Chapter III, p. 21 for road details.) At the west end of the Rolston Road on south side and east of Route 100 was the sawmill of Silas Trask, but according to the Jones' book he never completed it. There are references, however, to "the Trask mill" on Fay Brook, but the dates are not clear nor is it certain that Mr. Trask actually finished the mill here. Silas Trask built a house in Gore Lot 69 not far from the mill location. Robert and Jackie Rose who in 2000 own much of this property have donated some 68 acres to Vermont Land Trust.

There are several homes at the west end of the Rolston Road built since 1960. At the east end of the Rolston Road in the 1980's, Charles Canerdy built a house and Ruth Sweeney built another house.

It now becomes necessary to return to the corner of the East Warren Road and the Common Road. At this fork in the road stood the #4 School House. This school building was sold in 1933 and moved across the East Warren Road by Allen Dodds when he lived on the old Stowell property. The school was used as a tool shed and still stands just north of Ed Eurich house in 2000.

Also at this corner is a road that goes East toward the mountain. It was up this road that Nathan Stowell Jr. and brother Salue Stowell built houses about 1835. Jeremiah Ryle lived here in the 1860-70's. In the late 1980 and 1998 several houses have been built on this road: Gordon Eurich and Dick Jamieson. See map.

*South School House #4*

## COMMON ROAD

The first place north on the Common Road is the Aaron Minor farm. Mr. Minor came to Waitsfield in 1794. He settled on this farm and built the house about 1797. This farm, 1833 until about 1885, was occupied by Jennison Joslin. In 1888, Edward E. Neill occupied the farm. Richard Martin lived here for a few years. The farm was owned by George Jones through the 1920's and 30's. Then Marion (Jones) Chedder, daughter of George Jones, owned the farm. The Straw family lived here in the 1930's and operated the farm for Marion Jones Chedder. William Collins occupied the farm when the barn burned in 1939. In 1940, the farm was purchased by Clarence

"Chub" and Frances Coolbeth who rebuild the barn in 1941. Edward and Alleen Eurich purchase the farm in 1948. Ed Eurich added the north/south part onto the barn. Ed Eurich son, Gordon Eurich, lived on the farm for a few years. They sold the farm in 1989 to Chris Whittle. Chris Whittle sold 203 acres to the Vermont Land Trust. The farm was conserved and transferred to Tom and David Defreest, Jr. who operate the core farm with no development rights. Steve and Dorothy Lovely, David Defreest's sister and brother-in-law, live in the house in 2000.

Beyond the Aaron Minor farm was a house owned by Joe Neill. There was a barn across the road from the house. Joe Neill sold it to Ervin Joslin. A person by the name of Boriguard lived here briefly. Ervin Joslin sold the house and two acres to Rev. and Mrs. William A. Remele. They lived here during the summer time and called it "Camp Rest View." Mrs. Remele was not well and thought the air was better on the hill. After Rev. Remele died, Mrs. Remele continued to live here. Meta West, a cousin of Mrs. Remele, lived there and cared for Mrs. Remele. Meta West inherited the house from Mrs. Remele. Ervin Joslin took care of Meta West and received the property back for this care.

East of the Remele property, on top of the hill in the edge of the woods, was a building built in 1940's by Ervin Joslin for his son, Ralph Joslin, as a summer camp. Ralph and Margorie Joslin had a motel business in Florida in the winter and came to Waitsfield to spend the summers. They later purchased the Joslin Round Barn and made it into a Bed and Breakfast. This summer camp was ultimately torn down. However, a new road called Old Camp Road has been built in 2001 and Dana Goss has built a house near the old camp site.

*Elias Taylor (Joslin) House Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

There was a barn across the road from the Remele house when Joe Neill lived there. The barn was gone in the 1930's. In this area westside of the road in 2000 are three houses built in the 1970's. Bryan Neill built the first house, south, in 1980's and lives there in 2000. The barn was north of Bryan Neill's present house.

The next house north built in 1980's is the Eugene and Patricia Vanschaick house in 2000.

The next present day house built in 1980's is the Peter and Debbie Koch home in 2000

The large farm to the north is an old historic building. Col. Elias Taylor Sr. came to Waitsfield in

*Elias Taylor Jr. (Joslin) House taken in 2000*

1798 and built this house/store which his son, Elias Jr. operated. Elias Taylor Jr. had a store in the original building. A blacksmith shop operated by Capt. Richard Gale was just to the south of the store. Both of these men were in Waitsfield by 1823. There was also a creamery station in this area for a time.

The Taylor Jr. property and the Col. Taylor farm next door were owned by Stephen Perry Joslin in 1837. He was born in Waitsfield in 1808. His father was William Joslin a physician. Stephen P. Joslin had sons, Orrin H. and Oramel S. Orrin H. Joslin purchased this portion of the larger farm in 1868. Orrin H. Joslin had a son, Stephen Ervin Joslin, who owned the farm and operated it in 1894. Lightening does strike more than once in one place. The original barn on this farm was struck by lightening and burned in 1868 and was rebuilt. The second barn burned in 1876. And the present barn was built in 1877. A cow was killed by lightening a few feet from the barn and a tree was struck by lightening near the barn later.

Stephen E. Joslin had a son, Ward E. Joslin. Ward Joslin operated the farm for his father for about ten years and then purchased the farm in 1930. It was known as the Ward and Louisa Joslin farm. Their son, Donald Joslin operated the farm after his father's death. Donald Joslin's mother lived with him and was part owner until her death. In 1981, Donald Joslin became owner of the property. Donald Joslin lives on the Joslin farm and operates it in 2000. The property has been place in the Land Grant Trust.

Donald and Janice Barnard built a new house north on the west side of the road in 1979. They lived on the Taylor/Joslin farm next door north which they had owned since the 1957. Janice Barnard lives in the new house in 2000.

The house on east side across from the Barnard home was built by Oramel Joslin for his home after his son, Perry Joslin took over the farm about 1918. Emily Joslin, daughter of Oramel, had the house for many years. Stonework on the north side was built as a garden and place to sit and to enjoy one of the most beautiful views of the valley. Robert and Reta Joslin lived here for a time and then they moved to the farm house and Robert's parents, Perry and Lutie Joslin moved into the Oramel Joslin house about 1948. Perry Joslin sold this property to Malcolm and Judy Reese in 1968. Malcolm and Judy Reese live here in 2000.

*Taylor/Joslin Farm House*

The next large farm north is another historic farm. It was the home of Col. Elias Taylor who settled in Waitsfield in 1798. The house was built about 1800 with a smaller barn structure. The large barn was built in 1872. Col Elias Taylor left Waitsfield in 1830 and the farm was purchased by Stephen P. Joslin in 1837. His son, Oramel S.Joslin owned and operated this farm in the 1880's. His brother, Orrin H. Joslin operated the farm just south. Perry B. Joslin, son of Oramel Joslin, owned and operated the farm 1920 to about 1948. His father Oramel built the house next door previously written about. This Elias Taylor farm was known as the Perry and Lutie Joslin farm from about 1920 to 1948. In 1948, Robert and Reta Joslin, who had been living in the Oramel house, moved to the farm house and operated the farm. Roberts parents, Perry and Lutie Joslin, moved into the Oramel Joslin house. The farm was purchased by Donald and Janice Barnard in 1957. They operated the farm until 1978. Donald Barnard sold the farm to Solomon and Creedon who were speculators. The barn was restored by Carl Creedon. Michael Bessette and Jeff Silver of West Hill Builders did the work and Peter Forsthuber did the painting. They sold the farm to Chris Whittle in 1988. He sold the farm to Robert and Alice Outwater Lang about 1991. The Lang's lived here until 1995. Robert and Alice Outwater Lang donated the development rights on 36 acres including the barn. The Langs sold to Gib and Sue Geiger in 1998. The Geigers live here in 2000.

Before leaving this area since much of the old farms have been made into developments, it is necessary to mention the new road just south of the Reese home that runs east toward the mountain. There are four homes recently built in this area. One is the home of Rodney and Cindy Mumford. Others have built homes in this area. See Scrag Mountain Road map.

Stephen Joslin Jr. built a house on west side of the road just before the Brook Road about 1946. George Hall lives there in 2000.

Continuing north on the hill, west side of the road, is a recent house of Josephine Lynch Harris in 1961. This house was sold to Barry and Irene Hinchcliffe in 1989. The Hinchcliffes live here in 2000.

Still continuing north Howard N and Esther (Skinner) Wing built a summer house in 1940's. Esther (Skinner) Wing was sister of Lutie Joslin married to Perry Joslin who lived on the farm south. The house was empty for many years.

*Taylor/Joslin Barn before it was restored*

*Taylor/Joslin Barn after it was restored*

Nearly opposite this house just mentioned is a road which runs east toward the mountain which is the home of Harrison and Olivia Hoblitzelle built in 1960's.

Around the little bend in the road on the west side is a house which was originally built by Clesson and Florence Eurich in 1946. The original house burned when Harold White lived there in the 1960's.. The house was rebuilt and sold to Richard and Susan Lane in the 1970's. The Lanes live here in 2000.

The large farm to the north is another historic farm.. Matthias Jones came to Waitsfield in 1789 and lived on Palmer Hill Lot 58. He purchased this farm in 1810 and built the buildings.. He lived here until around 1851. In 1848, he purchased the land at the west end of the covered bridge in the village and built a house there in 1851/52. This farm was purchased in 1852 by James H. Baird. His son, John L. Baird owned the farm in 1888. His son, Earl W. Baird owned it in 1922 and operated it until 1960. Earl married Marietta Bowen in 1916 and settled on this farm. Earl and Etta Baird moved to the village in 1965. In 1964, Mert and Madeline Kingsbury and James and Barbara Baird Eldridge and Bob Eldridge purchased the property and developed Ski Valley

*Baird Barn & Tool Shed…House in Background*

Acres. Secretary of State James Guest owned the property in 1975. People who have lived here are Dorothy Barkhorn and Ms. White. The house was sold to Rodney Mumford. The house was sold to Todd and Penny Brown in 1998. There was a fire in the shed and garage. The property has been sold in 2004 and the historic house torn down.

Ski Valley Acres Development was originally part of the Earl Baird farm. It was divided into building lots in 1964/65 by Mert Kingsbury, Bob and Jim Eldridge. Mert and Madeline Kingsbury built a home that became the second house on the right as one enters this development. The first brick house on this road was built by Gary Beattie and was later purchased by Mervin and Madeline Kingsbury who lived here for serveral years in 1960's. The first lot was purchased by Adrien Elwell. Philip Beals built on this development. There are many houses in this development built since the 1960's and not historic. See map.

West side of Common Road across from Ski Valley Acres development are four modern houses built since 1980's. Robert Tracy first built in this area and lives here in 2000.

The next farm on the east side of the Common Road was the home of Joseph Joslin Sr. in 1807. He built the house and a barn across the road. Horatio Rider married Emily, daughter of Joseph and Dorothy Joslin, and apparently lived here in 1820. Salma Rider who originally settled on

*Joseph Joslin Sr. – Freeman House Picture in 2000*

*Dr. William Joslin House – Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

the Common was uncle to Horatio Rider and may have lived here and died here. The rational for this conclusion is based upon the grave stones of Salma Rider and Abigail Rider which have been found in the cellar of this house during excavation in 2000. Salma Rider died March 23, 1822 and Abigail Rider died February 23, 1800. Horatio Rider left Waitsfield about 1835. Lucius D. Savage lived here in 1870's. Lester K. Smith owned the farm in 1873 and lived there for many years. It was also known as the Bernath farm for several years. It was owned by Philip Bisbee in 1924. Dr. Albert Freeman owned it as a summer home from 1930 to 1950's. Emerson Freeman, son of Dr. Albert Freeman, owned the property in 1960's to 1990. Albert Freeman, Jr., son of Emerson Freeman, own the property until 1995 when it was sold to Christopher Pierson who remodeled the house and lives there in 2000.

The large farm to the north was the home of Dr. William Joslin who came to Waitsfield in 1806. Dr. Joslin lived here until his death in June 1834. Henry O. Skinner owned the farm in 1857. His son, Daniel H. Skinner, owned the farm in 1880. Rolland and Edith Stafford owned the farm from 1929 to 1945. Harold and Alberta Stafford purchased the farm in 1945, after Harold was discharged from the service. They sold the farm to James and Joan Leith in 1987. In 2000, it is the

*Dr Joslin/ Stafford Barn Picture in 2000*

property of Peter G. Boynton. The barn has been restored for a variety of functions.

James and Joan Leith built a large house south west of the farm buildings after they sold the original farm house. They sold this house in 1996. A horse stable building and apartment has been built also on the west side of the Common Road between the Leith house and the original barn.

## BROOK ROAD

The First Snow, Wolf Road, Waitsfield, Vt.

*Brook Road originally called Wolf Road about 1890*

At this point in our travels, we need to back-track to the Brook Road, originally called Wolf Road, There were early settlements on this road. This is the road from the Common Road to the Joslin Hill Road. The first building on this road was that of Stephen Butterfield in 1797. His brother, Benjamin Butterfield, seemed to have also settled on this farm in 1805. These building were near the brook on the southwest side of the road about a half mile from the Common Road. Chester Butterfield lived here in 1830's. Nathan Stowell lived here in 1810 until he moved to his farm on Lot 92 and 89 (the Ed Eurich home in 2000). These buildings did not exist after 1850's.

Across the road on the north side in the same area, Jeremiah Ryle built a home about 1867. Daniel Moriarty lived on this property in 1900's. Joe and Ruth Moriarty lived here in 1940's. Bill Sawyer lived here for a few years in the 1950's. The house became vacant and was torn down. A new house was built back of this location in the field.

In 1937, Orville Gale who had lived on Palmer Hill on Pine Brook for many years, married Annie Straw and built a house on Brook Road below the Moriarty house and lived there into the 1950's.

This road has been an area for development since 1960. See map for modern development.

## EAST WARREN ROAD
## (Roxbury Road)

We now return to the corner of Common Road and the East Warren Road and follow it to the Joslin Hill Road. This road for years was called the Roxbury Road. This is the first path followed by Benjamin Wait. This part of the history begins at the junction of the present East Warren Road and the Common Road.

On the south side of the road is a modern house built by Edward Eurich for his hired man, a Robert Badore. Mr. Badore ultimately purchased the house and lives there in 2000.

On the west side of the road as it turns north is the Ezekiel Hawley farm built by him in 1794. Robert Leach occupied this farm in about 1854. This farm was occupied by Julius Berry in 1877. In 1929 to 1945, it was the Earl Joslin farm. Henry Brooks owned this farm briefly and sold it to Richard Dodds in September 1945. Edward Eurich owned the property and sold it to the Steinway family in the 1960's. The Steinway's sold to Barbara Huggins about 1980. She owns the property in 2000.

In the very early years (1804) there was a house to the southeast of the Hawley farm which was the home of Caleb Colton. These buildings were gone by early 1800's.

North of the Hawley/Joslin/Huggins farm house on the west side of the road, Raymond Joslin put a trailer and later built a house about 1968. Mr. Joslin lives there in 2000.

North of the Joslin house is the Robert Lawless home built in 1958. Bob and Dorothy Lawless live there in 2000.

North of Bob Lawless is the home of Norman Neill who built in 1994.

*Job Tyler House Taken in 2000*

Across this road on the east side was the Job Tyler house built in 1797. It was called "the pest house" and was quarantined because of a smallpox outbreak in 1799. Mr. Tyler was ulimately given his house back and paid for its use. Job Tyler married Mehitable Tewksbury. Relatives came and this farm was divided into two farms. Issac Tewksbury owned the south portion of this farm in 1800. His son, George Tewksbury had the farm in 1832. John Saunders owned the property in 1880's. Sterling Livingston lived in the house from about 1947 to 1990. It was sold to Mr. Heise and later sold to a family from New Jersey who use it as a summer place in 2000.

Just south of this old Tyler house, Sterling Livingston built at new house in 1990. He sold it to Kevin Eurich who sold to Richard Hiscock who owns the property in 2000.

Behind the old Tyler house and east in the field is the house built by Mr. and Mrs. White in

*John Campbell (Neill) House taken in 2000*

*Second Campbell/Neill barn*

about 1995. Jennifer White lived here for a time and sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. James Hildebrand. Joann Hildebrand lives in the house in 2000.

The northern portion of the Job Tyler farm was purchased by Captain John Campbell in 1801. He built the farm buildings at this time. In 1840, John Waterman owned this farm. Joseph H. Neill purchased the farm in about 1895. This farm has been in the Neill family since - William Neill, Harold Neill, Donald Neill. The original barn burned in 1931. The present barn was built in 1932. It is now the property of the Waitsfield Telephone Company. Much of the farm proper has been sold for development.

Across the road from this Neill farm house, John and Doreen Simko built a large house in 2000 and live there at the present time. They also still own the Joslin round barn property.

Just north of the Neill farm house on the east side of the road, Harold Neill built a house for Donald Neill about 1960's. Donald Neill lives in the house in 2000.

The next farm north was the Eliphalet Bates farm. There is some confusion here as to this Bates farm reference. However, Eliphalet Bates supposedly exchanged farms with Roswell Lee

*Clement Joslyn Round Barn on the East Warren Road*

who came to Waitsfield in about 1796 and settled on this farm and built at least a house. It then become the Bates farm in 1804. In 1810, Mr. Bates exchanged again with John English and it was known as the English farm. Cyrus Joslin, who married Calista Campbell, daughter of John Campbell, purchased the farm about 1824. The farm remained in the Joslin family for many years. Clement David Joslyn, grandson of Cyrus Joslin, owned the farm in 1892 to 1945. Clement Joslyn lived on the farm from 1892 to 1937 when they moved to Moretown. Mrs. Clement D. Joslyn died October 12, 1945. There were barns on the property prior to 1909, when Clem Joslin built the round barn. There was an article in the Waitsfield Valley Reporter that Jules Joslyn built the round barn. However, there was no Jules Joslyn. There was a Julius J. Joslin, but of a different family. However, the dodecagon barn was built about 1909/10. It was the second so called "round barn" in Waitsfield. The first was on the Daniel Bisbee farm. The third round barn was the Bertrand L. Joslin farm on the Long Road. This Clem Joslyn barn had a circumference of 240 feet with each side 20 feet long. It had a shingled roof. In 1971, heavy snow damaged the barn, but Ralph and Margorie Joslin had the barn restored. Ralph and Margorie Joslin puchased the farm in 1945 and moved onto the farm full time in 1950. Ralph and Marjorie lived in Orlando, Florida where they operated a small motel. They had a summer cabin for many years in the field back of the Ward Joslin farm on the Common Road. Ralph and Marjorie operated the dairy farm for 20 years, but times were difficult and they gave up farming in 1970. They did extensive remodeling in 1945 to 1950 and operated a Bed and Breakfast Inn as well as farm. This property was purchased by John and Doreen Simko who remodeled the barn into the "Cultural Center." The Center was dedicated August 6, 1989 with Governor Madeline Kunin speaking followed by a program by the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. It is now referred to as the Cultural Center at the Joslin Round Barn. It is owned by John and Doreen Simko in 2000.

Between the Joslin farm and the Neill farm was a road running East to the Common Road. It intersected the Common Road in the center of Lot 88 just north of the Donald Joslin barn. It was at this intersection that the Taylor Store, the Gale Blacksmith Shop and cooper shop stood in the 1820's. It was only a road used by horse drawn vehicles. The road is still visible in 2000.

North of the Bates/Joslin farm on the west side of the road, John Dillon built a house in the 1980's and lives there in 2000.

*Josiah Campbell/Palmer House – Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

North of the Bates/Joslin farm on the west side of the road was the Josiah Campbell farm settled about 1794. Benjamin Wait may have owned the property for a short time. Elijah and Lydia Bisbee lived here briefly in the 1840's. Joseph and Annice (Campbell) Palmer, Jr. purchased the Josiah Campbell farm in 1849. Joseph Palmer Sr. came to Waitsfield with his father, Jonathan Palmer. Jonathan Palmer settled on Lot 56 on Palmer Hill and Joseph Palmer Sr. had Lot 81 on Palmer Hill. Joseph Palmer Sr. married Mary Boyce of Fayston. Joseph and Mary Palmer Sr. had a son, Joseph Jr. In 1849, Joseph Palmer Jr. married Annice Campbell, daughter of Josiah and Abigail Campbell. Annice (Campbell) Palmer died. In 1891, Joseph Palmer Jr. married Mrs. Ellen Mehuron. Joseph Palmer Jr. had a son, Warren J. Palmer. Warren J. Palmer married Abbie Andrews; they were divorced. Warren Palmer then married Della Mehuron, daughter of Mrs. Ellen Mehuron by her first marriage. Warren J. Palmer took over his father's farm in 1901. Warren Palmer built the barn in 1903. He continued to operate the farm until 1918, when he sold the farm to Mr. Debor and a relative Mr. Forrey of North Dakota in 1918. In 1918, Warren J. and Della Palmer purchased the Pardon Bushnell house in the village from Dr. Warren Howard (known as Emily Eaton house).

The Palmers lived in the village from 1918 to 1928. During this time, Warren Palmer bought some 14 acres of land between Irasville flats east of the Cemetery to the river. On this parcel of land was the Kelty slaughter house with a 100 year lease. John Buzzell built a second slaughter house on this property later. Warren and Della Palmer continued to live in the village until Warren was killed by a run away team of horses in 1928. Mr. Debor and Mr. Forrey did not succeed on the Palmer farm. Mrs. Della Palmer rented the Palmer farm to R. B. Wheeler. Warren and Della Palmer's son, Everett, had been away to agriculture school and went to Connecticut as a dairy farm manager. Everett Palmer return to Waitsfield in 1928 and the entire Palmer family moved back to the Palmer farm. Della Palmer sold the village property to Henry Bettis. Everett Palmer took over the farm operation at this time. In the 1940's, Everett purchased the Chase/Pike/Mehuron farm just north and east of the Palmer farm and the Karl Joslin farm property also north of the Pike property.

Warren and Della Palmer had inherited the Palmer Hill property but had sold this property to Ed Prentis about 1918. Everett Palmer was able to purchase this property back in 1930's. Everett and Kathryn Palmer continued to operate these farms until 1965. Everett sold the Pike house to his son, Delbert and Sharlia Palmer in 1965. Everett sold the Karl Joslin house to Leo and Virginia Marble. He sold the Palmer Hill property to Dr. Robert Hever of Ohio in 1960's. Everett sold the farm house, barn and 15 acres of land to Leonard Wilson in 1968. Everett and Katherine began to build a new house just north west of the original farm house. This house was completed in 1970. The remaining farm property was divided into lots for development. Everett Palmer kept the sugar orchard and his son Delbert still sugars the property in 2000. The original farm house and barn have been sold again in 2000.

As noted above, Everett and Kathryn Palmer built a house in 1970 just north and west of their farm house. On this Palmer Lane Road several houses have been built since 1980. See map.

Across the road on the East side of the East Warren Road, Ernest Chase built a farm house in 1921. Ernest Chase was Alden Bettis uncle. Alden Bettis lived with his uncle from the time he was four years old. Ernest Chase sold the property to Lewis Desell. The property was purchased by Herman Pike. This property became the Tom and Julia Mehuron farm in 1900s. Elmer Mehuron sold the farm to Everett Palmer in 1943. Elmer Mehuron moved to the Barton house on Old Colony Road and then purchased the grocery store in the village from Fred Cota. Delbert and

*Chase/Mehuron House, taken in 2000*

Sharlia Palmer purchased the house from Delbert's father in 1965 and sold it to Mr. Vogel in 1970. Mr. Vogel remodeled the barn and sold the house to Leslie Ram. Mr Ram sold the house to Edwin and Sheila Brown in 2000. The barn was sold to Mr. Needleman.

East of this old Mehuron house a modern house has been built in the 1980's.

Across the road on the west side on Maple Lane Delbert and Sharlia Palmer built a house about 1970's and live there in 2000. On this same Maple Lane Road, Robert and Susan (Palmer) Burbank have a home, Mark and Shawn (Palmer) Young have a home, and Vince and Diana Gauthier have a home built about 1970's.

Across the road, east side is a house built about 1960's by Kenneth Joslin. In 2000 is is the property of Greg and Tracey O'Shea

Levi Willard built the next house about 1833. He married Annette Dumas. An early map shows an Edwin Dumas, brother to Annette Dumas, living in a house north of the Broadwell farm around 1840's. A Myron M. Davis who married Laura Palmer lived here in the 1850's. Albert Lockwood lived here around 1870's. This was the Karl Joslin home in the 1900's. Karl died here in the 1940's. Everett Palmer purchased the property. He sold the house to Leo and Virginia Marble in 1960's. It is the property of Tom and Tracey Hopper in 2000.

Much of the farm land purchased by Everett Palmer on the eastside of the road has been divided into lots and developed. The house directly east and out in the field from the Carl Joslin house was built by James Wimble in 1993. It has been sold in 2000.

A little to the north on the West side of the road is the Hastings Road that leads to several new homes built in the 1980's. Originally, at the end of this road, was the farm of Yorrick C.W. Hastings in the 1830's. He later moved to the house on the East Warren Road. The original land at the end of Hastings Road and this property on the East Warren Road was known as the Hastings farm. Some 39 acres of this property at the end of Hastings Road was owned by David Peterson for several years in 1990's and

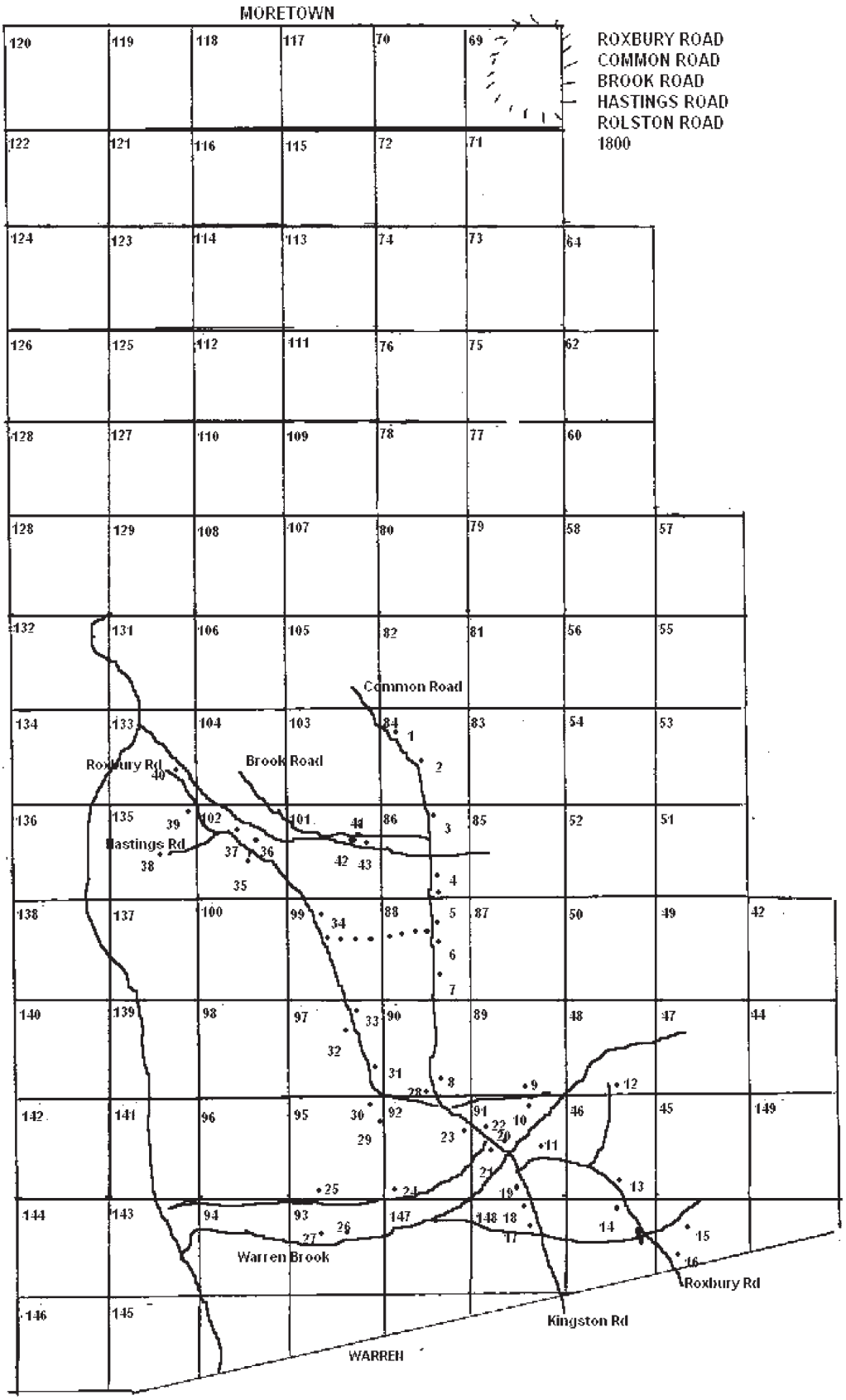
sold to Sandy Lawton in 1999. An attempt is being made to develop this property in 2000.

Mr Hastings built a house and barn on the East Warren Road north of this road entrance and farmed it for many years. C. E. Jones lived on the property in 1858. Mr. Whitcomb lived here and rented the property. Ralph Neill rented the farm about 1870's. Arba Wheeler rented the property in the early 1900's. In was the Walter Broadwell Farm in the 1930's and 40's. In 1950's this became the home of the Lafayette Gabaree family. This property was empty for several years. Mr. Burley owns the property in 2000.

On the east side of the East Warren Road, Harold Hubbard built a house in 1965. Harold Hubbard started the Gas Company in Waitsfield now known as the F. G. White Company. Upon Mr. Hubbard's death in 1975, the property was sold to Gerald Tucker who lives on the property in 2000.

There are several modern houses on the west side of this road in this area built in the 1960's and 1970's.

At the intersection of the East Warren Road and the Common Road was the "Little Red School House" District # 7. This school was formed in 1838 and the school built in 1839. It was closed in 1850 when the new Village School was finished. Deacon Phelps purchased the school house and moved it to build the Congregational parsonage in the village in 1865. Everett Marshall built a house on this site for John McCaughin in 1932. It became the home of Sarah Sanders. Kenneth and Marie Backus purchased the property in 1954 and live on this property in 2000.

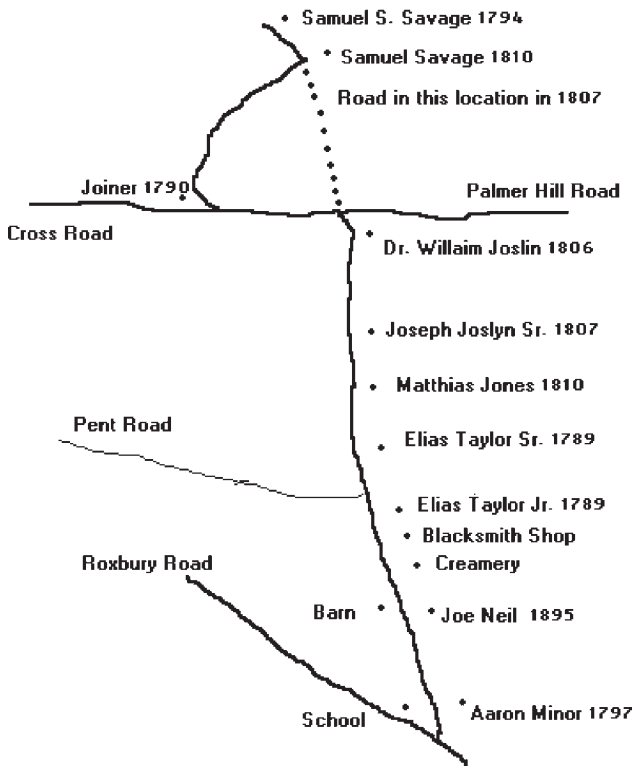

MORETOWN
ROXBURY ROAD
COMMON ROAD
BROOK ROAD
HASTINGS ROAD
ROLSTON ROAD
1800
Common Road
Brook Road
Roxbury Rd
Hastings Rd
Warren Brook
Kingston Rd
Roxbury Rd
WARREN

# EAST WARREN ROAD
# 1800

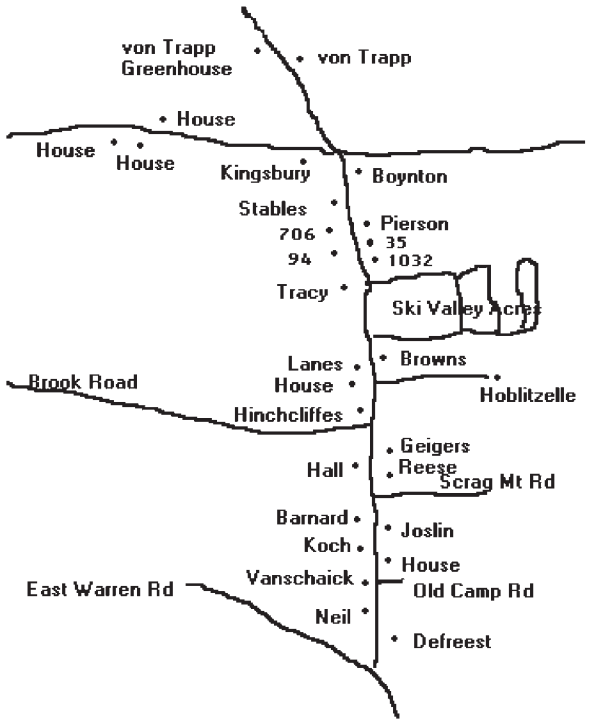
## KEY

1. Dr. William Joslin
2. Joseph Joslin Sr.
3. Matthias Jones
4. Elias Taylor Sr.
5. Elias Taylor Jr.
6. Gale Blacksmith
7. Joseph Neill
8. Aaron Minor
9. Nathan Stowell Jr.
10. Sala Stowell
11. Moses Stewart
12. Lyman Nutting
13. Oliver Colton
14. Henry Campbell
15. John Bisbee
16. Joshua Pike
17. Philo Lewis
18. George Berry
19. Oliver Wood
20. Nelson Pike
21. Ziba Rice
22. Cyrus Joslin
23. Nathan Stowell Sr.
24. Robert Leach
25. Parker Worcester
26. Abel Spaulding
27. Samuel Bowman
28. School House
29. Caleb Colton
30. Ezekiel Hawley
31. Job Tyler
32. Issac Tewksbury
33. John Campbell
34. Eliphalet Bates
35. Josiah Campbell
36. Ernest Chase
37. Levi Willard
38. Yorrick C. W. Hastings
39. Yorrick C. W. Hastings
40. School House
41. Jeremiah Ryle
42. Stephen Butterfield
43. Nathan Stowell Jr.

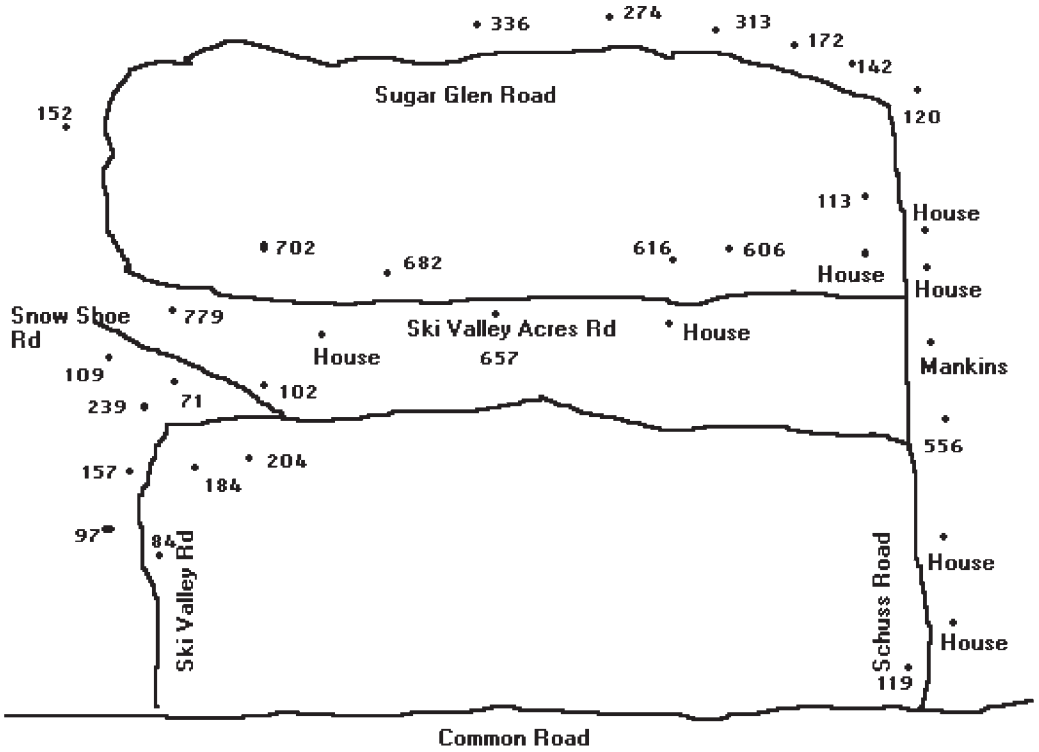
## COMMON ROAD 1800

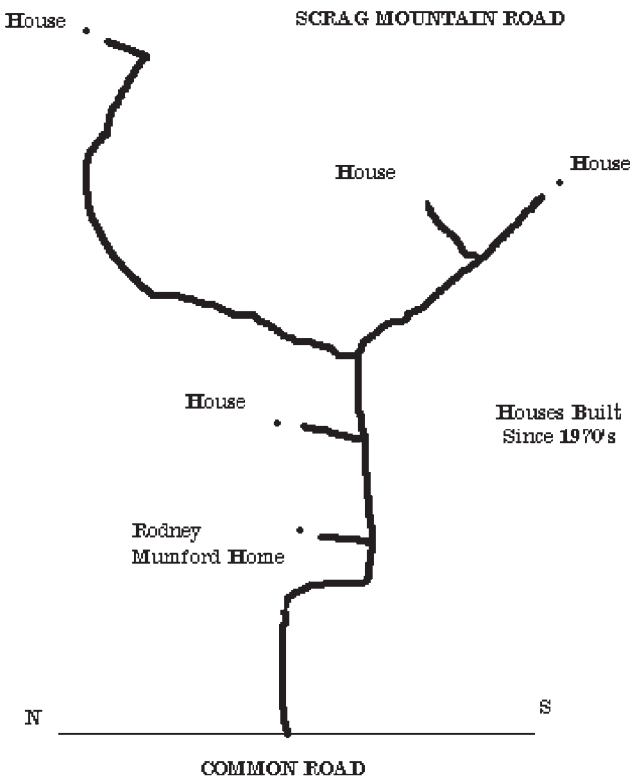



## COMMON ROAD 2000

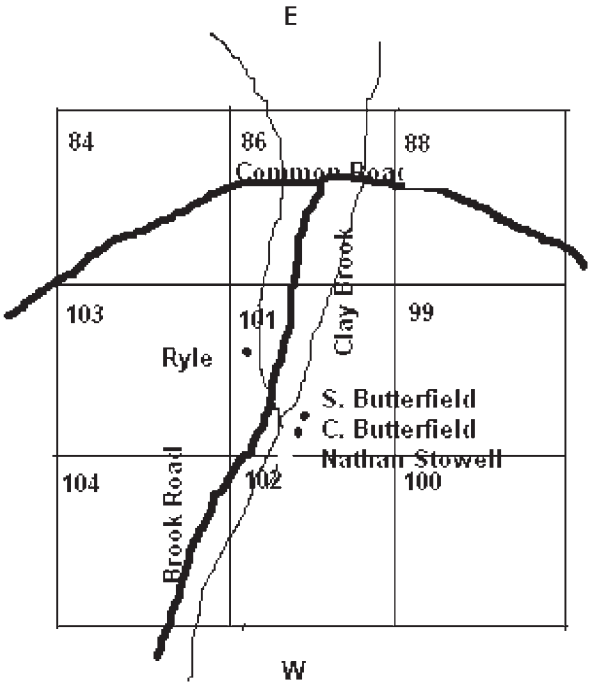



## SKI VALLEY ACRES
2000

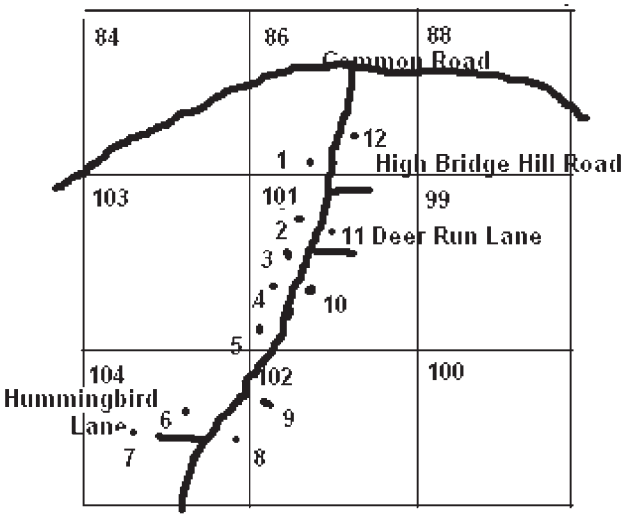





## BROOK ROAD 1800
## Wolf Road

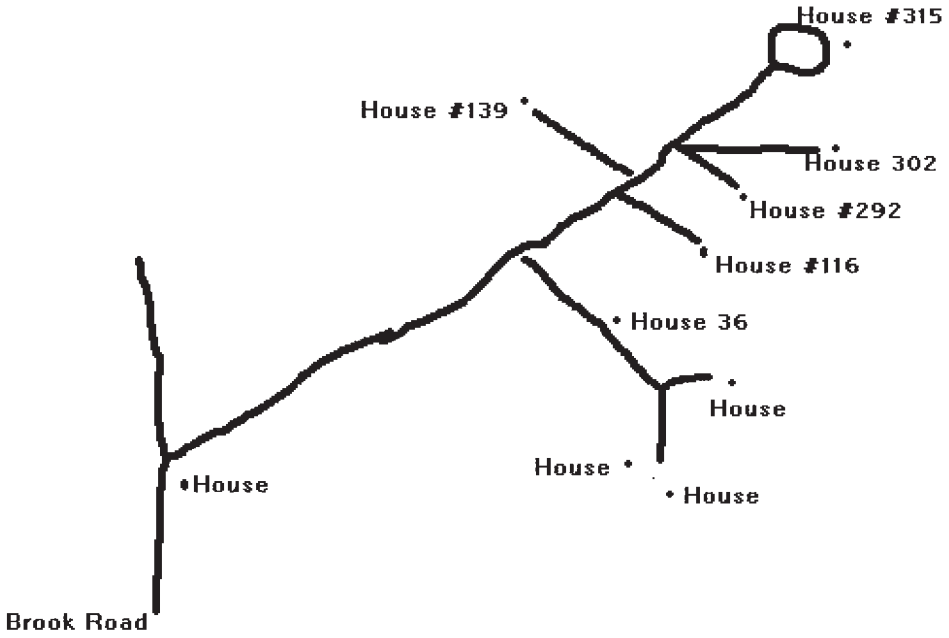



## BROOK ROAD 2000

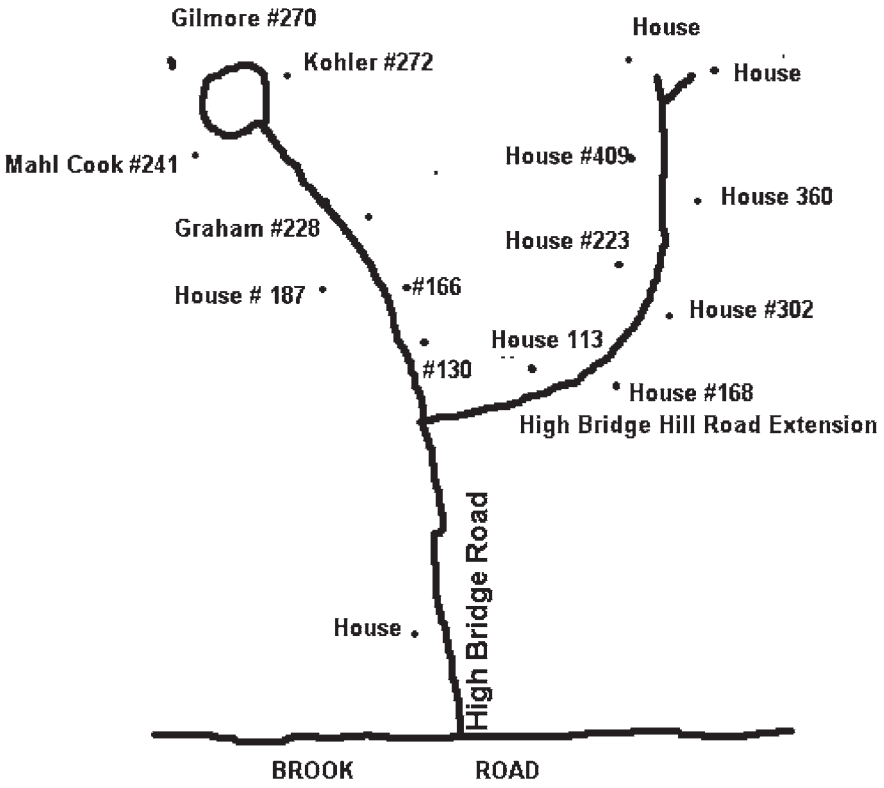



1. House #1217
2. House #1197
3. House # 1125 (Site of original house)
4. House #1053
5. House #848
6. House #46
7. House #226
8. House #560
9. House #672
10. House (Old Orville Gale House)
11. House #984
12. House #1298 Barnard/Thompson

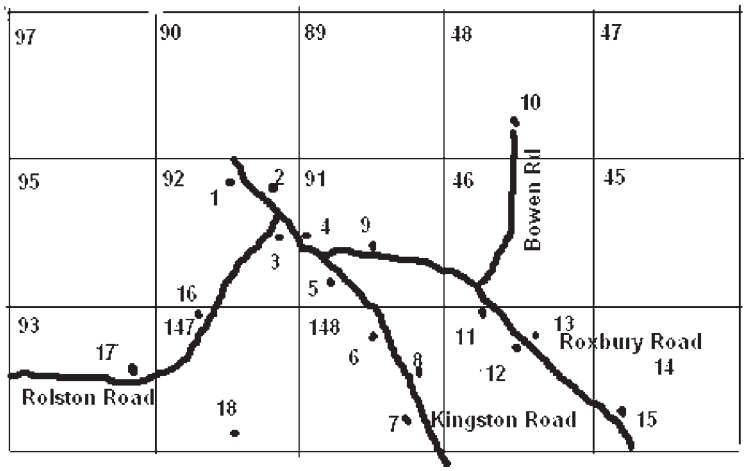
## DEER RUN LANE - BROOK ROAD
2000




## HIGH BRIDGE ROAD AND EXTENSION
2000

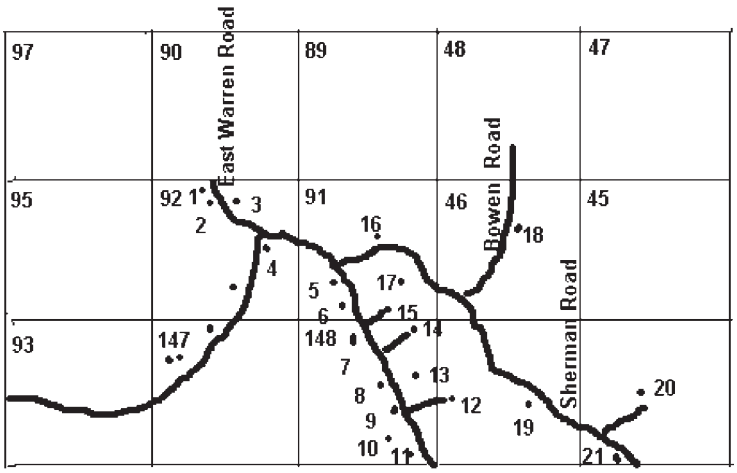


## ROXBURY ROAD 1790-1815

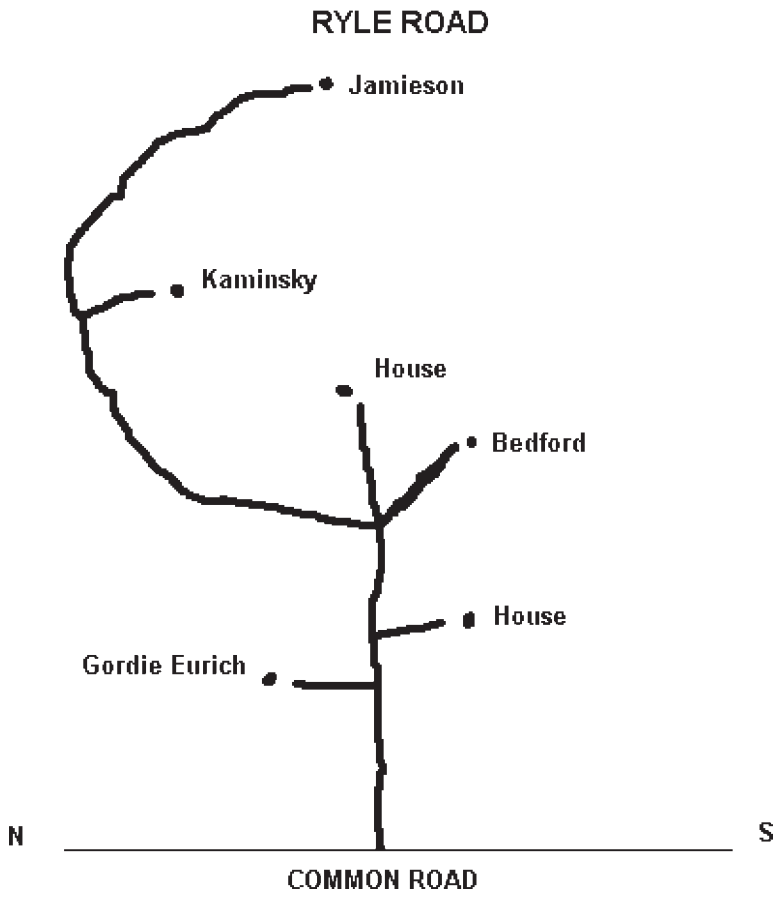


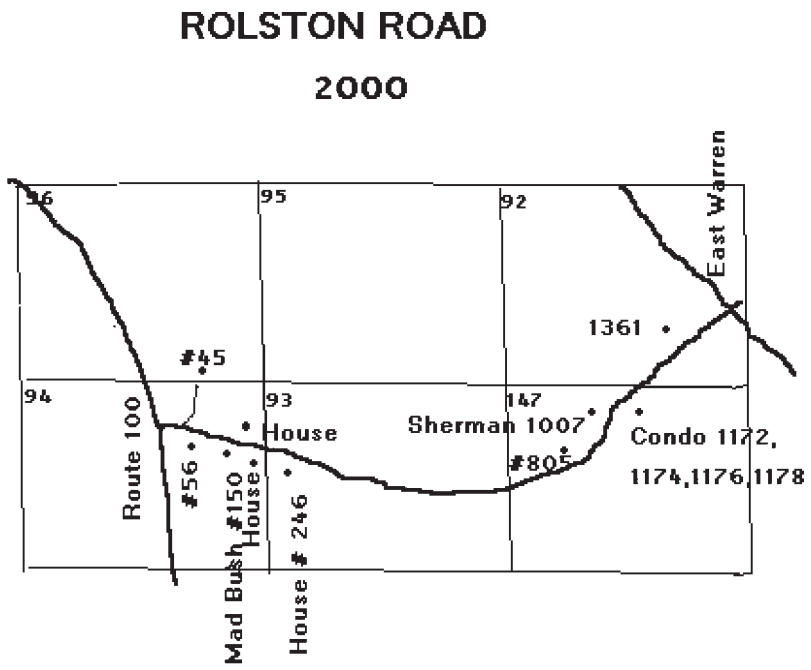

1. Nathan Stowell
2. Joslin/Campbell
3. Ziba Rice
4. Nelson Pike
5. Elijah Berry
6. George Berry
7. Philo Lewis
8. Olivere Wood
9. Moses Stewart
10. Lyman Nutting
11. Caleb Colton
12. Henry Campbell
13. Jonas Spaulding
14. John Bisbee (1836)
15. Joshua Pike
16. Robert Leach
17. Parker Worcester
18. Samuel Bowman
    Abel Spaulding

## ROXBURY ROAD
## 2000

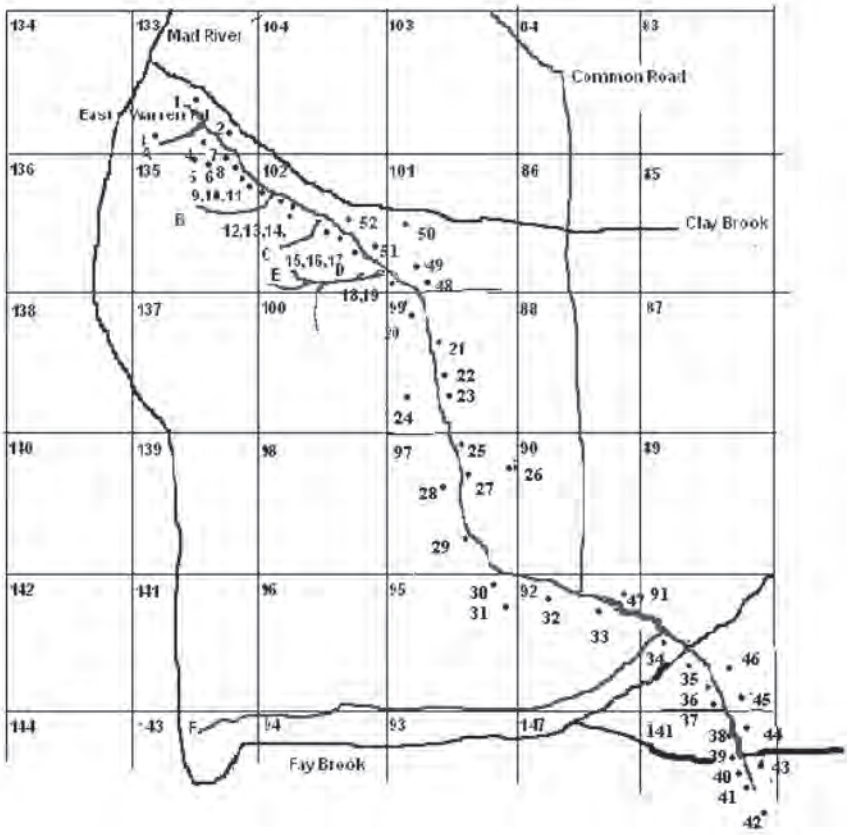



1. Old School House
2. Ed Eurich
3. Anna Simko
4. Halls
5. #3202
6. #3262
7. #3336
8. #3718
9. #3756
10. #House
11. #3856
12. Mobus Rd. #272
13. Marsh #3725
14. Trudy Folsom #3681
15. Pat Folsom #3615
16. Great Lakes
17. House
18. Bowen Rd House
19. Burley
20. House #905
21. House #906


RYLE ROAD
Jamieson
Kaminsky
House
Bedford
House
Gordie Eurich
N
S
COMMON ROAD


ROLSTON ROAD
2000
96
95
92
East Warren
1361
#45
94
93
147
Route 100
House
Sherman 1007
Condo 1172,
1174,1176,1178
#56
#150
House
#805
Mad Bush
House # 246

EAST WARREN ROAD
2000



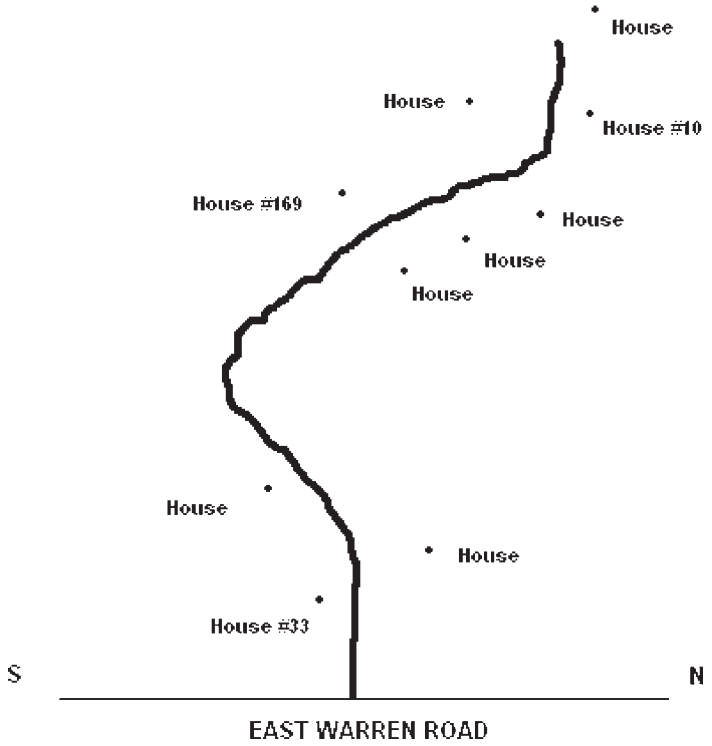
# EAST WARREN ROAD
# 2000

## KEY

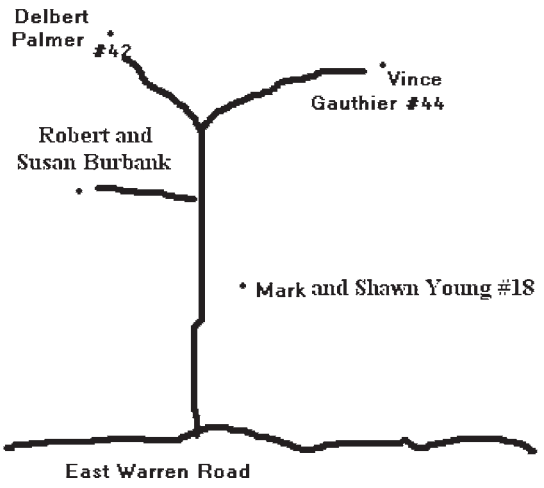
1. Kenneth Backus
2. Gerald Tucker
3. House #223
4. House
5. House
6. House
7. House #580
8. House #590
9. House
10. House
11. Hastiings/ Gabaree
12. House #786
13. House 790
14. House #796
15. House #72
16. House #45
17. House #1102
18. House #270
19. Palmer Farm #322
20. Dillon #1440
21. Round Barn
22. Donald Neill
23. Neill Farm
24. Simko
25. Tyler/ Heiss
26. Hildebrand
27. Livingston
28. Norman Neill
29. Bob Lawless
30. Raymond Joslin
31. Joslin/ Huggins/Prickett #2390
32. Badore #2480
33. Ed Eurich
34. House
35. House #3202
36. House #3262
37. House #3336
38. House #3354
39. House #3718
40. House #3756
41. House
42. House #3856
43. House #272 Mobus
44. House #3725 Marsh
45. House #3681 Folsom
46. House #3615
47. House #2747 Simko
48. Mehron #1109
49. House #1069
50. House built by Jamey Wimble
51. House #1937
52. House Joslin/Marble

A. Pine Hill Lane
B. Hastings Road
C. Maple Lane
D. Palmer Road
E. Sugar House Lane

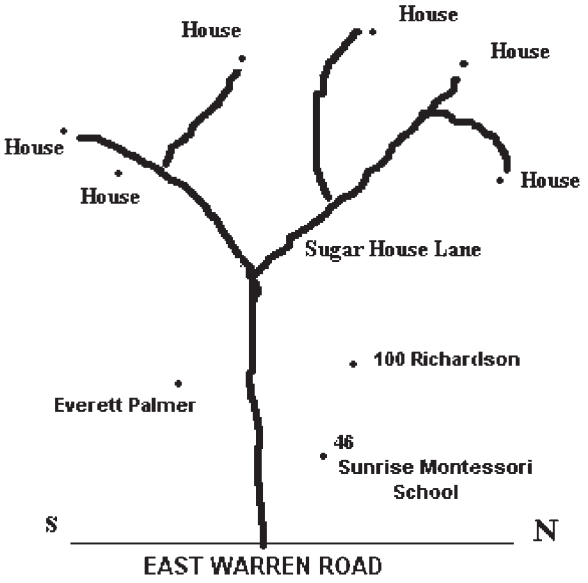
## HASTINGS ROAD
## 2000




## MAPLE LANE 2000




## PALMER LANE 2000



# CHAPTER VI
# PALMER HILL

The first settler on Palmer Hill was Samuel Pike in 1790 followed by his sons, Jonas and Joshua. The family soon settled in the southern section of town on Gore Lot 53. Jonathan Palmer Sr. came to Waitsfield in 1794 and settled on Palmer Hill on Lot 56. Joseph Palmer Sr. married Mary Boyce and settled on Lot 81. Jonathan Palmer Jr. married Betsey Quimby and settled on part of Lot 56 and 81. Joseph Palmer Jr. married Annice Campbell and purchased the Josiah Campbell farm on the Roxbury Road. Jonathan Palmer Sr. died in 1809. Jonathan Palmer Jr. deeded his farm to his son Aaron in 1832 and died the next year, 1833. Aaron Palmer also owned the Samuel S. Savage farm later known as the Tucker/von Trapp farm on the Common. Aaron Palmer gave the Palmer Hill farm to his son William. Warren Palmer held title to most of this property and sold the Palmer Hill property to Ed Prentis in 1918. However, Everett Palmer again purchased the property back in 1940's. Everett Palmer sold this property in 1968 to Dr. Robert Hever of Ohio.

Joseph Hamilton, a neighbor of Benjamin Wait in Windsor, came to Waitsfield in 1792 and settled on part of Lot 56. Joseph Hamilton was the son-in-law of Samuel Pike who first settled on Palmer Hill.

Elijah Grandy also settled on Palmer Hill on the western edge of Lot 81 in 1793. Robert Grandy married Lydia Butterfield, daughter of Stephen Butterfield who lived on the Brook Road. Bezaleel Grandy married Dorothy Quimby and lived on Palmer Hill. Jerusha Grandy married Moses Palmer. Aaron Quimby came to Waitsfield in 1805 and settled on Palmer Hill. John Quimby, son of Aaron and Polly Quimby lived on Palmer Hill in 1836.

Matthias S. Jones settled on Palmer Hill in 1798 on Lot 58. He later purchased the farm on the Common Road Lot 86 (recently known as the Baird farm). In 1851, he moved to the village. Orange J. Gale lived on the Jones Lot about 1871 to 1898. His son, Orville Gale lived here until about 1940, when he moved to the Brook Road.

Nathaniel Bartlett settled for a brief time on Palmer Hill about 1809. His son, James Bartlett settled on a portion of Lot 81 in about 1800.

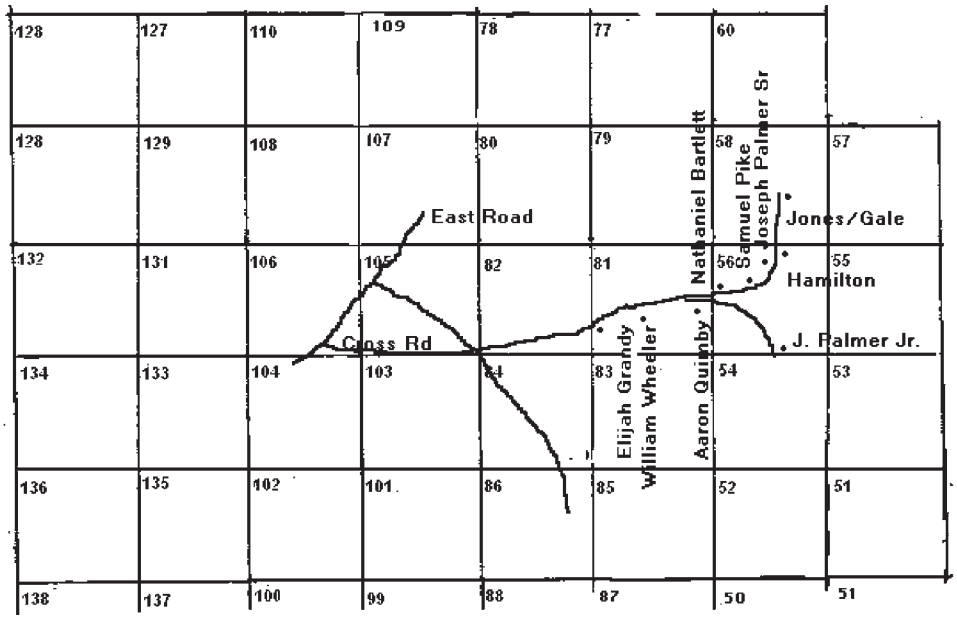
William Wheeler Jr. settled on Palmer Hill in the 1814. He married Lucy Palmer, daughter of Jonathan and Betsey (Quimby) Palmer. His father, William Wheeler Sr. may have been on Palmer Hill in 1795.

Orange Gale lived near Pine Brook on Palmer Hill in 1880's. His grandfather, Capt. Richard Gale apparently lived here and had a Blacksmith Shop beside Elias Taylor farm on the Common Road, the Donald Joslin farm in 2000. Orville C. Gale lived here on Palmer Hill in the 1930's. Orville Gale left Palmer Hill in the 1940's and lived on the Brook Road.

Palmer Hill was a well-populated settlement early in the Waitsfield history. However, it slowly lost its families and for many years, 1900 – 1970, there were no families in the area. The land was used by the Palmers. In the 1950's, people began to take a new look at the area and development has taken place slowly. See Map

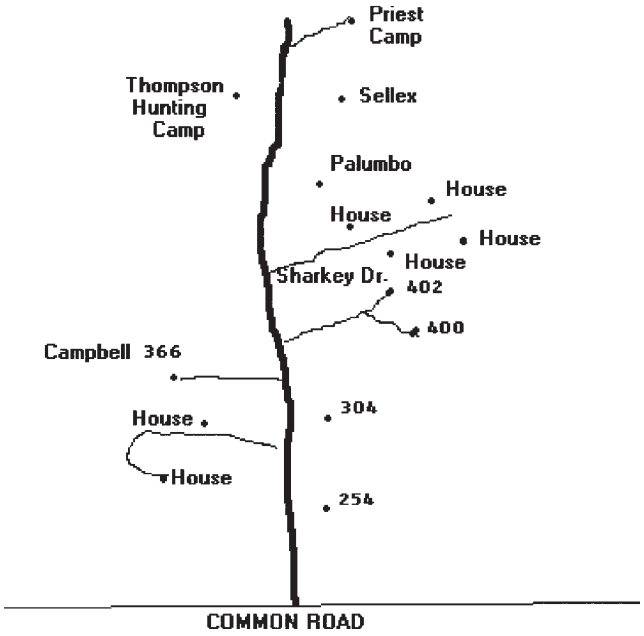
*Orville Gale Buildings on Pine Brook, Palmer Hill 1930's*

## PALMER HILL 1790



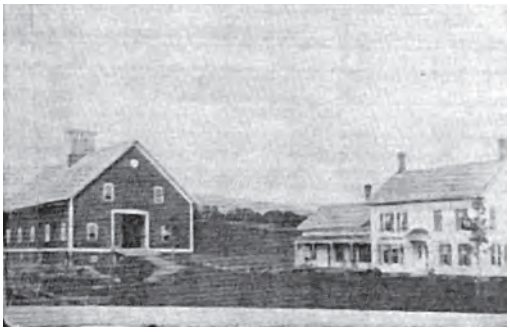

## PALMER HILL ROAD

## 2000



# CHAPTER VII
# ROUTE 100 HOMES

The emphasis of this chapter is to locate and explain the historical facts surrounding each house along Route 100 beginning at the Northwest corner of the boundary between Waitsfield and Moretown and continuing to the north edge of Waitsfield Village.



*Dr. Pierce – E.W. Bisbee farm prior to 1879*

The first place was that of Dr. Stephen Pierce whose property straddled the town line. Dr. Pierce came to Waitsfield in 1795, built this house in 1796 on the Moretown line with most of the property in Moretown. However, it is said that the barn was in Waitsfield. He established this farm on land that he had purchased from John Barnard. The comments in several sources seem to be unclear as to where in relationship to the town line the buildings actually stood. A member of the Elijah Bisbee family who owned this property, said that "one end of the barn was situated in Moretown and the other end in Waitsfield." The PHASE I HISTORICAL AND ACHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY done by the Vermont Agency of Transportation in June 1999, places these buildings north of the town line along with the Pattrell-Bisbee and the Sawyer & Green-Wilkins property. Other early maps place the buildings on both sides of the town line. It is true that the children born on the Pierce and later the Bisbee homestead are all registered as being born in Moretown. The picture of the buildings seem to leave little room for the town line to divide the buildings especially in reference to the mountain tops seen in the background. Facts seem to lead to the conclusion that the town line did divide the barn. It is also true that both towns claimed the families. Also true was the fact that Dr. Pierce, who was the third physician to practice in the valley, gave his attention to Waitsfield. Dr. Pierce and John Barnard were involved with the organization of the Northwest School in 1797. The first school was built just south of the Phineas Rider place. Dr. Pierce left Waitsfield in 1822.

Elijah Wyatt Bisbee purchased this farm January 30, 1863. The deed is recorded in the Moretown records (another indication that the property was actually in Moretown). The barn was burned October 22, 1879 by Josiah Seaver (arson). Elijah Bisbee happened to be in the yard at the time and saw someone, whom he thought he recognized, leave the barn. Mr. Seaver was arrested and confessed to setting all the fires in the town. The barn was rebuilt and Elijah Bisbee continued to operate the farm until his son John C. Bisbee took over in 1890.

John Chamberlain Bisbee took over the farm from his father and operated it until the farm burned again in 1907. It was never rebuilt. John C. Bisbee then moved to what is now (2000) referred to as the Bis-May Farm at the corner of Route 100 and Route 100B. John C. Bisbee was found dead in the Dowsville Brook where he had gone fishing, May 29,1946.

*John Barnard House*
*The front of the house is true to the original. It was unpainted.*

The next farm (the first full farm in Waitsfield) was the John Barnard property. John Barnard came to Waitsfield in 1792 with his wife, Mary, and their daughter, Lydia, and son, Rufus. These two children were the only survivors of the 10 children Mary had borne. John Barnard built the home c. 1795. He owned a large tract of land which extended across Mad River and the North Road. The farm house and a barn still stand on the west side of Route 100. John Barnard was one of the founders of the Congregational Church in Waitsfield and served as one of its deacons until his death in 1813. He was on the committee that organized the town in 1794 and served as the town's first treasurer.

John Barnard was accompanied by his younger brother, Samuel. Samuel established a farm on land he purchased from his brother across the river on Lot 118. John's sister, Elizabeth, and her husband Daniel Wilder, also moved to Waitsfield in 1795 and settled on Lot 121 just south of the Airport Road. The Barnard house was enlarged in the 1830's. In 1812, the northern part of the farm was deeded to John's son, Rufus Barnard. Rufus, who came back to the valley after serving in the War of 1812, married Jemima Kellog in 1814. They had 11 children. John Barnard died in 1813, his neighbor, Dr. Stephen Pierce, was made the administrator of his estate. The probate court promptly gave Dr. Pierce the authorization to sell John Barnard's real estate to satisfy any outstanding debts. It was not until 1833, however, that Dr. Pierce sold the estate's remaining 67 acres to Rufus Barnard at a public auction. Rufus took over the farmstead. Rufus Barnard enlarged the farm by buying land that had been a part of the Heaton farm (later the Matthews farm) 1814 - 1866. Two of Rufus and Jemima's daughters and two of their sons moved out west, leaving three sons in Vermont as candidates to take over the farm.

In June 1866, Rufus Barnard Sr. sold the farm to his son, Rufus H. Barnard. Rufus Barnard Sr. was 75 years old at this time and Rufus H. Barnard was 41. Rufus H. Barnard married Mehitabel Linfield in 1849. Rufus H. Barnard also got all the personal property and household furnishings. Rufus H. Barnard passed the family farm on to his only son, Orlo L. Barnard, in December 1879. Rufus and Mehitabel retained a life interest in the estate until their deaths. Rufus H. Barnard was 55 years old and his son 25 years old when the title was finally transferred. Six months later, Orlo L. Barnard married Emma Blake of Northfield. Orlo and Emma had six children while living on the farm. Orlo Barnard was a Methodist minister. In 1894, 100 years after John Barnard had es-

tablished his farmstead it was sold out of the Barnard family to Don Bulkley. This sale included livestock, farm tools, and "all the sugar tools and all the wood cut now in the sugar place." Don D. and Alma Bulkley owned the farm until 1899. Daniel R. and Fabiola Moriarty purchased the farm property in 1927 Daniel Moriarty also purchased the saw mill on Shepherd's Brook. The Moriarty family lived here for many years. In the 1940's, the Barnard house became separated from the surrounding farm and was sold as a two acre lot. Much of the farm land was sold to the Turners.

The house has been occupied by approximately seven different families during this period: Buzzell; John and Katie Hoffman; Elsie Boyce and others. In 1990, the original house and two acres was purchased by John H. McConnel a resident of Washington, DC.. In 1998, the property was purchased by Tom and Jennifer McDonald. A right-of-way between the house and the barn was purchased by Albert Turner as well as the barn and land to the north property line.The barn has been reinforced in 1999 to preserve the structure and keep it in its original form. Albert Turner also purchased 20 acres of the flat pasture land west of the buildings which was also part of the Barnard farm.

*Jonathan Seaver House*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

The next house on the West side of Route 100 has been known as the Seaver property for many years. Jonathan S. Seaver came to Waitsfield in 1789 and probably built this house. He was followed by his father Jonathan Seaver Sr. in 1795 and his grandfather Josiah W. Seaver in 1808. It is not clear if any of them lived on this Seaver property. It is likely they did. Jonathan Seaver went to Moretown after several years. James Buel lived here in 1863. Joel Learned, father of Lyman M. Learned, lived here in 1865. Joel Learned died in 1889. Lyman M. Learned came to Waitsfield in 1857. Joel Learned came to Waitsfield from Morristown, VT in 1860. Jonathan S. Seaver's father, Josiah Willis Seaver came to Waitsfield in 1808 and probably lived here. Records show that he was taxed in Waitsfield in 1809. Jonathan S. Seaver, grandson of Josiah W., lived in this house.

Levi W. Seaver, son of Jonathan S. Seaver lived here in 1885 and operated the mills nearby which he had purchased from J. W. Eagen. In 1897, the clapboard mill and the remaining mill property not owned by Levi Seaver, was purchased by Frank Seaver, Levi Seaver's son. It was Josiah W. Seaver born in 1848, brother of Levi Seaver, who set all the fires in Waitsfield - the last being the Elijah W. Bisbee barns on the Moretown line. Levi Seaver continued to operate the mills until 1919 when he sold to Daniel F. Moriarty. Milford Maxwell lived here in the 1940's. The Seaver house in 2000 is owned by William Iler.

Slightly south of the Seaver house was an old looking structure referred to as the Moriarty Garage. This was built by Daniel Moriarty in 1931, who by 1927 owned the John Barnard homestead. In 1919, Levi Seaver and Frank Seaver sold the sawmill to Daniel F. Moriarty. In 1937, Frank Seaver gave a quit claim deed to a piece of land lying north of the Moriarty mill yard. This apparently was done to clear up land boundary confusions. This was the piece of property upon which Daniel Moriarty built the building in 1931 to house his truck that he used to haul lumber. He built an apartment over the garage for his hired man, Donald and Alberta Barney. Alberta was physically handicapped due to an accident when she was a child. In 1947, this small portion of land was deed by Fabiola Moriarty to Kenneth Backus. Kenneth and Marie Backus lived in the apartment for five years - 1947 to 1952. Ruth Backus Andrews, Kenneth Backus sister, purchased the property and lived in the apartment 1954 to 1979. The property was sold 1979 to Ruth Andrews daughter and son-in-law, Howard and Elnora Ferris. The property in 2000 is owned by them. This building was completely torn down in 2002.

Lyman Learned/Turner House

On the east side of Route 100, across from the Moriarty garage, Lyman M. Learned built his farmstead in 1858. This house is really a mystery. It was supposedly built in 1858 by Lyman M. Learned. However, the Jones' book does not mention this property nor does the early Waitsfield map show a house on this property. There are two sources which state that Mr. Learned was in this house during the 1858 Shepherd's Brook flood. An article written by Laura Boyce in the "Vermont Gazeteer" states that "Mr. Learned was in the house in the 1858 flood." Lyman M. Learned came to Waitsfield in 1857 and built the original house. The house burned in 1916 and was rebuilt in 1919 by Daniel Moriarty who owned the property until 1927. During the time Daniel and Fabiola were building the new house, they lived in the tool shed next to the barn with mere tarps to cover the openings. Daniel caught pneumonia during this time and was seriously ill. Daniel and Fabiola lived in this new house.

They sold the farm to Kenneth L. Turner in 1932. Kenneth Turner operated the farm until his death in October 1952 at 52 years old. The farm was then owned and operated by Kenneth's son, Albert Turner and wife Marion. Albert Turner died in 1998. The farm in 2000 is owned and operated by Albert and Marion Turner's son, Douglas and Sharon Turner and their son Joseph. This farm property in 1990's was placed into the Land Trust so that it can not be developed, but can only be used for agricultural and recreational purposes. It is called the Simplicity Farm.

On the west side of Route 100, across from the Turner farm beside the road that led into the Mill area, stood a very small house built by Daniel Moriarty in the early 1930's. Daniel and Fabiola Moriarty lived in this house after being in the Barnard house. Upon Daniel's death (he died on one of the lumber piles in the mill yard), Fabiola continued to live in this house. A Mrs. Smith lived in this little house for a time, then Clayton Hoffman. The house was torn down by Stephen Philips when he purchased the Talc mine tenament house/halfway house.

West of this little house, Crowell Matthews built a saw mill on Shepherd's Brook in 1849. Shepherd's Brook was also called North Brook originally. In 1849, Crowell Matthews sold 0.67 acre tract near his sawmill to Erastus Parker. (There is no mention of Erastus Parker in the Jones' geneology though his name does appear as Deacon and Selectman) The deed also granted Parker the privilege of using water from a canal, or flume, to operate a starch mill, subject to restrictions. Between September 10 and March 10, Parker could draw all the water necessary to run his mill, but the remainder of the year, at such times when the water level was too low to run the sawmill, Parker could draw only one-half of the available water from the canal. In exchange for the water privilege, Parker agreed to provide one-half the labor and expense necessary to maintain the canal and the dam across the brook. Shpherd's Brook made a sharp curve southwest of the Halfway House. It was at this curve that the Canal was built around the Halfway house north and curved around behind the buildings and mill and entered Shepherd's Brook again just west of the bridge. The price of the consideration, $100, suggests that Parker did not build the starch mill immediately. However, Erastus Parker did build a starch mill around 1849. Erastus Parker also acquired more of Crowell Matthew's land in 1855. Although this was not called a mill tract, the property included the land between the canal which carried water from Shepherd's Brook to the sawmill and Route 100. Erastus Parker owned both the sawmill and the starch mill in 1858. The mills were severely damaged in 1858 by a severe localized flood in Fayston and down Shepherd's Brook.

According to an article written by Laura B. Boyce for the "Vermont History Gazetteer 1882" the mills on Shepherd's Brook were operated by Campbell and Grandy. Laura Boyce tells how both mills were destroyed as well as the clapboard mill operated by the Brigham Brothers. The house west of the mill "the house pertaining to the mill was so much undermined by the water that the inmates left, taking what valuables they could." Evidently Erastus Parker owned the sawmill and starch mill, but the sawmill was operated by Campbell and Grandy and the clapboard mill by the Brigham Brothers. Therefore, after the flood, Erastus Parker sold to Franklin Greene.

In 1859, Erastus Parker and his wife sold a 0.9 acre tract containing the starch mill and the sawmill to Franklin J. Greene for $1,250. Greene was born in Waterbury, but was living in Waitsfield when he bought the mills soon after his 24th birthday. He rebuilt the mills and bought additional land from Mr. Parker. In 1863, he purchased "9 acres in size, lying between the mill tract and the property of James Buel to the north." Information taken from records found in the Vermont Historical Society Library. By 1873, the starch mill had been removed or rebuilt and a gristmill, clapboard mill, and sawmill were operated by Franklin J. Greene.

Franklin Greene had also purchased the Erastus Parker house west and south of the mills. In 1881, Franklin Greene sold the mills, the farm, and the home to Elmer O, Trask for $5,500. Elmer and Abbie Trask kept this property until 1890. In 1890, Elmer and Abbie Trask sold the farm, mills, additional land in Moretown, and the use of a storage shed near the train depot in Middlesex to J. W. and Gertrude Eagen. The Eagens sold the old sawmill to Levi Seaver in 1895 for $1,500. Levi Seaver's son, Frank, married into the Eagen family. In 1897, the remaining Eagen property

including the clapboard mill was sold to their son-in-law, Frank Seaver. It was soon after Levi Seaver had purchased the sawmill that the dam across Shepherd's Brook broke. Levi Seaver then dug a new ditch or canal across the property of George Folsom, who owned the land adjoining the dam. This canal brought the needed water to the sawmill. The actual location of this canal is in some debate as it is depicted differently in various sources and maps. It appears that the canal was essentially a cutoff of the meandering Shepherd's Brook.

In 1919, Levi W. Seaver sold his sawmill to Daniel F. Moriarty. Daniel, his brother, Walter, and sister-in-law Alice, had organized the Moriarty Lumber Company in 1911, with a capital stock of $4000. The company, under the control of Walter Moriarty, operated the sawmill in the village. Daniel operated the mills until 1930's. Daniel Moriarty died in the mill yard. Alden Bettis and Richard Hough operated the mill in the 1950's. They sold the mill to Abraham Sherman who sold the old mill proper to Albert Turner in 1963. Albert Turner tore the mill down because it was becoming hazardous and a hangout for hobos.

*Mills on Shepherd Brook Also Bridge, Learned House Left Corner of Mill and Henry Chipman House South end of bridge. Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

*Halfway House by Shepherd Brook also Part of Mill Yard*

Erastus Parker who built the starch mill in 1849 also built a house west and south of the mills on the brook. This house later became a tenament house for people working at the Talc mine. It was also known later as the halfway house so called because teamsters, who hauled lumber and other products out of the valley to the railroads, stopped and stayed over night here because it was about halfway between their destinations. There were several owners over the years as well as renters. Thomas, Gerald, and Sidney Neill owned this property for a time. It is said that, "Tom Neill kept goats on the first floor and chickens on the second floor and shot woodchucks in the gap between the floor and the sill in the kitchen." Hadley Gaylord purchased the property and sold it to Stephen Philips in about 1985. Philips tore the building down and built a modern house in its place. Philips also purchased and tore down the little house at the entrance of the drive near highway 100. Mr. Philips lost the property to the bank due to indebtedness. It was purchased by Ira and Martha Jackson and is owned by them in 2000. Albert Turner purchased 14 acres of this property on the top of the hill to go with the 20 acres he purchased from the Barnard farm. Albert Turner also had, with the Mill property, the right-of-way to this property. These just mentioned purchases by Albert Turner are now owned by his son, Douglas who operates the farm across Route 100.

A historical note regarding James Heaton who purchased the following property in 1793. Information taken from Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions, Washington, D.C. dated October 10, 1905 requesting a statement of the military history of James Heaton. This paper signed by Miss Jessie D. Savage, Waitsfield and stamp signature of V.Warner, Commissioner. "Dates of enlistment Revolutionary War January 1778 to June 13, 1783. Rank of Corporal. Officers under whom he served: Capt. McDonnell and Thomas Pry; Colonel Moses Hazen. Wounded in left leg at siege of Yorktown. Elisted at Baltimore, MD. Age at time of pension application 72 years. He died November 4, 1825. Living in Borough of Reading, Berks Co. PA."

*James Heaton House after being moved back away from Route 100*

South of the mills, still on the west side of Route 100, was the farm of James Heaton. Mr. Heaton came to Waitsfield in 1793 and built his home here on Lot 122. He owned a large portion of this lot. Jason Carpenter purchased the property in 1818. Crowell Matthews purchased the farm in 1837. It was Mr. Matthews who built the sawmill on Shepherd's Brook 1848. Mr. Matthews was living here in 1858. The farm was sold to William S. Chipman about 1865. The 1873 map shows W.S. Chipman living here. He was the son of Samuel Chipman who came to Waitsfield in 1836. William. S. Chipman married Zervia Boyce, daughter of Jacob Boyce of Fayston. The Boyces and

the Folsoms were related.

George W. Folsom purchased the farm in about 1866. Mr. Folsom lived here for many years. He had 12 children. George Folsom was the grandfather of Wendell "Ike" Folsom a well know Waitsfield citizen. After George Folsom's death his son, Dan Folsom, lived on the farm. In the early 1900's, this Folsom farm went to George Folsom's daughter Georgianna who married Charles Kew. They lived on the farm until 1945. They had gas pumps near the highway as well as a little store and ice cream shop for several years. Glen Murray purchased the farm in 1945. It was then purchased by Leopold "Paul" Viens in 1951. Paul Viens was killed in the barn when his tractor went through the floor. This large barn was south of the house with the entrance from the North Fayston road. The farm was sold to Russell and Deborah Reynolds in 1953. The house was moved back from Route 100 and remodeled and the barn was destroyed. The Reynolds own the property in 2000.

The North Fayston Road meets Route 100 at this point. It was established about 1812 with no houses on the Waitsfield side of the town line until about 1970's. See Map for recent houses.

Henry Lincoln Chipman had a small house east of Route 100 and south of Shepherd's Brook. It was on the same side of the road as the Turner house. Henry Chipman had a blacksmith shop just south on the west side of the road in 1873. This land was part of the Heaton, Chipman, Folsom farm. This field, which belonged to the William Chipman and originally a part of the old Heaton farm, was purchased by Albert Turner for his farm across Shepherd's Brook. It is now owned by Douglas Turner – still a part of the Turner farm. Henry Chipman was brother to William Chipman who owned the farm property. In the 1860's, Henry Chipman operated the Moses Smith blacksmith shop south of the ledges and the North Fayston Road on the west side of Route 100. This house did not exist for long; however, the 1873 map shows Henry Chipman living here. There has been no house visible in this area for years.

*Route 100 around ledges south of North Fayston Road taken c. 1900*

Moses Smith came to Waitsfield in 1797 and built the blacksmith shop just mentioned above. He may have built a house near the blacksmith shop. There are signs of several houses (probably three) in this area in early years. Moses Smith died in 1820. Myron Benedict lived here and operated the shop in the 1850's. Henry Chipman was operating the shop from about 1860 to 1875. John and Rose Folsom lived in a house in this area and Mr. Folsom worked for the talc mine in 1915. The 1873 map also shows the home of E.O. & H.C. Pease between the Fair Ground's Road

(Airport Road) and the Smith Blacksmith Shop. This may have been the home of Moses Chase and Myron Benedict in the 1850's because they ran the blacksmith shop at this time. The 1858 map shows a M. Benedict living in this location. Orcas C. Wilder also lived in this location from about 1858/1860. The buildings have not existed since about 1925.

A road between these homes and the Wilder farm, called Fair Ground Road, now called Airport Road, ran west and north to North Fayston. Several homes were on this road. The original fair grounds were on the level area above Route 100. Mr. Estey had a small airport on this level area in the 1940's. In 2000, approximately 160 acres of this area is owned by Dick and Laura Kingsbury and called Mad River Industrial Park. It contains The Kingsbury Construction Co., Controlled Energy Corp., Northern Power Systems, Timber Framing Business and other small businesses, a condominium, as well as several homes The road has been changed slightly from its original position to go straight west. The Mad River Park Road leads north from the Airport Road to service the businesses now on the old airport location. See Map of recent development.

*Wilder House and Route 100*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

Daniel W. and Elizabeth Wilder came to Waitsfield in 1795 and purchased the farm long known in the valley as the Wilder farm. Elizabeth Wilder was the sister of John Barnard who lived on the farm on the Moretown line. The property was part of the large James Heaton farm.

Mr. Wilder was a charter member of the Waitsfield Congregational Church. Levi Wilder came to Waitsfield with his father and later operated the farm until 1855. His father Daniel W. Wilder died in 1834. Jared S. Wilder, son of Levi Wilder, took over the farm until his death in 1859. Orcas C. Wilder, also a son of Levi Wilder, took over the farm and was living on the farm until his death from a fall in 1906. Orcas C. Wilder was on the original farm in 1873 when the "grounds [were] subsequently laid out on the farm of Capt. Orcas Wilder ... (Lot 122)" for future fair grounds. Information taken from records in Vermont Historical Library. Harold and Ethel Allen lived on this farm about 1943 for several years. Mr. Estey lived on the farm for several years in the later 1940's and turned the fair grounds into a small airport thus the name for the road This property was sold in 1980's and the house made into a Bed and Breakfast Inn. It was resold in 1990's. The property has been sold again in 2002.

Next to the Wilder farm was the second Northwest School House built in 1821. This building was completely remodeled in 1850 and again in the 1900's. It was the first school house in Waits-

*Phineas Rider (Todd Tucker) House taken in 2000*

field to have a stove for heat. Chet Nelson lived here for a brief time, but it had no running water or conveniences. Lawrence and Mary Allen purchased this property and remodeled it into a house in 1959. It is the home of Lawrence and Mary (Joslin) Allen in 2000.

The Phineas Rider home is next on Route 100. Mr. Rider came to Waitsfield in1791. He built this house 1793/94. Mr. Rider was town treasurer in 1799 and selectman in 1796, 1803, 1814. He died in 1833. One map shows Nathaniel M. Carpenter living here. If this is true, it was only for a brief time because Nathaniel was born in Moretown and lived in Middlesex most of his life. James P. Carpenter lived here in the 1860's. Byron Palmer lived here about 1910 and started the creamery on the flat land just south of the Julius Palmer farm. Julius Palmer was Byron Palmer's uncle. Ed Bennett lived on this property for a time in the 1900's. It became the home of Edmund Tucker. In 1946, Edmund Tucker rebuilt the barn which had burned earlier. Bertha Tucker lived in the house in 2000 when it was sold and remains empty. Much of the house is the original structure and hopefully will not be destroyed..

At the top of the hill from the Rider property, three homes have been built. Leon Joslin first put a trailer on this property in 1958. Mr. and Mrs. Joslin lived here for many years and built a house. It was purchased by Harley Stafford in 1990.

Alden Bettis built a house slightly north of Leon Joslin in 1985. Mr. and Mrs. Bettis live here in 2000.

South of Leon Joslin house, two trailers were placed there one by Homer Rankin and one by Donald Wimble. Calvin and Norma Wimble lived in one for a time and Owen Wimble lived in one for a time. Owen Wimble Jr. ultimately built a house on this site in 1980's. The Wimbles live here in 2000.

The first Northwest School House was built 1799 on the top of the hill south of the Phineas Rider house. It stood in the area where Leon Joslin built his house in 1948. The school building remained here until 1821 when it was moved beside the Wilder farm. See the education chapter for more details.

Across Route 100 east, is a building built by Stephen Philips for the construction business in 1987. This business failed. In 2000, the building is being used by Small Dog Computer Company and others. A modern house has been built to the south of this property in 1989.

*Moses Heaton/Harold Joslin/Hartshorn House*

The Dr. Moses Heaton buildings rest next to the south and on the west side of Route 100. Dr. Heaton came to Waitsfield in 1793 and built the original buildings. This was the site of the first town clerks office. Jared Skinner who came to Waitsfield in 1795 purchased this farm and lived here until his death in 1838. Orson Skinner, son of Jared Skinner, operated the farm for many years. Russell Drew purchased the farm in the 1850's. Russell Drew married Martha Farr, daughter of William Farr. Her father and grandfather lived next door. The farm was then purchased by Julius I. Palmer. Julius Palmer married Elizabeth, daughter of Russell and Martha Drew. Julius and Elizabeth Palmer were living here when the buildings burned in 1873. They rebuilt the buildings in 1875. Both of these farms were in the same family line until 1912 Walter Sealey purchased the farm in 1912. Harold Joslin then purchased the farm in 1946. It was called the Oxbow Farm. Paul Hartshorn purchased the farm in 1957. Paul Hartshorn sold his herd in 1987 and sold the farmhouse in 1989. Most of the farm property has been sold for housing development. Paul Hartshorn built a home northwest of the farm buildings and his son David built a home south west of the farm buildings. David also has a farm produce building and gardens on the flat south of the old farm buildings and on the original creamery property. The original farm buildings have changed ownership several times. There is a small development on this road to Paul and David Hartshorn homes west of Route 100. See map.

On the flat area south of the Heaton/Palmer farm was a Creamery about 1910. It was a Co-operative venture by several of the farmers in the area. This was started under the leadership of Byron Palmer who lived on the old Phineas Rider farm. Byron Palmer was a "butter maker." "Each patron who delivered whole milk had the right to take back home his share of the skim milk for feeding….." In the words of Clifford Wallis: "That was a Creamery, a Co-operative Creamery and as far as I recall, my father was either a General Manager or Secretary-Treasurer, but the people who were in it were people like Ed Jones, Pearl Gaylord, George Wallis, Lou Palmer, Walter Sealey, Fred Wilder, Fred Palmer and maybe Ed Prentis. I remember the creamery well because I used to go down there … I used to spend a lot of time in the creamery watching Byron Palmer churn and

*Dr. Ferderick Minor/Farr House*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

*Farr/Wallis/1824 Inn*

test cream for butter fat." This creamery closed about 1930. The buildings have not existed for many years. See more about this in the chapter on Creameries.

Continuing south on Route 100 is the Dr. Frederick T. Minor farm. Dr. Minor left in 1825, but returned briefly in 1832 then went west in 1833. Dr. Minor sold to Dr.Orange Smith in 1825. Dr. Smith was a very prominent person in Waitsfield. He died in 1863. Thomas G. W. Farr owned the property about 1865. The buildings burned about 1870 and were rebuilt. The house was later owned by George Wallis who lived there after Otis took over the farm. It was then owned by Everett and Mary Wallis in the 1940's. In 2000 it is called "The 1824 Bed and Breakfast Inn."

The next farm south is one of the oldest farms in the valley. It was built in 1794 by David Symonds who came to Waitsfield in 1791. He purchased Lot 125 from Joseph Farnsworth and Lot 126 from Luther Richards who had not developed the lots. David Symonds built a log house here and as soon as the mills were operating, he built the house that still stands on the same location. The house has been enlarged and remodeled several times, but the front and main part of the house is still the old structure. David Symonds lived here until 1836 when the property was purchased

*Symonds/Wallis Farm about 1890's*

by Orange Smith, who owned the farm south, and Jason Carpenter, who owned the Heaton farm in Lots 121 and 122. Jason Carpenter sold his part of the property to Joseph Kimball in 1837.

Joseph Kimball came to Waitsfield in 1838. Joseph Kimball sold to Roderick Richardson in 1841. In 1844, Roderick Richardson deeded the property to Nathaniel and Lovina Richardson Joslin. Lovina was the daughter of Roderick and Anna Richardson. Nathaniel and Lovina Joslin sold the property to Otis and Rebecca Wallis in 1865. Otis Wallis willed the property to his wife Rebecca upon his death in 1893. The property then went to Otis and Rebecca Wallis son, George W. Wallis in 1898. George Wallis died in January 1945. After the settlement of the estate, the property was owned by George W. Wallis son, William Otis Wallis who lived in the original farm house until his death in 2003. The property, however, has been purchased by Ann Wallis Bull in 2000. Ann Bull is the daughter of Clifford and Marion Bisbee Wallis. Clifford is the brother of William Otis Wallis. Ann Bull, in 2000, lives in an apartment in the ell of the farm house. As has been mentioned, this is one of the oldest farm house and buildings in the Waitsfield Valley still in existence – 1794 to 2000.

*Looking North Toward Wallis Farm c. 1938*

About 1980, Riverview Road was built from Route 100 west to service a new development. See map.

*Wilder/Gaylord House  Early Picture and Later Picture*

*Wilder/Gaylord Barn*

As we continue south is the farm house built by Enos Wilder or his father, Daniel Witherbee Wilder, who lived north on Route 100. The house was built about 1805. Enos Wilder was living here in 1808. He was killed by a falling tree in the woods west of the farm house in June 1810. The farm remained in the Wilder family for several years. The farm was owned by Moses E. Hadley in 1850's. Pearl B. Gaylord came to Waitsfield and married Lucia Hadley, daughter of Moses and Ann Hadley. Pearl B. Gaylord then owned the farm about 1890. This farm was then owned by their son, Walter M. Gaylord. It has remained in the Gaylord family for generations. In 2000, it is owned by Hadley Gaylord Jr., grandson of Walter M. Gaylord.

Before discussing the next property some family clarification should be recorded because of frequent confusion. John Burdick Sr. was a resident of Moretown. He died 1797 – his will was probated in 1798. His second wife, Mehitable, married Benjamin Wait. John Burdick Jr., son of John Burdick Sr., settled in Waitsfield in 1796 on the next property to be discussed. It was here that Benjamin Wait died as noted below. This also explains the connection of Benjamin Wait to John Burdick. It is often stated that Benjamin Wait died in the house now called the Kenyon Farm Store. This is incorrect. See the following account.

The next farm south was the farm of John Burdick Jr. who built the house about 1796. Part of this property was the "ministry lot," 127. It was, therefore, leased land for several years. John Burdick Jr. was living here in June 1822 because it was in this house that Benjamin Wait died June 28, 1822. The following was taken from HISTORICAL ADDRESS at the Centennial Celebration, Town of Waitsfield, 1889: "On the morning of June 28, 1822, 'feeling in better than usual health and spirits,' he [Benjamin Wait] started out, as the story is told, with an atttendant, annoucing his intention of going to the Common on some matter of business and of returning by way of the lower bridge, wishing also to call at the house of John Burdick—adding the remark 'after that he should be ready to go when called for.' He accomplished the journey so far as to reach the house of Mr. Burdick, the old-time lawyer of the town, who lived on the river road about a mile and a half distant and northeast of the General's home. Soon after his arrival he complained of illness, and before his family could be summoned he had passed away." John Burdick died May 1835.

*John Burdick/Jones/Spaulding House*

*John Burdick/Jones/Spaulding Barn*

This John Burdick property was purchased by Samuel Chipman in 1836. Samuel Chipman married Nancy Lockwood whose brother, Russell Lockwood, lived on the farm just across Mad River east.. George H. Hastings lived here in the 1850's. The property came into the Edward H. Jones family in the 1880's. Edward H. Jones was Commisioner of Agriculture for 20 years. He moved to the village and left the farm to his son, Charles K. Jones. Edward H. Jones had a daughter, Florence Jones, Jamieson, Folsom, by his second wife. His brother, George Myron Jones owned the Abram Marsh farm across the river in 1880's. The farm became the property of Edward H. Jones son, Charles and Katie Jones about 1927 In 2000, it is owned by the Spaulding family.

*Jacob Boyce/Jones Farm Tenant House*

The road to Center Fayston has been in this next location for generations. In the fork of this road and Route 100, is a house which was originally the Jacob Boyce house in North Fayston. It was moved to this location in about 1890. It became the house for the hired man on the Jones farm. Clifford Jewitt lived here in 1946. This house has been a private home for several years. There are several houses built on this Center Fayston road during the 1970's/80's. See map.

The next property is an interesting site. This site was a designated School lot and thus leased property for many, many years. The brook was called Carding Machine Brook in the very early days. This brook got its original name from the Carding Mill plant that stood by the brook on the level meadow. Gaius Hitchcock first built a house on this property about 1798. The property was then owned in 1812 by Amasa Russ from which the brook got its new name, Russ Brook. It was later owned by Charles Darwin Smith in 1840's. Information found in records in the Vermont Historical Library records: "Russell Lockwood deeded to Orange Smith part of Lot 130 formerly

owned by Wells Hitchcock excepting what Leonard Wainsworth now owns about 4 acres, August 1840." This was the Amasa Russ property. Wells Hitchcock was Gaius Hitchcock's son. It was then owned by Frank Story. For a time, it was owned by George Jones. In the 1960's to 2000, it has been owned by the Fred Armstrong family.

The next farm property presents some intrigue. It was Lot 129 which in 2000 contains the Kenyon Farm Store and the Mad River Inn. Abram Marsh who came to Waitsfield in 1792 first owned the land and built a house near the site of the Kenyon Store buildings. Abram Marsh left Waitsfield in 1799 and sold the property to Shubel Burdick, brother of John Burdick. Shubel Burdick came to Waitsfield in 1798 with his father-in-law John Wells. Shubel Burdick evidently built a house across the river for his father-in-law on the site of the present Mad River Inn. He also built a small house for a hired man near the site of the Pines picnic area at the junction of Route 100 and Tremblay Road. The Burdicks had a connection to Benjamin Wait. as noted above. Ira Burdick was Mehitable Burdick Wait's son and lived on part of Benjamin Waits' farms. Shubel Burdick left about 1806 at the time of his father-in-laws death in 1806. Zadock Smith owned the property in the 1830's to 1850's. Elijah Wyatt Bisbee owned the farm in 1860/63. The original buildings burned. The following is information taken from a letter written in 1920 by Edward W. Bisbee, son of Elijah W. Bisbee.

"The buildings on the first place I remember living [in Waitsfield] were on the easterly side of the highway, about a mile northerly of Waitsfield village, near the intersection of the "old" and "meadow" roads. The buildings have since been burned, and the property generally does not look much as it did when Father lived there. The family consisted of Mother, Father, Grandmother Bisbee, the three oldest boys (John was born there), and Mother's maid. The occupancy of the house would not be complete without mentioning Grandmother's loom, and two spinning wheels, which were kept on the first floor as long as she lived. One of the spinning wheels was much smaller and Grandmother kept it in her room, closely covered. I understand it was made in England and intended to spin thread. The hired man lived in a house owned by Father, situated on the flat northerly where that big pine tree stood. Grandmother deceased while we lived there. Father traded

*Wesley Tucker/Kenyon House and Store*

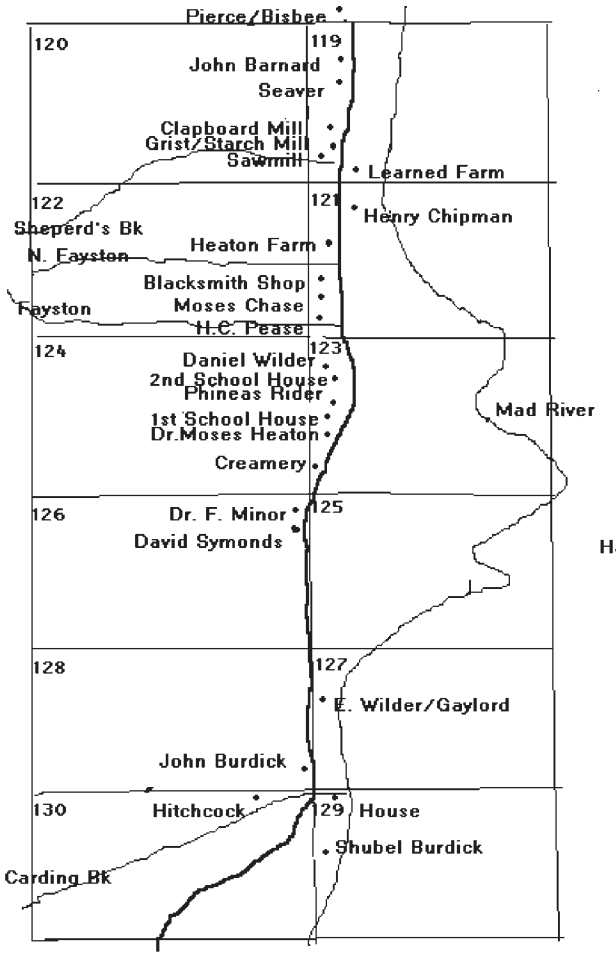
that farm for the one where Myra Jones lived …(Mad River Inn 2000) We moved there in the fall of 1863. The following winter was a bad one for the family. I had pneumonia and don't remember much about it. Other members of the family were sick; Mother and Father wanted to get away, and he traded for the farm near the corner of the four towns. His deed of that farm is dated January 30, 1863. It is recorded in book 11, page 398 of the Moretown records. We moved there March 8, 1864," Author's note: Myra Jones lived on the Earl Jones/Tremblay farm at the time spoken about here.

Therefore, based upon this information, the present buildings known as Kenyon's Farm Store were built after the original farm buildings burned about 1880. It is said by local people that Wesley Tucker built it while he lived next door in the Davis/Bennett house about 1890. There was also a house near where the present day (2000) pine grove and picnic rest area at the corner of Tremblay Road and Route 100. Again taken from this same letter…"The hired man lived in a house owned by Father, situated on the flat northerly where that big pine tree stood." An early map also shows a W. Chipman living in this house by the pines and also a J. Haselton. There are also references to E. W. Bisbee property lines in road construction concerning this area (Tremblay Road).

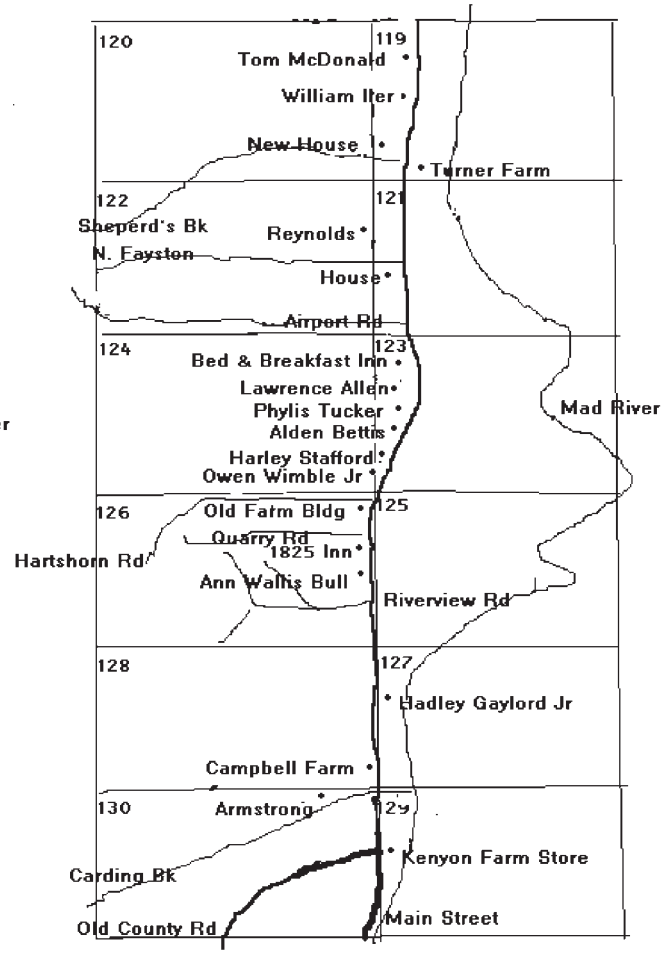
This property was owned by Wesley W. Tucker about 1899. It was then owned by his son, Ernest A. Tucker in the 1900's. Frank and Edith Howard operated the farm for several years. Edith was sister to Ernest Tucker. It was purchased by Howard and Dorothy Kenyon in 1971. It is still in the Kenyon family in 2000. It has been a farm and feed and merchandise store since the Kenyon's purchased the property. See chapter on Waitsfield Village for other houses built here recently.

A house has existed south of this farm for many years. Wesley Tucker lived here about 1899. Edward Bennett lived here in early 1900's. Ernest Tucker lived here for several years in the 1900's. Symore Caster lived here in 1945. Fred Cota purchased the property in September 1945. It has changed ownership several times in recent years.

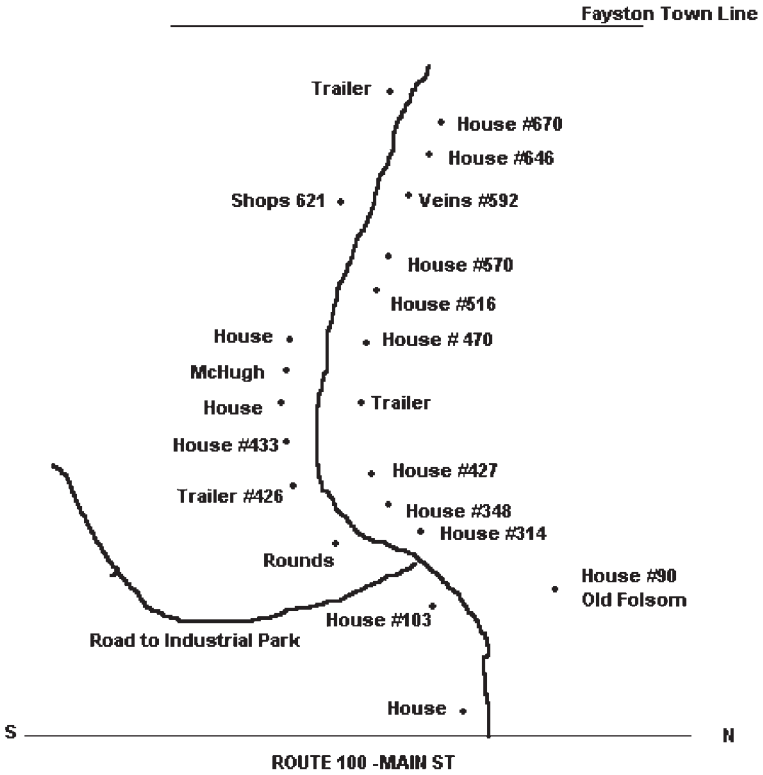
## MORETOWN LINE ROUTE 100
## EARLY SETTLERS




## MORETOWN LINE - MAIN STREET
## 2000

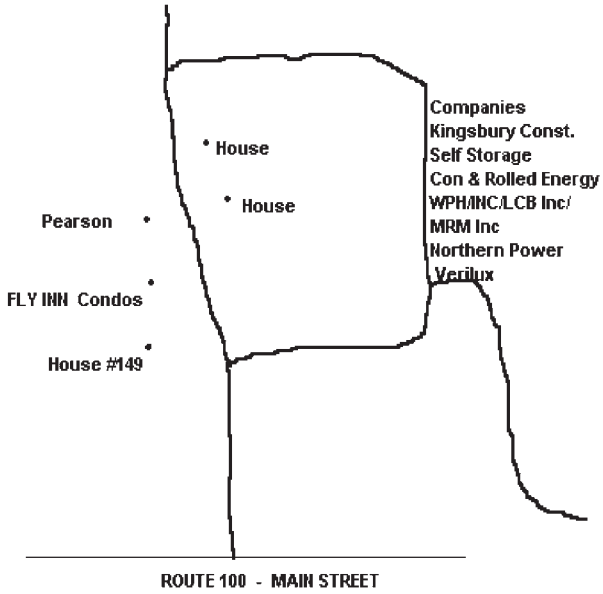


## NORTH FAYSTON ROAD
## 2000

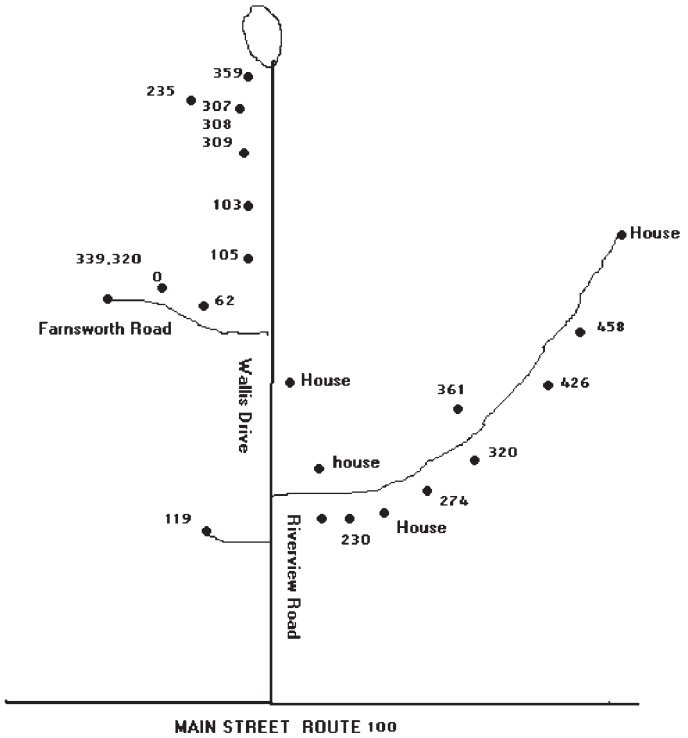



## INDUSTRIAL PARK-AIRPORT ROAD
## 2000

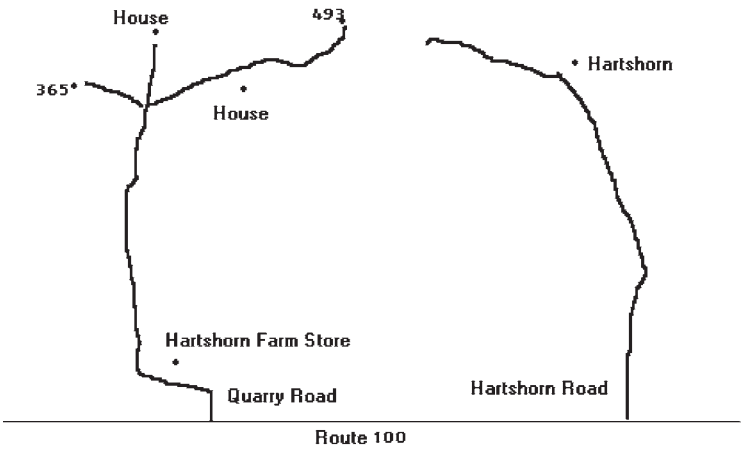
This area was a fair grounds in the 1850's. It then became and airport in the 1940's
In 2000 the property was owned by Kingsbury and became and industrial park.



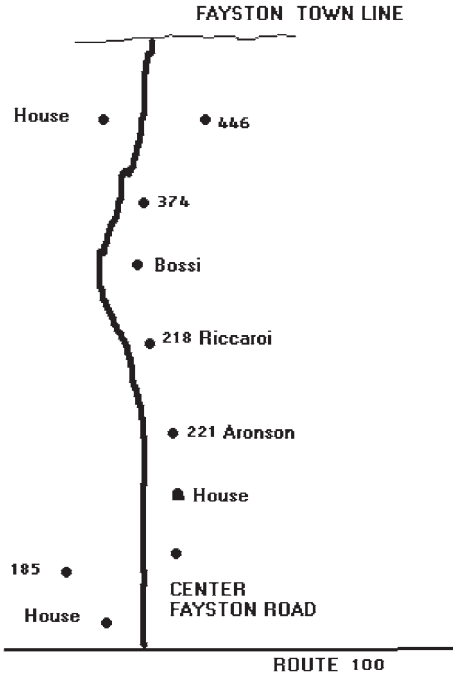
## RIVERVIEW ROAD




## QUARRY ROAD
## HARTSHORN ROAD
2000




## CENTER FAYSTON ROAD
2000



# CHAPTER VIII
# OLD COUNTY ROAD

The Old County Road was originally called Old Colony Road and for many years called the Loop Road. This was part of the original north-south artery formed by the first settlers – 1789-1791. This north section of road started above the village square on the lower west terrace at the junction with the Roxbury Road where Ezra Wait's house stood - later the Gilbert Wait's tavern. It was at this junction that the first sign post was erected directing people as well as the posting of notices. A second such sign post was on Waitsfield Common. This original road continued north to Benjamin Wait's house slightly below the terrace. It was here that Benjamin Wait built the first framed house in Waitsfield. The house, after Benjamin Wait's death in 1822, was owned by Roderick Richardson. This house was moved to its present location south of the village in 1830. This road continued north beyond Benjamin Wait's house to the ledges. At first the road went east around the ledges and continued up the little hill following the site of the present road to the junction of Route 100. A bridge was later built across the little stream south of the ledges and for a time, the road went straight over the ledges.

The home of Ezra Wait and Gilbert Wait's tavern stood above and south of the present site of Irene Mehuron's house. There was a potash works to the north and west of the Ezra Wait house. This potash works was operated by the Waits and later by Ralph Turner. None of these buildings existed in this location after 1830. The original Ezra Wait's house was moved in the 1830's to the northwest edge of the Village Square and became the home of Dr. Joseph Whitcomb and then Ira Richardson Sr. In the 1900's, it was the Ferd Newcomb house. In 2000, it is a home and gift store.

As mentioned, Benjamin Wait's house stood slightly up on the terrace. This was his second house. It has been established that Benjamin Wait built a log cabin on the knoll where the Village Cemetery now exists. There is a hollow near the center of that cemetery which has been recognized as the place where Benjamin Wait built his log cabin. It is firmly believed that Mad River ran closer to this knoll and thus General Wait built his framed house on the terrace away from the flooding of Mad River. This framed house was built after the establishment of sawmills. Benjamin Wait had his own sawmill on Clay Brook just above the bridge. The Green mill also existed in Irasville. Undoubtedly, Benjamin Wait used lumber from his own mill. Near the location of the second house, there can be found a large rock with a cross chiseled into it. Many maintain that this is the location of Benjamin Wait's burial. However, a monument exists in the Meadow Cemetery near where his log cabin stood. Benjamin Wait did have a full Masonic funeral, but nothing is mentioned concerning the burial. It seems logical that if he have been buried outside the cemetery, it would have been mentioned in the historical records of the day.

In 1801, the first store was built by Samuel Chandler and Levi Mower. This store building was west of the ledge on Old Colony Road. Benjamin Wait sold the property in 1802, but the store was operating earlier. Levi Mower sold his share to Henry Mower and in 1806 John Bement was a partner. John Bement was the only one who lived in Waitsfield. They also had a potash works west behind the store. Joseph Lyon was the first local resident to operate this store; however, John Bement took over the operation from Joseph Lyon. John Bement left town after about 2 years leaving Edmund Rice, then a very young man, to operate the store. This store was sold to Thomas Wait and Edmund Rice in 1806, but the partnership dissolved in 1808. Thomas Wait and Edmund Rice also

*Mower/Hayes/Schwendler House*

operated a nursery on Mill Hill on Lot 135, but sold it to Jonas Holden in 1806. The store was sold to Joseph B. Collom and Joseph Wait, who operated it until 1810, when Edmund Rice took it back. Edmund Rice continued to operate the store until 1829. The property was sold to Ralph Turner and Jesse Carpenter in 1830 and they erected a cordwainers [shoemaker] establishment. It is not clear whether this building was torn down and a new house built in its place, but Peter Labelle lived here about 1870. Harold Hayes lived here 1927 to 1944. Daniels lived here in 1950's. Pierce lived here in 1960's. Gerald Tucker owned the property for a time. Alice (Tucker) Schwendler purchased the property in 1989 and completed extensive remodeling. Alice Schwendler lives here in 2000.

North of the first store and before the Hastings/Joslin farm, Samuel Hebard, James Baldwin, and Erastus Woodward built a second store in 1814. They operated the store until 1824. This was also the first Waitsfield Post Office in 1818. These buildings were gone by 1830's.

Under the northeast edge of the ledge was built the District #6 schoolhouse in 1816. It burned in 1817 and was immediately rebuilt "with greater care to the heating." According to records, the heating was a fireplace with metal surrounding it. This school stood until 1848 when a new building was constructed on the site of the Old School House. The first school under the ledges stood where the Seth Boyce, Barbara Boyce, Eugene and Louise Moulton house now rests in 2000.

Directly across the Old Colony Road from the school location to the north, Stephen Durkee built a blacksmith shop in 1810. It stood in the meadow south of the present day Waitsfield Telephone Company building. Stephen Durkee had a home and farmed near this area. He left Waitsfield in 1816. Roswell Horr operated the blacksmith shop for a time and lived north on Route 100 (the Gaylord farm in 1900/2000). However, he left in 1831. The Durkee blacksmith shop and farm did not exist after about 1840.

Immediately on top of the ledges is a small house probably built by one of the Wait boys, then occupied by Jesse Carpenter. Jesse Carpenter had a Boot and Shoe Shop here in 1880. The 1873 map shows a P. Carpenter living here. In the 1900's it was the home of Fidelia Joslin. In 2000, it is a vacation property owned by a Mr. Fin

As previously mentioned, near this area and west, was also the Carpenter's tanning and cordwainer's business. This was gone in the early 1800's.

*Carpenter/Joslin/ Fin House*

*Rice/Carroll/Barton House after Gable Roof*

Next to the Chandler store on the same side of the road, Edmund Rice built his house. He was a cabinet maker, lawyer, and town clerk. Lewis Holden lived here and kept a store in the 1850's. George B.Carroll then occupied it in 1870's. Lester Barton owned the property in the 1900's. In 2000, Alice Schwendler owns the property. Her son, Thomas Schwendler lives on the property in 2000.

North of this property is the farm first cleared by Benjamin Wait Jr. Benjamin Wait Jr. came to Waitsfield with his father at 16 years old. He was Town Clerk 1796 – 1801 and 1803. He left Waitsfield in 1814. This land was a part of his father's property. Exactly who built the original buildings is not clear. Garinter Hastings Sr. purchased the property in 1822 when he purchased part ownership in the Green mill on Mill Brook. Mr. Hastings lived here and ran a tavern. Garinter Hastings Sr. moved to a farm south of Irasville. The house was operated as a tavern for several years. In 1850's, George B. Carroll lived here and ran it as a tavern. He evidently lived here first and moved south (next door) in the 1860's. Then through marriage relationships Lewis Joslin

*Hastings/Walter Joslin Farm House*

lived on this farm. Joseph O. Joslin married Marian Hastings and their son Nathaniel G. Joslin married Lovina Richardson, sister to Daniel Richardson. Their father was Roderick Richardson. Nathaniel G. Joslin owned this farm, but he resided in the village. Nathaniel G. Joslin's son, Lewis R. Joslin, lived on this farm briefly. Lewis Joslin also built the creamery in the village as well as the store and scale house sometimes referred to as the Hastings Block. David O. Joslin, son of Cyrus Joslin and related to Matthias S. and Betsey (Joslin) Jones gained possession of this farm in 1865. Betsey Joslin Jones was daughter of Joseph and Dorothy Osgood Joslin. Joseph Joslin was grandfather of David O. Joslin and Betsey Joslin Jones. David O. Joslin enlarged the farm and built the barn in 1860's. David O. Joslin's son, Walter C. Joslin, took the farm over in 1890's and farmed it until his death. It was known as the Walter Joslin farm through much of the early 1900's. Walter Joslin's son, Malcolm Joslin, owned and operated this farm for many years. Howard Munn owned the farm and sold it to Apgar who operated the store in Irasville for a brief period. Howard Munn received the farm back and sold it to Howard Keith in 1980's. George Brightenback occupied it through the later part of the 1980's. Stephen and Sally Utter owned the property in 1990's and in 2000 sold it for a Bed and Breakfast Inn.

Next to the brook in the early 1800's was the Chandler and Mower potash works.

In 1970's across the Old County Road, John Keith built a house on the westside of the road. Eric Haskin acquired the house in 1990's.

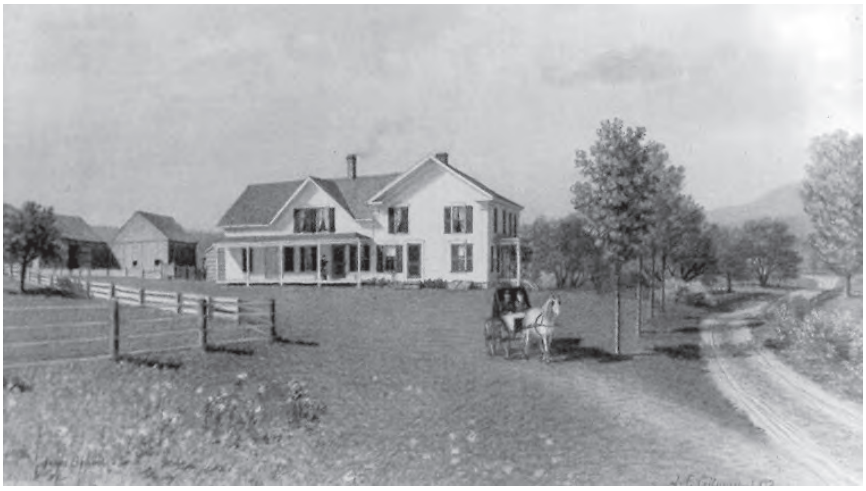
Just north of the Joslin farm house, a road extends west where George Brightenback built a house in 1980's. Further west on this road is the George and Susan Thomas home built in 1990's.

Next on the Old County Road is the Arthur and Marjorie Livingston house built in 1940's. Claude Druhen had the property in 1992. It became the home of Patrick and Sue Matecat. They live here in 2000.

Patrick McCuin built a house next on this road in 1964. It became Patricia "Patty" Tucker Robinson home in 1993. In 2000, it is the home of Edward and Trudie Benham.

In 1966, Robert and Imogene Bisbee built a home just north of the McCuin house. Robert Bisbee and his father C.A. Bisbee established the Bisbee and Bisbee hardware store in 1948 in the old Eaton Building. Robert Bisbee sold the hardware business to Brothers and McKectneay. Robert

Bisbee then continued his sheet metal business from his home. He sold his sheet metal business to Mr. Ward in Moretown in 1990. Robert and Imogene retired and moved to Leesburg, Florida in 1991. They sold their house to Robert and Nancy Danaher in 1992. Robert and Nancy Danaher live in the house in 2000.



*Wait/Thompson House Old Colony Road*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

North of the Bisbee home, was the Wait house. This was on the northern border of the 600 acres owned by Benjamin Wait Sr. Benjamin Wait Jr. cleared much of this land and probably built a house here. Ben Wait Jr. left Waitsfield about 1812. Ezra Wait lived near the village as noted upon first arrival, but moved here after his brother left. Ezra Wait had a daughter, Catherine Cutler Wait born October 21, 1790. She was the first child born in Waitsfield. Ezra lived here until his death in 1814 of a fever. James Baldwin lived here 1814 – 1823. School District #6 meetings were held here. James Baldwin married Betsey Wait, daughter of Ezra Wait. Ira Burdick, stepson of Benjamin Wait Sr., may have lived here 1823-1825. Lynde Wait, the first settler of Fayston, lived here in 1835. Nathaniel G. Joslin owned this farm in the 1840's and 50's, but lived in the village. Jonas Parker lived here 1860 to 1870. Lawson P. Carroll lived here in the 1870's. to 1880's. George Cota lived here 1900 to 1940. Carl Long owned the property. In 1944, it was sold to Alfred and Charlotte Baruth. At this time, it was known as "Camp MacArthur." This Camp MacArthur idea started in the Knoll Farm on Bragg Hill in 1942 and moved to this location. A group of young people from New York City came here and had a summer theater program. In 1945, there were 85 boys and girls at Camp MacArthur. Originally they came to help on local farms because of the limited labor due to World War II. Willeford "Tex" Thompson worked here for a brief time as a cook for the camp. Willeford "Tex" and Margaret (Bisbee) Thompson purchased the farm in 1954. They still live in the original house in 2000.

North of the Wait/Thompson house is the original road to Center Fayston. The brook was called Carding Machine Brook. On the Waitsfield/Fayston line was the Daniel Nourse sawmill and close by was the Hiland and Ransom G. Lockwood chair factory in 1830's. Abram S. Adams purchased the chair factory in 1850. The dam was in Fayston, but the mills were in Waitsfield. The mills had disappeared by the 1850's.

Near the Town line and this factory site, north side of the Center Fayston Road in 2000 is a

house Evelyn Kelly built in 1960's. Evelyn lives there in 2000. Further east on this road is the house Robert Tunis built in 1960's. He lives there in 2000. Further east same side of the road is the house Andrew and Margaret Baird built in 1960's. Margaret Baird lives there in 2000.

Across the road south and a little west is an old house owned by George Cota and his daughter, Genievia Mandanici, lived here. Willeford Thompson bought it with the farm in 1954. Betty Pratt lived here in 1955. Leslie Ward lived here in 1960's. In 2000, it is the property of Cheryl Bernard.

East of this house on the same side of the road is the house Malcolm and Laura Damon built in 1965. Florence (Jones) Folsom owned it in 1973 until her death. David and Christie Wimble purchased the home in 1997 and live there in 2000.

At the junction of the Center Fayston Road and Old County Road on the northwest side is the house that Joe and Nancy Keith built in the 1960's. Marsha Nickolson purchased the property in 1990 and lives there in 2000.

*Rider/Dale House*

The next house north was the house of Asahel Rider built in 1816. He had a wood shop at this location. It became the home of James Dale in 1835. William Hazelton lived here in 1873. James R.Dale, son of James Dale Sr., lived here in 1878 until his death in 1902. He was a shoemaker. His brother, George Dale, became prominent in State Government – lawyer, State Senator and Lieutenant Governor. Guy Boyce lived here for several years in the 1900's. Ford and Margaret Thompson lived here in 1951-1953. Kenneth and Fran Quackenbush purchased it in 1957 live here in 2000.

Northeast of the Dale property is the Lester Barton house in 1940's. In 1960's, Calvin and Norma Wimble purchased this property. They live here in 2000.

North east of the Barton house set back away from the Old County Road is a trailer and garage converted into a house by Richard and Bonnie Barton in 1960's.

The next house northeast Wyman White built in 1990. Michael and Donna Smith live in this house in 2000.

The house north of the Wyman White's house is a building Frank and Edith Howard remodeled

*Barton/Wimble House*

*Tewksbury/Tucker House*

when they left the farm across Route 100 in 1950's. Edith Howard was a long time elementary school teacher in Waitsfield. She died in 2001 and her son, Robert, lives in the house.

On the southwest corner of this junction was the house built in the 1820's. Rex Tewksbury lived here in the 1850's. Mrs. Goodrich lived here in 1870's. Ernest and Phyllis Tucker remodeled the house in 1947. Phyllis Tucker lives here in 2000.

At this point, we will discuss the houses on the eastside of the Old County Road as we go back south. The first house south of Phyllis Tucker home, is Charles and Katie Jones home built in 1963. Bert Hellman owns the property; his son, Thomas Hellman lives in the house in 2000.

A short road was built east from the Old County Road. At this junction Howard Keith built a house in 1965. Tom and Esther Shropshire owned the property in 1975. Jean Thomas lived here in 1989. Troy and Carol Kingsbury purchased the property in 1992. They live here in 2000.

At the end of this short road is a horse barn that Howard Keith made into a house in 1970. Gene Armstrong lived here. Then Irene Smith lived here in 1976. Mildred Howard purchased the

property in 1995 and lives here in 2000.

On the south side of this short road, Howard Keith built another house in 1970's. Randy Eastman had the house in 1989. James Greene purchased the house in 1995 and lives here in 2000.

South of this short road on Old County Road, Norman and Janet Puduzzi built a house in 1972. It was sold to Paul and Sue Siedel in 1977. Dewey and Pat Darrow bought the house in 1980. David and Pat Clark live here in 2000.

The next house south, Robert and Betty Davison built in 1978. John and Betty Johnson live in the house in 2000.

A very new house is next which Joe and Susan Martinck built in 1991. In 2000, Charles and Denise Nagelshmidt own the property and live here.

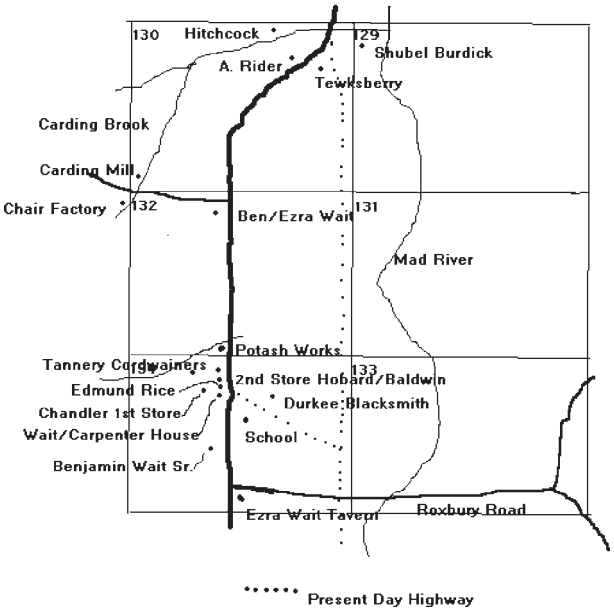
The next house south still on the eastside of Old County Road, Charles and Edna Canerdy built in 1960's. Fishers lived here for a few years and then a Halgerson family lived here. John and Stephanie Gallagher lived here in 1980's. It was a Ski Lodge called "Winterport" for a few years. Emmerick and Amy Rockford purchased the property in 1995 and live here in 2000.

Philip and Clarence Bisbee built the last house on the eastside of Old County Road at the top of the hill in 1946. They built this house for Clarence Tucker who owned the property. The house was sold to Tremaine Smith in 1947 before it was finished. Lavanway lived here for a time. Griffin lived here for a time. Philip Bisbee built several houses in Waitsfield and Warren during this period including a house for himself on the westside of Route 100.

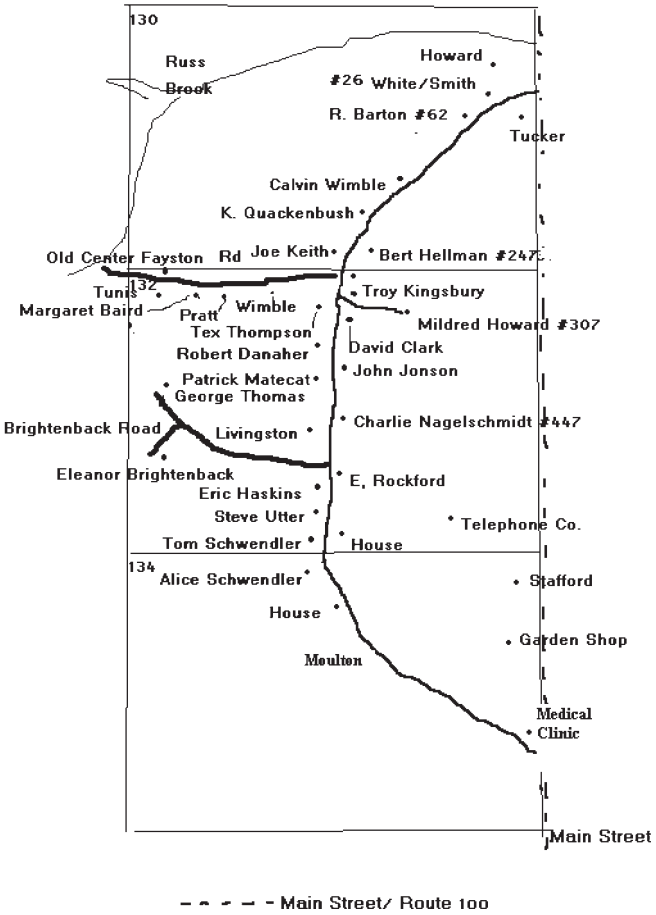
At the junction of Old County Road and Route 100 is the Waitsfield Medical Clinic. This building was built by Clarence Tucker as his home in 1958 after he moved from the brick house in the village. After his death, this house became Dr. Saia's office. In 2000, it is the Mad River Valley Medical Center.

OLD COLONY ROAD

1789 - 1798

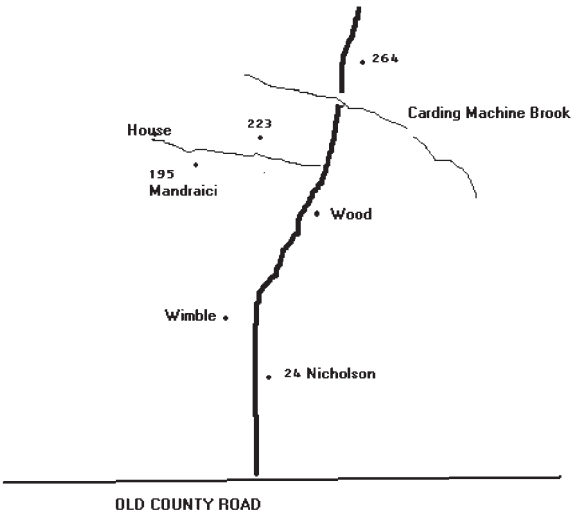


## OLD COUNTY ROAD
## 2000




- - - - - Main Street/ Route 100

## OLD CENTER FAYSTON ROAD
## 2000



# CHAPTER IX
## WARREN TOWN LINE TO IRASVILLE

Silas Trask built a house on Gore Lot 69 in 1794. Silas Trask also purchased land on Fay Brook (Warren Brook) to build a sawmill, but he probably never built it. There were several Trask family members in Waitsfield very early; however, none stayed for very long: Silas Trask, Joseph Trask, Isaac Trask 1796, and Elmer O. Trask in 1890. They may have lived on this property. An early map shows an Allen Mahuran living here in 1873. There have been no homes in this area for many years.

*Alpen Inn/Yestermorrow School*

In this area near the Waitsfield/Warren Town line, in 1981, the Alpen Inn was built by Alpen Associates- John Macone. This Inn operated for a few years and was one of the largest Inns at the beginning of the ski business in the valley. In 1986, it was sold to Andrew Neisner and Sugarline Associates. Andrew Neisner was a Woodstock based developer who was going to convert the Inn into a luxury hotel and convention center. After several law suits over defraud claims, this idea did not materialize. On December 28, 1990, the property was sold to John Connell – Yestermorrow School - a school that offered courses in home design, building, architecture, cabinetry, and woodworking. The deteriorating building, of some 20,000 square feet, was partially torn down and work was gradually begun to restore the rest of the complex and operate a year round school. This school is still operating in 2000.

On the road that now leads to the present Bundy Art Gallery in 2000 was the home of Job House in 1803. An early map also shows Jeremiah Thayer living on this road as well as Charles Green in 1858. Also Thomas S. Maxwell lived on the Job House property in 1873. Charles and Lizzie Long lived here in the 1900's. Charles Long Sr. fell from the barn and was seriously injured and died soon after the fall. Lizzie continued to live in the house. Charles and Lizzie Longs' sons, Howard and Charles Long Jr., lived here for a time. Earl Long sold the property to Harlow Carpenter in the 1950's.

The Bundy Art Gallery, the idea of Harlow Carpenter, was built on this property in 1962 next to the cellar hole of the Charles and Lizzie Long house. The Gallery was named for Harlow Carpenter's mother, Helen Bundy Carpenter. The Gallery opened in 1963 with the works of Louis Bourgeois and Robert Adams. The Gallery continued to show works of art inside as well as outside. In 1980, David Millstone, who had come into the Valley, became associated with Harlow Carpenter. David Millstone became the recipient of the Gallery on behalf of the Irasville Theater

*Bundy Art Gallery*

Workshop of which he was founder. Concerts and theater as well as art works continued to appear at the Gallery until about 1990. David Millstone died in 2000. Michael Millstone, son of David Millstone renovated the Gallery and restored most of the original features around the property. The Bundy Gallery, in 2004, has been turned over to Piero and Andrea Bonamico.

In 2000, a new home structure has been built near the Route 100 entrance to the Bundy Art Gallery road.

Returning to Route 100 is another early road west over Mad River. This road was called Ford Road then Bragg Road throughout the 1900's. About 1998, it was named Butternut Hill Road. The farm on the banks of the Mad River was a portion of Jesse Mix farm in 1794. According to records, Albert and Susan Davis sold this property to Harvey Wait and Lloyd Wells in 1866. It appears that Lloyd Wells built this first house just before the little stream that crosses the property. Harvey M. Wait may have lived here at one time. Harvey M. Wait was the grandson of Jeduthan Wait. This house became a part of the Ford/Bragg farm property and was used for hired help for many years. When Merritt Bragg owned the property, several families rented the house -"in some cases these people lived here free just for maintaining the property." During the time that Merritt Bragg owned the farm some of the people who lived in this house were Arthur and Margaret Livingston, Myron Thompson, Daisey Mauer, Leon and Esther Joslin, Gilbert and Maxine Tallman, Fred and Richard Recore, and Euna Broadwell. Ultimately it became the property of Merrill and Katherine (Bragg) Johnson Sr. in 1956. Katherine Bragg Johnson owns the property in 2000.

Between these two houses a pent road led up the hill onto Dana Hill. It was used for a few years and continued to be a walking path even into the 1950's.

It is not clear who built the larger farm house further west toward Dana Hill. The Jones history book states "that portion of the Lot [94] on the west side by the river, together with some of the gore lands to the south, now forms the Ford Farm." As noted above, this portion of the Mix land later owned by Albert & Susan Davis was sold to Harvey Wait and Lloyd Wells in 1866. It is believed by several older people in the valley that Harvey Wait built the farm house about 1867. Records show that Harvey Wait also received deeded land from John Hobart in 1886 and from Plyna Parker in 1886, thus placing Harvey Wait on this property during these years.

*Wait/Ford/Bragg Farm*

This farm house was a large structure and became the property of George Ford in 1888. George Ford built the large barn. George Andrus lived here in 1910 to 1918. Allen Dodds owned the property and lived here - 1918 to 1924. In 1924, Merritt Bragg purchased the farm and lived here until his death. His son, Robert Bragg took over the farm in 1953. Robert Bragg sold parts of the farm prior to 1965. He sold the house and remaining farm property to Mr. Munroe in 1965. David Steinman owns the property in 2000.

Behind the house and further west, Condominiums were built in the 1970's. There are eleven homes on the Bragg/Butternut Hill Road in 2000. The bridge across Mad River was originally a Covered Bridge; it was destroyed by high wind and water in 1908. A steel bridge was put in its place. In 1998, a new cement bridge was constructed.

After crossing Mad River and to the southwest of Butternut Hill Road is River Ridge Road which was recently built. There are 9 new houses on this road built in the 1990's.

On the West Side of Route 100, north of the Bragg Road /Butternut Hill Road just mentioned,

*Stoddard/Pattrell/Folsom House*

is one of the first farms in Waitsfield built by Asabel Stoddard about 1820. Joel Pattrell later owned it in 1873. Poland lived here and built the barn. Charles Folsom purchased the farm in 1907. It remained the Folsom farm for many years. Mrs. Charles (May) Folsom lived here until her death.

Polly Folsom lived here and it was owned by Wendell "Ike" Folsom. Norman Folsom lived here. Several people have rented the house.

On the east side of Route 100 and on the south bank of Fay (Warren) Brook is the Mad Bush Chalet Motel build in the 1958 by Tony Hyde.

*Dormez Vous – Bragg Farm in the background Courtesy of Robert Bragg*

Across Route 100 on the west side in this same location is a short road leading to the River House which was originally sleeping quarters for a ski group called "Dormez Vous." It was built by David Slinglough in about 1960. It became a condo structure. There is also a private house recently built on this same road.

*Jesse Mix/Stoddard/Kingsbury House*

North of Fay Brook on the West Side of Route 100 is the farm of Jesse Mix built in 1794. A portion of this farm became the Ford farm on the banks of the Mad River previously written about. Mrs. Thayer lived here in 1858 and Hiram F. Stoddard in 1873. Merle and Gertrude Martin lived here in the early 1900's. Gertrude Martin was a Stoddard. Otto Livingston purchased the property in 1942. He sold it to Mervin and Madeline Kingsbury in 1945. They sold the property to Clayton Kingsbury in the 1950's. Clayton Kingsbury sold the property and built a Log house on the east side of Route 100. Two homes now exist also on the east side of Route 100.

North of this property running west from Route 100, is the road down to a level field near the

*Mix/Kingsbury Barn*

Mad River. This was originally called the Foundry Road, then Poland Road, now it is called the Kingsbury Road. At the end of this road, was the forge and hammer with the foundry where many of the valley's iron kettles were made. Edward Fales, a blacksmith, ran the foundry 1816 – 1821. Theophilus Bixby, James Selleck and others operated this foundry in 1822 to 1830 when it was washed away by a flood. According to the Jones History, John S. Poland Sr. settled on this property in 1820 and operated a farm. The foundry was destroyed in the flood of 1830 and was never rebuilt. On this site in 1832, John S. Poland Sr. built a sawmill. His son, Thomas D. Poland, lived on this property and operated the mill. This sawmill was also destroyed by a flood a few years later and was not rebuilt. Loren and Lizzie Poland lived here. Andrew Poland was living on this property in 1927, when again the flood destroyed the barn and much of the property. The Red Cross rebuilt the barn for the Polands. Clyde Kingsbury and his sister purchased the property and their father, Albert Kingsbury, lived on the farm for several years. Albert Kingsbury left the farm and Mervin and Madeline Kingsbury lived on the Poland place in the 1950's and ultimately purchased the property, thus the modern name for the road. They sold the property in 1964.

There are three modern houses on this road in 2000 plus the old Poland/Kingsbury house at the end of the road on Mad River.

At the corner of Route 100 and Kingsbury Road in 1942 to 1946 stood the World War II air raid building with the siren on top. This was manned by volunteers during these years. This little building came from the Richardson/Kenyon farm in Irasville.

Across Route 100, Valley Professional Center complex was built in 1979. This complex was built by Neiba, Inc. for Munro & Jennings the owners. This complex was the first in the Valley built specifically for offices. Some of the original tenents were Jennings Real Estate, Neiva Inc., Property Management firm; McKee, Clewley & Fitspatrick, Drown & Marash Inc., Vermont Helicopter Services, and Sugarbush Office Services. There is also a Veterinary Clinic in this area in 2000.

North and next to this building complex also setting off Route 100 is the Mad River Valley Recycle Center and the State of Vermont highway sheds all non-historical structures. Corney Bedford originally started Trash Unlimited in 1982; however, he started the garbage business in 1970.

In 1973, he expanded by adding a couple of trash businesses. In 1982, Mr. Bedford installed a large compactor and Waitsfield began to have a modern trash collection service and a transfer station. It has changed hands several times since, but it still operates in 2000.

Next continuing north is a home garden and lawn business established in the 1980's by Ronald Majorell.

The next house on the west side of Route 100 was built by Warren Ketcham in the l960's. Warren Ketcham moved the Job House home north and built his house and contracting business on the Job House site. In 2000, May Ketcham lives in the house.

*Job House/Boyce House*

The next home north on the West Side of Route 100 is the original Job House home. Job House came to Waitsfield in 1797, but left after a few years. Job House returned to Waitsfield in 1813 and built this house. His son, Nathan D. House lived here until his death in 1900. He was a farmer and shoemaker. This became the home of Orin and Ellen Boyce in 1920's. George Boyce lived here in the 1930's. Raleigh Robertson lived here in the 1930's. This is the house that Warren Ketcham moved. This is rental property in 2000.

Edwin House, son of Job House, was on the property north of his father. This farm was built

*Edwin House Farm/Clyde Norton/Gaylord…Old Route 100*
*Picture courtesy of Alberta Stafford*

about 1840. It became the property of Clyde Norton in 1900's. Walter Gaylord purchased the farm in 1940 which was operated by his son, Hadley Gaylord Sr., who lives on the property in 2000. Hadley Gaylord Sr. moved a shed from the west side of the road across to the east side and his wife Eloise operated an ice cream and hamburger shop – 1961 to 1980. The ice cream shop was called "Phildens." Hadley moved the carriage barn of the old Job House property across Route 100 in 1958 and established a garage. The garage is still operated by his sons, Allen and Walter, in 2000.

*Hadley Gaylord Garage*

*Lady of the Snow's Catholic Church*

On the same side of Route 100, is the Lady of the Snows Catholic Church on land given by the Lareau family. The church was built in 1964. See the Ecclesiastical Chapter for details.

On an upper terrace above the Catholic Church is the area where the Agricultural Association held its first fair in 1872. This occasion complete with horse racing continued until 1886. The fair activities were moved to the fair grounds by the Wilder farm Route 100.

North of the Catholic Church, is the restaurant called "Norm's" started about 1970. Mr. George Tardy purchased the property in 1973 and called it D. W. Pearl's. He operated the restaurant for many years. It was not operating for a time. Then Norman Andrews purchased the property called

Norm's Steak House in about 1998. In 2001, it was sold and remodeled into a deli and sandwich shop in 2002 called Easy Street Deli.

*Covered Bridge – By Stoddard/Lareau Farm*

A covered bridge was built across Mad River at the Stoddard farm in 1812. Dr. Stoddard had attempted to get a bridge built here for many years. The picture above is taken during the construction of this bridge. The following information is taken from notes of Clarissa "Goldie" Taylor written just before her death. "He [father William Carleton] also worked for McCalaster [McAllister] who lived on what now is Larue [Lareau] farm. He and Uncle Frank Boyce helped build a new bridge by Lareau's house. The Selectmen were going to put an old timber in new bridge, some thot [sic] it should not be used, too old. So Dad and Uncle Frank Boyce took the timber in the nite. Way back up in McCalasters [sic] woods and hid it. They had a big thing over it, said if ever caught ones did it, they would have to settle for it. Guess never found out as Dad said he never told for years after." This bridge was removed about 1948 and a cement bridge built further north.

*Stoddard/Kneeland/Lareau Farm House*

*Stoddard/Kneeland/Lareau Barn*

Route 100 originally crossed Mad River south of its present location. Dr. Simeon Stoddard built his house in 1794 on the banks of Mad River very near the original highway crossing. The house was a large home. The horse and carriage barn was built circa 1820. Dr. Stoddard lived here until his death in 1841. The family cemetery is just south of the farm buildings on a little knoll. His son, Simeon Stoddard Jr. settled on the farm and operated it until his death 1863. Mr. A. A. Kneeland purchased the farm in 1866. Mr. Pliny Lockwood purchased the property in 1883 and built the large dairy barn. The barn was in the Dutch style complete with wagon ramp, through a covered bridge style entrance into the barn. Many barns in the valley were built with this type entrance. On the 2nd floor of this barn, between the horse stalls, was the original milking parlor. The third floor was haymow and the two queen posts, instead of a center pole, allowing room for a wagon to turn around. MacAllister lived here about 1890 into 1900's. William and Merlye Hughes purchased the property in 1929 and farmed it until 1935. In 1935, it became the Phillippe and Fleurette Lareau farm. The Lareau's gave part of the land for The Lady of the Snows Catholic Church across the river. The present barn structure is part of the original barn. In 1984, Dan and Susan Easley purchased the property and remodeled the house for a Bed and Breakfast Inn.

*Robert Stoddard/Maxwell House*

George Schenk rented part of the property and built a wood fired earthen oven. This oven became the center of the American Flatbread bakery/restaurant. In 2001 George Schenk purchased the property from Susan Easley. George Schenk continued the American Flatbread operations with new additions. Susan Easley continued to operate the Bed and Breakfast Inn.

The building north near Mill Brook still on the West Side of Route 100 is the Captain Robert O. Stoddard home, son of Dr. Simeon Stoddard. The house was built 1822. John Maxwell lived here in 1905 and later Lloyd Maxwell. It became the property of Otto Becker in 1946. In 1990 it became the property of Clyde Coutts and is the Featherbed Bed and Breakfast in 2000.

*Brickyard Mill Brook-Leon Taylor Foreground*
*About 1890*

*Brickyard Mill Brook*
*About 1890*

North of this property near Mill Brook was a Brickyard. It was the last operating brickyard in Waitsfield. It was closed around 1890. Near this site in 2000 is a road leading to the Eagles Condo development built in 1980's.

The area now being addressed has been known historically as "The Dugway." The description begins at the Waitsfield/Fayston line on the west. On Mill Brook near the town line west of the bridge and north side of the brook, John Heaton Jr. built a sawmill in 1793 and later a clapboard mill. It was the first sawmill constructed in Waitsfield. It was from this mill that most of the early lumber came for the permanent structures. This mill and others were encouraged when in October of 1790 a tax of "2 pence an acre was voted of which one half would go for roads and one half to encourage mills." Other mills were soon constructed as indicated elsewhere. In early 1800, Thomas Green and his sons, Joseph and Seth Green became proprietors. Ira Richardson became the owner and operator in the 1850's. This mill was destroyed in the 1858 flood. It was again destroyed in the 1869 flood when it was the Richardson and Rice Mill. This mill also burned in February 1906. It was destroyed in the 1927 flood and the 1938 hurricane. Roy Richardson and Clayton Richardson operated the mill from 1890 to 1945.

(Author's note: the reason for setting 1794/95 as the building dates of the first original houses, other than log cabins, is the fact that there were no sawmills until John Heaton Jr. built the first mill on Mill Brook in 1793. Many settlers continued to build log cabins even after the established mills.)

*Richardson Mill Dam and corner of the Mill Prior to 1907*

*Richardson Mill after the 1945 flood…Taken by Willis Bragg*

*Richardson Mill after the 1945 flood…Taken by Willis Bragg*

This mill was destroyed again by a flood in 1945. Burlington Free Press September 20, 1945: "about four o'clock Wednesday morning…heavy down power … did much damage to roads and gardens. It practically destroyed the mill owned by Roy and Clayton Richardson. … The main road to Warren was under water for about four hours…at Irasville cellars were flooded in four houses, two on property of Clarence Gallagher and the others of Frank Smith and Albert Tucker."

*Baird Mill Built in 1945/46*

Burlington Free Press October 11, 1945: "The Draper Lumber Company is rebuilding the sawmill at Irasville which high water destroyed a few weeks ago." At this time, Andrew Baird Sr. purchased the business and continued to operate on a temporary basis. Andrew Baird Sr. had to travel as far away as Rhode Island to purchase machinery for the mill because of the shortage of equipment after World War II. Andrew Baird Sr. with the help of "Red" Sutherland finally finished building the small mill across the highway after the last destruction. It was really a kit to be assembled. Dances were held in the mill for a time immediately after it was completed to help pay for the construction. Andrew Baird Sr. operated the mill until 1976. The mill still stands and operated by his son, Andrew Baird Jr. in 2000. The mill was used to saw rough limber and sold for building, but much of the lumber was ship south where it was cut up, planed for making furniture. On the site of the original mill is the Auto Shop in 2000.

*D.E. Street/Boyce/Smith House*

The house east of the mill was occupied by D.E Street according to an 1858 map. Dennison Boyce lived here at one time. Frank and May Smith lived here in the 1900's followed by Fred Smith a violin player. There was a fire here which partially destroyed the house which was rebuilt. Norris Gallagher lived here in 1950's. In 2000, it is the office building for F.G. White Gas Company.

Across Mill Brook at the fork of Dana Hill Road and the road to South Fayston was the house of S. Kneeland about 1800. Also interesting to note, but actually in Fayston was the house of J. Green and the house of Y.C.W. Hastings, and on the north side across from Hastings home was the Clapboard Mill.

*Boyce/Gallagher House*

The next house on the north side of Route 17 was the house built by Dennison Boyce and B. Franklin Colby about 1840. Dennison and Clarissa (Colby) Boyce lived here for many years. An 1873 map shows Dennison Boyce living here. One map shows S.E. Lord living here as well as a D.S. Street. (Note: Jones book does not show either a Lord or Street) James Blair may have lived here. It became the home of Clarence Gallagher Sr. Clarence Gallagher Sr. married Hattie Boyce. Clarence Gallagher Sr. died in 1982. His wife, Hattie, continued to live here until 1988. This became a small farm which included land across the road along Mill Brook purchased from Joe Neill. The property was sold about 1989 to F. G. White and this historical house was destroyed.

The following information is taken from notes written by Clarissa "Goldie" Taylor written just before her death. "My dad [William C. Carleton] was born in Waitsfield June 8, 1859 at Irisville [sic] in house (blank space) is made over larger was a small house then. My mother [Myra C. Boyce] was born Moretown Mt [Waitsfield]. Her parents [Dennison & Clarissa (Colby) Boyce] moved to Waitsfield, her dad [Dennison Boyce] and uncle [B. Franklin] Colby built the House that is Galagher [sic] now by Baird's Mill. It part[ly] burned and is made over. …..My folks [William & Myra (Boyce) Carleton] met at a Good Templers meeting in Church Advent in Colbyville. Mother's Bro Frank [Boyce] took her to the meeting. Gramie Boyce [Clarissa Boyce] told her they could be married at home, but at last she said they could not, so they went to Parsonage Sept. 15, 1878 and were married by S.H. Robinson. Nancy Carleton witnessed. They bought the little House at foot of Dugway where Munn restaurant [sic] is. Ruth was born there. They afterwards lived over head of Richardson's Store where the liqure [sic] was. Ira was born there. Dad [William Carleton] worked for Waits once where Fecteau has Wait farm. Also worked in Brick yard was in a field off route 100 by bridge near Beckers on same side of road was old Maxwell place. …."

The house east of Gallagher's was known as the Clark place in 1830. Probably John G. Clark who settled on the east side of Northfield Mountain, but moved to School District #6 in 1830. Older generations knew this as William Clark place in 1860's. It was owned by Clarence Gallagher Sr. and seemed to have been rental property through much of the 1900's. Dora Shaw lived here-Marion Currier and others. Earl and Evelyn Bettis lived here until Earl Bettis died. Evelyn Bettis married Nelson Patch and they moved to the house in Irasville. Robert Gallagher remodeled the

*Clark House after Robert Gallagher remodeled it in 1955*

house and sold it to Frank and Ann Day who lived here in 1955. James Lackard was living here in August of 1957. They sold to Buddy Sherman who started the restaurant in the cider mill; the house was torn down to make a parking lot. In 1997, F. G. White was given a permit to build a gas station and small store which occupies the site in 2000.

The building to the north behind the Clark house was a Wheelwright shop of Mr. Clark. This was probably John G. Clark who came to this area about 1830 and was town clerk in 1833. Clarence Gallagher Sr. purchased the building and operated it as a cider mill. Then Clarence Gallagher and his son Robert had a woodworking shop here and made furniture and wooden clothes drying racks as well as wooden gift items. It was sold and made into a restaurant. In 1975, David Steinman owned it as a restaurant known for its steaks and Italian dishes. The restaurant was decorated with old time items making it very unique. It also had a dance hall, game room and live rock music. It was considered the place to go after skiing all day. It has changed proprietors several times. Peter Hall operated the restaurant for a few years called "Mother McCree." In 1992, Christopher Pierson and Pete Stancer purchased the property and restaurant. It was called "Gallaghers." Pete

*Wheelwright/Gallagher Shop Picture 1955*
*Courtesy of Ann Day*

Stancer died and the property sold to Steve Polcek who operated it – 1993 to 2000. The building was empty for a time. In 2001, Alan Goldman with ABG Corporation of Montpelier purchased the property. Extensive renovation was done and a much expanded restaurant called "John Eagan Pub and Grill" was established.

*Shepherd/Carleton/Robinson….Mooselips/Gateway*
*Courtesy of Katharine Hartshorn*

Across Route 17 on the south side was the property of Daniel Shepherd (Shepaerd) who came to Waitsfield in 1821. The 1873 map shows a Kennedy living at this location. William and Myra (Boyce) Carleton lived here right after their marriage in September 1875. Howard and Mildred Long lived here in the 1900's. Charles and Mildred Long lived here after Howard's death. Robinson's also lived here in the 1900's. He sold the property to Howard Munn who remodeled and operated "The Gateway Dinner." Howard Munn built an addition to the building for a ski lodge in 1956. It was called High and Dry, than called Mooselips, then Mad River Tavern. It has changed ownership several times and in 2000, is a bar and restaurant with a bicycle shop at one end. A historical note: On the Volunteer Firemen's list of places in Waitsfield in 1945, this is referred to as the Riverside Pavilion.

*Joel Foster House*

Route 100, which came down the Dugway from the north originally, turned sharply east toward Warren. At this junction Route 17 turned west toward South Fayston. Part of the old road south is still used. On this original Dugway Road, on the north side, was the home of Joel Foster built 1818. There were several Foster's in Waitsfield and Elisha Foster operated a tavern in Irasville. He may have also lived here. An 1858 map shows a R. Bates living here. In 1900's Herbert James owned it. Russ Heaton lived here in the 1900's. Mr. Merchant lived here in 1945. Leno family lived here. Several other families have lived here. In 2000, it is Property Management.

Since roads necessarily play a part of this important area, it should be noted that the original road from Jeduthan Wait's house went south by the ledge and turned directly east running along the terrace edge where the Mehuron Store strip mall stands in 2000. This road continued along the terrace to the east of the present Irasville Cemetery and went down the hill by the location of Joel Foster house. Indications are that this road then crossed Mill Brook east of the present location and turned slightly southwest onto Dana Hill. It was later located near the present bridge location when a more permanent bridge was build as noted earlier. The north end of this road was abandoned when the new road was built across Irasville flats. The south end of this original road was used for several years. Picnics and town gatherings were held on the lower terrace area and serviced by the south end of the old road. This area was behind the original Methodist Church in Irasville.

*Garinter Hastings House*

The next house south was the house of Garinter Hastings in 1822. He also owned the Daniel O. Joslin farm on the Old Colony Road for a time and ran it as a tavern. He also had an interest in the Green Mill. Jonas Parker may have lived here in 1860's. Emery Somerville lived here from about 1938 to 1948. Jim and Judy Dodds own the property in 2000.

The next house was known as the Wallace Howe house. The Jones' book does not mention this house and the actual date it was built is not known. Wallace Howe was living here from about 1935 to 1950. Ida Martin lived here in the 1950's. This house in 2000 is an office. The Green Acres Apartment buildings have been built next to this Howe house.

*Jonathan Hastings/Kelty House*

Jonathan H. Hastings, son of Garinter Hastings, built the next house. The house was built 1848. It was than owned my John J. Kelty who drove the stage to Middlesex for many years. John S. Campbell lived here for a time. He married Fanny O Hastings, daughter of Garinter Hastings. Ferris Howe lived here for a time. Peter Fecteau came to Waitsfield about 1931 and lived on a farm on what is now the Carroll Road. He also had an antique and second had store in the old Eaton Building when it burned in 1944. He then moved his antique business to the barn across the road from this house and lived in the house. The store was called, "Everybody's Attic." The 1945 Fireman's map lists Peter Fecteau as living here. Irene Fecteau lived here also.

North of the John Kelty house (northeast toward the river), John Kelty built a slaughterhouse about 1880's. Stephen E. Joslin owned this slaughterhouse in 1903. John Buzzell owned the slaughterhouse in 1920 and 30's. Two slaughterhouses existed for a time when Warren Palmer owned the property where the slaughterhouses stood. There was a 100-year land lease for the slaughterhouse. Edmund Tucker built the second slaughterhouse slightly north of the original Kelty slaughterhouse. Carl Long owned it in the 1930's and 40's. The oldest one was ultimately torn down. Tim Goodyear owned the newer building in 1940's. Supposedly this building still exists and has been remodeled into a house owned by Brian Shupe in 2000. This is now called "Butcher House" road. At the end of this road is the Mad River Meadows low income housing built in the 1990's.

A road called Fiddler's Green enters from Route 100 and runs northeast. This road was built in the early 1970's to accommodate several businesses. One of the original buildings housed the 80 seat Edison Studio Theater which opened in 1974 and operated by Alex and Kenneth Turner. This theater was divided with a lower room for non-drinkers, and an upper room which served snacks drinks, one could smoke in the bar area. Next door to the theatre was a Mexican restaurant called Azteca Sun, owned by Patricio Stuven who also played the guitar for personal table side entertainment. The food was prepared by Don Jorge Espinoza. It had a distinctive Mexican interior and was considered the place to go for Mexican dining. The restaurant later became Beggar's Banquet, Great American Eagle, and then Juniper's Fare. Again this building since 1970's has changed en-

terprises several times. In 2000, it is owned by William Parker and houses the Diffraction studios, Marilyn Ruseckas' art studio, and other offices.

Continuing on the Fiddler's Green Road in the 1990's is a laundry, Auto Parts Store, Dentist Office, and a car wash business. All structures are not historical.

*William Stoddard House*

Next to Mill Brook was the house built by William Tell Stoddard. His son, Harlan P. Stoddard lived here. The frame of the house was the first District #5 schoolhouse. The building at the top of the dugway was the second school house. O. B Scofield lived here in 1873. Rob Livingston lived here for several years in 1930's as well as Sterling Livingston. Clarence Kew also lived here during this time. It became known as "The Sheep Shop" owned by Mr. Austin in 1990's. In 2000, it is the Vermont Pack and Paddle Outfitters.

Across Mill Brook from the Garinter Hastings house was the Fulling mill and dyehouse built by Guy C. Nickols in 1815. John Kimball then operated it in 1828. William McAllister operated it from 1834 to 1850. Stephen Parker then operated it as a tannery in 1852. His son, Frederick Parker operated as a gristmill and sawmill in 1880. It later became a shingle mill. The mill was washed away in 1927 flood..

Below this mill was the William Tell Stoddard Tannery. The tannery was later operated as a starch factory. William Stoddard also operated a tannery on Spaulding Brook on the North Road for several years. The Mill Brook Tannery was abandoned by 1860's.

In the 1960's, Robert Kingsbury built a house near the site of the Fulling mill. In 2000, the property is owned by Roger Lanphear.

On the north side of the present Route 100 several buildings have been built. In 1945 Ruth and Bill Jones built a house which is now Dion & Shea Real Estate, Adworks building is a recent remodeled structure and Jamieson Insurance. The rebuilt and enlarged buildings next were originally the old barn of the Kelty place.

# DANA HILL
## Also known as Ferris Hill

*Dana Hill Road*

It is reasonable to include in this Dugway area the historical Dana Hill. This road leaves Route 17 just over the Mill Brook Bridge near the Fayston line. Francis Dana settled this area very early in 1790. He owned Lots 143 and 144. However, it is logical to follow in order up Dana Hill from Route 17. Dana Hill has also been called Ferris Hill, and Irwin Hill.

Stephen Dana lived at the junction of Route 17 and Dana Hill on the west side in 1817. S. Kneeland also lived here. The house no longer exists.

A small house was built in 1940 by Clyde Norton on the east side of Dana Hill road just after the entrance to the road. (see picture of Mill Brook Bridge) Dr. Warren and Gertrude Howard owned the property and lived here 1949 to 1957 when Dr. Howard died. Gertrude (Bisbee) Howard continued to live here until 1985, when she went to a nursing home. The property in 2000 is owned by David Garien.

The next place at the top of the hill was the house of Eli Abbott who settled in 1797. This was referred to as the Irvin place in later years. Several people have lived here over the years. Fred Cota lived here in 1945. Some skiers from New Jersey had it briefly. Gerald and Marilyn Hilly purchased the property and live there in 2000.

Francis Dana came to Waitsfield at the same time as Benjamin Wait and settled on Lots 143 and 144. Francis Dana lived here until his death in 1813. He transferred portions of this farm to his sons, Henry Dana and Foster Dana who came to Waitsfield in 1793 and 1795 respectively. This was known as the James Irwin place in 1900's. Peter Laskowski built a house on the site of the Irwin place in the1990's.

Henry Dana settled the next farm, a portion of his father's farm, in 1793. Stephen Russell lived here for several years as well as Russell Steele. In the 1900's it was known as the Hugh McKenney place.

On the East side of the road across from the Francis Dana farm was the farm of Jonah Strickland according to early maps.

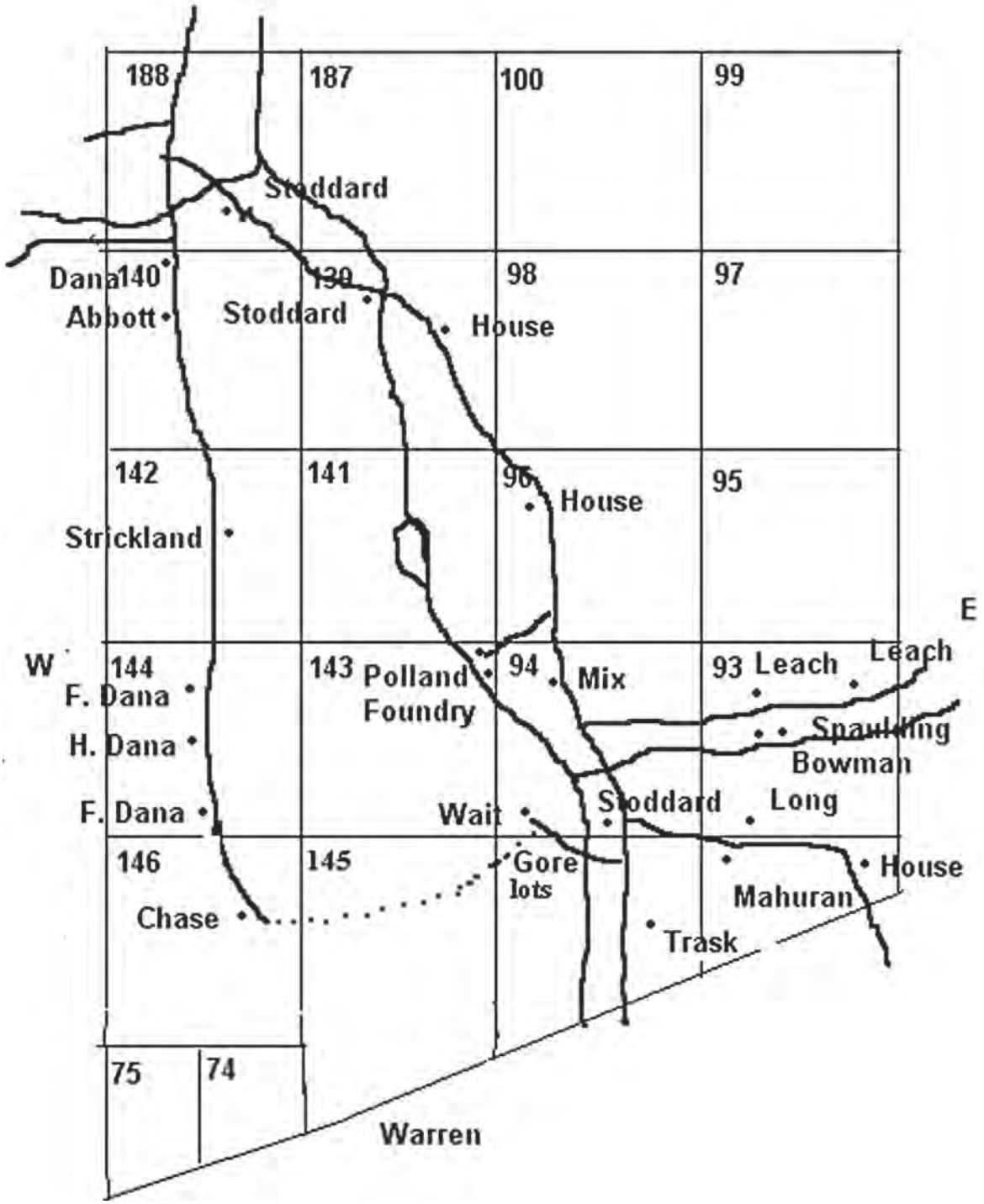
Foster Dana lived on the next farm which was a portion of his father's farm in 1795 until 1858. John Ferris lived here in 1861. He married Elizabeth McKenney, daughter of Hugh McKenney. Charles H. Ferris lived here in the early 1900's. He married Jesse M. Dana. Thus the name Ferris Hill Road.

The last farm on this road was in Lot 146. This was settled in 1807 by Thomas Chase. Lucius Shaw lived here in 1830. William Kew lived here in 1873. On several maps this is called Kew Hill. It was known as the Henry Kneeland farm in the 1900's. It was also known as the Dorreck Kneeland farm. Milford and Edna Long lived here in 1928. Mr. Perkins lived here followed by Fred Recore. The buildings burned in 1952. Howard Munn owned the property about 1947 and sold to Mr. Otto in 1954. Frank Day later purchased the property. The property has again changed ownership in 2000. These farms were all abandoned in the 1930's.

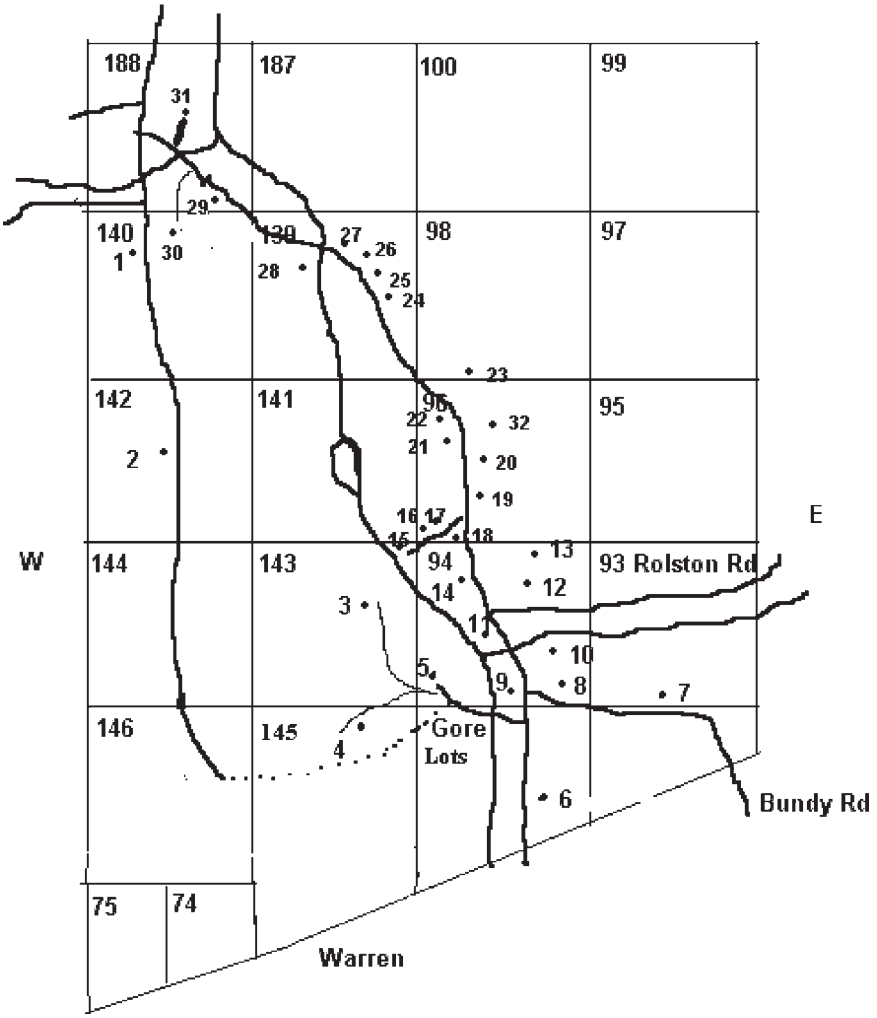
It should be noted that Dana Hill Road in the very early days extended south from the Kneeland farm and continued to what is now known as the Sugarbush Access Road. There were two places on the extension, the Hewitt's and Buzzell's. The first farm may have been in Waitsfield where the Hewitt family lived. The Dana Hill Road also went straight down the hill east to the Wait/Ford/Bragg farm. This portion of the road was used during the summer time. However, in later years the Town did not want to be responsible for this end of the road and it was discontinued. It did remain a walking path and a logging road for years.

There are only three homes on the Dana Hill Road in 2000 - the David Garien home near Mill Brook, Gerald Hilly home at the top of the hill and Peter Laskowski home on the old James Irwin farm. There are two hunting/summer camps beyond Mr. Laskowski's home.

WARREN TOWN LINE TO IRASVILLE
1790 - 1825



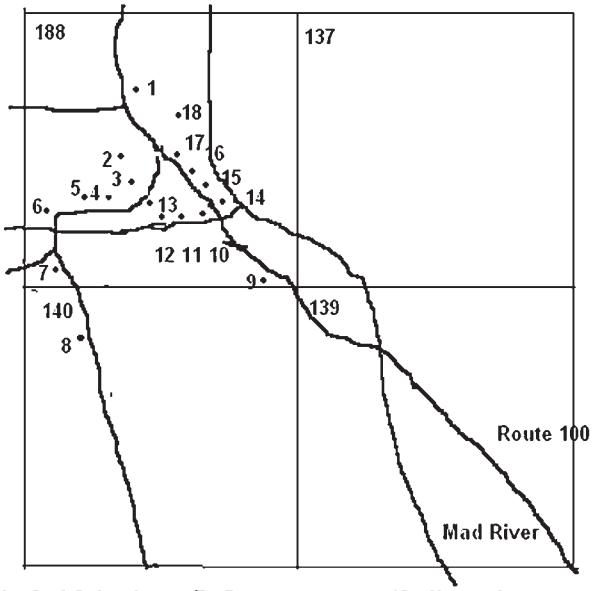
# WARREN TOWN LINE TO IRASVILLE
## 2000




1. Gerald Hilly
2. Peter Laskowski
3. Condominiums
4. Butternut Hill Road
5. Wait/Ford/Bragg/Steinman
6. Yestermorrow School
7. Bundy Art Gallery
8. New House
9. Stoddard/Folsom
10. Motel
11. River House
12. Clayton Kingsbury
13. House
14. Mix/Kingsbury
15. Polland
16. New House
17. New House
18. New House
19. Business Complex
20. Disposal/Recycle
21. Warren Ketcham
22. House/Boyce
23. New House
24. Gaylord Garage
25. House/Hadley Gaylord
26. Catholic Church
27. Restaurant
28. Stoddard/Lareau/Flatbread
29. Stoddard/Featherbed Inn
30. Eagles Condominiums
31. Fiddler's Green Road
32. Garden Landscape Business

## DUGWAY ROUTE 100 AND 17

## 1790 - 1825

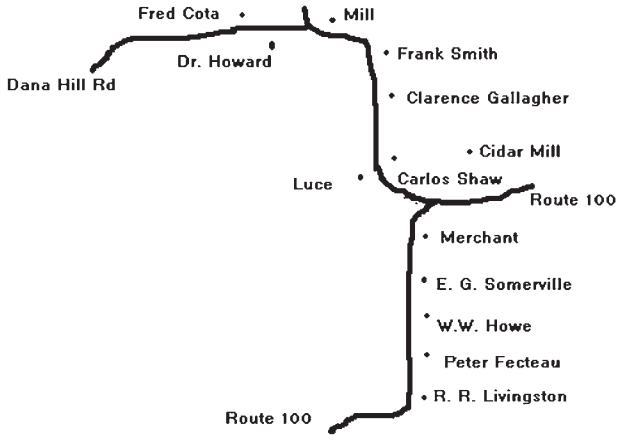



1. 2nd School
2. Wheelwright
3. Clark
4. Blair
5. Street
6. Mill
7. Dana
8. Abbott
9. Stoddard
10. Brickyard
11. Tannery
12. Fulling Mill
13. Kennedy
14. Stoddard
15. Hastings
16. Hastings
17. Foster
18. Slaughter House

## DUGWAY AND ROUTE 17

## 1945

## FIREMEN'S LOCATION CHART



# DUGWAY ROAD

The Dugway road is really Route 100 and in 2000 it is called Main Street. The text relates the information concerning the changes in this area.

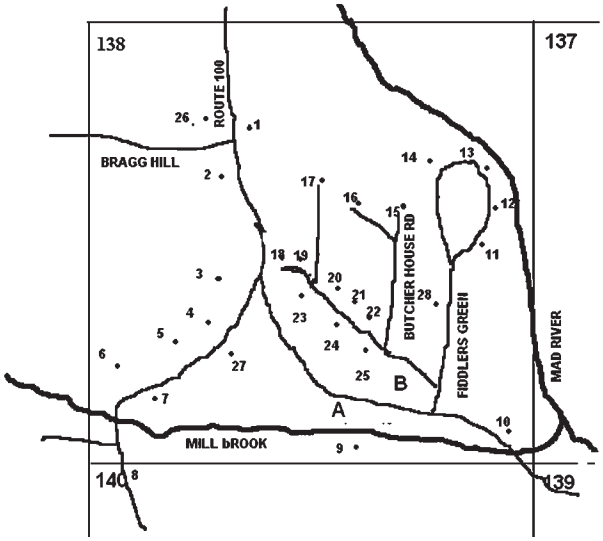
The road was surveyed and built across Irasville as it exists today about 1820. The south end of the old road did remain in partial use for several years. This original road has been totally abandoned since early 1900's. The road was changed in 1948 when Route 100 was hard surfaced. It was extended further south and closer to Mill Brook where it is at the present time. The covered bridge across Mill Brook on route 100 was torn down at this same time and a cement bridge constructed in its place. Therefore, the original Dugway Road became accessible further south at its present location. The hotel in the village which was moved from the Dugway area and the original school house both were situated between Mill Brook and the Old Dugway Road approximately on the flat area of the present Route 100. The exact site is not known.

It was not until the 1950's that major changes began in this area. Floods changed some aspects, but old houses were removed, new house and businesses were constructed and new roads were built. With more automobile traffic and ski area traffic, the junction of Route 100 and Route 17 has been the subject of considerable debate.

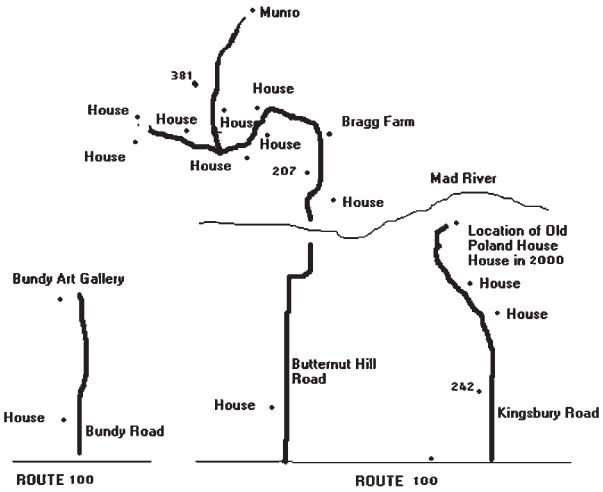
The following key and map is an attempt to show the Dugway area after the 1950's and into 2000. The letter A is the new Route 100 and the letter B is the old Dugway Road. The old Dugway Road connected originally approximately where the road goes to building #18 on the new map.

A. New Route 100
B. Old Route 100
1. Second School House now Den Restaurant
2. Wheelwright/Gallagher/Eagan Restaurant
3. Gas Station
4. site of old Blair/Gallagher house
5. F.G. White Gas Company
6. Garage and Car Sales
7. Baird Sawmill
8. David Garien Home
9. Robert Lamphear Home
10. Canoe & Paddle Shop
11. Car Wash
12. Dentist Office
13. Auto Parts Store
14. Laundry Business
15. Brian Shupe House
16. Low Cost Housing Units
17. Apartment Building
18. House #152, #156 Heaton business
19. House Dodds/Somerville
20. House #102 Wallace Howe house
21. New Apartment Building
22. House Kelty/Fecteau house
23. Dion & Shea Real Estate Business
24. Kelty Barn/Adworks
25. Jamieson Insurance Company
26. Doctor's Office Old Peachblow House/ Dr. Quimby
27. Mad river Tovern/Bar-Grill Restaurant
28. Theater/Restaurant/Office Complex

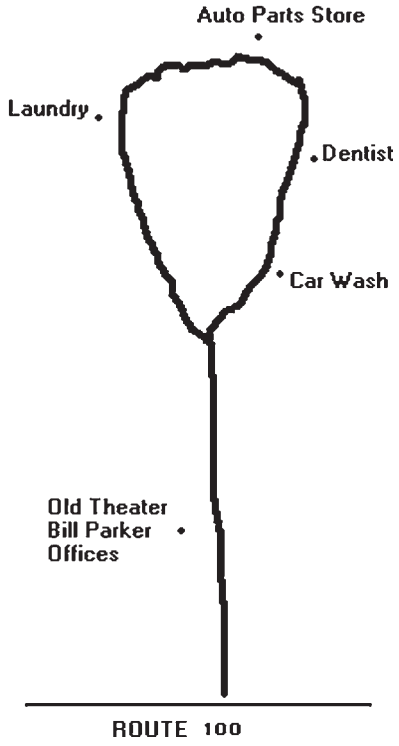
**DUGWAY ROUTE 100 AND 17**
**2000**



## BUTTERNUT HILL ROAD BUNDY ROAD KINGSBURY ROAD




## FIDDLER'S GREEN ROAD



# CHAPTER X
# IRASVILLE

This chapter begins with the area south of Jeduthan Wait's house. Mr. Wait's house is included in the Waitsfield Village Chapter.

Irasville is a part of Waitsfield. This little area was given the name because Ira Richardson was extremely influential in settling this portion of town. The original road ran from Jeduthan Wait's house around the ledge turning directly east and ran along the edge of the terrace until it turned down into the "Dugway' just behind the first Methodist Church. However, when the official roads were surveyed, this road was laid out straight across the flat as it is in 2000. As the Jones *History of Waitsfield* indicates, this was an excellent racing area for the early trotting horses in the town.

The first road east from Route 100 is the entrance to the Harlow Carpenter house built in 1960. William Parker owns the property in 2000.

In the 1800's, a short road, now called Carroll Road, ran west to the Fayston line and the Fecteau farm. In 1980's, this area was expanded with Allen Lumber Company, Valley Rent-All, Mad River Flick (Theater). Wood and Wood was added in 2003. Most of the homes behind these businesses are in Fayston.

The Valley Rent-All was owned and operated by Vince and Diana Gauthier. They built and started the business in 1983 and operate the business in 2000.

The Mad River Flick was built by the Winterpark Association - Brian "Ted" Joslin, Quinton Pearson and Robert Blair in 1980's. Alex Turner had a theater in Fiddler's Green called Edison Studio. She wanted to enlarge and so she entered into an agreement with Winterpark Association to build the theater; she rented the building. In the late 1980's, she left the business. The theater was sold to Andy Rockefeller and Steve Fiorentini called Marble Rock Cinema. They owned the theatre until 1998. The theatre ceased to operate in 2000. It was sold to a local music organization, but the sale was not completed. It was sold at auction in 2002 for $200,000 to Peter Swaine and Chris Jones who completely remodeled the building. Northland Construction and Wood and

*Parker/Baird House*

Wood did the design and construction work. It became known as the Eclipse Theater. The Eclipse Theater has a lounge to seat 100 to 150 people to have drinks or a venue for small performances. It also has a musical space for up to 200 people as well as a movie theater.

Around the little ledge south on the East Side of Route 100 is the house of Stephen Parker built about 1845. He operated the tannery on Mill Brook. Abijah B. Whitcomb lived here in 1873. Fred Baird lived here in 1920's. Andrew and Gertrude Baird Sr. lived here in the 1940's/50's. In 2000, Andrew Baird Jr. owns the property and maintains apartments in the house. Andrew Baird III built a house and auto shop further east behind the original house in 1998. Andrew Baird Jr. also continues to operate the mill his father, Andrew Baird Sr. built on Mill Brook in 1946.

*Sloan/French/Bragg House*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

On the West Side of the road was the house of John Sloan in early 1850's. Levi French owned the property in 1858. Rueben and Emma Downer owned it in early 1900's. Mr. Downer sold to Paul and Louise Buzzel in 1918. Francis Bragg owned the property for several years and sold it to Ellen Boyce. Eben Boyce lived here for a time and sold to Willis and Erlene Bragg in 1944. Willis Bragg did considerable remodeling work on the house. The Braggs sold to Sewell and Arthur Williams in 1952. Richard and Betsy Brothers owned the house and Betsy Brothers lives here in 2000.

Between the Abijah B. Whitcomb house and the cemetery was the Whitcomb blacksmith shop in 1860's and 70's. There has been no sign of the remains of this building since about 1870.

In 2000, between the Andrew Baird house (The Whitcomb house) and the Irasville cemetery is the first mall in Waitsfield. It became the shopping center of Waitsfield in 1969. The shopping center was built by Jerry Hotte from Barre. This first area contained Mehuron's Store, a Laundromat, beauty shop, insurance agency, three small businesses, two retail shops, and six one bedroom apartments. It was sold in 1971 to Albert Raphael and partners from New York. This shopping area was enlarged in 1974 with an expansion of Mehuron's store and then the expanded business complex facing Route 100. On the end of this complex next to the highway was the Bomar Gas Station owned by Harry Bonnette and Stanley Martin (thus the name). Adrian Elwell purchased the gas station in 1950's. In 2000, it is the Exxon station.

*Original Shopping Area East side - Route 100- Irasville*
*Picture by Dennis Curran*

*West Side of Mall in Irasville 2000*

*North End of Mall in Irasville 2000*

In 1980's, two other groupings of shops across the parking lot to the west and to the north of this original complex were built by Circus Studios Construction. These two complexes contained several businesses through 2000.

*Mad River Green 1973 and Chittenden Bank*

The Old Waitsfield Village proper had limited parking and limited area to expand. Consequently, Irasville was chosen as the area to expand the business area. In May 1972, the Old Richardson/Kenyon barn was removed and the Bisbee Hardware complex built and a second shopping area established called the Mad River Green. Dick Brothers and Ron Graves were the officers of Mad River Green Inc. Much of this area was the result of Brothers Building Company Inc. Much of this included the Bisbee Hardware building, Green Mountain coffee café, Better Travel with Chittenden Bank at the north end and the Northfield Bank building at the south end (in 2000). The Chittenden Trust Bank was built in September of 1972 and completed in the spring of 1973. Interesting to note that Capital Bank owned this property in 1938 and its name was changed to Chittenden Bank thus the bank was built on land it originally owned.

Across the parking lot to the west are additional shops, Jay's Restaurant, Jamieson Insurance Company, and Post office in 1962. To the north on the old farm property was The Grand Union Grocery which began in 1982. It is Shaws Grocery in 2001, and the ice skating arena built in the 1990's. The Mad River Canoe Company is west of the skating arena. Mad River Canoe was started by Jim and Kay Henry in 1970 building fiberglas canoes. It took several years to become a major producer of canoes which ultimately were shipped all over the east coast. L.L. Bean sold these canoes and ultimately allowed their name to be attached to the product. This canoe business left Waitsfield about 1998 because of poor business climate in Waitsfield.

*Shopping Mall Addition*

In 2000, a third office building was built on the south end of the Mad River Green. In this area, the Bisbee Home Decorating Shop and other offices exist in 2000. The Northfield Bank was built in the area near where Everard Marshall's house once stood. In 2000, this has caused considerable debate about Town development and so called "Town Sprawl." It has given rise to the need for town sewage system and a water system. In addition to many other Boards of control that have developed in Waitsfield in the 1990's is the Irasville Planning Board which is charged with overseeing the further development of this area.

*Northfield Bank*

Now returning to the East Side of the highway and the early development is the Irasville Cemetery. It was the Methodist Cemetery. Rufus Barrett gave the land for this cemetery in 1830's. Rufus Barrett lived in the house at the top of the "Dugway" West Side of highway. Rufus Barrett was also founder of the Methodist Church which first stood in Irasville.

Next to the cemetery south is the home of C. Fullerton. Henry K. Richardson lived here briefly before going to Minnesota. George C. Marshall lived here in 1848. George Marshall had a Cooper shop between the house and the cemetery for several years. His son, William Marshall lived here in 1915. It became the Francis Bragg farm property in 1939. It became the property of Willis and Erlene Bragg in 1970. Willis parents continued to live in the house. It was sold to Jim Hendershot, who with a partner enlarged the property to the complex - with bakery, beauty shop and other com-

*Methodist Parsonage Irasville/Richardson House/ Waitsfield Inn*

mercial enterprises. They own the property in 2000.

It maybe historically interesting to note that William Marshall while living here was supposedly told that Captain Kidd's buried treasure (supposedly taken from Long Island) was buried on this property. Mr. Marshall supposedly dug twice to find the treasure, but only discovered a large boulder. William Marshall was supposedly told this by a clairvoyant.

The next building is the Methodist parsonage built in 1829. Clarence M. Richardson lived here in 1868. He was the son of Ira Richardson and brother of Meriden Richardson. It became the home of Meridan Richardson, son of Ira Richardson, in 1874. It became the home of Clayton Richardson, son of Meridan Richardson in about 1890. The Richardson's owned the Irasville Store and owned and operated the mill on Mill Brook for many years. Mr. Curtis purchased the old parsonage property in the late 1970's and turned it into a ski lodge. Mike Cunningham owned the Inn and Restaurant for a short time. Jim and Pat Masson owned it for a brief time when it was sold to Mike and Ronda Kelley. David Young is the owner and chef of the food services at the Waitsfield Inn in 2003.

*First Methodist Church*

The building to the south was the first Methodist Church until 1870. The Richardson's used it as a storage building for several years. Since that time the building had been used for dances, and roller-skating. Will Marshall had a Barber Shop in part of the building. He was the father of Everard Marshall who lived across the highway. Howard Kenyon had an Elmore feed store in this building for a short period before moving to the Kenyon Store south of Town. Mert Kingsbury had a grain store here for a few years as well as Elmore Feed Company. Wirthmore Feed Company was also in this building. Robert Gallagher and Clarence Gallagher Sr. had the "Yankee Gift Shop" in the building in the 1950's. Riford Joslin used it as a woodworking shop in 1960's. The Millhouse Gallery used the building for a few years. In 1983, Jackie Rose moved her business from Sugar Bush Village to this building and called it "The Store," a gift shop. She operates the business in 2000.

The house to the south of the Old Methodist Church was probably built by one of the Richardson's around 1870. A Richardson lived here in 1870. It was known as the Higgley house in

the 1930's. Joe Neill lived here in 1940. Howard and Elizabeth Munn owned the property for a time in the 1940's. Stanley Spaulding lived here for a brief time. Clarence Fielder purchased the property about 1945 from Howard Munn. Riford Joslin purchased the property in 1956 and lived here until his death. He operated a woodworking shop in the blacksmith shop next door. He then utilized the old church for a shop and show room for his wood products. Riford started his wood working business in 1950 in the barn of the Poland house by the mill canal on Bridge Street. Art McAllister operated this blacksmith shop in the early years. Michael and Scott Ferguson rented the blacksmith shop from Betty Joslin after Riford's death; they also operated a wood working shop here. The blacksmith shop burned February 7, 1974, when the Ferguson's were renting it. The property has since been sold.

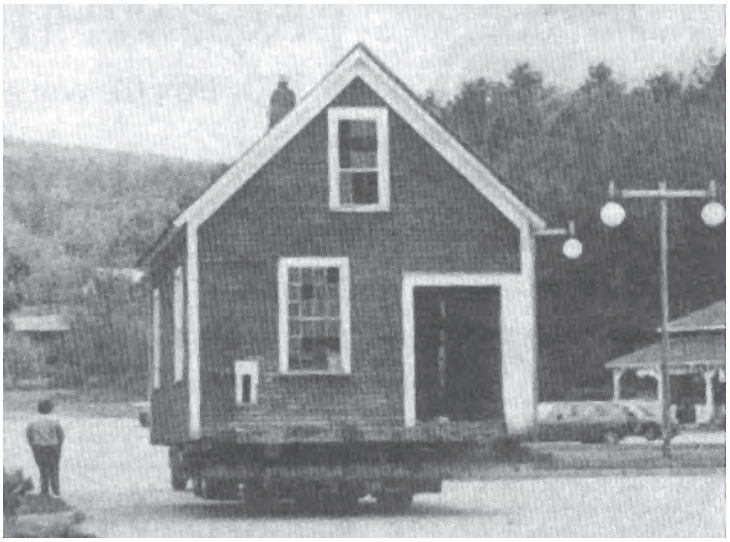
*District #5 School/Joslin House/Den Restaurant*
*Courtesy Alberta Stafford*

At the top of the Dugway was the creamery or "skimming shop." There were several "skimming shops" around Waitsfield. It was a place where farmers took their milk to separate the cream for sale at the creamery. The skim milk was usually taken home to feed the animals. There was a tool shop in this area in the 1840's. Later in 1852, the second District 5 schoolhouse was built just north of the "skimming shop." on this lot. The school operated until 1904. The building was sold in 1912. Harold Joslin purchased the property in 1922 and remodeled it into a house. Harold Joslin used the skimming shop as a garage and shop. He sold the property to Malcolm and Dorothy Joslin in 1946. In 2000, it is the Den Restaurant owned by Bob Welter.

*Peachblow/Richardson/Quimby House*

Crossing Route 100 to the west is the road onto Bragg Hill. At this junction is the old Peachblow house. Lemuel Richardson lived here briefly about 1812. Rufus Barrett lived here in 1820. Roy Richardson, son of Meriden L. Richardson, married Cora Maxwell and lived here in 1909. The Maxwell sisters: Cora, Elizabeth, Claire lived here during much of 1930 and 40's. It became the property and office of Dr. Shephard Quinby in 1953. After Dr. Quinby's death, the building was not used for a few years. In 1995, Black Diamond Clothing shop was located in the building. A pottery shop operated in the barn. In 2000, Dr. Karen Endacott opened an office in the south end of the house where Dr. Quinby had his office. An antique shop is in the barn section.

The next house north was that of Roswell Richardson in 1827. He was engaged in the mills, but left in 1845. Will Marshall lived here in 1870's and had a barber shop in Irasville for many years. The following taken from a special to the New York Times, December 4, 1937. "Will Marshall, 85 years of age, has taken down his barber's pole after sixty-five years of shaving and cutting hair. He was also an amateur wrestler in his youth. He said he never "rastled" for money. … For several years Mr, Marshall worked in the lumber mill in the daytime and operated his barber shop at night. Many a Saturday night, I've stayed open until 2 o'clock in the morning to satisfy all my customers. Mr. Marshall learned his trade in Waterbury at the age of 19."



*Marshall Shop being moved behind Shaws Store*

Will Marshall's son, Everard Marshall, lived in this house in the 1900's. Everard Marshall also had a carpentry shop next door. Robert Davidson lived here for a time as well as Roger Heath. This carpentry shop has been moved twice. In 1984, it was moved behind the Post Office and Shaw's Store. The Marshall house was moved and is the home of Bob Welter. Mr. and Mrs. Andy Hengsteller purchased the original Richardson/Marshall property and built a ski lodge in its place called Ski Center Lodge. An addition was built in 1956. Mr. Hengsteller sold the property to Bill and Millie Stinson about 1972. The Stinson's enlarged the lodge to a 20 guest room Valley Inn. This property was sold to the Valley Senior Citizens for a senior center and shared housing residence in 1978. This property has since changed organizational structure several times in an attempt to meet financial burdens. It remains a senior center and housing in 2000.

Hengsteller also had a house and motorcycle shop in this immediate area. The motorcycle shop building has been enlarged and used for other purposes in recent years.

*Richardson Store in 1800's*
*Courtesy Lois Richardson*

*Richardson/Bragg/Kingsbury*
*Irasville Store*

Ira Richardson built the Richardson store in 1812. Ira Richardson, for whom this area was named, engaged in successful farming for several years. He then swapped his farm for the Tyson Furniture Company which sold stoves. He continued in the stove and tin business, built a store and residence in Irasville. It is said that the "little village arose" to supply homes for the employees of his many enterprises. Mr. Richardson was engaged with Jonathan H. Hastings and Stephen Parker in the tannery on Mill Brook until Stephen Parker bought out the business. In 1874, his youngest son, Meriden L. Richardson purchased his father's store and continued to run the business until nearly his death in 1904. Fred Woods operated the store in the 1920's. Fred Miles operated the store in the 1930's. Clayton Richardson owned the property during much of this time. Merrill Bragg purchased the store in 1942 while he was still in the military service. When he got out of the service, he operated the store for a brief time until his sudden death. It was called, "Bragg's Country Store" at that time. Mr. Bragg had married a Neff daughter. Merrill Bragg's wife and his in-laws operated the store for a brief period. In 1947, Mervin and Madeline Kingsbury and Clayton Kingsbury, purchased the store. They called it M & R Store. Clayton left the business, but Mert and Madeline Kingsbury continued to operate it. Mervin "Mert" and Madeline Kingsbury retired from the store in 1975 with a retirement party for them given at Tardy's restaurant. They sold the store to Mr. Apgar who operated the business briefly. Walter Kenyon purchased the business and it was referred to as the Irasville Store. Walter Kenyon operated it as a store and sold grain as well.

In 1957, Mervin and Madeline Kingsbury and Madeline's brother, Roger and Marion Eurich from New York purchased the store for a second time and added a lunch counter, deli, specialty goods, and the liquor store. Roger and Marion Eurich left the business. The Kingsbury's called it the M & M Store. They sold the store to Doug Reagan and Adrian Elwell who had the property for a time. Adrian Elwell left the business. A portion of the building burned and was remodeled. In 2000, it is the Inverness ski shop and video store.

Between the Irasville Store and the Kenyon farm house in the 1940's, Walter Kenyon built a small building where Agnes Kenyon had a lunch counter for several years. Several people lived in the building for awhile after it was a luncheon place. It was later moved and became the air raid building near the Polland Road.

The next building north on the West Side of Route 100 is the Northfield Bank and the shopping complex that has been discussed earlier in this chapter. The Northfield Bank was built in 1998 and the store and office building directly west of the bank was built in 2000.

*Richardson/Kenyon House in Irasville*

North of the Northfield Bank is the Ira Richardson home built in 1812. It was a large house for the time. It was operated as a farm with a large barn to the west. William and Mary Bragg owned the farm in 1900. They sold the farm to Harry and Winnie Farnsworth in 1920. Archie Sabins purchased the farm in 1928. It was referred to as the Sabins' farm in the 1900's. Walter Kenyon came from Richmond, Vermont and purchased the farm in 1938. Walter Kenyon operated the farm until 1970.

Howard Kenyon, son of Walter Kenyon, had a grain store in the Old Methodist Church. Howard and Dorothy Kenyon lived in the house and Walter and Agnes Kenyon lived in the up stairs apartment during the 1950's and 1960's. Dorothy converted an old garage at the rear of the house into a Laundromat, the first one in town. Dorothy operated it for three years. Howard and Dorothy Kenyon moved to the old Burdick farm south of the village and started the Kenyon's Store in 1971 which is still operated by the Kenyon family in 2000.

This Irasville farm was sold to Dick Brothers and Ron Graves of Mad River Green Inc. The first floor of the farm house became the office of Brother's Building Company Inc. and Graves Realty Company. In 2000, the office of Brothers Building Company, and the Valley Reporter occupy the farm house. Brothers Building Company owns the property in 2000. The large barn which had been remodeled to have a milking stable on the ground floor was torn down. An 8,000 square foot commercial floor space building for the Bisbee Hardware shopping complex was built in the field west of the original barn in 1972.

The Chittenden Bank built in 1972 is at the end of the Bisbee Hardware building. Local men appointed to the executive board of the new Chittenden Bank were Edward R. Eurich, Richard Saltzman, Warren Ketcham, and Richard Jamieson. The bank opened in 1973.Next building is a modern structure with a real estate office. Steve Flemer built this in 1980's.

The next building was the Nathan B. Smalley house in 1823. Hugh McKenney lived here for several years. Fred and Barbara Leno lived here in the mid 1900's. Joe and Mertle Bissett lived here in the 1940's. It was purchased by Steve Flemer in 1980's and remodeled and enlarged into a ski shop. Mr. Flemer owns the property in 2000.

*McLaughlin/Patch House*

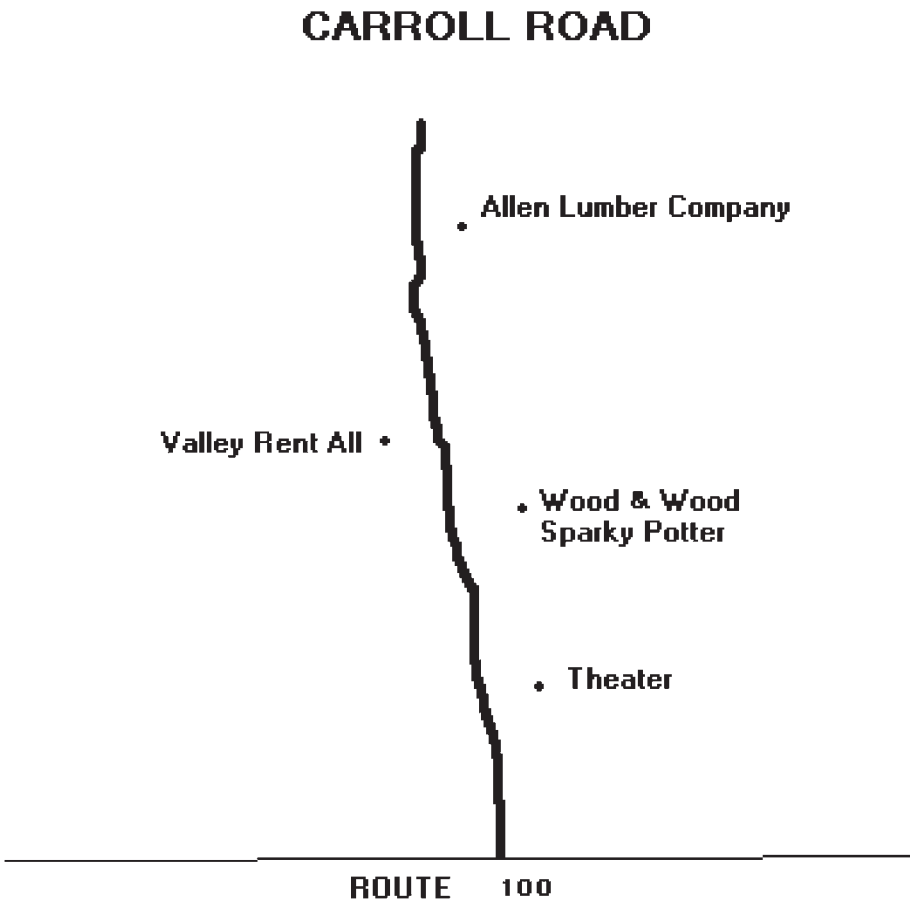
The next building was the home of John and Mary Mclaughlin. Alden Bettis purchased the property in 1941. Alden Bettis ran his milk truck business out of the home for several years. He sold it to Nelson Patch in 1946. Nelson Patch lived here for many years. It was sold and became a gas station and ultimately the Irasville Country Store owned by Kaminski in 2000.

*Robinson/Wheeler House*

The next home was that of Herb Robinson in 1900's. Herb Wheeler lived here in 1920's. Otto Livingston lived here in the mid 1940's. Holly Ward lived here briefly. In 2000, it is owned by Melissa Viens and serves as a Beauty Shop.

*Howard Bank/Bank North*

The Howard Bank, next door north, is also a modern building. The Howard Bank began in the Village in the basement of the Joslin Library. This building was built and the bank moved into the building August 1972. This completes the Irasville settlement.



# CHAPTER XI
# NORTH ROAD

The North Road did not continue into Moretown until mid 1800's. It was surveyed in 1807 and called Mad River Turnpike. In fact, the north end of this road did not follow the present day location.

In 1792 Samuel Barnard established his house and farm on the Moretown-Waitsfield line. He acquired this land from his brother, John Barnard who owned Lots 118, 119, and 120 - land from the Fayston line east across Mad River and then across the North Road. Samuel Barnard's portion was from Mad River across the North Road. Samuel Barnard built his original house east of the present farmhouse. The present farmhouse was built in the early 1800's. Stephen Ashley had a Cooper Shop just north on the little stream that runs along the edge of the property. Samuel Barnard may have also operated the Cooper Shop. There are several accounts of the various Indian artifacts found on this farm property. Samuel Barnard lived here until 1809. Ebenezer E. Barnard, son of Samuel Barnard, took over the farm in 1809 to 1861. William C. Barnard, son of Ebenezer Barnard, continued the farm until 1871. George W. Olmstead married Mary Barnard, daughter of William Barnard, and he took over the farm operation from 1870 until 1905. The farm was purchased by Hugh Carpenter in 1907 followed by George Carpenter. George Carpenter's wife, Dorothy, was the one who established the Carpenter Farm Ski Lodge in 1963 with a large guest capacity. It still remains the Carpenter family property in 2000.

The following roads and buildings came into existence about 1965. Until this time, the land was all farmed by the Barnards, Carpenters or Bisbees and there were no side roads or developments.

On the west side of the North Road and south of the Carpenter farm was a trailer for several years. Then Dan Quinones purchased the lot and built the house in 1970's.

South of this property is Loose Cow Road. West on this road is the Roger Nishi house built in 1996. Further west on this road is the Mike and Sarah Hughs home built in 1995.

South of the Loose Cow Road is the home of Robert and Kristina Bisbee, built in 1998.

*Moses Fisk /Bisbee House taken in 2000*

*Bisbee Barn 1903 Burned in 1971 First Octagonal Barn in Waitsfield*

Across the North Road from Loose Cow Road is the house originally built in 1960's by Alice Bisbee and Dr. Willgoose. This house was later sold and the building remodeled into apartments in 2000.

The next house south on the east side of the North Road is the home of Daniel D. Bisbee Jr., built in 1980.

The house south of Daniel D. Bisbee is Alice Bisbee home built in 1999.

At this point it is historically important to cross the North Road again to the west side of the North Road to the property originally cleared by Moses Fisk in 1794. Moses Fisk built a very large house for the times. It was in this house that the first school was held before the Northwest School was built. Moses Fisk later built a house further south on Spaulding Brook. This farm became the property of Rufus Childs from 1809 to 1857. Rufus Childs married Phelena Barnard, daughter of Samuel Barnard who owned the property north. Some early maps show B. Freeman living here in 1858 and later a J. Sawyer living here. Elizabeth Bisbee, an aunt of Daniel R. Bisbee, had married Lucius Childs, a relative of Rufus Childs. The property was purchased by Daniel Ralph Bisbee in 1900 and remains in the Bisbee family in 2000. Daniel R. Bisbee operated the farm until 1938. At this time, his son, Daniel Drew and Isabel Bisbee moved into the farm house. A large round barn was a part of the farm buildings. This octagonal barn was built about 1905 and was the first in Waitsfield. The carpenters were Henry and Clarence LaBelle – father and son. The barn burned in 1971. Daniel Drew Bisbee Jr. operated the farm for several years when he went into the construction business. Several of the Bisbee children have built homes on portions of the old farm property. Other sections of the property have been also developed into building lots. In 2000, the original house is owned by Daniel D. Bisbee Jr. The house has been remodeled into four apartments.

The next house south of the Fisk/Childs/Bisbee farm is the house built by Ithamar Smith, son of Salah Smith in 1820. Later owners of this house discovered the hand carved name of Ithamar Smith on a beam in the old wood shed. Ithamar Smith married Ruth Barnard, daughter of Samuel Barnard and purchased this portion of his father's farm. Ithamar Smith lived here until 1850's. An early map shows a C. Taylor (probably Ira C. Taylor) living here in 1858. Peter Drew lived on this property during the 1870's. Peter Drew's second wife was Anna Farr whose parents lived across Mad River beside the Wallis farm. Ithamar Smith wrote the poem about the first recorded tragic fire in Waitsfield. Ithamar was the second teacher in Waitsfield and the first teacher to teach in the Northwest District #1 schoolhouse. His father Salah Smith

*Ithamar Smith House*

was the first teacher in Waitsfield, but he taught in a room of Moses Fisk house. This property was owned by Daniel R. Bisbee in 1930. The house was renovated and became the home of Daniel D. and Isabel Bisbee. Daniel D. Bisbee moved to the farm in 1938 and his father, Daniel R. Bisbee moved into this house. Daniel Ralph Bisbee died in 1946 and this house became the vacation home of Lydia Bisbee and Alice Bisbee. Lydia Bisbee owned the property and retired to this house in 1958. Lydia Bisbee lived here until she went to a nursing home…Lydia Bisbee died in 1980. Mary Alice Bisbee lived with her aunt and owned the house in 1980 to 1982. She sold the house to Gene Winnicki in 1982 who owns the property in 2000.

*Smith/Marsh House in 2000*

Across the road east from the Ithamar Smith house was the home of Charlotte Smith, sister of Ithamar Smith. The Smith's built this house about 1820. Charlotte Smith was a well-known maker of straw hats. She lived in this house until her death at 94 years – 1882. This house was owned by Hugh Carpenter for a few years. It was purchased by Daniel R. Bisbee in 1908 and used as a house for the hired man. This house became the summer home of Robert and Helen Bisbee Marsh in 1939. Their daughter, Helen Lois Marsh married Lawrence Myers and after retirement,

they owned this property and lived here until 1971. The Myers built another house near Waitsfield Common and rented this property. In 1999, Helen Myers moved back to this house and lives here in 2000.

As has been noted previously, Mary Alice Bisbee built a house just above the Helen Myer home. South of Mary Alice Bisbee home is the property of Raymond Venowich built in the 1990's.

Continuing south on the east side of the North Road is the home originally built by Daniel D. Bisbee Sr. in 1957 after he left the farm. Daniel D. Bisbee died suddenly and the property ultimately was owned by Nancy Goodale Bisbee's children. Nancy Goodale was Daniel D. Bisbee's second wife. The property was sold to Peter Hans in 1980. It was then sold to Eugene and Sally Boudreau who own the property in 2000.

The next house south is the property of Preston Peters built in the late 1960's. The next house, a chalet, was built in the 1970's. A summer camp further west was built also about 1970 and is the property of Ted Mapes.

*Salah Smith House and Barn*

South of Ithamar Smith house and Charlotte Smith house on the west side of the North Road on the hilltop was the home of Salah Smith. Salah Smith, father of Ithamar Smith, came in 1793 and settled here. He sold the northern portion to his son, Ithamar. Salah Smith married Mary Taylor, daughter of John and Mary Taylor whose log cabin fire was recorded in a poem by Ithamar Smith. Salah Smith was the first paid teacher in Waitsfield as noted before. Salah Smith later moved across the river near the Wilder farm. Josiah Holden lived on the Salah Smith property in 1873 to 1880's. Josiah Holden married Lovina Drew. Lovina Drew was the daughter of Russell Drew who had married Martha Farr. The Farrs lived across the river beside the Wallis Farm. Peter Drew lived in the Ithamar Smith house about this time – 1870's. Mrs. Goodrich lived here in the 1930/40's. Donald Benoit lived here for many years from about 1950 to 1990. Martin DeHeer purchased the property and lives here in 2000. Note the family relationships. The barn may have been used for living quarters at one time. The original barn is on the north end of the house.

*Erastus Allen /Palmer House taken in 2000*

At the junction of the North Road and the road that crosses the Mad River to Route 100, was believed by some sources to be the site of Daniel Taylor's log cabin that burned and was the subject of the famous poem. Daniel Taylor came to this area in 1792. However, there is some question concerning the location of the Daniel Taylor log cabin. Some accounts indicate that it was on this site while other sources strongly indicate that it was further east on the land that Daniel Taylor owned and upon which he later built his house further south from where the log cabin stood. According to the Vermont Historical Gazette the Daniel Taylor cabin was "situated on the meadow now owned by Comstock Prentice Esq." This was Joseph Comstock Prentice [Prentis] who came to Waitsfield with his father, Thomas Prentis, in 1829 and purchased the Taylor farm. Daniel Taylor did build the farm house on what is the Prentis/Elwin Neill farm in 2000. Furthermore, Daniel Wilder owned the corner property where supposedly the Taylor cabin stood and Daniel Taylor owned the property to the east where he would have logically built a cabin upon his own property.

Furthering this logic about the Taylor log cabin is substantiated by the fact that Erastus Allen came in 1795 and built on the site where the road turned to cross the Mad River. Futhermore, the road which later went to Moretown originally followed along Mad River not at this present junction. Rufus Barnard in 1835 gave the selectmen permission to move the road over his property which was done about 1840. [See Chapter III) Erastus Allen came to Waitsfield with the Jared Skinner family having been adopted by them. Erastus Allen married Paulina Wilder, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Barnard Wilder. Daniel Wilder probably owned this property with the farm across Mad River. A smaller barn was built in 1812. Erastus Allen left in 1830. In 1830 to 1875, Linus Barnard owned the property. Linus Barnard died in 1875. The larger barn was built about 1888. Don Carlos Barnard, son of Linus Barnard, took over the farm until his death in 1899. Don C. Barnard's daughter, Jennie M. Barnard, married Frederick R. Palmer in 1891. Thus Frederick Palmer took over the farm in 1891. This was known as the Fred Palmer farm for much of the 1900's. Fred and Jennie Palmer's son, Harry Palmer, took over the farm in the 1920's. Harry Palmer's daughter, Jennie Palmer, married Richard Messer in 1948 and they took over the farm. The farm is still owned by Frederick and Josette Messer, son of Richard and Jennie Palmer Messer in 2000.

The first bridge to cross the Mad River north of the village was at this location by the Rider farm. It was known as the North Bridge originally. It was destroyed several times by floods. The permanent covered bridge was built in 1852. It was later referred to as the Lower Bridge, and then in the 1920's, the swimming hole and the bridge were known as the Palmer bridge and swimming hole, and then the Messer Bridge. This road was called North Road, then Palmer Road and now called Meadow Road.

To the north between this farm and the Salah Smith farm in 2000 is the home of Stanley and Dorothy Messer Peck. Dorothy Peck is the daughter of Richard and Jennie Palmer Messer. This house was built in 1964.

South of this junction on the North Road and on the east side of the road during the first settlement years, there appears from all accounts to have been several houses. Early maps show five buildings: First was the L. Smith home probably Laura Smith; then the home of A. Rider, probably Apollos Rider; then Honorable Hiram Jones who lived on the Daniel Taylor farm; and then two buildings of Daniel Taylor at the top of the hill south of his original farm.

It appears accurate that Elijah Smith built the first house about 1794. He lived here until 1823. Elijah Smith was the brother of Salah Smith previously mentioned. The map showing a L. Smith living here was probably Laura Smith, daughter of Elijah Smith. When this house disappeared is not clear. Laura Smith died in 1875. She never married and it appears that this house was torn down because records indicate several land exchanges in this area at this time.

The next house in this area was identified as the Apollos Rider house. This maybe true, because Apollos Rider married Sarah Smith, the second daughter of Elijah Smith. Elijah Smith owned this property which later became part of the Hiram Jones/Prentis farm. This house remained until it was torn down in the 1980's and a new house constructed on the site. Several people lived in this house over the years. This house was also vacant for many years. In the mid 1940's, Fred and Ruth Andrews lived in this house. It again stood empty for many years. The frame of the original house was used to build a house at the end of Barnabus Road off East Road. This is now the home of Elwin Neill Jr.

A note is made here not only for historical interest, but also to show that often two families settled certain sections of the Town. Then through marriages within those families, the land was divided and further settled by members of these families. For example, on the North Road, the Barnards and the Smiths settled the area from Spaulding Brook to the Moretown line. The Barnards, the Farrs, and the Wilders settled west of Mad River. The Barnards, the Smiths, the Farrs, the Taylors, the Wilders, and the Allens all intermarried and settled much of the area east and west of the Mad River and divided the land into several Lots.

Land was frequently broken into small lots because of the marriages. However, these small lots were ultimately combined into larger purchases. To show this historical phenomenon and to show the ownership of this land area, the following information was taken from records found in the Vermont Historical Society Library. On August 28, 1823, Hiram Jones and Jason Carpenter deeded land in Lot 114 adjacent to Dorrick Smith, Arnot Knight, Daniel Taylor as well as part of the Spaulding farm belonging to Jon and Joseph Skinner (land which was owned by Roderick Richardson and conveyed to Jon Skinner). Relating to this exchange it should be noted that Dorrick Smith, son of Moses Smith (blacksmith on route 100 but lived on the North Road) married Mrs. Sidney Childs, widow of Israel Childs (lived on the Dan Bisbee farm). Gilbert Arnott Knight married Elvira Smith, Salah Smith daughter and Abel Spaulding lived on Spaulding Brook. Lot 114 was much of Daniel Taylor and Salah Smith property. In 1835, Hiram Jones purchased the Daniel Taylor farm (Prentis/Neill farm) and Jason Carpenter had purchased much of the Heaton farm Lots 121/122. Thus Hiram Jones owned the Daniel Taylor farm and Jason Carpenter owned the Heaton property. Therefore, because much of this land had been in the hands of the Smith, Childs, Spaulding families, Jason Carpenter and Hiram Jones exchanged land on Lots 114/121/122

and 116 so that each farm was clear from all previous families.

This helps to explain the large Carpenter farm, Prentis farm, Childs farm (Dan Bisbee farm) as these were known in the 1900's.

*Daniel Taylor House*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

Daniel Taylor built the next farm home south on the east side of the road. Daniel Taylor built the house about 1800. The larger brick house was built about the 1820's after bricks were available in the valley. Hiram Jones purchased the farm in 1835 and lived here until 1872. Hiram Jones was one of the most prominent citizens in Waitsfield. He was the first elected Superintendent of Schools in 1833. He was elected town representative as a member of the Whig party in 1840. Political parties during part of this time were the Whigs, the Democrats, and the Free Spoilers. Charles E. and Amanda Jones lived on this farm in 1860 until about 1880's. Charles E. Jones was the son of Hiram Jones. Joseph Comstock Prentis purchased the farm about 1885 after returning from living in Michigan. His son, Chandler Prentis, and then Edwin Prentis occupied this farm. It was known as the Prentis farm through most of the 1900's. Elwin Neill Sr. purchased the property and Elwin Neill Sr. and his son Elwin Jr. operate the farm in 2000.

There were buildings south of this Taylor farm for several years on the flat area. There appears to be little information about these buildings. They have not existed for over 70 years.

*Moses Fisk/Loveland House*

The next house south of the Taylor/Prentis farm was the Cooper Shop and home of Moses Fisk. It was on the west side of the North Road just under the little hill by Spaulding Brook. Moses Fisk had cleared the land north previously mentioned - the Daniel Bisbee farm in the 1900's. Moses Fisk sold that early property and built this house and Cooper Shop. This was the Loveland home for much of the 1900's.

On the eastside of the North Road across from Moses Fisk home was Spaulding Brook and a very impressive waterfall. It was here that Dorrick Smith built a log dam and sawmill in 1820. Just below the mill was a Tannery built and operated by William Tell Stoddard. William Stoddard later lived below the Dugway on Mill Brook and also operated a Tannery in that location. These mills, on Spaulding Brook, operated for about 15 years. Following Spaulding Brook east was a "Pent Road" which lead to the Amasa Skinner farm under Bald Mountain on the road to Moretown Common. On the Pent Road in the wilderness and very isolated was the home briefly of Abel Spaulding from which the Brook gets its name. Abel Spaulding had first lived in an equally isolated site on the Warren Brook south of the Rolston Road. Abel Spaulding did not live here very long either. This Pent Road was never developed.

*Mehuron/Armstrong House*

The next farm was the Allen E. Mehuron farm built about 1850. His son, Thomas A. Mehuron operated the farm in 1920's. Willis Armstrong owned the property in the 1930's. His son, Gene Armstrong owns the property in 2000. The farm house has been made into three apartments. Elwin Neill farms the property in 2000.

The old Pent Road to the Bushnell/Fielder farm has been partially developed and called Bent Hill Road. This property was a part of the Minister's Lot 112, but was purchased by Everett Wallis about 1959. It later became the property of a friend of Rowland "Toby" Richards and Mary Wallace, Gregory Schipa, who purchased the property and established the Weather Hill Restoration. The new development was created supposedly with historic houses brought into the area. Each house was selected from around Vermont, carefully taken down, restored, placed on a five acre lot and modern conveniences added to the old architecture. There were to be ten such structures built around a common area. The building at the entrance to the Bent Hill property was an "eighty year old playhouse, filling station, and garden shed from Randolph. Harrison and Valerie Snapp worked for Schipa on this project. This project did not totally materialize; however, several homes do exist on this development since 1970's. A new house in 1999 also exists off this road and north overlooking the old Armstrong meadows.

*Minister's Lot, Salisbury/ Chase/Wimble House*

On the west side of the road is the Minister's Lot 112 and the home of the first minister, Rev. William Salisbury, in 1802. Rev. Salisbury attempted to have the lot cleared by the Town. However, a group of church members did clear much of the land across the North Road that belonged to this property. George M. Jones owned the property in the 1900's. On May 8, 1931, George Jones deeded 15 acres of this land to Bert Chase and Laura Brown. On August 11, 1942 Laura Brown deeded her share of property to Bert Chase. Bert Chase owned the farm until April 30, 1947, when he deeded it to Harold Harvey. Harold Harvey owned the house and used it as a deer hunting camp until July 25, 1959, when he sold the property to Edward and Loretta Wimble. Harold Harvey had already sold the portion of the property on the southwest side of the highway from Pine Brook. The original house still stands. Loretta (Backus) Wimble has done some remodeling, but has kept the original structure – open beams and all. This house is one of the few historical houses still on the original location with minimal change. In 2000, Edward "Bunker" and Rett Wimble live in the house that is owned by their son, James Wimble. Edward "Bunker" Wimble died in 2003.

South of this house is the home of Kendall and Lorraine Wimble. Kendall is the son of Edward and Loretta Wimble. This land was a portion of the Rev. Salisbury Minister's Lot 112. At first Donald Wimble, brother of Edward Wimble put a trailer here for summer use. Then their father, Claude Wimble lived in it for a time. Then Kendall Wimble, son of Edward and Rett Wimble, had a trailer house on this property in the 1970's. Kendall Wimble built a house on the property in 2001. It continues to be his home.

On the south end of the Pine Brook covered bridge on the east side was property of Edward and Loretta Wimble. This was part of the old Minister's Lot 112. The Wimbles, who had purchased the minister's lot in 1959, sold this portion of the farm to Curtis Wright and John Behne in 1965. Curtis Wright built a small house near Pine Brook in 1966 and built a Log Cabin house further east in about 1972. John Behne built a larger house south and closer to the North Road in about 1966. The property has been sold since.

On the west side of the North Road at the end of the Covered Bridge was a trailer for a camp of Ralph Stone in 1959. Ralph Stone built a house on this site about 1965. The house was sold to Mayland Bushey and has been sold several times since.

The next house south was also a hunting camp in the 1950's. It was later owned by Allen Solo-

mon. John Solomon lives here in 2000.

William Gabaree purchased part of the Solomon land and built a house just west of the Solomon house near the old Town Dump. This property was sold to Arnold Eastman Jr. and has been sold several times.

At the junction of the North Road and Tremblay Road on the east side was originally the house built by Beriah Sherman in 1791. He lived here until 1832. His grandson, Langdon Sherman, lived on this property in the 1830's and 1840's. Albert Lavanway Sr. owned the property 1930 to the 1980's. The original house burned.

Albert Lavanway rebuilt the house and lived there until he traded with Arthur Rivers. Arthur Rivers lived in the house from 1980's until his death in 2001. The trailer north of the Lavanway house was placed there in the 1970's by Roger Farnsworth. Several people have lived in this trailer.

The house south of the Albert Lavanway house was the barn which was remodeled into apartments in about 1968 by Albert Lavanway Jr. It was rental property sold to Romeo Fortin, but has been resold several times.

Until the 1960's, there were no houses on the North Road from the Sherman house just written about to the Smith house on the Common. A Pent Road existed on the east side of the North Road just south of the Sherman/Lavanway house and continued through the woods to the Bushnell Road. It was used for many years for horse drawn vehicles. It began near the entrance to the Wilson driveway [in 2000] and continued in a straight line to the field where the Town gravel pit off Bushnell Road exists in 2000.

At the entrance to the old Pent Road John and Merrie-Beth Wilson built a house in 1999. It was sold in 2001.

Across the North Road from this Wilson house was a hunting camp in 1960's. A house was built to the south of this camp about 1970. The hunting camp was made into rental property. The present house is #943.

The present day [2000] Tremblay Road was the last road and bridge constructed to connect Route 100 to the North Road. This was known as the Lockwood Farm Road and then Jones Road through the late 1800's until the renaming of roads in 1990's. The only building on this road for many years was the Abram/Lockwood/Jones farm and hired man house. The description of this area continues on this road. Abram Marsh owned this property and the property across Mad River in 1792. Abram Marsh built a house on this property. He sold this property to Shubel Burdick and his father-in-law, John Wells in 1798. [See the account of this property in the Chapter concerning Route 100.]

An early map shows Abram Marsh living in a house on the west side of Mad River near the present bridge. It was purchased by Shubel Burdick.

*Lockwood/Jones/Tremblay House*

Nevertheless, it is accurate that Shubel Burdick ultimately owned all of this property. It appears that Shubel Burdick built a house on this property for his father-in-law John Wells. Shubel Burdick left Waitsfield in 1806. Russell Lockwood came to Waitsfield in 1836 and "settled on the Shubel Burdick farm," Lot 129 which was the farm on the east side of Mad River not the Burdick farm on the west side of Mad River. Russell Lockwood probably built this house about 1837.

Elijah W. Bisbee owned the Burdick farm on Route 100 in 1860 and traded the Burdick farm for the Russell Lockwood farm in 1863. [This information is from a letter written by Edward W. Bisbee in 1920]. George Myron Jones purchased the property in 1893. His son, Earl A. Jones, took over the farm in 1923 until 1946 when it was sold. This was called the "Verd Mont Farm." This farm house was drastically remodeled in 1910. The original living room, the stairs and two bedrooms upstairs remained on the original site and became the 'el' of the new structure. The larger part of the house was built completely new at this time from lumber cut from the farm. Different hardwoods were used for the door cases in each room. Everard Marshall was the carpenter. The living room of the old house became the kitchen in the new house. This building project was done by George M. Jones. [This remodeling information is taken from a letter from Rowena Jones, daughter of Earle and Harriet Jones, who lived on this farm] George Jones lived here until his death in 1940. George Jones' son, Earle and wife Harriet, bought the farm about 1930 and lived here until they sold it in 1946 to Joseph and Edgar Tremblay. Edgar Tremblay married Sally Wimble and purchased his brother's half of the farm. Edgar and Sally lived on the farm until 1988. Edgar and Sally Tremblay remodeled the house into a ski lodge in 1953. Edgar and Sally Tremblay sold portions of the farm over the years and in 1988 they sold the main house to Luke Miranda. In 2000, it is the Mad River Inn Bed and Breakfast.

During the remodeling in 1910, the old kitchen, the dining room and upstairs bedrooms from the old house were moved east of the new farm house and became the tenant house for the farm help. Different people lived here over the years. It was empty for some years. The house was later rented and then purchased by Kenneth Wimble. It was completely torn down in 1998 by Kenneth Wimble who built a new house on the site. Kenneth Wimble's wife lives in the house in 2001.

Since the 1960's, there have been several developments on this road. Part of the field east of the

George Jones house was developed as a trailer housing park called "VerdMont Park."

Three roads lead south from the Tremblay Road to developments begun in the 1980"s.

Village Woods Road leads to 13 homes built in 1980 and on. Stan and Angela Barosky built in the 1980's, Sally Tremblay built in 1988. See map.

Pine Brook Road leads to 10 houses built in the 1980's. This development was done by Robert Fuller. See map.

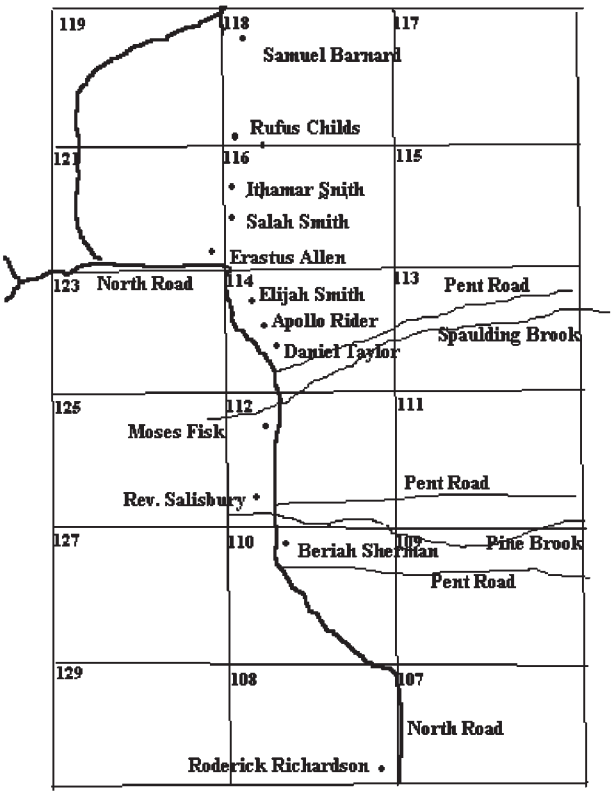
York Drive leads to 4 houses developed in the 1980's. This was originally part of the Armstrong farm property. See map.

At the immediate east end of the bridge over Mad River is a road that leads to land purchased in 1956 from Edgar Tremblay by Charles Hayes to build a house. Charles Hayes did not build the house, but sold the land to three men from Buffalo, NY. The property has since changed hands several times. The house number is 98.

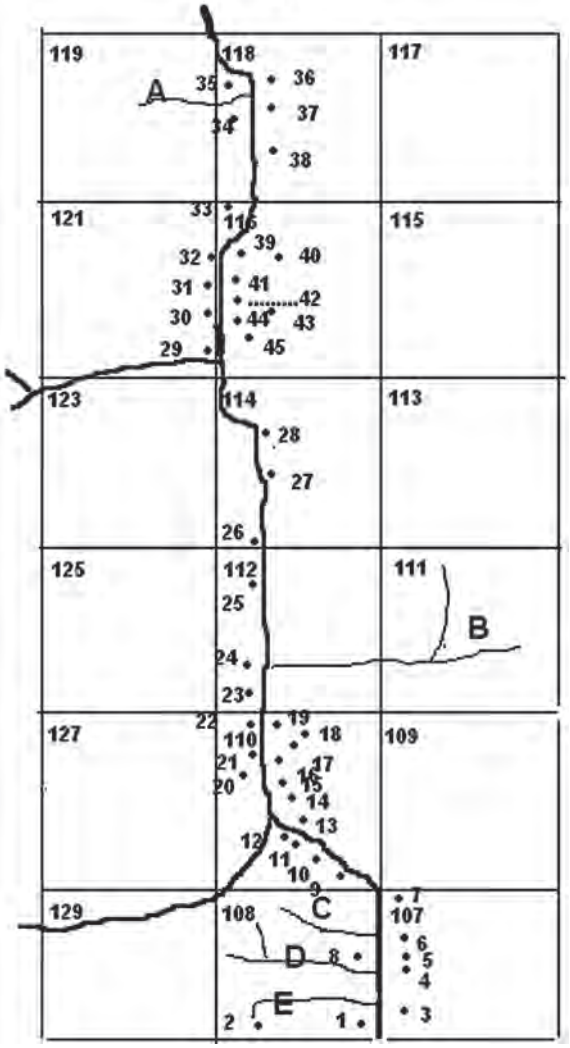
The North Road has seen many developments since 1980's. Three roads have been built to the west of the North Road. These roads are White Pine Road with 13 new homes built on it. Big Rock Road and Little Rock Road which have 8 new homes built on them. Also North Ridge Road which has four new homes built here. These are not historical. See map.

Also on the North Road many new homes have been built since the 1970's. See map.

**NORTH ROAD**
**1790-1820**




**NORTH ROAD**
**2000**



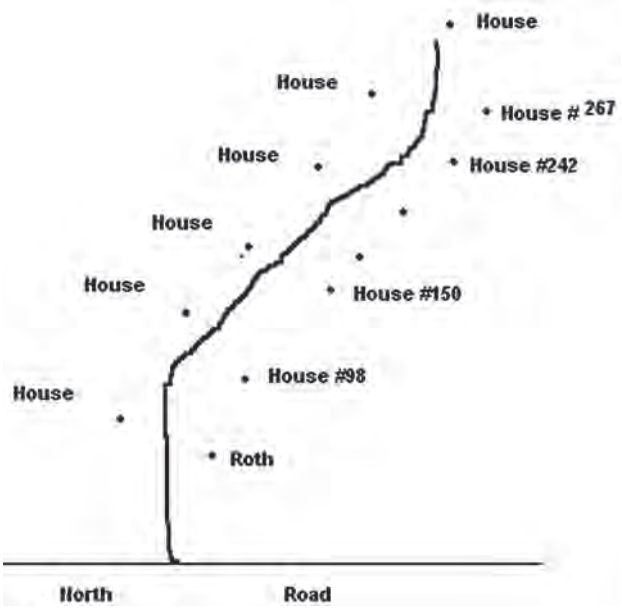
# NORTH ROAD KEY
## 2000

A. Loose Cow Lane
B. Bent Hill Road
C. White Pine Drive
D. Big Rock road & Little Rock Road
E. North Ridge Road

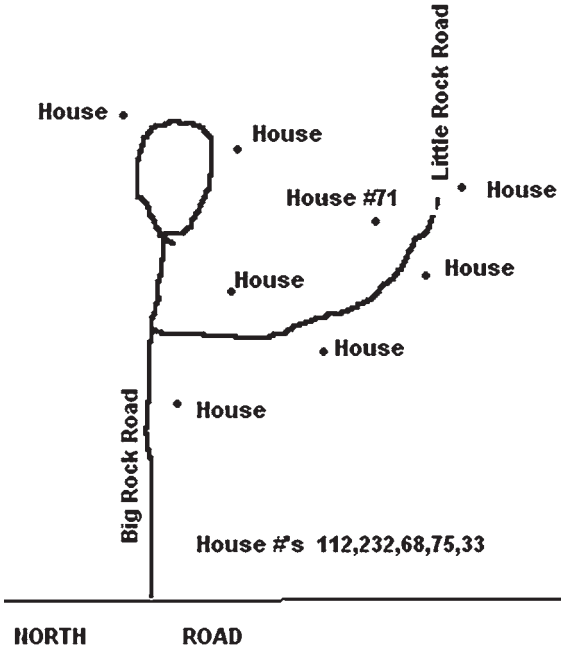
1. Smith/Dion
2. New House
3. Meyer House #168
4. Dumas House #420
5. House
6. Marcelle
7. House #619
8. House #417
9. House #619
10. Harden
11. House #943
12. House
13. Wilson House #952
14. House #972
15. House #982
16. House #992
17. Trailer
18. House #1131 & Wright #1184
19. Behne House #1015
20. Gabaree House
21. House
22. Stone
23. Kendall Wimble
24. Loretta Wimble
25. Armstong/Apartments
26. Fisk/Loveland
27. Taylor/Prentis/Neill
28. House
29. Allen/Palmer/Messer
30. Stanley Peck
31. Smith/Drew/Benoit
32. Smith/Bisbee/Winnicki
33. Childs/Bisbee Farm
34. Robert Bisbee
35. House #3073
36. Barnard/Carpenter Farm
37. House #3020
38. Daniel Bisbee House #2850
39. Smith/Bisbee/Meyer
40. Mary Alice Bisbee #2718
41. Venovich House #2654
42. Hans House #2624
43. House #2638
44. House #2560
45. Two Houses

Loose Cow Lane has the homes of Mike and Sarah Hughs built in 1995 and Roger Nishi built in 1996.

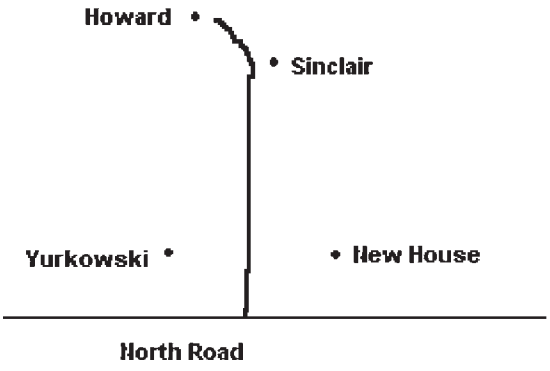
## WHITE PINE ROAD
## 2000



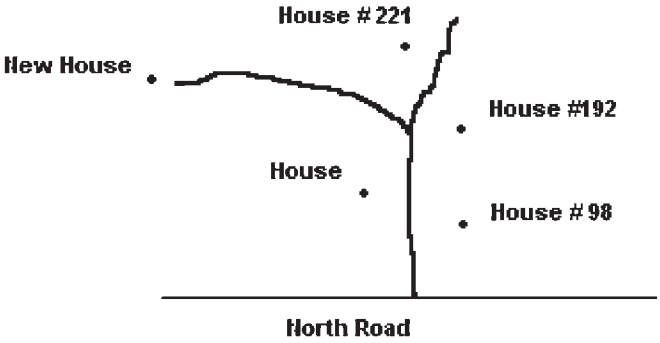

## BIG ROCK ROAD
## LITTLE ROCK ROAD
## 2000

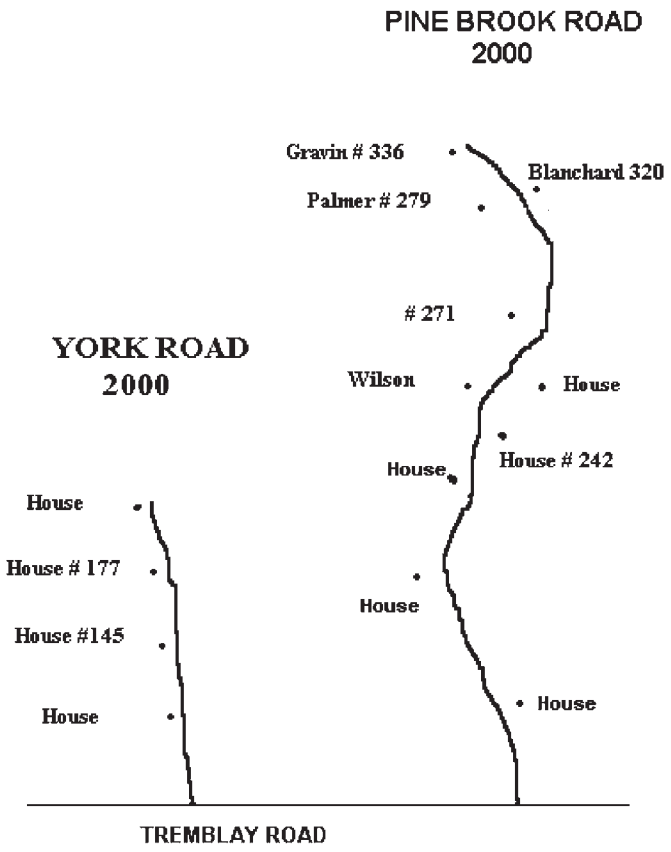


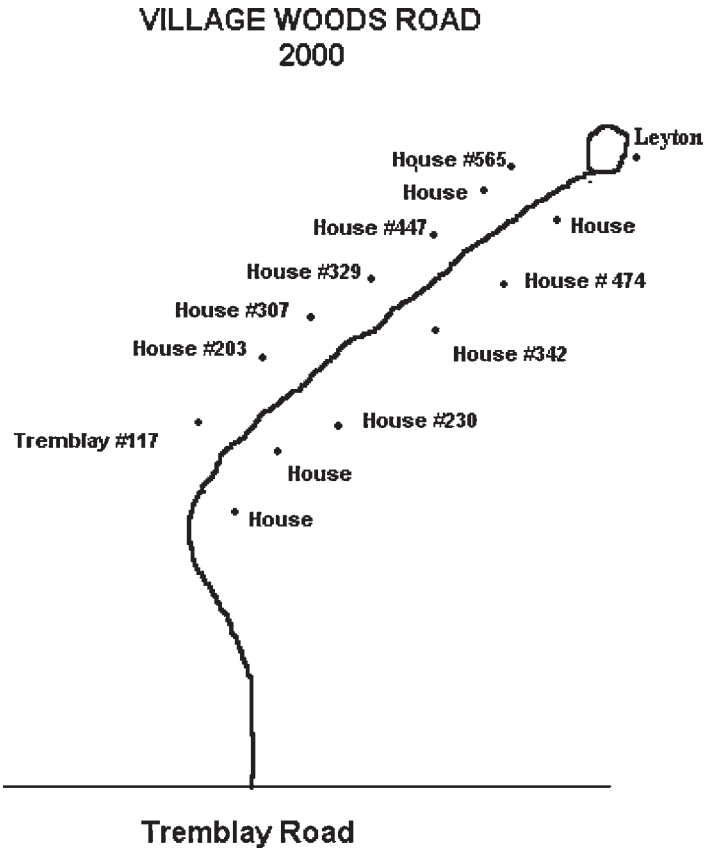

## NORTH RIDGE ROAD
## 2000




## BENT HILL ROAD
## 2000




PINE BROOK ROAD
2000
Gravin # 336
Blanchard 320
Palmer # 279
# 271
YORK ROAD
2000
Wilson
House
House # 242
House
House
House # 177
House
House #145
House
House
TREMBLAY ROAD


VILLAGE WOODS ROAD
2000
Leyton
House #565
House
House #447
House
House #329
House # 474
House #307
House #203
House #342
House #230
Tremblay #117
House
House
Tremblay Road

## CHAPTER XII
## WAITSFIELD VILLAGE

This chapter will discuss Waitsfield Village from Jeduthan Wait's house at the south end of the Village to the Shubel Burdick house on the north edge of the Village and across Mad River to the Common. The original road ran from Jeduthan Wait's house west and then turning north along the terrace edge to Wait's Tavern just above the present day Methodist Parsonage. Waitsfield Village was placed on the Historical Register. For historical purposes, it should be noted that there was an attempt in January 1850 to define the limits of the village under the Statutes of the State. However, it was never accomplished. See page 50 of the Jones *HISTORY OF WAITSFIELD.*

*Waitsfield Village from Mill Hill prior to 1875*
*Photo Courtesy of Clifford Wallis*

*Waitsfield Village Looking Northwest from Mill Hill 1872*

*Waitsfield Village Looking North with trees c. 1900*

*Bridge Street circa early 1800*

*Jeduthan Wait House now Wait Farm Motor Inn*
*Picture taken 2000*

Jeduthan Wait, half brother of General Wait, came to Waitsfield in 1789 and purchased part of Lot 136. He lived here until is death in 1829. It is probably the oldest farm in Waitsfield although other Wait boys began clearing farmland immediately. Stephen C. Parker lived here about 1856 to 1892. He was a farmer and tanner. James Irwin lived on this property for several years – about 1894 to 1900. Romeo and Ella McAllister lived here in the early 1900. Romeo McAllister's father, Wesley G. McAllister, married Alma Parker, daughter of Stephen C. Parker thus the property relationship. Ella McAllister sold this Wait property to John and Addie McKay who lived here in the 1930's. Arthur Gratton lived here briefly followed by Theodore Fecteau. Ted Joslin purchased the property and remodeled the house. In 2000, it is called the Wait Farm Motor Inn owned by Paul & Michelle Lovoie.

The house on the west side of Route 100, Leon Joslin built in 1932. There was a house on this Lot owned by the Joslin sisters, Irene and her sister. It burned and Leon Joslin built on this Lot. The frame of the house that Leon Joslin built was the schoolhouse in Northeast District #2. In recent years, it was the Chamber of Commerce Office and in 2000, the Scoop Shop and Pizzeria.

The James S. Newcomb house is next. James Newcomb built a house just north at the top

*Newcomb/Olde Tymes Restaurant after 1991 Fire*

of the hill. He also built a carriage shop a few feet north on the little stream in 1850. His son, Charles H. Newcomb, lived here and operated the carriage shop into the 1900's. Stanley Orr purchased the house when he operated his plumbing shop across the highway in the Burbank garage. The Carriage Shop was torn down. Harold Graeme, the High School Principal, rented the house in 1945. Mr. and Mrs Arthur Neaf purchased the property in 1946 and occupied it as a summer place. They sold to Stanley Orr. It was called the Ark Restaurant. The Ark Restaurant was the only restaurant in the Valley that specialized in seafood with lobster being the prize meal. It was noted for its rustic atmosphere, rugged wooden tables and a large stone fireplace. It served a hardy breakfast, lunch specials and evening dinning with a cocktail lounge in what was the horse barn on the north end. (Information noted from several sources including the Valley Reporter) Stanley Orr sold the property to Paul Gill who sold to John Zahn, Susan Mead, and John Van Leeuwen who operated it as the Olde Tymes Restaurant. This restaurant burned July 5, 1991 and was immediately rebuilt. In 2000, Jeffrey Larkin purchased the property and manages Arvad's Restaurant on this site.

Across the highway near the entrance to the athletic fields, was a blacksmith shop as early as 1860's. It is not known who originally owned and operated it. However, Clifford Durkee occupied this shop in the early 1900's. The building has been gone for many years. The original road into this farm field was north of the present road. It entered from Route 100 about where the Corey's garage now rests.

The present road leading to the Waitsfield Recreation Field was built in the late 1930's. This large farm field purchased from Ted Fecteau in 1958 became the Recreational Field operated by the Couple's Club. This area has been exempt from taxes since its beginning. Across the river from this farm area was the early brickyard of Joseph Green. This brickyard was near the river cove. The brick for many of the houses in the village came from this brickyard. This was also a noted swimming area often referred to as the "Fairbanks." It got its name from Luther Fairbanks, who

*Wire Bridge Across Mad River*

drowned in this swimming hole in 1836. There was a wire suspension bridge about one-quarter of a mile upstream from this swimming hole. In fact, there were three popular swimming holes in this area frequently used by the young people in the valley.

Leo Burbank built a garage on the East Side of the highway in 1950's. It was later the plumbing shop of Stanley Orr. Later in 1980/90 it was the Corey Automotive Service. It changed operators for a time. David Corey came back into the business. Jake Cady who came into the valley to coach the Alpine ski teams at Mad River Glen about 1977 also founded Mill Brook Imports. He sold that business about 1980 and left the valley. He later returned to rent part of the David Corey space. In 2000, Jake Cady purchased the property and has Jake's World Auto. Chris Carton, owner of C&S Auto Body, has space on the lower level of the building. It is on about this site that the original road went into what is called the Couple's Recreation Field. Just south of this road was the Blacksmith Shop.

*South end Village Lockwood House left Russ House Right*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

In the 1970's, a road was build across the little stream near the location of the Newcomb Shop. This is now called Radcliff Road. Three private homes have been built on this road as well as a small business.

Further north on the West Side of the highway was the Albert Lockwood home, in 1830. Thomas and Julia Mehuron lived here in the 1900's. Julia Mehuron lived here in the mid 1940's. It was known as the Ruth (Mehuron) McGill home for much of the late 1950's. In 1970's, Mr. Knight purchased the property, and made it an apartment house.

*Amasa Russ House built around 1810*

Across the highway was the Russ house. The house was probably built by Amasa Russ Sr., Daniel Russ grandfather, who came to Waitsfield about 1810 and died suddenly in 1823. Amasa Russ Jr., father of Daniel Russ, came to Waitsfield early and marched in the Waitsfield Company to Plattsburgh, but he moved to Montpelier. Amasa Russ Jr. returned to Carding Machine Brook area and built a house there in 1820's. Daniel Russ, son of Amasa Russ, lived in this village house in 1860's. Stebbins Ashley Jr. lived here in 1873. Cliff LaMorder lived here for several years. Charles Patterson lived here in the 1940's. In 1947, it was the home of Orris Joslin. Harriet Jones lived here briefly before her death in 1986. Holly Meystre owned the property in 1989. The person in the picture sitting in the front is Emily Eaton.

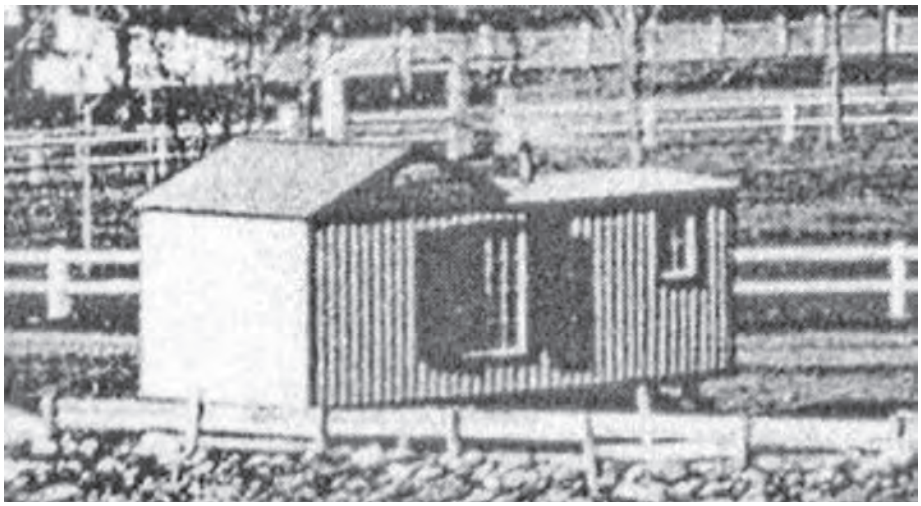
Still on the East Side of the highway at the bend in the river was the home of O.C. Campbell about 1855. This may have been Oliver Carlisle Campbell, son of John S. Campbell. O.C. Campbell moved to Omaha, NE. Mitchell LaPoint lived in this house in 1860's. He was a blacksmith. His shop was across the highway. There is some indication that he may have been in the shop at the top of the hill which became the Durkee Blacksmith shop. Melvin J. Waterman lived here 1873 to 1915. Henry Perkins owned the house in 1918. His son, Everett Perkins, lived here in the 1930's. Everett Perkins was the sexton at the Congregational Church for many years. Leo Burbank lived in an upstairs apartment in the 1950's. In 2000, it is the office of Raylar Builders.

Next is the house for many years of Joshua S. Dartt who built the house in 1840's. Joshua Dartt was a shoemaker and built a shop near the ledges on the west side of the road. Henry Bushnell owned the property in 1900's. Henry Bushnell's sister, Alice, lived here until 1930's. Adam McKay lived here in the 1940's. Frank Lovett lived here for a few years. The house was empty for

several years as well as being rental property. In 1980's it became an office building. Cut Smart business operates in the barn area in 2000.

On the West Side of the highway across from Joshua S Dartt was a blacksmith shop probably built by Mitchell LaPoint, a blacksmith, who lived in the house, previously mentioned. In the 1920's, it was Edwin "Pete" Russell's blacksmith shop. Pete Russell had been in the blacksmith shop on Waitsfield Common. In 1880, Pete Russell built his second blacksmith shop on Joslin Hill Road just before Clay Brook. He later moved to this blacksmith shop. Howland Russell operated the village blacksmith shop in 1910. The shop was used as a town shed. In 1921, the town purchased the property. The 1921 Town Report states that the town "purchased the Howland Russell blacksmith shop and land for $600." The village blacksmith shop housed the fire hose wagon and the fire "hand pumper," in the 1920's. In 2000, it is a sculpture shop.

Next to the blacksmith shop was Henry Cady's "photo car" and his house stood next door to his "photo car" on the same side of the highway. The "photo Car" was a mobile structure. He also had



*Cady, Mobile "photo car."*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

*Henry Cady house…Photo Shop and Blacksmith Shop to the left*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

a permanent structure that stood on the same site. Both the mobile unit and the permanent building were removed in the 1930's. The mobile photo car was taken to East Warren by Alden Bettis and the remnants are still there.

Henry Cady's house stood next to his photo shop. He lived here in the 1860's. Alton and Mary Belle Farr lived here briefly about 1908. The early Waitsfield –Fayston Telephone business office was also in this house as well as a toll telephone. In 1903, this building was a business – store, saloon etc. Bettis lived in this house in 1940's. Clifton Livingston lived here in 1945. Stanley Martin lived here in the 1950's and worked in Bonnett's garage. In 2000, it is the home of Mr. Pakk.

The next picture shows the Cady House looking north to a smaller house between this Cady house and the Campbell House. There were more buildings in area. Research could not identify the middle building.

*Cady House Showing Campbell House on the End*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

The next house north was the home of John Stafford Campbell in 1870's. It was the home of Hiram Stoddard in 1880's. In the 1900's, it was the John Buzzell home. John Buzzell had the meat market around the ledges on the East side of the highway. Mr. "Bullfrog" Howe lived here in the 1940's. John Matheson lived here in the 1940's. Elwin Kingsbury lived here for a brief period in 1950's. Bud and Stella Jones owned the house in 1960's. It was sold to the Waitsfield Telecom Company who owned the property in 2000. In 2001, Charles Goodman purchased the property. His son remodeled the house for rental property.

Next to the Campbell house was the Joshua S. Dartt shoe shop. The shoe shop burned in the early 1900's. John Buzzell was living in the remodeled shoe shop when it burned. He moved next door after the fire. If memories are correct, this fire was the last time the old hand pumper and hose cart were used. The shoe shop stood on the site where the road goes to the TV Dishes in 2000.

According to several sources Albert A. Campbell had a small house between the John S. Campbell house and the Dartt shoe shop. Albert A. Campbell was grandson of John Stafford Campbell. It is not clear if this house burned at the same time as the Dartt Shoe Shop. It is also not clear if John Buzzell was living in the remodeled shoe shop or in the little Campbell house. This would have been about 1905.

*Tyler/Fuller House*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

*Fuller House and Barn after 1910 Flood*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

Across the street on the East Side, Lucius M. Tyler lived in the house, which he built in 1850's. Royal Fuller lived here for many years and ran the wheelwright and paint shop next door. It was the home and office of Dr. Emory Hooker and Dr. H. Kneeland in 1873. Minnie Farnsworth lived here 1935 to about 1950. In 2000, it is an office building owned by Chris Pierson.

*Waitsfield Main Street….Fuller Wheelwright Shop*
*Became Eaton/Belden/Wimble House*

The next building north still on the eastside of the road was the Royal Fuller Wheelwright and Carriage shop and paint shop built about 1850. There was a long stairway that led to the second floor. Orville M. Eaton remodeled the building for a home in 1870's. Oscar G. Eaton may have lived here. The Brown's lived here for a few years. Alton and Mary Belle Farr lived on the second floor of this house in 1910 and the telephone business office was on a portion of the first floor. Alton Farr was related to Oscar Eaton through marriage. Henry Belden owned the building about 1902. It was rented by Claude Wimble and was the Wimble home from 1927 to 1964. The Farnsworth family lived on the second floor of this house in the 1930's and 40's. Donald Wimble owned the house for a brief time when he sold it to Elmer Mehuron. Elmer Mehuron sold it to Robert Harris. Robert Harris repaired and remodeled the house in the late 1980's. In 2000, it is a Computer shop.

Frank Buzzell built a butcher shop in the 1900 between the Belden property and the Ainsworth harness shop. The butcher shop was a separate building reached by a wooden walkway. John Buzzell owned and operated this butcher shop in 1930's. Carl Long owned the butcher shop in 1940's. John Buzzell and Carl Long also owned the slaughter houses in Irasville. The butcher shop was not used for many years after the stores began to sell their own meats. After the telephone office fire, February 4, 1944, this butcher shop became the temporary telephone office. It was difficult to use because it had been neglected for years – used by wandering people.

The recent historical remodeling done by Stephen Briggs on these buildings in the 1980's, left many of these buildings in slightly different locations. The butcher shop was a separate building, not attached to the harness shop. In fact, the original butcher shop was moved to the riverbank. A new structure was build during the reconstruction and the - butcher shop, harness shop attached to the hotel. The long structure between these new buildings and the hotel was originally a livery stable converted to garages in the 1900's. In the historical remodeling, this livery stable area was made into a show room for furniture. The harness shop became a show room and none of these buildings are now historical.

*Butcher Shop in Village*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

Ebenezer Ainsworth built, in 1850's, a harness shop beside the hotel. This shop became Henry B. Cady's photo shop in 1860's. Cady sold the building to Ernest and Lena Chase. During the historical reconstruction written about previously, this harness shop has been rebuilt and partially attached whereas it was originally a separate building. The Catamount Office space in 2000 is a detached building, but was constructed at the time of the remodeling. Stephen Briggs did this intended historical restoration in the 1980's; however, much of the restoration in this area became new construction. The picture below of all these buildings gives the impression that the buildings were attached, but the last three structures were separate buildings.

The large building on the corner of this area is known as the Old Hotel. This building was built in Irasville at the bottom of the dugway. Elisha Foster built it in 1840. It was moved to the village

*Hotel-Carriage Barn-Harness Shop…Butcher Shop-Belden House*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

by Roderick Richardson Sr. in 1851 and placed on the brick foundation. It was called the William Dodge Hotel. An early map shows a J. McDurmid proprietor. Robert J. Coffey operated the hotel in 1872. F. D. Lamb owned and operated the hotel in 1884. The basement room was referred to as "Lamb's Hall." Jess Carpenter operated the hotel prior to Gibbs. Carmine Gibbs owned the hotel in early 1900's. Fred Hunt had the hotel in 1910 and operated a dining room and rented rooms. It operated as a hotel and stagecoach stop for many years. In 1910, a portion of the south shed area was used to house the old chemical fire equipment because the chemicals had to be maintained at above freezing temperature. Town meetings were held in the basement from 1852 to 1900. The top floors became apartments in the 1940s. Henry Bettis had a Barber shop and pool hall in the basement in the 1920's. Frank Lovett had a barber shop here for a few years. Agnes Kenyon had a restaurant here in 1950's. Willeford "Tex" Thompson took over the restaurant in mid 1950's and called "Tex's Dugout." Ruth Moriarty also operated the Mad River Diner in the 1950's. It was last known as "Larry's Diner" and closed April 7, 1956. The Seivwright's Pharmacy was here in

*Eaton Block - About 1910*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

1960's. An Antique Shop operated here for a time as well as Beads Are Us Shop. In 2000, it is a shop. In 2000, under the old livery stable section is the Spotted Cow Restaurant.

Across the highway and south beside the ledges, was the Eaton Block 1860's. The building was originally an outbuilding of Roderick Richardson farm. Orville Eaton had a store here for a time in 1860's. It was Mrs. Suel Thayer's Millinery Shop in 1873. In the 1890's, there was a law office in this building. The lawyer's name was Joslin. This building has sometimes been referred to as the Ainsworth Block, probably because the Ainsworth Post No. 36, Grand Army of the Republic meeting hall was in this building in the 1870's. Ernest Chase owned the building about 1910. The Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone switchboard was moved from Ziba McAllister home to the southeast corner, second floor, of this building in 1910 where it remained until the fire in February 1944. It became an apartment building in the 1900's. Will Marshall and Emery Somerville each had a barber shop and pool hall on the first floor. Peter Fecteau had a second hand store in the front of the building.

There was a small building between the Fullerton/Long Store and the Eaton Block/Telephone Office building. These two buildings were not attached. There was a small space between these structures. James Ervin lived in this smaller building in the early 1900's. Albert and Edith Kew lived in this building for several years. Louis Seneski lived in this building in the 1940's.

These buildings burned on February 4, 1944. The fire call was received by Montpelier fire department at 5:26 a.m. The fire is believed to have started from wood ashes left in a woodshed of Roderick Pickard who occupied an apartment on the second floor of the Eaton building. The fire was discovered by Louis Seneski who occupied part of the Ervin house. He awakened the Pickards and they escaped. Marguerite Moriarty, a telephone operator on duty in the Eaton building, remained at the switchboard until driven out by the fire. Peter Fecteau operated a second hand store on the first floor. The fire spread through the woodshed into the Ervin house and into the Hastings/Carl Long Store building. Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Williams and three children occupied the apartment on the second floor of the Carl Long Store building. All the people got out safely, but most lost all their belongings. The fire totally destroyed the Eaton/Telephone Office building and the Ervin house, but only burned the back portion of the Hastings/Carl Long Store building. Montpelier and Waterbury fire departments responded and pumped water from Mad River. Damage was estimated at $25,000.

*Carl Long Store Fire Feb. 4, 1944 taken by Mrs. Robert Clark*
*"As seen from the veranda of the Clark home" East end of Bridge*

*Carl Long Store Fire the morning after Feb. 4, 1944*

The first fire station was built on the location of the Eaton/Telephone Office Block in 1946. About 1977, the old fire station was sold to Ruth Moriarty for $1500. See the Chapter XX for more details. The fire station building still stands in 2000. James B'fer Roth has a furniture shop in the building in 2000. Taken from THE BURLINGTON FREE PRESS, November 10, 2001, "Roth's raw materials are sticks, branches and tree trunks that he fashions into beds, tables and chairs in a Waitsfield workshop equipped with hand and antique mechanical tools. An experienced builder who studied sculpture at Johnson State College, Roth sees in every tree 'a piece of furniture waiting to happen.'"

The Jonathan H. Hastings building stands next to the Eaton Block/Ervin house. Jonathan Hastings built this building in 1840's. It was the George Fullerton Store in 1860's. It was the Hastings S. Campbell store in 1873. The front of this building was the Post Office until it moved to the Joslin Memorial Library in 1914. The store was in the back part of the building. George Billings had a store here in 1910. George Billings sold the merchandise to Carl Long in 1912. This was also called the Belden block in the 1900's because Harry Belden owned the building. Harry Belden lived up stair over the store for a time. Carl Long bought the building from Harry

*Hastings/Fullerton/Campbell/Long Store… Ervin House to Left*
*G. Fullerton sign on Store Entrance Back Part of Building*

Belden. Carl Long used all of the first floor for his store. Harry Belden also had a room in this building where the Waitsfield Band practiced. The Masonic Lodge held its meetings upstairs in a part of this building from 1867 until the Lodge moved to the brick building where it is in 2000. Francis Bragg lived over the store for several years. Mervin and Madeline Kingsbury lived over the store for a brief time. Part of this building was badly damaged in the February 4, 1944 fire. Carl Long moved his store to the Eaton Store building by the bridge in 1944. Walter and Agnes Kenyon had a Variety Store here as well as a grain store business here about 1948. Joe and Ruth Moriarty purchased this building and further repaired it after the fire and continued the Variety Store that Agnes Kenyon had started. This building housed the Sweet Pea Natural Foods Store for a time in 1993 as well as David Garten's Custom Color Store Valley Paints. Arthur Bennett purchased it in 1996 for an antique store. Martin and Lois DeHeer own it in 2000 and operate an antique shop.

The next area was always known as the Village Square. However, in the renaming of roads and streets, this became Farr Lane in 2000.

*Village Square….Note Gazebo on right in front of Masonic Hall*

*Village Square, Fullerton House, Baird House, Whitcome House*

The building south on the corner of the Village Square is the second oldest building in the Village still standing. (The oldest is the Wait House) Roderick Richardson Sr. built this house in 1817. He also built a store just to the west of his house. Horatio Fullerton purchased the house in 1837. The Fullerton's lived here for many years. George Fullerton lived here and ran the store just written about. George Fullerton died in 1905. Various people rented this house for some years. Harold Joslin lived here briefly. George and Hattie Kingsbury lived here for many years. Henry Brothers lived here in 1940's. Enos and Bessey Brothers lived here in the 1950's. Bessey Brothers was telephone operator for many years. It became the telephone office building after the 1944 fire (after its brief stay in the meat market building). Mahlan and Florence Jamieson lived here in 1960's. In 2000, this building is the Universal Micro Systems center.

*The original Richardson Store known as the Downer House in 1900's*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

Roderick Richardson also built a store just west of his house in 1817. This first store building was moved across the square behind the brick Masonic Hall. This Richardson store building became the Ebenezer Ainsworth home around 1840 and then Levi Willard home in 1850's. John W. Gregory lived here. John Gregory was a lawyer in Waitsfield in 1879; he died in 1907. He married Lucy Hastings, daughter of Jonathan Hastings. This became known as the Reuben Downer house. Mr. Downer had a little restaurant - lunch counter called "Cozy Corner" in the house for 20 years. He also sold gasoline. Reuben Downer ran the Stage out of Waitsfield to Middlesex for eight years. He also frequently kept transients over night. This historic building, **the first store in the village proper**, was torn down when Robert Harris built the new Waits Apartment Building in 1970's. History lost.

*Thompson/Boyce/Baird House About 1930*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

The house on the upper terrace above the Richardson/Fullerton house was built about 1845. John B. Thompson lived here until 1862 and ran the gristmill. Jacob Boyce moved here in 1862 and ran the brick store (the Masonic Hall in 2000). Historical family notes concerning the families living in this house. Jacob Boyce was born in Waitsfield in 1819. At age 18, he became a minister. Jacob lived in Maine and later in New York City. Francis, his son, was born in Maine and went to New York City with the family. Jacob Boyce decided New York was not the place for Francis, so he moved back to Waitsfield and the two men purchased the brick store. While Jacob Boyce lived in this house Mrs. Boyce needed help with the house work. Addie Miner from Duxbury, one of 10 children of William Miner, began to work for the Boyce family at the age of 12. Mr. Miner's wife had died and Mr. Minor could not take care of the children. The Boyce's adopted Addie. Addie Miner lived in this house helping Marian (Batchelder) Boyce until 1891. Addie Miner married Milo Bushnell and had two children Asbury and Lena. Milo Bushnell had worked 14 years in the Francis Boyce store. In 1892, Addie Miner Bushnell moved into the Pardon Bushnell house (Emily Eaton house) to care for Elmira (Woodbury) Bushnell until Elmira's death in 1898. Addie Bushnell married Oscar Eaton in 1893, after Milo Bushnell's death in 1892. Lena Bushnell, daughter of Milo and Addie Bushnell, married Walter E. Jones in 1911 and they had three children Walter, Elizabeth and Philip Jones. This helps to understand the relationship of families and property in the village – Boyce, Bushnell, Eaton, Jones.

The house on the ledges which was being discussed above became the home of George Billings in 1891. George Billings operated the store in the Fullerton block. Mr. Billings sold the merchandise to Carl Long in 1921 when Mr. Long took over the building. George Patterson lived here in the 1930's followed by Chester and Hattie Dana. Henry Bettis lived here in 1944. It has been called the John L. Baird tenement house during later years. This house was the law office of Allen Uris in 1972. In 2000, it is the office of Arthur Williams.

*Whitcomb/Newcomb House*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

The next house north of this structure is at least part of the Ezra Wait house and tavern. It was moved here in 1830's. Ezra Wait and his wife died in 1814 of a fever and the house was abandoned for many years. When it was moved, it became the home of Dr. Joseph Whitcomb. Ira Richardson Sr. lived here for a time. John Barber, a blacksmith, lived here in 1860's. Hastings S. Campbell lived here 1860's and ran the Fullerton/Long store. He left Waitsfield in the late 1870's. Wilbur and Alice Joslin lived here in the early 1900's. Alice Joslin had a Millinery Store in the front of the house. Lela Marshall, Everard Marshall's sister, had a Millinery Shop here for several years. Ferdinand "Ferd" and Hazel Newcomb lived here for many years in the 1900's and worked in Walter Jones'store. In 2000, it is again a small shop and home.

Returning to the area between the Reuben Downer house and the Masonic Lodge building was a long narrow building running north to south. In the south end of this narrow building at one time was a feed store. It was later remodeled and served as Henry Bettis' barbershop in the early 1900's. There was an apartment in the north end of this narrow building. It was possible to go from the apartment to the barbershop area via a narrow hallway. Also, a barn ran east to west behind the Gleason Store building. The barn has been gone for many years. All of these structures were destroyed in 1968, when Robert Harris tore down this historic Richardson Store/Downer house, and adjoining buildings. The apartment building was designed by Huygens and Tappe of Boston and completed in June 1969.

*Masonic Hall First store building built in 1831 burned*

The brick building on the corner has a long history. It was originally built by Roderick Richardson Sr. in 1831. It was operated as a store by Roderick Sr. and Roderick Richardson Jr. However, a partnership was formed – Roderick Richardson Jr., Cyrus Skinner, and James M. Richardson. The building burned in 1845 and the partnership dissolved. It also served as a Post Office and Town Clerk's office. Roderick Richardson Jr. rebuilt it in 1846. This second building has several unique features. The porch has several bays on the first floor and second floor. There are two entrances from the first porch. There was an entrance to the basement down a set of granite steps before the porches were added. It maybe that the original building had this basement entrance which was left intact when the second building was built, but they ceased to be used when the porches were constructed on the new building. The store front is most unusual and appears to be original as well as the only one of its type in the State. There are two unusual door entrances as well.

James M. Richardson occupied the top floor and Cyrus Skinner occupied the first floor with a separate line of goods. Cyrus Skinner left this building in 1848 and moved to the "Tin Shop." In the space that Mr. Skinner had occupied was formed a Protective Union Store with Timothy Reed as president. This operated from 1854 to 1857. James Richardson remained on the second floor. In April 1858, Richardson J. Gleason and Jonathan H Hastings purchased the building and establish it as a store. In 1862, the partners moved next door to what became the Gleason Store in June of 1864. Mr. Gleason remained postmaster and continued the Post Office.

In 1862, Jacob Boyce leased this brick building for a time and then Mr. Boyce purchased the building. Jacob Boyce continued until his death in 1878.

The following is taken from an article in the NORTHFIELD NEWS, September 1, 1896. "Thirty-five years ago [1861] last May, F. A. Boyce [should be Jacob Boyce, father of Francis A. Boyce] arrived in Middlesex on his way from New York city to Waitsfield, and finding that the stage did not go that day, he walked through the dissolving snows and mud, a distance of 12 miles. Here is a representative fact. Sturdy perseverance has been the key that has unlocked the door to competence. His father, [not is father, confused because the first name is incorrect above] Jacob Boyce, was a partner in a New York firm that manufactured furniture for the southern market, but the breaking of the war

ruined their trade. Mr. [Jacob] Boyce was a native of Waitsfield, [born Apr. 23, 1819] and early in 1861 returned to his early home and bought the business of Gleason & Hastings, and the Brick store. Francis A. Boyce [son of Jacob Boyce] was born in 1841 in Seabrook, NH, and was educated in the public schools of Nashua, Boston and New York City. He early learned the details of his father's business, both of the manufacture of furniture and the mercantile department. A short time before the death of Jacob Boyce, in 1878, F. A. [Boyce] bought the stock and store and has carried on the business since. … Mr. [Francis A.] Boyce has a well-selected and extensive stock of general merchandise. His store is headquarters in this valley for furniture, paints, oils and brushes, and he feels that he has been accorded a very liberal patronage, which he intends to deserve by fair dealing and up to date prices. Mr. [Francis A.] Boyce married, in 1894, Mrs. Jennie M. Green of Waitsfield. Mr. Boyce in religious preference is a Methodist, and his father was a preacher of that denomination in Warren, Duxbury and other places. …" Francis A. Boyce continued in this business until his death in 1903. Milo Bushnell worked 14 years for Francis Boyce in this store until his death in 1892. Francis A. Boyce willed the store to his wife Jennie (Greene) Boyce. Jennie Greene Boyce son by her first marriage, Charles J. Greene, operated the store for her until her death in 1918. It was called the Charles J. Greene and Company Store. Charles J. Greene then sold the property in 1919 to Walter E. Jones who in turn sold the property to the Masonic Lodge July 1, 1920. It is not clear when the Masonic Lodge actually moved into the building from the Belden Store building.

It was a very successful business with a complete line. This is taken from an advertisement in **WAITSFIELD, VT, OLD HOME WEEK SOUVENIR BOOK AUGUST 11-17, 1901**. "The business comprises a general line of Merchandise, Dry Goods, Ladies and Gent's Furnishings, Boots and Shoes, Groceries, Crockery and Glassware, Furniture, Wall Paper, Window Shades, Paints and Medicines…. The best goods at a fair profit is the motto of this establishment."

(Author's note: The article above taken from the Northfield News September 1896 has the names of Jacob Boyce and Francis Boyce confused in part of the article. Rev. Jacob Boyce was the father of Francis A. Boyce. The names in brackets are the author's corrections of those errors.)

*Gleason Store and Methodist Parsonage*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

The next building north was the Richardson J. Gleason Store and Post Office for many years. Several people have lived in this building after the Gleason Store ceased to operate. The Bettis family lived on the lower floor and Mrs. Skinner lived on the upper floor in the 1930's. Jack Larrow lived upstairs for several years in the 1950's. Willis and Erlene Bragg lived in the basement in 1940's. In 2000, it is a pottery shop on the lower level and an antique store on the upper level. Historical note about this site: According to an early map, Roderick Richardson's harness shop which was moved from the Common first stood on this location until it was moved north on Main Street as noted later.

There was a large barn extending west behind this building. There was also a small house west of the barn. Henry Brothers lived in this house in the early 1900's. This barn and the house have been gone for many years.

*Methodist Parsonage Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

North beside this Gleason building is the road to the Methodist Parsonage. This building was built about 1871. The Methodist church used the parsonage until early 1900. It was rented for many years to Dr. Shaw who was the Waitsfield doctor in the 1900's. Max Shaw, Dr. Shaw's son, lived here for a time before moving to the Congregational Parsonage at the east end of the covered bridge. It has been used as the Church parsonage from 1952 to 2000. In 2001, it is rental property owned by the United Church of Christ.

In 1950's, Allen and Irene Mehuron built a house on the terrace above the parsonage near where Izra Wait's tavern stood. A road was built from the Parsonage Road north around the terrace to the Mehuron house. Everett "Jack" and Jessamine Larrow also built a house on this road in the 1980's. This is called the Mehuron Road in 2000.

*Richardson/Long House*
*Waitsfield Cornet Band*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

Returning to the main highway was the home of John W. Richardson in 1850. Lewis Wood family lived here for a time in the early 1900's. This was the home of Milford and Edna Long in 1930's to 1950's. Milford Long built a small building and sold ice cream and candy. He put in gasoline tanks in 1945 and sold gasoline. Walter Kenyon purchased this house in 1950's and made the house into a small store and gas station. Stanley and Doris Kenyon ran the store about 1957 to 1967 and lived in the building. It was sold to Gerald Tucker in 1969. He also operated it as a gas station and store. Gerald Tucker sold to Paul Dalton in 1973; however, Mr. Tucker took back the store in 1978. It has since changed owners several times. In 2000, it is known, as the Village Grocery.

The next building north is a recent building. Gerald Stokes built this building in 1940's and operated a small ice cream store and gas station. Alden Bettis enlarged the building and used it as an appliance store in 1955. This building was remodeled and enlarged and made into the Post Office in 1958 to 1962. In 2000, it is the Kehoe Design and Sign Shop.

The next building was the home of Abijah Brown - 1833 to 1858. Chandler A. Prentis who married Laura Richardson lived here in 1873. Gerald Stokes purchased it in 1900's. Gerald Stokes sold the property. The barn burned in 1950. Alden Bettis purchased the property in 1954. Alden Bettis sold to Beverly Kehoe. The house was used as a second hand store for a time and then was used as an antique store in 1998 to 2000.

*Brown/Stokes House……Saddle Shop right*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

Near the highway north was the little, but historic building which originally was a saddle shop of Roderick Richardson Sr. on the Common. It was moved to the village when Roderick Richardson Sr. started his store in the village. It stood on the Gleason Store site next to the brick store until it was moved to this location in 1840's. It became Charles Bigelow's harness shop and later his son, Andrew Bigelow operated it as well as his livery stable – 1850 to 1900's. Mr. Dale used it as a shoe shop in the early 1900's. It is believed that Mr. and Mrs. Fred Neal lived in this building summers for a few years. In the 1940' Alice Bisbee and Dr. Willgoose had an ice cream shop here for two summers. In the late 1980's, it was moved west away from the street where it stands in 2000. Indeed an historic building.

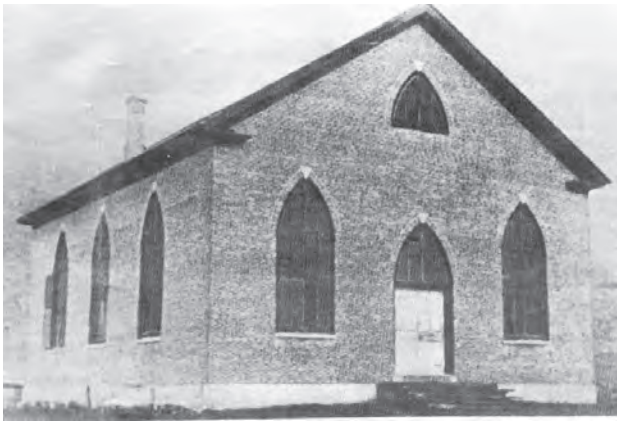
*Richardson/Bigelow taken in 2000*

The next large house is the home built by James M. Richardson in 1830's. It became the home of Charles E. Bigelow in 1850's. He had the harness shop mentioned above. Andrew W. Bigelow, son of Charles E. Bigelow, lived here in 1882. He also operated the harness shop. The Hayes family lived here in the 1940's. Spence and Marge Gregory purchased the house and opened the Village House a Gift shop, furnishings store. In 2000, it became the property of Michael and Dele Spence.

*Second Methodist Church Note Horse Sheds*
*Brick Meeting Hall Center*

The next building north is the third Methodist Church built in 1870. (The first Methodist Church was in Irasville). The second Methodist Church building, which stood on this site, burned in February 1894, but was rebuilt. It remained the Methodist Church until 1941 when it was sold to the Town of Waitsfield for a Community Hall. It remained a Community Hall where meetings were held and the high school basketball games were played until Howard Keith operated it as "The Community Store." In 1966, Jim Schoudel leased the property with the option to buy and remodeled the building into a workshop/studio. There was also an idea for an apartment as well as the meeting room for the American Legion.. In 1976, it was sold to Vee Lynch. She was trained in making quilts. She turned this old church into a Quilt Shop. The Luminosity Stained Glass Studio is in the rear of the church building in 2000.

The brick Union Meetinghouse built in 1836 still stands as the next building. The following is taken from the records in the Vermont Historical Society: "Roderick Richardson to build Brick Meeting house 54' by 42' for the sum of $1800 complete and painted except for the doors," dated June 29, 1836. It served as a church for several groups – in 1853 the Episcopal Church, the Baptist Church shared a portion of the building for a time with the Universalists. In 1903 the local chapter of Odd Fellows purchased the building and remodeled and enlarged it. The Odd Fellows had been in the



*Union Meetinghouse 1836*

*Union Meetinghouse Remodeling c.1904*

Norton store that burned in 1903. The I.O.O.F. lost their records in the Norton fire. It became a two story building. The building was used for town meetings, school plays, graduations etc as well as the meeting place of the Odd Fellows. In 2000, it is the home of the Valley Players theater group.

(Author's note: This is an attempt to perhaps help explain the property ownership in this next area after Benjamin Wait Sr. died. Benjamin Wait Sr. owned over 600 acres in the lower village area. Roderick Richardson Sr. became owner of this Wait property after Benjamin Wait's death. Daniel Richardson, son of Roderick Richardson inherited much of this land. However because of inter-marriages the land became divided between families. This has caused some confusion with names and ownership's. This listing is an attempt to show family relationships and explain owners of land in this next area.)

Roderick Richardson owned all of the Wait farm property after General Wait died

Garinter Hastings owned the farm on Old Colony Road which was a tavern/farm and later was the Walter Joslin Farm in 1900's.

Daniel Richardson, son of Roderick Richardson married Betsey Jones, daughter of Matthias and Betsey (Joslin) Jones in 1830. Mrs. Betsey Jones was daughter of Joseph Joslin.

Matthias Jones married Mary Prentis

Mary Prentis married Artemas Brown

Joseph O. Joslin married Marian Hastings, daughter of Garinter and Hannah Hastings in 1835.

Joseph Joslin daughter Betsey married Matthias S. Jones

Matthias S. Jones daughter Betsey married Daniel Richardson

Holland Jones married Lovina daughter of Elisha Richardson

Nathaniel G. Joslin married Lovina Richardson daughter of Roderick Richardson

Joseph O. Joslin and David O. Joslin were cousins

Nathaniel G. Joslin and Joseph Osgood Joslin were brothers..

John S. Campbell married Fanny daughter of Garinter Hastings

Cyrus Joslin married Calesta daughter of John and Lois Campbell

Nathaniel G. and Lovina Joslin's son was Lewis R. Joslin who built the creamery and the building just north of the brick house. See later paragraphs. Thus the entire Benjamin Wait Sr., Ezra Wait, Benjamin Wait Jr. farms became the property of Garinter Hastings, Daniel Richardson, Nathaniel Joslin, Lewis Joslin, Matthias Jones, Artemas Brown and the Walter Joslin family.

Garinter Hastings block is not to be confused with the Jonathan Hastings block in the village known as Carl Long Store. Both areas have been referred to as the Hastings Block because of the last names and owners. The original Hastings Block is in the center of town –Carl Long Store. Therefore, the next building north of the I.O.O.F. brick building is the brick house and farm built by Roderick Richardson. The large building to the north was built by Lewis Joslin and sometimes referred to as the Hastings block because of Garinter Hastings who ultimately lived in the brick house and owned the property. Garinter Hastings had Lewis Joslin build the structure.

Roderick Richardson Sr. had purchased the Wait farm property after Benjamin Wait's death in 1822. Roderick Richardson Sr. built this house about 1840. Dan Richardson is shown to be living

*Richardson /Goodyear/Fleming House c. 1900*
*Note the original barns*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

in this brick house probably after he married Lucy C. Carpenter his second wife and daughter of Jesse and Harriet (Wait) Carpenter. Dan Richardson first married Betsey Jones, daughter of Matthias and Betsey Jones Sr. in January 1830 and lived in the brick house, which his father had built for him east of the covered bridge. Dan had inherited the Wait farm from his father, Roderick Richardson Sr. Nathaniel G. Joslin married Lovina Richardson, daughter of Roderick and Anna Richardson and owned the Hastings/Tavern farm, but lived in the village, probably in this house. Dan and Lovina Richardson were brother and sister. Artemis Brown came to Waitsfield about 1842. His wife, Eunice died in 1851 and in 1853 he married Mary Prentis Jones widow of Matthias Jones and purchased this property. Note that Dan Richardson had married first into the Matthias Jones family. Artemis and Mary Brown lived here until Artemus death in 1877. Richard and John Brown, relatives of Artemis Brown had the property in 1890's. It became the home of Ross Goodyear in 1920's. Ross Goodyear sold the farm to Clarence Tucker in April 1945. Mrs. Clarence Tucker was a Goodyear. Leslie Flemer purchased the property in 1959 and owns the property in 2000. There were two barns to the west of the house built by Lewis Joslin about 1870's. The large barn burned June 21, 1940. It was rebuilt in about 1942. The fields in 1980 were use as a polo field. In 2000, 330 acres of this property were placed in Land Trust. This was a great portion of the Benjamin Wait farm.

West in the field from the Richardson buildings was the Creamery. Jesse B. Norton and Solomon Fitch established the creamery in 1893. Lewis R. Joslin built the building for $1500. The building was unique in that it had a hall for lectures and concerts on the second floor. This was the area used to play basketball in 1938 – 1941. Jesse Norton sold to Daniel H. Skinner. Mr. Skinner sold to Charles Eddy in September 1894. The creamery was sold to Harry Belden in 1902. Earl Belden ran the creamery until his sudden death of appendicitis. Then, Harry Ellis, then Warren Wright, then Stub Griffith and then Frank Chapman were all managers for Harry Belden, who had gone to Burlington. A.P. Bigelow of Middlesex purchased the business. It was closed in 1919. Carl Long used the building to store ice for several years in the 1930's. In 1938 to 1941 it was used as a basketball court by

*Norton/Fitch/Belden Creamery*

the High School. The building was torn down in 1960's.

Lewis R. Joslin, son of Nathaniel G. Joslin, also build the building north of the Richardson/Goodyear farm home in 1880. Nathaniel G. Joslin owned the Hastings/Tavern farm and his son; Lewis R. Joslin lived on this Hastings farm and operated it. His father, Nathaniel G. Joslin lived in the Richardson house in the village, thus Lewis R. Joslin built the building to the north. It was a grain store with large platform scales on the south end. In the early 1900's Tim Bonnette lived here and operated the scale room. This store building constructed by Lewis R. Joslin continued to operate as a grain store through the early 1920's. One account indicates that this building was a tavern at one time…..This is doubtful and is probably confused with the farm where Lewis Joslin lived which was indeed a tavern for many years. It was made into apartments in the 1930's. Clarence Tucker owned the property in the 1940's.

Mrs. Ella Chapman lived in one apartment during most of her years of teaching the 7th and 8th grades in Waitsfield. Ella Chapman first started teaching in #3 School. Walter Mann, janitor at the school for many years, lived in this building. Riford Joslin used the barn area as a feed store after the gristmill burned in 1944. Riford Joslin rebuilt the gristmill and returned to operate it in the original location. Clarence Tucker made the L portion (the barn area) into a ski lodge in the 1950's. It was apartment rentals for many years. Peter Sidell purchased the property in the 1960's and it has been made into Condo units in 2000.

North of this building in 1952, Jay LaVanway built a building to service and sell chain saws. Jay LaVanway added a restaurant to the building for his daughter. The restaurant was called "The Hut." Lester Barton purchased the building and operated a chain saw business. Jack Murphy purchased the building in 1956 and remodeled it into a house. Jack Murphy sold the property and it became a Laundromat. This building burned. In 1960, George Hornbeck purchased the property. The remains of the original building were torn down and two houses build on the property. Nan Hornbeck lives in the house south and operates a beauty salon in 2000. George Hornbeck lived in the house north and sold it to Philips who owns and rents the house in 2000.

North across Old County Road, Clarence Tucker built a house in 1960 after he left the Richardson/Goodyear/Tucker farm. Clarence and Charlotte Tucker lived here until their deaths. The house was sold to Dr. Saia in 1977. Dr. Saia practiced medicine here until 1981, when Mad River Valley

Health Center, Inc. purchased the property. The Center is a non-profit organization. Dr. Francis Cook is the practicing physician here – 1981 – 2000. See Medical Services Chapter. A new medical building is being constructed in 2005.

To the north, Clarence Tucker had a vegetable business. That business has been expanded over the years into a large garden center. Gerald Tucker has operated it most of the years. However, it has briefly changed hands with Gerald Tucker receiving the property back. Gerald owns the property in 2000. The property was sold again in 2001.

North of the garden business, Donald Stafford built a home in 1947. Helen Stafford, Donald's wife, lives there with her son, in 2000.

The next large complex is the Waitsfield Fayston Telephone Company now called Waitsfield Telecom. See the chapter on Communications.

Some distance north of this complex on the ledges is the Philip Bisbee house built by Phil Bisbee in 1947. It was Philip and Margaret Bisbee's home until Phil Bisbee's death in August 1966. The property has since been sold.

On the north side of the ledge is the house built by Freeman White in 1969. Freeman White lived here for a time. Douglas & Donna Kenyon lived here. Later James Hood lived here followed by Greenslit in 2000.

It is now time to cross Route 100 east. The new house closest to the Kenyon farm, is the home of Douglas and Donna Kenyon built in the 1980's. It was built by the Green Moss company. Part of the house burned and was rebuilt. Douglas and Donna Kenyon live there in 2000.

The house directly east was built in 1850. It was the Andrew B.C. Davis home in 1870's. Wesley Tucker lived here about 1890. This was the Ed Bennett home in the 1930/40's. Fred Cota purchased the property in September 1945. Ray Barton lived here for a time as well as Henry Paddy. Seymor Caster lived here in 1945. In 2000, it is owned by Erie Connerlee and William Carnright.

Returning south toward the village is the Carnright Connellee house built in the 1979. This house was built on the flood plane and has suffered several periods of high water.

The Waitsfield Elementary School is just south of the historical Wait House. See the Education Chapter.

*Lower Village before 1874…Wait House, School, Fullerton, Joslin Farm*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

The next building south is the Wait House. Dan Richardson supposedly moved the Wait house to its present location and built the second floor. There is some indication that the house was moved twice. Roderick Richardson Sr., who purchased much of the Benjamin Wait property after Benjamin Wait's death, may have moved the house close to the West Side of the Route 100. Dan Richardson then may have moved the house across the road and built the second floor. Dan Richardson sold it to Lewis Thayer in 1845. Nathaniel G and Lewis R. Joslyn acquired the property in 1850's. Nathaniel Joslyn married Lovina Richardson, daughter of Roderick and Anna Richardson. The Richardson's had purchased the Wait farm property. Nathaniel G. Joslyn had purchased the Richardson/Hastings/Goodyear property in the village as well as the Wait/Hastings/Tavern farm upon which his son, Lewis R. Joslin lived. Thus the Joslyn's acquired this Wait house property. Ebenezer and C.M. Ainsworth received the house in 1866. The records show James VanDeusen as executor of Lewis Thayer estate and the property going to Nellie and Clara Moriatta (Moriarty) in 1888. Lewis Thayer evidently had owned the property in 1872. After the settlement of Lewis R. Joslin estate in 1896, the property went to Charles and Dora Eddy in 1896. Stephen Ervin and Elizabeth E. Joslin purchased the property in 1900. Stephen Ervin Joslin died in April 1950. Stephen E. Joslin son, Frank H. Joslin, inherited the house in 1954. However, Dwight W., Ralph H., Ward E., Frank O. Joslin and Ruth Joslin Chutter all retained inheritance in the property until it was turned over to Frank O. in 1943. The house remained empty and in very poor condition for many years. Ernest F. and Ruth C. Bareham purchased the property in 1970. Bruce Bareham and Brenda Mack inherited the property in 1988. The Town of Waitsfield and Historical Society, through fund-raising, purchased the building and historically restored the Wait House in 2000. It is an information center, Chamber of Commerce office and Historical Society space in 2000. This was accomplished through grants and fund-raising drive.

On the old High School playing fields is the Waitsfield/Fayston Volunteer Fire Station. See the chapter on the Waitsfield Fire Department.

The Old Waitsfield High School is next which is written about in the Education Chapter. The old High School building was made into several shops. It was then remodeled into Condos that still exist in 2000.

The meadows surrounding the High School were owned by Benjamin Wait, then by Roderick Richardson, then by Nathaniel G. Joslyn, and then by Mr. Connor. Mr. Connor sold spring water rights to the High School. The spring was on the west terrace near the Waitsfield/Fayston town line. Mr. George Olmstead owned the meadow behind the village homes on the east side of Route 100, and Mr. Jonathan Hastings owned the meadow behind the Congregational Church. Mr. Herb Smith acquired a piece of the Hastings meadow in the mid 1900's.

The first house south of the High School is the Horatio Fullerton home built in 1830. M. J. Johnston lived here about 1860. Dr. James M. Van Deusen lived here about 1870. Jesse B. Norton owned this property and the empty lot next door in 1902. John and Carlie Reed purchased the property 1911. Carlie Reed continued to live here after her husband's death. Her daughter, Helen Fielder, lived here with her mother until her mother's death. Helen Fielder continued to live here until 1984. Several other people have lived in this house. In 2000, Barry Bender owns it and operates a canoe shop called Clearwater Sports.

*Davis/Bonnette House*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

Jesse B. Norton owned the next property. The house was built in 1902. The barn was built in 1903. Florence (Boyce) Davis and her mother Minerva Boyce lived here in 1930's. Wilbur Larrow purchased the house in 1942 for his son, Jack Larrow. Jack and Jessamine Larrow lived here briefly before Jack Larrow went into the service in WW II. Wilbur Larrow lived here for a time after Jack went into the service. Perley Bonnette purchased the house from Wilbur Larrow for his son, Harry Bonnette who was also in the service during WW II. Harry and Roberta Bonnette moved into the house in 1946 and have owned the house since. Harry Bonnette's wife Roberta lives in the house in 2000.

*Original Barn Building before the 1939 Fire..Bonnette's Garage*

Next, John Walton built a Blacksmith Shop in 1826. George W. Olmstead operated a cooper shop here in 1840's. Mr. Connor had a Blacksmith Shop here in 1920's. Perley Bonnette had a garage here from the mid 1920's to 1950's. His son, Harry Bonnette, upon returning in 1945 from the service during World War II, began working in the garage and ultimately owned and operated the garage until 1974. The original barn structure burned in 1960's and was rebuilt with cinder blocks in front. Stanley Martin, who worked for Harry Bonnette operated the business as the Waitsfield Auto Service for three years. The business was leased to Arnold Eastman and son, Randy in 1980.

In 1999, the building was purchased through a fund-raising campaign and through extensive remodeling became the Mad River Valley Ambulance Service building housing all the equipment and needed space. The MRVAS occupied the building in 2000.

*Hastings House in 2000*

Jonathan H. Hastings built the next house in the 1840's. The house can be seen left in the picture below. He later moved to the brick house by the Congregational Church. An 1873 map shows Lucius Shaw living here. Vail Tucker lived here in 1900's. Elmore "Tim" Goodyear lived here in 1940's. Palmer Gaylord purchased the property in 1947 and operated a farm equipment business here until 1977. His wife continued to live here until her death. Sandy and Kristen Seibert Lawton purchased the property and are remodeling the house in 2000.

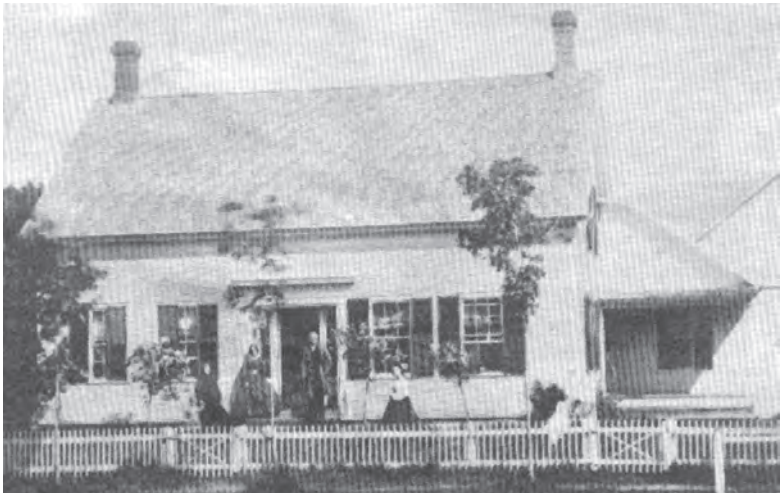
*Gleason/Prentis House*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

The next building was the Huzzial Gleason house built in about 1830. His son, Richardson James Gleason lived here for many years. Louisa and May Gleason, sisters, lived here for several years. Chandler Prentis lived here at one time. It was rental property for many years. The Prentis sisters lived here for a few years and some locals refer (incorrectly) to this as the Prentis house. David Cain owned the property in mid 1970's. It is still an apartment complex and offices in 2000.

***The first car in Waitsfield.***

*McAllister/Jones House*

The next house south was the Ziba McAllister home about 1870. Pearl and Laura (Lullie) (Jones) Gaylord lived here about 1890 until their death. It became the Edward H. Jones house in 1934. Mr. Jones had lived on the "Valleymead" farm north of the village on Route 100. His son, Charles Jones had taken over the farm operation. Edward H. Jones was State Agriculture Commissioner for 20 years. Mr. Edward Jones died October 1947. Harold Joslin lived here in 1949. Several families have lived here through the 1950, 60, 70. In 1998 it was purchased by David and Melanie Leppla. Mr. Leppla wanted to establish a glass blowing business in the back area. After considerable debate, he was allowed to destroy the barn area and build a new building for a glass blowing studio know as Mad River Glass Gallery in 2000. This was a historical building and so designated, but with the destruction of the barn it is no longer an historical structure.



*John Walton House*

John Walton built the next house in 1838. Samuel and Nancy Chipman purchased the property. The 1873 map shows Nancy Chipman living here. Dr. Henry T. J. Howe lived here in 1882 and practice medicine. Bertrand Joslin family lived here in the 1930's. Ella Chapman moved to this house when she retired from teaching in 1957. Henri Borel purchased the property in 1970's. He owns the property in 2000.

*Pingree/Joyslin/Eaton House*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

William M. Pingree (Pringry) built the next house in 1835 and practiced law here until 1841. Dr. David C. Joyslin practiced medicine here in 1841 to 1874. Orville M. Eaton lived here in 1875. He operated the hardware and tinsmith shop on Bridge Street next to the bridge in 1879. Oscar Eaton, mill operator, tinsmith and merchant lived here in 1920's. He also operated a hearse and funeral home from this location. This author's grandmother, Edna (Boyce) Savage died here in 1922. Egbert and Edna Savage lived here briefly in 1920's. Milford Long lived on the second floor of this house for a time. This house was owned by Otto Livingston in the early 1930's. Earl Jones purchased the property after leaving the farm on Tremblay Road (Jones Road) in 1946 Earl Jones died in 1961 and his wife, Harriet lived here until 1986 when she sold the property to Stevenson Flemer. Wrenn Flemer Compere owns the property in 2000.

*Hastings – Walter Jones House prior to 1875*
*Courtesy of Ed Eurich*

Roderick Richardson Jr. built the next brick house in 1834. Some Richardson's may have lived here early. Judge Jonathan H. Hastings purchased the property in 1864 along with considerable land east of the house. Walter A Jones who had purchased the store on Bridge Street in 1867 to 1892 purchased this house. His son, Walter E. Jones, lived here 1892 to 1941. His wife, Lena Jones continued to live here after Walter's death. The house has changed owners several times since.

Congregational Church built in 1875 stands on the next location. (See church history chapter)

The next building was the Jesse B. Norton store built in 1895. The building faced Route 100 slightly north of where the Joslin Memorial Library sits in 2000. It was also the Post Office for a short time. Steps went directly from street level into the store. There was a lower storage area. The I.O.O.F. held their meetings in this building. When it burned, the I.O.O.F. purchased the Union Meeting House. This Norton Store burned in 1903.

The following article is taken from the NORTHFIELD NEWS. September 1, 1896: "NORTON & BOYCE, General Merchandise. The firm of Norton & Boyce is a valuable acquisition to the mercantile life of Waitsfield. Their block, completed in the summer of '95, [1895] two stories and basement, with a frontage of 70 feet on Main Street, is the largest business block in the valley. This store presents an object lesson in judicious classification and attractive arrangement of goods. On the first floor are four rooms, the west end a room 28 x 40 contains the leading hardware stock

*Norton Store Burned in 1903*

*Norton Store Fire 1903*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

*Norton Store Ruins Note Band Gazebo Left*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

in the valley, also a good line of handsome crockery and lamps, groceries, patent medicines, etc. Adjoining it, the dry goods department also containing ladies' and gents' furnishings, ready made clothing, boots, and shoes whose merits are well presented by the urbane clerk, Miss F. Josephine Boyce. A storage room in the rear and on the second floor is used by the firm for paints, oils, etc. The building throughout is furnished in natural wood. The basement is used in part as a tin shop where J.D. Davis does the work in first rate style, and the remainder of the basement is used for storage of their large stock of tin ware and stoves. Hardware is the leading specialty, and the trade in this line has largely increased."

Jesse B. Norton married Eugenia L. Boyce, daughter of Nathan M. Boyce in 1895. Florence Josephine Boyce, sister of Eugenia Boyce married Julius D. Davis, September 22, 1903. Florence Josephine Boyce, spoken about in the above article worked for Jesse B. Norton, her brother-in-law. Julius D. Davis at this time ran the tin shop in the basement of the Norton Store. This was referred to as the Norton & Boyce Store. It is not clear whether Nathan Boyce had an interest in the business because of his daughters or whether the store took on the Boyce name because of the wife and sister-in-law of Jesse B. Norton.

Nevertheless, this has caused confusion over the Norton Store. Several local accounts in the 1900's refer to the James Walton building as the Norton & Davis Store. This would make it appear that there were two Norton Stores. The fact remains that this Norton Store spoken about above burned in 1903. It appears accurate that after the fire and the marriage of Julius D. Davis and Florence Josephine Boyce that Jesse B. Norton and Julius Davis purchased the William Jasper Walton building known as "the Tin Shop." It became known as the Norton & Davis Store. However, Jesse Norton left Waitsfield soon after and the store became the Davis Store. (See the account of the William Jasper Walton Store that follows in order of building descriptions)

*Bushnell/Eaton House and Barn and Gazebo*

In the next area stood the Band Stand (Gazebo) which was used by the Cornet Band and other events. There were two – one smaller one, pictured above, closer to the Pardon Bushnell house. The smaller one was torn down and a larger one built closer to Route 100 in 1895 with a walkway from the street to the stand. This was destroyed when the Library was built.

Joslin Memorial Library is the next building which was a gift from George A. and Sarah Hannah Joslyn in 1912. The library was built in the spring of 1913 and dedicated on October 30 1913. H.P. Cummings Construction Company, Ware, MA built the building at a total cost of $21,387. The Town adopted an article at the March 5, 1912 Town Meeting to purchase the land from Minerva Boyce

*Joslin Memorial Library*

for $800. George A and Sarah Hannah Joslyn were very successful business people in Omaha, Nebraska. They gave money for many buildings in Omaha. They were both from Waitsfield.

The building was designed with an opalescent art glass skylight. In recent years, an electric lighting system was installed to light this window at night. It is historically interesting to note that the postmaster served as the librarian and janitor for the first years of operation for a salary of $75.00 and the night librarian was paid $25.00 per year. In 1930, the total services for the day librarian and night librarian was $150.00 per year. In 1945, Mrs. W.E. Joslin and Mrs. Clayton Kingsbury were librarians. Ella Chapman served as librarian for several years. Betty Howlet is the librarian in 2000. The Library is operated under a Board of Trustees with an employed librarian in charge of all activities.

It needs to be historically recorded that there was a public library in Waitsfield as early as 1866 with members paying $3.00 dues. This 1866 library was really a private library in the Walter A. Jones store. Walter Jones was the librarian and was paid $18 a year. This library remained until 1883. There appears to be a gap in the continuation of the library; however, Mrs. Lucius Savage was librarian in the upstairs of the Gleason house. The next known record was of a library in 1896 with 275 volumes and in 1904 with 478 volumes. This information comes from Mrs. Walter Jones. Then the library was in the upstairs apartment in the Eaton building by the village bridge. Flora Moriarty was librarian at this time. In the early 1900's, Flora Moriarty continued as librarian after the Joslin Memorial Library was completed, serving as librarian for 40 years.

The Waitsfield Post Office occupied the south end of the Joslin Memorial Library building [the children's room] from 1913 until 1962. The US Government paid a yearly rent from 1914 to 1922 of $75.00. In 1923, the rent was raised to $150.00 yearly and remained that fee until 1947. The lower floor of the building, called the library hall, was one room for the town clerk and a vault that was built under the entrance to the library. Town meeting was held in the one larger room, library hall, from 1913 through 1935. The old fire chemical tank, and hose wagon was also stored in this room at one time. In 1961, the library basement was renovated and the Montpelier Savings Bank became the first bank facility in Waitsfield and in 1973 the Howard Bank. The Howard Bank remained here until 1976. After the bank moved from this location, the Town Offices took over the space and occupy it in 2000. There was a celebration ceremony for the Memorial Library in September 2003 and video taped.

*Bridge Street (Roxbury Road) before 1913 Looking West*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

*Walter Jones Store in 1900*

Now we turn onto what in 2000 is called Bridge Street. This was originally part of Roxbury Road. On the right just east of the hotel was Oliver C. Campbell shoe shop on land owned by Roderick Richardson. Oliver Campbell built the building about 1851. This building was purchased by Matthias S. Jones Jr. and his brother Loren W. Jones in 1855 and remodeled into a general store. (There are several incorrect accounts of this building.) It was operated under the partnership of Matthias S. Jones Jr. and his brother Loren Jones and Ward until the death of Matthias Jones in 1859. The following taken from records found in the Vermont Historical Library: "Co-partnership agreement between Loren W. Jones and Chester W. Ward concerning the store to be called the Jones and Ward Store in 1864 – at the store now occupied by said Jones sold half the total value $5,581.34 to Ward." Jones and Ward continued to operate the store until 1869 when it was sold to the firm of Dr. Walter Alonzo Jones, Hiram Edgar Jones, and George H. Goodrich. The last two

people withdrew from the partnership in 1871, which left the business to Walter Alonzo Jones. He operated the business until his death in 1892. His son, Walter Edwin Jones, took over the business and operated it until 1941. It continued to operate under different management for a few years. Elmer Mehuron, who owned the store next door, purchased the building in 1945 and operated it as a grocery store until 1969. It has since been a pizza shop and antique shop and has been empty at times. The building remained in need of extensive care. Mary Schramki purchased the property in 1998, repaired the building as well as adding side porches. Steele I beams help support the main building. Ms. Schramki operates a business called Artisans' Gallery in 2000. The additions, skylights etc. have destroyed the historical value of the original building.

*Walton/Eaton/Savage/Bisbee Store in Waitsfield Village*

The next place of business in the village William Jasper Walton built in 1848. William Jasper Walton was the son of John Walton. It was called "The Tin Shop." Mr. Cyrus Shearer operated a tin shop here in 1848 soon after it was built until 1855. It was devoted to hardware, plumbing and tin-shop. Hastings S. Campbell operated this as a hardware and tin shop - 1855-1867; George J. Ainsworth in 1868; Winfield S. Rich, briefly; Orville Eaton in early 1870's; Oscar Eaton in 1870's. Oscar Eaton had a print shop in the east end of the building in 1870's on the first floor as well as the store on the west end. This was the Eaton and Savage Store in 1901. After the Norton Store fire, Jesse B. Norton and Julius Davis purchased this building and continued the store and tin shop. Julius D. Davis operated this store with his new bride, Florence Josephine Boyce. Jesse Norton left for Oklahoma in 1903/04.

As previously noted, after the Norton Store fired in 1903, Julius Davis operated a store in the William Walton building with his wife F. Josephine Boyce. Julius Davis died June 24, 1908. Josephine continued to run the store for several years. Many local people remember this as the Norton & Davis Store. This is, apparently, the reason for the confusion over the Norton Store. Jesse Norton, after the fire, purchased the Walton building with Julius Davis and it was called the Norton and Davis Store. Jesse Norton left town in 1903 and Julius Davis continued to run the store with his wife, Josephine until his death in 1908. Florence Josephine (Boyce) Davis was the daughter of Nathan and S. Minerva Boyce. The Boyce's and the Eaton's were related.

Griffith and Neill operated a hardware store from 1910 to 1920 in this Walton building. During the time it was the Griffith and Neill Store, there was a fire on the west end porch where fuel was pumped. There was only slight damage to the porch and stairs. Fred Baird, who worked in Barre, operated the tin shop here in the summer time during the early 1920's. Fred Eaton, related

to the Boyces, came in possession of the building and operated a general store in 1930. Kenneth Cota operated this general store in the mid 1930's until Elmer Mehuron purchased the store in 1940. Elmer Mehuron operated the store here until he moved next door to the old Walter Jones store building in 1944 and operated an IGA Store until he moved to Irasville in 1969. Carl Long, following his fire in 1944, purchased this Walton building and moved his store into this location. Clarence and Robert Bisbee purchased the store April 26, 1948 and operated it first as a grocery store then as a hardware, plumbing and sheet metal business (back to the original function). It was originally called "Bisbee and Bisbee Store" then became known simply as "Bisbee's Hardware." This was the beginning of Bisbee Hardware Store in Waitsfield. In June 1972, it was sold to Douglas McKechneay as a part of the American Hardware Store Chain. Roy Connor was the new store's manager. The hardware business ultimately moved to Irasville about 1974.

The second floor of this building also has an interesting history. There were two apartments on the second level as well as storage space for the store. Many different people have lived in these apartments over the years. Flora Moriarty lived in the center apartment and had a library in a room of her apartment in the early 1900's. Also, Dr. McIntosh, a dentist, had an office in the West apartment. Dr. McIntosh lived in a house on Mill Hill south side. The house burned and he was killed in the fire. John Hutton had a law office in this same location as the dentist office in the 1900's. Clarence and Dorothy Bisbee lived in this apartment 1948 to 1974. Dorothy Bisbee died in the second floor west apartment in 1958. Robert and Imogene "Jo" Bisbee lived for many years in the apartment on the east end of the building- first floor. Mervin and Madeline Kingsbury lived in this apartment in 1943. This was the print shop and tin shop area. This east end, in 2000, is a bakery and coffee shop. The west end has served several purposes – sculpture shop, used clothing shop, and antique shop since Bisbee Hardware was sold and moved in 1974. A computer catalog store occupied the space for a time in about 1990. About 1993, Joseph Bruno opened Irving Place in this building; it was a pottery shop. Mary Laulis put a bakery in the east end of this building about 1994. It has several new businesses in 2000.

Historically it should be noted, since Waitsfield is now searching for water for the village residence, that the water for several of these buildings (Walton, Bushnell, Jones, Eaton house etc) came from a spring above the Newcomb carriage shop on the west side of the original road, west of the present day Radcliff Road.

*Harness Shop/Barber Shop/Photo Shop*

The small building next to the bridge was George J. Ainsworth harness shop in 1840's, as well as a shoe shop. It was the Emery Somerville Barbershop in 1930's, and Frank Lovett Barbershop in 1940's. In 2000, it is Foster photograph shop.

A note before discussing the next piece of land which lies across the street from the above mentioned stores. This property was owned by the Richardsons. According to the Vermont Gazette, Roderick Richardson offered "the town a beautiful piece of land fronting on both the principal streets for a Public Park and village hall…." "General Wait refused as he had for the State Capital." One Waitsfield citizen remarked, "I had rather see a hill of potatoes in my front yard, anytime, then a bunch of flowers." "A dwelling house and garden now occupy the situation." It was this piece of property that he offered. It is interesting to note that there is a park on part of this land in 2000 and the Town Offices are in the Joslin Memorial Library. Also a note of interest, some citizens in 1998-2000 wanted to build a museum on land north of the Village, but a very few objected because it was "prime farm land, it would cause sprawl, and a museum was not a cultural center." Some Vermont attitudes never change.

*Emily Eaton House about 1935*

In this area on the north side of Bridge Street were then built two historic homes. The house close to the Library was the home of Lucy Richardson in 1866. Lucy C. was the second wife of Dan Richardson. Dan Richardson died in 1865. Lucy C. married William M. Pingry (Pringree). Lucy C. was the daughter of Jesse and Harriet (Wait) Carpenter. Dan Richardson may have built this house about 1861. Pardon Bushnell purchased this house in 1866 from Lucy Richardson. Pardon Bushnell left the farm in 1866. Pardon Bushnell died in 1890. His son, Milo Bushnell lived here prior to his father's death. Milo Bushnell died in 1892. Milo and Addie Bushnell moved to this house in 1891 so Addie could care for Pardon Bushnell's wife, Elmira. After Milo's death in 1891, Addie Bushnell married Oscar Eaton and the house was sold to Jesse B. Norton and Nathan Boyce in 1895. It then became J.B and Eugenia Norton house. It was sold to Melvin J. Waterman. It was sold to Dr. Warren and Lena Howard. Dr. Howard practiced medicine here until he went into the service - WWI. He returned from service to practice medicine until he left for St. Albans in 1918. Warren J. Palmer purchased the house in 1918 and lived there until 1928. Henry and Margaret Bettis owned the house next. It was sold to Fred and Emily Eaton in 1935. (Milo Bushnell's wife Addie married Oscar Eaton. Fred Eaton was Oscar Eaton's son.) Emily Eaton lived here until her death in 1980 at 101 years old. Fred and Emily served as Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk for 45 years. Bonnie and Gaelic McTigue purchased the house in 1984 and it is the All Things Bright and Beautiful Shop in 2000.

*Matthias Jones/John Kingsbury House About 1935*

The house east before the bridge was built by Matthias Jones in 1848. This land had been owned by Roderick Richardson. Matthias lived in this house until his death in 1851. Matthias Jones was the first of the Jones family to move to Waitsfield in 1797. Dr. Orange Smith lived here and practiced medicine until his death in 1863. Matthias Jones' son, Hiram and wife Laura, moved to this house from the farm on Lots 114 & 123 on the North Road (Prentis farm) in 1865. Hiram Jones died in 1872. Hiram's wife, Laura Louise (Carpenter) Jones, continued to live here. She died in 1882. Laura Jones sold the house to her son, Walter A. Jones in 1881and she moved in with her son, Charles Jones. Walter A. Jones died in 1892 and his wife, Elvira (Bushnell) died in 1903 and the house was sold to Stephen P. Joslin who lived here in 1920's. John and Belle Kingsbury lived here in 1930's to 1960's. There was a separate barn in early years. Bonnie and Gaelic McTigue purchased the house in 1980's and it is part of the All Things Bright and Beautiful business in 2000.

Across the covered bridge and immediately on the south side was the John Walton blacksmith shop built in 1838 and the house built in 1848. Mr. Walton also built a house north end of the village near his first blacksmith shop in 1820's. John Walton had his blacksmith business at the end of the bridge for several years. He left Waitsfield in 1870. The building next to the blacksmith shop was also a livery stable for a few years and then converted into a house.. Livingston, brother to Arthur Livingston, had a blacksmith shop here in the early 1900's. John Kingsbury had a blacksmith shop here – 1920 to 1960's. John and Belle Kingsbury lived in this house prior to moving to the house on the West End of the bridge where they lived most of their lives. Rev. Robert Clark family lived in the house – 1930's to 1950. In 2000, it is the property of Myndy Woodruff.

*John Walton/Smith House in the 1800's*
*Courtesy of John Smith*

To the east on the little rise is the house built by John Walton in 1845. The house according to some sources was built in two periods. Benjamin Holmes purchased this house in 1848. He farmed this property. Benjamin Holmes had a son, Benjamin Jr., who was a blacksmith in the blacksmith shop next door in 1870's. Josiah A. Smith purchased the farm in 1885. His son, Herbert Smith, was born in this house. When Herbert Smith married Irene, he moved across the street to the Cutler house. Mrs. Josiah Smith continued to live in this house until 1948. Josiah Smith and Herb Smith farmed and ran a trucking business. The first vehicles were horse drawn – four-horse team. Herbert Smith continued the business until 1946. Irene Smith, Herbert Smith's wife, was Postmaster 1934 to 1954. Herbert Smith had the first truck in the valley in 1914. Frank Lovett lived in this house in the 1950's. John "Jack" and Judy Smith inherited the property in 1976. John Smith is the son of Herb and Irene Smith and grandson of Josiah Smith. The house was renovated in 1991 keeping with the historical elements. This house is a good example of the manner in which several houses in Waitsfield were constructed. Wooden planks, 2 X 6, were laid flat and stacked upward to form the outside walls. This made for good insulation against the harsh winters, but it presented a problem when in recent years there was a desire to wire the house or put in heating pipes in the walls. John "Jack" and Judy Smith live in the house in 2000.

*Congregational Church Parsonage*

The next house east was the Congregational parsonage for many years. The frame of this house was the "Little Red School House" that stood on the corner of East Warren Road and the Common Road now the Joslin Hill Road. In 1865, "Deacon D. M. Phelps purchased the old red school house which stood at the parting of the ways to the east of the second meeting house. He removed the school house to the site of the present parsonage and fitted it up into the present convenient house." The building was used as a parsonage until the mid 1940's. It was rented by Leo Burbank for several years. Max Shaw purchased the building in 1948. It was purchased by Brodeur family and remains their home in 2000.

The empty lot was known as the Durant lot and at one time was considered the ideal spot for the village Congregational Church. However, it was decided not to build in this area.

*Kidder/Poland House*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

In 1820, George F. Kidder built a wooden structure next to this empty lot. The structure was a store and Post Office in 1822 when Mr. Kidder was appointed Postmaster. The brick section was added as living space in 1830's. Lewis Holden owned the property in the 1830's and operated the store. Ziba Rice lived here in the 1850's. Ziba Rice real name was Royce. He adopted the name Rice. Ziba Rice was a cabinetmaker whose shop was across the street just east of the gristmill. Arthur Poland lived here during the early 1900's. Riford and Betty Joslin purchased the property in 1946. Mr. and Mrs. Riford Joslin moved to Irasville in 1957. Howard Munn owned the property in 1950. Mrs. O'Grady purchased the property. Charles and Mildred Burbank purchased the property in 1970's. They sold the property to Judith Ring. In 2000, Claudia Wood owns the property.

The small building across the mill canal was, according to the Jones Book, a Fulling Mill. The reference is to the "Fulling Mill in the village by George Kidder." John Walton may have used this as his blacksmith shop briefly. This shop became the Pardon Bushnell Cooper Shop about 1868. Pardon Bushnell had lived on the Common in the Roderick Richardson Jr. farm (known recently as the Harry Smith house) until 1842. He moved to the village into the house next to the library. In 1880's, John Barber had a blacksmith shop in this little building by the canal. John Barber married Emily Dumas, daughter of Julian Dumas. Mr. Dumas owned much

*Fulling Mill/Blacksmith Shop by Village Canal*

of the surrounding property as well as the house behind the Gristmill. Gorham Allen Matthews purchased this shop in 1891. Oscar Eaton, E.O. Trask, and George R. Heath owned the property for a time when they operated the steam mill south of this shop. Edwin C. Persons, who married Harriet Joslin, daughter of Almon and Sarah (Dumas) Joslin, had a blacksmith shop in this building – 1899 – 1906. Josiah Smith purchased the land surrounding this building. W. E. and Nettie Long owned the building in 1906. John Kingsbury owned the building in 1910. J. Dan Thompson owned the building in 1915. In 1919, it was J. H. Martin's cider mill. Alton Farr owned the building in 1920 and sold it to Walter H. Moriarty in 1928. The building was used for storage or merely empty for many years. Howard Munn owned it briefly. Ted Knight purchased it and sold to John Bridgewater who owns the property in 2000.

South of this blacksmith shop in the large meadow was the Steam Mill. Oscar Eaton, Elmer Trask, and Geo. Heath built this mill about 1892. In 1894 the unused portion of this original

*Waitsfield Steam Mill*
*Courtesy of Waitsfield Historical Society*

Holmes farm was sold to J.A. Smith. Walter and Dan Moriarty purchased the mill and operated in until 1904. This steam mill was gone about 1915. Very little is known about this old steam mill.

In the middle of Mill Hill on the south side was the house of Dr. McIntosh. This house can be seen in the picture at the beginning of this chapter. He was a dentist and had an office in his house However, he also for a time had an office over the Davis/Eaton Store at the end of the covered bridge previously mentioned. The house was built in the 1860's. The house burned in 1915. Dr. McIntosh went back into the burning house and was killed. The house was never rebuilt.

At this point, it is necessary to return to the covered bridge and discuss the houses on the north side of the street. This entire area for many years was called "the island" because it was surrounded by water once the canal had been built for the mills. In fact, contrary to the opinion of people coming into the valley in the 1960-70-80 and 90's, the Mad River has shown its disposition many times. In the 1927 flood, Herbert Smith and his wife Irene, who was pregnant with son John "Jack" Smith had to be rescued by canoe and taken across to Josiah Smith house for safety. Alton Farr who lived next door accomplished this deed. Again in the 1938 hurricane, Herbert Smith managed to get his car and take everyone to safety at the Pestle house on top of Mill Hill.

*Cutler/ Herb Smith House About 1930*

The first house to consider on the north side was the Ebenezer Cutler house built in 1815. He was a farmer and miller. Ebenezer Cutler died in 1867. His daughter, Mary Ann, lived in the house and was known as the village tailoress. She died in 1890. A Berry lived here when Herbert and Irene Smith purchased the property in 1917. Irene Smith lived here until 1976. There were two fires in the house. The first fire was in 1939/40. The last fire was in 1970's when the center kitchen section was destroyed. The house was then renovated by Myndy Woodruff who made four large apartments.

In 1830, Roderick Richardson Sr. built the brick house next door to the Cutler house for his son, Dan Richardson. The house was finished in 1831. Roderick Richardson Sr. also owned the Benjamin Wait farms, which Dan Richardson inherited. Dan Richardson married Betsey Jones, daughter of Matthias and Betsey Jones Sr., in 1830 and they lived in this house until about 1843. Julian Dumas lived on the Common beside Roderick Richardson Sr. in 1812. In 1866, Julian Dumas purchased this house and with John S. Campbell (called Colonel) operated a tavern in the building. A dance hall was also added to the back of the house at this time which had the kitchen, carriage shed and several rooms upstairs. Alton Farr replaced this large "L" with a smaller "L" which had a kitchen, a telephone

*Roderick Richardson (Farr) House taken in 2000*

workshop, and a bedroom upstairs. There were four fireplaces in the original house. There were porches on the front and side. This house may also have served as a funeral parlor at one time. The back portion of the house burned in 1948. In about 1870, Sarah Thompson sold the house to David Gleason who in 1896 sold the property to Oscar Eaton. Oscar Eaton sold the house to Walter Jones in 1921. Walter Jones and others had started the Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone Co. in 1904. Alton Farr was hired as manager of the telephone company and bought this house in 1921. It has remained in the Farr family since. Eleanor and Dana Haskins remodeled the house in 1960's. Two fireplaces had been removed, the porches were removed, and the "L" was removed and extensive work done inside. Dana and Eleanor Farr Haskins own the property in 2000.

East of the Richardson house was a store built in 1830 by Roswell Morris and Amplias Blake. It was a two-story building. A few years later, Jonathan Morse and James L. Chapman leased the store. In 1845, James T. Phelps was the proprietor of the store until 1850. Jonathan Campbell and Moses Johnson occupied the store 1851 – 1853. The store was abandoned for sometime and in need of major repair. It was remodeled into a smaller building and became the blacksmith shop of Wilbur W. Joslin in 1860's. The building was torn down in the late 1860's. A smaller house was built on the site and was the home of Ellen Place in 1900's. Also Kathryn Whalen lived here and Carl Marble. Carlos and Dora Shaw lived here in the 1930's – 1940's. Clayton Kingsbury lived here briefly in 1946-48. In 1970's, Dana Haskins tore the building down.

Interesting historical material found in the Vermont Historical Society Library concerning this building and land. A lawsuit was filed March 26, 1840. "Attached brick store now occupied by Norton and Morse and all land and appendages connected therewith also all land between Julien Dumas tavern stand and the land connected therewith and Mad River and the highway meaning all land deeded by John S. Campbell to Amphius Blake on April 22, 1840. Except what Blake deeded to Julius Dumas and land on the Common which Julius Blake deeded to Amphius Blake Dec. 27, 1836." It is not clear what the lawsuit was concerning and efforts to find further references were unsuccessful. However, this indicates land ownership and buildings during these years. This also verifies that

there was a Roswell Morris who built a store here. It was later operated by Jonathan Morse and then by James T. Phelps. The Dumas –Campbell tavern also existed in this area. Information found in the records in Vermont Historical Society Library: "James T. Phelps deeded to Napoleon B. Rounds land that had been deeded to James Phelps by DeWitt Stephens and part of Lot 102 all land deeded to me by Ira Richardson Dec. 3, 1849." Richardson owned much of this land originally.

*Gleason/Moriarty House*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Societ*

The next large house to the east David Gleason built in 1848. He married Jane Rice, daughter of Ziba Rice. Ziba Rice lived across the street and was a cabinetmaker. The Rice family was also part owners of the Green Mill on Mill Brook. Walter Moriarty, who operated the sawmill for many years, purchased this house in 1904. His son, Paul Moriarty, lived here and operated the sawmill in the 1930's and 40's. Elmer Mehuron purchased the house in 1950's. In 2000, it is the home of Luc and Kathy Robillard.

*Dumas/Carl Long House across canal after mill fire in 1944*

Behind the Gleason house, Edwin A. Dumas built a house in 1850. He was mill owner and operator 1840 to 1855. Edwin C. Persons lived here in the 1860's. He had a blacksmith shop across the street. His second wife was Harriet Joslin, daughter of Almon and Sarah (Dumas) Joslin. Sarah Dumas was the daughter of Julian Dumas who ran the tavern in the brick house. Sarah was also sister of Edwin A. Dumas who built the house. Willard E. Long purchased the house in 1906. He had two children Carl Long and Elsie Long. Carl and Elsie Long continued to live here after their parent's death. Carl Long owned the grocery store, did considerable logging, and trucking as well. Elsie Long was a teacher for many years. In 2000, this is the home of Arthur Bennett.

*Grist Mill - Rice Cabinet Building- Joslin House Mill Hill*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

*Day after Gristmill and Sawmill Fire December 1944*
*Walter Moriarty house in background-Edmund Rice Shop Right*

The main enterprise on this "island" was the sawmill and gristmill. The building of the canal was a major task for the time. The canal was dug by hand and the dam on the Mad River constructed by hand. Roderick Richardson, John S. Campbell and Daniel Thayer undertook the task in 1829-30. They operated the gristmill and sawmill until 1840 when Edwin A. Dumas

assumed the operation of the mills until 1855. Lorenzo D. Ainsworth was the owner/operator 1855-1863. Oscar G. Eaton operated the mills 1863 to 1870's. Walter H. Moriarty purchased the sawmill in 1904. Stephen P. Joslin purchased and operated the gristmill in 1920's. His son, Riford Joslin, operated the gristmill in 1930's and 1940's. Walter Moriarty's son, Paul Moriarty, owned and operated the sawmill. The sawmill and the gristmill burned in December 1944. An article in the Burlington Free Press, December 10, 1944 states: "a fire causing an estimated loss of between $25,000 and $30,000 completely destroyed two mills in the town of Waitsfield early Sunday morning. The lumber mill was owned by P.M. Moriarty and the gristmill owned by R.S. Joslin." Paul Moriarty rebuilt the sawmill in 1945 and operated for several years. After Paul Moriarty's death, the mill was torn down. The gristmill was rebuilt and Riford Joslin operated it for a few years. It is now the Miramar Ski Club in 2000.

The original road east to the Common turned north just beyond the gristmill and then turned easterly around the terrace. It continued along the edge of the large meadow and crossed Clay Brook below the present bridge. Jonas Holden had a house on this road and a fulling mill in 1806. All traces were gone by 1830's. This road was changed to go straight to the Roxbury Road once the High Bridge was constructed and then went down Mill Hill. This road was originally called Spring Hill Road, then Common Road, then Joslin Hill Road.

Across this original road and east of the gristmill was the cabinet shop of Edmond Rice in 1816. Note from records in Vermont Historical Society Library: Gilbert Wait deeded to J. Edmund Rice Lot 136 "that (land that) lies east of Mad River, Sept. 16, 1815." Edmund Rice was a cabinet maker, merchant and very prominent citizen. This building later belonged to Julian Dumas. This is not to be confused with the Julian Dumas who lived on the Common and later ran the tavern in the brick house. This Julian Dumas was the son of Morice Dumas who came from Canada to Waitsfield with his family in 1838. Morice was a cooper and his son Julian was a carpenter. This building was built about 1818. It later became the cabinet shop of Ziba Rice who lived across the street in the Kidder/Poland house. This building later became a storehouse for the gristmill and the office building. It was torn down in the 1970's. This building can be seen in the picture with Gristmill, Cabinet Shop and Joslin House.

*Rider-Joslin House*

In the middle of Mill Hill on the north side was the house of Horatio Rider. The house was built about 1818. His first wife was Emily Joslin daughter of Joseph and Dorothy (Osgood) Joslin. Stephen P. Joslin who lived here in 1920's was a nephew of Emily Joslin. Hugh Baird, grandfather of Fletcher Joslin, lived here about 1910. Stephen P. Joslin grandson of the Stephen P. Joslin above had sons, Riford. and Fletcher and a daughter, Elizabeth.. Riford and his wife Elizabeth Joslin lived here in 1930's and 40's. Robert and Reta Joslin lived here for a short time. Betty Hyde purchased the house in late 1960's. In 2000, it is the home of Brian and Ann Redding.

East is a very recent house built in 1960's. Blanche Kathan who lived on top of Mill Hill built this house. Ramona Shaw inherited this house and lived in this house until 2001.

*Kew House Top of Mill Hill Picture taken 2000*

At the top of Mill Hill on the north side is the Jeremiah and Martha Kew house. This house was built about 1870. Clinton Kew, twin son of Jeremiah Kew inherited the property. The house has been in the Kew family continuously. Clinton Kew III owns the property in 2000.

*Second Congregational Church and Mill Hill about 1870*

Across the road on the south side is land that was the Samuel Chandler and Levi Mower Nursery. They operated the nursery from 1801 to 1806 when it was sold to Jonas Holden. Chandler and Mower built the first store in Waitsfield on the Old Colony Road just northwest of the ledge. In 1845, Elijah Wyatt Bisbee, Orson Skinner, Samuel Chipman, Artemas Brown, and Hiram Joslin purchased this land upon which to build the second Congregational Church. The church was built here in 1845/46. It stood here until 1875. The cemetery was established with the church and remains the Village Cemetery (formerly known as Mill Hill Cemetery). The five men held the deed to the property and gave the cemetery and land to the Town of Waitsfield with the stipulation that nothing could be built in front of the cemetery.

The next two houses on the south side were built in 1830's. Wilber W. Joslin lived in the first house from East Warren Road/Common Road fork in 1858. A Robertson family lived here for a time. Frank Kew lived here in 1930's and 40's. Rufus Higgley lived here for a time. Alice Richardson also lived here for a brief time. Richard and Debra Hall own the property in 2000.

The second house beside the cemetery was built in the 1830's. Blanche Kathan lived here for many years in the 1930's and 40's. Richard and Debra Hall own this property in 2000.

*Daniel Thayer (Pestle) House taken in 2000*

Across the road on the north side was the Daniel Thayer farm. He built the house in 1825. Daniel Thayer was drover and partner in the village mills. Orvis and Roxcy (Prentis) Jones lived here 1843. Orvis Jones died in 1892. Fred Carroll married Myra Jones, daughter of Orvis and Roxcy Jones and lived here in 1902 to 1920's. Ray Pestle purchased the property in 1929 when he became principal of the High School. The property remains in the Pestle family. Ruth Pestle and her brother Ray Pestle Jr. co-own the house and their sister Lois Pestle Richardson has a house behind the farmhouse to the north. Lois Richardson built her house in 1970's.

The Thayer farm property has been divided and developed by the homes of Fletcher and Ruth Joslin. Fletcher and Ruth Joslin's two son's Peter and Jolyn Joslin and F. Brian "Ted" and Jean Joslin all have homes in the meadowland near the banks of Clay Brook. Fletcher Joslin was a life long resident of Waitsfield and practiced law for many years in Montpelier. He built his house in Waitsfield about 1949. Peter and Brian also practice law in their father's original office in Montpelier. They built their homes about 1971.

At the junction of East Warren Road (Roxbury Road) and Joslin Hill Road (Common Road) was the site of the Village District School #7. It was closed in 1850. In 1865, "Deacon D. M.

Phelps purchased the old red school house which stood at the parting of the ways to the east of the second meeting house. He removed the school house to the site of the present parsonage and fitted it up into the present convenient house." In 1932, Everard Marshall built the present building for John Mc Caughin on the school house site. After John Mc Caughin's death, Sarah Sanders lived here. Helen Worthen a relative was the administrator of the estate. Kenneth and Marie Backus purchased this property in 1954. Kenneth Backus enlarged the property slightly from his original purchased. Kenneth and Marie Backus live here in 2000.

The next house Joseph Gabaree built in 1976 and sold it to Stephen White who lives in the house in 2000.

East of this home was a blacksmith shop. This was the Edwin Russell blacksmith shop built in 1889 and operated until 1925. Edwin Russell had the Gustin blacksmith shop on the Common prior to building this shop. Edwin Russell moved his shop to the village in 1925. The shop in the village was on Route 100 previously written about, near the site of the Cady Photo Car. Now it is the sculpture shop. After Ed Russell moved to the village Alex Hamel family lived in the blacksmith shop after some remodeling. The building burned in 1960's.

*Dumas/Dana House*

Edwin A. Dumas is reported to have built the next house about 1850. Edwin Dumas was a mill owner and operator and may have operated the old Benjamin Wait mill on Clay Brook beside the Dumas property. Edwin Dumas moved to Waterbury about 1890 where he died in 1896. Henry W. Dana purchased this property about 1896. Henry Dana married Bertha McCullough. Bertha continued to live here until 1955. Henri and Rosie Borel had the property in 1960 and sold in 1962 to Ms. Foote. She sold the property to Teddy (Schultz) Bensaid who owns the property in 2000. The Bensaids live in Northern Africa and rent the property.

Benjamin Wait had a sawmill on Clay Brook south of the bridge prior to 1800. William Joiner operated the mill in 1801. Edmund Rice operated the mill in 1806 and Lewis Holden in 1807. Christopher Ormsbee operated it as a hame factory for several years. The mill ceased to exist by 1900.

Salmon Rice (his real name was Royce). He came to Waitsfield with his father in 1808. They settled on the East Side of Northfield Mountain. Salmon Rice settled at the fork of the Brook Road (Wolf Road) and Joslin Hill Road (Common Road) about 1820. He married Lucy Joslin. He probably built this house about 1820. He was an excellent cabinetmaker. Many of the pieces

*Salmon Rice / Kew House*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

*James Joslin House Note Original Road*
*Courtesy Waitsfield Historical Society*

of furniture in the valley were made by Salmon Rice. He also made bureaus, chests, candle stands and coffins for many years. He died in 1883. Charles Kew lived here prior to moving to the Folsom farm on Route 100. This house was unused for several years. In 1945, Charles and Georgiana (Folsom) Kew returned to this house. The house again remained empty for several years. The house has been renovated in 1995 and additions made in 2000.

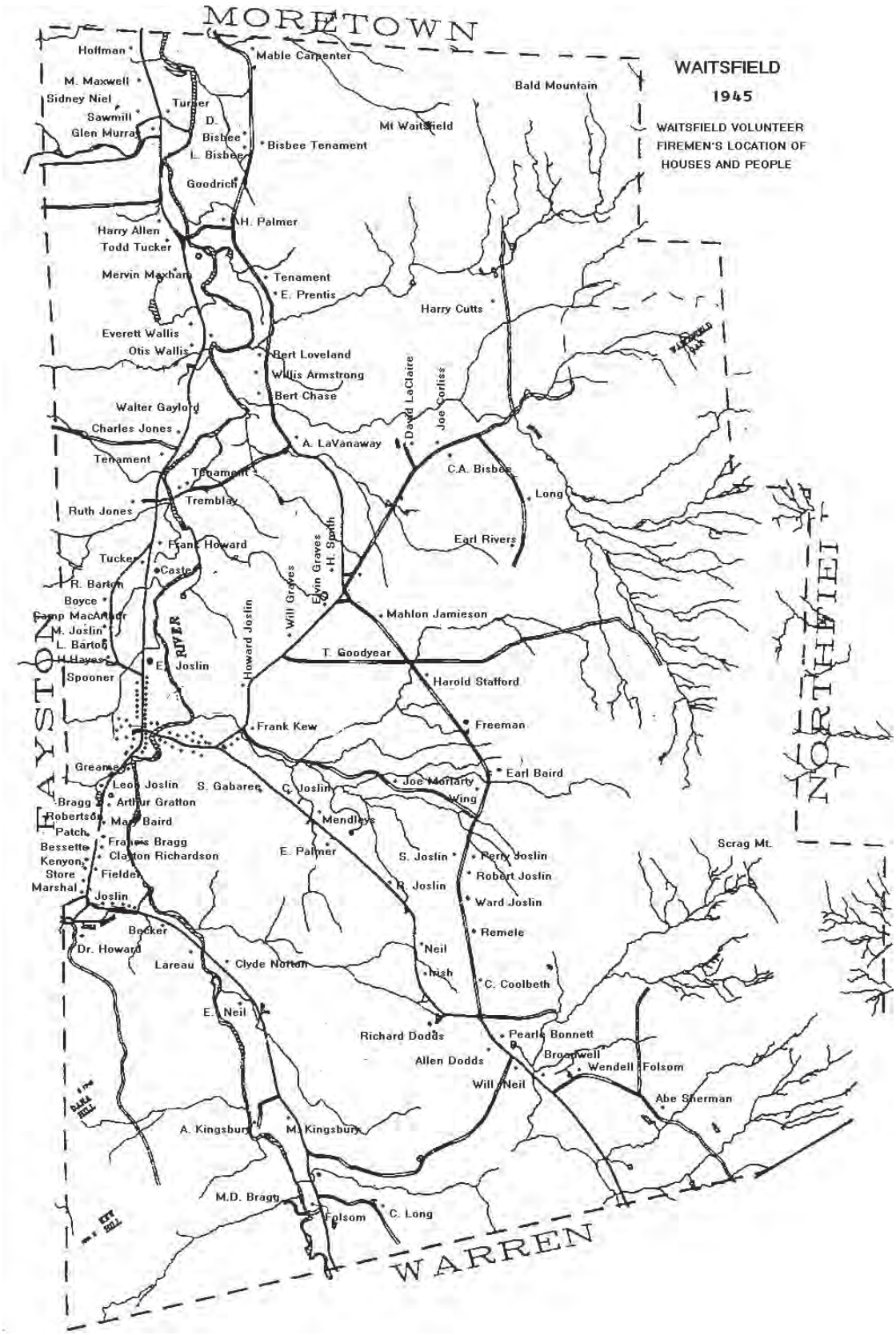
Nearly mid-way on the Joslin Hill Road (Spring Hill/Common Road) also referred to for years, as the "steep hill" was the James Joslin Sr. brick farm house built in 1802. James Joslin originally lived under Bald Mountain on the Northfield Road in 1797. He sold that farm to Jonathan Wallis. This is one of the older places in the valley with four brick fireplaces. The large fireplace in the kitchen was complete for cooking and baking. James Joslin Sr. lived here until his death in 1845. His son, James Joslin Jr. lived here until his death in 1849. His son, Cassius Joslin, lived here for several years. William Chase lived here for a time. Cassius Joslin's son, Howard Joslin lived here in the 1920's to 1950's. Howard Joslin's sister, Maude, married Henry E. Foster in 1903. After Howard Joslin's death, the farm became the property of Henry and Maude Foster. In 2000, the Foster children own this property and live here. Historical note is made concerning the road in this

area because of discussions in 2006 concerning scenic roads. Note there are no trees and the stone wall is mainly rocks placed there from the road and field. People who were complaining did not know history. Trees to which so many refer as old and scenic simply did not exist. This was called the Common Road for many years.

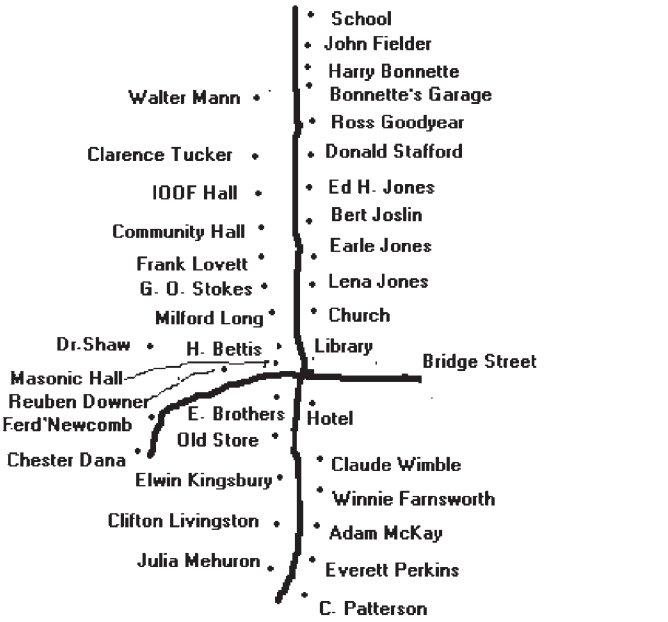
South of this Joslin/Foster home is a recent house on the east side of Joslin Hill Road built in 1970's and owned by Richard Foster in 2000.

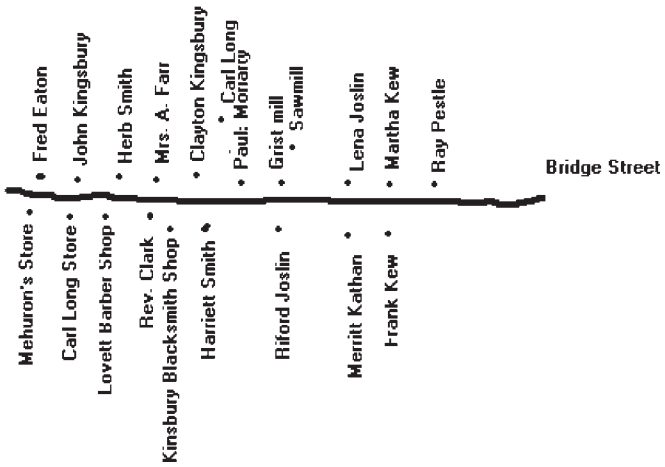
This Joslin farm property has been subdivided in recent years. Several new private roads have been built on the north and south side of this Joslin Hill Road. Many modern homes have been built on these roads since 1970's.. See maps that follow.

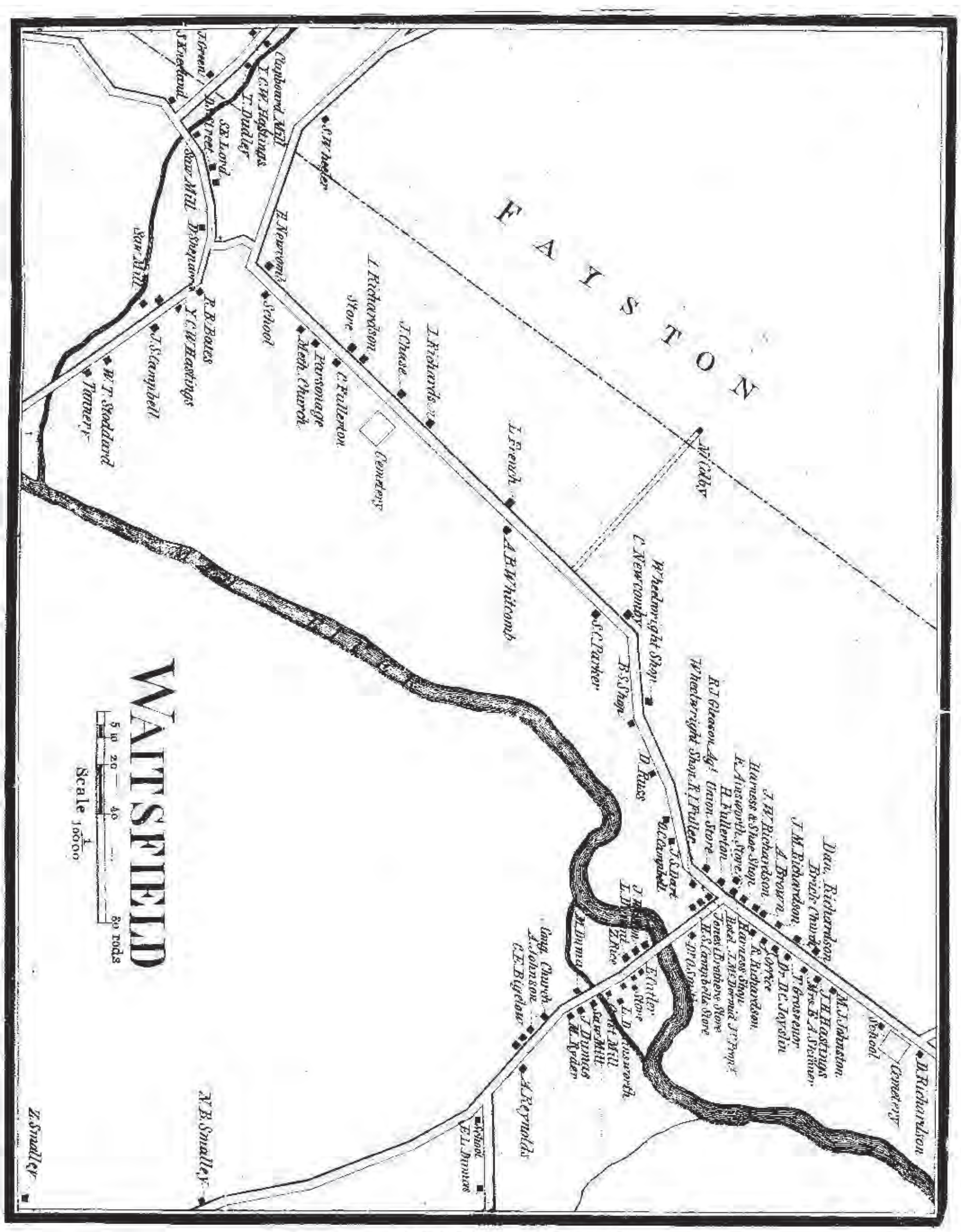
*Bridge St; after 1938 hurricane—left Smith House; Right behind Farr House; bottom Gristmill*


WAITSFIELD
1945
WAITSFIELD VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S LOCATION OF HOUSES AND PEOPLE
MORETOWN
NORTHFIELD
WARREN
HAYSTON
RIVER
Hoffman
Mable Carpenter
M. Maxwell
Sidney Niel
Sawmill
Glen Murray
Turner
D. Bisbee
L. Bisbee
Bisbee Tenament
Bald Mountain
Mt Waitsfield
Goodrich
H. Palmer
Harry Allen
Todd Tucker
Mervin Mayhan
Tenament
E. Prentis
Harry Cutts
Everett Wallis
Otis Wallis
Bert Loveland
Willis Armstrong
Bert Chase
David LaClaire
Joe Corliss
Walter Gaylord
Charles Jones
A. LaVanaway
Tenament
Tenament
C.A. Bisbee
Long
Tremblay
Ruth Jones
Earl Rivers
Frank Howard
Tucker
Caster
R. Barton
Boyce
Camp MacArthur
M. Joslin
L. Barton
H. Hayes
Spooner
E. Joslin
Will Graves
Elvin Graves
H. Smith
Howard Joslin
Mahlon Jamieson
T. Goodyear
Harold Stafford
Frank Kew
Freeman
Greame
Leon Joslin
S. Gabaree
G. Joslin
Joe Moriarty
Earl Baird
Wing
Bragg
Arthur Gratton
Robertson
Mary Baird
Patch
Mendleys
Bessette
Francis Bragg
Kenyon
Clayton Richardson
E. Palmer
S. Joslin
Perry Joslin
Scrag Mt.
Store
Fielder
Marshal
Joslin
R. Joslin
Robert Joslin
Ward Joslin
Remele
Becker
Dr. Howard
Lareau
Clyde Norton
Neil
Nish
C. Coolbeth
E. Neil
Richard Dodds
Pearle Bonnett
Broadwell
Allen Dodds
Wendell
Folsom
Will Neil
Abe Sherman
A. Kingsbury
M. Kingsbury
M.D. Bragg
Folsom
C. Long

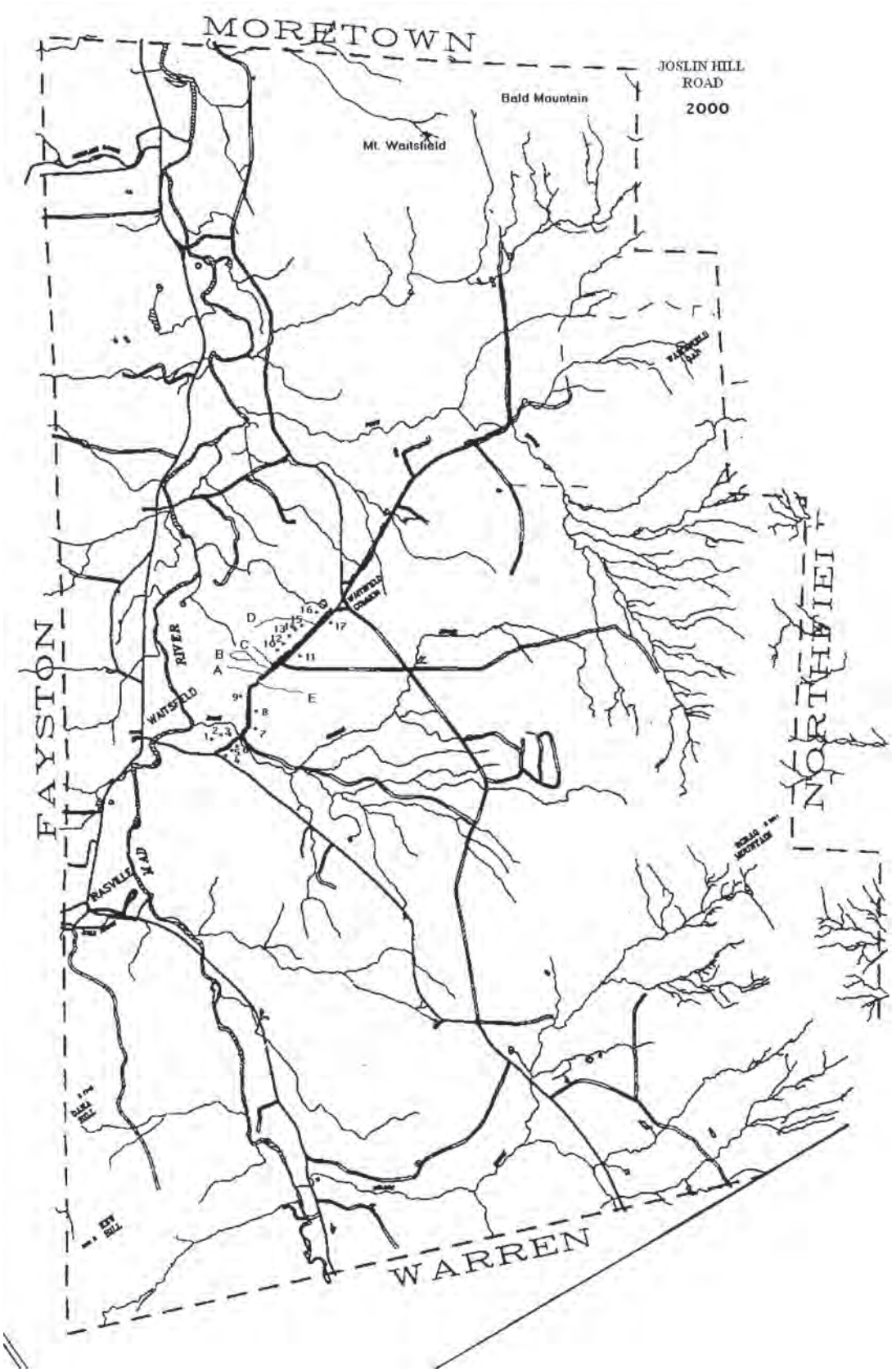
# WAITSFIELD VILLAGE 1945
# FIREMEN LOCATION CHART
# ENLARGEMENT



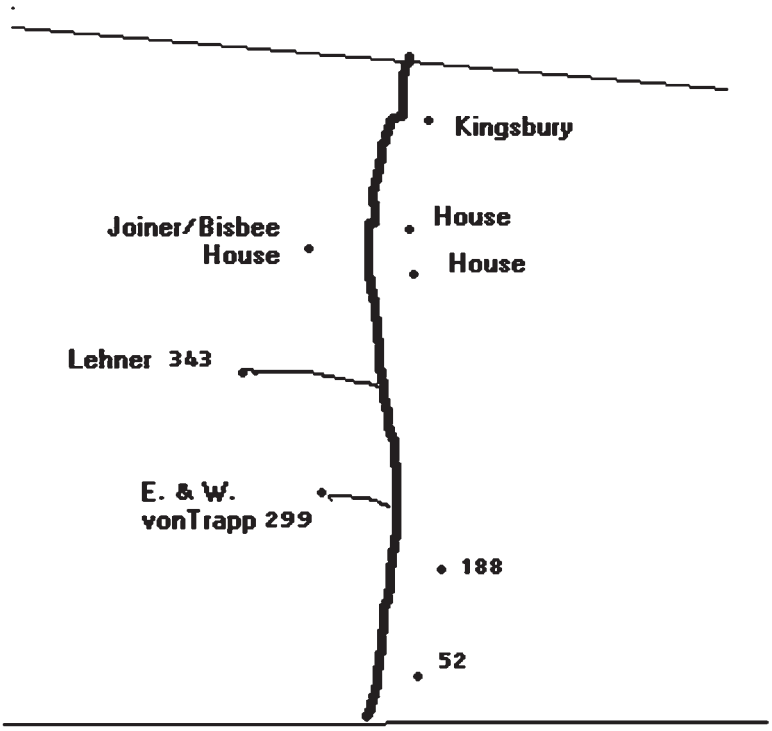






WAITSFIELD MAP 1858


MORETOWN
JOSLIN HILL ROAD
2000
Bald Mountain
Mt. Waitsfield
FAYSTON
NORTHFIELD
WARREN
WAITSFIELD RIVER
WAITSFIELD CORNER
A
B
C
D
E

## CROSS ROAD
## 2000



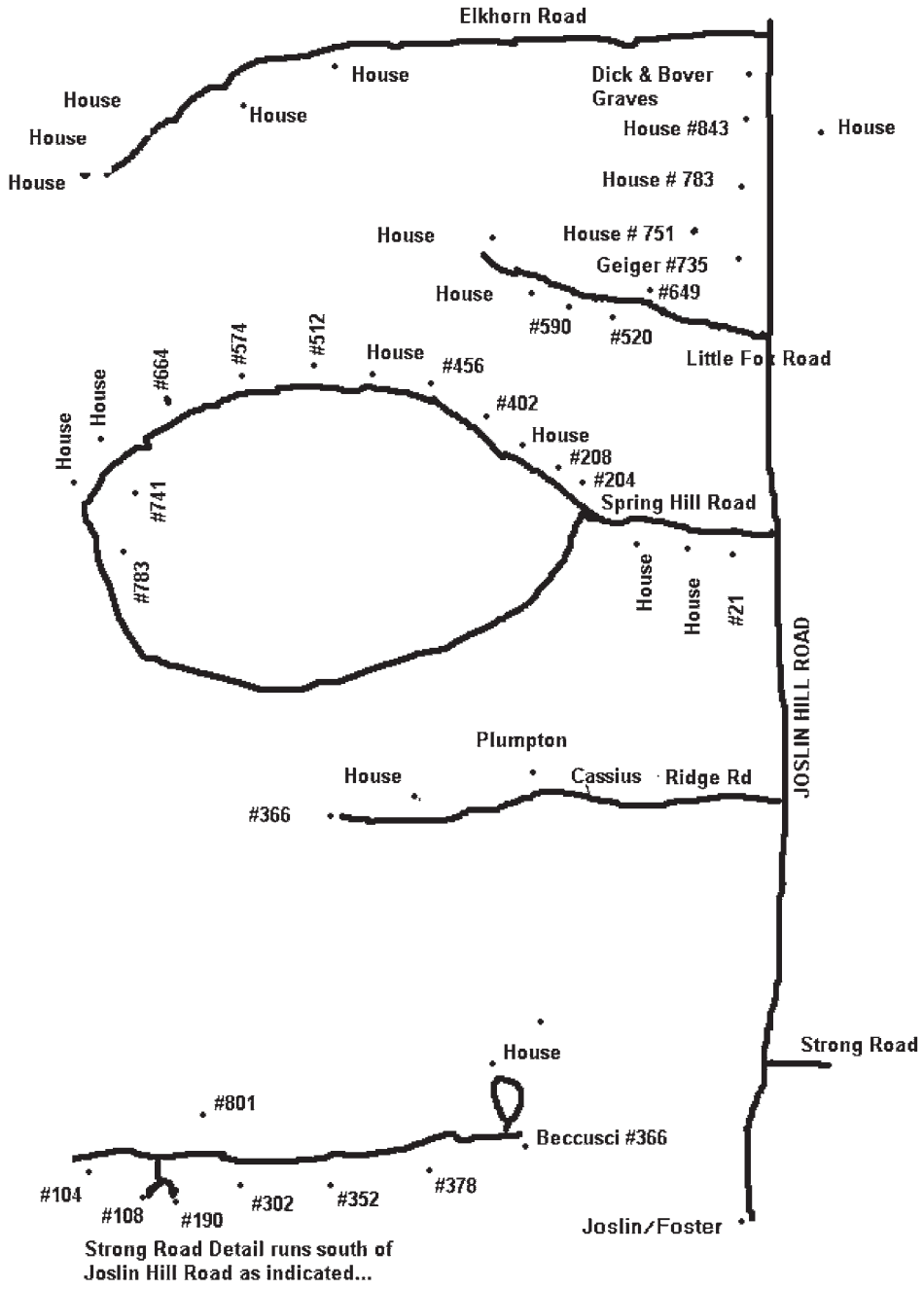

## JOSLIN HILL ROAD
## 2000
## KEY

This road was originally called Spring Hill Road, then Common Road, then Cat Joslin Hill Road, then Joslin Hill Road. It originally started at the junction with the Roxbury Road where the Little Red School House stood now the Kenneth Backus home., then the Blacksmith Shop, Dumas/ Dana House, Salmon Rice, and James Joslin Sr. house.

A. Cassius Ridge Road
B. Spring Hill Road
C. Little Fox Road
D. Elkhorn Road
E. Strong Road
1. Fletcher Joslin
2. Brian Joslin
3. Peter Joslin
4. Kenneth Backus
5. Stephen White
6. House (Historical)
7. House (Historical)
8. Richard Foster
9. Joslin/Foster (Historical)
10. Geiger #735
11. House
12. House #751
13. House 783
14. House #843
15. Ron/Bover Graves
16. Scott Kingsbury
17. Alberta Stafford

## SIDE ROADS - JOSLIN HILL ROAD

2000



# CHAPTER XIII
# EDUCATION

The Matt Jones book, *HISTORY OF WAITSFIELD* gives many details of the Waitsfield school system until 1900. Each town was required by the State Constitution to provide for a school or schools. These schools were to be in the geographical center of the district where the land permitted. The education for the first children in Waitsfield (1790 - 1797) was left to the parents to provide. Schools were held in homes when time permitted. It would appear obvious that time to build school buildings was not possible with all the other necessities that needed the attention of the early settlers. In fact all meetings - church, school, town business, were all held in private homes in those beginning years.

In September 1797, a committee was formed to establish school districts. Four districts were specified - Northwest, Northeast, Southeast, Southwest. These four were increased to nine districts in order to place schools near the homes to reduce the distance students had to walk to school. An attempt is made here to clarify the school district numbering that becomes confusing in many of the records. Northwest was District #1; Northeast was District #2; Southeast was District #3; Southwest was District #4. When the districts were increased, the numbering changed. It is at this point that clarity is difficult to follow. The first change was made when the Centre District was formed and called Centre District #3. Therefore, Southeast became District #4 and Southwest became District #5. In 1813, the Village School was formed called District #6. In 1820, two Districts were formed on the east side of Northfield Mountain called District #7 and #8. However, in 1822 those lots were annexed to Northfield, so Districts #7 and #8 were eliminated. In 1825, a new District #7 was created further southwest of town along Route 100 toward the Warren Town line. Some of this new district came from District #4 and some from District #5. In 1827, the people on Dana Hill desired a school and called it District #8. In 1830, District #7 did not have many students and was consolidated back into District #5. Therefore District #8 (Dana Hill) became #7. In 1838, District #6 was divided on the east side of Mad River. This was called District #8. This District included eastside of Mad River up Mill Hill and East Warren Road. It even included two farms from District #4 and the James Joslin Sr. farm from District #3. The school house was built at the junction of Joslin Hill Road and East Warren Road where Kenneth Backus house is in 2000. Daniel Thayer lived on the Pestle place. Information taken from records in the Vermont Historical Society Library: "Daniel Thayer to School District #8 … southerly side of highway that leads from my house to James Joslin Jr. … so far easterly from said school house now in building…" For a brief period at this same time, the extreme Southwest attempted again to establish a District #9. (This #9 was the same as the original old #7). In 1851, School District #7 (Dana Hill) was consolidated into District #5; thus, District #8, which had been formed out of District #6 east of Mad River became District #7 and the new District #9 (the extreme southwest area) became #8. Soon, however, this District #8 was consolidated again into District #5. This frequently referred to as South School.

A historical note of interest found in records in the Vermont Historical Society Library; however, there were no other records found and the school evidently never actually existed : "Lot 44,47,48,9l became School District #9 bounded on the east by Northfield, on the south by Warren, west by Lots 148, 91,49." The dates appear to be around 1838. This was evidently about the same

time that District #8 in the extreme southwest corner was being formed.

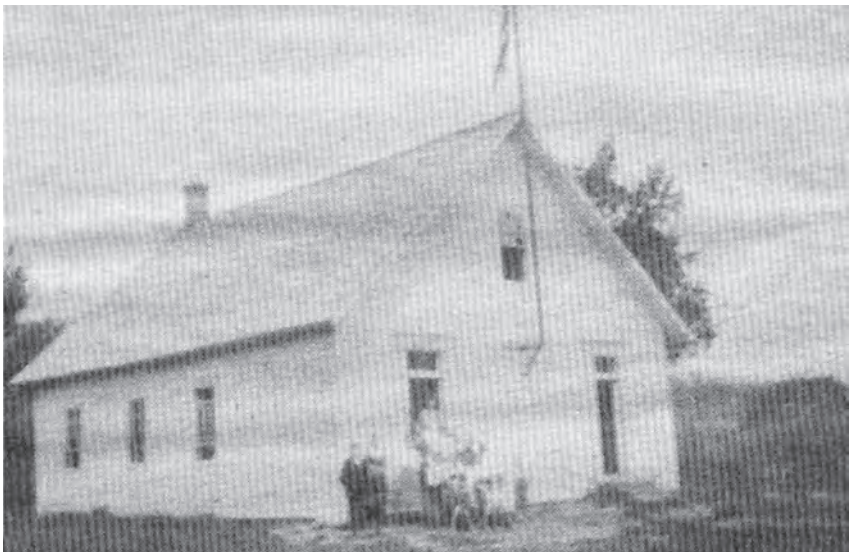
At this point, the schools were called Northwest District #1, Northeast District #2, Centre District #3, Southeast District #4, Southwest District #5, and the so called Village Schools were District #6 and #7. In 1904, School District #5 closed. In 1906, a two year high school was begun in the Village school. In 1909, District #3 closed. In 1911, School Districts #1, #2, #4, and the Village School #6 & #7, plus two year High School were operating. A request at the 1911 Town Meeting was made to repair Centre School. However, this was not done because the Town Report shows only Districts #1, #2, #4 rural districts operating. In 1918, Northwest District #1 closed. In July 1919, District #2 East School closed. School #5 was sold in 1912 thus ending the Irasville school era. One room in the Village School was set aside for Primary School and one room for Grammar School with the two year High School on the second level. Finally, a four year High School was established in 1918 with the first graduating high school class in 1922. South School District #4, according to the Town Reports continued to operate until 1927.

The first school building to be constructed was in the "Old North District" Northwest District #1 under the leadership of Dr. Stephen Pierce, James Heaton, and John Barnard. Phineas Rider and Abram Marsh were also influencial in this first endeavor. The District was formed in 1798. The building was built in 1799 on the west side of Route 100 on the ledges across from what was called the lower bridge. In 2000, Owen Wimble Jr.'s house stands near the site. The interior of the building was not finished until 1809. In 1799, there were 60 students in this district. The first teacher for this school and indeed the first teacher in Waitsfield was Salah Smith. However, he taught in a room of Moses Fisk home because the school house was not completed.

Moses Fisk built a large house on the east side of Mad River which in the 1900's was known as the Daniel Bisbee farm. Salah Smith son, Ithamar Smith, became the second teacher and the first to teach in the finished Northwest School. The school building cost $73.56. This building fell to disrepair and in 1821 a second building was build further north next to the Wilder farm on land given by Phineas Rider who lived on the farm just south of the Wilder farm known in 2000 as the Bertha Tucker home.

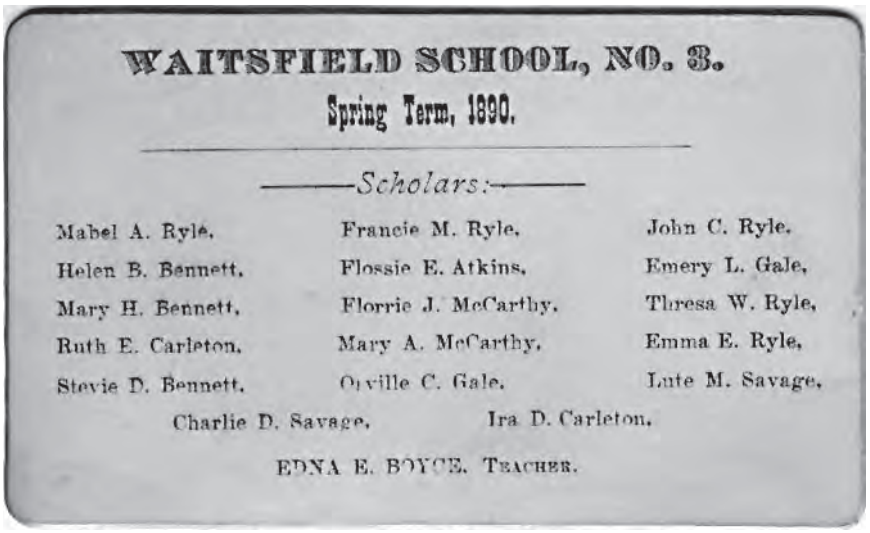
This building in 1821 was the first school building to have a stove. This second school building was completely reconstructed in 1850 and made very modern for the time. The building still stands in 2000 and is the home of Mary Allen. In 1812, this district had 58 students. In 1822, 46 students. The school closed in 1918. Helen Collins was the last teacher.

The Northeast District #2 was located on Pine Brook. The first building was built in 1802 on the south side of the road –west side of Pine Brook just before the bridge. This is the road that went over Northfield Mountain and over to Moretown Common. There is a slight rise or terrace about 800 feet from the brook. Rocks from the old foundation can still be seen in 2000. In 1812, this District had 40 students and in 1822 the District had 43 students. This first building was used until 1831. At this time, west-siders (of East Hill) wanted the school moved west to the top of the hill at the road junction. After considerable argumentation, the building was moved in 1834 half-way up the hill and built on the north side of the road on a small level piece of land. This building was used until 1867 when it was finally moved to the top of the hill at the junction of the roads. The teacher at this time was a Miss Jones. The last teacher at this school was Marie Bernath. According to the Town Report ending February 2, 1920, this school closed in July 1919. The building was sold to Leon Joslin who used the main structure for his house in the village. His house in the village was just south on Route 100.



*Second School House  District #3*

The Centre School District #3 was formed in 1806. The building was built in 1808 at the junction of the Cross Road, the Palmer Hill Road and Common Road where, in 2000, Mike Kingsbury's house rests. It was on the west side of the Common Road and the south side of the Cross Road. It was moved across the road to the North in 1818. The building was still standing in 1938. It was completely destroyed in the 1950's. This author's father, Clarence A. Bisbee, went to school here in 1903. Lucia Joslin Bisbee, this author's grandmother, was Superintendent of Schools in 1901 to 1908. The Burton Dewey Bisbee farm was the only farm on the Cross Road until well into 1960's. In 1822, this District had 53 students. This school closed in 1910 with Ella B. Carpenter as teacher. An interesting note was found in the records in Vermont Historical Society Library. This school was called the Common School at one time. "Certificates given to Common School students 1850 – 1851: Mavona C. Buckley; Mary Jane Stoddard; Clarissa S. Stoddard; Lydia M. Stoddard; Lydia M. Newcomb; Abigail H. Smith; Lucia Green; Mr. George C. Smith; Minnaette Walton; Ira Bushnell; Cornelius E. Joslin; Wilford W. Porter; Hennetta Andrews given by Charles Darson, Superintendent of Schools."



WAITSFIELD SCHOOL, NO. 3.

Spring Term, 1890.

Scholars:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mabel A. Ryle, | Francie M. Ryle, | John C. Ryle, |
| Helen B. Bennett, | Flossie E. Atkins, | Emery L. Gale, |
| Mary H. Bennett, | Florrie J. McCarthy, | Thresa W. Ryle, |
| Ruth E. Carleton, | Mary A. McCarthy, | Emma E. Ryle, |
| Stevie D. Bennett, | Orville C. Gale, | Lute M. Savage, |

Charlie D. Savage, Ira D. Carleton,

EDNA E. BOYCE, TEACHER.

*Center School Scholars 1890*

*Thirty Two Scholars at Center School #3 in 1900*

It is interesting to note the dress of the students in the above picture. Note the long skirts, the jackets and ties for the boys.

A historical prospective is interesting to examine for this school in 1903. Winter term – Mrs Long cleaning - $2.50; Reuben Bates – 10 cords of wood - $17.50; W.E. Long drawing wood - $4.00; B.L. Joslin labor - $.75. Spring Term: Minnie Maxwell – teacher - $81.00; Jean Bisbee – care of room - $2.00; Mrs. W.E. Long – cleaning room - $1.50. Fall Term: Katherine O'Brien – teacher - $55.00; D.H. Skinner boarding - $27.50; Ida Long care of room - $2.00; Mrs. W.E. Long cleaning $2.50. Winter Term: Alice Bushnell teacher - $100.00; Arthur Miller care of room three weeks $1.00; Arther Barnard and Eva Anna Bisbee care of room 8 weeks - $3.50. Total cost for the year - $301.25.

Southeast District #4 was the school at the junction of the Common Road and the East Warren Road. It was formed in 1798. The building was built in 1800 on the North side of the East Warren Road and the West side of the Common Road. This building now stands as a shed on the Ed Eurich farm across the road south of this same area. It was moved there by Mr. Dodds in the 1930's. In 1799, this District had 24 students, in 1812, this District had 29 students and in 1822 there were 64 students. This was the last rural school to close in 1927 with Louise Livingston as teacher.

The Southwest District #5 was at the foot of the Dugway in Irasville near where law offices in 2000 stand. This district was formed in 1798. The first building was constructed in 1800. William Tell Stoddard purchased the first school building for his house which he built on the north side of Route 100 beside Mill Brook. In late 1990's the old Stoddard house was used as a business and in 2000, it is the Pack and Paddle Shop. A second school building was constructed in 1852 at the top of the Dugway. It became the home of Harold Joslin about 1925. In 2000, it is the Den Restaurant. In 1799, this District had 41 students. In 1812, this District had 52 students and in 1822 there were 39 students. The school closed in 1904. Vann Bragg and G.L. Wells were teachers. The building was sold in 1912 for $60.00.

The Village School District #6 was established in 1813. The building was to be built "between Benjamin Wait's barn and Stephen Durkee's house." It was built at the northeasterly corner of the ledge where in 2000 Louise Moulton house rests. The building was built in 1816 and burned in 1817. It was rebuilt immediately "in a better fashion," at a cost of $189.00. It was repaired in 1840. This building was used until 1846. Then considerable discussion took place as to repairing or rebuilding this school. It was decided to build a new school "between the east side of the path to the burying grounds and Horatio Fullerton home." Land was purchased from Dan Richardson February 6, 1847. The new school building was occupied for the 1847-48 school year, but was not finished until 1850. This building was a two story wooden structure with a tower or belfry. This building still stands as the back portion of what is called the "Old School House" and long known as Waitsfield High School.

The Districts #7,8,9 so called though operating briefly in homes never materialized long enough to build a building. The District #7 and 8 on the east side of Northfield Mountain were eliminated immediately because the lots were annexed into Northfield. Districts #7,8, and 9 were all taken from District #5 and were soon consolidated back into District #5. The last designated District #8, which became #7 when old 7,8,and 9 were consolidated into #5, was formed east of Mad River and included the families along the Great Eddy, up Mill Hill and the East Warren Road including the Josiah Campbell, James Joslin Jr. and James Joslin Sr. farms.

As indicated, this was District #7 formed in 1838. A building was built in 1839 on the land that in 2000 is the home of Kenneth Backus at the corner of Joslin Hill Road and East Warren Road. The village school and this school were referred to as Village Schools #6 and #7. This school closed in 1850 when the new village school was finished. The student attendance was small in number in this district. This building became the frame of the Congregational Parsonage.

A school building burned in 1893. There was a major building project for a school building shown in the 1894 Town Report. Lumber and material for school building was $2,235.16. Labor on school building was $1,101.53. Freighting material for school building was $74.30. Total orders drawn for school building was $3,607.18. However, after much research it is not clear what school building burned and to what building these figures refer.

In 1915, work began to rebuild the old building and have a four year high school. The belfry was removed. The original building was moved back and turned 90 degrees to form what would become the home economics room, 5th and 6th grade room, two rooms on second floor that would be high school rooms, and a third floor that would become the 7th and 8th grade room, remembered by so many as Mrs. Ella Chapman's room. Out of this room on the south side was the fire escape.

A new section was built adjoining the old section. This new section contained, on the first floor, the 1st and 2nd grade room, the 3rd and 4th grade room and two large stairways leading to the second floor. On the second floor of this new section were two small rooms in front on each side of a small stage. These rooms served as the principals office, a cloak room on the south west corner and a small cloak room and storage room on the northwest corner. The small northwest room ultimately became a tiny typing class room. A large room extended across the entire building (north-south) known as the study hall. To the east of this study hall were two rooms in the old section previous referred to as well as stairs leading to the third floor 7th and 8th grade rooms. A stairway also went down into the home economics room on the first floor. The basement of this

## Class Roll

Albert Dennis Barnard
Evelyn Harriet Joslin
Mildred Frances Kew
George Wilfred Long
Edward Theron Neill
Clyde Leland Baird
Clarence Arthur Bisbee
Doris Evelyn Moriarty
Theron James Newcomb

**School No 1.**

Catherine Frances Casey
Helen Martha Bisbee
Raymond Dodge Buzzell

**School No. 4**

Clara Belle Berry

Class Motto: "On and On"
Class Colors: Navy Blue and White

You are invited to be present
at the
**Graduating Exercises**
of the
class of nineteen hundred and eleven
**Waitsfield Grammar School**
Friday evening, June the sixteenth
nineteen hundred and eleven
at eight o'clock
at the I. O. O. F. Hall

*Graduation School No. 1 and No. 4 1907*

## Program

Music
ORCHESTRA

Invocation
REV. W. A. REMELE

Essay, Patriotism
ALBERT D. BARNARD

Recitation Book Larnin'
GEORGE W. LONG

Recitation In the Harbor
HELEN M. BISBEE

Music
ORCHESTRA

Class Prophecy Written by Clarence Bisbee
CLYDE L. BAIRD

Recitation Johnnie's Checker Story
E. THERON NEILL

Recitation Sockery Joins the Lodge
RAYMOND D. BUZZELL

## Program

Music
ORCHESTRA

Dialogue Guests from Whittier Land

Recitation with Class Motto Columbus
CLARENCE A. BISBEE

Recitation One of God's Little Heroes
Clara Belle Berry

Music
ORCHESTRA

Recitation Hunchback Polly
EVELYN H. JOSLIN

Recitation The Whistling Boy
THERON J. NEWCOMB

Recitation Jesus, Lover of My Soul
MILDRED F. KEW

Song Bring Back My School Days to Me
CLASS

Presentation of Diplomas

Music
ORCHESTRA

*Graduation Program 1907 High School*

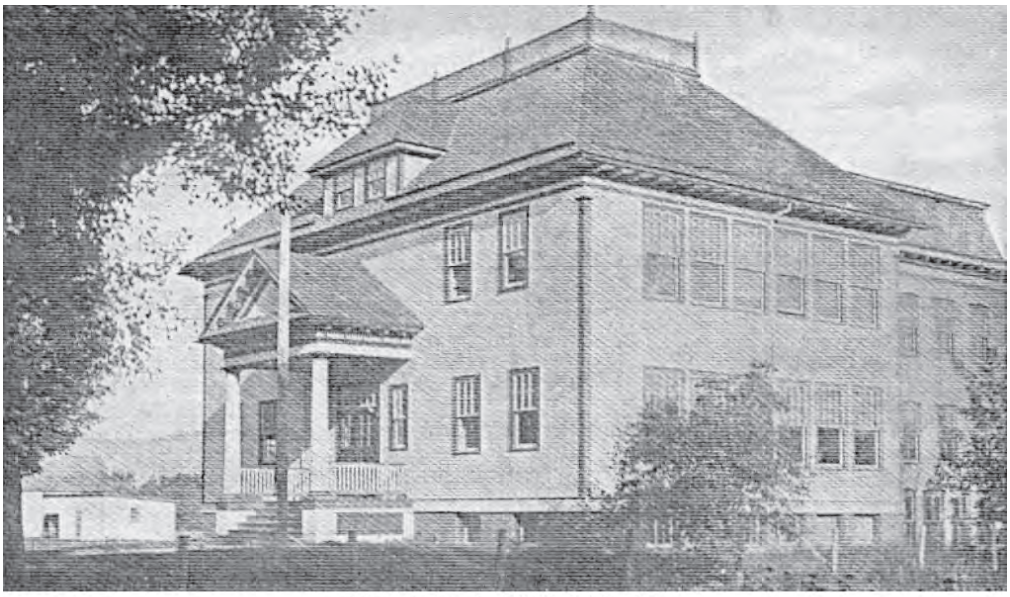
*Village School built in 1847 finished in 1850*

new building contained a small play room, a room which ultimately became a room for teaching "shop" commonly called in 2000, "industrial technology;" a boys rest room; a girls rest room, a room which ultimately was used for a chemistry room, and a room in the northeast corner which housed the heating plant for the building. Originally, this heating plant was a fire box for "four foot wood" which heated a boiler with steam heat. It was later converted.

The total cost of the new building according to the Town Report 1917 was $15,263.20. The cost analysis is as follows: Moving old building- $363.22; Foundation- $787.95; Labor on Building- $3,921.70; Material in Building- $3,789.91; Plumbing, Heating and Ventilating- $5,112.22; Electric Wiring- $389.94; Miscellaneous- $898.96. (There was an additional Service of the Committee of $514.20). The Building Committee: George W. Wallis, G.M. Jones, W.M. Moriarty. The wood shed was built on the northeast corner in 1922.

The large field to the north of the building became the play ground for the elementary students and the baseball field for the high school. This served as an open area for many Town events as well.

While this building was being built, students went to classes in various places around the village. In the words of Clifford Wallis -- "I recall coming up here to the village. Of course, at that time the high school building had not been finished and we went to school in the vestry of the Congregational Church and at that time Mr. Venable was the principal and Alice Bushnell taught history and penmanship..." Mr. Wallis had been attending the Northwest District by the Wilder farm. Again he recalls..."My first teacher [in Northwest School] was Cora Huntley ... then there was Mabel Fiske, LaVonne Skinner and Helen Cox (author's note: the teacher's name was Helen Collins) and she was my last teacher at the North school...." This would be 1917. The Village



High School, Waitsfield, Vt.

*High School Finished in 1917…..Note Old Building Behind*

School became the Waitsfield High School in 1918 that contained grades 1 through 12. The first graduating class was in 1922. The last graduating class was in 1965. The total teacher salaries in 1918 with 10 teachers was $3,774.08. In 1919, the total salaries paid were $4,560.03. The total teacher salaries for the year ending December 31, 1965 (the last year of the high school in Waitsfield) was $50,777.80.

This High School building was sold in 1966 and remodeled and used for several stores. In 1982, Mr. Al Siner, a developer and president of Sinco, Inc. began a project to convert the high school building into condos. This was a management partner with Valley Schoolhouse Association. These units were one and two bedroom condos ranging in size from 600 square feet to 1300 square feet. The high school building still has the condo units in 2000.

The last school building to be built in Waitsfield was the present Waitsfield Elementary School just north of the old school complex. This building was built in 1960-1961. In 1999-2000, the total enrollment - Preschool through 6th grade - was 166. The 7th grade through 12th grade attend the Harwood Middle School/High School which is in Duxbury. The 7 to 12 had an enrollment of 106 students combined for a total of 272 students from Waitsfield and a total budget of $2,135,918 for 1999-2000. The first school building in Waitsfield –Northwest District in 1803 cost $73.76, the High School 1917 cost $15,263.20, and the last school built in Waitsfield in 1961 (158 years later) cost $194,000.

In 1799, the Northwest District had 60 students between the ages of 4 and 18; the Southwest District had 41; the Southeast District had 24; and the Northeast District had 40 students. The budget for the Northwest District (just for comparison) at this time was $30 for the winter school and $10 for the summer school. The winter schools were usually taught by male teachers and "a school shall be begun as soon as may be after Thanksgiving, and continue till the money raised be expended." The summer school, taught by women and often referred to as the "woman's school" usually started in May through September and was attended by younger children and girls. The boys had to help on the farms. The need for the boys to work on the family farms continued to play

a part in the school schedule even into the 1950's. The Spring vacation, for example, was established around the maple syrup harvesting time.

For years other than the State requiring the Towns to establish schools, the operation of the school system was left entirely to the individual Towns. Even the text books were not uniform with each new teacher selecting the texts. The curriculum was the basic reading, writing and arithmetic with geography, history and sometimes Latin as part of the program. The buildings were built by parents in that particular district. Wood for heating was furnished by individual parents. Often the janitorial work was done by the older students. The teachers were boarded at homes within the district. Until the development of the state supervision system, the money raised for the purpose of education was about 1 and 1/2 cents on a dollar of the grand list. By 1841 the tax was up to about six cents on the grand list. The total school budget for 2000-2001 was $2,262,960.

Even in the early years there were committees who visited schools and reported on the academic proficiency. Such a report was found in the Vermont Historical Library dated 1826. "In District Number 1, the school was visited near the commencement of the winter term and appeared to be well managed, and the prospect of improvement was flattering……but the abrupt manner in which it was closed prevented your committee from visiting it the second time." "In District Number 2, the school appeared to be well managed, its improvement on the whole was good and examinations satisfactory." "Of the school in District Number 3 it is sufficient to say that the high standards where it has hereto fore acquitted has been under the superintendence of their last instructor ably and faithfully maintained." "Of school in District Number 4, the summary relative to that in number 2 may apply without any essential variation." "In District Number 5 there was nothing from the imperfect examination which it received from the committee particularly striking in its improvement and it was noticed with regret that a want of order was observable." "The school District Number 6 did not receive a second visit from your committee." In attending to the duties of their appointment the committee has been led to notice in some instances a deficiency of books. …….. It is hoped that parents will take the hint and not be willing instruments in retarding the progress of their children in the acquisition of knowledge." Some of the books that the committee recommended for the schools were: Marshall's Spelling Book; English Reader and Sequel; Murray's English Grammar; and Woodbridge's Geography as an introduction to the study of Cummings and Williams.

Throughout this research constant accounts could be found concerning the interest in providing education for the students in the valley even in the early years when children were needed at home. A few quotes are used here to illustrate. The early families were frequently large… "For in their sweet simplicity, they hold a child as better than a bag of gold."

"December 22, 1797. Article 2 was put to vote to see if the District would hire Mr. S. Smith to keep school and engage him 10 bushels of wheat, it passed in the negative…"

"September 25, 1812. Voted to have three months schooling the ensuing winter, and that the committee be instructed to procure a teacher capable of teaching reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar and geography, provide such a one can be got for any other pay than money."

North School #1: Log building, was badly lighted, and with a huge old firplace at one end, in which to consume enormous quantities of green wood….without much hope of an even temperature to the room. Often 30 cords of wood burned in one winter."

The Town of Waitsfield did allocate money to the schools as indicated by the Town Report of

March 1, 1870. "The division of three hundred and fifty eight and 1-100 dollars made on the 28th day of March, 1870, among the several School Districts and parts of Districts lying in Waitsfield, one-third on scholars for the current school year, as provided by law. District No. 1 - $44.48; District #2 - $43.57; District #3 - $44.55; District #4 - $42.00; District #5 - $40.62; District #6 - $110.13; District #7 - $31.39; District #7 – in Moretown - $1.27."

The first School Directors' Report seems to have appeared in the Town Report in 1878. Although school reporting was done by other means as the above information attests. Also, Hiram Jones was elected the first Superintendent of Schools in 1833. This was also the first elected office held by Hiram Jones who later held many town offices. It seems historically prudent to record in the following section the teachers, the costs, and historical facts under each year for the future readers. The total costs shown below are for teachers, board, care of rooms, wood, repairs etc. The Jones book gives accounts of many of the earlier teachers.

**1878 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer: Mattie Wilder; Fall- Frances M. Hanks; Winter- Frances Hanks. Total school cost- $246.15

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Cora Bacon; Fall – Miss. L.E. Fletcher; Winter – H.C. Gleason. Total cost: $223.26

**School #3:Teachers: -** Summer – Alice A. Averill; Fall – Grace M. Phelps; Winter – Katie E. Crane. Total cost: $184.55

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Lydia A. Bigelow; Fall – Lydia Bigelow; Winter – Frank S. Porter. Total Cost: $177.00

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Alice M. Boyce; Fall – Alice M. Boyce; Winter – J.H. Holt. Total cost: $183.55.

**School #6 & #7: Teachers: -** Summer – Ella F. VanDeusen; Fall – Ella VanDeusen primary, Mary E. Prentis higher department; Winter – Lydia A. Bigelow primary, L. E. Tupper, higher department. Total cost: $429.75 Total orders drawn this school year $1,526.89

**School Directors:** E.O. Joslin, L.M. Tyler, G.W. Fisher, L.D. Savage, Josiah Holden and W.A. Jones.

**1879 – School #1: Teachers –**Summer – Flora L. Bowman; Fall – Frances M. Hanks; Winter – Abner B. Bisbee. Total costs: $219.09

**School #2: Teachers-** Summer – Martha Johnston; Fall – Cora A. Bacon; Winter – Cora Bacon. Total cost: $210.38

**School #3: Teachers-** Summer – Lucius D. Savage; Fall – Emma L. Bragg; Winter – Burton D. Bisbee. Total cost: $169.85

**School #4: Teacher –** Summer – Abbie L. Jones; Fall – Lucia R. Joslin; Winter – Lucia R. Joslin. Total cost: $192.25

**School #5: Teachers-** Summer – Lydia A. Bigelow; Fall – Minnie Parker; Winter – Alson C. Ralph. Total cost: $175.70

**Schools #6 & 7: Teachers –** Summer – Mary E. Prentis; Fall – Lydia A. Bigelow

in #6 and Ella F. Van Deusen in #7; Winter – Lydia Bigelow #6 and Ella Van Deusen in #7. Total cost: $365.00. Total school orders issued $1,518.38

**School Directors:** W.A. Jones, G.W. Fisher, L.D. Savage, Josiah Holden, E.O. Joslin, H.M. Wait.

**1880 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Mattie Prentis; Fall Mattie Prentis; Winter – Abner B. Bisbee. Total cost: $215.68

**School #2: Teachers –**Summer – Cora A. Bacon; Fall – Reuben Bates; Winter – Charles E. Eddy. Total cost: $184.17

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Katie E. Crane; Fall – Ida F. Hastings; Winter – Burton D. Bisbee. Total cost: $169.97

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Lucia R. Joslin; Fall – Amy B. Fisk; Winter – Julian J. Joslin. Total cost: $184.73

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Emma L. Bragg; Fall – Alson C. Ralph; Winter – Alson Ralph. Total cost: $192.33.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Ella F. Van Deusen; Fall – Lydia A. Bigelow in #6; Ella F. Van Deusen in #7; Winter – Lydia Bigelow in #6 and Lydia Van Deusen in #7. Total cost: $344.50. Total school orders - $1,343.22

**School Directors:** Josiah Holden, E.O. Jones, H.M. Wait, L.D. Savage, R.W. Fisher, W.A. Jones

**1881 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Amy B. Fisk; Fall – Abner B. Bisbee; Winter – Abner B. Bisbee. Total cost: $231.00

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Mary E. Joslin; Fall – Mary E. Joslin, Winter – Mary E. Joslin. Total cost: $227.20

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Ida F. Hastings; Fall – Sarah M. Thompson; Winter – Burton D. Bisbee. Total cost: $186.50

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Lydia A. Bigelow; Fall – Ida F. Hastings; Winter Sarah M. Thompson. Total cost: $166.50.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Elma L. Ralph; Fall – Alson C. Ralph; Winter – Alson C. Ralph. Total cost: $218.70.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Etta F. Van Deusen; Fall – Lydia A. Bigelow in #6; Willis A. Bentley in #7 Total cost: $365.26. Total school orders drawn $1,497.07.

**School Directors:** W.A. Jones, E.O. Joslin, H.M. Wait, L.D. Savage, G.W. Fisher, Josiah Holden.

**1882 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Jennie M. Pierce; Fall – Lillian M. Wells; Winter – C.W. Waterman. Total cost: $272.46.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Mary E. Joslin; Fall – Mary E. Joslin; Winter – Mary E. Joslin. Total cost: $224.63.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Agnes N. Ormsbee; Fall – Agnes N. Ormsbee; Winter – Burton D. Bisbee. Total coat: 186.65.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Ida F. Hastings, Fall – Ida F. Hastings, Winter – Ida F. Hastings. Total cost: $191.25.

**School #5:Teachers: -** Summer – Abbie L. Jones, Fall – John Spaulding; Winter – A.C. Ralph. Total cost: $290.33.

**School #6 and #7:Teachers: -**Summer – Lydia A. Bigelow; Fall – Sarah M. Thompson in #6, Lydia A. Bigelow in #7. Total cost: $404.83. Total school orders drawn: $1,609.86.

**School Directors:** G.W. Fisher, L.D. Savage, Josiah Holden. J.G. Lewis, W.G. McAllister, W.A. Jones. First account appears for W.A. Jones as town superintendent of schools and with pay $29.00. However, Hiram Jones had been elected superintendent of schools in 1833 and may have been the first Superintendent.

**1883 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer Mary J. Folsom; Fall – Carrie M. Porter; Winter- Carrie M. Porter. Total cost: $235.16.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Laura M. Whitmarsh; Fall – Mary E. Joslin; Winter – ary E. Joslin. Total cost: $225.79.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Lucia R. Joslin; Fall – Lucia R. Joslin; Winter – Mrs. F.W. Bennett. Total cost: $207.51.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Alice O. Pierce; Fall – Alice O. Pierce; Winter – Nellie M. Badger. Total cost: $172.89.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Helen M. Holden; Fall – Clara D. Brown; Winter – Clara D. Brown. Total cost: $237.37.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Sarah M. Thompson; Fall – Sarah M. Thompson; Winter – Sarah M. Thompson. Total cost: $392.75. Total school orders drawn: $1,567.80.

**School Directors:** W.A. Jones, Josiah Holden, J.G. Lewis, W.G. McAllister, M.A, Palmer, L.C, Berry. W.A. Jones, Superintendent.

**1884 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Ella F. Van Deusen; Fall – Mattie C. Prentis; Winter – Mattie C. Prentis. Total cost: $238.87

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer Mary E. Joslin; Fall – Mary E. Joslin; Winter – Mary L. Mills. Total cost: $245.05.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Lucia R. Joslin; Fall – Ida F. Hastings; Winter – Susie L. Gleason. Total cost: $199.25.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Estella Hill; Fall – Estella Hill; Winter – Frank W.

Holden. Total cost: $247.56.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Clara D. Brown; Fall – Julian J. Joslin; Winter – Ida F. Hastings. Total cost: $256.55.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Sarah M. Thompson in #6 and Lydia A. Bigelow in #7; Fall – Sarah M. Thompson in #6; Lydia A. Bigelow in #7. Winter – Sarah M. Thompson in #6 and Lydia A. Bigelow in #7. Total cost: $456.81.

**School Directors:** W.A, Jones, M.a. Hadley, J.G. Lewis,W.G. McAllister, M.A. Palmer, L.C. Berry. W.A. Jones paid Superintendent. Total school orders drawn: $2, 207.85

**1885 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Emma C. Poland; Fall – Ada J. Blanchard; Winter – O.M. Donaldson. Total cost: $254.97.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Mary E. Joslin; Fall – Lena E. Spaulding; Winter – Lena E. Spaulding. Total cost: $243.69.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Mary J. Folsom; Fall – Helen M. Holden; Winter – Helen M. Holden. Total cost: $203.75.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Jennie Shea; Fall – Jennie Shea; Winter – Albert D. Reed. Total cost; $213.65.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Ida F. Hastings; Fall – Ida F. Hastings; Winter – Ida F. Hastings. Total cost: $238.25

**School #6 and #7: Teachers -** Summer – Hattie Dale in #6 and Lydia A. Bigelow in #7; Fall- Sarah M. Thompson in #6 and Lydia A. Bigelow in #7; Winter – Sarah M. Thompson in #6 and Lydia A. Bigelow in #7. Total cost: $462.76 There was a long list of items this year for "new school desks and recitation seats, repairs of school buidlings and incidental expenses of schools totaling $1,294.76. total school orders drawn: $2.911.83.

**School Directors:** M.A. Palmer, L.C. Berry, W.A. Jones, M.E. Hadley, J.G. Lewis, W.G. McAllister. W.A. Jones paid Superintendent.

**1886 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Alice O. Pierce; Fall – Alice O. Pierce; Winter – U.E. Sargent. Total cost: $256.80.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Lena E. Spaulding; Fall – Lena E. Spaulding; Winter – Lena E. Spaulding. Total cost: $238.17.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Gertie Fisk; Fall – Lutie A. Jones; Winter – Lutie A. Jones. Total cost: $191.23

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Abbie L. Hanks; Fall – Abbie L. Hanks; Winter – Mrs. T.E. Fisher. Total cost: $235.96.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Ida F, Hastings; Fall – Carrie Abbott; Winter – Carrie Abbott. Total cost: $242.25.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Sarah M. Thompson in #6 and Lydia A. Bigelow in #7; Fall – Sarah M. Thompson in #6 and Lydia M. Thompson in #7; Winter – Sarah

M. Thompson in #6 and Mrs. Eva J. Allen in #7. Total cost: $481.97. Total school orders drawn: $1,699.65.

**School Directors:** W.A. Jones, M.E. Hadley, J.G. Lewis, W.G. McAllister, M.A. Palmer, J.E. Berry. W.A. Jones, Superintendent.

**1887 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Rose L. Summer; Fall – Katie M. Bowles; Winter – Katie M. Bowles. Total cost: $235.75.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Lena E. Spaulding; Fall – Lena E. Spaulding; Winter – Ida M. Thompson. Total cost: $192.75.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Lutie Jones; Fall – Lutie Jones; Winter – Jennie Shea. Total cost: $192.60

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Nora E, Hobbs; Fall – Nora E. Hobbs; Winter – D.R. Bisbee. Total cost: $220.50

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Alice M. Bushnell; Fall – Roena Atwood; Winter – Roena Atwood. Total cost: 232.62.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Sarah M. Thompson in #6 and Mrs. C.J. Allen in #7; Fall – Sarah M. Thompson in #6 and Mrs. C.J. Allen and Nellie C. White.; Winter – Sarah M. Thompson, Carrie M. Gree, and Mary L. Janes. Total cost: $628.00. Total school orders drawn: $1,800.41.

**School Directors:** W.G. McAllister, J.G. Lewis, M.A. Palmer, J.E. Berry, G.L. Walbridge, C.J. Allen. C.J. Allen, Superintendent.

**1888 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Ellen L. Brown; Fall – Elma L. Ralph; Winter – Elma L. Ralph. Total cost: $211.00.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Jennie E. Shea; Fall – Jennie E. Shea; Winter – George M. Jones. Total cost: $182.20.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Alice M. Bushnell; Fall – Alice Lamb; Winter – Gertrude S. Stoddard. Total cost: $186.06

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Olive H. Pierce; Fall – Olive H. Pierce; Winter – Olive H. Pierce. Total cost: $206.50.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Carrie M. Green; Fall – Carrie M. Green; Winter – W.J. Baird. Total cost: $238.20.

**School #5 and #6: Teachers –** Summer – Irene R. Joslin and Sarah M. Thompson; Fall – Fannie E. Ladd, Abbie L. Jones, and Sarah M. Thompson. Toal cost: $655.45. Total school orders drawn: $1,910.20. Interesting note: the town paid E.M. House $97 to carry students to school #5. First indication of transporting students.

**School Directors:** M.A. Palmer, J.E. Berry, G.L. Walbridge, C.J. Allen, C.M. Richardson, H.N. Bushnell. H. N. Bushnell, Superintendent.

**1889 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Elma L. Ralph; Fall – Edna E. Boyce; Winter – Inez A. Folsom. Total cost: $226.50.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Ida V. Fisher; Fall – Adelle G. Bragg; Winter – Geo. M. Jones. Total cost: $182.00.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Agnes E. Prentis; Fall – Agnes E. Prentis; Winter – Agnes E. Prentis. Total cost: $189.50.

**School #4: Teachers -** Summer – Lovina Carroll; Fall – Lovina Carroll; Winter – Lovina Carroll. Total cost: $212.25.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Olive H. Pierce; Fall – Olive H. Pierce; Winter – Olive H.. Pierce. Total cost: $256.50.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Sarah M. Thompson and Abbie L. Jones; Fall – Sarah M. Thompson, Emily A. Glover, Fannie A. Brown; Winter – Sarah M. Thompson, Emily A. Glover, and Mrs. L.J. Allen. Total cost: $695.47. Total school orders drawn: $1,915.69.

**School Directors:** Geo. L. Walbridge, C.J. Allen, C.M. Richardson, H. N. Bushnell, A.F. Richardson, J.E. Berry. H.N. Bushnell, Superintendent.

**1890 – School #1: Teachrs –** Summer Inez A. Patten; Fall – Ira Richardson; Winter – Ira Richardson; Total cost: $245.50.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Ellen L. Brown; Fall – Hattie N. Lewis; Winter – Hattie N. Lewis. Total cost: $167.67.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Edna E. Boyce; Fall – Edna E. Boyce; Winter – Edna E, Boyce. Total cost: $199.75.

**School #4: Teachers -** Summer – Lovina Carroll; Fall – Gertrude A. Stoddard; Winter – Mrs. Jennie T. Baird. Total cost: $208.83.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Olive H. Pierce; Fall – Jennie E; Shea; Winter – Jennie E. Shea. Total cost: $225.50.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Lulie A. Jones, Sarah M. Thompson; Fall – Inez A. Patten, Sarah M. Thompson; Winter – Lulie A. Jones and Sarah M. Thompson. Total cost: $542.62. Total school orders drawn $1,781.01.

**School Directors:** C.M. Richardson, H.N. Bushnell, A.F. Richardson, J.E, Berry, G.L. Walbridge, Z.H. McAllister. H.N. Bushnell, Superintendent.

**1891 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer Lizzie M. Holden; Fall – Lizzie M. Holden; Winter – Belle Camp. Total cost: $236.70.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Harriet N. Lewis; Fall – Mary J. Folsom; Winter – Mary J. Folsom. Total cost: $207.75.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Edna E. Boyce; Fall – Edna E. Boyce; Winter – Edna E. Boyce. Total cost: $224. 85.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Cora Miles; Fall – Lovina A. Carroll; Winter –

Lovina A. Carroll. Total cost: $223.60.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Carrie M. Green; Fall – George M. Jones; Winter – George M. Jones. Total cost: $251.25.

**School #6 and #6: Teachers –** Summer Della Thompson, Clara Folsom; Fall – Ira D. Shaw, Della Thompson; Winter – Ira D. Shaw, Della Thompson. Total cost: $568.35 Total school orders drawn: $1,800.47.

**School Directors:** A.F. Richardson, J.E.Berry, G.L. Walbridge, M.A. Bushnell, C.M. Richardson, Nathan Boyce, .H.N. Bushnell, Superintendent.

**1892 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Ellen F. Wilder; Fall – Adelle Bragg; Winter – Adelle Bragg. Total cost: $264.00.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Mary J. Folsom; Fall – Mary J. Folsom; Winter – Ursula Bates. Total cost: $224.00.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Gertrude Richardson; Fall – Gertrude Richardson; Winter – Alice M. Bushnell. Total cost: $202.30.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Ida V. Fisher; Fall – Ida V. Fisher; Winter – Ida V. Fisher. Total cost: $229.50

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – George M. Jones; Fall – George M. Jones; Winter – George M. Jones. Total cost: $264.75.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Carrie H. Joslin, Sarah M. Thompson; Fall – Carrie H. Joslin, Sarah M. Thompson; Winter – Carrie H. Joslin, Sarah M. Thompson. Total cost: $493.00. Total school orders drawn: $1,705.55.

**School Directors:** G.L. Walbridge, M.A. Bushnell, C.M. Richardson, Nathan Boyce, A.F. Richardson. O.S. Joslyn, G.L. Walbridge, Superintendent.

**1893 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Adella Bragg; Fall – Adella Bragg; Winter – C.L. Pervier. Total cost: $260.75.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Ursula Bates; Fall – Ursula Bates; Winter – Ursula Bates. Total cost: $209.75.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Gertrude Richardson; Fall – Abbie Palmer (2 weeks), Ida Thompson (7 weeks); Winter – Hattie Mehuron. Total cost: $208.00.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Carrie N. Joslin; Fall – Carrie H. Joslin; Winter – Carrie H. Joslin. Total cost: $219.95.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Kate P. Mehuron; Fall – Jennie E. Shea; Winter Jennie E. Shea. Total cost: $257.50.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Sarah M. Thompson, Carrie M. Green; Fall – Sarah M. Thompson, Carrie M. Green; Winter – Sarah M. Thompson, Carrie M. Green, Adella Bragg. Total cost: $418.25. Total school orders drawn: $1,650.58.

**School Directors:** C.M. Richardson, Nathan Boyce, A.F. Richardson, O.S. Joslin, O.C. Wilder, H.N. Bushnell, Superintendent.

**1894 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Clara M. Folsom; Fall – Minnie E. Wark; Winter – Minnie E. Wark; Total cost: $276.00.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Ella L. Brown; Fall – Ella L. Brown; Winter – Harriet N. Lewis. Total cost: $237.05.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Kate Mehuron; Fall – Kate Mehuron; Winter – Gertrude Richardson. Total cost: $230.16.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Mary E. Cressey; Fall – Abbie Palmer; Winter – Mary E. Cressey. Total cost: $226.75.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Jennie E. Shea; Fall – Jennie E. Shea; Winter – Alice M. Bushnell. Total cost: $250.89.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Sarah M. Thompson; Fall – Lulie A. Jones, George W. Cease; Winter – Lulie A. Jones, George W. Chase. Total cost: $553.62. Total school orders drawn: $1,907.01.

**School Directors:** A.F. Richardson, O.S. Joslin, O.C. Wilder, H.N. Bushnell, W.C. Kelsey, F.A. Joslin. H.N. Bushnell, Superintendent.

As noted above, this year there was a major building project, but what building is not clear. A school building had burned in 1893.

**1895 – School #1: Teachers -** Summer – Minnie E. Wark; Fall – Clara Folsom; Winter – Mary J. Folsom. Total cost: $237.00

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Jennie E. Shea; Fall – Jennie E. Shea; Winter – Jennie E, Shea. Total cost: $227.05.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Cherrie B. Stoddard; Fall – Louise R. Gleason; Winter – Louise R. Gleason. Total cost: $233.05.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Abbie L. Palmer; Fall – Abbie L. Palmer; Winter – Elizabeth Richardson. Total cost: $224.85.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Alice M. Bushnell; Fall – Alice M. Bushnell; Winter – George M. Jones. Total cost: $239.50.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Alice W. Alvoid, Lulie A. Jones; Fall – Nellie L. Brown, Lulie A. Jones; Winter – Nellie L. Brown, Lulie A. Jones. Total cost: $573.16. Total school orders drawn: $1,886.59.

**School Directors:** O.C. Wilder, H.N. Bushnell, W.C. Kelsey, F.A. Joslin, O.S. Joslin, E.T. McCarthy. H.N. Bushnell, Superintendent.

**1896 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Louise R. Gleason; Fall – Louise R. Gleason; Winter – Louise R. Gleason. Total cost: $240.88;

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Jennie Shea; Fall – Jennie Shea; Winter – Jennie Shea. Total cost: $240.60.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Mabel A. Ryle; Fall – Mabel A. Ryle; Winter – Luna Howe. Total cost: $232.25.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer Elizabeth Richardson; Fall – Elizabeth Richardson; Winter – Elizabeth Richardson. Total cost: $227.25.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Della Thompson; Fall – Della Thompson; Winter – Della Thompson. Total cost: $236.00.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Lulie A. Jones, Carrie H. Joslin; Fall – Gertrude Richardson, Carrie H. Joslin; Winter – Carrie H. Joslin, Gertrude Richardson. Total cost: $580.20. Total school orders drawn: $2,582.02

**School Directors:** W.C. Kelsey, F.A. Joslin, O.S. Joslin, E.T. McCarthy, P.B. Gaylord. J.W. Gregory, Superintendent.

**1897 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Louise Gleason; Fall – Louise Gleason; Winter – H.E. Foster. Total cost: $238.25.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Jennie Shea; Fall – Jennie Shea; Winter – E.T. McCarty. Total cost: $227.84.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Mabel Lamb; Fall – Luna Howe; Winter – Luna Howe. Total cost: $224.77.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Elizabeth Richardson; Fall – Elizabeth Richardson; Winter – Elizabeth Richardson. Total cost: $236.48.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Mary J. Folsom; Fall – Nancy Atwood; Winter – Nancy Atwood. Total cost: $237.13.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – Carrie Joslin, Gertrude Richardson; Fall – Carrie Joslin, Gertrude Richardson; Winter – Carrie Joslin, Gertrude Richardson. Total cost: $495.45. Total school orders drawn: $1,822.08.

**School Directors:** O.S. Joslin, E.T. McCarty, P.B. Gaylord, J.W. Gregory. J.W. Gregory, Superintendent.

**1898 – School #1 – Teachers –** Summer – Jennie Shea; Fall – Jennie Shea; Winter – Jennie Shea. Total cost: $247.00,

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Hattie Lewis; Fall – Lizzie Flannagan; Winter – Lizzie Flannagan. Total cost: $235.50.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Luna Howe; Fall – Luna Howe; Winter Luna Howe. Total cost: $233.25.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Amy Denny; Fall – Minnie Maxwell; Winter – Minnie Maxwell. Total cost: $237.05.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer - Beth Richardson; Fall – Beth Richardson; Winter – Beth Richardson. Total cost: $239.30

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – H.E. Foster, Louise Gleason; Fall – Arthur Piper, Louise Gleason; Winter – Louise Gleason Arthur Piper. Total cost: $566.00. Total school orders drawn: $1,960.66.

**School Directors:** P.B. Gaylord, E.T. McCarty, C.H. Newcomb. J.W, Gregory, Superintendent.

**1899 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Alice R. Hewett; Fall – Luna Howe; Winter – Luna Howe. Total cost: $243.50.

**School #2: Teachers –** Summer – Jennie Shea; Fall – Jennie Shea; Winter Jennie Shea. Total cost: $230.31.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Lizzie B. Maxwell; Fall – Lizzie B. Maxwell; Winter – Lizzie B. Maxwell. Total cost: $239.00.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Luna Atkins; Fall – Luna Atkins; Luna Atkins. Total cost: $247.87.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Minnie Maxwell; Fall – Minnie Maxwell; Winter – Annie Mehuron. Total cost: $229.50.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer – C.R. Maxwell, Cornelia F. Goss; Fall – C.R. Maxwell, Cornelia F. Goss; Winter – C.R. Maxwell, Cornelia F. Goss. Total cost: $544.25. Total school orders drawn: $1,888.58.

**School Directors:** F.R. Palmer, B.L. Joslin, Z.H. McAllister. H.N. Bushnell, Superintendent.

**1900 – School #1: Teachers –** Summer – Luna Howe; Fall – Julia Folsom; Winter – Julia Folsom. Total cost: $244.08.

**School #2: Teachers –** Fall – Agnes Kew; Winter – Agnes Kew. Note only fall and winter sessions. Total cost: $188.25.

**School #3: Teachers –** Summer – Minnie Maxwell; Fall – Minnie Maxwell; Winter – Minnie Maxwell. Total cost: $243. 24.

**School #4: Teachers –** Summer – Julia Folsom; Fall – Alice Winch; Winter – Alice M. Winch. Total cost: $247.87.

**School #5: Teachers –** Summer – Annie Mehuron; Fall – Annie Mehuron; Winter – Jennie E. Shea. Total cost: $232.14.

**School #6 and #7: Teachers –** Summer Gertrude B. Richardson, Cornelia F. Goss; Fall – Caroline Swift. Luna B. Howe; Winter – Luna B. Howe, Caroline Swift. Total cost: $507.70. Total school orders drawn: $1,859.87.

**School Directors:** F.R. Palmer, Z.H. McAllister, B.L. Joslin. H.N. Bushnell, Superintendent.

For further comparison of interest, in 1912, Mr. Fred Pitkin was the only high school teacher. In the words of Clarence A. Bisbee, "Fred Pitkin taught every subject in the first two years of high school and he did a beautiful job of it ... for $600." The Town Report verifies this figure.

Even though the original Village School was built in 1847, the town continued to operate its various outlying schools. In 1919, South School #4, East School #2, and Village School primary – two year high school were operating. Teachers in South school were Celia Smith and Linnie Morse. Teacher in East school was Marie Bernath. In 1919 East School was closed. In 1927, South School #4 was the last to closed.

## 1900

School Directors: F. R. Palmer, Z. H. McAllister, B. L. Joslin

Superintendent: H. N. Bushnell

Teachers: Luna Howe and Julia Folsom #1, Agnes Kew #2, Minnie Maxwell #3, Julia Folsom, Alice Winch #4, Annie Mehuron, Jennie Shea #5, Cornelia Goss and Caroline Swift #6, Gertrude Richardson and Luna B. Howe #7

## 1901

School Directors: E. S. Joslin, B. L. Joslin, G. M. Joslin

Superintendent: Lucia R. Bisbee (Mrs. B.D.)

Teachers: Minnie Maxwell, Marion Dana and Minnie Holden #1, Agnes Kew, Blanche McAllister, Marion Dana #2, Sadie Cross, Minnie Maxwell #3, Katie Mehuron #4, Luna Howe #5, Lizzie Maxwell #6, C. R. Maxwell #7

## 1902

School Directors: B. L. Joslin, G.M. Jones, W. C. Kelsey

Superintendent: Lucia R. Bisbee (Mrs. B.D.)

Teachers: Anna Mehuron #1, Albert Crane #2, Minnie Maxwell, Katherine O'Brian, Alice Bushnell #3, Luna Howe, Howard Haylett #4, Frank Wright #5, Lizzie Maxwell, Sarah Thompson #6, Lulie Jones #7.

## 1903

School Directors: G.M. Jones, C.M. Richardson, L.K. Smith

Superintendent: Lucia R. Bisbee (Mrs. B.D.)

Teachers: Anna Mehuron #1, May Foley, Bessie Patton and Ethel Ryle #2, Alice Bushnell #3, Vann Bragg, G.L. Wells #4, Lizzie Maxwell #5, S.M. Thompson #6, Lulie A. Jones and Lena Spaulding #7

## 1904

School Directors: G.M. Jones, L.K. Smith, Mrs. W.C. Kelsey

Superintendent: Lucia R. Bisbee (Mrs. B.D.)

Teachers: Anna Mehuron #1, Lucia Bisbee, Maud Boyce #2, Alice Bushnell, Jennie McKensey #3, Bernice Fraser and Mary Foley #4, #5 Closed, S.M. Thompson #6, Emily Johnson, Lorina Palmer, Lucia Bisbee #7

## 1905

School Directors: Mrs. Gertrude Martin, G.M. Jones, L.K. Smith

Superintendent: Lucia R. Bisbee (Mrs. B.D.)

Teachers: Maud Boyce, Lizzie Maxwell #1, Lucia Bisbee, Cora Maxwell #2, Alice Bushnell #3, Kate Mehuron and Lena Baird #4, #5 Closed Lillian Hubbard #6, Clarence Billings #7

## 1906

School Directors: L.K. Smith, Mrs. Gertrude Martin, G.M. Jones

Superintendent: Lucia Bisbee (Mrs. B.D.)

Teachers: Lizzie Maxwell, Ellen Strong #1, Mabel Ladd, L.Jean Bisbee #2 (This Lucia Jean Bisbee daughter of Lucia R Bisbee who was Supt.) Alice Bushnell #3, Lena Baird, Holt, Dana Clough #4, Jessie Stanton, M. Lina Miller #6, Minnie Maxwell #7, R.H. Farrand High School.

## 1907

School Directors: Mrs. M.L. Martin, L.K. Smith, G.M. Jones

Superintendent: Lucia R. Bisbee (Mrs. B.D.)

Teachers: Ellen Strong, Edna Bragg and Mabel Stockwell #1, Alice Bushnell, Lilla Poland #2 and #3 (#2 students went to Centre #3 this year), Mabel Seaver, Luna Minkler #4, M. Lina Miller #6, Minnie Maxwell and Ellen Strong #7, R.H. Farrand High School

## 1908

School Directors: E.S. Joslin, G.M. Jones, D.R. Bisbee

Superintendent: Lucia R. Bisbee (Mrs. B.D.)

Teachers: Mabel Speare and Agnes Treadway #1, Mary Kerrin, Margaret Wood and Bessie Parker #2, Alice Bushnell and Ella B. Carpenter #3, Howard Long and Luna Minkler #4, Ida Wood, L. Jean Bisbee #6, Ellen Strong #7, C.L. McLean High School and Mrs. C.H. Newcomb Music and instruction and W.M. Wilton High School

## 1909

School Directors: G.M. Jones, D.R. Bisbee, W.E. Jones

Superintendent: Alice M. Bushnell

Teachers: Agnes Treadway, Cora Huntley #1, Bessie Parker, Ella Carpenter, #2 & #3 , Luna Minkler and Clara Spaulding #4, Primary in the Village school – L. Jean Bisbee, Emma Laird teachers, Grammar school in the Village – Ella Strong and Stella Huntley teachers, W. M. Wilton High School

## 1910

School Directors: G.M. Jones, D.R. Bisbee, W.E. Jones

Superintendent: Alice M. Bushnell

Teachers: Agnes Treadway, Cora Huntley #1, Bessie Parker, Ella Carpenter #2, Ella Carpenter Spring term only #3 (#3 closed), Luna Minkler, Clara Spaulding #4, Primary- L.Jean Bisbee, Emma Laird, Grammar Ella Strong and Stella Huntley, Eleanor Toolin High School

## 1911

School Directors: Dan R. Bisbee, Walter E. Jones, George W. Wallis

Superintendent: Mrs. E.H. Jones

Teachers: Cora Huntley and Etna. M. Daniels #1, Ella B. Carpenter, Blanche A. Small, Vone Skinner, Lutie Skinner #2; Clara Spaulding and Alice E. Marrs #4, Primary Emma Laird and Cora Huntley, Grammar – Stella Huntley and Eleanor Toolin; Bessie Haywood, High School.

## 1912

School Directors: Dan R. Bisbee, George Wallis, W.E. Jones

Superintendent: George S. Bidwell

Teachers: Mary L. Ellis, Mabel G. Fisk #1; Lutie Skinner #2; Beatrice Leach, Clara Spaulding #4; Cora Huntley, Primary; Stella Huntley, Bessie Crouch, Clara Southard, Alice Bushnell, Grammar School in village; Fred E. Pitkin,High School.

## 1913

School Directors: D.R. Bisbee, George Wallis, W.E. Jones

Union Superintendent: George S. Bidwell

Teachers: Mabel Fiske, #1; Esther Skinner #2; Gertrude Bliss, Minne Bliss, Josephine Fisk #4; Cora Huntley, Village Primary; Alice Bushnell, Assisted by Alice Smith, Blanch LeBelle, Grammar in Village; Fred Pitkin, High School

## 1914

School Directors: D.R. Bisbee, George Wallis, W. J. Howard

Union Superintendent: Geo. S. Bidwell, Secretary

Teachers: Mabel Fiske #1, Esther Skinner #2, Gertrude Bliss, Minnie Bliss, And Josephine Fisk #4, Primary Cora Huntley, Grammar Alice Bushnell, Alice Smith and Blanch LaBelle, Fred E. Pitkin, H. S.

## 1915

School Directors: George Andrews, W.J. Howard, D. H. Skinner

Union Superintendent: S. H. Strong, Secretary

Teachers: LaVonne Skinner #1, Esther Skinner #2, Josephine Fisk #4 Primary Mabel G. Fisk, Grammar Alice Bushnell, Persis Richardson, Marcella Strong Ass't, Franklin G. Williams High School

## 1916

School Directors: D.H. Skinner, W.J. Howard, G.H. Andrus

Teachers: Helen Collins #1, Lillian Sargent #2 Muriel Peck #4, Primary Carrie Hubbard, Grammar -Alice Bushnell W.H. Venable High School

## 1917

School Directors: G.R. Andrus, D.R. Bisbee, D.H. Skinner

Teachers: Helen Collins #1, Lillian Sargent #2, Muriel Peck and L. Jean Bisbee #4, Alice Bushnell #7, Primary Carrie Hubbard, Alice Smith and Esther Skinner, Alice Bushnell 7th and 8th , W.H. Venable High School and Marjorie Luce, Subs: Mrs. B.D. Bisbee, Ethel Stokes

**Note 1917 year of building new High School see beginning.**

## 1918

School Directors: D.R. Bisbee, D.H. Skinner, P.B. Gaylord

Teachers: L. Jean Bisbee and Celia Smith #4, Primary- Esther Skinner and Lizzie Maxwell; Intermediate- Louise Folsom and Katrina Tierney,Alice Bushnell and Mary Collins 7th & 8th ; Wallace Venable Princ., Marjorie Luce, Margaret Whittemore High School

Total teacher salaries for this year: $3,774.08 (10 teachers)

Total cost of the new building finished in 1917 was $18,636.26

## 1919

School Directors: D.H. Skinner, P.B. Gaylord, C.J. Greene

Teachers: L. Jean Bisbee and Celia Smith #4, Primary -Esther Skinner, Lizzie Maxwell, Village Intermediate – Louise Folsom and Katrina Tierney; Alice Bushnell and Mary Collins 7th & 8th, High School- H. C. Billings, Prin., Marjorie Luce, Margaret Whittemore, Florence Zuill, H.C. Billings, Mrs. H.C. Billings, Mrs. Remele, Sub: Clara Spaulding.

## 1920

School Directors: P.B. Gaylord, C.J. Greene, G.W. Wallis

Teachers: Celia Smith, Linnie L. Morse, Marie Bernath, Lizzie Maxwell, Katrina Tierney, H.C. Billings, Principal, Mrs. H.C. Billings (sub), Effie LaMorder (Sub), M.A. Collins (Sub), Alice Bushnell (Sub), Florence Zuill, Doratha Periene, Marion Dana (Sub)

High School enrollment: 68. South School and East School were still being used.

## 1921

School Directors: C.M. Dana, G.W. Wallis, W.C. Joslyn

Teachers: Linnie Morse, Mrs. Ward Joslin, Julia Neill, Elizabeth Maxwell, Katrina Tierney, Dorothy Savage, H.C. Billings, Principal, Mrs. H.C. Billings (Ass't), Marion Dana, Doratha Perrine, Mrs. Roy Richardson, Marion M. Mullings, Mrs. G.A. Forey music: (this appears to be the first teacher just for music; however, Mrs. Remele had been teaching some music prior to this date), Howard Abbot (Agriculture)

High School enrollment was 97

## 1922

School Directors: G.W. Wallis, W.C. Joslin, C.M. Dana

Teachers: Marion Dana, Principal, Doratha Perrine, Marion Mulling, Howard Abbott (Agriculture), Elizabeth Maxwell, Dorothy Savage, Mary Ironsides, Mrs. G.A. Forey (Music), Mary Northrup, Bethany Powers, Doratha Towne

Junior/Senior High School: 103 students (69 Waitsfield, 34 out of town) Only the South School operating at this time in the rural area.

## 1923

School Directors: W.C. Joslin, C.M. Dana, George Wallis

Teachers: Doratha Towne, Shirley Corliss, Elizabeth Maxwell, Bethany Powers,

Marion Dana, Principal, Marion Mullings, Doratha Perrine, Howard Abbott (Agriculture), Mary Northrup, Katherine Brodie, Evelyn Orton, Amy Hammond

## 1924

School Directors: C.M. Dana, George Wallis, W.C. Joslin

Superintendent: M.H. Willis

Teachers: Shirley Corliss and Emogene Howes #4; Primary and Intermediate- Elizabeth Maxwell, Bethany Powers, Mildred Jackson; High School- Howard Abbott Prins., Mary Northrup, Katherine Brodie, Evelyn Orton, Amy Hammond, Ruth Buxton

## 1925

School Directors: W.H. Moriarty, P.B. Joslin, R.M. Goodyear

Superintendent; M.H. Willis

Teachers: Mary Northrup (Principal), Katherine Brody, Evelyn Orton, Amy Hammond, Ruth Buxton, Ridley Norton, Florence Beale, Florence Mills, Helen Canerdy- High School; Primary and Inter-Mediate: Elizabeth Maxwell, Mildred Jackson, Marjorie Coggins, Ella Chapman 7th & 8th (Note 1st year $320), Imogene Howes, Louise Livingston #4.

Mr. M.H. Willis was the Superintendent for a salary of $520. This appears to be the first District Superintendent. There are some interesting statistics this year: 1st, 2nd, 3rd grades called Primary room - Elizabeth Maxwell teacher - 41 students. 4th, 5th, 6th grades called Intermediate room - Marjorie Coggins teacher - 42 students. 7th, 8th grades called Grammar room - Ella Chapman Teacher - 20 students. 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th called High School - R.J. Norton Principal- 57 students. There was one rural school (South School still operating – Louise Livingston teacher - 16 students. Total enrollment 176 students - 93 boys and 83 girls.

(Authors note: These student figures are based upon the number of students listed in each room; however, the Town Report states that there were 175 students - 93 boys and 82 girls). There was a suggestion made to have two grades only per room because of the number of students.

## 1926

School Directors: Perry S. Joslin, R.M. Goodyear, Irene Smith

Superintendent: W. H. Willis

Teachers: R.J. Norton, Principal, Florence Beale, Helen Canerdy, Florence Mills, Elizabeth Maxwell, Marjorie Coggins, Ella Chapman, Anna Kerrin; Louise Livingston #4 (Last year for District #4)

## 1927

School Directors: Irene Smith, R.M.Goodyear, G.W. Wallis

Superintendent: H.W. Willis

Teachers: R.J. Norton, Principal, Florence Mills, Florence Beale, Helen Canerdy, Ella Chapman, Anna Kerin, Elizabeth Maxwell

At this time, the school year budgeting was divided to show expenses from Feb. 26,1926 to July 1, 1926 and then from July 1, 1926 to Feb. 1, 1927. This is mention because the listing of teachers changes slightly.

Teachers 1926-1927: Matthew Jameson, Principal, Harriet Leach, Lois Palmer, Ella Chapman, grades 7 & 8, Harriet Hayes, grades 5 & 6, Alice Douglas, grades 3 & 4, Lura Griffith, grades 1 & 2, Agnes Niven, grades 1 & 2

This was the end of the South School and all rural schools. It was also the beginning of two grades in each primary room.

## 1928

School Directors: Irene Smith, George Wallis, E.W. Baird

Teachers: 1928: Homer Ashland, Principal, Lois Palmer, Ruth Winget, Ella Chapman,- 7&8; Lenora Eldridge -5&6; Esther Young - 3&4; Harriet Hayes, 1&2

## 1929

School Directors: G.W. Wallis, E.W. Baird, Irene Smith

Superintendent: M. H. Willis

Teachers: 1928 - 1929: H. B. Ashland, Principal, Lois Palmer, Ruth Winget, Lillian Marsh, Dorothy Carpenter, Ella Chapman-7&8; Lenora Eldridge, 5 & 6, Esther Young, 3 & 4, Harriet Hayes, 1 & 2

## 1930

School Directors: George Wallis, E. W. Baird, Irene Smith

Teachers: 1929-1930: R.I. Pestle, Principal, Lillian Marsh, Ass't Princ., Mae Brown, Dorothy Gray, Ella Chapman - 7&8; Edith Howard -5&6; Ethelyn Perry - 3&4; Harriet Hayes - 1&2.

There is no indication of any orders drawn (payments) or any name given for Superintendent.

## 1931

School Directors: E.W. Baird, George Wallis, Irene Smith

Teachers: Ray Pestle, Principal, Lillian Marsh, Mae Brown, Beatrice Gray, Ella Chapman - 7&8; Edith Howard - 5&6; Ethyln Perry - 3&4; Harriet Hayes - 1&2, Helen Town. No mention of Supt.

## 1932

School Directors: George Wallis, Earl W. Baird, Irene Smith

Teachers: Ray Pestle, Principal, Mae Brown, Beatrice Gray, Helen Towne, Ella Chapman - 7&8, Mae Slack, Edith Howard - 5&6; Ethelyn Perry - 3&4; Harriet Hayes - 1&2; Martha Whitlock, Elizabeth Thomas, Subts.

## 1933

The Town voted to sell the South School house.

School Directors: George Wallis, Earl Baird, Irene Smith

Teachers: Ray Pestle, Principal; Helen Towne, Yvonne Hutchins, Mae Slack, Elsie Tryon (Mrs. Otis Wallis); Ella Chapman - 7&8; Edith Howard - 5 &6; Ethelyn Perry - 3&4; Martha Whitlock - 1&2; Elizabeth Thomas, Sub.

## 1934

School Directors: George Wallis, E. O. Joslyn, Irene Smith

Teachers: Ray Pestle, Principal; Helen Towne, Yvonne Hutchins, Elsie Tyron,

Ella Chapman - 7&8; Edith Howard - 5&6; Ethelyn Perry - 3&4;

Martha Whitlock - 1&2; Dorothy Grover - 1&2

## 1935

School Directors: F. J. Eaton, E.O. Joslyn, Irene Smith

Teachers: Ray Pestle, Principal; Yvonne Hutchins, Eileen Ryan, Elsie Tryon,

Ruth Selleck, Ella Chapman - 7&8; Edith Howard - 5&6;

Ethelyn Perry 3&4; Dorothy Glover - 1&2;

1935 – 1936: Ruth Fowler 5&6;

Lucille Lacrosse 3&4, Dorothy Griffith, Bertha Hart 5 & 6,

Dorothy Glover, 1 & 2

## 1936

School Directors: Irene Smith, E.O. Joslyn, Walter M. Gaylord

Teachers: Ray Pestle, Principal; replaced by D.L. Lindsley, Yvonne Hutchins, Ruth Selleck, Eileen Ryan, Ella Chapman - 7&8; Bertha Hart - 5&6; Lucille Lacrosse - 3&4; Dorothy Grover - 1&2; Dorothy Griffith, Sub

It maybe of interest to occasionally show some statistics for historical comparisons so future generations can look at the changes through the years. Therefore, it can be noted in 1934, the Grand list for Waitsfield was $4,200. This figure divided by the number of students in average daily attendance in Waitsfield gives the cost per pupil for 1934-35 as $25.75. There were eight (8) teachers. The Principal's salary was $1200. The average high school teacher's salary was $781, and the average grade school teacher's salary was $618. Total school disbursements for 1935 - $18,142.50.

## 1937

The Town began to make arrangements to use the old creamery in the village for the high school to play basketball. A sum of $78.02 was spent to make it useable and they agreed to pay $20 rent for the building. This creamery was used for basketball until 1942. The area used was the second floor which had a very low ceiling so it was difficult to arch the ball to make a basket. This second floor was original to the building and used for meetings and concerts.

School Directors: Margaret Bisbee, Walter Gaylord, Earl Joslyn

Teachers: D.L. Lindsley, Principal, Yvonne Hutchins, Ruth Selleck, Eileen Ryan, Ella Chapman - 7&8; Bertha Hart - 5&6; Lucille Lacrosse, 3 & 4, Dorothy Grover 1&2.

New teachers hired: Raymond Talbert, Principal Elizabeth Dole, Ethel Simpson 3&4; Glennice Pearce 1&2.

## 1938

School Directors: Walter M. Gaylord, Earl Joslyn, Margaret Bisbee

Superintendent: M.H. Wills

Teachers: D.L. Lindsley, Principal; Raymond Talbert, Ruth Selleck, Elizabeth Dole, Ella Chapman - 7&8; Ethel Simpson - 3&4; Lucille Lacrosse - 5&6; Glennice Pearce - 1&2; Maxine Joslyn, Sub; Roberta Thompson, Home Ec; Alice Minott 5&6; M.H. Willis, Supt.

Note: This appears to be the first year that "hot lunches" are mentioned in the Town Report.

## 1939

School Directors: Earl Joslyn, Margaret Bisbee, Walter M. Gaylord

Teachers: Raymond Talbert, Principal, Lloyd Crane, Ass't & Coach, Martha Sullivan, Gracelyn Drew, Ella Chapman 7th & 8th, Ethel Simpson 3rd & 4th, Berdine Smith 5th & 6th , Maxine Harvey 1st & 2nd

Note: High School teachers total salaries - $3,732; Total Grade School teachers – $2,631; Supt. $594.47. Rent of Creamery - $20. Total school expenses $11,270.72. Vote taken at Town Meeting to purchase the Community Hall (Methodist Church). Vote 71 – 57. Purchase not completed until 1941 for $1500.

## 1940

School Directors: Margaret Bisbee, Earl Joslin, Walter M. Gaylord

Teachers: John Wallace, Principal, Lloyd Crane, Dorothy Barker, Francis Barrett, Ella Chapman 7&8; Ethel Simpson 3&4; Berdine Smith 5 &6; Maxime Harvey 1&2

Note: A .05 tax voted for purchase of Community Hall.

## 1941

School Directors: Earl Joslin, Walter Gaylord, Eunice Farr

Superintendent: W. LeRoy LaBaron

Teachers: Lloyd Crane, Principal, Francis Barrett, Wallace Martin, Marion Skinner, Ella Chapman 7&8; Christine Burbank 3&4; Berdine Smith, 5&6; Maine Harvey 1&2;

Note: Typing was taught for the first time - Marion Skinner teacher. No College credit, but credit toward graduation. J.Leo Messier was hired to direct an orchestra -first time. Still paying rent on the Creamery for basketball - $30.

## 1942

School Directors: Clarence Tucker, Eunice Farr, Walter Gaylord

Superintendent: W. Roy LeBaron

Teachers: Lloyd Crane, Principal, Harry Noyes, Francis Johnson, Marion Skinner, Ella Chapman 7th & 8th; Berdine Smith- 5th & 6th Christine Ladeau – 3rd & 4th, Maxine Harvey - 1&2,

Note: Sandbags were placed around basement windows as an air-raid shelter.

## 1943

School Directors: Clarence Tucker, Walter Gaylord, Lutie Joslin

Teachers: Russell Erwin, Principal, Ruth McGill, Marcelline Bisbee, Eunice Slayton, Edith Stafford, Harriet Jones; Grades – Ella Chapman 7&8; Christine LaDeau 5&6; Alberta Stafford 3&4; Carolyn Joslin 1&2.

Note: New school policy - "Students who have satisfactorily completed three and one-half years' work and who are to enter the armed forces of the United States before regular graduation will be granted diplomas."

## 1944

School Directors: Walter Gaylord, Lutie Joslin, Clarence Tucker

Teachers: Wendell Harding, Principal, Grace Blodgett, Katherine Kyle, Marcelline Bisbee, Marion Moriarty, Willis Armstrong, Ella Chapman 7&8; Christine LaDeau 5&6; Alberta Stafford 3&4; Carolyn Joslin 1&2, Edith Howard assisting.

Note: No music.

## 1945

School Directors: Chester Dana, Clarence Tucker, Drew D. Bisbee

Teachers: Wendell Harding, Principal, Marcelline Bisbee, Katherine Kyle, Grace Blodgett, Ella Chapman 7&8; Christine LaDeau 5&6; Edith Howard

## 1946

School Directors: Clarence Tucker, Drew Bisbee, Chester Dana

Superintendent: Rupert Spenser

Teachers: Harold Graeme Principal, Marcelline Bisbee, Marguerite Bartell, Harriet Rice, Marian Moriarty. Ella Chapman 7th & 8th, Christine LaDeau, Edith Howard, Mariana Barton Ass't.

Note: Several years when there were only three grade school teachers when enrollments required that grades be combined.

## 1947

School Directors: D. Drew Bisbee, J.A. Dodds, Elsie T. Wallis

Superintendent: Rupert Spencer

Teachers: Joseph Mallard Principal, Marcelline Bisbee, Mary Parker, Margaret Marshall, Victor Boin. Ella Chapman 7th & 8th , Dorothy Merchant 5th & 6th,Carolyn Kingsbury 3rd & 4th, Edith Howard 1st & 2nd J. Leo Messier Music

## 1948

School Directors: Elsie Wallis, Everett Palmer, Drew Bisbee

Superintendent: Rupert Spencer

Began the Institutional On-the-Farm Training program for veterans. This was a program with Federal money to help returning veterans get started and learn new farm techniques. Donald Stafford was hired as the instructor in Waitsfield. C.A. Bisbee was hired as instructor in the Montpelier/Barre area. The instructor was paid $2,200 for the year with 12 students. The instructor was paid $100 a year for each student over 12.

Teachers: Philip Smith Principal, Mary Parker, Marian Moriarty, Harriet Silver, Ella Chapman 7&8, Anna Daly, Carolyn Kingsbury, Edith Howard, J. Leo Messier Music

## 1949

School Directors: Everett Palmer, D.Drew Bisbee, Charlotte Tucker

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: George McKenzie, Principal, Vernon Harat, Shirley Aitchison, Christobel Latham, Ella Chapman 7th & 8th , Alice DeLong, Carolyn Kingsbury, Edith Howard, J. Leo Messier, Music

Institutional On-the-Farm Training continuing with Donald Stafford instructor. The Home Economics classes were suspended for the lack of a teacher. Statistics for this school year - the cost per pupil was $192. Number of students in each grade level: Grade 1- 14; Grade 2 – 13;Grade 3- 14; Grade 4- 9; Grade 5- 18; Grade 6- 8; Grade 7- 8; Grade 8- 14; Grade 9- 13; Grade 10 – 20; Grade 11 – 16; Grade 12 – 14 for a total of 161 students ( grades 1-6 had 76; grades 7-8 had 22; high school had 63). Total disbursements for school year - $30,659.38. The Hot Lunch program was continued under the sponsorship of the Parent-Teacher group.

## 1950

School Directors: D.Drew Bisbee, Charlotte Tucker, Everett Palmer

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: July 1, 1949 to Feb. 1, 1950: George MacKenzie, Principal, Vernon Hart, Shirley Aitchison, Louise Wallace, Ella Chapman 7th 8th Alice DeLong, Carolyn Kingsbury, Edith Howard, J. Leo Messier

Statistics: Enrollment increased - High School 80; Grades 98; one post graduate. The cost per pupil increased to $200.95 for high school and $156.67 for elementary school students. The State Regulations made it necessary to change the method of student transportation. The services of Edwin Hayes with his privately owned buses were engaged as well as the School Board purchased a bus to provide transportation for the students on the Common area, East Warren and Warren road areas. This was the beginning of professional bus service for the entire school district.

In 1950, Article 15 appeared in the Town Report: "Shall baseball be permitted on Sunday in the town." Passed.

School Directors: Charlotte Tucker, Everett Palmer, Drew Bisbee

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: George MacKenzie, Principal, Vernon Hart, Rudolph Colo, Shirley Aitchison, Ella Chapman 7&8, Alice DeLong, Margaret Hastings, Edith Howard, J. Leo Messier, music

## 1951

School Board: Charlotte Tucker, Everett Palmer, Drew Bisbee

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: George MacKenzie, Principal, Vernon Hart, Louise Wallace, Shirley Aitchison, Ella Chapman 7&8, Alice DeLong, Carolyn Kingsbury, Edith Howard, Rudolph Colo, Margaret Hastings, J.Leo Messier, music, Institutional On-the-Farm training continues.

Enrollment statistics in 1950: Grades 1-8 (101); High School 9-12 (56)

## 1952

School Board: Everett Palmer, Drew Bisbee, Edward Eurich

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: George MacKenzie, Principal, Vernon Hart, Elizabeth Joslin, Rudolph Colo, Irene Weislik, Ella Chapman 7th & 8th, Alice DeLong, Margaret Hastings, Edith Howard, J. Leo Messier, Music

On-the-Job Training continues, Donald Stafford, Instr.

School Board decision to purchase another bus to operate on Warren -Waitsfield route. The Edwin Hayes bus for Moretown to Waitsfield and the original bus purchased in 1949 to serve the hill and Common area. Enrollment decreased again to 92 students in grades 1-8 and 55 students in grades 9-12.

## 1953

School Board: Drew Bisbee, Edward Eurich, Everett Palmer

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: Vernon Hart Principal, Rudolph Colo, Elizabeth Joslin, Irene Weislik, Ella Chapman 7th & 8th, Alice DeLong, Marion Barton, Edith Howard. J. Leo Messier, Music, Imogene Bisbee, Coaching

The On-the-Farm training program ends. There is some discussion about increased enrollment and the need to address the issue soon.

## 1954

School Board: Eward Eurich, Everett Palmer, Mildred Burbank

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: Vernon Hart, Principal, Rudolph Colo, Elizabeth Joslin, Irene Weislik, Maureen O"Malley, Patricia Joyal, Ella Chapman 7&8, Alice DeLong, Marion Barton, Edith Howard, J.Leo Messier, music

Little change in enrollment. Driver Education course started in the school system. The per pupil cost is now at $218.41. Total school expenditure - $35,186.14.

## 1955

School Board: Everett Palmer, Mildred Burbank, Edward Eurich

Superintendent: Fremont W. Fiske

Teachers: Vernon Hart, Principal, Elizabeth Joslin, Albert Racicot, Maureen O'Malley, Patricia Joyal, Ella Chapman 7th & 8th, Mary Leonard 5th&6th, Marion Barton 3rd & 4th, Edith Howard 1st & 2nd

Enrollment increased - Grades 1-6 (85); an increase of 20 pupils. Grades 7-12 (87), an increase of 10 students.

## 1956

School Directors: Edward Eurich, Otis Wallace, Charlotte Tucker

Superintendent: Fremont W. Fiske

Teachers: Vernon Hart, Principal, Albert Racicot, Elizabeth Joslin, Joyce Lane, Ella Chapman 7&8, Mary Leonard 5-6, Marion Barton 3-4, Edith Howard 1-2, J. Leo Messier, orchestra, Eleanor Haskins, vocal music, Carolyn Kingsbury part time reading grade two.

The total enrollment for 1956 was 170 students. The per pupil cost for the school year 1954-1955 was $150.07 for elementary students and $294.31 for high school students. Twenty six students were tuition students in 1955 and the tuition rate was $260. It was reported that considerable repairs were made to the old building. The shop area was remodeled into a classroom for elementary students.

## 1957

School Directors: Edward Eurich, Otis Wallis, Mildred Burbank

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: Vernon Hart, Principal, Elizabeth Joslin, Edward Steele, Joyce Lane, Ella Chapman 7th & 8th, James Lackard 7 & 8 Also, Mary Leonard, Gwendolyn Goodwin, Marion Barton, Edith Howard, J. Leo Messier, music

There was an increase in enrollment for a total of 188 students. Considerable repair was done to the old building. Continued discussion of the need for additional repairs to an old structure. Cost per student – elementary $169.44. Cost per student – high school $207.33.

## 1958

School Directors: W. Otis Wallis, Mildred Burbank, Wendell Folsom

Superintendent: Fremont W. Fiske

Teachers: 1957 – 1958 Robert Vail, Principal, Elizabeth Joslin, Priscilla Bagley, William Perrotte, James Lackard 7&8; Alberta Stafford 5&6; Marion Barton 3&4; Edith Howard 1-2, Margaret Pickett 2-3 emergency, Stanley Flink, vocal and instrumental music

Total enrollment for this school year was 194. There was considerable discussion that it was extremely difficult to continue offering such a variety of courses to the high school students with the limited teaching staff. Elementary grades are getting increasingly crowded for proper teaching results. An attempt during this year was made to provide three programs for the high school students. A college preparatory course, a commercial course, and a general course. Costs per pupil for high school students this school year including transportation was $265.26.

An Argus Leader article January 26, 1858 states, "Waitsfield school board has drawn up a tentative budget … will be the largest in the town's history. The proposed budget of $52,345 represents nearly a 20% increase over last year's budget of $41,947.53. … The additional state grant of $527 to help school districts reach minimum salary … will bring Waitsfield teachers to $4,124."

## 1959

School Directors: Wendell Folsom, Kenneth Quackenbush, Clayton Kingsbury

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: Robert Vail, Principal, Elizabeth Joslin, James Cardell, John Wood, John Altobell, Jean-Paul Pouliot 7-8, Alberta Stafford 5-6, Margaret Pickett 3-4, Marion Barton 2-3, Edith Howard 1, Joel Salloway, vocal and instrumental music.

It became absolutely necessary to complete major repairs to the old building. This was made necessary based upon a report submitted by the Executive Secretary of the State Building Council, Mr. H.A. Blanchard. The repairs needed were huge. As a result, Article 17 of the 1959 Town Report stated: "Shall bonds of the Town of Waitsfield School District to the amount of $119,000.00 bearing interest at not to exceed 4% be issued for the purpose of acquiring land in Waitsfield Village, near the present school site, and constructing thereon a new 5-classroom elementary school building of masonry construction, with a multi-purpose room and necessary appurtenances and

services and equipment, at an estimated cost of $165,000.00, subject to state aid for school construction under No. 256 of the Acts of 1953, as amended?"

## 1960

School Directors: Kenneth Quackenbush, Imogene Bisbee, Eugene Moulton

Superintendent: Fremont Fiske

Teachers: Armand Premo, Principal-Guidance, William Spear, James Cardell, John Altobell, James Izzor 7-8, Thomas Moore , Alberta Stafford 5-6, Margaret Pickett 3-4, Marion Barton 2, Edith Howard 1. Joel Salloway, Vocal and Instr.

Repairs were completed on the old building in order to keep school open because the bond article did not pass in 1959. A new bond article appeared in the 1960 town report and passed. Town voted to purchase land for the new elementery school. A new elementery school was built during 1960 ready for the 1960-1961 school year. School enrollment in the elementary level was 124 and the high school was 72.

## 1961

School Directors: Imogene Bisbee, Eugene Moulton, Albert Turner

Superintendent: Theodore Whalen

Teachers: Armand Premo, Principal – Guidance, William Spear, Henry Huntington, Mary Peebles, James Izor 7-8, John Gogol, Alberta Stafford 5-6, Margaret Pickett 3-4, Marion Barton 2, Edith Howard 1.

Now that the new elementary school building was open, major alterations of the old building were being planned to meet the high school needs.

## 1962

School Directors: Imogene Bisbee, Eugene Moulton, Albert Turner

Superintendent: Theodore Whalen

Teachers: 1961-1962 Armand Premo, Principal, William Spear, Rodney Titus, Adrienne Gagne, Mark Dimock, Roderick Ross, Devone Bussiere 7-8, Alberta Stafford 5-6,Margaret Pickett 3-4, Marion Barton 2, Edith Howard 1.

The Junior High students were divided because of the large number of students. The seventh grade students were placed in the new elementary school and the eighth grade remained in the old building. At this time, there was already a discussion concerning the need to build another new facility for the Junior and Senior High School students. There had been major repairs and renovations to the old building over the past eight years; however, the building was not adequate nor totally safe for the health, education and well-being of the students. There was a total enrollment of 206 students. The total expenditure was $125,580.50

## 1963

School Directors: Imogene Bisbee, Eugene Moulton, Albert Turner

Superintendent: Theodore Whalen

Teachers: 1962 – 1963 Armond Premo, Principal, Adrienne Gagne, Norma Martin, George Poulin, Roderick Ross, Stanley Thurber, music,

## 1964

School Directors: Imogene Bisbee, Paul Hartshorn, Eugene Moulton

Superintendent: Theodore Whalen

Teachers: 1963-1964 Richard Woodward, Principal, Norma McCuin, George Poulin, Roderick Ross, Langdon Towne, Carroll Stokes 7-8, Alberta Stafford 5-6, Margaret Pickett, 3-4, Marion Barton 2-3, Edith Howard 1.

The total enrollment was 207 students. This was the year that voters were to approve the bond for a new Union High School. It passed.

## 1965

School Directors: Imogene Bisbee, Gertrude Folsom, Paul Hartshorn

Superintendent: Theodore Whalen

Teachers: 1964-1965 Richard Woodward, Principal, Judith Chase, Herbert Bloomenthal, Sharon Dubuque, Marylen Fortin, Barbara Hanscom, Charlene Calcagni, Richard Larson, Alberta Stafford 5-6, Michael Baz 5, Margaret Pickett 3-4, Marion Barton 2-3, Edith Howard 1. Richard Lombard music.

The total enrollment for this year was 223. Preparations were being made to move into the new Harwood Junior-Senior High School building the following year. The elementary school would continue to operate grades 1 through 6. Kindergarten was incorporated into the school system. The school expenditures for this year were $140,211.32.

At this time, the Principal was receiving the highest salary of $8,500 and the lowest salary for full time people was $4,400.

## 1966

School Directors: Paul Hartshorn, Gertrude Folsom, Eugene Moulton, Dan Bisbee

Superintendent: Theodore Whalen

Teachers: 1965-1966 Lois Melchior Kindergarten, Edith Howard 1-2, Marion Barton 2-3, Michael Baz 4-5, Alberta Stafford 6

This was the year the 7th grade through 12th grade went to Harwood Union High School. A totally separate school report was to be published showing Waitsfield's share in the joint venture.

The teachers listed are the elementary teachers. This was the beginning of an entirely new school system that had begun in 1795 with five, then seven one room school houses, to a Village School grades 1 through 10 in 1809 and a completed building in 1812 for grades 1-12 until 1965.

## 1967

School Directors: Gertrude Folsom, Daniel D. Bisbee, Paul Hartshorn

Eugene Moulton on the Harwood Union Board

Superintendent: Theodore Whalen

Teachers: Lois Melchoir, Marion Barton, Edith Howard, Alberta Stafford, Samuel Whiteside, Pharilda Galloway, Richard Dunn.

Records show that Mr. Robert Howard was director of Waitsfield orchestra. A new piano was being considered.

The new elementary achool started with 94 elementary students with 4 joining during the year.

The Old High School building was sold this year for $8,000 ending the era.

The following people continued to teach and should be recognized for their years of service. In that spirit of recognition the names are listed through 2000: **1968-** Lois Melchior, Edith Howard, Marion Barton, Alberta Stafford, Samuel Whiteside. **1969-** Lois Melchior, Edith Howard, Marion Barton, Alberta Stafford, Timothy Goodrich. **1970-** Lynn Kingsbury, Darah Smith, Richard Border, Alberta Stafford, Susan Bright, Christine Lombard, Edith Howard continued as the remedial reading teacher. **1971-** Lynn Kingsbury, Gretchen Stubbins, Lori Border, Richard Border, Alberta Stafford, Susan Bright. **1972-** Lynn Kingsbury, Gretchen Stubbins, Alberta Stafford, Susan Bright, Dee Scarmon. **1973-** Lynn Kingsbury, Justine Scherer, Gretchen Stubbins, Carol Hosford, Alberta Stafford. **1974** – Lynn Kingsbury, Justine Scherer, Ron LaBrusciano, Carol Hosford, Alberta Stafford,. **1975** – Lynn Kingsbury, Justine Scherer, Ron LaBrusciano, Carol Hosford, Alberta Stafford, Sylvia Livingston. **1976** – Lynn Kingsbury, Justine Scherer, Ron LaBrusciano, Carol Hosford, Alberta Stafford, Sylvia Livingston. **1977** – Lynn Kingsbury, Ron LaBrusciano, Sylvia Livingston, Justine Scherer, Carol Hosford, Alberta Stafford.

The **1978** school year saw an addition onto the elementary building: a classsroom, library space, and the required ramp for the handicapped. Architects David Luce and Steve Danforth designed the addition. Teachers for this year were: Alberta Stafford, Sylvia Chapman, Carol Hosford, Lynn Kingsbury, Ron LaBrusciano, Justine Scherer, Sandra Cathey Music, Larry Allen, physical education. **1979** – Sylvia Chapman, Carol Hosford, Ron LaBrusciano, Lynn Kingsbury, Dianne Laraja, Charles Cavanaugh, Thes Calitri, classroom music, Sandra Cathey instrumental, Larry Allen. **1980** – Edward Eldridge, Charles Cavanaugh, Sylvia Hosford, Lynn Kingsbury, Ron LaBrusciano, Georgeanne Persons, Elizabeth Mullen Music, Sandra Cathey instrumental music, Howard Brown , physical education. **1981** – Edward Eldridge, Charles Cavanaugh, Sylvia Chapman, Carol Hosford, Lynn Kingsbury, Ron Brusciano, Georgeanne Persons, Howard Brown, Fred Pacolitch, music, Tom Arnold, music. **1982** – Edward Eldridge, Charles Cavanaugh, Sylvia Chapman, Elaine Harvey, Carol Hosford, Lynn Kingsbury, Georgeanna Persons, Howard Brown, Fred Pacolitch, Tom Arnold. **1983** – Edward Eldridge, Charles Carvanaugh, Sylvia Chapman, Carol Hosford, Lynn Kingsbury, Georgeanne Persons, Susan Taub, Laura Donovan, Barbara Greenwald, Tib Brown, Fred Pacolitch. **1984** – Edward Eldridge, Charles Cavanaugh, Sylvia Chapman, Carol Hosford, Lynn Kingsbury, Georgeanne Persons, Lucy Robinson, Susan Taub, Barbara Greenwald, Thea Calitri-Martin, Emily Laird, first art teacher. **1985** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Charles Cavanaugh, Sylvia Chapman, Robert Currie, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Emily

Laird, Marcia Phillips, Lucy Robinson, Susan Taub. **1986** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Charles Cavanaugh, Sylvia Chapman, Robert Currie, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Emily Laird, Marcia Phillips, Lucy Robinson, Judy St. John, Susan Taub, Elaine Wade. **1987** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Thea Calitri-Martin, Donarae Cook, Sylvia Chapman, Robert Currie, Betsy Eckfeldt, Judith Hoffman, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Phyllis Manley, Krietta Phillips, Marcia Phillips, Judy St.John, Susan Stokes, Elaine Wade. **1988** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Thea Calitri-Martin, Charles Cavanaugh, Sylvia Chapman, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Michelle Gunpert, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Krietta Phillips, Marcia Phillips, Susan Stokes, Hallie Tamiz, Elaine Wade. **1989** – Carol Hosford, Hallie Tamez, Georgeanne Baker, Lynn Kingsbury, Krietta Phillips, Charles Cavanaugh, Lynne Kingsbury, Sylvia Chapman, Arlene Elliott, Elaine Wade, Marcia Phillips, Susan Stokes, Thea Martin, Angela McLean, Michelle Gumpert, Pam Bockes, Betsy Eckfeldt. **1990** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Raymond Drake, Thea Calitri-Martin,Sylvia Chapman, Betsy Eckfeldt,Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Nancy Kerwin, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Ann Nelson, Krietta Phillips, Marijke Smith, susan Stokes, Hallie Tamez, Elaine Taboskey Wade. This year saw another addition of classroom spaces and administrative and lobby space. Black River Design were the architects and Scott Construction of Newport was the low bidder. **1991** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Raymond Drake, Thea Calitri-Martin, Sylvia Chapman, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Jessie Haser, Nacy Kerwin, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Krietta Phillips, Marijke Smith, Susan Stokes, Hallie Tamez, Lee VanDine, Elaine Taboskey-Wade. **1992** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Raymond Drake, Thea Calitri-Martin, Sylvia Chapman, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Marilyn Judkins, Jessie Haser, Nancy Kerwin, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Krietta Phillips, Marijke Smith, Susan Stokes, Hallie Tamez, Lee VanDine, Elaine Taboskey-Wade. **1993** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Raymond Drake, Thea Calitri-Martin, Sylvia Chapman, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Marilyn Judkins, Jessie Haser, Nacy Kerwin, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Krietta Phillips-Lowe, Marijke Smith, Susan Stokes, Elaine Taboskey-Wade, Hallie Tamez, Lee VanDine. **1994** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Nina Brennan, Thea Calitri-Martin, Sylvia Chapman, Beth Darling, Raymond Drake, Ellen Drysdale, Amy Dwire, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Marilyn Judkins, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Krietta Phillips-Lowe, Marijke Smith, susan Stokes, Hallie Tamez, Lee VanDine. **1995** – Carol Hosford, Penny Arslanian, Georfgeanne Baker, Nina Brennan, Thea Calitri-Martin, Sylvia Chapman, Raymond Drake, Ellen Drysdale, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Marilyn Judkins, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Krietta Phillips-Lowe, Laurie Reilly, Marijke mith, susan Stokes, Hallie Tamez, Lee VanDine. **1996** – Carol Hosford, Penny Arslanian, Georgeanne Baker, Nina Brennan, Thea Calitri-Martin, Sylvia Chapman, Raymond Baker, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Marilyn Judkins, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Krietta Phillips-Lowe, Laurie Reilly, Marijke Smith, Susan Stokes, Hallie Tamez, Lee VanDine. **1997** - Carol Hosford, Penny Arslanvian, Georgeanne Baker, Nina Brennan, Thea Calitri-Martin, Sylvia Chapman, Marijke Smith, Susan Stokes, Laurie Reilly, Lynn Kingsbury, Raymond Drake, Arlene Elliott, Betsy Eckfeldt, Daniel Greenleaf, Patricia Kernan, Andrea Maas, Krietta Phillips-Lowe, Hallie Tamez, Lee VanDine, **1998** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Nina Brennan, Sylvia Chapman, Raymond Drake, Ellen Drysdale, Dan Easley, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Patricia Kernan, Lynn Kingsbury, Andrea Maas, Krietta Phillips-Lowe, Sarah Sterzen, Leigh Stockton, Hallie Tamez, Lee VanDine, Marilyn Zophar. **1999** –Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Nina Brennan, Sylvia Chapman, Susan Dillon, Raymond Drake, Ellen Drysdale, Dan Eas-

ley, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Alison Hale, Lynn Kingsbury, Lynne Kingsbury, Andrea Maas, Kay Karcelle, Christine Petit, Krietta Phillips-Lowe, Sarah Sterzen, Leigh Stockton, Lee VanDine. **2000** – Carol Hosford, Georgeanne Baker, Nina Brennan, Sylvia Chapman, Susan Dillon, Raymond Drake, Ellen Drysdale, Dan Easley, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Alison Hale, Taylor Hubbard, Lynne Kingsbury, Andrea Maas, Leigh Stockton, Sarah sterzen, Lee VanDine, Tom Young

This chapter should pay honor to a person who influenced perhaps more students than any other during her educational service in Waitsfield. Mrs. Ella Chapman retired in June, 1956 after 48 years of dedicated service. Mrs. Chapman attended Randolph Normal School and began her career in 1908 at the age of 17 in Waitsfield. In 1910, Mrs. Chapman married Frank Chapman and for 14 years taught in Starksboro, Lincoln, and Warren. It is claimed that she started the hot lunch program in one of her rural schools. In 1924, Mrs. Chapman returned to Waitsfield to accept the Junior High teaching position where she remained until her retirement in June 1956. Mrs. Chapman was known for her discipline, but she was best known for her ability to reach every student no matter his/her ability to learn. She had a special formula for teaching mathematics, unique methods of remembering dates and places, and a passion for instilling Vermont history and geography in her students. The information in the above paragraph is taken from the Barre Argues Leader, January 1957 issue.

Waitsfield has attempted to provide a complete educational program for its young people over the years. The expense of operating a school system was the major factor in forcing a union school. However, the citizens continued the local elementary school into the year 2000 and beyond. The expense to the tax payer continued to increase, but the community attempted to keep abreast of the expanding needs.

It is interesting to realize that in 1795 each neighborhood built a building, supplied the teacher, the fuel and the maintenance. In 2000, there had developed a Washington West Central Office with: a Superintendent of School, William Riegel; a Business Manager, Michelle Baker; an Administrative Assistant, Laura Titus; a Financial Assistant, Angela Neill; a Payroll/Bennefits Coordinator, Jeanette Hunter; Accounts Payable Clerk, Marilyn Spaulding; a Special Education Director, Donarae; and a Medicaid Clerk: Lynn Commo. In addition, Waitsfield Town District had Carol Hosford, Principal, Michelle Baker, Business Manager and the following teachers: Georgeanne Baker, Nina Brennan, Sylvia Chapman, SueDillon, Raymond Drake, Ellen Drysdale, Dan Easley, Betsy Eckfeldt, Arlene Elliott, Daniel Greenleaf, Alison Hale, Taylor Hubbard, Lynne Kingsbury, Andrea Maas, Leigh Stockton, Sarah Sterzen, Lee Van Dine, Tom Young.

By the year 2000, the entire issue of school taxation had come under considerable debate and endless state control. This was the beginning of the so called Act 60 legislative bill. The State Supreme Court had ruled that not all school districts were being funded equally because of the varying property values and tax rates in the various towns. The legislature then took the action known as Act 60 to collect a property tax from each town and redistribute this money equally to all towns so that each school district would be funded equally. For example and for comparison with 1841 - the town of Waitsfield in 1999 had a local school tax of .43 cents and a statewide school tax of $1.09 for a total school tax of $1.52 and a local town tax of .46 cents for a total town tax of $1.98. This meant that a house, for example, with an assessed value of $117,100 (Grand List

(100%) $1,171) would have tax levied of $2,318.58. This would also mean that on a house of this assessed value the local school tax was $503.53, the state wide school tax was $1,276.39 for a total school tax of $1,779.92 on this type of homestead.

The Act 60 plan established by the legislature to provide "equal education" to all was more than causing debate in every town. It was causing tremendous political ramifications for those seeking political office in the year 2000. As a result, Waitsfield taxes increased 18% in 2000. This report ends with continued debate over the cost of education in the Valley. At this writing there has been no legislative decisions to address the Act 60 problems. Waitsfield continues to supply larger student enrollments and the costs of education continue to escalate.

# CHAPTER XIV
# ECCLESIASTICAL

The Vermont legislature passed the Act of October 18, 1787 to allow for the establishment of churches. This Act was repealed and rewritten as the Act of October 26, 1797. Lots were designated as church lots. Through these acts the churches were established throughout Vermont. However, in Waitsfield as in many Vermont towns, the predominant church affiliation was the Congregational denomination. It was, therefore, very difficult for other denominations to be accepted within the towns. A further contention concerned the fact that the legislature allowed citizens to be taxed to support the church. This was not acceptable to many citizens and it was not long before this taxation ceased to exist. However, the prejudice among the various church people existed though silently. It was, therefore, no small undertaking for a church to withstand this prejudice and form a new denomination.

Waitsfield did establish several churches. The two major churches were the Congregational Society and the Methodist Society. These two societies worked together for 175 years. In fact, their close association did not end until the dissolving of the Federation between the two societies in 1998. This caused great malevolence within the membership. A Catholic Church did not exist in Waitsfield until 1963. Members of the Catholic Church attended the Catholic Church in Moretown until this time. In fact, and with some humiliation, it must be admitted that the citizens of the Catholic faith did not openly admit their association because of the known (sometime silent) prejudice. It is also an historical fact that no church in the town went unscathed by financial hardship and at times rancorous internal struggles throughout the years.

This division and support of the church is apparent in the Town Report for the year ending March, 1, 1871, "Division of Gospel Fund; The selectmen have divided the Gospel Fund between two societies for the year ending March 25, 1870. The Methodist and Congregational societies being the only organized religious societies which have maintained public worship equal to one-fourth of the Sabbaths during the year ending March 25, 1870, the said Fund is divided as follows: Methodist Society $24.53, and Congregational Society $24.53."

## WAITSFIELD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Benjamin Wait's house and barn became the location of all-important meetings including religious gatherings. It is known that these religious meetings were held "as early as 1793, under the leadership of John Barnard, a Deacon in the Shelburne Church, Shelburne, MA from which he came." As is noted in the *History of Waitsfield* by Matt Jones, in "1794, John Barnard, Benjamin Wait and William Joiner were chosen a committee to procure a preacher."

The Congregational Church was the first church of any denomination to be formed within Washington County and the first church of any denomination to be formed in Waitsfield. Early church services were held in various homes and barns. The Town of Waitsfield had, in 1794, "six years after the settlement of the town and two years before the formation of the Church," appointed a committee to lay out a site for the meetinghouse and yard.

The area chosen for the first Congregational Church, after considerable debate, was on Waits-

field Common. This parcel of land known as the Common consisted of nine acres. Four acres of this land was sold by Samuel S. Savage who owned Lot 105 to the Town of Waitsfield for $10.00. The Town also purchased another five acres from Ezra Jones who owned Lot 106 for $20.00. See Chapter on Waitsfield Common for details. (Author's note: This purchase of land to form the Common upon which the first church stood is incorrectly stated on page one of "History Waitsfield Congregational Church and Society" written and published for the Bicentennial of the Congregational Church June 27, 1996. This history was written by this author who now apologizes for the error. The official deeds were located to make this correction.) The church building stood on the southeast corner of the present cemetery with two horse sheds behind the church. The original cemetery was northwest of the church building. This area is still part of the Waitsfield Common except the cemetery has been enlarged. According to several sources, Benjamin Wait opposed this site and in fact left the church for a time, but most of the inhabitants lived in the eastern part of the township as well as on the Northfield side of the mountain, which at that time was part of Waitsfield.

The difficulty in selecting the site for the church arose because Benjamin Wait wanted the church in the valley and many others wanted it more centrally located. The major consideration was the distance from the cabin homes of the early settlers. In the words of Henry (Harry) Jones, a member in 1818, "I recollect well the old meeting house; when I was a small boy, the old folks, old men, women, and children all had to go to meeting. Those who could not go afoot could go horse back. The only way they could go as long as I can remember. Soon after that the wagons came in use."

For nearly ten years, services continued either at Benjamin Wait's barn or in cabins of the settlers. There was considerable controversy during the early years even over where these religious services should be held. There are conflicting opinions as to where the meeting took place to even form the first Church. Some records seem to indicate it was held in Benjamin Wait's barn. However, the following account has been located in the record – "Mrs. Rufus Barnard and Mrs. E. W. Bisbee, recollect of having been told that the Church was formed in the new house of Mr. Shubel Burdick." Mrs. E.W. Bisbee and Mrs. Barnard were in Waitsfield 1826 to 1902. [The Burdick house stood near the site of Kenyon's store in 2000.] However, the location controversy continued for years.

In 1797, there was an effort made to have the Northeast School District join in constructing "a combination meeting-house and school house on the Common." Salah Smith had started a wooden frame for such a structure, but the town later refused to pay for the structure after the joint effort failed. Finally, "A formal vote as to location was taken, and the Common chosen by a vote of 40 to 18." The building began in 1807, but was not completed until 1808 and dedicated on December 21, 1809. The second Congregational Church was on Mill Hill near the village proper in 1846, and later a third Congregational Church was built in the village in 1875 – its present location. Even that did not stop the controversy because as the membership in the Congregational Church and the Methodist Church began to diminish, there was discussion about uniting. Therefore, from 1930 to 1939 the religious services were held in the Congregational Church in the summer months and in the Methodist Church in the winter months. It was considered easier to heat the Methodist Church building; therefore, the alternating arrangement was made. In 1941, the Methodist Church building was sold to the Town of Waitsfield and the religious services were at last held continuously in the Congregational Church.

The formal organization of the Congregational Church was done on June 27, 1796 with nine members (two more joined soon after). The record shows and it is also stated in the *WAITSFIELD HISTORY:* "Waitsfield, 27th of June, 1796. This day a Church of Christ was embodied in "this town by the Rev. Mr. Ebenezer Kingsbury, of Jericho, on the following confession of faith and covenant."

"The Covenant is signed: John Barnard, Daniel Wilder, Jared Skinner, Bissell Phelps, Ezekiel Hawley, Daniel Taylor, William Joiner, Eli Skinner, Samuel Bayley. The following united after: Jerusha Joiner, Abigail Rider."

Thus Waitsfield had an authorized and official Congregational Church; the first such organized Church in Washington County- June 27, 1796.

The first Congregational Society was formed in 1800. The first warning of a Congregational Society to meet was made on September 27, 1800 with Benjamin Wait as the Clerk. "The first list of the Congregational Society in Waitsfield on which a Minister Tax was aficfed [sic] Ammounted [sic] in its Sum total to Six Thousand, Three Hundred & Eighty three Dollars and Ninety five cents." Congregational Records Vol. I; this was done for the year 1801.

"A tax aficfed [sic] at, 262 on the dollar i.e. 2 cents, six mills & 2 tenths on the above mentioned list, would produce the sum of $167.25 from which sum subduct $166.66, there will remain the sum of .59 cents which last sum appears to be over and above the ammount [sic] of the first year's Minister Sallary [sic] as voted by the society." This was in the Congregational Records recorded by Salah Smith May 9, 1805. This was the amount of money established for the salary of the first minister.

There were no articles or by-laws of operation until September 27, 1800 when the Congregational Society was organized. This was done to meet the requirements of the statute which deemed it advisable "to form a society … under whose auspices the services of the Congregational Church might be conducted." This society was reorganized on December 28, 1807 after the Vermont General Assembly repealed on October 24, 1807 all of the earlier legislation relating to churches. It was reorganized on May 8, 1809, renewed on September 20, 1866, renewed on December 16, 1890 and again renewed on January 3, 1973 as the Congregational Church and Society.

Before January 3, 1973, there existed the Congregational Church and the Congregational Society of Waitsfield. On January 3, 1973, the Congregational Society "…. voted to unite with the Congregational church to form one corporate organization to perform all the functions of the church; such organization to be called The Waitsfield Congregational Church and Society." This was also recorded with the Secretary of State, State of Vermont in Montpelier. Prior to this January 3, 1973 vote, people would join the Congregational Church and then would be voted in as members of the Congregational Society. The records show this action being done from time to time. Once this January 1973 vote was taken, a person automatically became a member of both Church and Society. The members of the Congregational Church and Society held the sole legal title to the Congregational Church building, property, and administered the trust funds.

When the Society was formed in 1800, the following officers were elected:

Benjamin Wait, Jr., Clerk

Col. Elias Taylor, Treasurer

Jared Skinner, Assessor

Levi Wilder, Assessor

Samuel Bayley, Assessor

Phineas Rider, Collector

John Barnard, Committee of the Society

Salah Smith, Committee of the Society

Simeon Stoddard, Committee of the Society

When the December 28, 1807 organization was formed as the Congregational Society of Waitsfield, there were fifty-three signatures to that agreement. The names can be found in the *WAITSFIELD HISTORY* by Matt B. Jones. There were problems and this second Society was dissolved on May 8, 1809 and on the same day a third Society was organized under new officers. As is noted again in the *WAITSFIELD HISTORY*, "This procedure was clearly an attempt to breathe new life into the dry bones of a dying church. The disturbance [sic] incident to the location of the meeting-house, the irksomeness of the general tax for the support of the ministry, and the lack of harmony between the departing pastor and his flock had all contributed to a condition of things which led the Council to 'sympathize' [with the Church in its] 'present unhappy difficulties' and to express the wish: 'May you yet see good days.'" This was the third Congregational Society. If history is accurately followed, such divisiveness has occurred from time to time through 1998 when the Federated Church was dissolved and the United Church of Christ (Congregational) was formed. Even at the Bicentennial Celebration, there was dissension over the celebration.

During the ministry of Rev. Amariah Chandler, the second ordained pastor, the membership increased by 150 people (126 on confession, 33 by letter). Another 53 people joined in 1831- '32; 82 joined in 1860 – '67; 48 joined in 1868 – '76; 33 joined in 1885 – '87; and 70 joined between 1887 and 1897.

Temperance played an important part in the discussions within the churches. Some interesting comments can be found in the *Vermont Historical Gazette, Vol. IV, page 769-800 by Abbey Hemingway, 1882.* There seems to have been many accidents at roof raising events all of which were caused by drinking rum which was provided by the owner for such occasions. This "roof raising" event was called "rum Pole." In 1821 Wheeler …killed from fall, this started temperance – sermon preached at the funeral.."Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Dean Fisk sent invitations "to the raising of his barn … no liquor would be furnished." The men refused to finish but ultimately relinquished and put the ridge pole up. Dean Fisk would not give in."

Some roof raising continued with rum and accidents but many were without the presents of rum. The formation of The Temperance Society was in 1828. Then "Washingtonians" appeared and many took the temperance pledge and many did not.

# THE FEDERATION
## Congregational Church and the Methodist Church

There has been a long history of attempts to combine the two Churches, Waitsfield Congregational Church and the Waitsfield Methodist Church. The first step was taken on November 28, 1923 when at a special meeting proposed Articles of Federation were written. On December 2, 1923, the following people: W.E. Jones, Mrs. G.W. Wallis and Dr. F. S. Kent were elected to represent the Congregational Society to serve on a committee of six for the Federated Church Board. The actual ratification of this proposed Federation by the Congregational Society was voted upon January 3, 1924. This was to accept the Federation of the two Societies in name and organization only. According to all accounts, the members of the Methodist Church of Waitsfield and Fayston and the members of the Waitsfield Congregational Church agreed to this Federation because of the diminishing number of members in both Churches. It was deemed a viable way to continue the services of both Churches to the members and to the community. This simply meant that the Methodist Society and the Congregational Society still existed as the official bodies of the two Churches working together in a common cause. One aspect of this joint agreement brought about Church services being held together in the Congregational Church in the summer time and in the Methodist Church during the winter months because the Methodist Church was easier to heat. This arrangement continued from 1930 through 1939 (it may have taken place earlier). A discussion was held on January 3, 1937 to sell the Methodist Church building to the Town of Waitsfield; however, that was not done until April 14, 1941. The Methodist Church building at that time became the Waitsfield Community Hall.

The merger of the two church societies continued to be discussed. At a special meeting of the Congregational Society June 15, 1944, "A discussion of Society funds and property followed. Moved and seconded that society elect a committee of investigation to look into possibilities of merger with Methodists in financial matters and employ counsel if necessary and report to Federated Church annual meeting." This motion was, "Amended. Committee shall investigate in matters pertaining to finance only."

At a special meeting held on December 4, 1946, the following resolution was adopted to be presented to the Congregational Society at the annual meeting. The resolution stated: "In view of the fact that the members of both churches who brought about the federation are constantly diminishing in number. Resolve that the Congregational Society, which is the property holding corporation of the Congo. Church of Waitsfield, hereby expresses its desire and willingness to confer with the Methodist Church of Waitsfield in an attempt to work out a plan for permanent and complete federation." Note the wording "permanent and complete federation" since this was merely an agreement to jointly work together; it was not called the Federated Church. According to the records of the Congregational Society, this resolution was done on the recommendation of Judge Adams.

At the annual meeting held on March 14, 1948, it was: "Voted to incorporate with Methodists for better handling of Federated Church financial matters." Again the term Federated Church is used; however, it is at this meeting that this term becomes official in the following motion. "Motion: That the Ecclesiastical Society do unite with the Congregational Church of Waitsfield, Vermont and form a corporation under the provisions of No. 141 of the Acts of 1915 and of No. 140 of the Acts of 1917 such corporation to be known by the name of the Waitsfield Federated Church Incorporated." However, this was not recorded in any official manner with the Secretary of State.

These discussions for mergers continued for several years but a complete merger never took place. It also was apparent from the Congregational records and a legal opinion at the time, that the Christmas Day 1806 vote, "That said House be forever under the controul [sic] of the Congregational Society in Waitsfield, and that no trasfiement [sic] shall in any way impede the right of contoul [sic] of said society of said House." was binding. Therefore, the property could never leave the control of the United Church of Christ.

All of these discussions seem to have ended formally. On January 7, 1973, the Congregational Society "…voted to unite with the [Congregational Church to form one corporate organization to perform all the functions of the church; such organization to be called The Waitsfield Congregational Church and Society." This was also recorded with the Secretary of State, State of Vermont in Montpelier for tax purposes as well.

Historically, the Congregational Society was formed on September 27, 1800; reorganized in December 28, 1807 as a result of action taken by the General Assembly of Vermont, and reorganized on May 8, 1809 because of internal dissension. It was again renewed on September 20, 1866 again on December 16, 1890; a Federation completed and new Articles of Federation written on January 3, 1924. Several more attempts were made at changes without success. On January 7, 1973, the Congregational Church and Society were organized as one non-profit corporation to hold legal title to the Congregational Church building and property, to administer the trust funds, and carry-out the functions of the Church. This was recorded at the Secretary of State Office on December 31, 1974.

No. DC47

**AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

**of the**

WAITSFIELD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND DOCIETY, INC.

I ~~We~~, THE UNDERSIGNED, ~~President~~ and Clerk of

WAITSFIELD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND SOCIETY, INC.

a non-profit Corporation having no capital stock, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Vermont, and having its principal office at Waitsfield in the County of Washington in said State, hereby certify that at a meeting of the trustees (directors) of said corporation, duly called for that purpose, and held at Waitsfield in the County of Washington, in said State, on the 31st day of December 19 74, it was voted by three-fourths of all the directors or trustees of said corporation to amend its articles of association as follows, viz:

This corporation is a non-profit organization.

Upon Dissolution no one shall benefit from any monies on hand and said monies shall be donated to a similar non-profit religious Association.

The articles of Federation were rewritten again on April 7, 1974, but without basic differences from the original agreements. In 1994, new By-Laws were written with a few members approving a dual membership category; however, this document was never ratified by the two Societies and did not meet legal requirements. As a result of this 1994 dissension, there was a major shift in the operation of the church and federation. The Federation was dissolved, the close association with the Methodist Church dissolved, many members left the church and once again it became known as the Waitsfield United Church of Christ (Congregational) in 1998.

## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BUILDINGS

On November 10, 1800, it was voted that the Common was the proper location for the meetinghouse, but the building of such a structure was not begun. Services were held "in Shubel Burdick's house near the junction of Route 100 and Old County Road. Meetings were also held in John Burdick's house. Then, in May 1802, the meetings were moved to Ezra Jones house near the Common for one year. (Bover and Ronald Graves house stands in 2000 near the original site) On January 1, 1803, "the Society chose Benjamin Wait, John Barnard, James Heaton, Samuel Bayley, Bissell Phelps, Moses Fisk, and John Burdick as a committee to consider the matter, and on January 14 they reported in favor of immediate construction of a building 54 X 46 feet in size, money therefor to be raised by selling the pews." This proposal and the conditions of raising money continued to be a problem; however, a total of $3,872 was raised by Salah Smith from the sale of pews ranging in price from $21 to $111. A second plan for the building was submitted "40 X 44, with square roof, posts 24 feet long and a porch 16 feet square, the funds therefor to be raised by a tax on the polls and list of the Society, but this was reconsidered January 24, 1804."

This money was evidently never collected because on December 30, 1805 there was again a vote taken to build a "House for Public Worship." Benjamin Wait was unhappy with the arrangement and withdrew his support and withdrew from the Society. Nevertheless, the discussions continued and on January 8, 1807 "the Common [was] chosen by a vote of 40 to 18 and two weeks later the Town gave its permission for the Society to build a meetinghouse on what is now known as Waitsfield Common. Pews were sold at prices of $15.25 to $63 for a total sale of $2,447.61. There were sixteen pews in the balcony and sixty-two pews on the floor for a total of seventy-eight pews. Pew number 18 next to the pulpit was reserved for the minister "forever."

On Christmas day 1806, it was voted, "That said House be forever under the controul [sic] of the Congregational Society in Waitsfield, and that no trasfiement [sic] shall in any way impede the right of controul [sic] of said society of said House…."

In 1807, the work began on the structure which was to be 40 X 54, with 24 foot posts. The Church was dedicated on December 21, 1809, nine years from the date (November 10, 1800) that the Society first voted that the Common was the "proper location for a meeting house." The cost of the building was $2,378.36. Records seem to indicate that the building was actually finished and used in 1808. The only items purchased for this structure were nails, glass, and rum; the rest were all donated including labor. (Author's note: The total cost evidently refers to pews, furnishings and these few items.) At one point it was suggested that "Workmen, may be obtained for such pay as Neat Cattle and Wheat, we propose that one-fourth part be paid in Neat Cattle and the Remaining fourth in Good Merchantable Wheat." There was no steeple **at the time of the original build-**

**ing**; however, in September 1807, permission was given "to certain pew owners" to build a steeple "14 feet square and 44 feet high provided they make doors into it." Contrary to popular belief and a drawing of the church, there is a picture taken at some distance from the Common showing the Church with the steeple.

The church faced in a southeasterly direction on a little rise near the South Gate of the present Common Cemetery. The horse sheds were built on the northwest side between the Church and the cemetery. Originally, the building was unpainted and had no heat. The ladies kept their feet warm with the old fashioned foot stoves filled with coals until November 5, 1838, when "plank were placed across the top of Elisha B. Richardson's pew and a long-legged wood stove was placed on these planks." This quote is from the records and from the Jones *HISTORY OF WAITSFIELD*; however, on the drawings of the church pew arrangement there is no Elisha Richardson shown. The pew purchased upon which to place the stove was the front left pew of Frederick Richardson. Elisha B. Richardson was Frederick's son, thus the name recorded being the family pew.

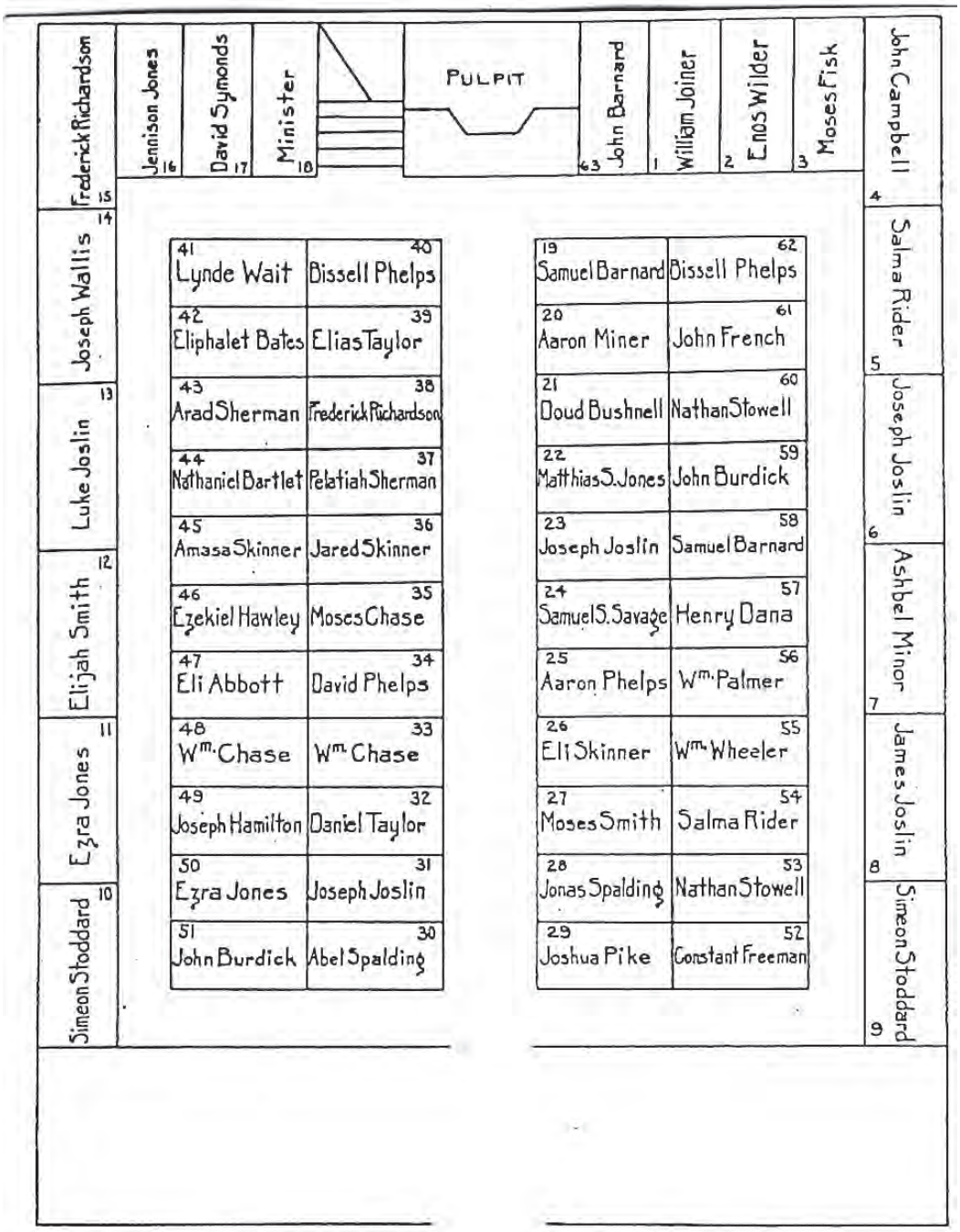
The gallery or balcony was accessible by stairs leading from the lobby. The young people, "young men on the minister's right, young women on the left and singers in front" used this balcony. Like most of the early New England Churches, the pulpit was in the rear of the church and elevated some 13 steps up. "The pews were high and straight with spindle-work around the top of all four sides. At this time, 52 male members signed the formation of the Congregational Society of Waitsfield.

There was no parsonage at the time; the first minister, Rev. William Salisbury lived in the house on the minister's lot which in 2000 is the home of Edward "Bunker" and Loretta "Rett" Backus Wimble on the North Road. The second minister, Rev. Amariah Chandler lived on this river farm for some time helping to subsidize his meager salary by teaching school. He taught school in the Northeast District and in 1821 moved to that location. His house, which he traded with Mr. Skinner, stood on the lot of Richard and Emily Bisbee on Bushnell Road. By 1831, the Society began talking about building a parsonage. The Society purchased the residence of Julian Dumas, which was located on the northwest corner of the Common proper and just south of the Richardson home and store [Harry Smith house] on the North Road. This was the first Congregational parsonage.

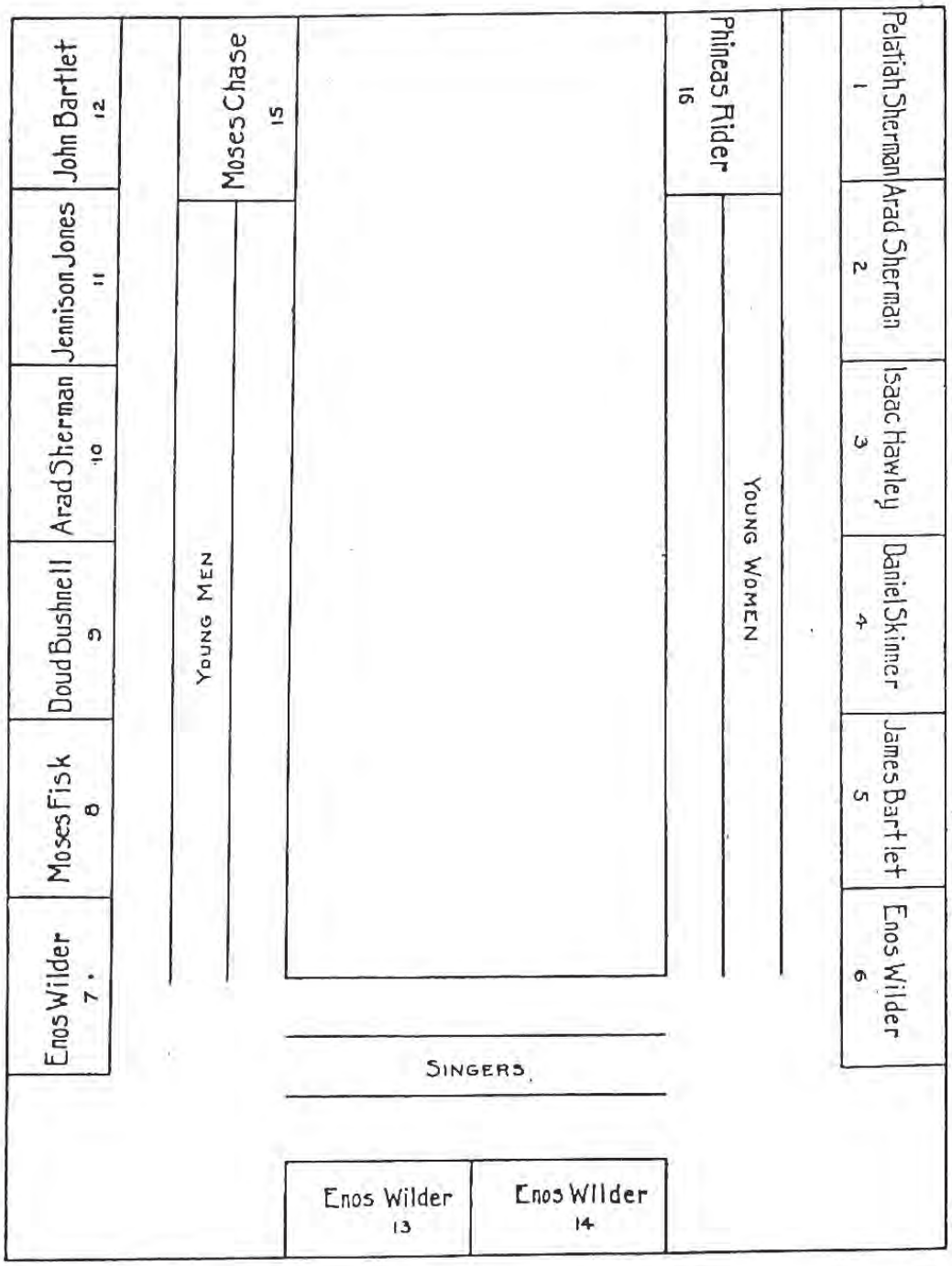
There was a drawing done from memory by Rev. Perrin B. Fisk of the first church building; however, that drawing though in existence is not an accurate drawing. The church did have a steeple which this drawing does not show, it did have a porch on the front entrance which the drawing does not show, and the window configuration is not accurate. This drawing appeared in the booklet of the centennial celebration of the church in 1896.

After a lengthy search for accuracy no accurate drawing or close-up could be found, but a long distance picture of the Common showing the church does verify the existence of the steeple and window configuration. However, the Fisk drawing of the Congregational Church building on the Common is included.

*Fisk Drawing of Congregational Church on the Common*



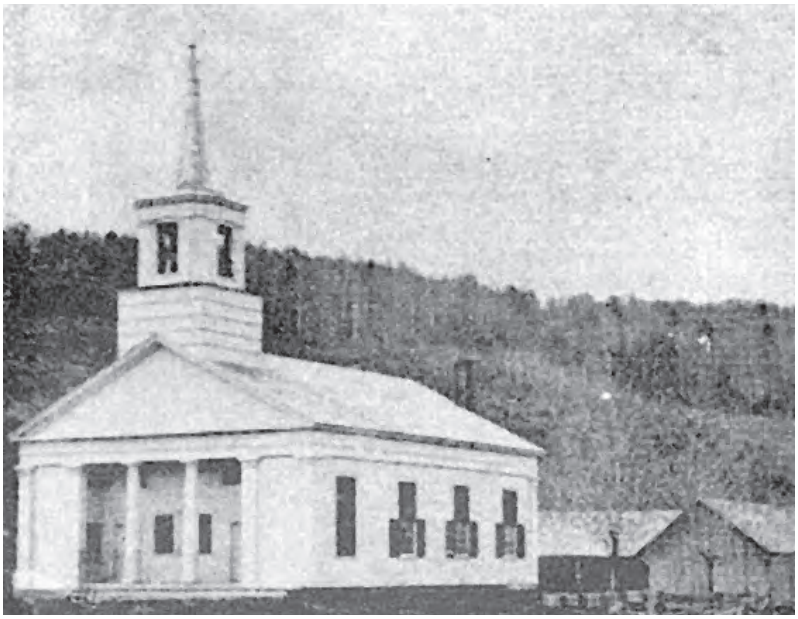

FLOOR PLAN OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HOUSE.




GALLERY OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HOUSE

The first Church building continued to be used by people who disapproved of moving the Church to Mill Hill; then it was remodeled by "the East neighborhood and used for local gatherings." Then the Wesleyan Methodist Society occupied the building until it fell into complete disrepair and was torn down in 1852. It is interesting to note that the Methodist Society used the first Congregational Church in 1852 and in 1924 the Methodist Society and the Congregational Society formed a Federation and jointly formed the Federated Church, which remained until 1989.

## SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BUILDING



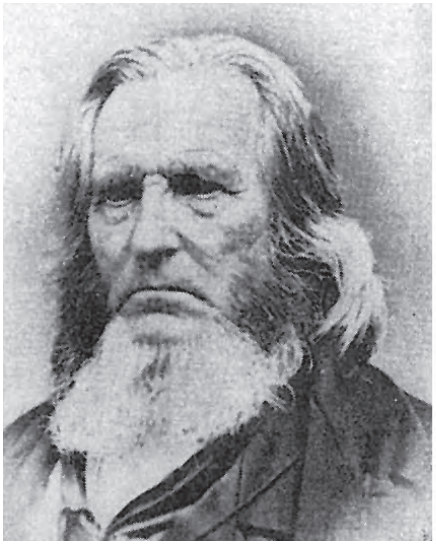
*Second Congregational Church Built in 1845*

The Congregational Society found itself in 1844 having to deal with an aging Church building and the realization that the major businesses were now in the village. This made the Church inconvenient for many of its members. As would be expected, there was absolutely no consensus as to what should be done with the deteriorating Church building. There was obvious pressure to move the Church to the village while others wanted to repair the old building. Finally a group of people from the other Churches were called upon to solve the problem. It was recommended that the Church be moved to the top of "Mill Hill." It was agreed in January 1845 to purchase the land and to build the second Church in that location. The following people purchased some six acres of land that is now the Village Cemetery: Orson Skinner, Samuel Chipman, Artemus Brown, Hiram Joslin, and Elijah Wyatt Bisbee. The new church structure was begun immediately and ready for dedication on January 9, 1846. It is interesting to note that these five members held the title to the property for many years. There are two conflicting accounts as to whether the Congregational Society ever held the deed to the land. One report says "not until September 1877" did the Society hold the deed to the land. This would have been long after the second Church had been moved to the village. Another account seems to indicate that these five people held the deed. Nevertheless, the property was given to the Town of Waitsfield to be used as a cemetery and that nothing could ever be built on the front portion of the property where the second church stood. The Town was also to maintain a suitable fence around this property.

The new Church structure was a simple design with two large pillars in the front, a steeple with a bell. There was a portico with two areas to the left and right, used to store wood for fuel. One

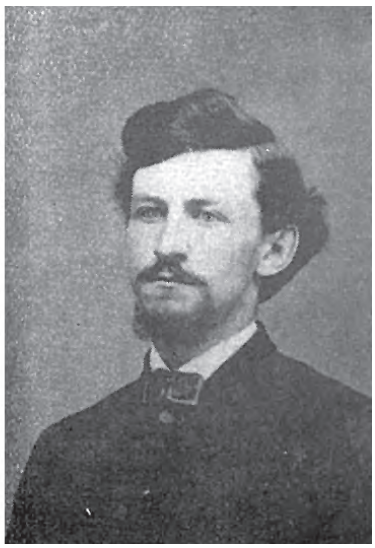
record indicates that there was one front door leading into a vestibule; however, there is more accurate information that indicates there were two doors leading into the vestibule. If one observes the pictures of this structure, there does in fact appear to be two doors, right and left of center with two windows in between. The horse-sheds were in the rear of the Church. There was a rail fence enclosing the property. The Church faced to the North. Stairs led from the vestibule to the gallery across the front of the Church and served as a choir loft, then referred to as "the singer's gallery." According to the *WAITSFIELD HISTORY*, "The pews were arranged in a manner almost identical with those in the old meeting house, and the pulpit stood at the rear, raised three steps above a wide platform, which was itself two steps above the floor. The interior was finished in butternut, and each pew had a door fastened with a brass button."

For some reason the records from 1843 to 1866 were not preserved, so such details as cost, structure, furnishings for this Church are not known.



*Amariah Chandler*
*Pastor 1810 – 1830*

*Charles Duren*
*Pastor 1846 – 1854*



*A. B. Dascomb*
*Pastor 1860 – 1867*

*Rev. J. H. Babbitt*
*1868-1876*

*Rev. E. S. Fiske*
*1887*

*Rev. S. H. Robinson*
*1877-1884*

## THIRD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BUILDING

*Third Congregational Church Built in 1874*

When the Church was moved to Mill Hill, this did not stop the drive to move it further to the village. Although some members continued to worship in the first structure on the Common until June 22, 1846 to show their discontent with the move to Mill Hill, others continued to seek a further move to the village. In fact though there is no mention of where a temporary building was built, a building was constructed and one source states: "This partiality for the consecrated spot also led at length to the building of a small edifice out of the ruins of the old one, as a sort of union house, to be used for funerals, evening services, &c.".

One point of discontent was that the Church did not have a vestry. It was also pointed out that the Church was located "on elevated ground … so that the people who had to walk to church find it quite a task to climb up from the village, and on week days, men drive by to the grist mill and post office not always getting back to the meeting they should attend…"

At a meeting held on December 11, 1873, just 27 years after the dedication of the second Congregational Church, "Dean L. Fisk introduced by appropriate remarks the subject of moving & repairing the church building on some other & better location. Remarks were made by Rev. J.H. Babbitt, S.P. Joslin & others on the importance of having a vestry &c. Motion was made & carried to appoint a committee of five to consult & investigate as to the expediency of moving & fitting up the Church Edifice in some more convenient manner. Elected as said committee, R.J. Gleason: S.P. Joslin, J.H. Hastings, A.A. Kneeland, & H.N. Bushnell." Several other people served on the committee from time to time.

Meetings continued almost on a weekly basis concerning this matter. The idea to physically move the church from Mill Hill was abandoned when it was found that the road was too narrow

for such a project, plus the task of crossing the river. In a meeting held January 6, 1874, it was recorded, "… it had been found by measurements impossible to carry the House further west than the Parsonage on account of the narrowness of the street between the shade trees and buildings." The parsonage herein spoken of was the Congregational parsonage that now stands on the south side of the street - third house east of the covered bridge. It is presently the home of John and Jan Brodeur. The committee also examined the property of a Mrs. Durant. This property was an open area between what was known as the Poland house and the parsonage (now the Brodeur property). It was decided to look further for property on the West Side of the river and to use as much material as possible from the Mill Hill Church. The records state: "… to take down the old building & use such parts of it as were suitable in the construction of a building…" The committee did consider locating on the premises of a Mary A. Cutler. This property was known in the 1900's as the Herb Smith home. It is the first house on the left at the East End of the covered bridge.

It was decided on April 21, 1874 that the church should be built "… on either side of the street between the Hotel and Brick Church…" The Brick Church referred to here was the Union Church, now the property of the Valley Players (known by many as the I.O.O.F. Hall). It was finally decided to accept a deed to the property of J.H. Hastings where the Congregational Church now stands. The brick house just north of the present church was the Hastings home, later the Walter Jones home.

Throughout this entire time, there was great concern about the cost and if it was financially feasible to build a new church. It was finally agreed at a meeting held January 20, 1874 "…that the Expense of such a project had been estimated at not to exceed $8,000, of which sum it was hoped that about $1000 might be realized from the old building…Mr. S.P. Joslin assented to the report of his associates on the Committee & as evidence of his own interest in the enterprise pledged that a sum raised sufficient to complete such a building as had been proposed, he would contribute $1000." Therefore, on March 2, 1874, all individual owners of pews in the old church agreed to relinquish their rights to the Committee for the purpose of building a new church and vestry in the village.

The committee immediately began to carry out the wishes of the members of the Society and to raise the necessary money through the sale of pews and subscription. It was decided that money must be raised in the amount of $5,400 by May 1, 1874 before they could proceed with the project. They clearly established dates for the payment of all subscriptions to be completed by September 1875, "…and the remainder of said subscriptions shall be paid when the house shall be completed, which shall be on or before the 1st day of January 1875, if practical." The entire cost of the land and the building was not to exceed $8,000. The final cost of the church with all its "fittings" was $8,642.64. The committee which now consisted of J.H. Hastings, R.J. Gleason, and W.A, Jones, stated in the record, "…in the inexpressible pleasure of announcing to you, as we now do, that it is not to be encumbered by debt – we have our reward."

The total amount received from the sale of pews that also included the assessed cost of the carpet was $7,987.90. The ladies of the "Home Circle" gave $211.26. There was the miscellaneous sale of goods $158.88, and gifts from outside friends of $284.60 which gave the committee the total of $8,642.64 which met their expenses.

Other gifts warrant mention in this history. They all added to the splendor of the church and indicate the dedication of the entire membership of the Society and its friends. The ladies of the

"Home Circle … paid for settees, chairs, Parlor Stove and pipe, chandelier for the conference room. Lamp, table spread, oil, carpet, material for new cushions, stands, stove and sink for the vestry room and have paid for a new policy of insurance on the building. All this amounts in cost to $191.70." The ladies total giving was $402.96.

The pulpit was a gift of former pastor Rev. A.B. Dascomb at a cost of $50.00. Rev. P.F. Barnard and Rev. P.B. Fisk gave the Communion Table and Flower stands at a cost of $19.00. Louis E. Hastings and H. Edgar Jones gave the chandelier and the pulpit lamps for the audience room at an estimated cost of $50.00.

It is necessary to record for historical purposes that many of these special elegant gift items were either destroyed or sold at the time that the front of the sanctuary was remodeled in the 1970's. History had again been neglected.

Many hours of labor with teams and shovels were donated in order that this project could be completed without adding to the expense of the building. This demonstrates the dedication that these early members had to the religious cause of the community.

From the time of the first meeting on December 4, 1873 to the dedication on July 7, 1875, there were weekly meetings called by the committee to carry out the project. This again shows the dedication of the committee to this cause. The final report was given to the members on September 13, 1875 and the duties of the committee came to a conclusion.

The new Church building was considered one of the most picturesque buildings in New England. The main body of the building was 44 feet by 62 feet, the tower was 14 feet by 14 feet, and the recess (choir loft) was 16 feet by 25 feet. On the lower floor, the lecture room was 35 feet by 42 feet 8 inches, leaving the dining area 27 feet by 44 feet. The present kitchen was added and enlarged several years later. It held seating capacity for 250 people on the second floor; the ground floor held the vestry, kitchen, audience room, entry room, and storage. There was a large vestibule in the front on the second floor with three large entrances to the sanctuary. There was a center aisle and an aisle on both sides leading to the back of the church. There was a center pulpit raised three steps up from the main floor. The communion table sat in front of the pulpit on the main floor. Behind the pulpit was a large archway with a beautiful gold, blue and some red lettered motto done in a manner impossible to duplicate today. Unfortunately, the lack of interest in history caused this motto to be defaced in the remodeling of the edifice in the 1970's. Across the archway was a beautiful ornate railing with two swinging doors that opened into the choir loft.

The organ (an old pump organ) stood in the back center so the organist faced the wall. This organ could be pumped with the feet or it could be pumped by hand – a task that many young men enjoyed doing over the years. It was a task to pump this organ by hand. The handle that was inserted into the right end of the organ had to be held completely in or one bellows would detach with a bang. This not only created a noise, but also decreased the air to the organ. When the organist had all the stops pulled and played with full volume, it was a major task to keep sufficient air in the bellows. This author spent many Sundays pumping this beautiful organ that, like so many other historic items, was destroyed in the remodeling. The choir sat facing the congregation in cane chairs with hymnal holders on the back of each chair. There was a door on each side of the choir loft that exited down a long flight of stairs to the kitchen.

There was a beautiful gold chandelier in the center of the sanctuary that held oil lamps which were later electrified. Unfortunately that too was later sold to help pay for the remodeling of the

sanctuary. The entire floor was covered with carpet. The design consisted of small circles reminding one of a wheel. The colors were subdued grey, blue, white, with dark lines outlining the figures. It was of extremely sturdy material with no padding. The interior paint was tan in color with gold, blue trim stencil design around the top. The windows were enormous and of plain glass. It was indeed an impressive interior now long lost to modernization.

At Christmas time, two gigantic fir trees were placed on either side of the pulpit and youngsters of the time can well recall the trees filled with homemade green and red webbing filled with home made candy and pop corn balls. Every child received a gift although this may have been the only time he or she attended Church. However, it should be noted that there was a large Sunday school. The young biblical scholars always gave an impressive Christmas program.

In 1994, some minor irritations became a point of contention with a small group of members who felt that the Federation was not working and causing the church to decrease in membership. After a vigorous debate, it was decided in 1998 to dissolve the Federation (Waitfield Federated Church) and rename the organization as the United Church of Christ (Congregational). The Methodist members were invited to join this church and/or keep their Methodist affiliation.

In 2000, it is called the United Church of Christ and is 204 years old. There have been two major celebrations for this first church of Waitsfield. There was the Centennial in 1896. A very complete book was published concerning this celebration. There was the Bicentennial in 1996. A history of the church was written and a video tape made of the gathering. These sources can be found in the Waitsfield Historical Society archives. There is also a "Manual of the Congregational Church in Waitsfield, 1893" which has excellent historical information also in the historical archives.

Some historical facts are recorded to preserve some authenticity. This third Congregational Church building was built in record time considering everything had to be accomplished by hand and with horses. The building has undergone renovation and repairs over the years. However, considering its age, the building has stood the test of time very well. There were extensive repairs done in 1949-50. Foundations were redone, the old brick wood fired furnaces were replaced (there were two of them). A town clock given to the town by the late Harry Belden was installed in the steeple in April 1957. (See Chapter Points of Interest for more detail) The steeple, a majestic symbol in the valley, has been struck by lightening on several occasions and has been repaired several times.

One of the major repairs had to be done in 1961 after an earlier lightening strike. There was a visible crevice from the top of the steeple to the church roof. Much of the steeple structure was severely weakened. Cecil Percy of Waterbury Center was the steeplejack hired to do the repairs. It was decided to completely repair the structure to its original form. In the process of repair, it was discovered that the round ball on the spire, which had been placed there in 1906, had been damaged by rifle holes placed there by various young men in the community. The problem was that the papers that had been placed in the ball in 1906 had been severely damaged by rain coming in the holes. This was of considerable concern until Clarence "Doc" Bisbee informed them that he had the original paper. Doc Bisbee's son, Robert Bisbee, at that time was a sheet metal craftsman in the valley and was proprietor of the Bisbee and Bisbee Hardware. This hardware business was in the old tin shop, in 2000 referred to as the Blue Building. Robert Bisbee was prevailed upon to design and construct a new ball. He carefully designed and constructed a new copper ball. Inside the ball was placed a sealed copper tube containing copies of the original papers. This was in an

attempt to better preserve the papers. The ball, constructed with a center hole, was also sealed. It was then taken to the top of the wooden section of the steeple by means of the rope-chair. While precariously balancing on the rope-chair, the steeplejack placed the ball on the tines of a pitchfork, and gingerly slid it over the steel spire.

During this repair, a very few young men in the community had the intestinal fortitude to take the rope-chair up the outside of the steeple while wide-eyed observers gasped. Cecil Percy of Waterbury Center did all of this work.

The steeple has been repaired several times – 1930, 1949, 1961, and 1986. In 2000, the steeple had to be repaired again at a cost of $65,140. The money was raised by donations and a community fund drive. People unaware of the 1961 event unfortunately opened the undamaged ball. According to a newsletter from the church during this repair period it was stated that "the ball from 1906 and 1949 had been found with great anticipation as to its content." There was no mention of the other major 1961 repairs or of the 1961 craftsmanship of the ball nor was there an effort to discover the contents without destroying the ball. The original papers still rest in the possession of Richard Bisbee, son of Clarence Bisbee. This document will be given to the Vermont Historical Society in an effort to preserve history.

There has been considerable discussion concerning the bell in the Congregational Steeple. The first Church on the Common had no bell in the steeple. The second Church did have a bell and it was placed in the third Church. This bell was cracked. Mr. Everett Palmer was sure that the bell was cracked in 1928 when he was living with his parents in the Emily Eaton house in the village (now All Things Bright and Beautiful Shop). He said there was a loud noise that could be heard for some distance. (No-one else in the village at that time can recall such an event.) However, this may be accurate. Nevertheless, this writer remembers ringing the bell in 1936 with Mr. Everett Perkins, a long time Church caretaker. It is this writer's recollection that three overly zealous boys ran the bell too hard and turned it over causing the crack or perhaps increasing the crack. C.A. Bisbee gave a stern reprimand for the action. It took considerable effort to right the bell. It was never rung again, only tolled with the small hammer.

The bell remained in this condition for many years because there was not enough money to replace it. When the Methodist Church building was sold to the Town of Waitsfield in 1941, the bell was not a part of the sale. The Methodist Church structure which had been moved from Irasville to the village burned in February 1894 and the original bell was destroyed. When the third Methodist Church was built, a new bell was placed in the steeple. The casting on this bell was 1894.

This bell was moved to the Congregational Church Steeple. Mr. George Wallis had wanted the bell moved for several years. Finally, in 1945, Mr. Leo Burbank, who had moved to town in 1941, was given the task of moving the bell, since he was in the construction business and had just acquired a large bulldozer with a winch. The shutters on the front of the steeple were removed; the old bell then removed. The bell, which had been carefully removed from the Methodist Church steeple, was lifted into the belfry by an elaborate cable and pulley system. This system consisted of beams formed in a V-shape sticking out of the belfry and well- braced. A system of cables and pulleys, and a steel cable attached to the winch on the bulldozer slowly raised the bell to its place in the steeple. The task was accomplished successfully without incident, but with many sidewalk supervisors, and some doubtful minds.

The following is taken from an Argus Leader article dated July 19, 1945. "But as time went

on the old bell lost its deep sonorous voice and could no longer be heard out over the hills in tones loud enough to reach the ears of the younger generation, so last week it surrendered its place in the tall white steeple to another bell, and no more will it call to you and me: … Instead it has joined the service of our country by way of the salvage pile and perhaps in its next re-incarnation it will become war material which will hasten the cause of Freedom, and possibly its mission may be to save the life of some Waitsfield boy or girl who also has joined the service of our country and is hastening that glorious cause. Leo Burbank supervised the moving of the bell from the old Methodist church, which is now used as the community hall, to the belfry of the Congregational church. The Congregational bell was cracked and had to be removed before the other bell could be put in place."

Everett Wallis, son of George Wallis, had this project done in memory of his father. Recognition of this project and thanks expressed to Mr. Everett Wallis can be found in the minutes of the Congregational Society, January 1, 1947. Mr. George Wallis died in January 1945.

The following is an authentic copy of the papers now in the ball on the church steeple. The first was placed there in 1906; the second was placed there in 1949; there were no additional papers placed there in 1961; and the last was placed there in November 2000.

Message 1: From Pastor William A. Remele on the placing of the globe on May 1, 1906.

"This house of worship was built in the year 1874. It is the third building occupied since the formation of the church in 1796. The first house was at the cemetery on Waitsfield Common. The second at the present village cemetery.

"The following officers were in commission at the date of the placing of this globe, May 18th, 1906. Trustees of the Cong'l Society – Geo. W. Wallis, B. D. Bisbee, E. S. Joslin. Clerk of the Society – B. D. Bisbee. Treas. – Henry N. Bushnell. Clerk of the Church – E. A. Fiske. Treas. – Mrs. Geo. Olmstead. Deacons or the Church – E. A. Fiske, H.N. Bushnell, Geo. M. Jones. Pastor William A. Remele.

"The years will come and go and sunshine and storm fall on this ball. But when at last, all things hidden shall be revealed, and this record may hap shall come to light, may it be a simple reminder of the long history and faithful service of the Cong'l Church of Waitsfield, Vt. To those then living, and a link in memory's chain, binding in one fellowship those who come after with those gone before."

Wm. A. Remele"

Message two from Pastor Daniel W, Strickland, dated June 7, 1949:

"Officers of the Waitsfield Federated Church

Rev. Daniel W. Strickland, Pastor

Clarence A. Bisbee, Clerk

Mrs. Earl Baird, Organist & Choir Director

Mrs. John Kingsbury, 2nd Orgnaist

Everett Perkins, Sexton

Mrs. Earl Jones, Sunday School Superintendent

The Federated Committee

Mrs. Chester Dana – Chairman

| | |
|---|---|
| Walter Gaylord | Otis Wallis |
| Mrs. Lou Joslin | Clarence Tucker |
| Mrs. Ward Joslin | Mervin Kingsbury |
| Earl Baird | |

Ladies Auxiliary

Mrs. Otis Wallis, Pres.

| Stewards: | Deacons: |
|---|---|
| Fred J. Eaton | Charles Jones |
| Chester Dana | Earl Jones – Chairman |
| John Kingsbury | C. A. Bisbee |
| Clayton Kingsbury | Otis Wallis |
| Stewardess: | Deaconess: |
| Mrs. Ella Chapman | Mrs. Everett Palmer |
| Mrs. Milford Long | Mrs. Edw. Jones |
| Mrs. Fred J. Eaton | Mrs. Donald Stafford |
| Mrs. Walter Jones | Mrs. Earl Baird |

June 7, 1949

"By a curious co-incidence, on the day of the funeral of Mrs. Frances Remele (viz., June 4, 1949), widow of the late Rev. Wm. A. Remele, former pastor of this church, the painters who were redecorating and repairing the steeple of the church, took down the six inch hollow metal ball that sets on the very top of the spire and removed therefrom the document which had reposed there since 1906.

"A copy of this paper, prepared by the Rev. Mr. Remele is enclosed to-day in a new container. This writer cannot add to the eloquent statement nor improve upon the expression of the brother who for nine [sic – actually 16] years served as pastor of this church. May his benediction, and that of the other pastors, before and since his time, with the prayers of our people past and present, be as they worship and have worshipped here, a continuous memorial to Almighty God whose name and glory this church spire points through the generations.

'For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who thee before the world of men confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia!
O, Blest Communion, fellowship divine,
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine,
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are thine. Alleluia!

Daniel W. Strickland, Pastor

November 12, 2000

"After fund-raising for nearly one year, approximately 85% of the $65,000 steeple restoration project has been collected. By year's end, we expect the full amount to be raised. Of the total cost, 15% was paid for through the annual church budget with pledged funds. The remainder has come from additional gifts by church members and friends, as well as contributions from local merchants and organizations, and those both near and far who recognized the beauty and meaning of this building. Restoration was conducted by Jay Southgate of Southgate Construction and Steeplejacks, Plainfield, Vermont.

"On June 1, 1998, the Waitsfield United Church of Christ formally came into being. This choice came about through an intensive period of soul-searching, as the congregation faced the reality of a dwindling number of members and the burden of filling the many church leadership positions demanded by parallel Methodist and Congregational organizations. Methodist members voted to voluntarily disband the Methodist Society of Waitsfield, thereby ceasing the Federated Church. The congregation then chose to enter fully into the United Church of Christ. All of this was facilitated by the gracious gift of the parsonage, deeded to the church by the Troy Conference of the United Methodist Church.

"Writing this third letter to be placed time capsule fashion within the steeple globe I cannot fail to observe that on each date (viz. 1906, 1949, and 2000) this church has possessed a different name and organizational structure. In 1905, pastor Remele penned his hope that successive generations would, through his letter, recall the long history and faithful service of the Waitsfield Congregational Church. Little did he or Rev. Strickland know of the transformations that would occur within this congregation. Yet I believe that they would be pleased to know that, despite these primarily external changes, God's Spirit continues to work in and through this church. Though time separates us, unity of purpose --- the worship of and service to God and world --- endures. Today, this congregation of the Waitsfield United Church of Christ can affirm with Rev. Remele that we are bound in one fellowship with those who come after and those gone before, and with Rev. Strickland (quoting lines from "For All The Saints") that we are all one in God as God's own people.

"We strive to be a united church – to live Christ's prayer "that they may all be one" (John 17:21) – and know ourselves to be responsible for the proper stewardship of all these gifts with which we have been blessed. May this steeple restoration project show our faithfulness to that call as we conserve our heritage. May our efforts also demonstrate this church's legacy of faithful discipleship. For this congregation, born in the 18th century and thriving in the 21st, is united in worshipping God and in continuing the serving ministry of Christ.

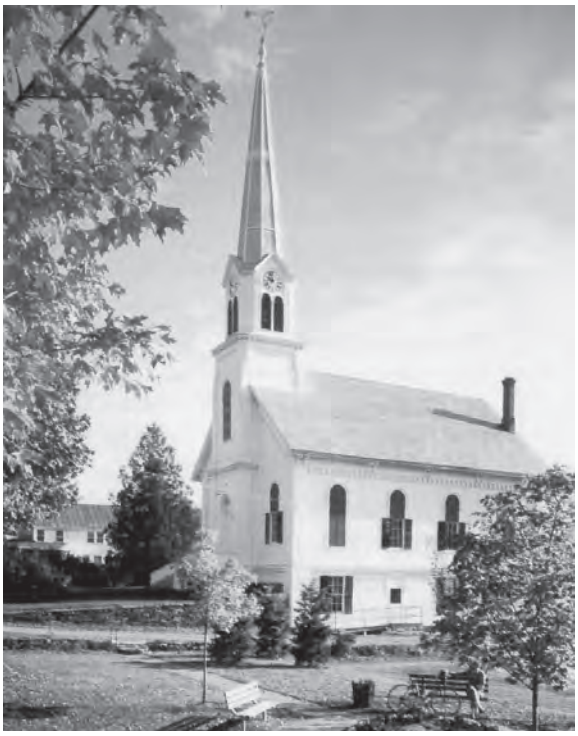
"We offer our heartfelt prayer that what we do today is a firm foundation for the work God will accomplish through this congregation in its future generations.

Rev. Jonathan New, Pastor

**Waitsfield United Church of Christ**
**Officers, Ministry, Chairpersons, Committee Chairpersons, and Staff**
**On November 12, 2000**

| | |
|---|---|
| Church Council | |
| Minister | Rev. Jonathan New |
| Moderator: | Gary Livingston |
| Clerk: | Sandy Gallup |
| Treasurer: | Susan Roy |
| Financial Secretary: | Tracey Coutts |
| Ministry of Spiritual Life Chairperson: | Nancy Howard |
| Ministry of Christian Education Chairperson | Jolyn Joslin |
| Ministry of Facilities Chairperson | Vincent Gauthier |
| Member-at-large: | Jean Joslin |
| Ladies' Auxiliary Representative: | Trish Foster |
| Committee Chairpersons | |
| Mission Team: | Julia Ludewig |
| Music Committee: | Karen Nevin |
| Flower Committee: | Diana Gauthier |
| Usher Committee: | Trish Foster |
| Church School Committee: | Jolyn Joslin |
| Memorial Scholarship Loan Fund: | Ed Eurich |
| | |
| Church Staff | |
| Organist: | Dorothy Peck |
| Adult Choir Director: | Angelika Brumbaugh |
| Youth Music Director: | Penny Arslanian |
| Custodian: | Sylvia Sawyer" |

A historical note is made here concerning the letter placed in the steeple ball by Rev. Jonathan New. There was a renovation of the steeple also in 1961 and a new ball constructed with copies of the original two papers place in it but no letter from that time was enclosed. In reference to the church having a different name at each date in one sense is correct; however, it was the Congregational Church in 1906, the Congregational Church and Society still existed within the Federation as well as the Methodist Church and Society in 1949 and in 1961, and the United Church of Christ is the modern name for the Congregational Church.



*Congregational Church as it appears in 2000*
*Picture courtesy of Fletcher Joslin*

## EARLY CONGREGATIONAL HISTORICAL RECOLLECTIONS

From P.F. Barnard: "My earliest remembrance was of Dr. Chandler, Mr. Chandler he was then called… Some of you will remember the old Church on the Common; you will remember the singers' seats in the gallery, and the two square pews at the north end of these seats overlooking the pulpit. In one of these pews, as a boy, I was accustomed to sit and look down into the pulpit [with] reverent feelings… I well remember in 1831 when in mid-summer they had three or four days' meeting. This meeting was held at the old Church on the Common and ministers from abroad were there. I remember how the good people seemed to turn out always as on the Sabbath day, and yet it was right in the midst of haying. They would cut their hay in the morning and then go to meeting." Mr. Barnard lived on the farm that is now the Carpenter farm on the East Side of the river… "on a Sabbath morning you would see on the East side of the river, and then on the West side and across the bridge and always there was a long line of carriages coming out to Church, - it was their constant habit."

From Harry Jones:…"I recollect well that old meeting house; when I was a small boy the old folks, old men, women and children all had to go to meeting. Those who could not go afoot could go horse back. The only way they could go as long ago as I can remember. Soon after, wagons came into use. The seats were loaded on to the body and body onto the axle and the people got the whole spring of the ex?"

From Miss. Mary E. Fisk: Miss. Fisk tells about the meeting that was held to vote on the decision to move the church from Mill Hill to the village. There was a large crowd, but not a quorum. The moderator attempted to stall for time when the minister's wife realized they needed one more man. So she and Miss. Fisk went out in the deep snow and found two men who would vote for the

move. They directed them to go to the meetinghouse and vote – thus the vote was taken in the affirmative. Miss. Fisk wrote the following poem relating this event

From our daily cares and duties
To this sacred place we come,
Once again to bring a greeting,
One more time to call this home.

For a century this Church home,
Has been labored for and loved,
Has been prayed for by the fathers,
Oft a very Bethel proved.

On the hill-top first twas builded,
Half way down it stopped to rest,
Then it gladly made the journey
To this cozy village nest.

But there's one little story about this last move
That may not be told today,
Unless I should venture to tell it myself,
Though that's not much in my way.

There'd been acres of talk of the ways and the means
At meetings, a good half dozen,
When a society meeting was warned and met,
To make a final decision.

Large numbers were present, twas time for the vote,
Still no vote was called, the while
The interest seemed lagging; the cause seemed lost,
In quite a mysterious style.

I was sitting beside the minister's wife,
My father was in the chair,
When it came to be known, with all the crowd,
No society quorum was there.

The moderator questioned and talked against time
And made remarks on the plan,
When the minister's wife whispered softly to me,
"Let's hasten and find a man."

So outside we went though the snow was deep
And the path not over good,
Till hurrying along down the meeting house hill,
The sexton before us stood.

We quickly asked him if he had a vote
And on which side he'd use it,
Then down hill we hurried while he hurried up
Lest he'd be too late too use it.

It was only one man the quorum required
But we wished to find another,
So onward we went 'till we near'ed the tin-shop
Where we met the needed brother.

Then we hurried quickly back up the hill
And into the Church we went,
Lest the vote should be taken before we were there,
Though two good voters we'd sent

"So it's safe to declare without stretching a point
Or giving to truth the lurch,
That just this one time if never before
The minister's wife moved the Church."

From Richard Bisbee: This writer remembers many aspects of the Church; however, the Rev. Daniel Strickland who was pastor here for nine years made a clear impression. He had been a prisoner of war in Italy during WWI and in fact had been declared dead. A funeral had been held. He managed to escape toward the end of the War and find his way to friendly territory. He had a very difficult time with identification, but finally succeeded through dental records to be recognized. Because of these terrible war experiences which he seemed to share with my parents and few others, we were aware of some of his fears. When he became minister, he told my parents (C.A. and Dorothy Bisbee) and I that he did not know if he could sit in the minister's chair because he still reacted with great fear to noises that occurred behind him. With the choir behind him, he was afraid that there would be a noise and he would react in not a favorable light.

I well remember his first service. My mother, who sang in the choir, knowing the situation sat literally on the edge of her chair hoping and praying that no-one in the choir would drop a hymnal. She had not told anyone at Rev. Strickland's request. However, nothing occurred and Rev. Strickland gradually over came the difficulty. Perhaps the closeness that my family felt to Rev. Strickland was the result of his understanding, kindness, and spiritual guidance shown my family at the time of my older brother David's death at the end of WWII in Germany.

This writer also remembers going to Church with my mother, Dorothy Bisbee, with a horse and sleigh. Upon returning to East Hill via the Common, we turned to go to my grandfather's house (Bert Savage) that was located on the southeast corner of the Common. (An A frame house stands in that location in 2000). Also Bert Savage was a direct descendant of Samuel S. Savage who sold four acres to the Town as part of the Common. As we went that short distance, not paying attention to the snow drifts, the sleigh tipped over and my mother and I rolled out into the snow. In the usual fashion, the horse stopped while we put the sleigh back on its runners and we were on our way unharmed and laughing at our foolishness. We visited my grandfather, but we did not tell anyone about our adventure with the sleigh. How times have changed.

From Otis Wallis: The land upon which the present Congregational Church building is located was very swampy. High floodwaters, also, often washed into the church basement. It was decided to put cedar logs in as pilings and a base for the foundation of the church. This was done with great care; the granite foundation was then placed upon this cedar base. Considering the location of the river and the water level, it is interesting to note that the local builders were able not only to keep the area dry, but also to have a full basement under the vestry. When the foundation needed to be

repaired in the early 1950's, many of the beams and sills had to be replaced because of rot. Nevertheless, it was discovered, presumably because of the original cedar logs, that the northeast corner had dropped only one inch during all that time – 1875 to 1950. Two wood fired brick furnaces originally heated the church building. At the time the repairs were done on the foundation, the two brick furnaces were replaced by one oil furnace. Two oil furnaces have since replaced this. In 1957, an addition to the kitchen was made. In the 1990's those furnaces have also been replaced.

There are many recollections recorded in the Congregational Church Centennial Souvenir Book, June 27, 28, 1896. There are many more if time allowed for their collection. This Congregational Church has played a part in the lives of hundreds of children and adults over its more than 200 year history.

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Some interesting historical data helps to put a human perspective to this old church. It can be acknowledged that there were many dedicated people, but there are a few people who need special recognition.

## MEMBERSHIP

| | |
|---|---|
| June 27, 1796… | 11 members |
| December 30, 1890 … | 172 – 57 men, 115 women |
| December 31, 1892 … | 167 – 55 men, 112 women |
| January 5, 1890 … | 159 – 50 men, 109 women |
| January 6, 1894 … | 163 – 51 men, 112 women |
| December 30, 1905 … | 108 – 28 men, 80 women |
| December 30, 1910 … | 103 – 31 men, 72 women |
| December 30, 1912 … | 94 – 29 men, 65 women |
| December 30, 1915 … | 111 – 36 men, 75 women |
| January 1, 1920 … | 114 |
| November 1, 1995 … | 147 |

## SOCIETY CLERKS OF NOTE

| | |
|---|---|
| Mathias Jones …… | 1816 – 1825 - 9 years |
| Rodney Smith …….. | 1826 – 1833 - 7 years |
| L.W. Jones ……. | 1866 – 1869 - 3 years |
| W.A. Jones ……. | 1870 – 1890 - 20 years |
| Burton Dewey Bisbee …… | 1890 – 1929 - 39 years |
| Clarence A. Bisbee …… | 1930 – 1975 - 45 years |

(Note B.D. Bisbee & C.A. Bisbee, father and son, clerks for 84 years.)

The ladies for the Congregational Church formed an organization as early as 1850's although the exact date is not known. However, "a ladies' society existed in the church and during the Civil

War this organization, uniting with other women of the town, became a branch of the U.S. Christian Commission. In 1867 the old Society was formally organized under the name of the "Home Circle." The Home Circle has been fittingly called the All-Around-Helping-Hand Society, making repairs on the Church and parsonage, supplying deficiencies in the finances, taking the initiative in mission work, and as auxiliary to both Home and Foreign Mission Boards. Much of the social work of the Church was planned by this society. It was later known as the Ladies Auxiliary. The Ladies Auxiliary still exists in 2000; however, recent decisions have depleted the financial power of the Auxiliary, lack of young members, and changing focus leaves the Ladies Auxiliary waning.

The Sunday School was established in 1820. There were several schools held in different parts of town. Later this became one school held in the church. There has been a Sunday School of varying sizes and activities throughout the history of the church. "In 1886, a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor was organized as a union society of the Congregational and Methodist Churches, but in 1890, the latter withdrew to form an Epworth League. In 1892, a Junior Christian Endeavor society was organized." Its object was to do for the children, what the older society does for the young people. Many Christmas pageants have been held, many Biblical verses learned, and many people have given their time as teachers and superintendents. The church still periodically has youth groups.

## CONGREGATIONAL PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| John Barnard (Lay Leader) | 1793 | Rev. Samuel Noon | 1898 – 1899 |
| Rev. Ebenizer Kingsbury | 1793 | Rev. William Ganley | 1899 – 1902 |
| Rev. Martin Tullar | 1794 – 1799 | Rev. John Henderson | 1903 – 1904 |
| Rev. Elijah Lyman | | Rev. William Remele | 1904 – 1923 |
| Rev. Jedediah Bushnell | | Rev. Fred Sellers | 1924 – 1926 |
| Rev. William Salisbury | 1800 – 1809 | Rev. E. Bond Brown | 1926 – 1930 |
| Rev. Amariah Chandler | 1810 – 1830 | Rev. Percival Hewitt | 1930 – 1940 |
| Rev. John Hempstead | 1830 | Rev. Theodore Gregg | 1940 – 1942 |
| Rev. Mr. Howe | 1830 | Rev. Miles Shishiedo | 1942 – 1943* |
| Rev. Guy Sampson | 1831 | Rev. Daniel Strickland | 1943 – 1952 |
| Rev. Joseph Marsh | 1832 –1834 | Rev. M. C. Mays | 1952 – 1954 |
| Rev. Frye B. Reed | 1834 – 1835 | Mrs. Ruth Scott | 1955 |
| Rev. Samuel Tenney | 1835 – 1837 | Rev. William Vigne | 1955 – 1956 |
| Rev. Archibald Flemming | 1837 – 1838 | Rev. John Huden | 1956 |
| Rev. Preston Taylor | 1839 – 1842 | Rev. William Vigne | 1957 – 1960 |
| Rev. Calvin Seldon | 1843 – 1845 | Rev. Paul Lefevre | 1960 – 1963 |
| Rev. James Hobart | 1845 – 1846 | Rev. Willard Reger | 1963 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rev. Daniel Parker | 1845 – 1845 | Rev. Charles Parker | 1963 – 1972 |
| Rev. Charles Duren | 1846 – 1854 | Rev. Charles Kessler Jr. | 1972 – 1975 |
| Rev. Levi Stone | 1855 – 1856 | Rev. Glen Goodall | 1975 |
| Rev. Andrew Royce | 1856 | Rev. Floyd Kinsley | 1975 |
| Rev. Caleb Piper | 1857 | Rev. Dard Alard | 1975 – 1976 |
| Rev. Charles Smith | 1858 | Rev. Thomas W.D. Baird | 1976 – 1978 |
| Rev. Robert Stuart | 1859 | Rev. Elton Brown | 1978 – 1979 |
| Rev. George Pierson | 1860 | Rev. Andrew Currier | 1979 – 1981 |
| Rev. Alfred Dascomb | 1860 – 1867 | Rev. Paul Martz | 1982 – 1993 |
| Rev. James H. Babbitt | 1868 – 1876 | Rev. James Boudreau | 1993 – 1997 |
| Rev. Stephen Robinson | 1877 – 1884 | Rev. Constance Coughlin | 1997 – 1999 |
| Rev. Lycurgus Pangburn | 1885 – 1887 | Rev. Jonathan New | 1999 – |
| Rev. Elisha S. Fisk | 1888 – 1897 | | |

*Rev. Shishiedo's name does not appear in the Congregational Records; however, this writer remembers his being pastor here briefly during WWII. John "Jack" Smith also verifies this. He served a period between Rev. Gregg and Rev. Strickland.

There have been two anniversary celebrations for the Congregational Church. The Centennial held June 27, 1896 and the Bicentennial held June 27, 1996. The committee appointed at the annual meeting January 1, 1896 to organize the centennial celebration was Rev. E. S. Fiske, Pastor; Deacon E. A. Fisk, H. N. Bushnell, and Geo. W. Olmstead. A very interesting souvenir book was published of this celebration and is in the archives of the historical society.

The Bicentennial committee established to organize the celebrations was Richard Bisbee, Chairman, Fletcher Joslin, Alberta Stafford, Edward Eurich, and Janice Barnard. This celebration was recorded and video taped. A history of the church was written at this time. This event was held with a gathering on Saturday followed by a supper in the church. A special Sunday services was held with the minister from Jericho giving the sermon. It was the Reverend Ebenezer Kingsbury from Jericho that officiated at the original founding of the Waitsfield Congregational Church.

It appears proper because of the historical nature of the Congregational Church in the Valley and because it was the first church in Washington County and in Waitsfield that the membership list should be included in this text.

## MEMBERSHIP

The following is a listing of the Congregational membership over the 200 years. It was difficult to be an absolute lexicographer because many of the records were hand written and difficult to decipher.

Signers of the June 27, 1796 Covenant

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John Barnard | William Joiner | Ezekiel Hawley |
| Jared Skinner | Bissell Phelps | Daniel Wilder |
| Eli Skinner | Daniel Taylor | Samuel Bayley |
| Joined a short time later | Jerusha Joiner | Abigail Rider |

### 1799

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Elizabeth Wilder | Mary Barnard | Freedom Heaton |
| Lucinda Skinner | Lovina Phelps | |

### 1800

Mary Smith

### 1801

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Abia Stoddard | Susanna Heaton | Samuel Barnard |
| Abigail Barnard | Moses Fisk | Hannah Fisk |
| Salah Smith | Mary T. Smith | Salome Skinner |

### 1802

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Hannah Chase | Elizabeth Taylor | Martha Dana |
| Lydia Green | Lucy Bushnell | Sally Phelps |
| Eli Abbott | Mary Abbott | David Phelps |
| Lucina Phelps | | |

### 1805

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jonathan Wallis | Elizabeth Wallis | Lucinda Salisbury |

### 1808

| | |
|---|---|
| Eleanor Skinner | Experience Barnard |

### 1810

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Gains Hitchcock | Abigail Skinner | Moses Smith |
| Henry Dana | Ebenezer Barnard | Perrin Fisk |
| Mehetibel Wait | Anna Hamilton | Polly Mix |
| Charlotte Smith | Anna Stoddard | Erastus Allen |
| Paulina Allen | Hannah Spaulding | |

## 1813

Benjamin Wait

## 1814

James Selleck
Naomi Wait

## 1815

Chloe Rider
Lucy Colt
Lucinda Durkee

## 1816

Selinda Stewart
Hephzibah Piper
Lynde Wait
Lois Wait

## 1817

Horiatio Rider
Frederick T. Miner
Amasa Russ
Joseph Russ
Ira Marshall
Joel Fisk
Alvan L. Brigham
Sarah Hitchcock
Lucy Turner
Eunice Burdick
Betsy Newcomb
Rachael Butterfield
Arethusa Piper
Abigail Taylor
Fanny Hitchcock
Miranda Skinner
Lucina Phelps
Zebina Smith
Earle Smith
Solomon Phelps
Gershorn Brigham
Hannah Miner
Nathan Stowell
Sarah Stowell
Isaac Hawley
Polly Hawley
Jonathan Lamson
Mary Lamson
William Wheeler
Methitabel Wheeler
Naomi Joslin
Linus Barnard
Amasa Skinner, Jr.
Jedediah Bushnell
Lyman Fisk
Esther Royce
Temperance Skinner
Frances Bushnell
Harriet Smith
Spohia Smith
Olive Bailey
Pomona Wilder
David Symonds
Apollos Rider
Mrs. Sarah Phelps
Betsey Bacon
Eunice Russ
Sarah Stowell
Mrs. Grehom Brigham

## 1818

Henry Jones
Lucy Jones
Joseph Stowell
Phebe Burdick
Mrs. Lovina Wilder
Abigail Chandler
Dorothy Skinner
Clarissa Rider
Abigail Barnard

**1819**

Mrs. Sally Cutler
Jacob Steele

**1820**

Betsy Carpenter
Fanny High
Lucy Leach

**1821**

Harriet Russ

**1822**

Betsy Fisk
David Turner
Robert Leach
Ithamar Smith
Ruth Smith
Sarah Heath
Aaron Miner
Phineas Rider
Caroline Wilder

**1823**

Sarah Turner
Sarah Taylor
Rhoda Bates
Aurelia Allen
Susanna Thayer
Lucia Stoddard
John Taylor
Anson Fisk
Samuel C. Smith
Edmund Freeman
Elvira Smith
Clarissa Smith
Mrs. Sarah Bates
Pamelia Cutting
Sally Russ

**1824**

Almira Joslin
John C. Wilder
Lucy Burdick

**1825**

Mrs. Ingalis
Content Taylor
Rosilla Pike
Ezra Jones, Jr.
Esther Jones
Susanna Jones

**1826**

Lucy Barnard
John Leach
Hooker Joslin
Bethuel Joslin
Hiram Joslin
William Joslin Jr.
Anderson Joslin
Stephen P. Joslin
Matthias Joslin
William T. Stoddard
Mrs. Abigail Bates
Relief Dumas
Caroline Jones
Lucy Bushnell
Electra Allen
Amanda Bushnell
Joanna Barnard
Clarissa N. Chandler
Paulina Allen
Betsy Brown
Zilla Foster

**1827**

Polly Miner
Abigail Taylor

**1828**

Mrs. Huldah Staples
Betsy Taylor
Mehitabel Steele
Asaph Burdick
Irene Burdick

**1829**

Jacob Sargent
Mrs. Emily Sargent
Mary S. Fisk
Hortensia Freeman
Jerusha Skinner
Rhoda Stowell

**1830**

Abigail Taylor
Rhoda Dow

**1831**

Mrs. Harriet Silsby
Rhoda Stowell
Hannah Bates
Dr. Frederic Miner
Miranda T. Miner
Salome Skinner
Rufus Childs
Philena B. Childs
James Rider
Sarah Rider
Orson Skinner
Harris Pike
Rodolphus S. Bates
Oliver S. Skinner
Hiram Freeman
Horace Jones
Milo Tuttle
Seth Taylor
Chester Smith
Rufus Childs 2nd
Mrs. Rebecca Joslin
Mrs. Lydia Joslin
Lucia Joslin
Mary Wallis
Mrs. Rachel Phelps
Mary Pratt
Julia E. Carpenter
Elmina E. Fisk
Meribah W. Hyde
Melinda Joslin
Luana Barnard
Jane Childs
Sophronia Childs
Clarissa Childs
Nancy Holden

## 1832

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jerusha Field | Jason Carpenter | Julian Dumas |
| William W. Sherman | Bernice Wilder | Aurelia Joslin |
| Fanny Joslin | Electra C. Barnard | Milo Barnard |
| Pliny F. Barnard | Samuel B. Childs | Emily Fisk |
| Julia Skinner | Jane Skinner | Lucina Phelps |
| Mary Smith | Orange Smith | Sidney Smith |
| Marshall Savage | Rebecca Savage | Orlow Barnard |
| Sally Dana | Lucy Carpenter | Laura Carpenter |
| Leonard Harrington | Hezekiah Thompson | |

## 1833

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tryphena Smith | Orilla S. Tewksbury | Elias P. Marsh |
| Luther Fairbanks Jr. | Polly Fairbanks | Mary P. Stoddard |
| Thomas Phelps | | |

## 1834

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Abigail Phelps | Rufus Barnard | Mary Barnard |
| Lucinda E. Barnard | Electa Wilder | Abigail N. Joslin |

## 1835

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Henry Hawley | Lydia Hawley | Amelia L. Dewey |
| Luther Ainsworth | Mrs. Luther Ainsworth | Levi Wilder |
| Abigail Johnson | Philo Hatch | Ashbel Stoddard |
| Robert O. Stoddard | Betsy Stoddard | Warren E. Hatch |
| Lucia Jones | Mary L. Pratt | Edna Tenney |
| Anna Campbell | John Dow | Charlotte Dow |
| Nancy Barron | | |

## 1836

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Peter Nourse | Martha Nourse | Luther Durant |
| Susan Durant | Emeline S, Durant | John B. Bisbee |
| Mrs. Lucy Sherman | | |

## 1837

Arnott G. Knight
Jemima Barnard
Nancy Bisbee
Arethusa Bisbee
Mary Bisbee

## 1838

Mary P. Jones
Samuel Chipman
Nancy Chipman
Pamelia Sherman
Langdon Sherman
Sarah Childs
Fidelia Wilder
Lovina Phelps
Joseph Kimball
Mrs. Joseph Kimball
Reuben T. Rust
Editha Rust
Simeon Stoddard

## 1839

Lewis Holden
Nancy Holden
Ruth Joslin
Joel E, Nourse
Harriet M. Joslin
Marian Childs
Eliza Ann Durant
Mary Jane Nourse
Marcia E. Nourse
Ann Maria Wilder
Mary Frances Kimball
Celia Skinner
Rubey K. Taylor
Elisha Hitchcock
Editha Hitchcock
Patty Hitchcock
Esther Jones

## 1840

Hezekiah Stoddard
David M. Phelps
Nathan Benton
Eunice Benton
Elmina D. Joslin
Laura M. Phelps

## 1843

Charles Jones
Harriet A. Jones
Zilpha B. Dewey
Calvin J. Joslin
John N. Phelps
Ira Bates
Eliza Bates
Gurley A. Phelps
Ira Bushnell
Luke Joslin
Edwin A. Jones
Osgood Joslin
Theophilus Huse
Polly Huse
Eleanor Stoddard
Daniel Skinner
Church Wallis

## 1844

Artemas Brown
Eunice Brown
Lydia B. Bisbee
Orpha C. Bushnell
Lucius E. Barnard

## 1845

Alexander S. Phelps

**1846**

Lucy J. Phelps

**1847**

Elijah Holden
Orpha C. Holden

**1848**

Mary Smith
Samuel C. Smith
Mary H. Smith
Nancy B. Freeman
Charlotte B. Hobbs

**1849**

Darius Gleason
Abigail Gleason
Sarah Pease
Olive Joslin
Louisa Newcomb
Joanna Joslin
Abigail Wheeler
Dorinda Jacobs
Ezra J.Bates
Naomi Bates
Charles C. Stoddard
Clarissa L. Stoddard
Emeline S. Prentiss
Charles Duren
Serena M. Duren
Lydia Barnard
Hannah Jones
Lucretia Jones
Phoebe Nourse

**1850**

David Allen
Mary Allen
Henry Stoddard

**1851**

Charles E. Bigelow
Mary J. Barnard
Sophia S. Wheeler

**1852**

James S. Newcomb
Harriet A. Newcomb
Nancy M. Burnham

**1854**

Mrs. Matilda Cushman

**1855**

Sophia P. Joslin
Harriet Joslin
Perrin P. Fiak

**1857**

Sarah S. Freeman

## 1858

Elzina B. Leach
Joseph H. Strong
Lucy J. Rice
Susan C. Jones
Aurilla Barnard
Abia L. Stoddard
Charlana Stoddard
Harriet L. Bigelow
Rev. Robert Stewart
Harriet M. Stewart

## 1859

Mary Eliza Stoddard

## 1861

Orman C. Palmer
Henry N. Bushnell
Edward A. Fisk
Harriet C. Fisk
Fidelia J. Fisk

## 1862

Rev. A.B. Dascomb
Stella N. Dascomb
Herman Wright
Mary J. Wright
Henry Dewey
Annette W. Walton
Amanda B. Fisk

## 1864

Cynthia Pike
John Twaddle
Rosanna Twaddle
Silas Wheeler
Tryphena S. Wheeler
Mary Ann Strong
Mary Jane Thompson
Sarah G. Bigelow
A. Gorham Matthews
Ellen N. Matthews
Addie Hastings
Mina Tewksbury
Ellen Thompson
Sarah Thompson
Carlos E. Jones
Walter A. Jones
James A. Thayer

## 1865

Emeline C. Learned
James Irving
Mrs. James Irving
Hattie M. Hastings
Lucy Joslin
Hiram W. Brown
John B. Thompson

## 1866

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| C. F. Clough | Percis Clough | Emeline A. Somerville |
| Meribah H. Tewksbury | Martha W. Smalley | Mary A. Waterman |
| Ellen M. Hastings | Theresa Joslin | James Baird 5th |
| Nancy Baird | Mary A. Turner | Sarah Lewis |
| John G. Lewis | Mary J. Baird | Mary M. Barnard |
| Elvira Bushnell | Gordon J. Bushnell | Eliza J. Dale |
| Fanny C. Davis | R. J. Gleason | Mary M. Gleason |
| Mary E. Guptil | Carrie S. Fisk | Loren W. Jones |
| Emily Joslin | Amelia A, Joslin | Isabel A, Kneeland |
| Abbie Parker | Pliny B. Fisk | Josiah W. Seaver |
| Charles D. Smith | Lucy M. Smith | Charles A. Smith |
| Harriet M. Smith | Joseph G. Smith | Addie E. Smith |
| Angie R. Stearns | William Turner | Mehitabel Barnard |
| Abbie L. Taylor | Annie M. Thompson | Rufus H. Barnard |

## 1867

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Hiram Carleton | E. M. Carleton | Mary M. Bushnell |
| Jane McCaughin | | |

## 1868

| | |
|---|---|
| Rev. J. H. Babbitt | Mary F. Babbitt |

## 1870

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Milo Taylor | Rosetta Thompson | Elnora M. Waterman |

## 1871

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Elizabeth Taylor | Lydia A. Bigelow | Mary E. Hastings |

## 1872

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Emory R. Wilder | Dea Huzziel Gleason | Emily Gleason |
| Mary E. Fisk | John Baird | Margaret Baird |
| James Thompson | Mary Jane Thompson | James Baird 4th |
| Samuel Baird | Eli D. Wheeler | |

**1873**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John Long | Sarah Long | Alice J. Taylor |
| Lewis J. Baird | Mehitabel Ryder | Nancie Thompson |
| Elizabeth J. Newcomb | Elizabeth Pierce | |

**1874**

| | |
|---|---|
| David Gleason | Emilie M. Gleason |

**1875**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John Stewart | Matilda Stewart | Charles R. Ramsey |
| Aurilla Ramsey | Lillian A. Ramsey | Sarah A. McAllister |
| Susie A. Spaulding | Cornelius E. Joslin | Josette Joslin |
| Rufus Bucklin | Emeline Bucklin | Mary E. Skinner |
| Roxy P. Jones | | |

**1876**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alexander Fuller | Emeline Fuller | Ida M. Abbott |
| Fannie S. Newcomb | Aubrey V. Nelson | Herbert G. Gleason |

**1877**

| | |
|---|---|
| Gordon J. Bushnell | Elizabeth J. Bushnell |

**1879**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Eldora W. Joslin | Joel Learned | Isabella Baird |
| Hugh Baird | | |

**1880**

| | |
|---|---|
| Esther C. Hewett | Rev. S. H. Robinson |

**1882**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mattie C. Prentiss | Helen M. Holden | Abbie S. Prentiss |
| Abbie L. Jones | Laura A. Jones | Clara A. Dartt |
| Fannie Pike | Jennie S. Colby | Maggie Patterson |
| Helen H. Dix | | |

**1883**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mary Hooker | Almira I. Hooker | Annette J. Hooker |

## 1886

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rev. L.E. Pangburn | Anie H. Pangburn | Clarence W. Brown |
| Frank H. Jones | Gertrude F. Lewis | Fred E Lewis |
| George R. Lewis | Mary A. Lewis | Harriet N. Lewis |
| Edwin C. Lewis | Abbie A. Newcomb | Jessie B. Ramsey |
| Della A. Thompson | Ida M. Thompson | Orrin H. Joslin |
| Mabel R. Joslin | Fidelia L. Joslin | George M. Jones |
| Lucy C. Jones | James M. Thompson | John Daniel Thompson |
| Adaline A. Gleason | John Barber | Emily D. Barber |
| Julia G. Joslin | Alice M. Bushnell | Fred R. Bushnell |

## 1887

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Clarence J. Allen | Eva O. J. Allen | Albert D. Barnard |
| Jennie M. Barnard | Frederick R. Ryle | George W. Wallis |

## 1888

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Genie L. Boyce | Rev. Elisha S. Fisk | Mary M. Fisk |
| Fred J. Fassett | Juliette M. Heath | Herbert H. Kew |
| John Patterson | Elizabeth Patterson | Robert J. Patterson |
| Althea M. Kneeland | Mary Jane Somerville | Rose B. Fulton |
| Ellen F. Wilder | Cora C. Kennedy | Nellie M. Ryle |
| Mary E. Gleason | Louise R. Gleason | Lizzie P. Baird |

## 1889

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| James H. Baird | John L. Baird | Belle F. Baird |
| Martha E. Thayer | William F. Wilder | George W. Olmstead |
| Eugene McCarthy Jr. | Oramel S. Joslin | William H. Howe |
| Belle M. Howe | Henry M. Miner | Burton D. Bisbee |
| Lucia R. Bisbee | Amanda M. Jones | Margaret M. Moriatta |
| Ann H. Somerville | Mary M. Lyman | Augusta A. Bigelow |
| Nellie J. Barber | Clara E. Dana | Hattie M. Davis |
| Sarah R. Baird | Orville J. Davis | Victoria N. Pierce |
| Vernon C. Pierce | James Black | Ann J. Black |
| Warren S. Murray | Clara G. Eaton | Jennie Grace Eaton |
| Ida M. Barnard | Florence A. Dana | |

**1890**

Ellen L. Folsom
Mary L. Moriatta
Naomi Bates
Edward Hiram Jones
Alice M. Baird
Gertrude L. Moriatta
Herbert T. Fisher
Ida V. Fisher
Jane Giddings
Anson L. Miner

**1891**

Alice T. Bisbee
Grace Edith Haselton
Winfield S. Brown

**1892**

Nellie Lucretia Maxwell
Sarah M. Boyce

**1893**

Georgia Adelie Wallis
Abbie Trask
Roena A. Jones
Orris Hastings

**1894**

Lilas J. Rowell
Lidana Rowell
Ida May Rowell
John R. Irving

**1896**

Sarah Irish
Jennie Patterson
Amelia Louisa LaBelle
Eliza Miner
Hannah M. Eddy
Annie Louisa Fisk

**1897**

John C. Graves

**1898**

Ervin S. Joslin
Elizabeth Ward Joslin
Etta Noon
Emma Marble

**1900**

Clara E. Somerville

**1902**

Rev. William Ganley
Grace Eldridge Ganley
Frank H. Wright
Anna M. Wright
Mrs. Walter Griffith
Elisabeth J. Bisbee
Lucia Jean Bisbee

**1903**

Louisa H. Douglas
John Henderson
Maude C. Henderson

**1906**

Rev. W. A. Remele
Jessica M. B. Jones

**1907**

Mrs. Frances Remele
Mrs. Sorelle Remele
Grace E. Savage

**1910**

Gertrude J. Bisbee
Freda Agnes Fielder
Philip E. Bisbee
William J. Graves
Harold H. Fisk

**1913**

Dr. Warren J. Howard
Lena E. Howard
Mary B. Farr
Harriet S. Marshall
John Nelson Buzzell
Luna Clara Buzzell
Helen Martha Bisbee
Evelyn Harriet Joslin
Clarence A. Bisbee
Persis R. Richardson
Irene M. Coussey
Elsie May Long

**1914**

Ward E. Joslin
Ruth Mary Joslin
Dwight W. Joslin
Maude Ella Nelson
Maude O'Brian

**1915**

Merville L. Martin
Gertrude A. Martin
Charlotte E. Pierce
Earle B. Pierce
Charles E, Fisk
Arthur C. Barnard
Marion Atwood Jones
Mrs. Eva E. Coursey
Bert C. Coursey
Florence T. Neill
Marion Rose Neill

**1917**

Alice T. Connor
John L. Connor
Mrs. Eliza J. Connor
Ralph H. Joslin
Earl A. Jones
Albert D. Barnard

**1918**

Stanley S. Buzzell
Laura B. DeCell
Ruth B. Jones
Hazel Ellen Palmer
Clyde Leland Baird
Clarence M. Tucker
Mrs. Hazel Cole

## 1919

Alton E. Farr
Lydia L. Skinner
Esther L. Skinner
Rolland Stafford
Edith Stafford
LaVonne Skinner

## 1922

Samuel Baird
Mrs. Samuel Baird
Gordon Fory
Mrs. Gordon Fory

## 1923

Mrs. C. M. Dana

## 1924

Mrs. Ross Goodyear
Earl W. Baird
Manetta E. Baird
Mrs. Phoebe Druin
Jeremiah N. Kew
Mrs. Martha Kew
Josie N. Kew
Ruth E. Kew
Clinton J. Kew
Harry J. Palmer
Clifton E. Kew

## 1925

Stephen P. Joslin
Lena B. Joslin
Riford S. Joslin
Charles K. Jones
Orman A. Tucker
Clifford M. Wallis
Guerdon R. Fory
Mary A. Fory
Margaret S. Fory
Frank E. Druin
Helen Reed
Mrs. Varney Higley

## 1926

Dorothy Savage Bisbee

## 1930

Louisa Joslyn
Mrs. Ellen Robertson
Fletcher Joslin
John A. Dodds Jr.
Frances Dodds
Alleen Dodds
Marcella Cota
Benjamin Shaw
Alice Whitcomb
Maxine Joslyn
Ira Robertson
Rebecca Joslin
Robert Joslin
Elmore Goodyear
Richard Newcomb
Maude B. Richardson
Conwell M. Richardson
Catherine Newcomb
Donald Stafford
Harold Stafford
Harriet Jones
George Sawyer

## 1935

Mrs. Myrtie Jones
Bernice Straw
Florence Baird
Janice Joslin
Walter Jones, Jr.
Mrs. Norma Budden
Martha Buzzell
Kendall Newcomb
Malcolm Dana
Florence Jones
Elizabeth Jones
Alberta Stafford
Jean Straw
Olive Baird
Norma Dodds
Malcolm Joslyn
Esther Joslyn

## 1936

Esther Buzzell

## 1938

Richard Dodds
Ella Joslin
Barbara Baird
Ethel Kinsley
Ethel Maxham
Christina Hamel
Stephen Joslin
Alice Bisbee
Katherine Palmer
Philip Jones
Margaret Bisbee
Francina Clark
Mrs. Ella J. Clark

## 1940

Lutie Joslin
Kolin Stokes
Laura R. Gregg
Priscilla Joslin
Marion Bisbee
Reta R. Joslin
Mrs. Margaret Bisbee
Rev. Theodore Gregg
Kolin S. Linnane

## 1941

Dorothy B. Joslin
Mary E. Joslyn
Keith W. Stafford
Evelyn Bisbee
Mildred Joslyn
Mrs. Mary Allen
Margaret A. Dodds
Robert W. Stafford

## 1942

Elizabeth Dale Joslin

## 1943

Leon Joslin

**1944**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pearl A. Tucker | Alice Tucker | Helen Stafford |
| Oris Joslyn | June Damon | Doris Cutts |
| Ruth Damon | Joyce Damon | Richard M. Bisbee |

**1945**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mahlon Jamieson | Donald Joslyn | Dorothy Burbank |
| Mavis Lavanway | Elsie Wallis | W. Otis Wallis |
| Lorraine Hood | Rev. Daniel Strickland | Mrs. D. Strickland |
| Mrs. Robert Fulton | Mrs. Amos McManus | Eleanor Farr Haskin |

**1947**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Andrew Baird | Robert Bisbee | Emogene Bisbee |
| W. Bover Graves | Marion Graves | Rowena Jones |
| Ferd Newcomb | Hazel Newcomb | Everett Palmer |
| Charlotte Tucker | Kathleen Tucker | Mrs. Gertrude Baird |

**1948**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Clesson Eurich | Gertrude Folsom | Lois Jones |
| Wendell Folsom | | |

**1949**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Edward Eurich | Dorothea Kenyon | Mary Lou Kenyon |
| Homer Waterman | Bermice Waterman | Alleen Eurich |

**1950**

| | |
|---|---|
| Hadley Gaylord | Eloise Gaylord |

**1952**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pricilla Mays | Margaret Mays | Nancy Demas |
| Ronald Graves | | |

**1953**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Joanna E, Eurich | Ann Carol Jones | Duayne L. Joslyn |

## 1954

J. Allen Dodds
Ada Dodds
Gordon Eurich
Palmer R. Gaylord
Kenneth R. Joslin
Raymond P. Joslin
Myron L. Jones
Eugene C. Moulton
Louise R. Moulton
Joyce M. Palmer
Lois Palmer
Shepard Quimby
Margaret E. Quimby
Mavis Ricketts

## 1955

Frank Day
Anne Day

## 1956

Nelda D. Andrews
Joann V. Eurich
Sally A. Eurich
Janet Eurich
Patricia Folsom
Stephen D. Joslin
Nancy H. Stafford
Margaret Livingston
Russell E. Mann
Richard Messer
Dolores J. Moriarty
Elizabeth A. Moriarty
John D. Moriarty
Jennie P. Messer
Roger R. Stafford

## 1958

Janice Barnard
Donald Barnard
Bernard Dunbar
Gordon Folsom
Eunice B. Farr
Julia Gaylord
Robert Joslin
Joyce Joslin
Richard Jamieson
David Jamieson
Norman Jones
Rita J. Joslin
Marcia Lee Joslin
Marjorie E. Joslin
Robert Lawless
Norman Neill
Delbert Palmer
Carol Palmer
Morris Stafford

## 1959

Sandra L. Bisbee
Donna L. Demas
Ruth Blodgett Hayes
Charles Hayes

## 1961

Larry Jamieson
Perry Joslin
Catherine Moulton
Brian Moulton

## 1962

Paul Demas

**1963**

Kevin Eurich
James Keith
Blanche Kathan
Eleanor Orr
Stanley Orr
Stanley Thurber
Beverly Thurber

**1965**

Herbert Leach
Robert Leach
Rev. Charles Parker

**1966**

Phyllis Gaylord
Judith Jamieson
Myrna Stafford

**1969**

William Gabaree
Diana Gabaree
Hazel L. Miller

**1970**

Elizabeth Eurich
Pearl Gaylord
Susan Haskin
Dorothy Messer
James Moulton

**1972**

Carol Hosford
Ilene Joslin
Diane Kessler
Maureen Lawless
Sandra Lawless
Earlene Parkinson

**1974**

Patricia Dean
Richard Dean
C. Richard Dean
Jean Dean
Phyllis Gile
Cindy Gabaree
Jolyn Joslin
Lynn Kingsbury
Roland Stafford
Shirley Viens
Phyllis Gonzales
Helen Keith

**1976**

Kathleen R. Baird
Rev. Thomas Baird
Marguerite C. Bruce
Sheldon Bruce

**1977**

Judith Ann Corey
Stacey Corey
Eric Haskin
Lynne Kingsbury

**1979**

Eric Benz
Gail Benz
Marjorie Hall
James Groom
Carol Groom

**1980**

Rosalie LaRock
Regina Miller
Rosemary Moulton

**1981**

Thomas Blair
Susan Blair

**1982**

Sandra Gallup
William Gallup
Catherine Hansen
Edwin Hansen
Eleanore Little
Justus Little
Rev. Paul Martz
Patricia Martz
Stanley Peck
Chester Williams
Frances Williams

**1983**

Susan Grenert
Laura Brines
Joan Cnossen

**1984**

Ed Benham
Trudy Benham
Sheila Eurich
Jeanne Joslin
Heather Lincoln
Sonya Martin
Rebecca Martz
Quentin A. Pearson
Fred Veins
Tammy VanSchaick

**1985**

Diana Demas
Jennifer Folsom
Donald Kenney
June Kenney
Fred Kenney
Elaine Lee
William Lincoln
Patricia Lincoln
Linda Mungia
Jack Mungia

**1986**

Emily Martz
David Paton
Tisha Rennau
Kimberly Tucker

**1987**

Kristine E. Benz
Gregor A. Clement
Yvonne A. Peck

**1988**

Kathryne Harner
Rick Rayfield
Roberta Tracy
Philip Wilber
Daria Wilber

## 1989

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| James Hildebrand | Joan Hildebrand | James Leith |
| Tory L. Peck | Beatrice Schirmer | Howard Schirmer |

## 1990

| | |
|---|---|
| Kim Eustis | Chris McPeake |

## 1991

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John Bunten | Emily Bisbee | Cheryl Bunten |
| Tracy Coutts | John Cnossen | Joni McCraw |
| Tracy Cnossen | Sarah Karminski | |

## 1992

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Leigh Clark | Thomas Clark | Pamela Kennedy |
| Linda Perkins | Stephen Perkins | Katherine Bunten |

## 1995

On November 1, 1995, nearly 200 years after the founding of the first Congregational Church the following people were listed as Congregational Members.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mary Allen | Janice Barnard | Ed Benham |
| Trudi Benham | Eric Benz | Gail Benz |
| Emily Bisbee | Richard Bisbee | Laura Brines |
| Cheryl Bunten | John Bunten | Katherine Bunten |
| Mildred Burbank | Myrna S. Bass | Kristine Benz |
| Robert Bisbee | Leigh Clark | Thomas Clark |
| Joan Cnossen | John Cnossen | Tracy Cnossen |
| Judith Corey | Tracey Coutts | Ruth Chobian |
| Gregory Clement | Stacey Corey | Ann Day |
| Dyanne Demas | Richard Dean | Jean Dean |
| Richard Dean | Paul Demas | Alleen Eurich |
| Edward Eurich | Elizabeth Eurich | Florence Eurich |
| Gordon Eurich | JoAnn Eurich | Kevin Eurich |
| Sheila Eurich | Kimberly Eutis | Gordon Folsom |
| Gertrude Folsom | Wendell Folsom | William Gabaree |
| Francena Galbraith | Cynthia Gabaree | Sandra Gallup |
| William Gallup | Eloise Gaylord | Hadley Gaylord |
| Bover Graves | Marion Graves | Ronald Graves, Sr. |

Susan Grenert
Eleanor Haskin
Joan Hildebrand
Kathryne Harner
Richard Jamieson
Mahlon Jamieson
Elizabeth Joslin
Fletcher Joslin
Sara Karminski
James Keith
Ruth Kew
Elenore Littel
Herbert Leach
Patricia Lincoln
Elizabeth Martin
Brian Moulton
Russell Mann
Richard Messer
Sandra Mix
Linda Mungia
Stanley Orr
Kathryn Palmer
Torey Peck
Steve Perkins
Mavis Ricketts
Alberta Stafford
Lavonne Skinner
Roberta Tracy
Fred Viens
Clifford Wallis
Ann Bull

James Groom
Eric Haskin
Carol Hosford
June Hill
Donald Joslin
Lois Jones
Jeanne Joslin
Ilene Joslin
Pamela Kennedy
Nancy Keith
Lynne Kingsbury
Justus Littel
Elaine Lee
William Lincoln
Regina Miller
Rosemary Moulton
Sonya Martin
Phyllis Miller
John Moriarty
Norman Neill
Delbert Palmer
David Paton
Yvonne Peck
Rick Rayfield
Tisha Rennau
Helen Stafford
Morris Stafford
Kimberly Tucker
Shirley Veins
Otis Wallis

Phyllis Gonzales
Jim Hildebrand
Nelda H. Hallstrom
Lorraine Howe
Lawrence Jamieson
Duayne Joslin
Jolyn Joslin
Raymond Joslin
Frederick Kenney
Judith Kissane
James Leith
Jean S. Laird
Heather Lincoln
Joni McCraw
Dolores Moriarty
James Moulton
Ethel Maxham
Hazel Miller
Jack Mungia
Eleanor Orr
Everett Palmer
Quentin Pearson
Linda Perkins
Pearl Robinson
Beatrice Schirmer
Susan Simms
Margaret Thompson
Tammy Van Schaick
Pear Vargas
Bernice Young

## ADDITIONAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The following members signed the petition agreement and purchased pews to the building of the third Congregational Church February 13, 1874.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Stephen P. Joslin | Jas. H. Babbitt | J. H. Hastings |
| R. J. Gleason | Huzzial Gleason | Orvis Jones |
| W. A. Jones | A. Fisk | E. A. Fisk |
| Kyman Fisk | G. W. Olmstead | C. E. Bigelow |
| D. C. Barnard | Josiah Holden | Joel Learner |
| E. W. Bisbee | R. H. Barnard | Otis Wallis |
| L. C. Jones | Charles E. Jones | James Newcomb |
| John Waterman | H. N. Bushnell | Z. B. D. Phelps |
| George W. Fisher | John Summerville | Daniel Skinner |
| C. E. Joslin | James Baird IV | Andrew Blair |
| J. B. Thompson | E. A. Dumas | Ira Richardson |
| M. S. Strong | James Baird, Jr. | Charles D. Smith |
| Lynus Barnard | J. G. Lewis | F. J. Green |
| Richard Strong | J. H. Strong | A. A. Kneeland |
| William Blair | John Baird | James H. Baird |
| John Long | Stephen Prentis | Mary P. Brown |
| D. S. Stoddard | Nathan Boyce | C. F. Ramsey |
| John Patterson | Robert Fulton | W. H. Haselton |
| A. F. Richardson | Rufus Bucklin | C. F. Ramsey |
| M. S. Strong | | |

On December 18, 1890 almost 100 years after the founding (94 years to be exact) the following people were members of the Congregational Church Society as recorded in the second volume of the Congregational record book.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| R. J. Gleason | John G. Lewis | Edward A. Fisk |
| S. P. Joslin | J. S. Newcomb | C. D. Smith |
| H. N. Bushnell | W. A. Jones | A. A. Kneeland |
| J. B. Thompson | J. H. Hastings | R. H. Barnard |
| D. C. Barnard | Rufus Bucklin | Otis Wallis |
| C. F. Ramsey | W. L. Stoddard | G. W. Olmstead |
| Burton D. Bisbee | James Baird | O. H. Joslin |
| Samuel Baird | G. M. Jones | Mrs. W. A. Jones |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mrs. J. B. Thompson | Mrs. S. M. Thompson | Mrs. J. G. Lewis |
| Mrs. J. Baird | Mrs. G. Pierce | John Barber |
| Mrs. L. A. Fisk | Mr. J. S. Newcomb | J. M. Gleason |
| Mrs. R. J. Gleason | Mrs. A. A. Kneeland | Mrs. J. E. Fisher |
| Mrs. Roxey Jones | Mrs. J. Waterman | Mrs. H. N. Bushnell |
| Mrs. John Barber | Gertrude R. Lewis | Mrs. G. W. Olmstead |
| James B. Thompson | Carrie S. Joslin | George W. Wallis |
| W. F. Wilder | Geo. R. Lewis | Henry A. Minor |
| James Thompson | Addie E. Dale | Fannie C. Hazelton |
| A. D. Barnard | Mrs. A. D. Barnard | Mrs. W. H. Wilder |
| John L. Baird | Lulie A. Jones | E. H. Jones |
| Hugh Baird | Mrs. J. L. Baird | Jesse B. Graves |
| William Ganley | Walter E. Jones | Mrs. Burton D. Bisbee |
| Orris P. Hastings | Mrs. A. W. Bigelow | Alice M. Bushnell |
| Mrs. G. M. Jones | Mrs. W. E. Jones | E. S. Joslin |
| D. McLaughlin | Mrs. M. L. Martin | V. C. Pierce |
| Mrs. E. S. Joslin | Mrs. A. L. Campbell | W. W. Howe |
| Mrs. W. W. Howe | Alton E. Farr | J. F. Connor |

Author's Note: It has been a difficult task to get a complete list of members of the Congregational Church and Society for the 200 years. The years 1993 to 2000 are not complete and thus not recorded here. This writer realizes that some people have changed membership affiliation from time to time; however, this listing is meant to list all the people who have at one time been a member of the Congregational Church and Society. An apology is extended to anyone who has been omitted, whose name has been misspelled, or who may have been entered incorrectly. This information was taken from the two volumes of Congregational Society records and from the Congregational Church Manual 1893. Some of this material is very old, in individual handwriting and difficult to read. It is hoped that this material will assist in some way to keep the Congregational Church and Society alive in the hearts of the next generations and will in some small way pay tribute to the hundreds of people who have given so generously to the life of the Church and Community.

## Other Churches in Waitsfield

EPISCOPAL: In 1853 several citizens led by Roderick Richardson, Jr. established Episcopal worship in the Universalist church and formed a church of some 52 members, with Rev. John E. Johnston as pastor. Rev. J.N. Hopkins, Jr., and Rev. Hazard preached here until 1867. It ceased to exist by 1870. However, in the late 1980's the Episcopal society again surfaced and in 2000 is holding services in Waitsfield.

BAPTIST: A Baptist church of eleven members was organized in May 1835 under the leadership of Rev. John Idle. This organization became quickly associated with the Universalist society and assisted in the construction of the Union Meeting House. Their first services were conducted in 1838 by Rev. Guilford. Rev. Friend Blood preached at this church for a short time when Rev. P. Amsden followed him. In 1847 Rev. H.P. Warren became the pastor; however, the regular services dwindled. The records of the church society were lost in the fire of Clerk Roswell Richardson's house fire. The society did continue for a few years, but no lasting records seem to be available. The society probably ceased about 1850. This church attained considerable membership at one time, but was broken during the "miller" excitement of that time.

No information could be found concerning the miller excitement or its relation to the church.

UNIVERSALIST: The Universalist Society was established December 30, 1830, with Roderick Richardson moderator, Charles Benedict clerk. Rev. Mr. Fuller was the first preacher, and the first services were held in the schoolhouse, barns or wherever it might seem best. An effort was made to establish a claim to a use of the Congregational church, one-fourth of the time, which was unsuccessful. Six years later, in 1837, the Universalists, in connection with the Baptists, erected the brick church, of which the former owned about three-fourths. This brick building was called the Union Meeting House. Rev. J.E. Palmer, Rev. E. Brown, T. C. Eaton, G.S. Gurney, C.C. Thornton, John Gregory, and W.U. Walbridge were pastors. There were no church services during the summer. After 1870, no regular services were being held in the church, and in 1903 it was sold to the local lodge of Odd Fellows. This building has been known as the Odd Fellows Hall for most of the 1900's. The building has been used for town meetings; school plays and in 2000 is used as the place of the Valley Players

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH: The first Methodist preaching in this town was in 1797 under the Vershire Circuit which included 25 towns. In 1804 the Vershire Circuit became the Barre Circuit. In 1824 the Barre Circuit became the Moretown Circuit consisting of Middlesex, Moretown, Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren. From 1824 to 1843, some 30 people served as pastors of these churches. In June 24, 1822, the Methodists established the Methodist Episcopal Society in Waitfield with Rev. Wilder Mack as their minister. At that time they had 32 members. The first parsonage was built in 1829. This later became the home of Meriden L. Richardson, then Clayton and Maude Richardson. In 2000, it is the Waitsfield Inn.

In 1833, Rufus Barrett gave land in Irasville for the first church edifice erected in 1833. This was enlarged in 1852. This church building was built just north of the parsonage. In 2000, it is called THE STORE. For a while, Waitsfield and Warren became a station, but in 1844 Waitsfield became a separate charge. In 1870, the village Methodist church was built at a cost of $7,500. This second church was destroyed by fire February 24, 1894. On October 11, 1894, a third Methodist church had been built on the same site – debt fee. The Methodist society continued to grow for many years. In 1896, there were 153 members. The following statement was made in the Septem-

ber 1, 1896 issue of the NORTHFIELD NEWS, "The Sunday school is in a prosperous condition, with Frank Bragg as superintendent. The Epworth League is doing a grand work and has for its president Mrs. Alice O. Berry…. The pastor is Rev. A.B. Enright."

*Inside Third Methodist Church*

In 1924, the Methodist society and the Congregational society voted to form a federation known as the Federated Church. This agreement existed until 1998 when the federation was dissolved and the Methodist society ended. In 1941 the Methodist Church building was sold to the Town of Waitsfield for a Community Hall. This Methodist church building in 2000 is The Quilt Shop.

## WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

"The Wesleyan Methodist Church in Waitsfield was organized August 12, 1853 by signing the following article vie: "We whose names are here with annexed by signing this article do resolve ourselves into a Wesleyan Methodist Church, and adopt the doctrines and discipline of said connection as a consistent and scriptural rule for the government of our lives as Christian reformers." The following names were annexed to the above article.

| | |
|---|---|
| James E. Dow | Lydia B. Hawley |
| Sarah B. Dow | J.C. Prentis |
| Timothy Reed | L.C. Prentis |
| Susan B. Reed | Hannah M. Dow |
| Harry Hawley | Caroline Pierce |

At the organization of the church, Brother Harry Hawley was chosen Leader. Lyman Prindle commenced preaching in Waitsfield March 1853. By 1962 there were 45 members.

## Record of the doings of Church Meetings:

At the church meeting called April 16, 1854, Timothy Reed was chosen delegate to the Champlain Yearly Conference of the Wesleyan M. Connection held at West Chazy, N.Y. May 30,1854.

"A Church meeting was called May 28th 1854 by our Paster L. Prindle. The Pastor was chosen Chairman. Sarah Palmer requested admission [sic] into the church and by a vote was so admitted. Harry Hawley was chosen church clerk, Rufus Bucklin and his wife were received as members of this church from Wesleyan M. Church in Warren, Vt. Meeting closed by prayer Harry Hawley Chh Clerk"

"At a church meeting called July 8th 1854 the Pastor was chosen Chairman. Rufus Bucklin and G. C. Prentis were chosen Stewards of said church. Meeting closed by prayer. Harry Hawley, Clerk"

"At a church meeting called March 31 1860 the Pastor Lyman Prindle acted as chairman of said meeting. C.E. Joslin was chosen clerk. E.B. Richardson, Samuel Long, J.C. Prentis were chosen Stewards. R. Bucklin chosen class leader and delegate to the annual conference held at Morely, New York May 1, 1860. C. E. Joslin Clerk"

"Church meeting called April 14th 1864 Rev. Lyman Prindle acted as chairman of said meeting. T. Reed having requested to have his name crossed from the church records. His request was granted by a vote of the church. R. Bucklin chosen delegate to the annual conference to be holden [sic] at Lisbon, N.Y. April 29th 1864 C. E. Joslin Clerk"

The above information concerning the Wesleyan Methodist Church was taken directly from hand written notes by Harry Hawley and C. E. Joslin from August 12, 1853 to April 14, 1864. There are further notes not recorded here and it is not known if these are complete.

The churches in the early periods had members who joined the church and signed the constitutions as their sign of commitment. They also organized Societies consisting of church members who took on the tasks of operating the church and owning church property: Congregational Society,

Methodist Society. The Wesleyan Methodist Church accomplished the same function as recorded below. Thus a person could be a member of the Church, but not of the Society. The Societies were the people who governed the church and own the church property.

THE FIRST WESLEYAN METHODIST SOCIETY: In November 1853, the First Wesleyan Methodist Society was organized. This society was under the leadership of Orvis Jones. The first Constitution read, "We the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Waitsfield, being desirous of promoting the public Worship of God, and of propagating the doctrines of the Gospel, do hereby associate and agree, to form a society by the name of the First Wesleyan Methodist Society in Waitsfield, in accordance with the Laws of Vermont in such cases made and provided. We further agree to meet at the house of James Dow, Thursday, the tenth day of Nov. inst. (1853) at six o'clock P.M. and there adopt such By Laws, and choose such society officers as the members of said society may think expedient when met."

"At a meeting of the signers of the Constitution of the First Wesleyan Methodist Society in Waitsfield, held at the dwelling house of James Dow in Waitsfield on the 10th day November A.D. 1853, according to the provisions thereof. Timothy Reed was chosen Moderator and Orvis Jones Clerk. On a motion, voted to adopt the first second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth articles of the by laws. There were 88 members listed at this time. At the November 10th 1853 meeting, Timothy Reed was chosen Moderator and Orvis Jones Clerk. Officers chosen at that same meeting were: Orvis Jones Clerk, C.E. Joslin Treasurer, Timothy Reed Collector, and Almon Joslin, Harry Hawley, James Dow Prudential Committee. This seemed to be encouraged because of the desire of members of other churches to take a more active role relative to the slavery issue, temperance and other reforms. There were also those unhappy with the Methodist Episcopal Society for varying reasons. This organization used the old Congregational Church on the Common until the building was in total disrepair. Some of the pastors were: Lyman Prindle, L.C. Partridge, John Dolph. Rev. Prindle left in 1864. Rev. Prindle lived on East Road east of the Common. The last recorded meeting that was found by this author was April 14, 1864. C.E. Joslin signed this record, Clerk. The Methodist Church was sold in 1941, but the Methodist Society continued until 1998.

The above paragraph taken directly from hand written notes by Orvis Jones, Society Clerk. See the Congregational Society formed September 27, 1800 found on earlier chapter pages.

WAITSFIELD UNITY SOCIETY: Helen G. Putnam established this society in July 1888. Milo A. Bushnell was clerk of this society. Services continued through December 27, 1888 under Helen Putnam's leadership. However, there is no record of further activity.

*Catholic Church Picture taken 2000*

CATHOLIC: As has been mentioned, there were several members of the Catholic Church living in Waitsfield, who attended St. Patricks Church in Moretown.

The following four paragraphs were written by John "Jack" Smith whose family attended the Catholic Church in Moretown:

Prior to the existence of Our Lady of the Snows church, religious celebrations for the Mad River Valley Catholic community were centered at St. Patricks church in Moretown, a mission church of St. Andrews in Waterbury. In 1954, Rev. John Dwyer was pastor at St. Andrews when Father Louis Logue was assigned as Curate. The new Waitsfield church was a manifestation of the vision and determination of Father Logue. An avid skier, Father Logue began offering Mass for skiers at the Mad River Glen Basebox. With the opening of the Sugarbush Resort, he offered Mass in the cocktail lounge of the Sugarbush Inn for tourists flocking to the area.

Father Logue led the drive to finance and build Our Lady of the Snows church. Planning was begun in 1960, and a fund raising drive was initiated with a gift of $50,000 by Bishop Joyce from the Martin Estate in memory of Mrs. Jane Foley Martin, who had been born in Waitsfield. The architect was Roland Whittier of Burlington, and the builder was Kenneth Adams and Sons of Milton for a contract price of $101,758.54. The land on which the building was erected was part of the Lareau Farm and was a gift from Philip and Fleurette Lareau.

The first Mass in the church was celebrated by Father Logue on Christmas Eve in 1963, and the building was dedicated by Bishop Joyce on March 1, 1964. In 1965, this church along with St. Patricks in Moretown became a separate parish apart from the Waterbury parish. A single wide trailer was installed adjacent to the church as a rectory for the priest's use.

Construction of a parish hall was commenced in May of 1979. This building, named Founders Hall in recognition of the priests and lay people who over the years have made up the Valley Catholic Community, contains a large meeting space, kitchen and classrooms. The hall was constructed almost completely with volunteer labor, both Catholic and non-Catholic alike, and was dedicated by Bishop Marshall on January 4, 1981.

The priests who have been entrusted with leadership of the parish are:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1965 | Raymond A. Adams |
| 1968 | William P. Morgan |
| 1972 | Rev. Donald J. Ravey |
| 1977 | Rev. Michael K. Madden |
| 1985 | Rev. John W. O'Connell |
| 1986 | Rev. Michael Augustinowitz |
| 1991 | Rev. Kevin E. Rooney |
| 1995 | Rev. Donald E. Ritchie |
| 2000 | Rev. Bernard W. Bourgeois |

Later in the 1990's, it became necessary because of the membership to begin to share leadership with other Catholic churches. In 2000, the church still exists and is also used by other church groups.

# CHAPTER XV
# COMMUNICATIONS

It was 1876 when Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone. It did not take long for this new technology to take giant steps forward. Faster and more convenient communication made life in this developing country more tolerable. People had the printed page, but they longed for a closer contact with family and friends. Mad River Valley, isolated as it was in the heart of the Green Mountains, was no exception. The Vermont Telephone and Telegraph Company was formed in 1892. This Company was acquired by New England Telephone and Telegraph Company in 1897. Andrew C. Brown, a Civil War veteran and later a successful business man in Montpelier, received a license from New England Telephone & and Telegraph to established the Montpelier Telephone Exchange about April 1881. Montpelier Exchange was later purchased by Vermont Telephone and Telegraph Company.

As early as 1882, there was a move to have a toll line into Waitsfield. Forty-six citizens of Waitsfield pledged money and agreed to a contract with the Montpelier Telephone Exchange for the "purpose of securing the erection and maintenance of said telephone line." [Toll line] According to one source, a sum of $500 was required, but the amount raised by this contract was $630.00. This contract was signed June 9, 1900. Francis A. Boyce had the only telephone in Waitsfield in his store. Mr. Boyce store was the brick building known in 2000 as the Masonic Hall. Author's note: There are conflicting dates as to the exact date of this original toll line into Waitsfield. One source indicates that a toll line was in Waitsfield in 1880. Kevin Eurich, in his book, *Telephone Heritage in the Hills and Valleys of Vermont*, suggests 1882 while another source says 1888. The contract by the 46 citizens of Waitsfield was signed June 9, 1900 as indicated above. An 1891 Montpelier Telephone Exchange Company directory shows a Toll Station in Waitsfield. The year 1888 seems to be the factual date that the actual toll line was in Waitsfield.

Another quirk of fate for Waitsfield was the fact that Matt Bushnell Jones brother of Walter E. Jones was a graduate from law school in 1897. Matt B. Jones became General Counsel and Vice-President of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company so he was in a position to know what the future was for this new technology. He in turn informed his brother, Walter E. Jones. Walter E. Jones, Ziba McAllister and Charles E. Jones invested to form a telephone company. These were all prominent men in town. Charles E. Jones was moderator for 15 years, selectman six years, and Assistant Judge Washington County Court, 1892-98. Ziba McAllister was Town Clerk, Postmaster, Tavern Keeper, business man for many years. Walter E. Jones, a prominent merchant, had served in many capacities of Town affairs.

About 1902, Walter E. Jones invested $250, Ziba McAllister invested $10, and Charles E. Jones invested an unknown amount in the original contract. They soon purchased "all lines of telephone poles together with the wires thereon" in Fayston and Waitsfield from the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company. However, NET&T Co. remained the licensed company for the territory. The now formed Waitsfield Telephone Company area of operation was Waitsfield and South Fayston.

It did not take the local business men long to realize that this was a venture to be quickly captured. Thus twenty two men, Z.H. McAllister, J.W. Gregory, G.N. Billings, W.E. Jones, H.W.

Belden, O. M. Eaton, C. J. Greene, J. D. Davis, R. J. Gleason, R. J. Browne, Dr. H.T.J. Howe, E. S. Joslin, C. E. Jones, G. M. Jones, O. G. Eaton, J.A. Smith, C. M. Richardson, O. J. McAllister, W. W. McAllister, W. G. McAllister, J. J. Kelty, and M. J. Waterman became the incorporators "body politic and corporate by the name of the Waitsfield and Fayston Telephone Company" approved by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont on November 30, 1904.

By this time, independent telephone lines were being strung from Northfield to Warren; Roxbury to East Warren, and a line into Fayston. E. W. Slayton owned lines in Warren, but on October 9, 1904, he sold the lines to Walter Jones and Ziba McAllister. Gilbert R. Andrews also owned some lines in Warren and Waitsfield especially in East Warren. On July 11, 1918, Gilbert R. Andrews sold his lines to Alton Farr for $1,700.

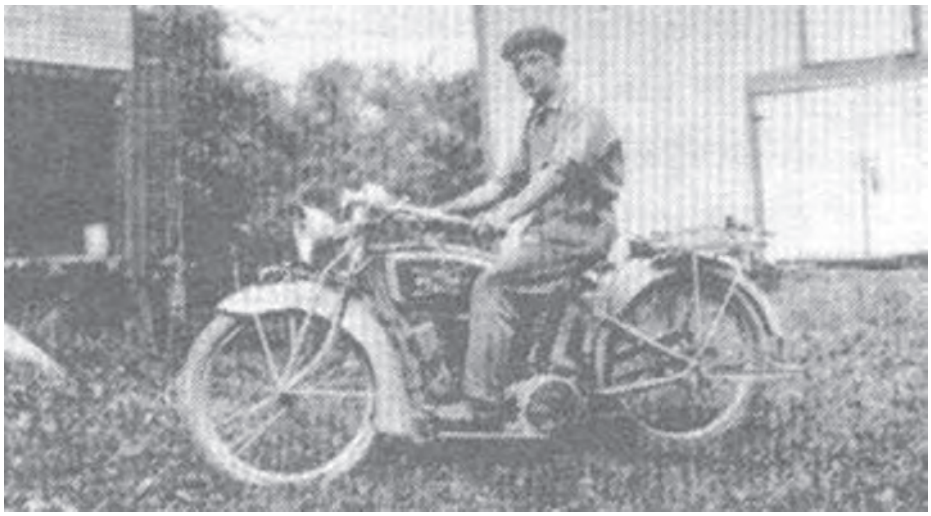
Walter A. Jones and Ziba McAllister and the original stockholders purchased most of these independent lines and formed one system. There are conflicting accounts as to when **all** of the independent telephone companies were actually combined into one company called Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone Company.

There were lines by 1904 onto Waitsfield Common. Clarence Bisbee said, "in (1904)…there was a line that ran out of the village up onto Waitsfield Common … beginning at Arthur Polands. I think he was the first one, then Fred Carroll on up the hill over Spring Hill onto the Common and there was a line that went over to my Dad's (Burton D. Bisbee)." Spring Hill is now called Joslin Hill Road. "I (Clarence Bisbee) think the line went on over to Earl Bairds."

In 1905, there were three Telephone Companies serving Warren and Waitsfield. The G. R. Andrews Company served Warren and part of Waitsfield, the Waitsfield and Fayston Telephone Company served Waitsfield and Fayston, and New England Telephone and Telegraph offered toll stations in the Valley. Thus several businesses in Waitsfield had two telephones in their homes. For example, Josiah A. Smith who had a teamster business had two telephones in his house. Josiah A. Smith lived in the second building on the right after leaving the Village Covered Bridge.

Waitsfield had its own switchboard in Ziba McAllister's house and connected up lines by 1904 (as noted above by Clarence Bisbee's remarks), but the service was limited to Waitsfield and Fayston. In 1905 Waitsfield Fayston Telephone Company listed 55 subscribers. However, New England Telephone and Telegraph was the licensed company for the territory. But on July 24, 1908 an agreement was made with NET&T which allowed Alton Farr the rights to Waitsfield, Fayston, Moretown, and Warren., thus the beginning of the Waitsfield – Fayston Telephone Company. Walter E. Jones became the manager and Stephen Ervin Joslin was the elected President. Author's note: Stephen E. Joslin always signed his name as E. S. Joslin thus causing confusion within some sources.

By March 1908, a young man from Moretown, Alton E. Farr, who worked for the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, and who was also known by Matt B. Jones, was enticed to come to Waitsfield as manager of the Telephone Company. Alton Farr was born in Moretown, Vermont on November 8, 1881. In 1899, Mr. Farr joined the Construction Department of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company. In 1904, Alton Farr married Mary Belle Rose. They were divorced in 1923. In 1924, Alton married Eunice Florence Buzzell. Alton Farr stayed with NET&T until he resigned April 16, 1908 to take over the management of the Waitsfield Telephone Company. .



*Alton Farr on his Excelsior Autocycle*

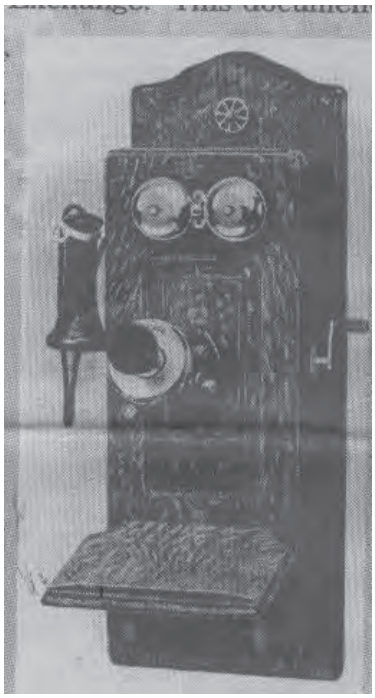
Alton Farr almost immediately set about to purchase/own and control Waitsfield – Fayston Telephone Company. Alton Farr had written to the Waitsfield Company proposing that in lieu of a cash purchase of the shares, he would provide free service - "for $15.00 per year I propose to give you continual service and service to any station of the system in the Mad River Valley, and the quality of service I assure will be of a first-class character…" The company "had purpose and right of acquiring, building, maintaining, and operating telephone lines." At this time, most of the shareholders of the original agreement sold their shares to Alton Farr with the stipulation that he perform as he agreed. In fact, Alton Farr had until May 1, 1913 to prove he could provide this satisfactory service or he would have to return the shares. Mr. Farr never had to return the shares. Walter E. Jones remained a stockholder for several years. In fact, all shares did not get purchased by Alton Farr. It was not until 1966 that all stocks were closed out and Dana and Eleanor Farr Haskins owned 100% of the company.

Alton Farr began to purchase other existing lines in the valley. He purchased the Roxbury Telephone Company line that ran into Moretown. In July 24, 1908, he purchased the Moretown lines owned by Burton Ward and Dr. Haylet and on July 11, 1918, Alton Farr purchased the Gilbert R. Andrews lines that still existed in East Warren and Warren. This G. R. Andrews line ran from the Roxbury railroad station over Northfield Mountain. This line and equipment had been in place from the beginning and ran into East Warren, Warren and Granville. At this time, Orange County Telephone Company listed 87 customers in Warren. In 1905, Waitsfield listed 55 customers; monthly rates were $1.50 per month. In 1914, 175 customers were listed; in 1926 there were 256 customers with the rate of $2.00 for a 15 party line and $2.75 for private line residence within 1 mile of the central office.

Alton Farr could be seen repairing lines, inspecting lines and installing lines through the valley either by horse and buggy, by model T or frequently on his motorcycle. The telephone system grew rapidly and soon most citizens had a telephone or "telephony" as it was frequently called.

In the beginning, different people would serve as the central operator and it frequently moved from house to house. "One housewife attended the phone while doing her housework." Then the central office was in the Ziba H. McAllister residence in the first years. By 1910 because of the

*Ramona Shaw at the old Switchboards*



*The Old Diamond Telephone*

expanding company and the need for a place for the central girls to sleep, the central office was moved from the Ziba McAllister house to the second floor of the Eaton Block owned by Ernest Chase at the time of the move. This is the block that burned in 1944. The business office was also in several places during these beginning years. At first in the Brown house (Eaton/Beldon/Wimble/ Computer Shop) where Alton and Mary Belle Farr first lived; then in the Farr house on Bridge Street for many years. It was here that it got its name "Back Porch Telephone Company."

The operator was called "Central" or referred to as "Central Girls." They connected lines in a central office so people could call around town. The people who were on the same line could call each other with out the Central being involved. The "Central" would listen in on a line and if the line was not being used, she would connect the lines and ring the requested number. The Central kept herself well informed about the local news. At first this service was only during the day. Twenty-four hour service did not exist until the "firm rented separate quarters, an apartment for two 'Central Girls'." The weekly salary was $15.00. Some of the ladies who served as the "Central" were Annie Bragg, one of the first central girls, Edna Boyce, Floy Joslin, Marguerite Moriarty, Stella Alger, Elizabeth Long Munn, Bessy Cota, Gertrude Baird, Katie Jones, Gladys Brothers, Sally Wimble Tremblay, Ramona Shaw.

This early system was a magneto system. Each subscriber rang the Central to make their calls unless they were on the same line. Each line could have from six to 27 people on a line. Waitsfield lines were not so heavily laden; however, it was not unusual to have six to eight on a line. Clifford Wallis remembers that their number was 8 ring 12. The Clarence Bisbee number on east hill was 25 ring 25. This meant, for example, that the Bisbee telephone was on line 25 and to reach them the phone rang two long rings and five short rings. In the case of Clifford Wallis it would be line eight with one long ring and two short rings. The line in East Warren at the Strong home was 27 ring K (on line 27, one long ring and one short ring). In the words of Clifford Wallis, " you would

get so many on the line that the voice signals would be so weak, you couldn't hear, so you would yell into the phone, 'please get off the line,' and then you'd hear a few clicks." Another Wallis comment was as he was explaining to a friend in Missouri what excellent service he (Mr. Wallis) had in his hometown, "Well you can't get personal service as we used to get in my home town. My mother tried to call some man up in his office. The "Central" replied, ' well Mrs. Wallis, he is not in his office because I just saw him going towards Walter Jones' store, I will call Walter's store for you and I bet you will find him there, and she did."

In the words of Clarence Bisbee, "Alton Farr gave us weather and time, around the dinner hour, when the "Central Girl" would give out the time and the weather every day so you did not have to call and ask the time. They gave the weather every day so the farmers would know whether to go haying or not." They used to give out announcements over the telephone such as church suppers. The system was established so the "Central" would connect into the lines and give three short rings three times in succession. Everyone on those lines would go to the telephone, pick up the receiver and the Central (operator) would make the announcement. Another system concerned fires; the "Central" would again connect into the lines and give two short rings three times in succession. Everyone knew that signaled there was a fire, so they would pick up the receiver and the "Central" would announce where the fire was. People would then hurry to the location to help put out the fire. This system of rings – three short rings three times in succession for announcements and the two short rings three times in succession for fires has been incorrectly stated in several sources that this author has read. Growing up in the valley with this telephone system, plus an early telephone book, the above reported system is correct

The Waitsfield & Fayston Telephone Company was an independent company. At first, there was no direct link to the rest of the state or country except for the one Toll Line agreed to in 1888 noted above. By December 19, 1913, AT & T had lost a series of court battles. Therefore, AT&T was required to stop their tactics toward independent companies and to allow those independent telephone companies to access the Bell system for toll services. This meant that Mad River Valley could at last be connected to the rest of the world. The toll phones in various places of business in Mad River Valley were discontinued by AT&T and Waitsfield Fayston Telephone Company could connect into the Bell System.

In July 1918 to the end of World War I, the government took over the telephone companies in the country. At the end of the War, the companies were returned to their owner with compensation.

Many changes occurred and the company grew. A significant change came in 1934 when Congress passed the Communications Act establishing public policy under the Federal Communications Commission.

The telephone rates increased in 1928 to $2.00 for a 15 party line and $3.25 for a private business line. At that time there were rules put in place in an attempt to stop people from over using a line and also listening in on the conversations of others. These new regulations did not really solve the problem. People still listened and people talked for long periods. There are many stories relating how people took it upon themselves to remedy the situation. Some spoke in German; some would say, "they smelled cookies burning" to long-winded housewives. The independent local telephones served a social purpose, a business purpose, and an informational purpose. At first as mentioned above, Alton Farr offered at noontime the weather report and the correct time. Later

announcements for public events were given, but this service was offered at $1.00 for 20 words and $.05 cents for each additional word. This service was discontinued in 1959 when the lines became too busy.

The peak in the number of subscribers came in 1937 with 214 accounts and 35 lines. December 31, 1939 the Public Service Commission reported 183 subscribers [177 on party lines and 6 on private lines]. "There were two operators and two pay stations. There were 81 miles of pole line with 179 miles of #12 iron wire, 12 miles of #10 iron wire and 8 miles of #12 copper-weld wire." The depression had paid its price on many businesses and people. Changes were about to take place. In 1950, there were 278 subscribers, 3 operators, 8 pay stations, 265 party lines, 13 private lines.

The Central Office in the Eaton building, the Ervin house, and Carl Longs' Store were destroyed by fire February 4, 1944. The Central operator at the time of the fire, Marguerite Moriarty, received many accolades for her courage to remain at the switchboard calling for help - calling the Montpelier and Waterbury fire departments. Finally at the insistence of Nelson Patch, she left the burning building. But just seconds before fleeing, she called the New England Telephone Company so that within 24 hours, service was restored with an antique switchboard set up in the old butcher shop across the street from the fire location. See the Waitsfield Village chapter for more details on the fire.

The Central office remained in the butcher shop building until it was moved to the Richardson house (Universal Micro Systems in 2000). Burlington Free Press May 4, 1944: "A new syitchboard [sic] has been installed in the telephone office which is now located in the building formerly owned by Mrs. Julia Brothers." It remained here until it was moved to the new facilities on Route 100 north of the village. Also immediately following the fire, a radio system was established in the Village Square so that emergence calls could be made. A second fire followed this disaster for the Telephone Company April 30, 1948; it destroyed the workshop and most of the telephone equipment stored at the Farr residence. The fire was in the back wooden portion of the house. The office was moved to the living room of the Farr home. Later the back porch was rebuilt and became the new office. Of course the so-called "outsiders" the people connected to the new ski areas thought Waitfield quaint but backwards. The new office became known as "Back Porch Telephone Company." The Alton and Eunice Farr residence was the second house (brick) on the left through the village covered bridge.

Alton Farr died October 18, 1940. Two years earlier while helping a lineman with a pole, the pole fell and in an attempt to protect the lineman, Alton received injuries to his lungs. He contracted tuberculosis leaving him bedridden until his death. Alton's wife, Eunice Buzzell Farr, became this country's first female public utilities manager. Eunice Farr continued to operate the Telephone Company until 1961. However, before leaving recognition of Alton Farr several facts should be recorded. Alton Farr was not just the owner and manager of the Waitsfield and Fayston Telephone Company; he was a genuine citizen of Waitsfield. Mr. Farr did many personal good deeds for people in the town. As noted above, he attempted to shield his lineman. He was always assisting the young people in some cause. For example, it was common practice for the youth of the town to clear the ice under the village covered bridge so they could skate in the winter. Alton Farr assisted in this; he strung an electric wire across Mad River and attached lights so the youth could see to skate at night. This was done without pay. He assisted with Boy Scouts for many years. He very frequently in the early years took telephone bill payments in farm produce- eggs,

vegetables, firewood, etc. He truly gave of himself more than just being a businessman.

As has been mentioned, Eunice Farr took over the business after Alton's death. She operated a very efficient business and it continued to expand. Eunice also gave of herself to the community. She was noted for taking young people to basketball and baseball games. In February 1942 when Norman Smith was killed in the service, the Smith's lived next door to Eunice Farr and they had no telephone. Within hours there was a telephone installed at the Smith residence. At graduation in 1946, Patty Tucker was sick with the measles and could not attend her own graduation. So Eunice Farr strung a telephone line from the I.O.O.F. hall where the ceremonies were being held, across to the Goodyear house next door where the Tuckers lived, so Patty could hear the ceremony. At the Alumni Banquet in 1952, Eunice strung a line to the Federated Church where the banquet was being held so Eleanor would not miss a call from Dana who was about to ship overseas. All out of her concern for people in the community. Eunice Farr was always coming to the aid of someone in need. She said in her very quiet way, however, that there was one duty she had placed upon her as the telephone manager that devastated her. It was her duty during World War II to deliver the telegrams that came into Waitsfield to the families telling them that a member of their family had been killed in action. She carried out this task several times during this world crisis. She did this duty in her usual kind, gentle manner and always with a thoughtful comment to each family. This author remembers her coming to tell my parents of the death of my brother, David Bisbee, in the Battle of the Bulge, March 31, 1945. She was a dedicated person not only to the telephone business, but also to the community. Eunice Farr died in 1965.

In 1952, Eunice Farr was still attempting to maintain the telephone system by herself, hiring whoever was available since World War II had drained the valley of most of the young people. By this time, March 23, 1952, Eleanor Farr, daughter of Alton and Eunice Farr, married Dana Haskin. Eleanor met Dana in 1947 when she took a life saving course in Montpelier. Eleanor went on to finish her music degree from Eastman School of Music in 1957. Dana Haskin went to serve during the Korean War as a gunner on a B29.

By 1959, Dana and Eleanor were in Texas where Dana was in the Air Force. Considerable talk was exchanged between Eleanor, Dana and Eunice about the couple taking over the company. There were also complaints concerning the antiquated system. The ski areas were being developed and updated equipment needed to be installed. Letters were exchanged between Michael J. Mack, manager of Richmond (VT) Western Telephone & Telegraph Company and Eunice Farr expressing his desire to purchase the Waitsfield Company. In fact, he attempted to force the issue, but without success. A.J. Prahl of Stowe also offered to buy the Waitsfield Company. However, with the encouragement of a Resolution passed at Waitsfield Town Meeting, March 3, 1958, expressing "the obligation of gratitude … for services rendered over the past fifty years by the late Mr. Farr and Mrs. Farr… our best wishes to Mrs. Farr in the years to come,"- Eunice Farr kept the company.

In 1959, Dana and Eleanor made the decision to return to Waitsfield and take over the business. Eleanor like her parents dedicated herself to the business and to the people of Waitsfield. Dana Haskin, her husband, became president of the Waitsfield – Fayston Telephone Company and Eleanor its treasurer. Eleanor Farr Haskin continued the tradition of the independent telephone companies. Since 1974, she has been on the Board of Directors of the Organization for the Protection and Advancement of Small Telephone Companies (OPASTCO), a national organization. She was elected President of OPASTCO in 1980.

But time does not stand still and the Waitsfield & Fayston Telephone Company kept expanding. With the approval of a $400,000 loan from the Rural Electrification Administration in 1961, the old magneto system was replaced by the dial system. A cement building was constructed and 35 miles of cable and rural distribution wire was installed. Ironically, this building was only a few feet from the old Central Office building that was destroyed by fire in February 1944. Customers could dial their own calls and everything began to change.

The June 1994 Waitsfield Telecom Book article written by Katherine de Marne Werner states, "On November 28, 1961, seven-year-old Susan Haskin, under the supervision of her parents and grandmother, pushed the switch, officially converting the system to dial. Eunice Farr, making the first toll call on the system, promptly called her sister in Brattleboro." Norman Neill, a long time employee of the company, had the honors of cutting the old switchboard out of the system. Ramona Shaw was no longer plugging in the lines in Waitsfield.

The problem of subscribers tying up the lines persisted. An automatic timing mechanism was devised which sounded a few seconds before disconnecting a call after a five-minute duration. This became known as the "the galloping ghost."

In 1964, the Vermont Public Service Board approved the 1-2-4 party line system. Waitsfield went from an 8 party line system to a 4 party service. Also with the development of the ski areas, the pressure was on to expand the system. Therefore, 72 additional miles of cable and rural distribution wire had to be installed to handle the additional 1000 customers. The Company built its "first home" north of the Waitsfield Village during the summer of 1966. The Direct-distance dial came in 1967. An IBM computer was installed in 1968. In March 1968, the single party conversion had been completed and Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone became the first telephone company in Vermont with all private lines. In 1971 and 1975 the company expanded its facilities again. In 1973, a 583 exchange was built on the Sugarbush Access Road with its own toll and connecting system to NET&T with an interoffice trunk line to handle the new Sugarbush development. Digital computer switching replaced the standard dialing system in 1981. The company became completely computerized in 1984. The Company had been at the forefront of the computer technology from the beginning. In 1968 to 1973, the Company had used the Computer Model 402 accounting machine. In 1973, the Company moved to the IBM and Meyer's program and by 1989 it went from the System 36 to the IBM AS400. In 1992 it was using the so called Telco Friendly System and by 2003 it went to the Integrated Customer Management System.

In 1982, Waitsfield – Fayston Telephone Company added the Waitsfield Cable division. The company was granted and FCC waiver because of its rural nature and thus Waitsfield Cable Television Service was established. The Company purchased the Neill Farm on the East Warren Road and this became the antenna site plus the receiving and processing equipment site and remains so in 2000. In 1996, financed by Rural Telephone Finance Cooperative money, WCVT began to convert to a Siemens EWSD digital switching platform which was completed in 2000.

In 1992, Waitsfield Telecom buried its main cable in Waitsfield Village thus increasing television communication and eliminating utility poles particularly at the corner of Bridge Street and Main Street. New side walks had to be built another Telephone Company investment contribution to Waitsfield.

In 2000, there is an approximate 21,000-access line count. With almost whirlwind speed, the entire business was changing, constantly adding to the competition. This occurred because AT &

T was forced to divest itself of telephone equipment subsidiaries. To meet this challenge, planning was underway in 1990 to purchase Contel properties. Through the efforts of several, Eleanor Haskin (Waitsfield Telecom), Paul Violette (Contoocook Valley Telephone in New Hampshire), and Shirley Manning (Lincolnville Telephone Company in Maine) formed the New England Independent Group. After bidding and months of negotiating an agreement was reached in November 1993. Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone Company became Sister Company to the newly formed Champlain Valley Telecom, thereby quadrupling in size. A tremendous transition had to be accomplished and it was with the help of many people. In the words of Vice President of Operations for Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom, Eleanor Haskin, "telephone properties don't come up for sale that often, especially property so near your own. It has been a tremendous learning experience."

Waitsfield Telecom continues to grow and expand always keeping abreast of the new technologies. Call-waiting, call-forwarding, conference calls, speed dialing, computers, faxes, voice mail and much more are only part of the services often taken for granted in the Valley. The future is exciting for this Company that started with a few lines in Mad River Valley with a magneto system to the new CVT facilities connected by fiber optic cable, a SONET-based ring. The future possibilities will probably be equally as exciting and challenging for the next Farr-Haskin generation as the Mad River Valley enters the 21st Century.

Tributes have been given to Alton and Eunice Farr. However, this chapter would not be complete without recognizing their daughter Eleanor and husband Dana for their continued contributions made to the Mad River Valley. Eleanor has carried on the Farr tradition of contributing to the Community. There are many visible contributions throughout the valley. However, many more contributions have been made individually and anonymously. The Mad River Valley owes a debt of gratitude to this family for its part in Waitsfield – 1908 to 2000 and beyond. This Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone Company and now Waitsfield Telecom is really the Farr Family story.

In 2004, Waitsfield Telecom celebrated 100 years – 1904 to 2004. This was the date of its incorporation – November 30, 1904. There is an interesting text written for this occasion by Kevin Eurich - *Telephone Heritage in the Hills and Valleys of Vermont 1904 – 2004.* This text discusses not only the development of the Waitsfield Telephone Company, the details of equipment and operation, but it includes many employees involved in the different aspects of the company. This source has a large collection of photographs and many sources concerning the Waitsfield/Faytson Telephone Company now Waitsfield Telecom.

The Mad River Valley communication chapter should also note that in 1995, Christopher Pierson, Richard Simko, and Andrew Peterson established the valley internet called "I-100 Inc." under the designation "Mad River.com. The company offered dial-up and web hosting, high speed point to point service, and local location services. They sold the business in 2001 to the Waitsfield Telecom which now operates Green Mountain Access.

# CHAPTER XVI
# BUSINESSES

This chapter discusses some of the businesses in the valley from 1793 to the present 2000.

In the beginning, each family merely attempted to establish a home and cultivate enough land to claim the lot as required and to feed their own family. There were large orchards developed. Many of these orchards were still in existence into the mid 1900's. The early settlers were proud of their grafting and trees that gave them a variety of apples, pears, crab apples, plums as well as large grape arbors. As the Jones' book states: "Crops were raised in far greater variety than at the present day. Wheat, rye, barley, corn, oats, flax, buckwheat, potatoes, and hay not only furnished food and clothing for the family and sustenance for the livestock, but paid the taxes, the minister, the school teacher and the publisher. Butter, cheese, ashes, and salts of lye, were ready barter at the local store for cotton goods, crockery, salt, sugar, tea, cured fish, rum and other spirituous liquors and iron, steel." Maple syrup and maple sugar also played a part. In this manner, each family kept its independence and freedom – items so desirous in those times.

Agriculture was the first livelihood in the valley. They raised sheep and cattle – at first more sheep then cattle. They drove their surplus livestock several hundred miles to Boston to market. Some hogs and poultry were raised mostly for home consumption. Farmers began to have Durham cattle sometimes referred to as "semi-beef" cattle. They were a dual-purpose cow. Their carcass was much heavier than Jersey or Guernsey cow. They could be milked and later sold as beef cattle. The family also frequently used them for their own meat products. They were also spoken of as "short horns." The dairy farms did not come into full bloom until the 1860's when the grade of cattle was greatly improved and dairy farming became the main source of income. The barns were enlarged and milk began to be shipped out of the valley by 1920.

## CREAMERIES

A creamery came to be established in 1893 by Jesse B. Norton and Solomon Fitch. Lewis R. Joslin built the creamery building for $1,500. The creamery was in the village and stood in the field west of the main street across from the old village schoolhouse. It was used as a basketball facility for the high school in 1938-1941. See the description of the building in the Village Chapter. The following information taken from material in the Vermont Historical Society Library.

The statement made by the owner: "The De Laval separator will use some 2,500 lbs. of milk per hour, and the churn has a capacity of 500 lbs. The butter made here is packed in tubs, boxes and small packages, many of which are furnished by Parker & Slayton of Warren. The firm make, pack, ship and sell for 3 1-2 cents per pound. The patrons have received from 16 1-2 to 26 cents per pound with an average of perhaps 22 cents. The books are constantly open to the inspection of the patrons, and they are at liberty to market their own butter, thereby saving commission."

Jesse Norton sold to Daniel H. Skinner in 1893. Daniel H. Skinner sold to Charles F. Eddy in September 1894. Mr. Eddy also built a creamery in Moretown and purchased the Mt. Mansfield Creamery at Stowe. At this time, "the creamery [in Waitsfield] was receiving about 5,500 pounds

of milk per day. There is a skimming station at Warren, six miles south, and about 5,500 pounds of milk is daily received there."

Harry W. Belden, owned the creamery in the 1900. Earl Belden ran the creamery until he died of appendicitis. Harry Ellis then ran the creamery. Warren Wright operated the creamery for a time and then Stub Griffith. Frank Chapman operated it for short time. F. A. Messier was the last to operate the creamery. A.P. Bigelow of Middlesex, Agent for the Bryant and Chapman Company of Hartford, CT bought out this creamery. It closed in 1916. The creamery made butter that was packaged in one pound boxes. However, more was packaged in five-pound boxes and 50 pound butter tubs to be shipped. Mr. Belden also sold separators to the farmers and it is said, "he often became banker for farms in the form of loans." When the farmers began to ship milk out of Town about 1920, the creameries began to be forced out of business.

There was a second creamery in the northern section of town. As stated in another chapter, this creamery was a Co-operative Creamery located on Route 100 just south of the Palmer farm. It was on the site of the David Hartshorn vegetable stand in 2000. In the words of Clifford Wallis who lived on the Wallis farm just south of the creamery: "That was a co-operative creamery and … my father was either General Manager or Secretary-Treasurer…. The people who were in it were Ed Jones, Pearl Gaylord, George Wallis, Lou Palmer, Walter Sealey, Fred Wilder, Fred Palmer, and Ed Prentis. I spent a lot of time in the creamery watching Byron Palmer churn and test cream for butterfat. The churn was a very large cylindrical power driven cylinder. I should say a cylinder about five feet in diameter and maybe six feet long actually. It would churn out probably three or four hundred pounds of butter at one churning. That is where I learned to like butter… on the sly when the butter rolled off the churn we would swipe some and eat it. The true buttermilk was what was left after the butter rolled out of the churn. That was true buttermilk not the stuff you get nowadays. The butter made at that time was known as sour cream butter in distinction to what you get now as sweet cream butter. The cream that the farmers brought in was put into a big vat and kept at a constant temperature, rather warm, for so many hours until it reached a certain point where it began to just turn a little bit. It then went into the churn and that butter had a delightful taste. I think the Federal Government outlawed it because of sanitation and the difficulty in making it. The tub butter was put into wooden tubs; about 50 pound tubs, and shipped to restaurants for general use in cooking. The better grade butter was put into one pound prints or blocks that demanded a fancy price. The one pound block had four square sections. On the top of each section was a little molded print. One print was a cob of corn, one was a beehive, and I don't remember the other two. This butter was used as table butter." Some of the butter was shipped to Commission Merchants in Boston. Commission Merchants were people who bought all kinds of produce for re-sale.

This Co-operative Creamery building had many overhead shafts, pulleys, and belts that drove the equipment, separators, and churns by a gasoline engine. Behind this building was a large building use to store ice. This ice was cut in large squares from the river and stored in tiny wood chips called "sawdust" to be used for cooling purposes.

There were other places around town called "skimming stations." These skimming stations were located to be closely accessible to the farmers just as the schools were. These stations merely put the milk through separators to separate the cream from the milk. The cream was taken to the creameries and the farmers usually took their share of the skim milk home to feed the calves and pigs. There was a skimming station just to the north east of the Aaron Miner/Jennison Joslin farm on the Common Road just south of the Donald Joslin farm in 2000. The farmers of the southeast

section of town used this creamery.

There was also a skimming station in Irasville. This was located in a "yellow building behind the school house." Harold Joslin who bought the old school house in Irasville owned this property. There does not seem to be any mention of other skimming stations to take care of the farmers in the north east section though there may have been such a facility. It is more likely that they went to the Co-operative Creamery.

## MAPLE SYRUP

The making of maple syrup and maple sugar became another large farm product helping to increase the farm income. By 1900, large sugar orchards were developed. Sugarhouses were built in a convenient location in the sugar orchards. These sugarhouses were made from rough lumber with barn boards on the outside and a large opening in the roof to let out the steam from boiling sap. Attached to this building was an open shed with a roof that housed the four-foot wood that was used for firewood. Inside the building was a large arch that would hold four-foot wood in the firebox that quickly tapered down to a shallower end. Covering this sugaring arch was an evaporator {fluted pans} plus one flat pan. Sap from the maple trees was fed into these pans and circulated through the fluted pans that were heated to boiling by the fire. The sap circulated through the pans and boiled to extract the water from the sap. Once the water had been extracted as the sap reached the flat pan, it quickly thickened and became maple syrup. The person who was watching this process had to be an expert to know when the syrup was the right thickness to "draw it off." This meant the syrup was let to flow out of the pan into a bucket to be later placed into containers or made into maple sugar. This expertise was necessary or the syrup would burn and ruin the pans. Also, the person had to keep the fire burning as hot as possible by constantly filling it with the four-foot wood. This was not an easy task. Most sugarhouses had only one boiling arch; however, there were two farms that had two arches often kept boiling at the same time. One such sugarhouse was under Bald Mountain owned and operated by Earl Jones. This was indeed a sight to behold.

Adding to the exhausting task of boiling the sap was the first process of tapping the trees and gathering the sap. The farmer had to have knowledge of the proper season for sugaring. This was usually three weeks in March. It was the time of year when the temperature rose above 32 degrees during the day and froze at night. This was the ideal situation. In the early years, schools were given vacations in order for the boys to be able to help with this necessary process. The maple trees had to be tapped. This process again took a little talent. Originally a six inch long drill bit was used to bore into the tree about three inches and reamed out. Into this hole was driven a spout. Spouts were first made of wood and then of tin and then of iron. Sap buckets were then hung on these spouts that had hooks attached. The sap ran into these buckets. A maple tree would have from one to four buckets on it, depending upon the size of the tree. Most sugar orchards had from 2000 to 8000 buckets in use. A few had more. The sap was gathered by hand at regular intervals, and placed into a gathering tank. This gathering tank was placed on a sled and dray and drawn by a team of horses. This sap was then taken to the sugar house and placed into a large storage tank. The hand held buckets used to gather sap usually held 14 quarts of sap. It was normal for a man or boy to carry two such buckets – one in each hand. Again, this was not an easy task and certainly required work and ruggedness. It took approximately 35 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup.

A yoke was sometimes used to gather sap. This yoke was carved out of a piece of log about four feet long. It was hollowed out to fit the shoulders of a person and extended about twelve inches beyond the shoulder. These ends gradually narrowed from the shoulder area to the end. A 24 inch rope was attached to the ends with a hook on the end upon which to hang the pail full of sap. It was no easy task to steady these pails, one on each side, and wade through the snow.

One prominent farm and "sugar maker" in Waitsfield in the mid 1900's was Everett and Kathryn Palmer. They won many ribbons and awards for their maple syrup quality. In 1984, they won three Grand Prizes, Best of Show's and Sweepstakes at the Barre Farm Show. Everett sugared his entire life. The following is taken from THE SUGARMAKER, NEW ENGLAND FARMER November 1984. "One small snapshot shows Everett himself just ten years old at the time, standing by a team of steer calves. There is a rough plank shed in the background. The shed was a scrap-lumber sugarhouse that he built 67 years ago now [1917], that first year when he went into the maple sugar business for himself. He hung 50 buckets that year. … my dad would say, you better take your sugar and go down to Fred Wiley … I would think I probably got ten dollars. The biggest year I had I think I had four, five-pound pails. Everett [1984] now hangs 2000 buckets and makes more than 800 gallons of syrup, more than two thirds of the crop fancy grade. … Everett cuts 45 cords of [four foot] wood a year. In spite of his 77 years and his crippling arthritis, he cuts the wood himself." This is an example of this business. Everett and Kathryn continued to increase their sugaring business until they were shipping syrup to every state in the union as well as Germany and France. Their son, Delbert Palmer, continues the business in 2000, but with considerably different type of operation. There are others in the Valley who also operate large sugar orchards in 2000.

In the 1980's, the method of sugaring changed drastically. The sap was piped from the trees to a holding tank that eliminated gathering with horses. The trees were tapped with an electric drill or gasoline engine powered drill. The sap was put into a process to eliminate approximately 80% of the water before the boiling process began. Oil or gas burners, eliminating the four-foot wood, now fire the boiling arches. It is faster and more efficient according to the modern processors. Some "old timers" think that it has affected the taste and quality of the syrup.

In 1980, the maple orchards were devastated by disease. Some 63,000 acres in Vermont were defoliated by the Forest Tent Caterpillar. By 1982 some 322,000 acres were stripped of leaves. Also the Gypsy Moth caused severe damage to the maple trees. The Saddled Prominent and the Maple Leaf Cutter caused serious concern. Most of these pests do not kill the trees, but they do affect the roots and production. It was brought under control, but signs of this problem still exist in 2000.

In the first years of making maple syrup, most of the syrup was made into maple sugar. In the words of Charles Jones: "I remember as a boy going down to Fred Wilders when he was Agent for the Carey Company in St. Johnsbury and seeing his barn floor covered with 10 pound pails of sugar. I have heard Mr. Palmer say that if he did not put at least two thirds of his syrup into sugar in a given year that he felt he had not sugared." Syrup and sugar were shipped often out of state. Again quoting from Charles Jones: "he had a man by the name of G.G. Reed a Commission Merchant to whom he shipped. This shipment was in the form of syrup, but it was put into round three quart cans that were made in the local (Waitsfield) tin shop." In the words of Clarence Bisbee: "The small farmer put much of his best maple sugar into 5 and 10 pound cans. I remember my Dad sold ten-pound pails of sugar for 10 cents a pound, a dollar for a ten-pound pail. When the price went to twelve and a half cents a pound, my mother was upset because she was sure he would lose his mar-

ket, but when it went to fifteen cents (a pound) she knew he would lose." It takes approximately a gallon of syrup to make eight pounds of sugar. Farmers graded the syrup into A and B. Later years, the State got into this grading process to assure proper grading and pricing. Philip Bisbee of Waitsfield was State inspector of syrup for many years. Syrup was graded and fancy syrup was lighter and slightly thinner than other grades. The price is also affected by the grade. In the early years, dark syrup called "black strap" was used to sweeten tobacco. Though much has been said about shipping in small containers, farmers did ship in later years by the barrel. These barrels were usually 50 gallon barrels. In 2000, the price of maple products changed considerably. The usual price for a gallon of Grade A fancy syrup is about $24 to $28 dollars. There are many forms and grades in which maple products are sold in 2000. It is indeed a large business in Vermont.

## MILLS

The first mill of any description in Waitsfield was "a heavy pestle hung to a spring pole and a large birch stump [that] had been hollowed out and used as a mortar in which to pound hominy, before the erection of the mill." This birch stump was located on Mad River near the present village covered bridge.

It was obvious that before the settlers could build homes to withstand the Vermont winters, mills had to be established. It did not take long before a tax was established to encourage people to build sawmills. The first sawmill was built on Mill Brook on the Waitsfield-Fayston town line. John Heaton Jr. built this mill in 1793. A gristmill was built later just up stream from that sawmill. James Heaton Jr. was interested in the operation for a time, but soon sold the mills to Thomas Green and his sons, Joseph and Seth Green. The gristmill did not operate for very many years. Moses W. Rice also owned part interest in the mill with James Heaton Jr. It was then owned and operated by Ira Richardson. In the 1900's, many people referred to this as the Richardson mill. Several other Richardson brothers owned and operated the mill over the years. It was damaged many times by floods. It was damaged in 1858. It was destroyed in the 1927 flood and rebuilt. It was destroyed in the 1938 hurricane. It was destroyed by a flood in 1945. Andrew Baird Sr. purchased the mill following this flood in 1945. Andrew Baird Jr. operates the mill that his father built on the East Side of Route 17 and north side of Mill Brook.

The original mill on the west side has particular historic interest because it was the first sawmill and the mill that started all the building in the Town of Waitsfield. It is also the reason for the dates on most of the first houses in Waitsfield. Settlers quickly built log houses upon their arrival; however, as soon as lumber was available, most of the settlers built sturdy homes beginning in 1794 and 1795. See the Irasville Chapter for more details on this mill.

The second very significant mill was built in 1848 by Crowell Matthews on Shepherd's Brook. J. Buel then operated it in 1850's. In 1849, Erastus Parker built and operated a starch mill in this same area. Franklin J. Greene and sons owned and operated the mill in 1870. They sold the mill to Levi Seaver in 1880. Daniel Moriarty purchased the mill in 1919 and operated it until about 1930. During this time, the business included the sawmill, a clapboard mill, and a gristmill. Mr. Philips who has built modern buildings in the area purchased this entire property in 1980. See Route 100 Chapter.

The third sawmill and gristmill of significance was in the village built in 1830 by Roderick

Richardson, John S. Campbell, and Daniel Thayer. This was a major undertaking for the times because a canal had to be built from the dam across the field to the mill. Moses and William Palmer owned and operated the mills until about 1898. Oscar Eaton operated the mill for a time. Stephen Joslin operated the gristmill for many years in the 1900's and then his son, Riford Joslin operated the gristmill until it burned in 1944. The gristmill was rebuilt and Riford Joslin continued to operate it. In 2000, it is the Miramar Ski Lodge. Walter H. Moriarty owned and operated the sawmill into the early 1900's. Paul Moriarty then operated it until it burned in 1944. It was rebuilt, but torn down in the 1960's. The sawmill was a very hazardous place. The saw was a huge circular saw that turned at a tremendous speed. There were many pulleys, belts and other power equipment operating within the mill which presented some vary hazardous conditions. See the Village Chapter.

There was a steam mill in the meadow across from the Village Mill. This mill was built by O.M. Eaton, E. O. Trask, and Geo. Heath about 1892. This steam mill was owned by William and Moses Palmer for a time. Walter and Dan Moriarty owned this mill for a time. The mill was given up for the water powered mill across the road. Very little can be found concerning this steam mill.

Benjamin Wait had a sawmill on Clay Brook (Sherman's Brook). He built this mill about 1795. William Joiner owned it in 1801; then Edmund Rice owned it in 1806, then Lewis Holden in 1807. Christopher Ormsbee operated it as a hame factory for several years. This mill was on the west side of the brook and just south of the bridge. It has not been in existence since about 1880's.

Joel Skinner had a sawmill down Bushnell Road on Pine Brook in 1821. This mill operated for only a short time. Any remains of the mill washed away in the 1927 flood.

There was a mill on the Roxbury Road (East Warren Road) in the hollow across from the cooper shop and home of George Fisher. Ed Eurich remembers the old boiler that remained on the bank of Fay Brook or Folsom Brook. There seems to be no information concerning who built and operated this mill.

Elmer O. Trask purchased land in 1880's on Fay Brook near Route 100 for a sawmill, but he never built a mill there as far as can be determined from records. In 2000, it is the site of the Mad Bush Motel. At one time, Elmer Trask did operate the mill on Shepherd's Brook and records may be confused.

An important Mill or Foundry was established on Mad River. This was south of Irasville at the end of what is now Kingsbury Road. Edward Fales established this in 1816. Theophilus Bixby, James Selleck, later operated it. It was washed away in the flood of 1830.. This operation was a foundry where iron kettles were manufactured from iron ore brought into the valley. This foundry was not rebuilt; however, John S. Poland purchased the property and built a sawmill on this location about 1832. This also met the rage of the Mad River in 1927. It was partially rebuilt by the Red Cross. The mill has not existed for many years.

On Mill Brook to the East of the Green/Richardson Mill was a Fulling Mill and dyehouse. This Fulling Mill was build by Guy C. Nickols in 1815. In 1828, Daniel and John Kimball operated the mill. In 1834 to 1850 William McAllister owned the mill and converted it to a Tanning Mill. It continued to operate as a Tanning Mill by Stephen Parker until about 1870 when Stephen Parker's son, Fred Parker, made it into a Shingle Mill. The mill closed in early 1900's. The area where this mill stood as well as the hotel which was moved to the village and the first school house was on the north side of Mill Brook on the level area much of which, in 2000, is occupied by Route 100.

At the Mill Brook Bridge on Route 100 on the left {north} was the tannery built by William Tell Stoddard in 1840's. It was later a starch factory. This mill was near the site of the Sheep Shop in 2000.

Crossing over Mill Brook to the right of Route 100 {south} was a Brick Factory or Brickyard. Many of the village brick homes got the brick from this brickyard and the brickyard in the village. This brickyard was the last one to operate in town – closing about 1870.

There was another brickyard near the area of the dam built for the village mill. This brickyard did not operate very long. A third brickyard was on the corner of the Common Road and the Palmer Hill Road. Bricks for the Samuel S. Savage house (von Trapp house) and for the Wm. Chase/James Joslin house probably came from this brickyard. It was not large and did not operate much more that for these houses.

Walter and Dan Moriarty had a sawmill on Palmer Hill at the headwater of Pine Brook about 1890's prior to their purchasing the steam mill in the village.

There was a Fulling Mill by George Kidder's home in the village. It was probably the small building by the canal bridge. This building was used for many purposes over the years. See the Chapter Waitsfield Village.

On Spaulding Brook, northeast part of town on the North Road, Dorrick Smith built a dam and sawmill in 1820. This powerful log flume fed the water wheel. Just below this sawmill was the tannery of William Tell Stoddard about 1820.

On the old Center Fayston Road off the Old County Road (Loop Road) on the Waitsfield-Fayston town line was the Daniel Nourse sawmill. Close to this mill was the Hiland and Ransom G. Lockwood chair factory in 1830's. Adam S. Adams purchased this mill in 1850.

This brook was called the Carding Mill Brook because of the Carding Machine Mill which stood near where Carding Brook crosses Route 100 in 1820. It later was called the Russ Brook because Amasa Russ family built a home near this site now where the Armstong property rests in 2000.

In 1960's, Bernard von Trapp built a sawmill east of the Tucker/von Trapp farm near Waitsfield Common. It rests on the small stream that comes from Palmer Hill. This mill was built in the 1960's.

The only mills operating in Waitsfield in 2000 are the Baird mill on Mill Brook and the Bernard von Trapp mill on the von Trapp farm, Waitsfield Common.

## THE WAY IT USED TO BE DONE

*Mill Operation with Horses and Oxen in the Early Years*

## BLACKSMITH SHOPS

There were many Blacksmith Shops in the Town of Waitsfield. The well known shop was located at the East End of the Village Covered Bridge. This shop was built by John Walton in 1838. John Walton left Waitsfield in 1870. Arthur Livingston ran the blacksmith shop for a few years. It was soon purchased by John Kingsbury who operated it until 1960. John Kingsbury was very kind to the young boys who would come into his shop with their father. He was always willing to show and explain how he did things in the shop. Frequently he would make a set of small horse shoes and give them as a gift to a young man. He would frequently repair a sled or a broken piece of metal that could be heated and reshaped. Many of these early craftsmen repaired or made items for the young people in town. It was always free for a smile and a thank you. See Waitsfield Village Chapter for more details.

There were two more Blacksmith Shops in that immediate area. Just east of the Dan Richard-

son house [in 2000 the home of Eleanor Farr Haskins] was a two story brick store built by Roswell Morris and Amplias Blake. This store was later run by Jonathan Morse in 1840 and later by James T. Phelps. Wilbur W. Joslin remodeled this store in 1860 into a blacksmith shop. It was entirely removed in 1880's. A smaller house was later built in this area. Dana Haskins removed this smaller house in the 1960's.

Across the road from the grist mill on the canal John Walton built a blacksmith shop about 1865. John Barber operated a blacksmith shop here. Almon Joslin had a blacksmith shop here in 1899 – 1906. Ed Persons operated a blacksmith shop here in the early 1900's. It was a Cooper shop at one time, a Fulling Mill, and also a cidar mill. It has served many purposes over the years and has been owned by many different people. According to records, the following people owned the property as indicated: John Walton first, sold to Pardon Bushnell Feb. 7, 1868; sold to A.G.Matthias Jan. 8, 1891; sold to O.M. Eaton, Trask and Geo. Heath Feb. 26, 1891; sold to E. Hattie Persons April, 20, 1899; sold to W.E and Nettie Long May 26, 1906; sold to John C. Kingsbury, June 5, 1906; sold to J. Dan Thompson Jan. 1, 1910; sold to J.H. Mathers March 6, 1915 – cider mill; sold to Alton E. Farr Oct. 2, 1919; sold to Walter E. Jones Oct. 26, 1928. It was also not used for many years. In 2000, John Bridgewater purchased the building and remodeled it for a home. See the Waitsfield Village Chapter for further details.

Another blacksmith shop existed in the 1900's on the flat area (Joslin Hill Road) just east of the home of Kenneth Backus in 2000. Edwin "Pete" Russell had moved down from Waitsfield Common in 1880 and built this building. He operated this blacksmith shop until about 1920. This building became the home of Alex Hamel in the 1930's and 40's. The building burned about 1965.

Pete Russell closed his blacksmith shop just mentioned above in 1920 and moved his business to the village. The village blacksmith shop on Route 100 had been built about 1860 probably by Mitchell LaPoint, a blacksmith, who lived in the house across the street. This shop was next to the Henry Cady "Photocar" just north of the house of Ruth McGill in the village. In the words of Fletcher Joslin: "Pete Russell moved down here where the other Russell is now." Howland Russell operated the blacksmith shop and sold the building and land to the town of Waitsfield for $600 in 1921. Alan Russell renovated this shop as a blacksmith shop about 1978 and operated it for several years. Alan Russell had studied to be a blacksmith in a school in Sabta Fe, NM. In 1980, Rusty and Caroline Schipa purchased the building. In 2000, it is a sculpture shop.

There were two Blacksmith Shops on Waitsfield Common. The first was that of Philip Gustin in 1806. It was operated by Suel Willis in 1813 to 1820. Rodolphus Bates then owned it from 1823 to 1833. It was next operated by Thomas Tinkham from 1833 to 1858. Amariah and Joseph Chandler operated this shop in 1866 to 1874. Blacksmith Edwin Russell followed the Chandler's in 1885 to 1889. This building was empty through most of 1900 to 1940, when only remnants of the building could be seen. Debra VanDyke purchased the property in 1997 and built a garage near the site of the blacksmith shop.

The second blacksmith shop on the Common was east on East Road just beyond the Rider house. Salma Rider probably operated this for a short time. No visible signs have been available for many years.

Abijah B. Whitcomb had a blacksmith shop in Irasville between his house and north of the cemetery in the 1860's and 1870's. It seems to have disappeared after early 1870's.

Art McAllister did some blacksmith work in Irasville in the early 1900's. His shop was just

north of the school house [in 2000 the Den Restaurant]. Riford Joslin used this as a woodworking shop in the 1960's. It burned and Riford Joslin moved his woodworking business into the old Methodist church.

There was a blacksmith shop for a short time on Route 100 about where the entrance exists to the Couple's Club athletic field in 2000. This shop was originally operated by Clifford Durkee, no relation to the early Durkee family. Very little information was found about this shop; however, there are references to a blacksmith shop in this area and some very early pictures show a small building in this area..

There was an early Blacksmith Shop on the Loop Road (County Road) north side of the road just west of the present day Medical Center. This blacksmith shop was built by Benjamin Durkee in early 1815 and later operated by Roswell Horr. The building has been gone for many years.

Moses Chase built a Blacksmith Shop north on Route 100 between the old fair grounds road and the ledges. This was just north of the Wilder farm. Mr. Chipman also operated this shop in the 1800's. There have been no signs of this building since about 1860's.

There was a blacksmith shop (and store) on the Common Road (this entire road was at one time called the North Road) near the Ward /Donald Joslin farm. This blacksmith shop was owned and operated by Richard Gale about 1830.

There was a Blacksmith Shop owned by William Ward on Lot 102; however, the exact location is not known. It was most likely across the road from the English/Joslin Round Barn. The following information was taken from the records in the Vermont Historical Society Library: William Ward gave a quit claim deed to Roderick Richardson of "a shop he has this day deeded me July 14, 1831." William Ward had the shop in 1820's/30's but left Waitsfield by 1832.

## COOPER SHOPS AND POTASH WORKS

There were many Cooper Shops in the early days of the settlers. These were places where wooden tubs and wooden barrels were made. These were a necessity for all kinds of uses in homes. The Jones' Book tells about all the Cooper Shops that were out of business before 1900. Tin Shops took their place. This text discusses most of these businesses in each chapter where they existed. Cooper shops and potash works existed on the Common, North Road by Spaulding Brook, on the terrace west of the Village, on the Old Colony [County Road], Irasville, and Common Road by Joslin Farm.

Potash Works were also in abundance in the early years. These works produced potassium carbonate especially from wood ashes to be used as fertilizer and making lye. Again this was an everyday necessity for the use in agriculture as well as household use. The Jones' Book details these around town. They were out of existence by 1900.

## TIN SHOP

The so-called "Tinshop" was built by W. Jasper Walton, son of John Walton who had the blacksmith shop at the east end of the Waitsfield covered bridge. Cyrus Shearer operated this tin shop in 1848 until 1855. Hastings S. Campbell operated this tin shop in 1855-1867; George J, Ainsworth

in 1868; Winfield S. Rich in 1872. Robert Bisbee had a sheet metal and plumbing business in this building in 1948 to 1972. For a time, Robert and Imogene Bisbee lived in an apartment where this tin shop existed. See Chapter XII.

The tin shop was in the east end of the building with a small print shop later. The hardware store was in the west end of the building. The connecting building and the barn did not originally exist. There was no porch on the front of the original building. However, a single porch and single stairway was built onto the west end. The porch on the west end burned in 1915 from gasoline being spilled. Stephen P. Joslin was filling a can with fuel while smoking a pipe. Somehow the sparks from the pipe ignited the fuel. A double porch was then built on the West End and front of the building about 1925.

## GENERAL STORES

This portion will list the General Stores established in Waitsfield. A more detailed description of stores can be found in the chapters relating to specific buildings within each chapter area. This is an attempt to list some early stores with dates and known proprietors.

Jesse Carpenter had a Boot and Shoe Shop on the ledges north of village on the Old County Road about 1815.

Samuel Chandler and Henry Mower had a store on the west side of Old County Road in the area of Alice Schwendler house. This was probably the first store in town – 1802.

Philip Gustin Store on the Common -1804

Roderick Richardson Store on the Common [Harry Smith house] - 1806

Roderick Richardson Store in the village square just west of his house – 1817

Roderick Richardson built a second store that burned in 1845

Roderick Richardson rebuilt the brick store and operated it until 1858

This store became Richardson Gleason store then the Jacob Boyce Store then the Francis Boyce Store

This was then the C.J. Greene & Co. Store until 1913 when it became the Masonic Hall.

George Kidder later Lewis Holden Store across from the village mills

1820.

Roswell Morse and Amplias Blake Store just east of Eleanor Haskin's

House -1840.

Ira Richardson Store in Irasville -1812

Elias Taylor Jr., Store Common Road south of the Donald Joslin Farm -1798.

Oliver C. Campbell Shoe Store 1850 that was purchased and enlarged - 1855. This became the Mattias Jones Jr. Store and then the Walter A. Jones Store 1869 to 1943.

Jesse Norton store 1862 located between present library and church – It burned in 1903.

Hastings S. Campbell Store [Old Carl Long Store] - 1850

George H. Fullerton store 1860 [Old Carl Long Store]

This became the Billings Store in 1880 to 1890

The Billings' Store became the Carl Long store in 1912. This building burned in 1944.

Jasper Walton Store 1848 became Hastings S. Campbell Store-1855

Campbell Store became George Ainsworth Store – 1868

Ainsworth Store became Winfield Rich Store – 1872

Rich Store became Orville Eaton Store – 1878

Eaton Store became Julius Davis Store – 1885 to 1908

Davis Store became the Griffith and Neill Store in 1910 to 1930's

Griffith and Neill Store became Fred Eaton Store in 1930's

Fred Eaton Store became the Kenneth Cota Store – 1935 to 1938

Kenneth Cota Store became the Elmer Mehuron Store

Mehuron moved to Walter Jones building in 1944 now in Irasville

Carl Long moved to the Eaton Store after the 1944 fire.

Carl Long Store became the Bisbee and Bisbee Store – 1948 to 1973.

## CARRIAGE SHOPS

The James S. Newcomb carriage shop was the most noted. This was located just south of the village on the site of the Arvad's Restaurant in 2000. James Newcomb came from Fayston, but settled in Waitsfield and built the carriage shop in 1845. Many of the blacksmith shops did much of the steelwork; however, a good wheelwright was necessary in the days when wagon, buggies, and sleighs were the means of transportation. At least three of the Town snow rollers were built by Mr. Newcomb. Mr. Newcomb died in 1908, but many remember the operation as it did continue for a few years after his death.

There was a wheelwright business owned by a Mr. Clark who lived in the dugway, Route 17. The wheelwright building was later Gallagher's cider mill now the site of a Restaurant.

## MEAT MARKET

John J. Kelty lived by the dugway and was for many years the driver of the Waitsfield stage. He also had a slaughterhouse to the north east of his house. It was out in the field toward Mad River. A Street called Butcher House Road is in use in 2000. He also had a meat market in a small building just south of the old hotel in the village. The red building that is there in 2000 is not the original building. After the death of John Kelty, the slaughter house and meat market were owned

and operated by Stephen E. Joslin in 1903. He sold it to John Buzzell about 1920. John Buzzell operated it for sometime. Warren Palmer owned the property upon which the slaughterhouses were located. Edmund Tucker built a newer slaughterhouse slightly north of the original Kelty slaughterhouse. Therefore, two slaughterhouses existed for a time. Warren Palmer attempted to tear down the slaughterhouses, but there was a 100-year lease for the slaughterhouse. Carl Long owned it in 1930's – 40's. Tim Goodyear owned the building for a brief period in 1940's. The slaughterhouse and the meat market were closed when the general stores began to process their own meat products and State regulations began to exist. See description of meat market (butcher shop) in Waitsfield Village chapter.

## HARVESTING ICE

*Power Cutting Ice Machine*

Another unique business that played an important part in fulfilling the needs of the early period was the harvesting of ice from the river in the spring. Most of this was done from the pond behind the dam for the saw mill. All farmers needed to keep their milk cold for shipping as well as most households had refrigeration which was cooled by chunks of ice. These chunks of ice were cut from the frozen river water. At first it was done by hand saws. Men would saw 25 to 100 pound blocks of ice; hoist them out of the river where they would be transported to the farms. Later the cutting of the ice chunks was done by power saws driven by gasoline engines. This was not only a cold and wet task, but a precarious task. Many farmers had areas where they would pile these blocks of ice completely surrounded, packed, in sawdust which had been gotten from the saw mills. This would preserve the ice for a long period of time. They would put these chunks of ice in the water tubs to keep milk cans cold to preserve the milk. These chunks of ice would also be place in the tops of the ice boxes or refrigerators to keep food cool. Several men would store large amounts of this ice and sell it during the year to people who needed ice. Thus the selling of ice was indeed an early business.

## BUSINESSES IN WAITSFIELD
## 1960 – 2000

Waitsfield began to expand once the ski areas entered the valley in 1960. Business began to take on a new life, new ventures were started, ski lodges were built, restaurants appeared, motels, Bed and Breakfast Inns came to the valley, ski shops, banks, super markets, drug stores, a movie theater, bicycle shops sprung to life like a new seeded lawn.

The following is a listing of business during this forty year period. Many have disappeared, changed owners or been remodeled into a new enterprise. These are all not historical and because of the rapid changes and uncertainties only a brief and incomplete listing is being attempted for this book, but recorded for future historians to elaborate upon and record once the years have passed. There is no attempt to identify their location.

Mehurons Village Shopping Center – Tom & Nancy Mehuron

YA"LEE – Onnie and Beverly

Lee-Parish Gallery – Rick and Susan Parish

Waitsfield Cable – Waitsfield Telecom owners

The Collection – Mad River Green – Tom & Yvonne Fugate came in 1996

Green Mountain Access – Computer Business

Mad River Valley Appearances – Ruth Brothers, Michelle Henry (Dailey), and Linda Moulton

Green Mountain Roasters started in 1980, sold in 1998 to Three Mountain Café

Better Travel Bureau

Mad River Naturals Body & Bath Boutique – Shevaun & Tracy

Clearwater Sports Waitsfield Village – Barry Bender owner since 1975

Tru-Value Hardware – Halloran Hardware Company – John & Pat Halloran

Black Diamond – started by Gary Guggemos of Fayston, called G.M.W.

Now called Black Diamond. It was originally over Bisbee Hardware

But in2000 is at the corner of Bragg Hill Road and Route 100.

Tulip Tree & Tulip Tota – Village Square – started 1972 – Judy Dodds owner

Valley Paper Supply – Debra Pierce & Danny McIntyre

The Blue Toad Flower Shop – 1993 – Cyntha & Ted Hengstenberg

The Book Store – owner Rick Rayfield

Sweet Pea Health Food Store -

Inverness Ski Shop – Bill & Jennifer Curley purchased in 1996

Blacknewt Sculpture Studio

Lee-Parish Gallery

C. & S Auto Body

Kristal Art Galleries

Outinback Tinworks

Pete's Auto

Mill Brook Imports Inc
Hap's Service Station
Jake's World Auto
Sugarbush Service Station Inc.
Mountain Pools and Spa
Bridge Street Bakery
Very Small Donut Co
Chittenden Bank
Village House
Appearances
Just My Style
Nan's Beauty Shop
Lareau Farm Country Inn
Waitsfield Inn
Fit Werx
Clearwater sports Inc
F. G. White Co Inc
Brothers Building Co
Austin Harold Building
Castlerock construction
Moore Design Builders
Raylar Builders
Valley Transit
Valley Paper Supply
Mad River Canoe Inc
Mad River Car Wash
Arvad's Grill & Pub
Mad River Garden Center
Laundromat & Dry Cleaning
Darrad Services Inc
Eastern Systems Group
Champlain Farms
Village Grocery & Deli
Susanne's Craft Fabric Shoppe
Fisher Auto Parts
Valley Rent All
Mill Brook Imports Inc.
Tiger's Auto Repair
Veins Fred Corp
Patisserie LA
Banknorth
Northfield Bank
A Right Cut
High Country Hair Design
Miss Lissa's Salon
Featherbed Inn
Mad River Inn
Wilder Farm Inn
Stark Mt Bike Works
Inverness Ski Shop
Bisbee Construction
Alokada Contracting
Clark A W Jr & Son
Kingswood Builders
Northland Design & Const
Allen Lumber Co
Eastern Systems Group
Traditional Design
Vermont Pack & Paddle
Bisbee's Home Décor
Santo Spirito Catering
All Things Bright and Beautiful
Patricia Lynne Clothing
Universal Micro Systems
Eagles Resort
Mac's Convenience Store
Waitsfield Coastal
Waitsfield Pottery

Irasville Country Store
Mad River Interior Design
Superfine Custom Embroidery
Cabin Fever Quilts & Gifts
The Collection
The Drug Store
Kenyon's Variety Store
The Round Barn Bed Breakfast
Tucker Hill Inn
Paige & Campbell Inc
Mad River Veterinary Services
Custom Brick and Stonework
North Country Cedar Homes
Sugar Mt Massage
Valley Reporter
Bisbee's Hardware
Williams Photography Center
American Flatbread
Jay's Restaurant
The Den Restaurant
Purple Moon Pub
Three Mountain Café
Mountain Valley Farm
Mad River Flick
Shine On Window Cleaning Svs
Valley Dental Assoc
Deerfield Screenprint
Marino Forestry Corp
Kingsbury Construction Co
von Trapp Greenhouse
True Value Hardware
Earth Spirit Healing & Herbs
Wait Farm Motor Inn
Jamieson Insurance
Baked Beads
Terrra-Sanctus Intl Inc
Kehoe Design & Signs
Mad River Massage
White Massage
Vermont Journal
Garten Custom Color
Fisher Photography
Bongiorno's
Valley Pizzeria
Gallagher's Bar & Grill
Spotted Cow Restaurant
Easy Street Café
Waitsfield Cable
A.J. Window Cleaning
Tucker Plants & Produce

# CHAPTER XVII
# TRANSPORTATION

The early settlers were isolated from the surrounding communities. Horseback was the manner in which they made contact with the outside world. Wagons were not available for several years according to several sources. There was never rail service into the valley. The surplus animals, sheep and cattle, were driven some two hundred miles to Boston by "old-time drovers." Purchases were made in Boston and brought back into the valley.

*Eight horses pulled Civil War memorial into Waitsfield in 1907*

During these early times James Rider made weekly horseback rides to Montpelier to get the weekly newspaper which proved to be more reliable than the mail. Mr. Rider often did errands for people in what might be called an express business.

The first stage line was established by Crowell Matthews who lived in Rochester. Mr. Matthews drove the stage for mail and passengers from Rochester to Montpelier. This stage line ran from Granville along the Plunkton Road in East Warren then along East Warren Road to Waitsfield and then on to Moretown and Middlesex. The James Eldridge house later Herbert Blair house was the stagecoach inn, tavern and post office. This was also the road used by farmers to drive their cattle to Boston and the market. Crowell Matthews later became a resident of Waitsfield purchasing the Heaton farm on Route 100 and building a mill on Shepherd's Brook. Gates Van Deusen of Warren began to operate the stage line and made two trips a week. By 1844, the stage made three trips a week. Daily stage service was established July 1, 1864. During the 1860's, E. M. Dutton operated the stage service between Montpelier and Warren. In July 1864, Middlesex became the terminus for the stage and mail service. From 1865 to 1872, William Hudson was the stage operator. Benjamin Barrett drove the stage for a few years when Albert C. Jones became the driver in 1874. Starting about 1880, John J. Kelty operated the stage line until 1904 An advertisement dated August 2, 1901 stated: "J. J. Kelty, Proprietor of Express and Stage Line – Double Daily Between Waitsfield and Middlesex – Fare 75 cents." In 1904, Frank L. Eaton became the operator. Mr. Kelty died in 1906. Fred Eaton drove stage for mail in 1930's. The Kelty stage coach has been restored and is in Eleanor Farr Haskins possession in 2000. In the following picture, the lady on

top right is Louisa Gleason, lady on top left is Carrie R. Miller. The man in back left is Ziba McAllister, man in back right is George Miller. Mr. Miller, husband of Carrie Miller, gave money in his wife's memory to build a water tub for horses near the Heaton farm south of Shepherd's Brook.

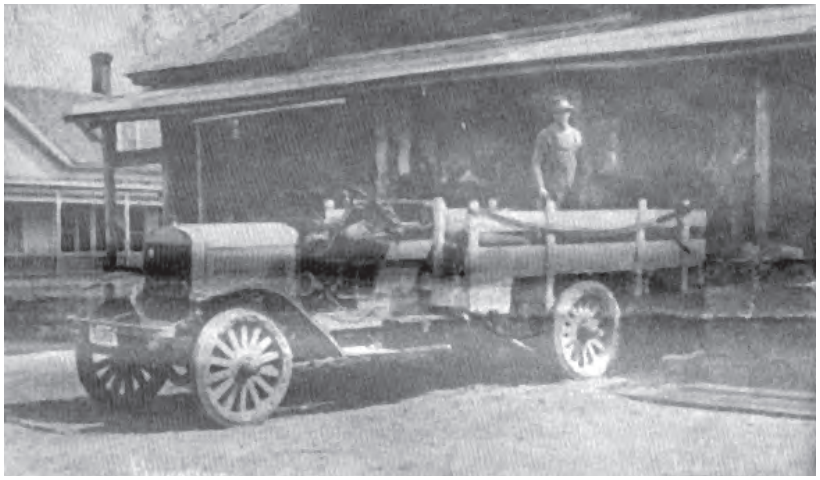
*Kelty Stagecoach*

This manner of transportation involved mail and passengers. The larger freight business was conducted by people who operated four, six, and eight-horse teams to Boston. Trade was by barter in the beginning years. Valley residents would send butter, wool, cheese, flax, and grain during the summer months. During the winter, they would send pork and beef to Boston. In return, staple items would be bartered and shipped on the returning freight. It took several weeks to make the round trip to Boston. Oliver Clark was a well -known name that made these freight trips to Boston. Individuals also independently made the journey to Boston and returned "with goods and wondrous tales of what eyes had seen and ears had heard."

By 1850's, the railroad was established into the area and Middlesex became the center for receiving and sending freight. There were several attempts to get a railroad into the valley, but that effort never materialized. In 1875, an effort was made to finance the Green Mountain Railroad Company to build a track into the valley. In 1898, an attempt was made to get the electric train from Montpelier into the valley and again in 1907 considerable effort was given to building a railroad from Montpelier to Rutland through the valley.

Before the motor vehicles, fuel was delivered by horse drawn tank wagons. In the words of Alice Bisbee, "Mr. Frank Hand used to drive it (kerosene tank) and we used to look forward to the times when that kerosene tank would come up through (the valley) so we could see the pretty horses." In the words of Clarence Bisbee – "Before Frank Hand drove truck … he drove four horses and the last vehicle of that kind was a huge pair of mules that Frank Hand drove. That was the end of the wagons and afterwards Frank Hand did drive truck. I remember it well because his daughter and I started school together in 1901 up at No. 3 (school)."

*Kelty Carriage and Barn Dugway*



*First Truck owned by Josiah Smith/Herb Smith*

Josiah Smith, who came to Waitsfield about 1885, purchased the second house southeast end of the Village Covered Bridge and began a freight business. His first business was with horses, but he brought the first truck into Waitsfield in 1914; it was a Kissell Kar. In the words of Clarence Bisbee – "It so happens that Cy Smith bought his first truck from my Uncle in Barre when I was working for him (that would be Nelson D. Phelps). Cy bought it, but he never drove it very much. He drove it down the river and at the turn down just below the Old Fairgrounds, he drove the thing off the road down into the swamp and he got out and left it and Cy never drove that truck again." Josiah Smith and his son, Herbert Smith continued farming and operating the freight business. Herbert Smith continued the freight business. Herb Smith worked for his father and in his words "drove a four-horse team up to Middlesex to haul lumber and grain back to Waitsfield. It took all day to make the trip---6:30 to 6:30." Josiah Smith also owned a Ford car and Herb Smith traded his racing horse for a Buick car.

However, travel was not all that slow according to Mrs. Herb Smith who said "that she and her sister-in-law, Alice, used to go by horse and buggy into Montpelier in two hours by changing the horses they had started with in Waitsfield at her family's house in Moretown, and changing again on the way back." This information taken from The Newspaper published in Warren Vt August 24 – September 14, 1967.

*Early means of Transportation*
*Clarence "Doc" A. Bisbee Driving With Emily Eaton*

Carl Long continued the freight business into the 1950's. Several people drove trucks for Carl Long. Two drivers among the well-known people in the 1900's were Claude Wimble and Nelson Patch. Nelson Patch also drove milk truck for Herb Smith. Nelson Patch continued the business on his own into 1960's. Many of these businesses made trips to Burlington as well as Montpelier and Barre. By 1970's, with the expanded businesses in the valley, commercial trucks began supplying the valley with daily services. This continues into 2000.

Though there were roads over Northfield Mountain and also south into Granville, all of the major transportation of goods came from the north – Barre, Montpelier and Middlesex with some coming from Waterbury through Duxbury and into the Valley. Valley residence, once the automobile came into use, would occasionally venture outside the Valley for goods by way of Route 100 to Middlesex and then Route 2 into Montpelier.

As the Valley became a dairy farming area and the creameries in the Valley closed, the milk was transported out of the valley to creameries in Waterbury and Barre. The farmers, at that time, 1920, began to cool their milk in large cans placed in water tanks. These cans would be picked up by truck. These trucks usually carried blocks of ice to keep the milk cool until it reached the creamery. Noted carriers of milk were Alden Bettis and Nelson Patch. There were a few individu-

*Early Method of Watering the Street by the Hotel*

*Alden Bettis with his milk truck in 1938*

als who hauled milk from branch roads to the main highway to meet major milk trucks. Earl Rivers was one of these individuals who hauled milk off East Hill. When the new State regulations began in 1960's, the farmers were required to use bulk tanks and maintain a certain temperature. This put the small farmer out of business. However, transportation for this milk was continued with bulk tank trucks that pumped the cold milk from the farmer's bulk tank into the tank truck and was then transported to various milk processing plants. This is still being done in 2000.

There has been considerable written about the first automobiles in Waitsfield with frequent contradictions. It appears accurate to write that Len Wilcox of Moretown had the first car in the Valley. Harry Belden had the first car in Waitsfield and George Wallis the second car in Waitsfield. This quote found in the Vermont Historical Society Library. "Clarence (last name not known) had the third car in Waitsfield." The following in the words of Clifford Wallis: "… Harry Belden had the first one (car). My father (George Wallis) had either the second or third. Harry had an EMF. EMF was the make of the car and that was later bought out by the Studebaker people which later became part of General Motors. Anyway, Harry Belden had an EMF and my father bought an EMF in either 1911 or 1912. I know he had it in 1912 which had no doors at all on the front seat and the driver was on the right hand side and when you shifted gears, you reached over on the outside and shifted gears. … Then Ervin Joslin had the next one or very close and everyone told the stories about what wild drivers George Wallis and Ervin Joslin were. They drove like "cowboys," mad drivers." Charley Patterson probably had a car before Ervin Joslin.

*First Car in Waitsfield*

This is a picture of the first car with Harry Belden driving and Mr. and Mrs. Ziba McAllister in the back seat. According to a Mr. Phil Hill (an automobile buff and so called authority) said this was "Model G, 1907 or 1908 Franklin." This picture was taken in the driveway of the Ziba McAllister house, then Lewis R. Joslin house (1873) in Waitsfield Village. This was later the Edward H. Jones house. Harold Joslin lived here in 1949.

Other people who later had early cars were Wesley Tucker with an EMF and George Olmstead with a Model T. Authentic stories about cars: "George Olmstead who used to run the Cooper shop (later Bonnette's garage, in 2000 Waitsfield Ambulance building) … ran it into the Elm tree out in front of the then Cooper Shop and knocked the bark off with the front wheel and he would never

*Charley Patterson Car 1914 Ford*

drive again. That Model T Ford stayed in that old shop there for years."

"Walter Moriarty had an early car … one Memorial Day just below the present Kenyon Farm which was the Wes Tucker Farm, a car met George Jones and his wife (with horse and buggy) … Mrs. Jones was thrown around and her arm was broken."

Another related accident: "Carl Long, I think it was a 4th of July celebration was (driving) a bunch of young people to Warren. … As I understand it, Herb Joslin was on the right hand side of the truck and (as) it crossed the bridge up by what is now Mad Bush, where Charlie Folsom lived … the truck swayed and Herb hit against a tree … and was killed."

The automobile and the truck continued to roll the highways into and throughout Mad River Valley supplying businesses and affording families transportation. There have been several attempts at bus and taxi services since 1960; some with success and some for only brief periods. Valley Transit was established and served the valley. In 1978 the Central Vermont Transportation Association under a federal grant made weekly transportation available in Waitsfield. This transportation system was intended for senior citizens. In 2000, there is a bus service for particularly senior citizens and a taxi service within the town. However, there is still no public transportation.

Most valley residence will admit that it is, at times, difficult to easily drive Route 100 because of the increased traffic in 2000. During the busy ski season, the highway becomes even more congested.

# CHAPTER XVIII
# POSTAL SERVICE

The early postal service did not exist in the Valley. If any mail reached the Valley it was limited to mail brought in by horseback to a specified location. The settlers would then get their mail at that location – usually a store. These locations were not officially designated as a Post Office.

The nearest postal service was in Montpelier. "A weekly stage running from Windsor to Burlington afforded transportation for mail and passengers, and connected at Windsor with the stage lines for Boston. In 1811, there were two trips a week from Windsor to Burlington. On January 1, 1818, a post office was established in Waitsfield." This information taken from records found in the Vermont Historical Society. By November 16, 1818, mail was being carried from Montpelier to Rochester with one trip per week.

For a few years the mail came from Montpelier to Waitsfield, but Middlesex soon became the northern terminus. It was known as Route 13. The mail was brought into Waitsfield twice a week in the early years. Daily service did not begin until July 1, 1864. It was about this time that the first stage business was established by Crowell Matthews who lived in Rochester at that time and drove the stage from Rochester to Montpelier.

The first designated post office that records show was in the Hebard, Baldwin, & Woodward Store beginning in 1818. This store was on the site immediately south of the Walter Joslyn house known as the Barton house and owned by Alice Schwendler in 2000 on Old County Road. The old Hebard store has been gone since about 1830. Erastus Woodward, partner in the store, was the first Waitsfield Postmaster.

The post office was moved to George F. Kidder's store in 1822 when Mr. Kidder was appointed postmaster. The Kidder store was the building across from the village mill, it became partially brick. Lewis Holden later owned the store. Mr. Kidder did not keep the postmaster position for long. In October 1823, Roderick Richardson, Sr. was appointed postmaster and the post office were moved to his store that he had built in the Village Square in 1817. Mr. Richardson Sr. was postmaster until 1829. Roderick Richardson, Sr. moved the post office to his new store, the brick building on the southeast corner of the square. Roderick Richardson, Jr. was appointed postmaster in September 1829 and remained postmaster until 1844. James M. Richardson became postmaster in July 1844. The post office remained in the brick store building except for the short period after it burned and was rebuilt. In June 1861 Richardson J. Gleason was appointed postmaster. Interestingly, Mr. Gleason by this time owned the Richardson store where the post office remained.

In 1862, Richardson Gleason sold the brick store and moved to the building directly north, a two story white building. The post office was moved to this building at the same time, 1862, and remained there until 1889. Mail was brought into the valley twice per day in 1899.

In 1900, the post office was moved across the street to the Norton Store. This store was just south of where the Joslin Library rests in 2000. The Norton store burned in 1903. At the time of the fire, the post office was moved to the Hastings building. The Hastings building, built by Jonathan H. Hastings, became the Carl Long Store in the 1930's. The front of this Hastings Block (building) became the post office in 1903. Ziba McAllister was appointed postmaster in 1889. The

post office remained here until 1914 when it was moved to the new Joslin Memorial Library. Two other citizens were appointed postmaster – Lewis R. Joslin August 1885 and Henry T.J. Lewis in November 1885, both declined to serve. After Ziba McAllister, Blanche Stokes became postmaster 1913 to 1934, 21 years of service.. Irene Smith became postmaster in 1934. Irene Smith was named New England Postmaster of the year in 1957. At that time she said "there are 2,000 pieces of mail daily; 200 call boxes; 102 rural boxes, and 24 Star Route boxes. Irene Smith retired in 1959 Clayton Kingsbury followed Irene Smith, then Bernard Allaire, John Major, Bernie Harriman, Robert Bouchard, Leo St. Hillair, Howard Rexford, Ilene Joslin, Larry Corthell. Lawrence Corthell retired in 1999 after 37 years with the postal service.

The Waitsfield Post Office occupied the south end of the Joslin Memorial Library from 1913 to 1962. The U.S. Government paid a yearly rent from 1914 to 1922 of $75.00. In 1923, the rent was raised to $150.00 yearly and remained that fee until 1947. In 1958, the building which had been built by Gerald Stokes, across Route 100 and directly across from the Congregational Church, was remodeled and the Post Office moved to this location in 1962. In 1977, it was moved to the Village Green in Irasville, its location in 2000.

*Post Office Mad River Green being built in 1976*

It was in 1844 that the Route number was changed from #13 to route # 406. At this time, the mail began to continue south to Warren. At this time, trips were made three times a week. On July 1, 1864, the service began to be daily and in 1899, the service from Middlesex to Warren began to be twice a day.

On July 1, 1901, the first rural route service began. Frank Eaton was the first person who drove the rural route. Levi Boyce was rural mail carrier after Frank Eaton from 1870 to 1880's. This route left the village and went through Irasville over what is called Bragg Hill. It included some of South Fayston, than followed Route 100 to the Rolston Road and then north over Waitsfield Common and back into Waitfield Village. It later included Bragg Hill, German Flats, and Dana Hill. This author has his grandfather's original rural mail box (B. D. Bisbee) which has the hand writing on the back "B. D. Bisbee July 1, 1901. B. D. Bisbee was the only farm on the Cross Road at that time. The mail box is still being used in 2000.

Harold Hayes came to Waitsfield at age 19 and became the rural mail carrier March 11, 1917

after Levi Boyce. Harold Hayes "second day on the job, 18 inches of snow fell, and it was 10:30 at night before he finally finished his mail route by lantern light." His initial route covered 20 miles; by 1957, the route had increased to 34 miles, with an average of 100 stops. Harold Hayes traveled by horse and buggy (or sleigh) until 1922, when he got his first car. Even then, he found that snow and mud often required him to get out the horse.

In 1947, Mr. Hayes had served the rural route for 30 years. At this time he served 106 boxes, 96 families, 365 people. Mr. Hayes retired in 1957, forty years of service. Calvin Wimble became rural mail carrier in 1957 to 1997, forty years of service. Peter Ginta became the rural mail carrier in 1997 and remains in 2000.

The rural route was extended up East Hill to the Clarence Bisbee farm in November 1942. As new homes were built through the Town and new roads constructed, the rural mail system increased to include delivery to each house or a close proximity. The early rural route left mail delivery often far from the farm homes. Some rural boxes were as far as one mile from the homes. Many people simply had a post office box. The entire rural system was redesigned in 1999 and in some cases even different Town postal delivery boundaries were changed.

# CHAPTER XIX
# WAITSFIELD CORNET BAND

The first band organization in Waitsfield was part of the militia company called the Regimental Band. This was organized around 1824. However, it is logical that the band was organized earlier. The leader was Levi Smith with the title of major. The Jones' Book gives the names associated with this band. This militia band continued through most of the early years and was used to send the men off to serve their country.

Note for historical clarity: The militia band ultimately ceased. However, out of this initial organization the Waitsfield Cornet Band was organized in 1859, reorganized in 1872, and again reorganized in 1893.

The Waitsfield Cornet Band was organized in 1859 through its leader, James M. Richardson. The Jones' Book again lists people associated with this continuation of the band. This organization remained until 1865 when the Civil War took many of its members away to the war. The last public service was to escort Company G, Sixth Vermont Volunteers on its march to Montpelier.

The Waitsfield Cornet Band was reorganized in 1872, but was not officially formed until August 2, 1875 with the following members: Ziba McAllister, leader, F.A. Bragg, B.D. Bisbee, E.W. Bisbee Jr., A.W. Bisbee, J.C. Joyslin, C.W. Newcomb, W.M Strong, C.W. Richardson, G.E. Dumas, W.F. Bates, O.S. Barnard, D.A. Kneeland, W.K. Whitcombe, F.L. Carroll, A.O. Thayer, Ziba W. Boyce, J.R. Dale, W. C. Bragg.

(Note: The Constitution (below) was copied exactly from the record book of the band hand written by Burton D. Bisbee, the first Secretary & Treasurer of this reorganized Cornet Band.)

## The Constitution & By-Laws of the W.C.B.

Article 1st This association shall be known as the Waitsfield Cornet Band.

Art 2nd The officers of this association shall consist of Leader, 2nd Leader & a Secretary who shall also act as Treasurer.

Art 3rd The officers shall be elected annually on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in the month of December. Vacancies can be filled should they occur at any meeting provided 10 day notice is given.

Art 4th It shall be the duty of the Leader to preside at all business meetings of the Band. To preserve order when the Band is on duty, and at all rehearsals and all business meetings and to select such music as he in his judgement deems best, and to give proper directions how such music shall be played according to his views, and to appoint all meetings of the Band.

Art 5th It shall be the duty of the 2nd Leader to preside in the absence of the 1st Leader.

Art 6th It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a true record of all the business done by the Band, and to keep the acts of the Band receipts and expenses and to present each man's tax for expenses within one week from the time it was voted to be raised by the Band.

Art 7th A majority shall rule in all votes taken except for Leader, For Leader a (2/3) two thirds

vote shall be required.

Art 8th Seven members shall constitute a quorum and a quorum of the Band shall be sufficient number to transact any business of the Band.

Art 9th Every member shall be required to pay an equal share of the Band expenses.

Art 10 Every member shall pay equal share towards music, and all property belonging jointly to the Band shall be Band property.

Art 11th Any member upon leaving the Band shall find some suitable person to take his place in the Band and to take his share of Band property. If the member cannot find upon leaving such a person and the Band cannot for him, he shall leave his stock in the Band to be disposed of at their earliest and best opportunity for such sale.

Art 12th Any member found incapable of the performance of his part or any part in the Band, shall be voted out by a majority vote.

Art 13th Any member not abiding by the By-Laws or Constitution, shall be voted out by a majority vote.

Art 14th Any officer of the Band found incapable for the duties devolving upon him or any officer not performing his required duty shall be voted out of office by (2/3) two thirds vote.

Art 15th Every member shall show and act with due respect toward each officer and abide by the requirements.

Art 16th No member will be allowed to vote on any business of the Band until his dues are all paid.

Art 17th The above Constitution can be altered or amended by a majority vote after laying over one meeting.

Art 18th It shall be the duty of ever person on joining this Band to first sign the Constitution..

August 2nd, 1875: The Waitsfield Cornet Band organized by electing Z. H. McAllister 1st Leader, F.A. Bragg 2nd Leader, B.D. Bisbee Secretary & Treasurer. Voted to instruct Leader to procure a place to hold Band meetings. Voted to instruct Leader and Secretary to engage to play at Mad River Valley Fair. Voted to instruct Secretary to procure blank book for records.

August 10th, 1875: Voted to accept invitation to play at Sabbath school picnic.

September 5th, 1875: Voted to have (2) two Band rehearsals a week till after Fair. Voted to accept invitation to play at the Newcomb family picnic.

October 1, 1875: Voted to have Oyster Supper and Concert to be held on Wednesday Eve Nov. 3rd, 1875.

Dec. 15, 1875 Annual meeting of Band. The Treasurers report was adopted and following officers were elected. Leader Z. H. McAllister, F. A. Bragg 2nd Leader, Secretary & Treasurer B. D. Bisbee Voted to continue to occupy the G.A.R. Hall for present. The Band used the G.A.R. building throughout. This building (Eaton Block) was between Carl Long's store and the ledges.

Feb. 22, 1876: Voted to appoint a committee to make arrangements to have a concert at Middlesex.

Apr. 24, 1876: Voted to pay $35.00 for E flat Tuba

The Band continued to operate under this Constitution, to receive new members and vote other members out, thus operating as stock holders in the established organization. They continued according to their records to play on Decoration Day, the Republican Rally, the Washington County Fair, the State Board of Agriculture meeting in Waitsfield, at a picnic in Parker's Grove, Mad River Valley Fair (this event appears continually in their records). "On Jan. 24, 1876 Band went enmasse to serenade J.C. Joyslin and wife." This was Julius Carlisle Joyslin who married Abbie Hastings Jan. 4, 1876. Julius father was David C. Joyslin who came to Waitsfield in 1825 and practiced medicine for 50 years until his death in 1874. J. C. Joyslin was an original member of the Band.

They played at Moretown for the Democratic Flag Raising, Grange Picnic in Duxbury, Republican Flag Raising in Waitsfield, Serenaded the Waitsfield Representative, Washington County Senator and Fayston Representative on Sept. 5, 1878. "Received Apples, Melons, Cigars etc. Played at the Mad River Valley Fair Sept. 19 & 20, 1876. Received $50.00. Feb. 22, 1877 - Band played at Good Templars Union. Oct. 26, 1877 - Serenaded Rev. Stephen Robinson and his wife. (Rev. Robinson was pastor in Waitsfield - 1877 to 1884). The Band also serenaded G. J. Bushnell and wife on this same date Oct. 26, 1877. This was probably Gordon Jedediah Bushnell who married Lizzie Newcomb Feb. 9, 1875. The Newcombs played in the band. It can be readily seen that they were a very active Band and played at many, many events. They played as far away as Highgate Springs.

There are records of their expenses most of which were normal - music, holders, books, etc. However, one expense that always appears with the Band playing at the Mad River Valley Fair is the use of a team and wagon. Example: G. Folsom for team during fair - $4.00; Wagon Company for use of wagon - $3.00; Capt. Wilder for dinners $8.80.

They did pay dividends to the Band members; for example, on Dec. 30, 1878 they paid from $4.00 to $9.75. Most of them received either $4.00 or $8.00 In December, 1878, they elected J.C. Joyslin Leader, F.C. Carroll 2nd Leader, and B.D. Bisbee Secretary & Treasurer.

In 1879, J. H. McAllister became the Leader; F.C. Carroll 2nd Leader and B.D. Bisbee Secretary & Treasurer. It appears that these people remained the officers throughout the following years.

| | |
|---|---|
| December 20, 1880 – | J.H. McAlllister Leader |
| | F.C. Carroll 2nd Leader |
| | B.D. Bisbee Secretary and Treasurer |
| December 15, 1884 – | A.B. Bisbee and J.C. Joyslin voted out |
| | Will Bragg voted in. Same officers voted in |
| August 20, 1885 – | Voted to play at the Fair for $40 and pay expenses |
| December 20, 1886 – | Voted same officers in. Voted to pay $4 for rent of G.A.R. Hall |

In 1888, the Band had decreased in membership. A meeting was called and C.H. Newcomb, F. A. Bragg, and Z. H. McAllister were elected as the committee to dispose of the Band property. In August, 1888, they paid a pro-rated dividend of $3.50 to all members- Z. H. McAllister, J.R.

Dale, F.C. Carroll, F.A. Bragg, Will Bragg, C.H. Newcomb, B. D. Bisbee, O.L. Barnard, and C.W. Richardson. The Band was disbanded.

The Band was reorganized in 1893 under the leadership of Fred C. Carroll and Harry W. Belden. Fred Carroll was a Leader in the original Cornet Band. Fred Carroll live on top of Mill Hill in what is known as the Pestle house. Fred Carroll married Myra Jones May 1, 1902. Fred Carroll was 10 years old when the first Band was formed and he was a member.

Harry W. Belden came to Waitsfield soon after he married Georgianna Gorton, Oct. 3, 1900. Some of the people who played in the third reorganized band were: Vern Pierce, Sam Strong, Charlie Newcomb, Theron Newcomb, Ed Newcomb, Stanley Boswell, Dan McLaughlin, Charles Jones, Clyde Jones, Edward H. Jones. There were others; however, the records are scattered concerning the second band. The third reoganized band played for "Decoration Day" and other holidays. Most of their concerts were given in the Band Shell that stood near the site of the present Joslin Library. A new Band Stand was built about 1895 where the Joslin Memorial Library stands. The third reorganized Waitsfield Cornet Band disbanded in 1920. These members were also paid for their services at a rate of $3.00; however, they evidently did not follow the old By-Laws and actually owned their share of the band property

The Waitsfield schools continued the music program in the mid 1900's and furnished music for some public events. The schools had an orchestra, vocal, and other instrumental programs at various periods of time. W.M. Wilton was hired for instruction and music in 1908. Mrs. Remele was the first teacher hired **just for** music in 1921. J. Leo Messier was hired in 1941 for a High School orchestra; he remained until 1957. Stanley Flink became vocal and instrumental teacher in the high school. Joel Salloway became music teacher in 1959 and Richard Lombard in 1965.

The Harwood Union High School has a full music program with a band, vocal music, and a jazz band in 2000.

# CHAPTER XX
# WAITSFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Waitsfield like all rural communities went from the "Bucket Brigade" to the Volunteer Fire Department. In the beginning, communities depended upon neighbors to help extinguish fires. The early structures were log cabins many with thatched roofs, fireplaces and stoves. After the advent of the saw mill, the more permanent structures were built of wood and heated by wood burning stoves as well as fireplaces. Chimneys were built of brick and in the two story homes the chimney frequently came only to the second floor. Many, even in the one-story homes, came half way down the wall where they rested on a wooden structure. Sheet metal pipes led from the stove to the chimney. These pipes went across rooms, through walls, and into the chimney. Frequently, in the two story buildings, these thin metal pipes ran through the ceilings, across second story rooms, hallways, and into the chimney on the second floor. The theory was that this piping method would help heat the home by heat radiation from these pipes. It did in fact work – though heat was minimal.

In other homes, there were fireplaces in at least four of the larger rooms on both the first and the second floors. In the larger homes, there was a fireplace in the kitchen with cooking facilities, in the living room (parlor), and in the bedroom on the first floor and in the four bedrooms on the second floor. This required a great deal of labor to cut wood for winter heating and for cooking. It also presented considerable smoke, ashes and grease throughout the house. The chimney would build up creosote that periodically would catch fire. Therefore, the greatest factor from this heating and cooking method was the danger of fire. Either careless acts or the usual chimney fire, homes frequently burned. Often the fire started around the metal pipes, which would turn red-hot. Even the brick chimney would get extremely hot as it burned the creosote that had accumulated in the chimney. This writer remembers well standing with several buckets of water by the pipes while the fire burned its course.

These fires plus the kerosene lamps and lanterns were a constant source of fires that frequently would destroy homes, barns, and belongings. Another source of early fires was the spontaneous combustion of hay fires in the barns. This was caused by hay being improperly stored before it was completely dry. This partially wet hay would heat in the packed hay- mow and suddenly burst into flame.

These were the fire hazards of the early settlers. On such occasions, neighbors would rush to form a "bucket brigade." This was a line of people forming a human chain to a water source. They would pass buckets of water along the line of people to the fire. Interestingly, many structures were saved by this method. This could be called the first fire department – "the bucket brigade."

The first recorded fire in Waitsfield can be found in the Jones, HISTORY OF WAITSFIELD. It is the poem, "The Burning House" by Ithamar Smith. The log cabin referred to was the first log cabin home of Daniel Taylor.

Sterling Livingston gives an account of such "Fire Brigades" in the 1993 Waitsfield Telephone Directory. He speaks of a fire at his parent's house where water was brought in by horses and large sap gathering tanks on sleds. Buckets of water were lifted to the roof of the house by tying the leather reins together from the horses. In pulley fashion, the buckets of water were raised to the

fire in the roof.

This author remembers attending church in 1937 when a chimney fire occurred at the Walter Jones house- the brick house next to the Congregational Church. Everyone rushed to help - assuming, of course, that the Lord would forgive the rush from prayer. The event that remains so vivid is the fact that while the men were rushing to contain the chimney fire, the women formed a human chain across the street (Route 100) to Edna Long's house. The women then literally, piece by piece carefully carried every piece of china and glassware out of the Jones' house into the Long house. The fire was contained, but all the dishes had to be carried back across the street. This author does not recall that a single piece of china was broken.

Originally, someone from the beleaguered family would ride on horseback to summon neighbors to such fires. After the advent of the telephone, this process was greatly enhanced. A person in need of help because of fire could call the operator or Central as she was often called, and tell her about the fire. The operator in turn would give two short rings repeated twice more in quick succession that indicated an emergency to everyone with a telephone. The people would pick up the receiver and the operator would tell everyone where the fire was located.

As time passed, Waitsfield acquired fire equipment. Mr. Chase was the fire chief. At first, it was primitive – a hose cart, a chemical tank with hose, and a pumper which had two long arms or handles on each side of the tank. Men standing on each side would pump these arms thus forcing water through the hose. At least one of these pieces of equipment was housed in the basement of the Joslin Memorial Library. The pumper for a time was housed in Oscar Eaton's barn. It was also housed in the old garage of Walter Jones – the brick house beside the church. Also for a time, the pumper was housed in the Old Town Shed, which was the Russell Blacksmith Shop. Men pulled these pieces of equipment to fires. Horse drawn equipment was used in larger cities.

As larger towns such as Montpelier and Waterbury began to have motorized fire vehicles, they were occasionally called to assist in large fires. For example, these towns were a great assistance in the February, 1944 fire that burned the Telephone Central block and part of Carl Long store. They also assisted in the fire that destroyed the village mills in December, 1944. These two fires gave great incentive for Waitsfield to acquire its own equipment. Nelson Patch was the driving force for the first fire truck. He almost single handedly convinced the people at Town Meeting 1945 to buy fire equipment and build a firehouse.

The first fire house ironically was built on the site that fueled the interest for the fire equipment. The following is taken from the Burlington Free Press October 4, 1945, "At a special town meeting held at the library hall Monday night, it was voted to rescind the vote taken at the March meeting to place the fire engine in the library hall. It was voted to erect a new building to house the fire engine and a committee to carry out this vote is to be chosen by the moderator and the selectmen."

The building was erected on the site where the Telephone Office building burned in February, 1944. It was built beside the ledges on Route 100 in the village. Carl Long donated the land and the lumber was supplied from Paul Moriarty's mill. All labor was donated by citizens from Waitsfield most of which were fire department members. An article in the Burlington Free Press December 20, 1945 states, "Through the efforts of Henry Brothers about $450 in cash and about $75 in labor was donated for the new fire station. Donations were received from some people outside the town and by some outside the state." The February 1, 1946 Town Report gives the Fire Department costs which include the new engine as a total of $9,523.34. New Engine was $6,732.40 and

building costs of $2,780.94. ($9,523.34 - $6,732.40 - $10.00 special meeting cost)

The first fire truck was shipped from the factory in Elmira, New York on October 31, 1945 and arrived before November 14, 1945. Taken from the minutes November 14, 1945…"The new fire truck having arrived, the operation of it was discussed." Willis Bragg, Secretary. Also from these same minutes: "A report was asked from each member as to the number of tickets sold on the turkey raffle. To date there are about 300. A report was given by Enos Brothers on the results he had in buying dishes. Plans were made for the use of the upstairs of new fire station." The upstairs became a club room for the firemen.

The first fire at which the first fire truck was used according to the original records of the fire department was a chimney fire at Everett Perkins on November 12, 1945 now the Raylar Builders building in 2000. This would indicate that the truck arrived several days earlier. According to records from November 12, 1945 to April 30, 1948 the department had responded to 71 fires; the majority of these fires were chimney fires.

As part of the minutes of April 2, 1947 it was reported that the department had responded to 28 fire calls that year. Of these 28 calls 17 were in Waitsfield, 4 in Moretown, 6 in Warren and 1 in Fayston. These calls consisted of 20 chimney fires, l saw mill, 2 forest fires, 2 barns, 1 farm house and barn, 1 rubbish fire (in cellar), 1 overheated electric motor.

During 1947, the Fire Department surveyed the entire town and listed all homes, locations, and the distance from each building to a water supply. This survey with the location of people identified in 1947 is included in Chapter XII.

The first fire station was completed by December 1945. The November 28, 1945 minutes of the Fire Department state that "Fire Dept. met at the home of Chief Patch. There were all eleven members present." And from the December 12, 1945 minutes states: "The Waitsfield Volunteer Fire Dept. met for the first time in the new fire station. There were nine members present."

There were 11 people in the first volunteer group- Nelson Patch, Fire Chief; Paul Moriarty, Assistant Fire Chief; Willis Bragg, Secretary; and Malcolm Joslyn, Treasurer. Members were George Sawyer, Enos Brothers, Herb Dana, Donald Stafford, Elmer Mehuron, Carroll Williams, and Percy Brothers.

The members of the fire department November 1, 1950 were Nelson Patch, Paul Moriarty, Enos Brothers, Willis Bragg, Donald Stafford, George Sawyer, Pat McCuin, Elmer Mehuron, Robert Bisbee, Lester Barton, Otto Livingston, Merritt Kathan, Herb Dana, and Owen Wimble.

The Fire Chief and Assistant were selected at Town Meeting. Nelson Patch was the first Fire Chief named in 1948, Assistant Fire Chief was Paul Moriarty until 1952. In 1952, the Assistant Fire Chief was Willis Bragg until 1954. In 1954, Nelson Patch continued to be Fire Chief and Robert Bisbee was named Assistant Fire Chief. In 1976, the Town voted to remove the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief from Australian Ballot at Town Meeting and allow the firemen to select its own officers. Nelson Patch continued to be Fire Chief until 1980. Robert Bisbee continued to be Assistant Fire Chief until 1977 at which time Joe Keith was assisting Robert Bisbee in that position. In 1980, James Keith became Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chiefs were Robert Bisbee and Gordon Eurich. In 1984, Fire Chief was James Keith, Assistant Fire Chiefs were Robert Bisbee and Gordon Eurich and Delbert Palmer became Fire Captain. In 1987, Delbert Palmer became Fire Chief; Assistant Fire Chiefs were Robert Bisbee and Gordon Eurich. In 1988, Fire Chief

was Delbert Palmer and Assistant Fire Chiefs were Gordon Eurich and Kevin Eurich. Robert Bisbee had been Assistant Fire Chief for 34 years. Nelson Patch had been Fire Chief for 32 years. Plus Nelson Patch was considered Fire Chief before official elections in 1948 making it 35 years as Chief. Officers for the year 2000, Fire Chief, Delbert Palmer (13 years fire chief); Assistant #1, Gordon Eurich (20 years); Second Assistant, Paul Hartshorn; Captain, Jack Corliss; Lieutenant, Owen Wimble Jr. and Travis Michaud; Secretary, Renee Michaud; Treasurer, Gordon Eurich; Moderator, Eric Haskins.

The first fire truck was a 1944 Ford-La-France truck. The second major fire truck was purchased in 1964. This was a new Ford truck with a Waterous pump; it had a 750 gallon storage tank with a 750 gpm capacity pump. It replaced the 1944 truck as the front line engine. In 1974, a new firehouse was built on the old baseball field north of the Old High School building. Again the entire structure was done with volunteer labor. The building was dedicated to Nelson Patch.

Two vehicles were loaned to the town by the Vermont Forestry Department to assist in the additional pressure on the department. One of these vehicles was fitted with a 2,200 gallon storage tank to carry additional water to those locations where obtaining water was difficult. The second vehicle was a converted army ambulance which was put to use as a utility wagon. In 1982, a 1982 GMC vehicle to carry the storage tank replaced these vehicles and a 1976 Chevrolet van was used as the utility truck.

In 1976, a new Ford truck was purchased. This truck had a Hale pump and equipped with a 750 gallon storage tank and a 1,000 gpm pump.

By 1980, the Federal government began enforcing new regulations for properly rated helmets, boots, and coats. New training programs were begun; fire fighting schools were established for further training, and fire safety awareness programs were established in schools and communities.

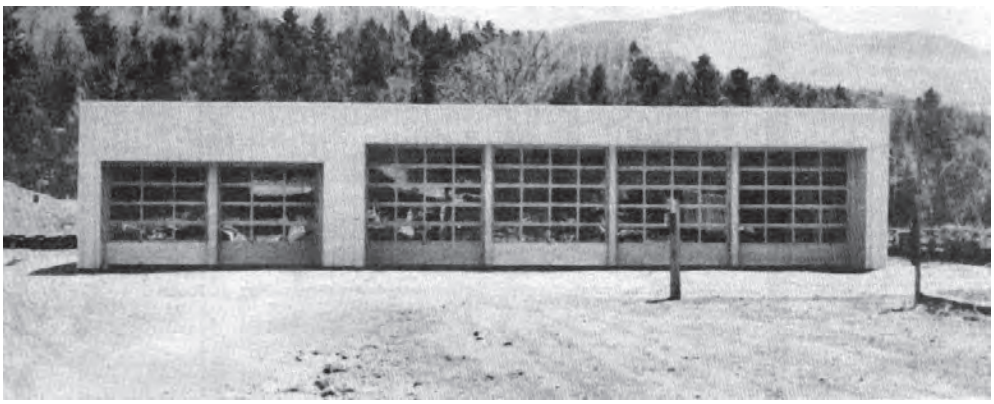
By 1985, Waitsfield owned three fire engines, a tanker/pumper, utility truck and other smaller pieces of equipment.

As the community began to grow, the demands on the Fire Department also increased. Additional equipment has been added to the department. The department now has three fire engines, a tanker/pumper, utility truck and miscellaneous pieces needed in emergencies.

In the beginning, Waitsfield provided fire protection for Warren, Fayston, and Moretown. In 1984, Warrren organized its own department and in 1957, Moretown also organized a fire department. Waitsfield continued to have a cost-sharing agreement with Fayston. In 1989, that cost sharing was Waitsfield paid 60% and Fayston paid 40%. In 2000, Waitsfield continues its arrangement with Fayston for fire protection. Waitsfield has an excellent Volunteer Fire Department with up-to-date training and equipment.

Waitsfield can be proud of the many volunteers who have given hours of their time serving the valley as dedicated members of a volunteer group.

*First Fire Station built in 1946*



*Second Waitsfield Volunteer Fire Station 1974*

# AMERICAN-LAFRANCE-FOAMITE CORPORATION

A COMPLETE ENGINEERING SERVICE AGAINST FIRE

25 BRIGHTON AVENUE
BOSTON, MASS. (34)

November 1, 1945

Town of Waitsfield
Attention: Mr. Paul Moriarty
Waitsfield, Vermont

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of a telegram from our factory advising that the new fire engine for Waitsfield was shipped from our factory at Elmira, New York on October 31, 1945. This is car No. Erie 98109 and is routed so as to arrive at Montpelier, Vermont. When this car arrives at Montpelier we will be notified so we can arrange to have an engineer available for unloading.

We will advise you when the machine arrives in Montpelier and our engineer is ready to unload it.

Very truly yours,

AMERICAN-LAFRANCE-FOAMITE CORPORATION

L J Creaser

DISTRICT MANAGER

L.J.Creaser/B

WORLD'S OLDEST AND LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF
FIRE APPARATUS AND FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

# CHAPTER XXI
# MEDICAL SERVICES

The early settlers were an independent group of individuals who took care of their own needs and asked little of others. Neighbors helped in emergencies or when called upon to assist, but otherwise each family provided for their own and allowed others to have the same life style. Organizations, even voluntary, to serve the entire community needs simply were not in the priorities of the early people. Furthermore, there were tremendous tasks at every juncture just to provide the necessities without adding to the individual burdens.

One of the first recorded references to medical cases in the Valley was in 1799 with an out break of smallpox. The Job Tyler house was used as the quarantine house. It was called for some time "the pest house." This house was on the East Warren Road (Roxbury Road) just beyond the Neill farm. Sterling Livingston lived in the house in 1947 until he built the house next door.

The "Country Doctor" met medical needs of the small rural communities if the town was fortunate enough to have a doctor. Waitsfield was fortunate to have many such physicians. The early physicians are listed here and some information can be found in the Jones' *HISTORY OF WAITSFIELD*.

First physician in Waitsfield: Moses Heaton 1793 – 1796

Dr. Simeon Stoddard 1794 – 1841

Dr. Stephen Pierce 1795 – 1822

Dr. Frederick Richardson 1802 – 1860

Dr. William Joslin 1805-06 – 1834

Dr. Frederick T. Minor came as a boy trainer, left in 1833

Dr. Joseph Whitcomb 1812 – left about 1818

Dr. Orange Smith 1824 – 1863

Dr. David Carlisle Joyslin 1825 – 1874

Dr. Gershom N. Brigham 1852 – 1855

Dr. Edwin Alonso Jones studied under Dr. Joyslin, but did not practice here

Dr. Emory G. Judkins 1860 – 1863

Dr. Emory G. Hooker 1865 – 1881

Dr. Gurley A. Phelps born here but did not practice here

Dr. George W. Nichols 1864 - 1868

Dr. Walter Alonzo Jones 1868 – 1869 (Mercantile business in town)

Dr. James M. Van Deusen 1870 – 1901

Dr. Clayton F. Camp 1881 – about 1886

Dr. Henry T.J. Howe 1882 – 1912

Dr. Clarence J. Allen 1884 – 1889

| | |
|---|---|
| Dr. Warren Howard | 1911 went into Army WWI returned until 1923 |
| Dr. Clarence Burr | 1921 |
| Dr. Fred Kent | 1923 |
| Dr. Carlos Shaw | 1924 - 1950 |

Others: Dr. George S. Bidwell; Dr. Frederick K. Jackson; Dr. Henry Hopkins.

In 1911, Dr. Warren J. Howard came to Waitsfield to practice medicine. He purchased the Pardon Bushnell house known as Emily Eaton's house in the village – in 2000 known as All Things Bright and Beautiful Store. Dr. Howard was born in Preble, NY on Oct. 22, 1876, the son of John and Emma Walker Howard. He graduated from Tulley High School and Teachers Training College. He attended Andover MA Prep School. He graduated from University of Vermont Medical School in 1906 and started his practice in Roxbury, VT. He came to Waitsfield in 1911. He enlisted in the medical corps in World War I as a Captain. After the war, he returned to Waitsfield until he went to St. Albans, VT in 1923. From St. Albans, he went to Toledo, OH to practice until 1949. He married Lena Everett in 1907. They had one daughter, Margaret. In 1944, he married Gertrude Bisbee in Toledo, OH. In 1949, Dr. Howard retired. Dr. Howard and Gertrude Bisbee Howard moved back to Waitsfield that same year. They lived in the small house on the left just starting up the Dana Hill Road, above Mill Brook. Dr. Howard died March 19, 1957.

On August 21, 1920, the formation of the Local Board of Health was established with W. H. Moriarty elected chairman. Rules were announced concerning the new laws. "Contagious Diseases: Doctors, heads of households, teachers are required to immediately report any known contagious disease to the Health Board. Teachers are instructed that they must not allow children to attend school who are afflicted with lice or contagious diseases of any description."

In 1921, statistics were being reported in Waitsfield for the first time, although accounts of illnesses and quarantines are recorded earlier. In 1921, the following statistics are reported in the Town Report: 1 case of chicken pox, 4 school inspections, 159 students examined, 49 students defective (no report what this meant). Births in 1920:11 males, 4 females; deaths 7 males, 6 females, 5 sanitary inspections, 1 house quarantined. Dr. Clarence H. Burr reporting.

In 1921, an Article 12 appeared in the Town Report: "Shall Washington County raise additional bonds in amount of $70,000 for a county Tuberculosis hospital. This was accomplished. In the 1932 Town Report Article 6 appears: "See if the trustees of the Washington County Tuberculosis Hospital shall be authorize to convey the property of said hospital to the State in accordance with No. 182 of the Acts of 1931."

In 1922, there were 19 cases of measles, 8 cases of mumps, 1 case of scarlet fever, 1 case of influenza, 20 house quarantines. There were 4 male births, 6 female births, 4 male deaths, and 5 female deaths.

In 1923, there were 59 cases of mumps, 29 cases of chicken pox, and 2 cases of diphtheria. There were 4 male births and 10 female births, 3 male deaths and 7 female deaths.

Statistics were kept by the Health Departments but were not consistently reported in the Town Report. The above statistics are given to historically record the beginning of these statistics. Periodically, statistics are recorded in the Town Report.

Dr. Carlos Adams Shaw was invited to come to Waitsfield to become the resident physician in 1924. The Methodist parsonage became his office and home. The Town of Waitsfield rented the building for him to use. Dr. Shaw was born in Northfield, VT on July 22, 1870. He was one of six brothers. Dr. Shaw attended Randolph Normal School, and studied medicine at the University of Vermont Medical School, graduating in 1899. He interned for six months at Massachusetts General Hospital. He began his practice in West Windsor, VT, then in Northfield and Roxbury. In 1950, when Dr. Shaw was nearly 80 years old and very ill, he "left his sick bed against his families wishes to make a house call. As a result he developed bronchial pneumonia and died within forty-eight hours." The year before, 1949, the Town honored him for his 50 years of service as country doctor. It was also a threefold occasion for he was celebrating his 79th birthday, his 50th medical anniversary, and his 25th anniversary of residency in Waitsfield.

The following historical reminiscences of Dr. Shaw are taken from an article in the Green Mountain Folklore Society Contest 1980, taped by Ruth Bareham. She got her information from listening to the Senior Citizens while manager of the meal-site where the Senior Citizens had meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Not only are these stories authentic, but they detail the kind, caring, dedicated man that so many Waitsfield citizens knew 1924 to 1950.

"Dr. Shaw was an outstanding diagnostician, recognized as such by his classmates and professors at UVM. The story is told about a former patient who moved to Barre and went to see a Dr. Woodruff. He asked her to remove her clothes so he could examine her. Indignantly, she refused, saying, "Doc Shaw could always tell what was wrong with me, even with my clothes on!"

"The good doctor knew his patients well. On one occasion Emily Eaton…went to the doctor and demanded a certain medicine. A week later she was back, saying disgustedly, "your medicine didn't help me a bit. Doc replied, "I knew it wouldn't, but I gave you what you ordered."

"Always dependable and ready to go, the doctor discovered on one occasion he had made a mistake. He arrived at Bertha Tucker's, gave one look at her and rushed away, announcing he had the wrong bag. Returning shortly, he delivered her baby."

"One patient coming in for cold medicine heard "Doc" say, "You can take my pills and be better in seven days, or you can doctor yourself and get better in a week."

Many, many stories can be found about the good doctor. An office call was 50 cents, a house call was $1.00, and for delivery a baby it was $5.00. Before handing out the inevitable pills, Dr. Shaw would always taste the medicine first as if to assure the patient. He was extremely knowledgeable about chemicals and drugs. "Representatives from Burlington drug companies visited the doctor hoping to learn the secrets of his famous brown salve and other medicines." "Cleo Pestle remembered a very effective gallbladder medicine with the ingredients 'quassia' and 'berberine' marked on the large brown bottle."

Dr. Shaw "never wrote a prescription, kept accounts, or sent bills. He never wore a white doctor's coat or belonged to a medical association. He seldom recommended that his patients go to a hospital. He traveled hundreds of miles in the Moretown-Duxbury-Waitsfield-Fayston-Warren area in all kinds of weather, using carriage, sleigh, car, snowshoes, or his feet alone, to treat the ills and touch the lives of many families." Often he was never paid. This author

remembers the kind man, his office walls filled with thousands of pill bottles, his bitter tasting medicine, and his gentle manner. The tribute written by Ruth McGill in 1950 probably best expresses the feelings of the Waitsfield citizens who knew him.

Dr. Carlos A. Shaw
He was a man of knowledge
And of wit combined;
He gave his all in love
To those he left behind.

Dr. Shepard Quinby came to Waitsfield from New York and established an office in Irasville in the Maxwell house at the intersection of Bragg Hill and Route 100 in 1953. Dr. Quinby was not only a doctor to the entire valley, but he was the drive behind many projects in the Valley. He practiced medicine here until his retirement in 1972. At his retirement celebration over 700 people attended to give honor to the Valley "Doc." Governor Deane C. Davis read a proclamation concerning Dr. Quinbys contributions to the Mad River Valley and Vermont and declared June 24, 1972 to be Shepard and Margaret Quinby Day. Dr. Shepard and Margaret Quinby moved to Prescott, Arizona in 1973. Margaret Quinby died August, 1995 and Shepard Quinby died January 28, 1996.

However, hospitals were non-existent and emergency service was not even in the early settler's vocabulary. As Vermont and the other States began to stabilize some services became available though crude in comparison to the year 2000. Gradually, towns began to have funeral homes, "Undertakers," and hearses – to use the early terms.

It became the practice of the funeral homes to make the hearse available for transporting the sick and injured to the nearest medical facility or perhaps a doctor's office. This was usually a gesture of kindness to the rural area. It is correct to say that ambulance service was not available in rural areas such as Waitsfield until into the 1970's. In 1972, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare through legislation established the first national standards for Emergency Medical Services. The basic requirements were certainly earthy. To qualify as an Emergency Medical Service provider, the state required that the person or community must have "an ambulance and fifty feet of rope." The rope requirement lent itself to considerable humor. However, the rope requirement (according to one source) was assumed to be for pulling cars out of ditches. Perhaps it was more practically intended for emergency personnel to reach victims in precarious situations. Basic first aid was a minimum requirement. The early ambulance service was classified in three ways: private, public, and volunteer. Vermont's emergency service is at least 80% volunteer.

In 1977, the Clarence Tucker house at the corner of Old County Road and Main Street was sold to Dr. John Saia for a medical office. Dr. John Saia practiced medicine until 1981 when the Mad River Health Center, Inc. purchased the property. The Center is a non-profit organization. The building, assets, and medical practice were purchased from Dr. John Saia with funds raised through private contributions from area residents and businesses. In addition to the medical fees that fund the operation, the Health Center is further underwritten by continued tax-deductible contributions, and by financial support from the Valley towns through their budgets. Dr. Francis Cook became the physician in 1981 under the non-profit organization. He is still the physician in 2000. In 2000, an internal medicine physician, Dr. Karen Endacott, established an office in Irasville in the old Dr. Quinby office at the corner of Bragg Hill Road.

In 2002, plans are being made to build a larger Medical Building with apartments above on the Lot which occupied the Tucker home and then the Mad River Health Center, across Route 100 from the Wait House. Malcolm Appleton is the local architect. The proposed building is to be a two-story building with approximately 6,000 square feet.

## MAD RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE SERVICE

The development of the ski areas in the Valley helped to create the obvious need for emergency services. According to local accounts, Melvis Morris, a local State Trooper, and Guy Gould approached Dana Haskin concerning the possibility of establishing an emergency ambulance service in the Valley. Representatives from the surrounding towns and the ski areas met. As predictable in Mad River Valley, there were more negative reasons then positive why such a service was not workable or in the minds of some "necessary." Nevertheless, the Valley answered the negatives and responded with a fund drive. "This was to be a gift by the people and for the people of the Mad River Valley." As quoted from Dana Haskin. In 1965, a converted Cadillac hearse was purchased from Park Superior Sales in Connecticut and the Mad River Ambulance Service became a reality. Joe Blanchard, Sugarbush ski patrol supervisor, conducted a crash course in First Aid. Volunteers were needed as dispatchers, drivers, or attendants. There was no lack of volunteers. Dana Haskin was the first Mad River Valley Ambulance Service president.

The ambulance was housed at the Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone Company for a year. Then a resident housed the ambulance in his heated garage while a location to build could be agreed upon. In 1974, the Town of Waitsfield built a new fire station and arrangements were agreed upon to house the ambulance in the fire station. In 1974, a Chevy stock van was purchased and customized suitable for necessary emergency equipment and supplies. This vehicle served as the primary response vehicle while the old Cadillac hearse served as back up.

The level of training took on professional status quickly. Volunteers received Emergency Medical Technician training in Burlington in 1973 and continued additional training on an annual basis. Advance training course was added in 1977. In 1985, the State of Vermont allowed the introduction of the Defibrillation certificate and the Mad River Ambulance Service provides advance cardiac care on all calls. In 1986, monthly training sessions for all personnel in all aspects of the emergency service became a reality.

In 1975, a four-wheel drive ambulance was purchased. In 1978, a new Chevy van-type ambulance was donated and equipped with donated funds. In 1983, the first modular ambulance was purchased allowing more space and better emergency treatment. In 1986, a new modular ambulance was purchased. The communication system was continually enhanced and in 1977 a paging system was introduced to make mobility easier and practical. This was enhanced in 1986 with remote control radiophone with attendants having two-way radio systems for fast and direct communication with the dispatcher.

The MRVAS continued to add new vehicles as needed over the years. In 1999, the service had 2 fully equipped ambulances plus a rescue vehicle to perform extrication, supply emergency lighting or perform technical rescue. In 1999, the MRVAS purchased a new computer and upgraded its software. It also purchased the Old Bonnette's garage known recently as Waitsfield Auto. With the purchase of this building, the MRVAS also received title to a parcel of donated land behind

Bonnette's garage and extending over to the fire station.

In November 2000, the MRVAS moved into the new facilities. Again volunteer efforts and donations made this move from the fire station to the new facilities possible. As has been the situation since the beginning, the MRVAS receives no funding directly from the towns it serves, but depends entirely upon donations, subscribers, and fund drives. In 2001, a Capital Campaign with a goal of raising $450,000 over a two year period was begun. This fund drive was to pay for the property, renovations, and create an endowment fund.

In 2000, MRVAS celebrated 30 years of service to the Valley. This was the first full year of the statewide enhanced 911 emergency system. The Mad River Valley Ambulance Service responded to 350 calls for medical assistance. It has 32 Emergency Medical Technicians, 16 Rescue Squad Personnel, 14 dispatchers, and 14 drivers. Many of these people are trained in more than one area. The service is provided to Waitsfield, Warren, Fayston, Moretown and Sugarbush and Mad River Glen Ski Resorts.

# CHAPTER XXII
# MILITARY

Waitsfield has always been a valley town inbred with a tremendous sense of patriotic duty, a spirit of loyalty and devotion to country. On Memorial Day, the Town for over 175 years paid tribute to the men and women. School children recited memorized tributes; an older student would memorize the Gettysburg Address; flags were placed on every soldier's grave in the cemeteries. It was truly a day the Valley citizens set aside to honor those who had kept the freedoms. This noble practice has been lost as the valley culture drastically changed by 1970.

General Wait had served unselfishly for years prior to coming to the Valley. Of the thirteen men who came with Benjamin Wait, eleven had served with Wait in the Revolutionary War, only two – Francis Dana and David Symonds, had seen no military service.

Matt Bushnell Jones has recorded the early military record, which is not repeated here. However, the names of all who served are recorded in this history in an attempt to have all the names in one location. It is the deepest hope that these people will forever be remembered so that their devotion to country and freedom will not have been in vain.

*American Revolutionary War Monument on Mill Hill*
*Dedicated September 15, 1908*

The following Waitsfield residents served in the military during the period prior to the settling of the Town. As has been mentioned eleven had served with Benjamin Wait.

| | |
|---|---|
| Samuel Barnard | Jonathan Palmer |
| Abijah Brown | Bissell Phelps |
| Nathaniel Brown | Samuel Pike |
| Doud Bushnell | Phineas Rider |
| Moses Chase | Salma Rider |
| Caleb Colton | Beriah Sherman |
| Thomas Green | Amasa Skinner |
| Joseph Hamilton | Jared Skinner |
| Ezekiel Hawley | Salah Smith |
| John Heaton | Elias Taylor |
| Jonas Holden | Daniel Taylor |
| Gaius Hitchcock | Benjamin Wait |
| Joseph Joslin | Ezra Wait |
| Jesse Mix | Jeduthan Wait |
| William Newcomb | William Wait |
| Joseph Osgood | John Wells |

The above named people are buried in Waitsfield. The following named people served in the military and lived in Waitsfield, but left town before their death and are buried in other towns.

| | |
|---|---|
| Eli Abbott | Isaac Parmenter |
| Samuel Bailey | Silas Royce |
| Nathaniel Bartlett | Eli Skinner |
| William Chase | Abel Spaulding |
| Moses Heaton | Wright Spaulding |
| Joseph Lyon | Nathan Sterling |
| Aaron Minor | Thomas Sherman |

About 1805, the following residence of Waitsfield had enlisted in the militia. It was the custom for each Town to organize a local militia. This military volunteer group would serve when called upon. The following names were in the first Waitsfield militia.

| | |
|---|---|
| Isaac Tewsbury | Henry Dana |
| Gilbert Wait | Nathan Dana |
| Enos Wilder | Elijah Grandy |
| Joseph Wallis | James Heaton, Jr. |
| John Bement | Job House |

| | |
|---|---|
| John Campbell | Percival Hawley |
| Joseph Joslin | Jennison Jones |
| Pelatiah Sherman | Jesse Mix |
| Christopher Avery | Ashbel Minor |
| Erastus Allen | David Phelps |
| Doud Bushnell | Alexander Phelps |
| Benjamin Butterfield | Joshua Pike |
| James Bartlett | Aaron Quimby |
| Ebenezer Barnard | Salah Smith |
| Foster Dana | Simeon Stoddard |

Men who served in the cavalry in 1808.

| | |
|---|---|
| Levi Wilder | Enos Wilder |
| James Heaton, Jr. | Thomas Wait |
| James B. McCollum | John Holden |

The following men were called to join forces to repel the British in the invasion of Plattsburg September 1814. However, these men arrived too late to be shipped out of Burlington. Nevertheless, they were serving in the Waitsfield militia.

| | |
|---|---|
| Matthias Jones | John Averill |
| Nataniel Richardson | Elijah Smith |
| Jesse Avery | Amasa Russ |
| James Latham | Joseph Marble |
| William Wheeler | Rodney Smith |
| Silas Wheeler | George Richardson |
| Perrin Hascall | Jonathan Siever |
| Christopher Bartlett | Stebbins Hitchcock |
| Eben Corass | Phinas Rider |
| Chester Marshall | Horatio Rider |
| Philetus Robinson | Salah Smith |
| Levi Shipman | James Latham |
| Jude M. Brown | John Averill |
| Aaron Hill | Elijah Smith |
| John Starkweather | Joseph Mills |
| Joseph Williams | John Richardson |
| Jushua Luce | James Joslin |
| Isaac Smalley | Rufus Barnard |

Other names of Waitsfield residents, who served at other times during this early period in the countries history, but details are lacking, are: John English, Sr., Ira Richardson, Wells Hitchcock, Roswell Richardson, and Ebenezer Cutler. The Jones' book gives some accounting of many others who served in the militia but whose names and records seem to be vague. There appears to be a large group who served under the name of "Floodwoods." Many of these men came from the East Hill area and in the 1990's the Moretown Common Road has been given the name Floodwoods in honor of these men. It is difficult to give the names of these men with any accuracy during this period from 1812 to 1840; however, some accounting of this can be found in the Jones' book. It needs to be recognized that Waitsfield continued to play a part in the patriotic duty through this early period after the town was settled.

*Civil War Monument in Waitsfield Village*

## MEN FROM WAITSFIELD WHO SERVED IN THE CIVIL WAR 1861 – 1865

Luther Ainsworth
Edward L. Allen
Alexander Baird
Albert D. Barnard
Mitchell Basconner*
Leonard C. Berry
Eugene McCarty
Victor B. Mix
Ireneas P. Newcomb*
Alson D. Page
Edwin F. Palmer
Dexter Parker

Thomas Burke
Edward A. Burns
Fordis O. Bushnell
Henry N. Bushnell
Bertrand D. Campbell*
Oliver C. Campbell
Foster S. Dana
Harry F. Dana
Wesley E. Dana
Joseph P. Davis
Hiram F. Dike*
Albee H. Dewey *
Julian Dumas
Alba D. Durkee*
Isaac H. Elliot
Edward A. Fisk
Daniel Foster
Herman R. French
Ephraim H. Fuller
David Gleason
Daniel Grandy
William H.H. Greenslit*
George B, Hall
James Harriman
Edgar A. Hastings
John Hines
Philip Hoffman
Manley N. Hoyt
George M. Jones*
Holland Jones
John F. Jones*
Eugene E, Joslin
George S. Kneeland
Seymour L. Kneeland

Jerome W. Parker
Levi Peabody
Thomas T. Prentis
John H. Quigley
Loren B. Reed*
Oscar C. Reed*
Edwin R. Richardson*
John N. Richardson
Loren S. Richardson
John W. Richardson

Lucius D. Savage
Levi W. Seaver
Albert H. Selleck
Henry C. Shaw*
Mason S. Shepherd
Perry D. Shepherd
James H. Somerville
Lewis M. Spaulding*
Solon S. Spaulding
John Sterling
Dorric S. Stoddard
Harlan P. Stoddard
Horace B. Stoddard*
Lyman Stoddard
L. Thompson Stoddard*
Simeon Stoddard
William H. Stoddard
Cyron G. Thayer*
James M. Thayer*
Julius E. Tucker
Harvey M. Waite
Almon Walker
George P. Welch

| | |
|---|---|
| Hiram A. Luce | Edmund Whitcomb |
| James L. Maynard* | Orcas C. Wilder |
| Ziba H. McAllister | Ira C. Williams. |

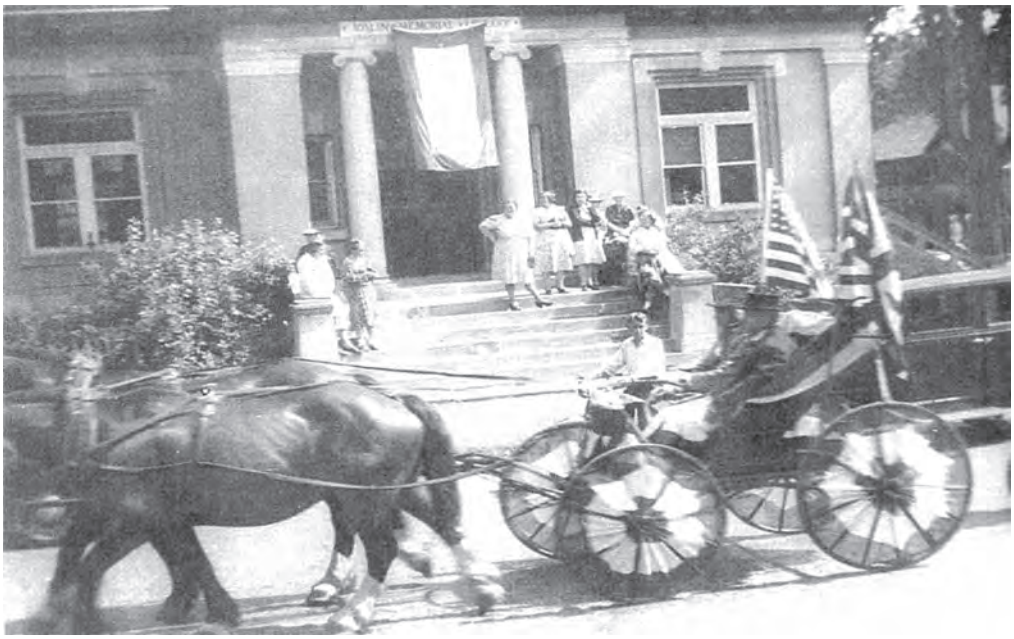
*These men were killed or died of sickness during the Civil War. Two others who served Albert D. Barnard died of exhaustion after being discharged, William H. H. Greenslit committed suicide. Charles M. Benedict served but deserted August 30, 1862 and his name does not appear on the monument.

There is specific information found concerning the men who served in the Civil War published by town vote and prepared by Rev. A. B. Dascomb. Most of this information can be found in the Jones' book. However, there are some details that are only found in Rev. Dascomb's account. The original record of Rev. Dascomb's can be found in the Vermont Historical Society Library.

The following people were either residents of the town at the time or had been born and brought up within the Town of Waitsfield but enlisted other places:

| | |
|---|---|
| Matthias J. Bushnell | Hiland G. Campbell |
| Israel Childs | Chester S. Dana |
| Edwin H. Dana | Jackson S. Dana |
| William W. McAllister | Harlan G. Newcomb |
| Judson W. Richardson | Daniel Russ |
| James C. Russ | Edward M. Savage |
| Frank E. Spaulding | George E. Spaulding |
| Franklin Stoddard | Nathan Thayer |
| Charles D. Tewksbury* | Isaac N. Tewksbury |

The people of Waitsfield did not wait long after World War II to begin considering a monument to the service men and women. An article from the Burlington Free Press, August 30, 1945 states, "The success of the Waitsfield field day held Thursday August 23, surpassed the expectations of the most optimistic. The parade consisting of floats and specialties put on by local organizations showed much originality and planning on the part of the participants. … Allen Mehuron acted as color bearer. Jean Joslin, preceding the "band wagon", did a good job as drum major. Uncle Sam and John Bull (impersonated by Leon Joslin and E.H. Jones) rode together in a handsome carriage drawn by a pair of matched work horses. … The parade was repeated in the evening with even better effect than in the afternoon and the crowd finished the day with a dance in the community hall. When the committee added their profits they found that the affair had netted the tidy sum of $375 for the War Memorial fund."



*Uncle Sam and John Bull Impersonated by Leon Joslin & E, H. Jones*

On Memorial Day 1947, Waitsfield dedicated their memorial to the soldiers of World War I and World War II. The granite monument rests just north of the Joslin Memorial Library. The ceremony began with the singing of "America" by the folks gathered led by Mrs. Katie Jones, followed by a prayer given by Rev. Daniel Strickland.

The memorial was presented to the town by Representative Walter Gaylord and accepted by Selectman Clarence Coolbeth. Mrs. Irene Smith introduced Governor Ernest Gibson who gave the dedication speech. The flag was placed on the monument by Gerald Stokes. Raymond Hoskins placed a wreath in honor of those men who gave their lives in these wars. Taps was sounded by Charles Hayes. The dedication was concluded with the singing of the national anthem.

The monument has three panels. The left panel lists the names of 39 Waitsfield men who served in World War I; the right panel lists the names of the 81 men and women who served in World War II. The middle panel has the "gold star" names. Three men, Wallace C. Perry, Casper L. Smith, and Harry McAllister, gave their lives in World War I. Five names appear for those who gave their lives in World War II: David D. Bisbee, Sidney S. Boyce, Wendell F. Maxham, Robert C. Patterson, and Norman C. Smith

*World War I and World War II Monument  Dedicated Memorial Day 1947*

## WORLD WAR I

Thirty-nine served in World War I – 3 were killed.

Arling, Percy R.
Baird, Clyde L.
Bisbee, Philip E.
Bowen, Edmund C.
Boyce, Guy H.
Bragg, Merritt D.
Colebrook, Hugh N.
Colebrook, John L.
Collins, William H.
Corliss, Edwin H.
Corliss, Herbert E.
Corliss, Valentine C.
Fisk, Harold, H.
Gaylord, Walter M.
Howard, Warren J. MD
Joslyn, Leon E.
Joslyn, Olin A.
Joslyn, Ward E.
Labelle, Clarence R.
LaMorder, Henry C.
Lavanway, Clarence A
Lavanway, Jay E.
Lavanway, William E.
Marble, Maurice E.B.
McAllister, Harry… Killed
Mills, William E. Jr.
Moriarty, James R.
Neill, Charles F.
Neill, Roy J.
Newcomb, Theron J.
Perry, Walter C. ….Killed
Pierce, Erle B.
Rice Walter, A.
Siensky, Louis
Smith, Casper L. … Killed
Smith, Herbert H.
Stokes, Gerald O.
Wallis, Everett S.
Wallis, Harold B.

## WORLD WAR II

Ninety-one served in World War II – 5 were killed.

Allen, Irvin D. entered the service July 19, 1944; Western Pacific; discharged August 20, 1946.

Aulicino, Frank N. entered the service July 9, 1943; Army, European theater; discharged December 7, 1945.

Baird, Eugene R. entered the service June 27, 1942; Army, European theater; discharged October 20, 1945.

Baird, Frederick J. entered the service December 21, 1942; 459th Anti-aircraft Battalion; Bronze Star in Germany- European Theater and Mediterranean; discharged October 29, 1945.

Bennett, Robert E. entered the service February 18, 1943; in 14th Air Force for three years; served in China-Burma-India theater as well as North Africa; discharged February 15, 1946.

Bessette. Edward W. entered the service March 17, 1943; Army; anti-aircraft training; injured in training; medical discharge June 22, 1944.

Bettis, Alden J. entered the service April 18, 1944; Army; discharged December 21, 1945.

Bisbee, David D. enlisted January 30, 1942; 2nd Signal Company of 2nd Division; in Air Force training briefly re-assigned to 75th Infantry Division; went to England in 1944; in Battle of the Bulge; killed in Dorston, Germany March 31, 1945; while laying communication wire his jeep hit a land mine.

Bisbee, Margaret J. entered the service in October 15, 1943; was in the Women's Army Corps; discharged, November 27, 1945.

Bisbee, Robert B. entered the service in December 14, 1942; received his pilots wings for B-24 June 27, 1944; discharged November 17, 1945

Bonnett, Harry R. entered the service March 31, 1942; was in the European Theater and Mediterranean; discharged December 6, 1945

Boyce, Rudolph C. entered the service October 28, 1941; with the 37th Infantry Division in the Pacific Theater; awarded a citation with silver star for rescuing wounded men under enemy fire; Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with two stars; discharged October 24, 1945.

Boyce, Sidney entered the service February 1942; Army; killed in France July 20, 1944.

Bragg, Merrill F. entered the service October 21, 1943; served 27 months in U.S. Navy; in the Asiatic and Pacific Theater; participated in the invasion of Iwo Jima and Okinawa; 2 battle stars; discharged February 10, 1946.

Brothers, Donald N. entered the Army Air Corps June 21, 1943; trained as aerial gunner at Las Vegas school, tail gunner on B-24; assigned 15th Air Force; in the Mediterranean Theater; discharged November 1, 1945.

Cutts, Crawford "John" L. entered the service July 29, 1940; Army; European and Mediterranean Theater; discharged June 16, 1945.

Cutts, Shirley H. entered the service April 29, 1943; was an Army nurse in European Theater; was first army nurse to enter Paris in June 1944; discharged February 4, 1946.

Daly, John W. entered the service March 17, 1943; Army Air Force; discharged February 8, 1946.

Dalley, Winfield S. Jr. entered the service August 8, 1945; US Navy; was on the cruiser The Dayton as radio operator; discharged November 4, 1948.

Damon, Bernard W. entered the service December 16, 1941; European Theater; discharged November 12, 1945.

Damon, Malcolm F. entered the service February 19, 1943; US Air Force; European; discharged November 26, 1946.

Davey, Raymond M. entered the service June 12, 1942; tail-gunner on B-24; was with 15th Air Force with 16 missions in Europe; was in the Italian Theater; discharged October 20, 1945; became Chief Clerk of Washington County Service Board in 1945.

Dodds, Richard M. entered the service October 26, 1942; served 28 months in Pacific with 63rd Seabee Construction Battalion in Guadalcanal, Marcus Island, and Admiralties then Luzon; discharged October 18, 1945.

Eaton, Edward O. entered the service August 19, 1942; Air Force; Asiatic-Pacific Theater; discharged February 16, 1946.

Farnsworth, Delbert W. entered the service March 12, 1942; European Theater; Army; discharged October 28, 1945.

Fecteau, Theodore W. entered the service April 12, 1943; Air Force;

European Theater; Discharged November 28, 1945

Ferris, Louis J. entered the service April 6, 1939; Army; Mediterranean -

Tunisia; wounded in Tunisia March 23, 1943; discharged June 18, 1945.

Gallagher, Norris P. entered the service June 22, 1943; Asiatic Pacific Theater- China-Burma; Internal injuries from plane crash; radio operator and crew chief on C-47; discharged June 23, 1945.

Gallagher, Robert C. entered the service August 19, 1942; Army; Asiatic Theater; discharged December 17, 1945.

Gaylord, Hadley M. entered the service February 27, 1945; Army; medical discharge November 16, 1945.

Gaylord, Palmer R. entered the service August 30, 1944; Army; discharged February 6, 1945.

Gratton, Armand A. entered the service September 14, 1944 Asiatic-Pacific; Navy; discharged June 15, 1946.

Greene, Carroll G. entered the service December 21, 1942; Army; discharged March 15, 1946

Griffith, Vernon D. entered the service July 10, 1945; USMC; discharged July 9, 1949.

Hamel, Lionel E. entered the service March 17, 1943; Army; European; discharged March 7, 1946; re-enlisted May 31, 1946.

Heath, Mahlon entered service October 26, 1942; Asiatic Theater; Army; discharged February 2, 1946

Hewitt, Walter J. D. No information

Hosking, Raymond D. entered service February 6, 1942; was wire chief in 157th Infantry Regiment was in the battles of Sicily, Salerno, Naples, Angio beach head; in 4 D-Day landings, assisted in capture of Nurenburg, Munich, Dachau prison; discharged Oct 5, 1945.

Hough, Richard entered the service October 26, 1942; discharged November 21, 1945

Jones, Philip B. entered the service May 18, 1944; Army; discharged April 23, 1946.

Joslin, Guy B. entered the service June 8, 1944 ; with 7th Army in Germany; received medal for helping to break the Siegfried Line; capture in Palatnaite, Germany, served in France was in the 62nd Armored Infantry Battalion; discharged April 25, 1946.

Joslin, Stephen P III entered the service October 21, 1942; Air Force; was with the Air Transportation Command; discharged January 19, 1946.

Joslin, Leon E. entered the service July 15, 1943; medical discharged November 4, 1944.

Kenyon, Stanley R. entered the service October 26, 1944; Army; European Theater; discharged August 9, 1946.

Kew, Rodney C. enlisted in Marine Corps January 28, 1943; was radio-aerial gunner; served in Asiatic and Pacific Theater; Pacific ribbons with three stars and the air medal; discharged December 3, 1945.

Kingsbury, Clayton J. entered the service February 18, 1943; Army; European Theater; in the Verdun campaign, received Verdun medal; discharged November 14, 1945.

Kingsbury, Elwin R. entered the service January 17, 1945; Army; Asiatic; discharged January 13, 1946.

Kingsbury, Ernest E. entered the service February 18, 1943; was in the European Theater; discharged December 30, 1945.

Kingsbury, George R. entered the service August 8, 1945; Navy; discharged August 16, 1946.

Kinsley, Donald E. entered the service October 21, 1943; Navy; discharged March 5, 1946.

Kinsley, Lawrence A. entered the service February 18, 1943; with the 396th Signal Company, 14th Air Force; served in China-Burma-India Theater under General Chennault; discharged December 25, 1945.

LaCross, Henry H. entered the service March 12, 1945; Army; Mediterranean; discharged June 30, 1945.

Larrow, Everett M. entered the service May 18, 1944; was in the infantry and went overseas in February 1944; was taken prisoner March 1945, escaped and finally rejoined his unit; discharged April 17, 1946.

Livingston, Arnold D. entered the service March 14, 1943; with the army; was in Korea; discharged December 28, 1946.

Livingston, Clifton A. No Information

Livingston, Guy M. entered the service June 18, 1942; 63rd Bombardment Squadron; Asiatic-Pacific Theater; involved in Leyte, Okinawa, and Mindunao; discharged January 18, 1946.

Livingston, Julius W. entered the service September 24, 1942; Army, medical discharge December 3, 1942.

Livingston, Stanley R. entered the service October 14, 1940; discharged October 18, 1945; re-enlisted November 17, 1945; served in 43rd Infantry Division under Major General Leonard Wing; also with 172nd Infantry; 27 months in South Pacific was on the USS Coolidge when it was sunk Oct. 26, 1942; discharged in 1949.

Livingston, Sterling I. entered the service September 30, 1941; was in the army 29th Infantry Division under Omar Bradley; was in D- Day on Omaha Beach; worked mine fields on beach; later transferred to shore duty where he operated a crane; helped build bridges across the Rhine and Elbe Rivers; discharged October 26, 1945.

Loveland, Raymond entered the service February 18, 1943; Army; European Theater; discharged February 14, 1946.

Luce, Bertrand entered the service May 8, 1945; Army; European Theater; discharged October 29, 1946.

Maxham, Aldren W. entered the service July 13, 1942; European Theater; discharged September 14, 1945.

Maxham, Clifford C. entered the service August 19, 1942; Army Asiatic; medical discharge November 17, 1945.

Maxham, Wendell E. entered the service February 15, 1940; Army; European Theater; served in North African, Sicilian and Italian campaigns; killed in Italy January 20, 1943.

Maxwell, Elliott S. entered the service May 29, 1942; Air Force with the 379th Fighter Squadron; European Theater; discharged September 7, 1945

Maxwell, Oliver M. entered the service July 10, 1942; Army; European Theater; wounded July 19, 1944; discharged December 11, 1945.

Moriarty, Daniel Jr. MD Army, Commissioned Officer; no Information

Munn, Howard entered the service March 12, 1945; Army; Asiatic Theater; discharged October 26, 1946.

Newcomb, F. Kendell entered the service January 26, 1940; was station in Munich, Germany in European Air Material Command; died overseas while serving with the occupational forces in February 1948.

Newcomb, Richard M. entered the service June 8, 1940; Army; commissioned February 11, 1943; died in Texas May 27, 1964,

Parker, Gordon N. entered the service September 24, 1942; Army; discharged February 13, 1943

Patterson, Robert C. entered the service March 25, 1942; Army; European Theater; killed in action Nov 1, 1943.

Pierce, Harry W. entered the service August 1, 1940; Army; commissioned October 21, l942; discharged April 23, 1946.

Richardson, Selden M. entered the service December 14, 1942; Navy; Asiatic Theater; discharged February 11, 1946.

Rivers, Arthur A. entered the service November 15, 1945; Army; European Theater; discharged November 22, 1948

Robertson, Lewis entered the service April 10, 1943; Air Force; discharged May 10, 1946.

Royce, Ellsworth E. entered the service October 23, 1940; Army; Asiatic Theater; discharged July 15, 1945.

Shaw, Benjamin W. entered the service 1942; Army; Pacific Theater; discharged 1946

Shaw, Max M. entered the service March 31, 1942; Army; Asiatic Theater; discharged December 6, 1945.

Smith, Norman G. was at the Annapolis Navy Academy; commissioned on December 19, 1941; went into active duty and was killed February 28, 1942 – on a destroyer that was sunk of the coast of Cape May, NJ.

Smith, Roger F. entered the service in 1942; was assistant surgeon at the naval hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas; was assigned to USS Bountiful a hospital ship

Somerville, Clayton J. entered the service May 1, 1944; Navy: Asiatic Theater; discharged December 15, 1945.

Spaulding, Raymond M. entered the service August 19, 1942; Air Force; discharged September 2, 1942

Stafford, Harold R. entered the service July 10, 1942; was stationed in Edmonton, Canada for three years; discharged, October 27, 1945.

Stafford, Keith W. entered the service July 16, 1946; Army; Asiatic; discharged November 10, 1947.

Stafford, Robert entered the service April 10, 1945; Army; Asiatic; discharged December 28, 1946.

Stebben, Harold K. entered the service June 21, 1941; discharged September 26, 1945.

Stewart, Carroll S. entered the service June 30, 1942; Army; European Theater; discharged December 13, 1945.

Stokes, Konrad H. entered the service December 3, 1942; was in the signal corps with Co. B, 318th Signal Service Battalion; in December 1944 went to Europe; in July 1945 went to the Pacific Theater; was in European –African- Middle Eastern Theater so received all three campaign ribbons as well as Asiatic-Pacific ribbon; was in liberation of the Philippines; discharged February 18, 1946.

Wimble, Donald J. entered the service August 17, 1944; Navy; Asiatic; discharged May 28, 1946.

Wimble, Edward C. entered the service May 26, 1943; Navy; European Theater; discharged December 2, 1945.

## AINSWORTH POST #36

As recorded in the Jones' Book, on January 9, 1872 the Ainsworth Post, No. 36, Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Vermont received its charter and was formally organized by Inspector General John J. Bain. The first Commander was Lucius D. Savage. In 1908, the Commander was Stephen Johnson. When this Post ceased to function is not clear. However, the new American Legion Post #75 was formed in 1946.

## AMERICAN LEGION POST #75

The Mad River Legion Post #75 of American Legion was organized in January 1946 at a meeting held in the Library Hall. Fifty five members joined originally. The officers elected were: Post Commander Philip Bisbee; First Vice Commander Jesse Cota; Second Vice Commander Leon Joslin; Adjutant Max Shaw; Finance Officer Hadley Gaylord; Chaplain Ward Joslin; Historian Henry Robinson; Service Officer, H. Clifford LaMorder; Sargeant-at-Arms, Crawford L. Cutts. This post included veterans from Warren, Waitsfield, Fayston, and Moretown.

The Ladies Auxiliary of Mad River Post #75 was organized February 8, 1946. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Esther Joslin; Vice Presidents, Mrs. Aline Ward and Mrs. Evelyn McCuin, and Mrs. Mable Henry; Treasurer, Mrs. Blanch Stokes; Secretary, Mrs. Carolyn Kingsbury; Historian, Mrs. Hazel Bragg; Sargeant-at-Arms, Mrs. Elizabeth Bettis

The installation of officers was held February 12, 1946 in the Community Hall. District Commander Daniel installed the legion officers and third district President Mrs. Jennie Wilmont assisted by Mrs. Charles Silloway installed the officers of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Legion Post. At this time the Legion Post had 65 members.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars post called Mad River Valley Post 7962 was formed January 27, 1980. This post was organized and chartered exclusively by Vietnam Veterans. Stewart Wood was installed as Commander; Neill Hedenberg, Senior Vice Commander; Kimball Wood, Junior Vice Commander; Larry Allen Jr., Quartermaster; Bruce Mangen, Advocate; Thomas McQuade, Chaplain; Merritt Janes, Surgeon; Stanley Martel, Kevin Eurich and Larry Brodeur, Trustees.

## KOREAN WAR

Twenty-eight served in the Korean War – none were killed.

Allen, Lawrence D.

Armstrong, Gene L.

Bisbee, Richard M enlisted in the service August 5, 1950; was in Air Force; in airborne electronics then in personnel; in Korea 1952-53 Wing Headquarters 4th Fighter Wing; discharged August 4, 1954.

Bragg, Robert D. entered the service 1954; was in the army.

Brothers, Kenneth D.

Burbank, Elwin L.

Burbank, James N

Burbank, Lee A.

Dumas, Victor R.

Gallison, Reginald W.

Goodheart, Edward C.

Gratton, Arthur J.

Hedges, Robert E.
Joslin, Mark C.
Kenyon, Stanley
Kew, Charles R.
Kinsley, Lawrence A.
Livingston, Stanley R.
Mehuron, Allen
Neill, Cecil
Newcomb, Richard M.
Palmer, Donald
Pearce, Donald F.
Raderstore, Laura Jones
Rivers, Lloyd
Tremblay, Wilford G.
Tucker, Wesley O.
Wilkins, Charles W.T.
Wimble, Calvin E.

## VIETNAM WAR

Fifty served in the Vietnam War – 2 were killed.

Allen, Lawrence D.
Backus, Denis B.
Bettis, Terry R.
Bodway, Alfred H.
Bonnette, Norman C.
Brothers, Kenneth D.
Burbank, Edwin L.
Burbank, James N.
Chaffee, Clifford P.
Damon, Gary F.
Dumas, Victor R.
Eurich, Kevin E.
Eurich, Roger T
Fielder, Robert F. Killed in Action
Folsom, Gordon S.
Orr, Brian S. Killed in Action
Gabaree, Daniel L.
Gabaree, George S.
Gabaree, Joseph A.
Gabaree, William A.
Gallagher, John C.
Gauthier, Vincent W.
Gerrish, Mary E.
Joslin, Lewis B.
Joslin, Peter B.
Joslin, Stephen D.
Joslyn, Duayne L.
Keith, Donald A.
Ketcham, Philip W.
Kingsbury, Richard O.
Kinsley, Lawrence A.
Moriarty, John D.
Moriarty, Richard F.
Moulton, Brian D.
Moulton, James R.
Moulton, Keith E.
Munn, Howard C
Sherman, Harry W.
Stafford, Roger R.
Tremblay, Thomas E.
Tremblay, Wilfred C.
Tucker, Clarence
Tucker, Thomas G.
Viens, David P.

Jamieson, Lawrence C.
Johnson, John M.
Jones, Norman C.
Joslin, Fletcher B.
Viens, Michael F.
Wimble, Donald A.

A sincere attempt has been made to eliminate errors; if a name has been missed it is deeply regretted. Many people went into the service from the valley some of them lived in Waitsfield at various times, but at the time of entering the service they entered as a resident of Warren, Fayston or Moretown.. This listing is only of men and women from Waitsfield. Again if there has been an error it is deeply regretted.

## MILITARY SERVICE SINCE

There have been many men and women from the valley who have served in the military since the end of the Vietnam War. An attempt to establish an accurate listing of all persons who have served in the armed forces from Waitsfield since the Vietnam War proved impossible at this time.

# CHAPTER XXIII
# TOWN OFFICERS

Town Officers from 1789 to 1900 can be found in the Jones *HISTORY OF WAITSFIELD.*

## 1900

Moderator: Jesse B. Norton

Selectmen: J.L. Baird, M. J. Waterman, and J. I.Palmer

Road Commissioner: J. A Smith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: R. J. Gleason

Law Agent: None

Auditors: John W. Gregory, Henry N. Bushnell, and W. E. Jones

## 1901

Moderator: Jesse B. Norton

Selectmen: R. J. Brown, C. E. Prentis, and E. C. Berry

Road Commissioner: V. D. Griffith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: R. J. Gleason

Law Agent: None

Auditors: J. W. Gregory, W. E. Jones, and G. W. Wallis

## 1902

Moderator: Henry N. Bushnell

Selectmen: R. J. Brown, C. E. Prentis, and R. J. McAllister

Road Commissioner: V. D. Griffith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: R. J. Gleason

Law Agent: None

Auditors: J. W. Gregory, W. E. Jones, and G. W. Wallis

## 1903

Moderator: Daniel R. Bisbee

Selectmen: R. J. Brown, C. E. Prentis, and R. J. McAllister

Road Commissioner: V. D. Griffith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: R. J. Gleason

Law Agent: None

Auditors: J. W. Gregory, W. E. Jones, and G. W. Wallis

## 1904

Moderator: Daniel R. Bisbee

Selectmen: R. J. McAllister, F.F. Wilder, and C.M. Richardson

Road Commissioner: V. D. Griffith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: R. J. Gleason

Law Agent: C. E. Jones (First year this appears)

Auditors: G. W. Wallis, P.B.Gaylord (Only two listed)

## 1905

Moderator: Charles E. Jones

Selectmen: F. F. Wilder, W. H. Moriarty, and George Folsom

Road Commissioner: J. A. Smith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: R. J. Gleason

Law Agent: C. E. Jones

Auditors: G. W. Wallis, P. B. Gaylord, Daniel R. Bisbee

## 1906

Moderator: Charles E. Jones

Selectmen: F. F. Wilder, W. H. Moriarty, and George Folsom

Road Commissioner: J. A. Smith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: H. N. Bushnell

Law Agent: C. E. Jones

Auditors: G. W. Wallis, P.B. Gaylord, and D. H. Skinner

## 1907

Moderator: Daniel R. Bisbee

Selectmen: F. F. Wilder, W.H. Moriarty, and George Folsom

Road Commissioner: J. A. Smith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: H. N. Bushnell

Law Agent: C. E. Jones

Auditors: George W. Wallis, P.B. Gaylord, and D.H. Skinner

## 1908

Moderator: Burton D. Bisbee

Selectmen: W.H. Moriarty, George Folsom, and W. C. Joslin

Road Commissioner: J. A. Erwin

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: H. N. Bushnell

Law Agent: C. E. Jones

Auditors: George Wallis, D. H. Skinner (third not listed)

## 1909

Moderator: Burton D. Bisbee

Selectmen: F. F. Wilder, W. C. Joslin, and E. A. Fisk

Road Commissioner: J. A. Smith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: H. N. Bushnell

Law Agent: C.M. Richardson

Auditors: George Wallis, D. R. Bisbee, and W. E. Jones

## 1910

Moderator: Burton D. Bisbee

Selectmen: F. F. Wilder, W. C. Joslyn, and E. A. Fisk

Road Commissioner: J. A. Smith

Town Clerk: R. J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: H. N. Bushnell

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: George W. Wallis, D. R. Bisbee, Walter E. Jones

## 1911

Moderator: Burton D. Bisbee

Selectmen: F.F. Wilder, E.A. Fisk, and J.E. Berry

Road Commissioner: J.A. Smith

Town Clerk: R.J. Gleason

Town Treasurer: H.N. Bushnell

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: George W. Wallis, DH Skinner, and E.R. Prentis

## 1912

Moderator: Burton D. Bisbee

Selectmen: E.A. Fisk, J.E. Berry, and E.S. Joslin

Road Commissioner: W.C. Joslyn

Town Clerk: Walter E. Jones

Town Treasurer: H.N. Bushnell

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: George W. Wallis, D.H. Skinner, and E.R. Prentis

## 1913

Moderator: Burton D. Bisbee

Selectmen: J.E. Berry, E.S. Joslin, and J.A. Erwin

Road Commissioner: W.C. Joslyn

Town Clerk: Walter E. Jones

Town Treasurer: H.N. Bushnell

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: George Wallis, D.H. Skinner, and E.R. Prentis

## 1914

Moderator: Burton D. Bisbee

Selectmen: E.S. Joslin, J.A. Erwin, and J.E. Berry

Road Commissioner: W. C. Joslyn

Town Clerk: Walter E. Jones

Town Treasurer: H.N. Bushnell

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: E.R. Prentis, W.A. Remele, and C.M. Richardson

## 1915

Moderator: Burton D. Bisbee

Selectmen: J.A. Erwin, J.E. Berry, and E.H. Jones

Road Commissioner: W.C. Joslyn

Town Clerk: W.E. Jones

Town Treasurer: H.N. Bushnell

Town Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: W.A. Remele, G.M. Jones, and F.R. Palmer

## 1916

Moderator: Burton D. Bisbee

Selectmen: J.E. Berry, E.H. Jones, and S.P. Joslin

Road Commissioner: W.C. Joslyn

Town Clerk: W.E. Jones

Town Treasurer: Henry N. Bushnell

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: O.G. Eaton, G.M. Jones, F.R. Palmer

## 1917

Moderator: George W. Wallis

Selectmen: E.H. Jones, S.P. Joslin, H.W. McAllister

Road Commissioner: W.C. Joslyn

Town Clerk: Walter E. Jones

Town Treasurer: Henry N. Bushnell

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: G.M. Jones, C.A. Bingham, J.A. Neill

## 1918

Moderator: Oscar G. Eaton

Selectmen: S.P. Joslin, H.W. McAllister, C.D. Joslin

Road Commissioner: J.A. Smith

Town Clerk: Walter E. Jones

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: J.A. Neill, C.A. Bingham, H.W. Belden

## 1919

Moderator: Oscar G. Eaton

Selectmen: H.W. McAllister, C.D. Joslyn, S.P. Joslin

Road Commissioner: J.A. Smith

Town Clerk: H.W. McAllister

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: C.A. Bingham, H.W. Belden, and J. A. Neill

## 1920

Moderator: George W. Wallis

Selectmen: C.D. Joslin, J. L. Baird, and Walter H. Moriarty

Road Commissioner: V.D. Griffith

Town Clerk: H.W. McAllister

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: H.W. Belden, J.A. Neill, and C.A. Bingham

## 1921

Moderator: George W. Wallis

Selectmen: R.J. McAllister, C.D. Joslin, and F.F. Wilder

Road Commissioner: A. L. Boyce

Town Clerk: H.W. McAllister

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: J.A. Neill, C.A. Bingham, and H.W. Belden

## 1922

Moderator: George W. Wallis

Selectmen: C.D. Joslin, S.P. Joslin, and E.H. Jones

Road Commissioner: Seth Boyce

Town Clerk: H.W. McAllister

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Burton D. Bisbee, H.W. Belden, and E.A. Jones

## 1923

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: S.P. Joslin, E.H. Jones, and C.D. Joslin

Road Commissioner: Seth Boyce

Town Clerk: H.W. McAllister

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Earle Jones, Walter E. Jones, and H.W. Belden

## 1924

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: S. P. Joslin, C. D. Joslin, E. H. Jones

Road Commissioner: Seth Boyce

Town Clerk: H. W. McAllister

Town Treasurer: E. S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: E. A. Jones, W. E. Jones, P. B. Gaylord

## 1925

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: C.D. Joslin, S.P. Joslin, and D.H. Skinner

Road Commissioner: Seth Boyce

Town Clerk: H.W. McAllister

Town Treasurer: Ervin S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Walter E. Jones, P.B. Gaylord, and E.A. Jones

## 1926

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: Walter M. Gaylord, D.H. Skinner, and C.D. Joslin

Road Commissioner: H.H. Smith

Town Clerk: Walter E. Jones

Town Treasurer: Ervin S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: P.B. Gaylord, E.A. Jones, and Walter E. Jones

## 1927

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: D.H. Skinner, C.D. Joslyn, and Walter M. Gaylord

Road Commissioner: Seth Boyce

Town Clerk: Walter E. Jones

Town Treasurer: Ervin S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Earle Jones, Walter Jones, and Ferd Newcomb

## 1928

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: C.D. Joslyn, Walter M. Gaylord, and S.P.Joslin

Road Commissioner: J.H. Martin

Town Clerk: Fred J. Eaton

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Walter Jones, Ferd Newcomb, and Earle Jones

## 1929

Moderator: Edward H, Jones

Selectmen: Walter M. Gaylord, S.P. Joslin, and C.D. Joslyn

Road Commissioner: H.E. Brothers

Town Clerk: Fred J. Eaton

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Earle Jones, Ferd Newcomb. Clarence Bisbee

## 1930

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: S.P. Joslin, C.D. Joslyn, and J.A. Dodds

Road Commissioner: Seth Boyce

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Earle Jones, Clarence Bisbee, and Ferd Newcomb

## 1931

Moderator: O. G. Eaton

Selectmen: C.D. Joslyn, J.A. Dodds, and F.W. Moriarty

Road Commissioner: Seth Boyce

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Clarence Bisbee, Earle Jones, and Ferd Newcomb

## 1932

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: J.A. Dodds, F. W. Moriarty, and C. D. Joslyn

Road Commissioner: Seth Boyce

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Ferd Newcomb, Earle Jones, and Clarence Bisbee

## 1933

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: F.W. Moriarty, C.D. Joslyn, and Walter M. Gaylord

Road Commissioner: H.L. Joslin

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Earle Jones, Clarence Bisbee, and Ferd Newcomb

## 1934

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: C.D. Joslin, Walter M. Gaylord, and F.W. Moriarty

Road Commissioner: H.L. Joslin

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: E.S. Joslin

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditor: Clarence Bisbee, Ferd Newcomb, and Earle Jones

## 1935

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: Walter Gaylord, C.M. Tucker, and C.M. Richardson

Road Commissioner: H.L. Joslyn

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ferd Newcomb

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Clarence Bisbee, Earle Jones, and Edith Howard

## 1936

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: C.M. Tucker, C.M. Richardson, and Walter E. Joslin

Road Commissioner: H.L. Joslin

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ferd Newcomb

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Earle Jones, Clarence Bisbee, and Mary Moriarty

## 1937

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: C.M. Richardson, W.E. Joslin, and C.M. Tucker

Road Commissioner: H.L. Joslin

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ferd Newcomb

Law Agent: Daniel R. Bisbee

Auditors: Clarence Bisbee, Mary Moriarty, Earle A. Jones

## 1938

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: Walter E. Joslin, C. M. Tucker, and C.M. Richardson

Road Commissioner: Harold L. Joslin

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ferd Newcomb

Law Agent: Daniel R, Bisbee

Auditors: Mary Moriarty, Clarence Bisbee, and Earle Jones

## 1939

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: Clarence M. Tucker, C.M. Richardson, Walter E. Joslin

Road Commissioner: Elmer Mehuron

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ferd Newcomb

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Earle Jones, Clarence Bisbee, and Mary Moriarty

## 1940

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: C.M. Richardson, Walter E. Joslin, Charles K.Jones

Road Commissioner: Elmer Mehuron

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ferd Newcomb

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Clarence Bisbee, Earle Jones, and Mary Moriarty

## 1941

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: Walter E. Joslin, Charles K. Jones, C.M. Richardson

Road Commissioner: Ernest Tucker

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ferd Newcomb

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Mary Moriarty, Clarence Bisbee, and Earle Jones

## 1942

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: Charles K. Jones, C.M. Richardson, Walter E. Joslin

Road Commissioner: Ernest Tucker

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ferd Newcomb

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Mary Moriarty, Clarence Bisbee, and Earle Jones

## 1943

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: Ross M. Goodyear, C.D. Coolbeth, Gerald O. Stokes

Road Commissioner: Ernest Tucker

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ferd Newcomb

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Clarence Bisbee, Orris Joslin, and Helen Fielder

## 1944

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: C.D. Coolbeth, Gerald Stokes, and Kenneth Turner

Road Commissioner: Ernest Tucker

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Orris Joslin, Ray Pestle, and Helen Fielders

## 1945

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: Gerald Stokes, Kenneth Turner, and C.D. Coolbeth

Road Commissioner: Ernest Tucker

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Ray Pestle, Helen Fielders, and Clarence Bisbee

## 1946

Moderator: Edward H. Jones

Selectmen: Kenneth Turner, C.D. Coolbeth, and Gerald Stokes

Road Commissioner: Merritt D. Bragg

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Helen Fielders, Clarence Bisbee, and W. Otis Wallis

## 1947

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Kenneth Turner, C.D. Coolbeth, and Gerald Stokes

Road Commissioner: M.D. Bragg

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Clarence Bisbee, Helen Fielders, Hazel Newcomb

## 1948

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Gerald Stokes, Kenneth Turner, and A.B. Baird

Road Commissioner: Merritt D. Bragg

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Helen Fielders, Otis Wallis, and Harold Stafford

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch

Tax Collector: Edna Long

## 1949

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Kenneth Turner, C.D. Coolbeth, Andrew B. Baird

Road Commissioner: Merritt Bragg

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

`Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Helen Fielders, Harold Stafford, and Otis Wallis

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Assistant Paul Moriarty

Tax Collector: Edna Long

## 1950

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Earl W. Baird, Andrew B. Baird, and Carl W. Long

Road Commissioner: Merritt Bragg

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Tax Collector: Edna Long*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Harold Stafford, Otis Wallis, and Earle Jones

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Paul Moriarty

## 1951

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Andrew B. Baird, Carl W. Long, Earl W. Baird

Road Commissioner: Merritt Bragg

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Tax Collector: Edna Long*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Otis Wallis, Earl Jones, and Fred Daniels

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Paul Moriarty

## 1952

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Carl W. Long, Earl W. Baird, and Andrew B. Baird

Road Commissioner: Lester Barton

Town Clerk: Fred Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Tax Collector: Edna Long*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Earl Jones, Fred Daniels, and Otis Wallis

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch, Ass't. Willis Bragg

## 1953

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Earle W. Baird. Andrew Baird, Carl Long

Road Commissioner: Lester Barton

Town Clerk: Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Tax Collector: Edna Long*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Fred Daniels, Otis Wallis, and Earle Jones

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Willis Bragg

## 1954

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Andrew Baird, Carl Long, and Earle W. Baird

Road Commissioner: Lester Barton

Town Clerk: Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Elizabeth Joslin

Tax Collector: Edna Long*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Otis Wallis, Earle Jones, and Blanche Stokes

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1955

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Carl Long, Earle W. Baird, and Andrew Baird

Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong

Town Clerk: Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Clarence Bisbee

Tax Collector: Gerald Stokes*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Helen Fielders, Arthur Naef, Margaret Bisbee

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1956

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Elwin Neill, Andrew Baird, and Carl Long

Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong

Town Clerk: Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Clarence Bisbee

Tax Collector: Gerald Stokes*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Margaret Bisbee, Palmer Gaylord, Ray Pestle

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1957

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Harold Joslin, Carl Long, and Elwin Neill

Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong

Town Clerk: Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Clarence Bisbee

Tax Collector: Hadley Gaylord*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Margaret Bisbee, Palmer Gaylord, and Ray Pestle

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1958

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee

Selectmen: Edward Eurich, Elwin Neill, and Harold Joslin

Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong

Town Clerk: Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Irene Mehuron

Tax Collector: Hadley Gaylord

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: C.A. Bisbee, Elsie Becker, Mahlon Jamieson

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1959

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee
Selectmen: Harold Joslin, Edward Eurich, and Elwin Neill
Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong
Town Clerk: Emily Eaton
Town Treasurer: Irene Mehuron
Tax Collector: Mildred Burbank*
Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin
Auditors: Robert Bragg, Dora Shaw, and Helen Stafford
Fire Chief: Nelson Patch- Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1960

Moderator: Clarence Bisbee
Selectmen: Edward Eurich, Elwin Neill, and Harold Joslin
Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong
Town Clerk: Emily Eaton
Town Treasurer: Mae Ketcham
Tax Collector: Mildred Burbank*
Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin
Auditors: Agnes Kenyon, Elsie Long, and Robert Bragg
Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1961

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis
Selectmen: Elwin Neill, Harold Joslin, and Edward Eurich
Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong
Town Clerk: Emily Eaton
Town Treasurer: Mae Ketcham
Tax Collector: Katie Jones*
Law Agent: Harold Stafford
Auditors: Elsie Long, Robert Bragg, and Agnes Kenyon
Fire Chief: Nelson Patch- Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1962

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis
Selectmen: Harold Joslin, Edward Eurich, and Elwin Neill
Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong
Town Clerk: Emily Eaton
Town Treasurer: Mae Ketcham
Tax Collector: Katie Jones
Law Agent: Harold Stafford
Auditors: Robert Bragg, Agnes Kenyon, and Elsie Long
Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1963

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis
Selectmen: Edward Eurich, Elwin Neill, and Harold Joslin
Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong
Town Clerk: Emily Eaton
Town Treasurer: Mae Ketcham
Tax Collector: Katie Jones*
Law Agent: Harold Stafford
Auditors: Agnes Kenyon, Elsie Long, and Robert Bragg
Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1964

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis
Selectmen: Elwin Neill, Howard Keith, and Edward Eurich
Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong
Town Clerk: Emily Eaton, Ass't. Ruth Moriarty
Town Treasurer: Mae Ketcham
Tax Collector: Katie Jones*
Law Agent: Harold Stafford
Auditors: Elsie Long, Robert Bragg, and Agnes Kenyon
Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1965

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis

Selectmen: Donald Stafford, Edward Eurich, D. Drew Bisbee

Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Ass't. Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Mae Ketcham

Tax Collector: Katie Jones*

Law Agent: Harold Stafford

Auditors: Albert Turner, Agnes Kenyon, and Elsie Long

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1966

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis

Selectmen: Edward Eurich, Elwin Neill, and Donald Stafford

Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Ass't. Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: Katie Jones*

Law Agent: Harold Stafford

Auditors: Agnes Kenyon, Elsie Long, and Albert Turner

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch, Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1967

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis

Selectmen: Elwin Neill, Donald Stafford, and Edward Eurich

Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Ass't. Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: Katie Jones*

Law Agent: Harold Stafford

Auditors: Elsie Long, Albert Turner, and Agnes Kenyon

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1968

Moderator: W. Otis Wallace

Selectmen: Donald Stafford, Edward Eurich, and Howard Keith

Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Ass't. Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: John Moriarty-app. Resigned, John Keith app.*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Katie Jones –app., Agnes Kenyon, Elsie Long

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1969

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis

Selectmen: Edward Eurich, Howard Keith, and Elmer Mehuron

Road Commissioner: Frederick Armstrong

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Ass't. Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: John Keith*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Agnes Kenyon, Elsie Long, and Katie Jones

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1970

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis

Selectmen: Howard Keith, Elmer Mehuron, and Edward Eurich

Road Commissioner: Frederick Viens

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Ass't. Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: John Keith*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Elsie Long, Katie Jones, and Janice Barnard app.

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch – Ass't. Robert Bisbee

## 1971

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis

Selectmen: Elmer Mehuron, Edward Eurich, Richard Jamieson

Road Commissioner: Frederick Viens

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Ass't. Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: John Keith*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Katie Jones, Diana Gabaree-app. Janice Barnard

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch

Assistant: Robert Bisbee

Zoning Administrator: First **appointed:** Stanley Orr

## 1972

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis

Selectmen: Edward Eurich, Richard Jamieson, Everett Larrow

Road Commissioner: Frederick Viens

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Ass't. Emily Eaton

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: John Keith*

Law Agent: Fletcher Joslin

Auditors: Katie Jones, Joyce Burbank, Diana Gabaree

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch- Ass't. Robert Bisbee

Zoning Administrator: Stanley Orr

## 1973

Moderator: W. Otis Wallace

Selectmen: Richard Jamieson, Everett Larrow, Edward Eurich

Road Commissioner: Frederick Viens

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty, Helen Stafford, Ass't

Tax Collector: John Keith*

Law Agent: Harold Stafford

Auditors: Joyce Burbank, Priscilla Wilson, Elwin Neill, Jr.

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch

Assistant Chief: Robert Bisbee

Zoning Administrator: Stanley Orr

Planning Commission Established

## 1974

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis

Selectmen: Everett Larrow, Edward Eurich, M. Richard Jamieson

Road Commissioner: Frederick Viens

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty, Helen Stafford Ass't.

Tax Collector: Yvonne Hotte*

Law Agent: Harold Stafford

Auditors: Agnes Kenyon, Priscilla Wilson, Joyce Burbank

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch

Assistant Chief: Robert Bisbee

Zoning Administrator: Stanley Orr

## 1975

Moderator: W. Otis Wallis

Selectmen: Edward Eurich, Donald Demas, and Everett Larrow

Road Commissioner: Frederick Viens

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Helen Stafford, Ass't

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: Yvonne Hotte*

Law Agent: Peter Joslin

Auditors: Priscilla Wilson, Robert Barickman, Agnes Kenyon

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch

Assistant Chief: Robert Bisbee

Zoning Administrator: John Huntsman

## 1976

Moderator: Gary Kingsbury

Selectmen: Edward Eurich, Donald Demas, Everett Larrow

Road Commissioner: No Name given in the Town Report

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Helen Stafford, Ass't

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: Yvonne Hotte*

Law Agent: Peter Joslin

Auditors: Robert Barickman, Priscilla Wilson, Curtis Wright

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch

Assistant Fire Chief: Robert Bisbee

**Town voted to remove Fire Chief and Assistant Chief from**

Australian Ballot and let firemen elect their own.

Zoning Administrator: John Huntsman

## 1977

Moderator: Gary Kingsbury

Selectmen: Everett Larrow, Donald Demas, Al Raphael, Richard Jamieson, Peter Joslin. **Note two additional.**

Road Commissioner: None

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Helen Stafford, Ass't

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: Yvonne Hotte*

Law Agent: F. Brian Joslin

Auditors: Robert Barickman, Curtis Wright, Thomas Shropshire

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch

Assistant Chief: Robert Bisbee, Joe Keith

Zoning Administrator: David Cain

## 1978

Moderator: Donald Barnard

Selectmen: Peter Joslin, Albert Raphael Jr. Everett Palmer, Warren Ketcham, Everett Larrow

Road Comissioner: None

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Helen Stafford, Ass't

TownTreasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: Yvonne Hotte*

Law Agent: F. Brian Joslin

Auditors: Fay Hertz, June White, and Robert Barickman

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch

Assistant Fire Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, James Keith

Zoning Administrator: David Cain

## 1979

Moderator: Donald Barnard

Selectmen: Warren Ketcham, Albert Turner, Peter Joslin,

Everett Larrow, Albert Raphael Jr.

Road Commissioner: None designated

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Helen Stafford, Ass't

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: Yvonne Hotte*

Law Agent: F. Brian Joslin

Auditors: Robert Barickman, June White, and Hugh Campbell

Fire Chief: Nelson Patch

Assistant Fire Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, James Keith

Zoning Administrator: Robert Barickman

## 1980

Moderator: Donald Barnard

Selectmen: Peter Joslin, Everett Larrow, Albert Raphael, Jr.

Albert Turner, Warren Ketcham

Road Commissioner: None Designated

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Helen Stafford, Ass't

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*

Auditors: Alan Tompkins, Pat Burley, and Robert Barickman

Law Agent: F. Brian Joslin

Fire Chief: James Keith

Assistant Fire Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, Gordon Eurich

Zoning Administrator: Robert Barickman

**There were two Town Warnings this year- 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Australian Ballot Voting, Annual Meeting and the 1:00 P.M. Town School District Meeting**

## 1981

**Dedicated to Emily Eaton – Assistant Town Clerk 1927-1951**
**Town Clerk 1951- 1965 Again Assistant 1965-1972.**
**Selectmen proclamation: November 5, 1981 Emily Eaton Day**

Moderator: Donald Barnard

Selectmen: Peter Joslin, Everett Larrow, Albert Raphael,

Hugh Campbell, William Stinson

Road Commissioner: None designated

Town Clerk: Ruth Moriarty, Priscilla Wilson, Ass't

Town Treasurer: Ruth Moriarty

Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*

Law Agent: Ted Joslin

Auditors: Pat Burley, Alan Tompkins, Robert Barickman

Fire Chief: James Keith

Assistant Fire Chief: Robert Bisbee, Gordon Eurich

Zoning Administrator: Robert Barickman

## 1982

Moderator: Albert Raphael

Selectmen: Peter Joslin, William Stinson, Elwin Neill Jr.,

Albert Raphael, Hugh Campbell

Road Foreman: Don Bennett

Town Clerk Priscilla Wilson

Town Treasurer: Robert Barickman

Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*

Law Agent: Ted Joslin

Auditors: Pat Burley, Alan Tompkins, Frances Williams

Fire Chief: James Keith

Assistant Fire Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, Gordon Eurich

Zoning Administrator: Robert Barickman

## 1983

Moderator: Alfred Raphael
Selectmen: Peter Joslin, Leo Laferriere, Hugh Campbell,
Bill Stinson, Elwin Neill, Jr.
Road Foreman: Don Bennett
Town Clerk: Priscilla Wilson
Town Treasurer: Robert Barickman
Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*
Law Agent: Ted Joslin
Auditors: Alan Tompkins, Richard Bergeron
Fire Chief: James Keith
Assistant Fire Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, Gordon Eurich
Captain: Delbert Palmer
Zoning Administrator: Judy Reiss

## 1984

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Hugh Campbell, Bill Stinson, Danny Bisbee,
Charles Hosford, Leo Laferriere, Elwin Neill Jr.
Road Foreman: Stanley Peck
Town Clerk: Priscilla Wilson
Town Treasurer: Robert Barickman
Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*
Law Agent: Ted Joslin
Auditors: Peter Joslin, Alan Tompkins, and Richard Bergeron
Fire Chief: James Keith
Assistant Fire Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, Gordon Eurich
Captain: Delbert Palmer
Zoning Administrator: Judy Reiss

## 1985

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Hugh Campbell, Bill Stinson, Danny Bisbee,
Charles Hosford, Richard Bergeron
Road Foreman: None Designated
Town Clerk: Priscilla Wilson
Town Treasurer: Robert Barickman
Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*
Law Agent: Peter Joslin
Auditors: Alan Topkins, Avis Bentley, Kitty Werner
Fire Chief: James Keith
Assistant Fire Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, Gordon Eurich
Captain: Delbert Palmer
Zoning Administrator: Judy Reiss

## 1986

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Danny Bisbee, Charles Hosford, Richard Bergeron,
Mynderse Woodruff, Zeke Church
Road Commissioner: Mynderse Woodruff
Road Foreman: Stanley Peck
Town Clerk: Sharlia Palmer
Town Treasurer: Robert Barickman
Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*
Law Agent: Peter Joslin
Auditors: Leo Laferriere, Janet Webster, Kitty Werner
Fire Chief: Joe Keith
Assistant Fire Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, Gordon Eurich
Captain: Delbert Palmer
Zoning Administrator: Judy Reiss

## 1987

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Elwin Neill Jr., Charles Hosford, Zeke Church,
Granville Brumbaugh, Myndrese Woodruff (resign)
Charles Goodman III
Road Commissioner: Charles Goodman
Road Foreman: Stanley Peck
Town Clerk: Angela Neill
Town Treasurer: Robert Barickman
Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*
Law Agent: Peter Joslin
Auditors: Leo Laferriere, Kitty Werner
Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer
Assistant Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, Gordon Eurich
Zoning Administrator: Judy Reiss

## 1988

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Elwin Neill, Jr., Charles Hosford, and Granville
Brumbaugh, Charles Goodman, Andreas Lehner
Road Commissioner: Charles Goodman
Road Foreman: Stanley Peck
Town Clerk: Angela Neill
Town Treasurer: Angela Neill
Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*
Law Agent: Peter Joslin
Auditors: Leo Laferriere, Kitty Werner
Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer
Assistant Fire Chiefs: Robert Bisbee, Gordon Eurich
Captain: Paul Hartshorn
Zoning Administrator: Judith Reiss

## 1989

Moderator: Peter Joslin

Selectmen: Elwin Neill Jr., Charles Hosford, Granville Brumbaugh, J. Leroy Hadden, Andrea Lehner

Road Commissioner: Charles Goodman

Road Foreman: Stanley Peck

Town Clerk: Angela Neill

Town Treasurer: Angela Neill

Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*

Law Agent: Peter Joslin

Auditors: Leo Laferriere, Kitty Werner

Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer

Assistant Chiefs: Gordon Eurich, Kevin Eurich

Captain: Paul Hartshorn

Zoning Administrator: William Bryant

## 1990

Moderator: Peter Joslin

Selectmen: Grandville Brumbaugh, Charles Hosford, Andreas Lehner, Elwin Neill Jr., J. Leroy Hadden

Road Commissioner: Charles Goodman, resigned

Road Foreman: Stanley Peck

Town Clerk: Angela Neill

Town Treasurer: Angela Neill

Law Agent: Peter Joslin

Auditors: Colleen Kerr, Leo Laferriere, Kitty Werner

Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer

Assistant Fire Chiefs: Gordon Eurich, Kevin Eurich

Captain Paul Hartshorn

Zoning Administrator: Bill Bryant

## 1991

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Grandville Brunbaugh, Charles Hosford, Elwin Neill Jr., Andreas Lehner, J. Leroy Hadden
Road Commissioner: Charles Goodman
Road Foreman: Stanley Peck
Town Clerk: Angela Neill
Town Treasurer: Angela Neill
Law Agent: Peter Joslin
Auditors: Colleen Kerr, Leo Laferriere, Kitty Werner
Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer
Assistant Fire Chiefs: Gordon Eurich, Kevin Eurich
Captain: Paul Hartshorn
Zoning Administrator: William Bryant

## 1992

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Grandville Brumbaugh, Charles Hosford, Elwin Neill Jr., J. Leroy Hadden, Andreas Lehner
Road Commissioner: Charles Goodman III
Road Foreman: Stanley Peck
Town Clerk: Angela Neill
Town Treasurer: Angela Neill
Law Agent: Peter Joslin
Auditors: Colleen Kerr, Leo Laferriere, Spencer Potter
Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer
Assistant Fire Chiefs: Gordon Eurich, Kevin Eurich
Captain: Paul Hartshorn
Zoning Administrator: William Bryant

## 1993

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Andreas Lehner, Elwin Neill, Jr., J.Leroy Hadden,
Charles Hosford, G.M. Brumbaugh
Road Commissioner: Charles Goodman III
Town Clerk: Angela Neill
Town Treasurer: Angela Neill
Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*
Law Agent: Peter Joslin
Auditors: Spencer Potter, Leo Laferriere
Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer,
Assistant Chiefs: Gordon Eurich, Kevin Eurich
Captain Paul Hartshorn
Zoning Administrator: William Bryant

## 1994

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Andreas Lehner, Elwin Neill, Jr., J.Leroy Hadden,
Charles Hosford, G.M. Brumbaugh
Road Commissioner: Roy Hadden
Town Clerk: Angela Neill
Town Treasurer: Angela Neill
Tax Collector: Ruth Moriarty*
Law Agent: Peter B. Joslin
Auditors: Spencer Potter, Leo Laferriere
Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer
Assistant Chiefs: Gordon Eurich, Kevin Eurich
Captain Paul Hartshorn
Zoning Administrator:

## 1995

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: J, Leroy Hadden, Charles Hosford, G. M.
Brumbaugh, Andreas Lehner, Elwin Neill, Jr.
Road Commissioner: Roy Hadden
Town Clerk: L. Angela Neill
Town Treasurer: L. Angela Neill
Tax Collector: Janet Smith*
Law Agent: Peter Joslin
Auditors: Leo Laferriere, Spencer Potter
Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer
Assistant Chiefs: Gordon Eurich
Captain: Paul Hartshorn

## 1996

Moderator: Peter Joslin
Selectmen: Allen Gaylord, Andreas Lehner, Elwin Neill, Jr.,
J. Leroy Hadden, Charles Hosford
Road Commissioner: J.Leroy Hadden
Town Clerk: L. Angela Neill
Town Treasurer: L. Angela Neill
Tax Collector: Janet Smith*
Law Agent: Peter Joslin
Auditors: Spencer Potter, Leo Laferriere
Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer, Ass't. Gordon Eurich, Paul Hartshorn
Zoning Administrator:

## 1997

Moderator: Peter Joslin

Selectmen: Allen Gaylord, Andreas Lehner, Elwin Neill, Jr., Charles Hosford, J. Leroy Hadden

Road Commissioner: J. Leroy Hadden

Town Clerk: L. Angela Neill

Town Treasurer: L. Angela Neill

Tax Collector: Janet Smith*

Law Agent: Peter Joslin

Auditors: Leo Laferriere

Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer, Ass't. Gordon Eurich, Paul Hartshorn

Zoning Administrator: Kimberly Boyd

## 1998

Moderator: Peter Joslin

Selectmen: J. Leroy Hadden, Allen Gaylord, Elwin Neill Jr., Andreas Lehner, Charles Hosford

Road Commissioner: J. Leroy Hadden

Town Clerk: Sandra Gallup

Town Treasurer: Sandra Gallup

Tax Collector: Janet Smith*

Law Agent: Peter Joslin

Auditors: Leo Laferriere, three vacancies.

Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer, Ass't. Gordon Eurich, Paul Hartshorn

## 1999

Moderator: Peter Joslin

Selectmen: Andreas Lehner, Elwin Neill, Jr., Allen Gaylord, Charles Hosford, J. Leroy Hadden

Road Commissioner: J. Leroy Hadden

Town Clerk: Sandra Gallup

Town Treasurer: Sandra Gallup

Tax Collector: Janet Smith*

Law Agent: Peter Joslin

Auditors: Jim Leyton, Laura Titus, Leo Laferriere

Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer, Ass't. Gordon Eurich, Paul Hartshorn

## 2000

Moderator: Peter Joslin

Selectboard: Charles Hosford, J. LeRoy Hadden, Mark Grosby, Elwin Neill Jr.

Road Commisoner: Charles Goodman III

Town Clerk: Sandra J. Gallup

Town Treasurer: Sandra J. Gallup

Law Agent: Peter Joslin

Auditors: Leo Laferriere, Jim Leyton, Laura Titus

Fire Chief: Delbert Palmer; Ass't: Gordon Eurich, Paul Hartshorn

* Delinquent Tax Collector

# CHAPTER XXIV
# POINTS OF INTEREST

Waitsfield has but three mountains within or on its boundaries. They are Mount Waitsfield a peak in the northeastern corner and west of Bald Mountain. It over looks the valley, but is seldom climbed except by deer hunters. Between Mount Waitsfield and Bald Mountain is a cabin that was built by Dr. Johnson, Toby Richard's father-in-law. It was used by the Richards family and then became a favorite spot for outings by the local residence and hunters. It is still used in 2000.

Bald Mountain is the northeastern corner and boundary of Waitsfield. The base of this mountain established the extent of the early settlers homes – Doud Bushnell at its base on the Northfield Road and Amasa Skinner to the west of its base on the Moretown Common Road. The Amasa Skinner home is the summer home of Toby Richards in 2000. The Doud Bushnell home has long disappeared. Bald Mountain was a favorite climb for the local youth on East Hill. The top of this mountain in the fall was literally blue with blueberries. This, on occasion, became a family project to climb the mountain and bring back pails of blueberries for canning. This mountain was also excellent for its blackberries and raspberries, another natural commodity that was utilized by the local farmers on East Hill.

Perhaps the most talked about and the most utilized mountain in Waitsfield was Old Scrag. All earliest sources spell it Scrag. Some more recent sources spelled it Scragg. Old Scrag appears to be the accepted spelling. There have been various opinions in more recent years as to where the name originated. According to very early verbal accounts, the mountain got its name from the settlers who saw it as a "scraggly" mountain – scraggly trees, scraggly terrain. Therefore they called it Old Scrag. Webster's dictionary seems to verify this idea – scraggly meaning "irregular; uneven; shaggy; unkempt." The earliest accounts call this "two peak" mountain Old Scrag.

In 1930, the Vermont Forestry Department began to explore the possibility of creating a fire prevention system using lookout towers on various mountains. Walter Moriarty, owner of the village sawmill, and forest land including the summit of Old Scrag, was approached with the idea of using Old Scrag as a part of the fire prevention system. Walter Moriarty agreed to give a right of way for such a project and that he would furnish the logs for the tower plus lumber for a ranger's cabin. There was one condition attached to this agreement. The mountain was to be called Mount Alice after Walter's wife. The Commissioner of the Department of Forests and Parks agreed to this stipulation. Therefore, the highest peak was called for years, Mt. Alice, and the lower peak was called Old Scrag. However, this condition was never made a part of the legal record. Because of this neglect and the ever changing personnel in the State Department, the verbal agreement was forgotten. The State of Vermont did not honor this verbal agreement because of the lack of written documentation, thus the "two peak" mountain is called in 2000 – Old Scrag.

There is another twist to this saga. Some sources (obviously not knowing history and thus confusing the peaks) incorrectly state that "Old Scrag is the highest peak in Waitsfield at 2,923 feet, with Mt. Alice nearby at 2,628." In an attempt to clarify facts, the **highest** peak, which **was** called Mt. Alice (2,923), hosted the fire tower. The highest peak was called Old Scrag in the earliest records and included both peaks. At the time that the fire tower was built, 1934, and the mountain was renamed Mt. Alice, the shorter peak, 2,628 ft, was called Old Scrag by all the local people. It

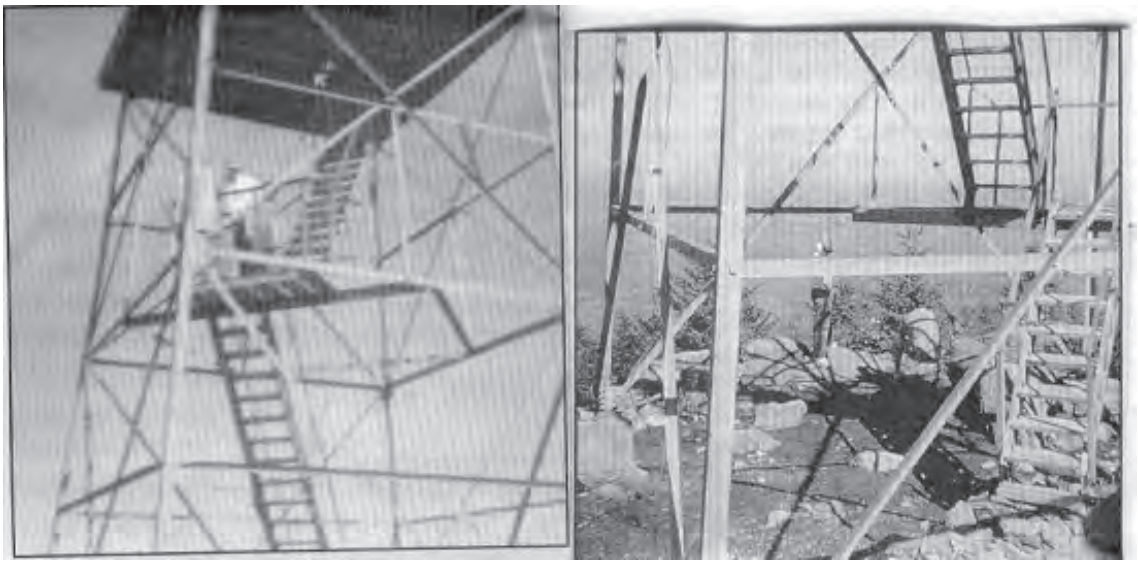
may be true that these two names were used as a compromise. During World War II, the State and Federal Government decided, for whatever reason, to place a "wind gage" on the lower peak – now called Old Scrag. Thus the fire tower was on Mt. Alice and the wind gage was on Old Scrag that continued to create two mountain peaks. Leo Burbank had the contract to erect that wind gage in 1942.

The first tower was wooden, built in 1934. The pictures below were taken in 1940. The wooden tower was struck by lightening and burned on August 17, 1944. The steel tower was built in 1947. The steel tower was dismantled in the 1970's. It was purchased for $l.00 by Dave Sellers of Warren. The steel was taken from the mountain by helicopter, but in the process several pieces were lost in the forest. The tower has not been reassembled as planned in 2000.

*Wooden tower on Mt. Alice*
*Evelyn Bisbee & dog on left, Alice Tucker on right*
*Pictures taken by Richard Bisbee*

The mountain could be reached from two directions. There was a steep trail from Northfield on the east side of the mountain. The trail from Waitsfield started at the end of Palmer Hill road, through a gate passing what remained of the Jonathan Palmer family home.

This trail continued up the West Side of the Northfield range to the top of Old Scrag / Mt. Alice for a distance of 1.75 miles. This became a constant summer activity for the local youth to climb this mountain – not once a summer, but several times a summer. The telephone line for many years merely hung on trees along the trail. The wire was strung from the Rivers farm (end of Long Road) across to the tower for the first few years. It was then relocated along the trail and better maintained in the later years.



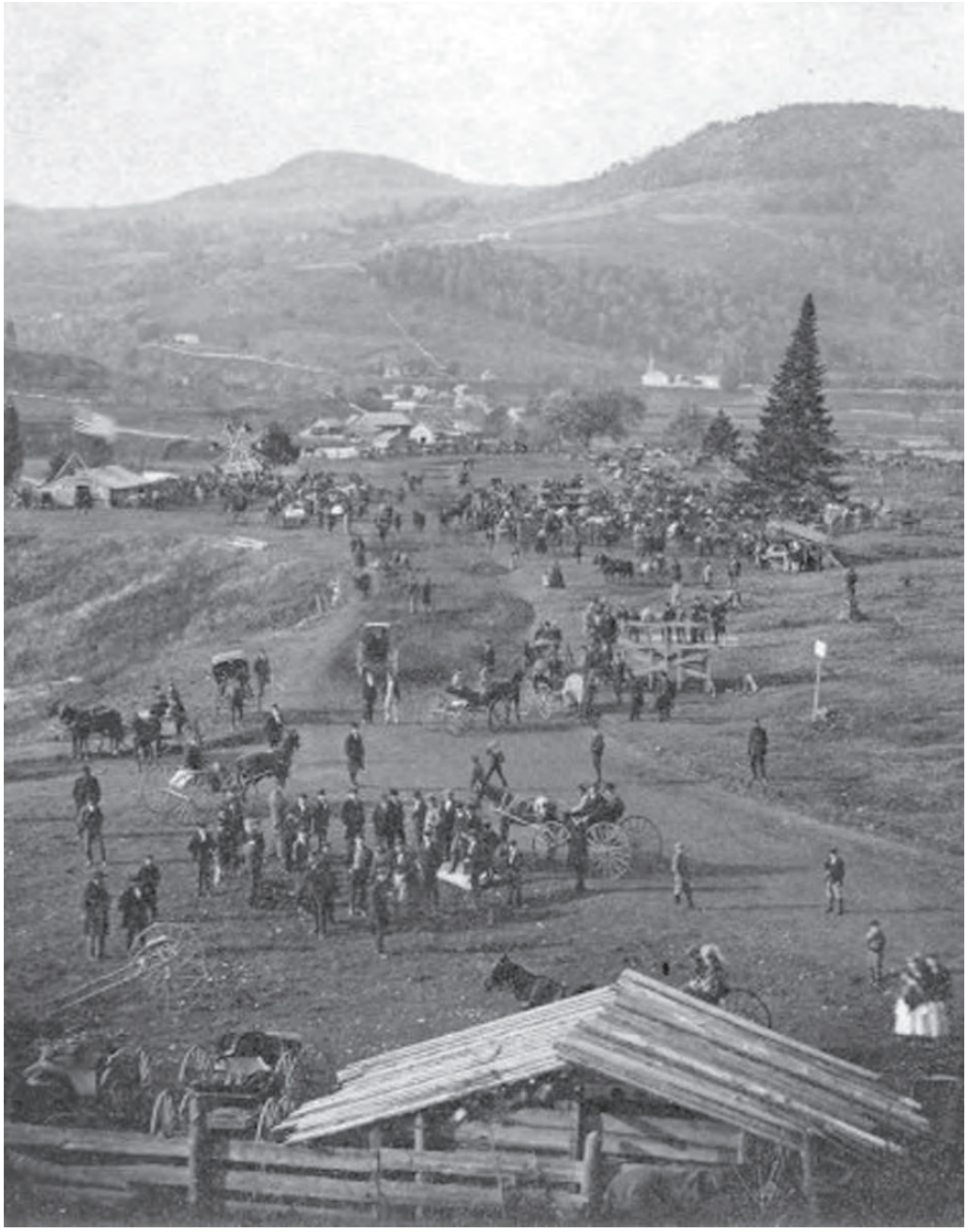
*Steel Tower on Mt. Alice in 1970*
*Rick Thompson on left*
*Pictures by Rick Thompson*

There have been many fires on Old Scrag. Some recorded fires were in 1911, three forest fires in 1921, two of which were on Old Scrag, the 1944 fire, when the wooden tower burned. There were other fires, but exact dates are difficult to verify. The Town Report states several occasions when men were paid to fight forest fires, but it is not clear where the fires were located or exact dates.

**FAIRS**

Several Waitsfield residents owned excellent horses and it is said they frequently raced them on Irasville flats. There is evidence that informal fairs were held in the 1850's in the area known as Irasville. Waitsfield has had two fair grounds. In 1858, the Mad River Valley Agriculture Fair was informally "operating on the meadows north of the village" (Irasville). The first formal organization for agricultural fair activities was on September 22, 1858. Ira Richardson was elected President, Elijah W. Bisbee was Vice-President, Robert J. Coffey was Secretary, Edward A. Fisk was Treasurer, and Chester S. Dana was Auditor. The first formal fair was held October 16 and 17, 1872 on the terrace east of the present day Catholic Church south of Irasville. A horse-racing track had been built on this terrace. This area soon proved unsatisfactory. It was decided to build a half-mile track on the farm of Orcas C. Wilder just north of the Wilder home. This area, in 2000, is the Airport Road from Route 100 north of the Wilder Bed and Breakfast Inn.

Fairs continued until 1886 when interest began to wane. They reorganized the fairs in 1896, but discontinued again in 1899. Fairs were held again on the Wilder fair grounds in the early 1920's under the sponsorship of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. It was sponsored as a picnic; however, everyone came to watch horse racing, baseball games, the Town Cornet Band and many other activities. It was usually held between August 20 and 25th. Alden Bettis remembers a balloon ride that was being offered when someone got tangled in the ropes and was carried aloft. This author found the article printed in one of the newspapers concerning this story. It seems, in 1896, Gene McCarty went to the fair with four of his six children. He became a volunteer with



*Fair Grounds, 1872. Note First Methodist Church with steeple in far right background.*

the balloon launching. In the process, as the balloon began to rise, Gene McCarty got tangled in the line and grabbed the ropes above and soon found himself 3,000 feet in the air, but he hung on. "Far over Bald Mountain he surveyed the scenery which showed the Montreal mountains, the White peaks in New Hampshire, the whole sweep of Vermont……." Finally the hot smoky air in the balloon bag cooled and began to descend taking him "half a mile from the park behind a clump of trees in Fayston Valley." Gene McCarty started walking immediately back to the Fair grounds, gathered up his children and drove the horse and wagon home. The first article appeared in the Montpelier paper, but the account this author found was written June 24, 1965 in the Burlington Free Press. When such activities ceased is not clear, but probably about 1932.

## VALLEY RECREATION

Waitsfield has always been a town filled with recreational opportunities. In the early years when work could be neglected for just a moment, the young people would swim in the home constructed dams in the small streams, would slide on the many hills surrounding the farms, would fish in the fresh streams which fed Mad River, would climb the various peaks that were readily available, would attended the Saturday night square dances in the valley or just socialize with the neighbor families. Everyone knew how to entertain themselves, build a home made "something" that would serve the practical purpose. No-one traveled and entertainment was not a necessity upon which to spend money. To be entertained was to do it yourself or go without. However, anyone who was a real native will vociferously declare that there was certainly not a lack of recreation in the valley. The real native will verify that Saturday Night in the village was the real weekly entertainment. Whether by foot, horse back, buggy, sleigh, or later car, everyone went to the Village on Saturday night and literally spent hours with the neighbors they all knew, but had not seen all the working week. It was truly the entertainment for the entire valley.

Waitsfield had outstanding baseball teams – town teams and high school teams. There are many accounts of the baseball teams and players throughout the years. There was the town Cornet Band and later high school bands. The fairs became a natural for the fall season. There were constant social events at the churches. Basketball teams were formed at the high school. Skating and sliding parties were frequent during the winter months. Of course, the people involved cleared the ice on the river and ponds themselves or used the roads for sliding events.

Grand Mother's Basketball c. 1949: Left to right back row: Gladys Bissell, Charlotte Neff, Hattie Dana, Dorothy Bisbee, Orris Joslyn, Agnes Kenyon; Front row, left to right: Mildred Burbank (coach), Rita Wimble, Bertha Tucker, Floy Joslin, Dora Armstrong, Irene Smith.

*Waitsfield Baseball Team c. 1915: Back row, left to right: Will Graves, James Moriarty, Ward Joslin, Charles Bingham (coach), Paul Buzzel, Carl Long; Front row, left to right: Earl Baird, Clyde Baird, Ferd Newcomb, Harry McAllister*

*Grand Mother's Basketball c. 1949: Left to right back row: Gladys Bissell, Charlotte Neff, Hattie Dana, Dorothy Bisbee, Orris Joslyn, Agnes Kenyon; Front row, left to right: Mildred Burbank (coach), Rita Wimble, Bertha Tucker, Floy Joslin, Dora Armstrong, Irene Smith.*

In 1937, The Waitsfield Sports Club was organized by a group of young people that had an interest in tennis, skiing, and skating. The original members of this club and the main force behind the endeavors were: Fletcher Joslin, Phillip Shaw, Raymond Hoskings, William Hewitt, Kendall Newcomb, Merrill Bragg, Willis Bragg, and Clayton Kingsbury. They accomplished many things, but one was a rope tow for skiing on the hill behind (in 2000) Valley Rental and Allen Lumber off Route 100. This tow was near the home of the Fecteau family. This organization even had an emblem that was home made and worn by the members. There was a ski jump built at the Couples Club Field.

The barber shops offered the opportunity for pool tables, and cards of various types. Cribbage was the favorite game on Saturday night when everyone went into the village for their weekly groceries, catch up on all the local gossip, and just plain "told tall tails" and socialize.

It was truly an event when the radio became a "needed" piece of the household. Then the movies began to appear in the larger cities. Waterbury and Montpelier were the nearest theaters. Then television, **but the valley was changing by this time.** Alden Bettis installed the first television in town for Elmer Mehuron. The do it yourself concept had disappeared by 1950.

Since the introduction of the skiing industry into the valley, there has been a tremendous surge in the valley as a vacation/recreational area. The Couples Club established a recreation field just

south of the village and east of Route 100. This facility has been the center of baseball and soccer as well as town events since 1958. A ski jump was built in this area about 1960. The valley has become filled with entertainment of varying types all with a price tag.

The large field across from the old High School became a polo field when Robert Rose brought the "Kennedy in-laws and the Blind Brook polo group "into the valley about 1964. This event lasted for several years with intermittent events since.

In 1970's, there began an effort to build a walking path along the Mad River. Since that time, a path has been given right of way usage from Tremblay Road to the Waitsfield/Moretown line. Efforts continue to extend the path to the Lareau Swimming Hole Park, which has been purchased by the Town in 2000. Further plans have been approved to lengthen this path through Irasville in 2001.

An outdoor skating rink was built on the Irasville green west of the Howard Bank building. Much of this was done with donated funds and volunteer labor.

Waitsfield has continued to have other events in the valley. In 1988, the Sugarbush horse show came into the valley. This became an enormous event and was moved to the fields behind Kenyon's Store (the Burdick farm) until 2001 when it decided to leave the valley because of the lack of entertainment facilities and restaurant services.

Thousands of dollars are being raised by various means as well as tax dollars to build parks, skating arenas, walking paths, land preservation for trails and hiking, summer programs without even considering the three ski areas in the valley. Horseback riding, kayaking, skiing, running, hiking, bicycling, walking, jogging, snowmobiling, golfing, swimming, playing tennis are forever visible in the valley in 2000.

Waitsfield became primarily an expensive recreational valley by 2000. In the 2001 Town Report for the year 2000, "In anticipation of further requests from community organizations, the MRV Recreation District is requesting funds for the fiscal year 2002 in the amount of $7,500 from each membership town." The financial ending balance report for the recreation district was $18,671.34. Historically, this is considerably different from "make your own" recreation to having everything provided.

## BARBER SHOPS

Like other family needs, the hair cut in early times was done at home with a pair of hand held clippers, scissors, and comb. Shaving, for those who did shave, was done with a "straight razor," a blade that folded out of the handle, sharpened on the razor strop and carefully held in the hand for shaving. The early accounts of a barber shop are limited with Will Marshall in 1872. However, by 1900, memories recall the barber shop mystique.

Barber Shops seem of historical importance simply because they were often the center of the social scene in the town. Hair cuts were given for 10 cents and much later 25 cents, but many went to the barber shop to get the latest news, play pool, or play cards. The barber was the local newspaper because he had heard every version or every story that had been passed around town. It seems appropriate to mention some of the barbers in Waitsfield who served the community for many years. Will Marshall had a barber shop in Irasville in 1872. He worked in the lumber mill during the day and cut hair at night. He stopped barbering in 1937 at 85 years of age after 65 years of cutting hair. See Chapter X Irasville.

Henry Bettis had a shop behind the Masonic Hall for many years. He then moved to a shop under the old hotel which still stands in the center of town. This was during 1900 to 1935.

Emery Somerville had a barber shop and pool hall in the Eaton Block, where the first fire station now rests. This was during the 1930's and early 1940's.

John H. Smaill had a barber shop and pool hall after he gave up farming in South Fayston and moved to Waitsfield village in 1922. Mr. Smaill was the father-in-law of Carl Long. May Smaill, his daughter, married Carl Long. Mr. Smaill operated the barber shop under the old hotel until his death in 1934. Henry Bettis moved here upon Mr. Smaille's death.

Mr. Frank Lovett was perhaps the oldest barber in the valley. In 1972 at the age of 83, he was still cutting hair – a period of 49 years in the barber business. Frank Lovett had a shop under the old hotel and in the little building at the end of the village covered bridge. In 2000, it is a photo shop. In 2000, there is an abundance of hair salons for men and women.

## HEARSE

The hearse played an important part in the early settlements. It was usually owned by the Town. It served as a method of getting people to a doctor in emergencies and illnesses. It also served as the usual funeral vehicle. In 1871, J.S. Newcomb was paid for storing and caring for the hearse. He continued to do this for many years until Oscar Eaton took over the care and storage of the hearse. Oscar Eaton stored the hearse in his barn in the village. His house at that time was just north of the Hastings/Jones brick house. The Town Report continues to show expenses for the repair and care of the hearse until 1922 when the last notation of the hearse appears in the Town Report.

## ELECTRICITY

Candles, lamps, lanterns were the first illumination in the log cabins and early houses.

Throughout the early Town Report references are made to payment for the carrying for street lamps – cleaning, repairs, oil, and lighting. In later years, some homes had their own generators both 110 generators and 32 volt Delco generator systems. However, most homes used the kerosene lantern and lamps. These were dim and a fire hazard. Many fires were cause by careless handling of these kerosene lamps. There were varying types of lamps such as the mantle lamps which required pumping prior to lighting; some gave better light than others. Gas lamps, particularly street lamps also were used.

Electricity came to the valley in 1910. Article 10 appears in the 1912 Town Report: "To see if Town will instruct Selectmen to arrange for the electric lighting of streets." There were street lights in 1911 as a billing is noted in the Town Report to Moody and Almon. The first electric company was Moody and Almon. In 1914, the company became Consolidated Lighting Company. In 1917, the company became the Montpelier and Barre Light and Power Company. In 1928, it was Peoples Hydro Electric. In 1930, the company supplying Waitsfield became the Green Mountain Power which still serves the Valley in 2000. From the May 16, 1946 Burlington Free Press: "The Green Mountain Power Company has extended its line into the town of North Fayston." There is some reference to Washington Electric Co-Op services prior to Green Mountain Power.

In 1914, electricity was put into the Joslin Memorial Library. In 1917, electricity was put into the High School. The village and some of the homes along Route 100 had electricity; however,

none of the rural areas had electricity other than individual generator systems. The Rural Electric System came into the valley following World War II. In 1946, the rural area began to receive electricity and most homes were being wired for the new 110 volt system. By 2000, all areas within the valley have electricity, touch tone telephone system, and computer access availability to the world.

## FLOODS

Memories have a way of forgetting the past. New people to Waitsfield in 1960 to 2000 are frequently brought to understand the meaning of **MAD RIVER.** History verifies that the river is untamed and frequently rises over its banks unpredictably. The river has flooded and destroyed bridges, roads, homes, and farm land many times. There is the usual spring time "ice jam" flooding which frequently floods low lands and roads. However, the river has flooded and contributed to major destruction in **1798** (probably before, but no account found recorded), **1806**, **1814**, **1824**, **1830, 1834**, **1838**, **1850** – "entire valley flooded." "Grist Mill in the village left on an island by gulling water." **1858** –flood known as "Fayston Burst" "nearly as bad as 1850"; **1869** – "Pine Brook took out all seven bridges. Clapboard Mill on Mill Brook washed away. It was rebuilt in 1870." The **1870** – "flood about as bad as 1850"; **1903** flood "fortified the bank by McAllister's" (Lareau swimming hole); **1912** high water flood, **1927** – total flood work on roads in 1928 was $5,334.37, a dike was built in the village as a result of this flood to help protect the village – cost $1,847.32 of which individuals paid $1,260.55. The 1929 Town Report shows $10,088.70 spent for flood repair with State flood relief of $11,471.75. (Town wages at this time were $3.60 per day for a man; $6.60 for man and team.). There was some State aid for some of the later floods, but most of the repairs were done by local labor and taxes.

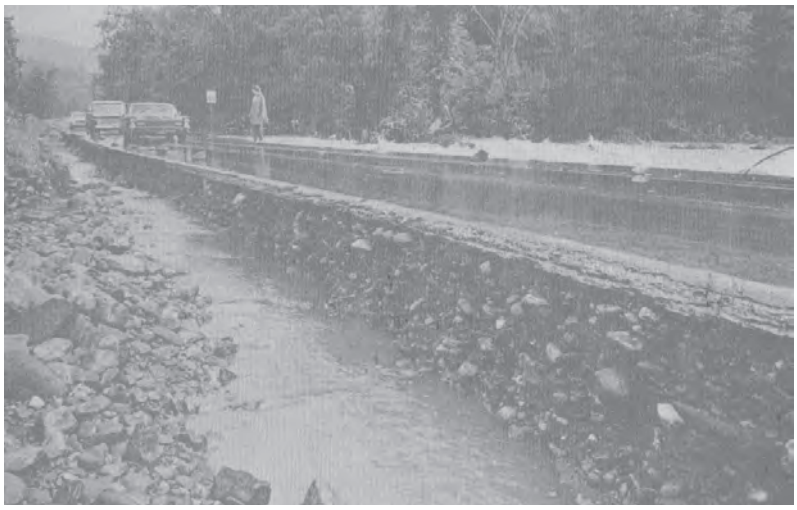
The **1938** hurricane cause tremendous damage throughout New England. The Mad River left Waitsfield with a major clean-up and repair task. In **1969**, there was a flood that did considerable damage to Moretown, but Waitsfield also received considerable water on Mill Brook, East Hill roads washed out and some in the valley. There were major floods in **1973** – flood damage cost $19,671.73, and again in **1976.**

The most recent flood was on June 27, **1998**. This was a flash flood which did considerable damage in Waitsfield village as well as nearly taking lives of people living in homes near the river across from the entrance to Sugar Bush Ski area in Warren. The citizens who received damage were able to gain financial assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as well as State assistance.

*Flood Hurricane Doria 1971…Rider/Palmer/Messer Bridge Meadow*
*Note this is no longer a covered bridge*

*Flood 1971…Route 100 in front of Telephone Co.  Photos by Malcolm Reiss*

*Mill Brook Route 100 Flood 1971*



*Mill Brook Route 100 after 1971 Flood*

**LAND PRESERVATION**

At the 1957 Town Meeting, a committee was established to investigate the "establishing of a municipal forest in Waitsfield." (See Changing Times Chapter XXVI)

There was a concerted effort to maintain forest land and agricultural land not only in Waitsfield, but in Vermont as well. Waitsfield began with a total acreage of 23,850. By 1846, 8,310 acres of land had been given to Northfield. This left approximately 15,540 acres in Waitsfield. Agriculture was the major industry throughout the valley and remained so until 1950. By 1963, there were only 31 dairy farms left in Waitsfield and by 2000 there were 5 dairy farms left (and one of those was very small). Since 1980, not only have the farms decreased in the valley, but more and more land is being placed in some kind of restriction. The 2001 Town Report states: "The Mad River Valley's Conservation Legacy – that explains the roles played by each of the three partners and highlights the more than two dozen individual conservation projects that have resulted in the permanent protection of nearly 7,000 acres in the watershed since 1983." Not all of the 7,000 acres lie within Waitsfield; however, historically it should be noted that Waitsfield is getting close to the 12,000 acre mark for fully taxable land….half its original acreage.

Vermont Land Grant Trust and other land preservation projects have been implemented. This effort to keep land as agricultural and/or recreational also took center stage in Waitsfield. The **Mad River Valley Planning District, Friends of the Mad River, and Vermont Land Trust** formed a conservation partnership to acquire land in the valley for protection from development and for conservation. This section details only land within Waitsfield; however, these three organizations comprise the towns of Waitsfield, Warren, and Fayston.

The first conservation easement in the valley was in Fayston when Ann Day in 1983 donated 144 acres and later another 17 acres. There are many other such transactions in Warren, Fayston, and Duxbury. However, this record is of Waitsfield donations and easements.

From 1983 through 1996, Bob and Jackie Rose donated some 68 acres of land in addition to riparian forest along the Rolston Road and Folsom Brook (Warren /Fay Brook).

In 1991 and 1992, Chris Whittle sold 203 acres to the Vermont Trust. This was much of the Aaron Minor/Neill/Eurich farm along the Common Road and onto Scrag Mountain. Tom and Da-

vid Defreest, Jr. operate the farm land under the transfer agreement. Funds for much of this land, $20,000, were made possible by Waitsfield voters and a grant from Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. As a part of this, Barbara Huggins, who acquired property from Chris Whittle, donated a permanent conservation easement to the Vermont Land Trust.

Dave Gavett and Jane and Al Hobart donated the development rights on 360 acres and gave the town of Waitsfield the woodland parcel as municipal forest. This was the **Scrag Corporation** which controlled a tract of wooded land on the face of Scrag Mountain.

Donald Joslyn's farm, which rests on the Common Road, was the Elias Taylor, Jr. farm. Donald Joslyn placed 180 acres of this farm into preservation land thus there are no development rights. Plus 20 acres of land bordering the Old Scrag property, Mr. Joslyn sold for $16,000 for municipal forest. This was accomplished in 1996.

Harry and Olivia Hoblitzelle donated the development rights on 114 acres of land. This land is adjacent to the Old Scrag/Northfield Ridge property and adds to the Scrag Corporation preservation.

Robert Lang and Alice Outwater donated the development rights on 36 acres of land which was a part of the Captain Elias Taylor farm on the Common Road. Gib and Suzanne Geiger own the property in 2000 and honor the preservation.

In 1996, Albert and Marion Turner sold the development rights on their 122 acre farm to the Vermont Land Trust. Their son, Douglas and Sharon Turner and their son, Joseph, own and operate the farm in 2000. This was the Learned farm on Shepherd's Brook and part of the Heaton farm and John Barnard farm.

A sum of $190,130 was paid for the preservation and development of the Lareau Swim Hole south of Irasville. The site became a 7.5 acre park. In this preservation agreement the state of Vermont gave up one acre of land where the highway salt shed stood.

Nearly adjoining the Lareau Park, Bill and Ellen Austin donated five acres to Vermont Trust along with 800 feet of frontage on Mad River and 650 feet along Mill Brook for limited recreation to the town of Waitsfield.

A piece of land was acquired from Stan Woliner along Mad River north of the village for conservation. Elwin Neill, Jr. sold 45 acres in the same area thus giving development rights to the town and to the Vermont Land Trust.

The Flemer family property of some 330 acres was acquired along Route 100 at the entrance to Waitsfield village. This includes 10,000 feet frontage along Mad River and connects on the west side of the village to Brightenback and Knoll farm preservation. This was part of Benjamin Wait's farm.

The Town of Waitsfield has over 1400 acres of its now 12,000 acres in Municipal Forest land and preservation land. Most of this property was acquired between 1983 and 2000. There is a continued effort to acquire more land for conservation, preservation and donated development rights. This land has limited taxation and limitations in its profitability. Also the school property is tax exempt, the Couples Club Athletic field is tax exempt, the fire station property and the ambulance service property is tax exempt as well as town owned property not mentioned in these paragraphs. Other property is being considered for preservation which leaves Waitsfield taxable property getting smaller in 2000.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

Waitsfield had need for law enforcement even in the early years. The town even paid damages for accidents on the roads. As noted in the Town Report March 7, 1871: "Thomas Maxwell claims damages resulting from an accident on bridge near Lloyd Wells, caused by insufficiency of bridge and careless driving. We have made several attempts to settle with him by repeatedly offering to refer the matter to the decision of disinterested men. Damages claimed, eighteen hundred dollars. A suit has recently been commenced with damages laid at $15,000. Your Selectmen have not failed to look well to the matter of our defences. [sic]"

In this same Town Report, 1871, it shows damages were paid to "R & Samuel Maxwell for horse - $136.00; John Baird for damages to wagon - .50; Nathan Robinson - $2.00; H.R. Campbell $3.00; James Baird - $2.50." In the March 1873 report "Damages done on highways to Samuel Austin, Jedediah Miller, J.S. Newcomb, Jerry Ryle, Rufus Bucklin, Daniel Moriarty, and Mrs. D.M. Phelps for a total of $83.50." It can be readily seen that highway accidents did occur and the Town paid damages. This evidently was the answer to law enforcement. Many references to such accidents were found. The town did have a constable and justice of the peace who settle problems that arose in the Valley.

The Town of Waitsfield had a law enforcement system with an elected constable. However, it depended upon the State System to enforce serious problems within the town. There was not a local police system until 1967. In 1967 Town Report Article 13 - "vote for common police force with Fayston, and Warren."

In 1974, Town Report, Mark Brown, Washington County Deputy Sheriff, reported that, "I have been remonstrated with, by your selectmen, that we were spending too much money for Police Service in your town…. Total cost to Waitsfield was "$518.40." He further stated that, "I believe that the town program should be expanded, that some expenditure should be made for traffic control patrolling. The existing agreement does not call for that type of function at this time."

In 1984, Town Report, a committee charged with looking into ways to make Waitsfield a safer place made the following statements: "… For many years now, we have relied on the County Sheriff system and more recently the State Police to deal with nearly all local law enforcement problems…. Waitsfield, geographically, is a small area, compared to most towns in Vermont, and the problems should be more easily met, except for traffic, which must pass through our town to the ski area…. For the foreseeable future, police patrol of the rural areas of our town is not practical, let alone within the reach of the tax payers' pocket books…."

In 1986, the Selectmen considered the police protection issue. An attempt to work out a "cost-sharing plan with the Vermont State Police to install additional trooper assigned full-time to the Valley area," got delayed because of state administrative procedures. A joint arrangement with surrounding towns was considered.

In 1987, a joint law enforcement system with Warren was authorized to continue. In 1992, this system was enhanced by coordinating with Washington County Sheriff Department. This law enforcement continues in 2000 with cooperation with surrounding towns, the Sheriff's Department and the Vermont State Police.

In the 2000 Town Report, the Police Program was in full force in cooperation with the Sheriff's Department. The subtotal expenses were $29,282. Revenues were: traffic fines - $18,000; sale of vehicle - $5,000 with net police expenses $6,282.

## TOWN MEETINGS

The First Town Meetings took place in Benjamin Waits house and also in Ezra Jones house, and John Burdick's house. There is some indication that the meetings were held in the church on the Common for a time. Taken from records in Vermont Historical Society: "Town Meeting held in Red School House (Stood where Kenneth Backus house is in 2000, corner of East Road and Joslin Hill Road) near Calvin Fullerton's March 5, 1851. Article 3: To see (what) Town will do about establishing a permanent place for holding town meetings." Indications are that Town Meetings were held in Lamb's Hall prior to 1884; however, only the following records could be found. In 1884, Town Meetings were held in F.D. Lamb's Hall until 1891. Lamb's Hall was in the basement of the hotel. Mr. F.D. Lamb owned the hotel at this time. In 1892, 1893, and 1894 the town Meetings were held in the Congregational Church vestry. In 1895 and 1896, they were held in Brewster's Hall. Where Brewster's Hall was located is not known. However, it was probably in the basement of the old Hotel. From 1897 to 1902, the Town Meetings returned to the Congregational Church vestry. Town Meeting was held in the I.O.O.F Hall in 1903 to 1913. In 1914, the Town Meeting was moved to the basement of the Library until 1936 when it was moved back to the I.O.O.F. Hall. In 1942, the Town Meeting was held in the Community Hall (Methodist Church) until 1962, when it was moved to the new Elementary School; the Town Meetings are being held in the Elementary School in 2000.

## FOREST FIRES

There are several accounts in the Town Reports concerning men working on forest fires. Some do not clearly indicate the location; however, it appears that most of them were on the Northfield ridge and particularly Old Scrag Mountain. Three day forest fire reported in 1912. Three forest fire costs recorded in 1921, 1922, 1930. In 1944, "Eight men work on the mountain fire." This was probably the Old Wooden Tower fire. There are others recorded but no specific date or place recorded.

## TOWN CLOCK

A clock was given to the Town of Waitsfield by the late Harry Belden. Mr. Belden was a long time resident of Waitsfield. He operated the Belden creamery, was active in the re-organized Waitsfield Cornet Band, and active in town business. The clock was installed in the church steeple in April 1957.

The clock was purchased from the I.T. Verdin Company of Ohio at a cost of $1,530. It has two 4-foot faces of vitro-light glass for night illumination. A striker was not purchased because of the extra cost. There was a Belden fund established to maintain the clock. The clock is still in the steeple in 2000.

## CEMETERIES

The cemeteries in Waitsfield as well as other towns were neglected for many years. Stones deteriorated and some destroyed and many became difficult to read. An association called "The Vermont Old Cemetery Association founded in 1958 began the task of refurbishing old cemeteries. Elizabeth B. Jones a Waitsfield resident deserves a great deal of credit as a member of this association for starting a local effort to care for the Waitsfield cemeteries. Waitsfield has since had a responsible Board of Trustees who has made investments for long term care of the cemeteries. Marion Turner also deserves credit for her long service in overseeing the care of the cemeteries.

There are four major cemeteries in Waitsfield as well as a few private burial places. They are written about in the Jones' Book. However, a few facts should be noted here. The names of the cemeteries have varied and historically should be properly recorded. The first major burial ground was on Waitsfield Common northwest of the original Congregational Church. The oldest stone is dated March 19, 1797; however, it is very probable that there are earlier burials in this cemetery or in private burial places near the homes. This has always been called the **Common Cemetery.** When the church was torn down, part the land was given for the cemetery. However, it was enlarged in 1879. It was again enlarged in 1998.

The second cemetery was north of the village near the old High School. This was called by two names, **General Wait Cemetery and Meadow Cemetery.** The Jones' Book and others point out that this site was probably the area where Benjamin Wait built his first log cabin. It was used as the Wait family burial ground. Others also acquired the rights to be buried here. This cemetery was exclusively controlled by the lot owners until 1882. It was called by these two names for many years. In 2000, it is called the **Meadow Cemetery.**

The cemetery in Irasville was a parcel of land that Rufus Barrett deeded to the Methodist Society. It was closely identified with the Methodist Church; however, other people even from southern part of Fayston used this cemetery. The cemetery was enlarged by 3-4 acres in 1877 by land purchased from Ira Richardson. It was taken over by the Town in 1872. It has been called by two names – **Methodist Cemetery and Irasville Cemetery. Irasville Cemetery** has been the most common named used and it is the name used in 2000. Note: There are indications of a small cemetery being started directly behind the first Methodist Church in Irasville. "Because of a road and water the cemetery had to be moved." The remains were taken to the Village Cemetery. The February 13, 1903 states: "To see if the Town will appoint an agent to convey the part of the east end of Irasville cemetery which lies over the bank." Author's note. This author's father, Clarence A. Bisbee related the fact, "that his father had the unfortunate task of removing the bodies of his family from a small cemetery because of a road and water and place them in Mill Hill Cemetery." It is assumed that this is the area where this task was completed.

The next large cemetery was established by the Congregational Society when it built the second Congregational Church at the top of Mill Hill in 1845. This cemetery had several stipulations attached to it when it was given to the Town in 1875. Nevertheless, the cemetery has been enlarged over the years. However, the front area where the church stood can never be used for a building. The name of this cemetery has caused considerable confusion over the years. It originally was called the **Village Cemetery.** Then it was called **Mill Hill Cemetery.** At one time the names became switched and the Meadows Cemetery was called the Village Cemetery and this remained the Mill Hill Cemetery. The confusion arose because the cemetery was on Mill Hill and the Meadows Cemetery was considered to be in the Village, thus the name. In 2000, the old Mill Hill cemetery has been designated the **Village Cemetery.**

## VALLEY PLAYERS

While this section records the Valley Players, it should be noted that The MacArthur Camp ("Tex" Thompson home) produced plays during WW II in the I.O.O.F. Hall as well as in the High School.

The Valley Players, a theater group, was started in 1968 under the leadership of Robert Law. The first productions held in the Sugarbush Gateway were "Mr. Roberts" and "My Three Angels,"

directed by Lou Peck. The second season, 1969, saw "Exit the Body" directed by Lou Peck; "The Variety Show" and the final production that season was "Our Town" directed by Denise McCluggage. The Valley Players group has continued through 2000 under varying leaders and directors. The IOOF Hall in the village became the center for the productions. It was remodeled and many productions have provided rousing entertainment.

## EARLY CLOTHING

*Early Dress About 1891*
*Burton Bisbee family; left to right: Elisabeth J. Lucia R. Bisbee, Eva Annie, Gertrude (baby) Lucia Jean, far right. Taken about 1891*

There appeared in the Valley Reporter, August 10, 1989, an interesting article by Kate Overbeck with pictures courtesy of Virginia Foster concerning the "Clothing of 1890's." This article helps to verify statements made during many personal interviews for this book plus conversations with the author's parents. The early settlers were very limited in the amount of clothing they possessed. Nearly everything was hand made within the home. Most adults had one "go to meeting" outfit. Children all wore dresses including boys until school age. Women wore long heavy skirts frequently black and long sleeved blouses or long one piece dresses in some type of pattern. Women were never seen in a bathing suit until well into the late 1890's and then only with most of the body well covered. Women wore an undergarment called a corset which was to support the torso or keep the body slender. The Sunday best for both men and women was heavy woolen apparel usually of several layers because of the cold. The women wore a long sleeved woolen dress, dark woolen hose, high collared blouse with usually a white heavy lace or flounces, gloves, and of course a wide brim hat with lots of feathers, and high top button shoes.

The men wore woolen pants, long sleeved white shirt, ties of different types, vest, and long tailed coats plus a top hat. Women never wore pants even if they worked outside in the field. Girls were taught early to crochet, embroider and knit. The women frequently saved their hair which came out while brushing and combing and used it to make a hair piece called a "rat." This was placed in a net on the head and the natural hair pulled over the rat to give a puffy look. Also the pug, the long hair rolled up in a neat ball on the back of the head and held with hair pins, was the style of the day for many women.

It is also interesting to note that the houses did not have a lot of closets because the settlers did not have that many pieces of clothing. Once the order catalog came in some people placed orders for clothing; however, prices limited the type of purchase for many people.

## NEWSPAPER

The Valley has had a newspaper for many years. It has been published under different names and by various people. Oscar Eaton had a print shop in the Eaton building Bridge Street next to the village bridge in the late 1880's. He also published other material. A small book was found written about Huntley Palmer's grandfather – History of Company H in the Civil War. It was published by **Eaton Press** here in Waitsfield. Oscar Eaton also worked with the Northfield News for printing and news items for a time. The early newspaper was called Mad River Valley News; other names that have been found are "The Valley Reporter" founded in 1971. There was "The Newspaper" serving the Mad River Valley published out of Warren by Denise McCluggage, 1966 – 1969. The Valley Reporter is being published in Waitsfield in 2000 with Alvan R. Benjamin, President; Patricia A. Clark, Publisher; Lisa A. Loomis, Editor; Cory Hatch, Associate Editor; Phil King, Staff Writer.

"Mad River Valley News" dated August 22, 1905 has the following information: MAD RIVER VALLEY NEWS, terms, $1.25 per year in advance, single copy three cents, Fred N. Whitney, publisher, publication office, Northfield, VT., F.J. Eaton, Local Editor and Manager, Waitsfield, Vt. F. J. Eaton was Fred J. Eaton, son of Oscar G. Eaton. This close connection to the Northfield News continued and this author found many Waitsfield items in the Northfield archives.

As noted above *The Valley Reporter* was started in 1971 with the first edition published June 25, 1971. The following information was taken from the May 12, 2005 issue of the newspaper. "*The Valley Reporter* was originally owned by *The Stowe Reporter* with D. T. Elliman Jr. serving as editor and publisher of both newspapers. Phylllis Gile served as managing editor. In October 1971, Gile was named editor and remained in that post until she left the newspaper in 1976…… In June 1982, *The Valley Reporter* became an independent weekly newspaper when it was purchased by Al Benjamin, a Boston journalist and public relations executive……Mary Kerr continued as editor until she resigned…..Patricia Clark….in 1999 was named publisher and Lisa Loomis was named editor." The newspaper began its 35th year of publication in 2005.

In January 1977, John M. White, started delivery of a paper called "The Valley Voice" which was published on the west side of Lincoln Gap. It is not clear how long this paper was delivered in Warren and Waitsfield.

## CELEBRATIONS

Waitsfield has had many celebrations, but there are three that should be historically noted. The Centennial was held August 7, 1889 with Dr. Walter A. Jones delivering the historical address. The Sesquicentennial held in 1939 with a parade, a pageant held at the high school playing field. Malcolm Joslin representing Gen. Benjamin Wait, rode a white horse across the field and this author, then 10 years old, had a one line speech – "Here comes General Benjamin Wait." This pageant was the high light of the celebration - professionally written and directed. The Bicentennial was held August 5, 1989. The Town was presented with a flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol on July 25 in honor of its 200 years. Senator Patrick Leahy was the keynote speaker and Governor Howard Dean spoke. Local life long resident, Fletcher B. Joslin, spoke about descendants of Waitsfield. A heavy rainfall forced the celebration to be moved from the Couples Club Field to the Federated Church because of the swollen Mad River. A parade was held but delayed because of heavy rain. Father Michael Augustinowitz of Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church gave the invocation and Rev. Paul Martz of the Federated Church gave the benediction. The Congregational Church Bicentennial was held June 29 and 30. 1996. There are books published about these events as well as a video made of the Congregational Church celebration. Speakers at this event were Fletcher B.Joslin, who spoke of the Lives and Times of the Builders of the Third Church; Otis Wallis, who gave some Recollections about the church; and Richard Bisbee, who spoke about the Church History; he had also written a book about the church history.. The Reverend Peter Anderson from Jericho Congregational Church was speaker at the church on Sunday. Reverend Ebenezer Kingsbury of the Jericho Congregational Church had been the minister who dedicated the Waitsfield church at its official organization on June 27, 1796. Pamela Barnard spoke about the Deacon Barnard descendants.

The Town turned out in large numbers at the end of World War II in 1945. When the announcement came over the radio, a piano was moved into the Village Square, crowds began to gather beating on tin pans or whatever could be found, the fire siren sounded and the church bell began to ring. People danced in the square and sang patriot songs until into the night.

*Square Dancing Sesquicentennial 1939*

## CAMP MacARTHUR

Camp MacArthur was started in Waitsfield in 1941 by Dr. Dorothea Wilgoose, the third owner of Knoll Farm, who was instrumental in setting up the camp through the Land Corps. Land Corps was started by Dorothy Canfield Fisher. The idea was to bring young people into the Valley to help with the farm work because so many young men were away in the service and there was a lack of farm help. Alfred and Charlotte Baruth, an English teacher from the Horace Mann School for Boys were the leaders of the boys who came to the Valley. The first young people were boys who came in 1942 to the Knoll farm and slept in the barn. They also produced plays at the I.O.O.F. Hall. In 1945, the Baruth's purchased the property known as the Wait farm (now Thompson home on Old County Road) and moved Camp MacArthur to that location. Girls became part of the group. The girls slept in the farm house and the boys slept in the barn. They continued to help on the farms and produce plays until after the war was over – 1945..

## AQUIFER

Since 1991, a great deal has been written, discussed and said about the aguifer that runs from Old Scrag to under Mount Waitsfield. The aquifer has been known about by the local farmers for many years. Virginia Houston, a stockbroker in Boston, purchased the old Long farm. She discovered the aquifer and after drilling wanted to use it to bottle water to sell commercially. This aquifer was determined to yield over 600 gallons per minute. Since Waitsfield Village, by 1990, was in need of a water system which would also enhance a local sewer system project, a discussion was begun to reach an agreement whereby both Ms. Houston and the Town of Waitsfield could benefit. Unfortunately, the discussions by Town Officials ended a much needed improvement for Waitsfield. At the writing of this book, there are on going discussions about water for Waitsfield Village. Considerable money has been spent drilling for water in areas totally void of water and the aquifer is still waiting to be utilized with litigations pending.

## BENJAMIN WAIT'S SWORD

Waitsfield Historical Society is fortunate to have the sword worn by General Benjamin Wait as well as the drum set used in his military service. It seems that the sword had a long journey before it returned to Waitsfield. General Wait had served for many years in the military. He was with the Rangers during the French and Indian Wars, the Revolutionary War, and became a leader among the Green Mountain Boys. Upon General Wait's death, his wife Mehitable, moved to New York State to live with her son by her first marriage, Ira Burdick. The sword traveled with her away from Waitsfield. After Mehitable's death the sword passed from Ira Burdick to his son, Edwin, who took it to Michigan. Walter Jones became aware of this when Edwin Burdick visited his store in Waitsfield. Edwin Burdick realized the importance of the sword to the Town so after a hundred years of travels, the sword was presented to the Joslin Memorial Library. It remained in a case in the library until some young school students became interested in finding it. Two seventh grade students, Matthew Viens and Sean Siner through their social studies began the search and found the sword in the library closet. The sword is now in the care of the Waitsfield Historical Society as well as a refurbished drum set.

## WAITSFIELD CABLE TV

Construction of Waitsfield Cable TV was begun in 1982. Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone Company was the parent company. The system was to cover some 120 miles and serve some 4000 households at a cost of $1.75 million. The first cable was along the western side of the Valley. The receiving dishes were located at the Village telephone switching station on top of the ledges in the Village. David Smith was engineer and design manager and Jack Mungia, contoller. In 2000, the system serves the entire valley.

## COUPLES CLUB

The Couples Club began in the 1940's to operate as a non-profit organization dedicated to meet various needs within Waitsfield. They raised money through many projects such as making money from the Vermont Summer Festival gate proceeds. This club purchased and continues to maintain the recreational field south of the Village which contains three Little League baseball diamonds and soccer fields. It at one time had constructed a ski jump at the recreational field. They installed lights at the United Church of Christ, accomplished the construction of a bathroom in the local public library, installed showers in the old high school building, and planted trees along the Village street. These are only some of the many things this club has accomplished for the community. It still continues to contribute to the many needs within the community.

## WAITSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Waitsfield Historical Society was incorporated June 5, 1970. The first officers were Irene Smith and Alice Bisbee, co-presidents, Robert Burley, vice president; Betsy Connors, secretary; and Ruth Joslin, treasurer. The primary purpose was to collect, preserve and exhibit historical property and artifacts; preserve historical monuments and markers and establish a museum. The first project was to get reprints of the Matt Jones, "Waitsfield History." A concerted effort was done to build a museum, but due to a handful of residents opposing the building, this project was not completed. Again this was a short sighted approach to Waitsfield history. The Historical Society continues to be very active in 2000.

## BANK ROBBERY

For many years there were no banks in Waitsfield; however, once the first bank appeared the Valley became a victim of bank robbers. On July 24, 1979, three masked men robbed the Howard Bank of $9,400. Jacques Blouin, and Michael Wiltse and a man from Montpelier were indicted on these charges.

# CHAPTER XXV
# LODGES AND SOCIETIES

Waitsfield has had few organizations. The Jones' HISTORY OF WAITSFIELD lists Masonic Order – King Hiram Lodge, No. 45, F. and A. M. which was chartered in October 1817. See the Jones book for details. There are accounts of the turmoil caused by this decision. The church members were very much divided on the issue. In fact, the minister resigned and the church was split over the issue. This really led to the establishment of new churches in town.

The King Hiram Lodge was dissolved in 1834. In April, 1867 the Mad River Lodge, No. 77 was organized with the meetings in Moretown. The Lodge was moved to Waitsfield into the Belden Block with the first meeting held on March 5, 1883. As noted in the Jones book, "the charter members were E.C. Smith, William M. Sawyer, Austin G. Prentis, Freeman Parker, Nathan R. Spaulding, I.S. Bailey, Wilder S. Drew, and Hiram Carleton.

One record indicates that the Masonic Lodge moved to its present location brick building "The Masonic Hall" in 1905. However, town records show the building being sold by Charles Greene to Walter E. Jones in 1919. Walter E. Jones then sold the property to the Masonic Lodge July 1, 1920. Therefore, it is not clear when the Masonic Lodge actually moved from the Belden Block to the Boyce (Greene) brick store building.

## Grand Masters of the Mad River Lodge No. 77

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1867 | Edward C. Smith | 1901 – 1904 | Daniel McLaughlin |
| 1868 – 1869 | William M. Sawyer | 1905 – 1908 | Walter Cyrus Joslyn |
| 1870 | Austin G. Prentis | 1909 – 1910 | Daniel H. Skinner |
| 1871 | Freeman Parker | 1913 – 1914 | Charles J. Greene |
| 1872 | Nathan R. Spaulding | 1915 – 1916 | Joseph A. Smith |
| 1873 – 1874 | William S. Badger | 1917 | Daniel R. Bisbee |
| 1875 – 1877 | James R. Dale | 1918 | Alton E. Farr |
| 1878 – 1879 | Pliny [Plyna] Parker | 1919 | James a. Neill |
| 1880 – 1881 | Chandler A. Prentis | 1920 | Oscar G. Eaton |
| 1882 – 1883 | James R. Dale | 1921 – 1922 | Stephen P. Joslin |
| 1884 | George W. Bulkley | 1923 | Earl A. Jones |
| 1885 | Pliny [Plyna] Parker | 1926 | Merlin B. Ward |
| 1886 – 1889 | Chandler A. Prentis | 1927 | Clyde L. Baird |
| 1890 – 1893 | James R. Dale | 1928 | Stephen P. Joslin |
| 1894 | Dr. Henry T. J. Howes | 1929 | Clarence M. Tucker |
| 1895 – 1898 | John H. Ferris | 1930 | Phillip L. Bisbee |
| 1899 – 1900 | Edwin R. Prentis | 1931 | Kenneth H. Ward |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1932 | Elden B. Griffith | 1966 | Donald J. Demas |
| 1933 | Clarence A. Bisbee | 1967 – 1968 | Gordon E. Eurich |
| 1934 | Earl W. Baird | 1969 | Donald C. Barnard |
| 1935 | Charles K. Jones | 1970 | Roland R. Foster |
| 1936 | Fred B. Miles | 1971 | Michael M. Kingsbury |
| 1937 | Ralph B. Wimble | 1972 – 1973 | Robert Badore |
| 1938 | Lyle E. Ford | 1974 | Robert L. Howard |
| 1939 | Raymond A. Neill | 1975 | Gerald M. Maynard |
| 1940 | William A. Kingsbury | 1976 | Wendell M. Kathan |
| 1941 | Max M. Shaw | 1977 – 1978 | Stanley E. Autin |
| 1942 – 1943 | Ward E. Joslin | 1979 | Robert L. Howard |
| 1944 | Samuel H. Strong | 1980 | Donald J. Demas |
| 1945 | Edwin R. Hayes | 1981 – 1982 | Gary C. Belknap |
| 1946 | Perry B. Joslin | 1983 | Peter R. McMullen |
| 1947 | Orville N. Kew | 1984 – 1985 | Gerald M. Maynard |
| 1948 | Llewellyn D. Ferris | 1986 – 1987 | Steven J. Maynard |
| 1949 | Malcolm W. Joslin | 1988 | Stuart Maynard |
| 1950 | Ernest A. Tucker | 1989 – 1990 | Robert C. Tracy Jr. |
| 1951 | Elwin A. Neill | 1991 | Michael M. Kingsbury |
| 1952 | Donald C. Stafford | 1992 | Frederick J. Rayfield |
| 1953 | Edward R. Eurich | 1993 | Michael M. Kingsbury |
| 1954 | Rupert F. Blair | 1994 | Kenton S. Blair |
| 1955 | Robert W. Gove | 1995 | Elwin A. Neill |
| 1956 | W. Bover Graves | 1996 | Philip R. Klemdl |
| 1957 | L. Charles Burbank | 1997 | Robert J. Danaher Jr. |
| 1958 | Clifford S. Carlson | 1998 | Charles R. Kettles |
| 1959 – 1960 | Robert W. Wimble | 1999 | Allen A. Gaylord |
| 1961 | Peter L. Streit | 2000 | Troy A. Kingsbury |
| 1962 | Norris P. Gallagher | 2001 | Donald E. Ritchie |
| 1963 | Harold R. Stafford | 2002 – 2003 | Richard K. Backus |
| 1964 – 1965 | Wendell C. Folsom | | |

Clarence "Doc" A. Bisbee needs special mention for his service to the Mad River Lodge. C. A. Bisbee's Masonic career began July 16, 1918 when he received his master Mason's degree. For 64 years he served his craft and his lodge with unbelievable loyalty. He was a Past Master of the lodge, a member of the Past Masters Association of the Sixth Masonic District, and was a member

of the Grand Lodge's Northern Degree Team. He was secretary of the local Lodge No. 77 for 32 years. He was past district Deputy Grand Master of the Sixth Masonic District. He was an expert in ritualistic order of the lodge. He gave the Masonic funeral services **from memory** for Masonic members for 40 years. The Grand Lodge of Vermont awarded him its John Barney Medal.

In 2000, Mad River Masonic Lodge No. 77 still holds meetings in the brick building once the Richardson Store.

Morning Star Chapter No.23 was begun May 16, 1921 when Queen Esther Chapter from Waterbury came to Waitsfield and initiated 36 candidates for this new Chapter. In the evening of that day, Grand Officers initiated a class of 49. There appears to be a discrepancy as to the number of charter members. Records show that Morning Star Chapter No.23 was constituted September 7th 1922 by Worthy Grand Patron Brother Arthur Tilden and the officers were installed by Worthy Grand Matron Sister Nellie Smythe. In 1943, Sister Orris Joslyn was elected Worthy Grand Matron and many other members have held various positions with the Grand Family. Meetings were held continuously in Waitsfield until February 18, 1990 when this Chapter joined with the Queen Esther Chapter #7 of Waterbury.

## Past Matrons and Patrons

| | |
|---|---|
| 1922 - Lizzie McAllister | E.L. Savage |
| 1923 - Edith Stafford | E.R. Prentis |
| 1924 - Lena Joslin | W.C. Joslyn |
| 1925 - Orris Joslyn | Dan McLaughlin |
| 1926 - Emma Prentis | Dan McLaughlin |
| 1927 - Etta Baird | Harold T. Hayes |
| 1928 - Maude Richardson | Harold Hayes |
| 1929 - Blanche Griffith | E.S. Joslin |
| 1930 - Clara McAllister | R.W. McAllister |
| 1931 - Daisy Goodyear | J.A. Dodds |
| 1932 - Charlotte Patterson | W.S. Kingsbury |
| 1933 - Belle Kingsbury | R.I. Stafford |
| 1934 - Esther Joslin | F.B. Miles |
| 1935 - Nettie Kingsbury | W.S. Kingsbury |
| 1936 - Louise Joslin | Ward E. Joslin |
| 1937 - Emily Eaton | J.A. Kingsbury |
| 1938 - Eunice Farr | Alton E. Farr |
| 1939 - Hazel Newcomb | Lyle Ford |
| 1940 - Katie Jones | Charles Jones |
| 1941 - Aline Ward | Merlin Ward |

| | |
|---|---|
| 1942 - Margaret Booth | Brooks Booth |
| 1943 - Dorothy Bisbee | Clarence Bisbee |
| 1944 - Emily Eaton | W.A. Kingsbury |
| 1945 - Hazel Bragg | Lyle Ford |
| 1946 - Harriett Jones | John Kingsbury |
| 1947 - Burnadette Ferris | N.B. Sutherland |
| 1948 - Helen Stafford | Donald Stafford |
| 1949 - Katherine Hayes | Edwin Hayes |
| 1950 - Gertrude Sutherland | Elwin Neill |
| 1951 - Florence Jamieson | W. A. Kingsbury |
| 1952 – Florence Jamieson | Elwin Neill |
| 1953 – Elizabeth Munn | Howard Munn |
| 1954 – Florence Neill | Elwin Neill |
| 1955 – Elizabeth Munn | Howard Munn |
| 1956 - Alleen Eurich | Edward Eurich |
| 1957 – Melba Blair | Rupert Blair |
| 1958 – Gertrude Folsom | Will Kingsbury |
| 1959 – Gertrude Folsom | Clarence A. Bisbee |
| 1960 – Ruth Sawyer | George Sawyer |
| 1961 – Ruth Sawyer | George Sawyer |
| 1962 – Katie Jones | Charles Jones |
| 1963 – Ruth Sawyer | George Sawyer |
| 1964 – Alleen Eurich | Edward Eurich |
| 1965 – Florence Jamieson | Clarence A. Bisbee |
| 1966 – Eleanor Haskins | Clarence A. Bisbee |
| Melba Blair finished Eleanor Haskins term | |
| 1967 – Gertrude Sutherland | Charles Jones |
| 1968 – Helen Stafford | Robert Gove |
| 1969 – Alleen Eurich | Robert Gove |
| 1970 – Elsie Long | Robert Gove |
| 1971 – Elsie Long | Robert Gove |
| 1972 – Marlene Weston | Clarence A. Bisbee |
| 1973 – Marlene Weston | Clarence A. Bisbee |
| 1974 – Janice Barnard | Donald Barnard |

| | |
|---|---|
| 1975 – Janice Barnard | Donald Barnard |
| 1976 – Judy Grandfield | Donald Barnard |
| 1977 – Judy Grandfield | Donald Barnard |
| 1978 – Wilma Maynard | Gerald Maynard |
| 1979 – Wilma Maynard | Gerald Maynard |
| 1980 – Wilma Maynard | Gerald Maynard |
| 1981 – Martha Fiske | Newton Baker |
| 1982 – Martha Fiske | Newton Baker |
| 1983 – Diane McMullen | Virgil Liberty |
| 1984 – Suzanne Austin | Virgil Liberty |
| 1985 – Suzanne Austin | Virgil Liberty |
| 1986 – June Kenney | Donald Kenney |
| 1987 – June Kenney | Donald Kenney |
| 1988 – Susanne Austin | Virgil Liberty |
| 1989 – Suzanne Austin | Gerald Maynard |
| Joined with Waterbury Chapter February 18, 1990 | |
| 1999 - Susan Ocker | Richard Backus |

## VALLEY LODGE, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

The Jones book gives the early information concerning the IOOF Lodge organized in 1883. It was in the Norton Building 1895 to 1903. It has been in the Union Church brick building since 1903. As has been noted the records were destroyed in the Norton Store fire in 1903. An attempt was made to get an historical account since 1903 without success.

In 1980, an article appeared in the Waitsfield Valley Reporter that "the Maple Rebecca Lodge No. 56 celebrated its 75th anniversary by honoring Emily Eaton who had been a member since this organization began March 22, 1905." Attending with Emily Eaton was Lena Chase, 93 years old, and a member since 1911.

Also in 1945, an article appears with Floy Joslin noble grand officer and Florence Neill vice grand officer when they honored Mr. and Mrs. George Wallis on September 27, 1945 as charter members. However, Mr. Wallis died in January 1945.

# CHAPTER XXVI
# CHANGING TIMES 1789 – 2000

The purpose of this chapter is intended to give a historical prospective of the changes within the town structure from 1789 to 2000. It began as a very independent Vermont Town governed by its selectmen with a minimum of organizations. Tax dollars were for mills, roads, bridges, and schools. In 2000, it has its **Selectboard** [to meet the politically correct name in 2000] plus a multiple board system and organizations all vying for the tax dollar. These are recorded in this chapter for historical reasons to assist in comparisons from 1789 to 2000. There are duplications in committees and organizations in 2000, plus historically the focus in 2000 is on a Socialistic Town Structure not an independent Vermont Town.

Waitsfield did, however, grow and develop from 1789 forward. It conducted its Town business under the Town Meeting form of government. Its major tax system supported schools, roads, bridges, Overseer of the Poor. In fact the only Articles in the Town Report for the year ending February 20, 1901 (year1900) that required tax dollars other than the above mentioned were:

Article 5: To see if the Town will give the Constable the extended jurisdiction of the State.

Article 7: To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money for the observance of Memorial Day.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise the sum of twenty-five dollars for the support of the Town Library.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to exempt from taxation the mill Property of W. & D. Moriarty in Waitsfield Village for a term of five years.

The remaining articles of business were the routine reports and election of officers that included Moderator, Town Clerk, School Director, Library Trustees, Selectmen, and Road Commissioner. This rather plain, candid and brief report continued until the Town Report ending February 1, 1946. There had been three additions earlier – Joslin Memorial Library (1914), Cemetery Commission (1905), and Community Hall (1941) but still a very routine report.

World War II had ended and the country was beginning to turn its efforts to local needs. Waitsfield had made a significant move to establish a Volunteer Fire Department funded by tax dollars. Ski areas were being developed in the valley and Waitsfield began to have a renewed vitality.

**One hundred and sixty one years (161) after the founding of the town – 1950, major changes were appearing in the Town Report. The Town of Waitsfield had seen the development of the ski areas, the influx of people from other states, and the beginning of a cultural change. There was also an attitudinal change from caring for the citizens and town to reaching out into broader areas – social, environmental, State, Federal, and most obvious a regulatory system. The Town's independence, individuality, and uniqueness were ending.**

An article in the Burlington Free Press April 16, 1957 states: "Waitsfield Community Betterment Association is being formed. … The directors are Palmer Gaylord, Shepard Quinby, Kenneth Quackenbush, Irene Smith, J. Edgar Tremblay, Ruth McGill, Gertrude Baird, Howard Munn, Fletcher Joslin.

The corporation has the following purposes: To promote the general welfare and prosperity of

the inhabitants of Waitsfield and the surrounding communities by aiding, encouraging and facilitating the establishment, development and growth of farming, industry, trade and commerce;

To develop, preserve the natural beauty of the town and surrounding communities to the fullest possible advantage to and benefit of the inhabitants, and to do all things necessary to make Waitsfield and surrounding communities more attractive, healthful and comfortable area for its people and all persons connected therewith;

To promote for the advantage and benefit of the inhabitants of the Town of Waitsfield and the surrounding communities, year-round recreation facilities and programs;

To aid and encourage the expansion and betterment of educational facilities and to help maintain and raise standards of public health and safety; and

To engage in a program of community planning and study as to the future needs of Waitsfield and its surrounding communities."

This Waitsfield Community Betterment Corporation was the beginning of major changes in the Town of Waitsfield. This was the beginning of many boards and organizations that would develop in the town. Historically, credit should be extended to this **first committee in 1957** who initiated vision in the valley.

At the March 7, 1957 Town Meeting a committee was established to "investigate establishing a municipal forest in Waitsfield."

In 1965 Town Meeting they voted to "pay expenses of planting trees in Waitsfield village."

On February 17, 1969, the Waitsfield Board of Selectmen enacted and 'interim zoning' provision whereby anyone wishing to build a house in Waitsfield on less than a full acre of land must apply to the Board of Selectmen for a permit. This was the beginning of the zoning regulations.

On May 2, 1969, the Waitsfield Planning Commission met with the towns of Warren, and Fayston to hear a report from the planning consultant Dr. Hollister Kent, to discuss the Interim Zoning, the proposal for a lake development in Waitsfield and the dump. Edgar Tremblay reported that the Interim Zoning would be eased by the issuance of forms for builders to fill out on each house started. Steve Flemer was the chairman of the Planning Commission.

The Town Report ending December 31, 1971 saw the appearance of Health Council, Mad River Ambulance Service, Waterbury Public Health Association, Vermont State Department of Health, Area Police Report, and Camel's Hump Forest Reserve Commission.

The 1972 Town Report saw the appearance of a parking ordinance: "Ordinance Regulating the Parking of Motor Vehicles on Public Highways and Other Public Property within the Town of Waitsfield." Also the appearance or the Waitsfield Zoning Ordinance report by the appointed Zoning Officer – Stanley Orr; The Washington County Sheriff Department Report – Mark Brown Sheriff; Vermont Department of Health report – 23 diphtheria immunizations, 21 polio immunizations, 44 small pox immunizations, 2 red measles, and 21 German measles.

By 1973, there was a discussion concerning the hiring of a Town Manager. The Town had added a Zoning Administrator, John Huntsman, and a Zoning Board of Adjustment with members – Maurice Spaulding, Donald Stafford, Howard Keith, Warren Ketcham, and Al Raphael. By 1974, a Planning Commission was formed with members Clayton Kingsbury, Edgar Tremblay, Wendell Folsom, Joe Parkinson, Otis Wallace, Peter Joslin, Leo Laferrier, Malcolm Damon, John

Huntsman. A total of 77 zoning permits were being issued. Twenty three new residence; twenty four new residence in 1975; sixty five permits issued in 1976; eighteen new residence in 1977; a total of 33 permits in 1978; thirty two new and remodeled residence permits in 1979; nineteen permits in 1981; sixty permits in 1982.

In the 1983 report, besides the original usual reports, the following reports appeared and continue to appear through 2000. Most of these organizations received tax dollars to support or help to support the operation.

National Forest Report

Waterbury Public Health Association (merged into Central VT Home Health in 1989.

Vermont Department of Health (disappears in 1986)

VT Center for Independent Living

Central VT Economic Development

Central VT Shelter Project

Central VT Community Action Council

Central VT Regional Planning Commission

Waitsfield Board of Adjustment

Waitsfield Planning Commission

University VT Extension Service (disappears in 1986)

Humane Society

Zoning Administration

Mad River Valley Planning Committee

Central VT Council on Aging

Mad River Valley Push for Life (for people living alone)

Mad River Valley Health Center Inc. (started in 1981)

Central VT Solid Waste Management District (started 1986)

Sexual Assault Crisis Team of Washington County (founded in 1984, appears in 1987 Town Report)

Washington County Youth Service Bureau Inc. (founded in 1974, appears in 1989 report)

Retired Senior Volunteer Program (appears in 1989 Report)

Onion River Arts Council (started in 1974, appears in 1990 Report)

Battered Women's Services Inc. (started in 1990, appears in 1991 Report)

VT League of Cities and Towns (founded in 1867, appears in 1992 Report)

**1985 – Administrative Assistant, Ted Nelson, hired June 1, 1985**

1986 – Town Meeting Article 14 voted "Water and sewer study for Waitsfield and Irasville (still discussed in 2000).

1989 – Subdivision regulations started in 1987

Administrative Assistant resigns in 1989.

In 1987, there was a joint agreement between Waitsfield and Warren to support a Law Enforcement program along with the Washington County Sheriff's Department. This arrangement continues into 2000.

In 2000, the Town Report had the usual Road, School, Cemetery, Library, Fire, and Selectboard reports. In addition to the basic reports that have appeared in the Town Report for 211 years, the following reports from boards and agencies appeared.

| | |
|---|---|
| Law Enforcement | $26,367 |
| Planning Commission Report | $47,182 |
| Capital Improvement Program | |
| Waitsfield Tree Board | $ 5,000 |
| Mad River Valley Planning District | $16,500 |
| Mad River Solid Waste Alliance | $ 2,669 |
| Mad River Valley Ambulance Service | |
| Mad River Valley Health Center, Inc. | $ 1,000 |
| Mad River Valley Senior Citizens | $ 2,000 |
| Friends of Mad River | |
| Mad River Watershed Conservation Partnership | |
| Waitsfield Historical Society | |
| Central VT Regional Planning Commission | $ 1,311 |
| Central VT Economic Development Corporation | $ 800 |
| Central Vermont Revolving Loan Fund | |
| Vermont Coalition of Municipalities | |
| Vermont League of Cities and Towns | $ 915 |
| Battered Women's Services and Shelter | $ 250 |
| Central Vermont Community Action Council | $ 300 |
| Central Vermont Council on Aging | $ 866 |
| Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice, Inc. | $ 1,300 |
| Onion River Arts Council | $ 200 |

| | |
|---|---|
| People's Health and Wellness Clinic | $ 100 |
| Retired and Senior Volunteer Program | $ 300 |
| Sexual Assault Crisis Team | |
| Vermont Center for Independent Living | $ 500 |
| Vermont Children's Aid Society | $ 500 |
| Washington County Youth Service | $ 750 |
| Bureau/Boys and Girls Club | unknown |
| Wheels Transportation Services | |
| Woman Center | $ 250 |

There were numerous other projects that were consuming tax dollars:

Lareau Swimhole Park Project Total Expenses $190,130

Irasville Master Plan – Expenditures to date $6,000

Waste Water Disposal System several million dollars

Many others in the process of being completed.

An historical prospective makes an interesting comparison of the change in the valley from 1900 to 2000. A reader also realizes that the early times were concerned with basic needs and individual responsibility. However, by the 21st century the valley was culturally different.

## TOWN FINANCIAL REPORT 1900 & 2000

| | 1900 | 2000 |
|---|---|---|
| Selectmen | $2,286.80 | $45,910 |
| Road Commissioner | $1,393.57 | $347,028 |
| Overseer of Poor | $ 254.50 | Ceased in 1969, Carl Long Appt. |
| Services of Town Officers | $ 145.50 | |
| State taxes paid by Treas. | $ 476.57 | |
| State School Tax Paid | $ 238.29 | |
| State Highway Tax | $ 238.29 | |
| County Tax | $ 238.29 | |
| Total Grand list 1900 | $4,873.35 | $3,554,550 |
| Total School Orders 1-8 | $1,859.87 | Pre-12 - $2,194,204 |
| Total for 1900 | $7,131.68 | |

The 2000 expenses for comparison with 1900

Town Office expense.....$45,905

Town clerk/treasurer.....$56,650

Selectboard.....$45,910

Planning & Zoning.....$20,729

Listers.....$ 1,238

Employment Benefits.....$51,295

Total .....$170,432

2000 - Total including above.....$2,757,574.00

1900 – Total.....$7,131.68

A brief paragraph is given for historical purposes to describe the intent of all the organizations listed in the Town Report in 2000.

Waitsfield Tree Board: This was a board created in 1965 to pay for expenses [see Town Report] to replant the trees in the village along route 100. The main street was a fully arched corridor with elm and maple trees until the middle 1950's when the Dutch elm disease killed most of the elms. Some of the problems developed because of the sidewalk and the widening and black topping the highway. There was a new effort started in 1998 not realizing a board had already been established.

Mad River Valley Planning District: This board was created in 1985. The declared purpose was to work on "the physical, social, economic, fiscal, environmental, cultural and aesthetic well being of the Towns of Fayston, Waitsfield, Warren and their inhabitants." It obtained grants and hired a director who has put considerable effort into studies such as the Irasville Growth Center development, wastewater and water project; public transit and Warren Village wastewater project, and Waitsfield Planning Commission.

Mad River Solid Waste Alliance: This alliance was formed through an inter-local agreement in 1994 between Duxbury, Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield, Warren and Waterbury. This was an effort to have hazardous waste properly disposed to help eliminate illegal dumping sites and to educate people to recycle items. Waitsfield has a transfer station for garbage and recycling on route 100 south of town.

Mad River Valley Senior Citizens: This organization was formed to support Senior Citizen activities in the late 1980's. The Senior Center was in the fire station just north of the old high school. This also included meals on wheels, senior luncheons and activities. A major undertaking was begun in 1998 to purchase the Valley Inn in Irasville and turn it into a Senior Center. This project was completed at a large cost through fund drives, grants and donations. There were some rooms available for senior citizens to live in the facility. It is called Evergreen Place. The Inn has remodeled twice with continued financial problems. It has been reorganized in 200l to Evergreen Place Inc. and an attempt at financial stability.

Friends of the Mad River: This organization was formed in 1990 "to keep a watchful eye on the Mad River environment." There had been about 15 years of water quality sampling. Now there was an effort to watch evidence of animal species and their habitat; help establish parks and river

access points; plant and build buffer areas along the river. Also an effort in conservation planning and land use restrictions and control.

Mad River Watershed Conservation Partnership: This organization started in March of 2000 was supposedly to combine the efforts of Friends of Mad River, Mad River Valley Planning District, and Vermont Land Trust. The mission: "to strengthen and enhance the health and future of the Mad River Valley through land conservation." Over 7000 acres of land is now in conservation.

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission: This commission is a consortium of 23 towns and cities in Washington and Orange Counties. The concept is "to address regional issues and opportunities. It offers its member communities, professional assistance with local planning efforts…"

Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation: This board is concerned with economic growth for central Vermont, employment positions, and small business development.

Central Vermont Revolving Loan Fund: This organization began in 1995 when 19 Central Vermont municipalities joined. In 2000, there are 20 municipality members. The purpose of this organization is "to stimulate enterprise development and employment opportunities and to create and retain jobs by making financing available for business start-up and expansion within and for the benefit of the Central Vermont Region."

Vermont Coalition of Municipalities: This organization was begun in 1997 as a non-profit association of 56 Vermont cities and towns. It was started "in the belief that Vermont's education finance law – Act 60- is not a viable solution to the problem of providing equal educational opportunities for students."

Vermont League of Cities and Towns: This organization was started in 1967 "to promote the best interests and needs of Vermont municipalities. This was to help interpret laws, offer insurance programs, health insurance, property and casualty fund, unemployment insurance trust to help members save money by pooling their resources."

Battered Women Services and Shelter: This service started in 1990 to serve towns and cities in Washington County. "This serves all victims of domestic violence."

Central Vermont Community Action Council: This council was started in 1964 to" serve low-income residents and assist in

Child care food program

Community economic development

Emergency fuel program

Family community support system

Farm workers

Head start and early reading start

Weatherization

Welfare to work

Working wheels

Central Vermont Council on Aging: This council was started in 1990's as a non-profit organization. It assists: "elders to remain independent as long as possible in their own homes and communities."

Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice Incorporated: This organization is perhaps the oldest started in 1911 as a non-profit organization serving 23 Central Vermont towns with "home health and hospice care to all who need it." "Provides- skilled nursing, home health aide service, physical, occupational and speech therapy, medical social services, hospice care, maternal child care, and psychiatric nursing."

Onion River Arts Council: Started in the 1990's "provides arts activities throughout Washington County and parts of Lamoille and Orange Counties.

People's Health and Wellness Clinic: This clinic was started in 1994 "to provide primary health care and wellness education to the uninsured and underinsured community members of Central Vermont who cannot otherwise afford these services."

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program: This organization started in 1990's was organized to "train volunteers who assist friends and neighbors who need help of various kinds."

Sexual Assault Crisis Team: This group was started in 1994 to"provide advocacy services free of charge to male and female victims of sexual violence. Provides - 24 hour emergency rape crisis hotline, hospital support, legal and court advocacy, peer support, public education, professional training, and counseling."

Vermont Center for Independent Living: This service started in the 1990's is "Vermont's first and only cross-disability center for independent living. It teaches people with significant disabilities how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services for living independently."

Vermont Children's Aid Society: This was begun in 1919 "to provide and improve the physical and moral condition of children, promote their development and well being, preserve and strengthen families and to assure permanent families for children without homes. It provides four major programs – child and family counseling, pregnancy counseling, lifetime adoption program, and therapeutic recreation program."

Washington County Youth Services: A Bureau for Boys and Girls Club. This service was started in the 1980's to "provide crisis intervention service, runaway program, substance abuse treatment, teen parent program."

Wheels Transportation Service: This service was started in 1978 to serve 23 towns. It "provides transportation for citizens through ride match services, bus/van service and valley transit service."

Women's Center: This center established in 1987 "to provide … support, tools, knowledge necessary to acquire new skills, improve their physical and emotional health, find a voice in both private and public life, and develop their potential as community leaders."

The various Waitsfield boards have been concerned about "Waitsfield Sprawl." Considerable control and regulation has been placed on building, development and expansion within Waitsfield. Much debate and animosity has arisen over this issue since 1980. Some citizens contend that individual property rights are being infringed upon while others are apposed to change, while others

desire to control development, while still others have unclear agendas for wanting or not wanting change.

There was very little building in Waitsfield after 1890 until 1947. In 1947 a few new homes were being built particularly by young people returning from World War II. This building was scarce and involved areas open for development without much change in the landscape. However, by 1960 the ski areas were developed and expansion and building were well under way. Irasville became the growth center of business for Waitsfield because of the need for parking and larger business buildings. Traffic through the valley was growing and people from other States were entering the valley to ski while taking notice of the beautiful valley and serene atmosphere. It did not take long for the building process to begin. By 1963, the Town Report had Article 13: To vote on a Waitsfield Zoning Ordinance. It passed.

The following is a record of permits issued. Some names are shown when available. These modern buildings and locations are not considered historical at this time. They can be located on the grid map for future historical references.

1972 – 20 new resident permits

1973 – 22 new resident permits

| | |
|---|---|
| Fuller Shield | Alan Richardson |
| Curtis Wright | Owen Wimble Jr. |
| Howard Munn | Roger Farnsworth |
| Bisbee & Joslin | Preston Peters |
| William Liepert | Irving Marsden |
| Mike Kingsbury | Everett Palmer |
| Robert Ingeborg | Ronald Scheidel |
| Robert Heaver | Cornelius Bedford |
| John Moriarty | William Scott |
| Peter Veins | Don Heise |
| Elwin Jones | Edward Hanson |

1974 – 9 new resident permits

Clarence Bisbee, Bernard Sweet, Kurt Grabber, James Hendershot, Bruce Wade, James Fox, Gordon Marcelle, George Brightenback, Raymond LaRochelle

1975 – 24 new resident permits

Green Moss Building Co., George Gabaree, William Leipert, Douglas Egan, Michael Schmidt, John Welter, Hugh Campbell, Katherine Gabaree, Wayne White, Charles Goodman, Stephen White, David Mogan, H. Himmo, Kevin Eurich, Warren Ketcham, Richard Moriarty, Amanda Wright, Ronald LaBrusciano, Harriet Trabeat, Henri deMarne

1976 – 65 new permits
1977 – 18 new permits
1978 – 33 new permits
1979 – 32 new permits and remodeling
1980 – 23 new permits and remodeling
1981 – 19 new permits and remodeling
1982 – 60 permits
1983 – 35 new permits
1984 – 24 new residence
1985 – 62 new permits
1986 – 24 new residence
1987 – 33 new residence
1988 – 57 new residence
1989 – 71 new permits
1990 – 7 new residence
1991 – 11 new residence
1992 – 8 new residence
1993 – 6 new residence
1994 – 15 new residence
1995 – 15 new residence
1996 – 21 new residence
1997 – 8 new residence
1998 – 9 new residence
1999 – 9 new residence
2000 – 21 new residence

# CHAPTER XXVI
## WAITSFIELD POPULATION
## 1790 – 2000

Waitsfield has seen a fluctuation in its population over the 210 years since the first thirteen families settled the Town. Waitsfield has given abundantly and honorably to the struggles for freedom and many have given their lives for the cause. The Revolutionary War and Civil War had men serve who later settled in Waitsfield. World War I, World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War also took many men from the valley to defend the country. Many gave their lives for the cause of freedom never to return to the valley. The valley also suffered from people finding it difficult to meet their needs for a prosperous living. Farming, to a great extent caused by regulations, began to lose its profitability. The valley did not lend itself to the arrival of industry because of the lack of railroad service. Consequently, the younger generation left to make a living elsewhere. It, therefore, in 1960 saw its lowest population since 1810. There were in 1810 - 647 people; in 1960 – there were 658 people.

However, 1960 saw the sudden ski industry making large strides in Warren and Fayston. Waitsfield began to see the results of this recreation and tourism. The population increased from 658 people in 1960 to 1659 people in 2000. Although this was a major growth in a short period, historically it should be noted that in **1840** there were 1048 people; in **2000,** there were 1659 people. Therefore, there has really been only an increase of 611 people over the 210 years and that increase coming in since 1960.

Many new homes have been built since 1960, but there has been a major effort to limit "sprawl" and to place large tracts of land into preserves or placed in "Land Trusts" which only allows for the land to be used for agriculture or recreation. This has begun to limit development and land use. The Town has become very much a "second home" community and a recreational area. Many find this an appealing aspect while others see this as limiting growth and certainly limiting the tax base.

Historically, it is true that there are very few people left in the Town with direct generation ties to the early settlers. Major changes are foreseen for the next 100 years. The first 100 years saw steady growth and stability blending in well with the second 100 years. It was a rural community of neighbors, farms, mills, stores and familiar faces. This author leaves the next historian to make the comparison for the next 100 years.

POPULATION TABLE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1790 – 61 | 1900 – 760 |
| 1800 – 473 | 1910 – 709 |
| 1810 – 647 | 1920 – 682 |
| 1820 – 935 | 1930 – 723 |
| 1830 – 723 | 1940 – 706 |
| 1840 – 1048 | 1950 – 661 |
| 1850 – 1021 | 1960 – 658 |
| 1860 – 1005 | 1970 – 837 |
| 1870 – 948 | 1980 – 1303 |
| 1880 – 938 | 1990 – 1422 |
| 1890 – 815 | 2000 - 1659 |

## EARLY SETTLERS RELATIVES
## OWNING PROPERTY IN WAITSFIELD IN 2000

This is an effort to show **direct** family descendants who still own property in Waitsfield in 2000 and whose ancestors came about the time of Benjamin Wait. There was no attempt to further the Matt Jones book genealogy.

### SAVAGE-BISBEE

Samuel S. Savage came to Waitsfield in 1795 sold 4 acres of land for Common died 1841

Matthew C. Savage, son of Samuel S. Savage, born 1808 died 1880

Edward M. Savage, son of Matthew C. Savage, born 1842 died 1917

Egbert F. Savage, son of Edward M. Savage, born 1867 died 1945

Dorothy M. Savage, daughter of Egbert F. Savage, born 1899 died 1957, married Clarence A. Bisbee

Richard M. Bisbee, son of Clarence and Dorothy (Savage) Bisbee, born 1929, owns property on Bushnell Road

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### BISBEE

John Bisbee, born 1777 died 1853 age 76. He and second wife Nancy came to Waitsfield in 1836, settled Lot 45

Elijah W. Bisbee, son of John Bisbee, born 1816 died 1897, age 80. He lived on Everett Palmer farm, on the Kenyon farm property, on the George M. Jones farm, and on the Dr. Pierce property, Moretown/Waitsfield town line

Burton D. Bisbee, son of Elijah W. Bisbee, born 1852 died 1936 age 83, farm on Cross Road. He married Lucia R. Joslin, June 1883, daughter of Cornelius and Josette Joslin

Clarence A. Bisbee, son of Burton D. Bisbee, born 1896 died 1982, married Dorothy Savage

Richard M. Bisbee, son of Clarence & Dorothy Bisbee, owns property on Bushnell Road

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### JOSLIN-BISBEE

Joseph Joslin Sr., born 1753, died 1819 followed his sons to Waitsfield about 1806. Joseph Joslin Jr, son of Joseph Joslin Sr. born 1776 died 1865, settled on Lot 75 in 1798

William Joslin, son of Joseph Joslin Sr, born 1780 died 1834, was a physician, and brother to Joseph Jr. who settled Lot 75

Stephen P. Joslin, son of William Joslin, born 1808 died 1893

Oramel S. Joslin, son of Stephen P. Joslin, born 1846

Stephen P. Joslin (2), son of Oramel S. Joslin, born 1885

Fletcher B. Joslin son of Stephen P. Joslin (2), owns property on Joslin Hill Road

F. Brian and Peter Joslin sons of Fletcher Joslin own property on Joslin Hill Road

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Hooker Joslin, son of Joseph Joslin Sr., and brother to Joseph Joslin Jr., who settle Lot 75, born 1791 died 1847

Cornelius E. Joslin, son of Hooker Joslin, born 1816 died 1887

Lucia R. Joslin, daughter of Cornelius Joslin, born 1856 died 1922, married Burton D, Bisbee

Clarence A. Bisbee, son of Burton D. Bisbee, married Dorothy Savage

Son Richard M. Bisbee owns property in Waitsfield 2000

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William Joslin brother of Joseph Joslin above came to Waitsfield 1805

Stephen P. Joslin, son of William Joslin, born 1808 died 1893

Orrin H. Joslin, son of Stephen P. Joslin, born 1838

Stephen E. Joslin, son of Orrin H. Joslin, born 1870

Ward E. Joslin, son of Orrin H. Joslin, born 1895

Donald Joslin, son of Ward Joslin, born 1929, lives and owns the Ward Joslin farm in 2000

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**WALLIS**

Jonathan Wallis came to Waitsfield in 1802 settled on Lot 75, then on Lot 126, born 1733 died 1810

Joseph Wallis, son of Jonathan Wallis, born 1782 died 1860

Otis Wallis, son of Joseph Wallis, born 1824 died 1893

George Wallis, son of Otis Wallis, born 1866 died 1945

William Otis Wallis, son of George Wallis, born 1908 died May 27, 2003

Clifford M. Wallis, son of George Wallis, brother of William Otis Wallis born 1904

Clifford M. Wallis married Marion Bisbee daughter of John C. Bisbee

Ann Wallis Bull daughter of Clifford and Marion (Bisbee) Wallis owns the George Wallis/William Otis Wallis farm on Route 100 in 2000

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**PALMER**

Jonathan Palmer in Waitsfield 1797, settled Lots 56 and 81, born 1754, died 1835

Joseph Palmer, son of Jonathan Palmer, born 1789 died 1868, farm Lot 81 Palmer Hill

Joseph Palmer Jr., son of Joseph Palmer, born 1826 died 1901, married (1) Annice A. Campbell; (2) Mrs. Ellen Mehuron.

Warren Palmer born 1859 son of Joseph Palmer

Everett W. Palmer, son of Warren Palmer, born 1907

Delbert Palmer, son of Everett Palmer, owns part of Palmer farm on East Warren Road in 2000

Jonathan Palmer, born 1754, (above)
Jonathan Palmer, son of Jonathan Palmer, born 1804 died 1869
Julius I Palmer, son of Jonathan Palmer, born 1842
Frederick R. Palmer, son of Julius I. Palmer, born 1864
Harry J. Palmer, son of Frederick R. Palmer, born 1902
Jenny Palmer Messer, daughter of Harry Palmer, born 1929
Dorothy (Palmer) Peck, daughter of Jenny Palmer Messer, owns property on North Road
Frederick Messer, son of Richard and Jenny Palmer Messer owns the original Palmer Farm

## CONCLUSION

So much history has been lost over the years, so many pictures have been lost or not identified at the time they were taken, so much has been left to memories which fade quickly, so many items have been thrown away carelessly or because there was not a place to properly store and display them, and so many generations have left without someone recording the events within their lifetime that a complete history becomes impossible.

The writing of this book has been an adventure. It is hoped that this will be not only A History of Waitsfield, but a kind of encyclopedia for future generations. There was an attempt to be as complete as possible; however, it soon became apparent that there was a limit to this volume and a conclusion needed to be written. There was so much folklore, so many stories from memories which were humorous and revealing, and so many anecdotes; however, it seemed prudent to leave them to the valley and the generations who created them. These later items would make a volume in themselves.

There is certainly a need for future historians to collect more information and record the events so that Waitsfield History does not get lost or thrown away as has happened in the past. Perhaps there can be another effort to build a museum so the artifacts collected can be safely housed and displayed for posterity.

If this volume inspires someone to collect and write an additional volume, write the history of the next 100 years or cause someone to preserve a picture, record facts, save a family album, or cause a student to write a paper for a history class, then this present effort to preserve some history will have been worthwhile.

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Robert Gallagher in 2006

Bover Graves in 1998 and 1999

Katharine Hartshorn in 2002

Doris (Cutts) Houchins in 1999

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