

EPSOM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JANUARY
MEETING
SET FOR 25TH



Epsom Historical Photo Archive # I-46-a

The above photograph of Silver and Hall's store was taken around or before 1900 and is one of the oldest pictures of what is now the Gossville Store. It is located at the bottom of Goboro Road. It has a very interesting history and has long been one of the focal points of the village of Gossville.

The next meeting of the Epsom Historical Association will be held at the Odd Fellows Hall on Sunday afternoon the 25th of January at 2:00 PM. The topic of discussion will be the history of Goboro Road. The notes of Benjamin M. Towle will be read and discussed. Historical notes from other sources will be added and we hope for additional items to be added from those who attend.

Mr. Towle's notes were dictated by him to his sister to record in 1936/37. At the end are a few notes in regards to houses on the Mountain Road.

Also on the agenda for the meeting will be the election of new officers. Plan to attend and add to our discussion of Goboro Road.

Epsom Historical Association News and Notes

The Historical Society recently purchased a new fire-proof file cabinet to hold the many items belonging to the society which need preservation. It replaces one which was damaged years ago by vandals. Plans call for storing the more valuable items in the new cabinet and having scanned or photocopied reproductions of those materials in drawers for public access. Carole Brown and T.J. Rand are doing a new inventory of the items currently in the collection, and preserving the older documents and pieces of memorabilia.

The Epsom Historical Association has several projects that it would like to launch in the future. All these endeavors will take a lot of help from all our old members and hopefully from new members as well to complete. Some of these undertakings will be discussed at future meetings and outlined in future newsletters we hope will follow this one. We will try to precede Association meetings with similar newsletters to keep members and interested persons informed of activities.

Part of the EHA archived photos were on display at the Bank of New Hampshire, Epsom Branch, through December courtesy of Artistic Expressions. The result was the addition of about \$200.00 to the Association from seasonal sales of pictures. Our thanks to Brett Rand of Artistic Expressions.

Album VII of Epsom Historical photos has been completed and as soon as the names of the people in the photos have been added to the computer database, it will be returned to the Epsom Public Library. Among the photos are several new pictures of the Short Falls Covered Bridge, pictures of many of Epsom Civil War Veterans, pictures of Epsom one room schools, and past Epsom Citizen of the Year recipients.

NEW ITEMS DONATED

Among the items recently donated to the Epsom Historical Society are items donated by Louise Dowst of photos belonging to Henry Dowst; and similar items donated by Ruth Batchelder of items belonging to the Gilbert Knowles collection. The above items will be inventoried, and the photos scanned as part of the EHA archives before being put on display.

Additionally, at the last EHA Meeting Regina Roy donated a set of hand drawn maps which were made by her Uncle, Louis Hill. She also presented a few items found at her home (the old Center School), including some old music books, ink pellets for making old-fashioned ink, and a blackboard pointer.

The Epsom Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the above for their contributions to help preserve the heritage of Epsom.

NEWLY ARCHIVED

Three new bound pieces of Epsom History have been placed in the files of the Historical Society at the Epsom Public Library.

The first is a bound collection of early town reports for 1847, 1850, 1852, 1853, 1858, 1863, 1864, 1885 and 1886. Four of these were loaned by Robert Tripp, and the others are part of the EHA's collection.

Second is a Pamphlet from 1803 called the "Epsom Social Library." It is 16 pages scanned and laminated in original size and form. Recently donated by Elsie Fife.

Third is a bound volume of the writings of George H. Yeaton. This collection of narrative stories and recollections was copied from the originals at the Historical Society. It does not include any of the vital statistics that are part of this collection.

These join the "Dolbeer Book of deaths in Epsom from 1819 through 1874" and the revised Cemetery Book. By making these items available in scanned or photocopied form, it saves the handling of the originals which can then be saved by proper storage in acid free environments.

From the last meeting...

At the last meeting of the Epsom Historical Association, T.J. Rand made a presentation on the archiving of materials and photographs. He has recently archived over 700 photographs from 7 albums of donated historic pictures.

This ability will now allow interested persons to loan pictures of historic interest to Epsom to the association for just a couple of days. These pictures can then be scanned and added to the collection and returned to the lender completely unaltered. Up until now, pictures would either have to be reproduced by the association or donated directly to the Epsom Historical Association. Area residents reluctant about parting with their family photos now have the option of just lending them for a few days.

Once the photos are scanned they are reproduced by computer and added to the Associations growing albums for all to enjoy, and as the collection grows, added to CD-rom for posterity in the event anything happens to the originals. The Epsom Historical Association has the ability to scan both color and black and white photos up to 8 1/2 x 14 inches, and has had success in scanning tin-types, glass negatives, slides and 35 mm negatives. The majority of these reproduced photos exceed the look of their originals, and are all done at the original photo size or larger. Computer reproductions of some of the archived photos are still available to be seen and bought from the Epsom Public Library, or Artistic Expressions art supply store just off the Epsom Traffic Circle. All of these photo reproductions are either laminated, matted or framed. In addition, anyone viewing the albums (kept at the Epsom Public Library) can order copies with a portion of the proceeds benefitting the Epsom Historical Association.

For computer buffs interested in the equipment and programs used, they are as follows: For scanning, either an HP ScanJet 4c or HP PhotoSmart Photo Scanner and scanned at 300 dpi into Adobe Photoshop 4.0. and printed on an Epson Stylus 800 printer at a resolution of 720x14400. The system is a 266 pentium IBM carrying 64 meg ram and over six gigs of hard drive storage. A Pinnacle CD-Rom writer is used and an Iomega zip drive for additional storage.