



Epsom Historical Association

NEWSLETTER

Catch up to the Past

May 2006

Successful Library Programming

Present & Future

Sneak Peek at New Library

Sunday May 21, 2006

Old Town Hall 2:00 pm

After more than one hundred years, the library will move from its current historic structure to a new building behind the old town hall. It was built at a time when the State was promoting libraries in local communities, and Epsom answered the call with help of benefactors John Dolbeer and Charles Sumner Hall.

With the opening of the new facility for the Epsom Public Library, a look at how libraries program for the present and future seems a most appropriate topic. The electronic age has a large impact on how libraries can continue to serve their communities, and this discussion, along with a look at Epsom's new library, will inform us all what we can look forward to. A brief history of the present library will be included as part of the program.

Our speaker will be **Michael Sullivan**, librarian for the Greenland, NH, Public Library and Harvard University graduate with a BA in history.

Library Trustees will present the tour and refreshments will be provided.



Can you place this house? The photo was taken by the grandson of the builder in 1898. We will give you the answer at the May meeting.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

This newsletter includes a membership form in the hopes that if you are not currently a member, that you would consider joining. The Historical Association holds public meetings four or five times a year and endeavors to document the history of the town through its archives of records, photos and artifacts. The promoting of the past helps maintain a sense of community and identity, and Epsom certainly has a rich heritage worth learning and promoting. Family membership is only ten dollars, and includes our newsletter. If you, or people you know have an interest in our heritage, or have Epsom memorabilia to loan for scanning or donate, please have them contact us and consider becoming a member. If you are a member, please return the form with your email address and interests. Thanks !!

EPSOM SOCIAL LIBRARY

Reverend Jonathan Curtis in his 1823 history of Epsom, writes “There is a social library in town, consisting of about 100 volumes of books pretty judiciously selected; though not containing the writings of any very late authors or any of those useful periodical publications upon religion, agriculture, &c., which are very desirable for such associations.”

There is a surviving pamphlet “EPSOM Social Library - RULES AND REGULATIONS of the Epsom Social Library, Adopted March 14, 1801”. It had its own proprietors, which gives us a glimpse into those in Epsom who had the means to contribute, and those people were:

Joseph BrownAaron Babb
Levi BrownDaniel Cilley
John Brown..... Edmund Chadwick
James Brown..... David Dickey
Jonathan Brown..... Jonathan Dolbur
Thomas Bickford..... John Dolbur
Thomas Babb..... Jeremiah Fogg
John Babb..... John Godfrey
Jeremiah Gordon..... Benjamin Moody
Ebenezer Haseltine..... James Menden
Levi Haynes..... Samuel Morrill
Elisha HaynesSamuel Osgood, jr.
Jeremiah HaynesDaniel Philbrick, jr.
Jonathan Locke..... Daniel Shaw
William Locke..... Andrew Sanborn
Francis Locke..... Josiah Sanborn
Samuel Locke..... Ira Sanborn
Samuel LearJoseph Sherburne
Joseph LawrenceRichard Tripp, jr.

Bickford LangJohn Tripp

James H. M’ClaryJohn Wallace

Michael M’Clary..... Samuel Wells

It is not known where the collection was held, but some of the rules governing the use of the library books was quite strict - as seen in the following:

The Library shall be open every Saturday, during two hours preceding sunset, when every Proprietor may take out one Folio, one Quarto, one Octavo, or two Duodecimos, upon each share; and in case he does not return each Folio and Quarto at the expiration of six weeks, and each Octavo or Duodecimo at the expiration of four weeks, he shall pay a fine of ten cents per volume, for every week he shall detain it after said term for returning the same is expired; and no book shall be taken out or returned at any other time, except at the pleasure of the Librarian.

If any Proprietor shall lend a book to any other person not residing in his family, he shall forfeit and pay a fine of fifty cents; for every blot of tallow or ink, ten cents; for every word he shall write, ten cents; for every leaf he shall tear, ten cents; and for folding or turning down any leaf, four cents. And if any or all the before related fines shall amount to more than the prime cost of the book or books, then it shall be optional with the holder of the book or books, to retain the same and pay the cost thereof. Or replace the same with new ones. And if any person shall lose a book, he shall replace it, or pay the prime cost thereof; if he shall lose a book belonging to a set, he shall replace, or pay the value of the set and take the remainder.

The entire pamphlet is on the website.

ANNUAL DUES NOTICE

Annual Dues for the Epsom Historical Association can be paid with the enclosed form or at the upcoming meeting Please mail to: Penny Graham, EHA Treasurer, 1758 Dover Road, Epsom, NH, 03234.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP - \$10.00

Revolutionary War Pension of John Ham

S 18004

PENSION of John Ham INVALID

June 7, 1832

State of New Hampshire, County of
Merrimack

July 24, 1832, personally appeared before the Judges of the Court of Probate for the County aforesaid, John Ham, a resident of Epsom, NH, age 68, that he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1780 with Capt. Prescott, and served in the Capt Henry Dearborn's regiment of the Continental line, under the following named officers:

That he enlisted in Epsom ___ in the County of Merrimack and State aforesaid in the month of June 1780 for six months under Capt. Prescott in the Continental service and marched to Kingston in the County of Rockingham and State aforesaid, and thence passed muster. Bartlett was muster master and thence marched to West (?) Point and thence was put into Capt. Pays (?) Company Ensign McGaffey in Col. Dearborn's Regt; marched to Warner town New Jersey (so called) thence Soldiers Fortune (so called) near Fishkill in the state of New York, served the full term of six months and was discharged by Ensign McGaffey in the absence of the Col., had a written discharge but have lost it.

I William Wallis of Northwood in the County of Rockingham and State of New Hampshire being seventy nine years old depose and say that I served seven years in the Continental line of the United States army during the war of the Revolution in Capt, Kinissons, Morrills and other Captains in the Regiment commanded by Col Stark and Col. Cilley; that during one of those years in which I served, I think the year 1780 - John Ham of Epsom in

the County of Merrimack served in the service Continental line of the United States army as a private soldier in the company commanded by Captain Gray in Col. Dearborn's regiment - I and the said John Ham lived about one mile from each other, he in said Epsom and I in said Northwood - and I knew him well in the army and frequently saw him while at West Point and at Warner Town in the State of New Jersey. Also at a place called Soldier's Fortune near Fishkill in the State of New York where he was regularly discharged having served out the time of his enlistment which I then understood to be six months.

William Wallis

State of New Hampshire, Rockingham County
July 21, 1832

Then the above named William Wallis personally appeared bade solemn oath that the above affidavit by him subscribed is true.

Before me, Eben Coe, Justice

EPSOM Historical Documents- Biographical Information & Interesting Facts

compiled by Philip Yeaton

Volume 1 - \$8.00

Volume 2 - \$10.00

Volume 3 - \$10.00

Volume 4 - \$10.00

Volume 5 - \$12.00

Publications available through the
EPSOM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Marden Cemetery

Rte. 28 North after Traffic Circle-Grave Inscriptions

Falls

[N. Falls](#) Died May 2, 1844 (fieldstone - top gone: Mrs. Nancy Falls, age 64)

Marden

[David](#) Marden DIED Jan. 13, 1883 ae 75 y'rs 17 d's

[Ann](#) (Bickford) Marden, wife of David Marden, DIED Feb. 1, 1892 ae 74 yrs 4 m's

[Juliaet](#), Dau. of David & Ann Marden, DIED Mar. 2, 1864 ae 4 y's 9 mo. 24 d's

[Levina](#), daut. of David & Ann Marden, Died July 23, 1876 ae 23 yrs. 6 mo.

[Walter](#). Son of David & Ann Marden, Died July 2, 1877 ae 22 yrs. 6 mo.

[Susie P.](#), Dau. of David & Ann Marden Died Jan. 1, 1878 ae 20 yrs. 7 days

Marden

[James L.](#), son of Jonathan & Lydia (Drake) d Mar. 26, 1812 (stone broken and erased)

[Nancy](#) d Apr. 16, 1834 ae 13 days) daughters of Jonathan &

[Lydia](#) d Apr. 10, 1834 ae 7) Sally Marden (barely legible)

Marden

Jonathan (erased and broken)

[Sally](#), (Moulton) wife of Jonathan Marden, died July 27, 1837 ae 40

[John L.](#) Marden died June 21, 1847 ae 27

[E.D.C.M](#) (fieldstone) d. Nov. 24 6 yrs

Marden

[Sally](#), In memory of, daughter of William & Polly Marden, who died April 24, 1817 aged 4 years (rest faded)

[Hannah](#), In memory of, daughter of William & Polly Marden, who died Aug. 15, 1810 aged 19 years

[Nancy F.W.](#), In memory of, daughter of William & Polly Marden, died Sept. 20, 1832 aged 25 years

Marden

[Wendell](#) Marden Died Apr. 13, 1861 ae 60 yrs. 1 mo. 13 dys.

[Betsey](#), his wife, Died Oct. 8, 1861 ae 53 yrs. 17 dys.

[Clara E.](#), Their Dau. Died May 13, 1865 ae 24 yrs. 5 mos. 12 dys

[E.M.](#) (fieldstone)

Marden

[William](#) Marden DIED Nov. 1, 1852 ae 92

[Polly](#), (Norris, aka Mary) wife of William Marden, died April 26, 1839 ae 76 y'rs

[Little Charles](#), son of Mark & Sarah J. d Apr. 6, 1865 ae 3-8-4 (stone gone, footstone C.E.M. only)

[Clifton L.](#), son of Mark & Sarah J. Marden, died Oct. 25, 1871 ae 19 yrs. 5 mos.

[Mark](#) Marden DIED Apr. 14, 1894 ae 76

[Sarah J.](#) (Marden) wife of Mark Marden, DIED Dec. 10, 1873 ae 48 yrs. 5 mos.

Moulton

[Martha](#) Moulton died Nov. 17, 1831 ae 53

Nathan D. d 1874 ae 70 (stone missing)

Perkins

[Polly W.](#) (Marden) wife of Albon Perkins, died March 16, 1849 ae 54 y'rs 8 mo's

Sargent

[Lucinda W.](#) (Marden), wife of Daniel Sargent, died May 17, 1866 ae 32 ys 3 ms & 16 ds

Whitney

[Lydia I.](#) (Marden) wife of Israel C. Whitney, died Sep. 5, 1855 ae 52

From the Guestbook online - I am very impressed with your search tool and the amount of information you have transcribed to the website! Thanks to you, I have found records from diaries & church minutes pertaining to my GGGgrandfather, Rev. Horace Webber, who was a minister in the Epsom Free Will Baptist Church. I wish every town had people as diligent as you to help those of us who are piecing together our family histories. - Connie (Webber) Guérin.

www.epsomhistory.com