

GLOVER HISTORY

Providing for the Future, Remembering the Past
1783-1998

Vol. 7, No. 1

Glover Historical Society, Inc.

Winter 1998

President's Report

Finally it can be said that the Runaway Pond Park project is completed as planned.

The two millstones and one wheelwright's stone are now on granite legs. Crushed stone covers the interior. Top soil and mulch were spread on the slopes. The Glover Garden Club, led by Kate Butler, donated and planted perennials on the perimeter. Lastly, John Rodgers constructed the field stone water "table" to complement the millstone tables.

Many thanks to all who generously supported the project financially, as well as donated labor and materials.

Glover can be proud!

Future projects being considered are an archaeological program, a picnic park on the river in West Glover at the old Horace Whitney Mill site (owned by the town), and repair/restoration of the carriage shed at the Municipal Building for our historical collections. This last item would be a major task for our small group with its very limited funds, since jacking, footings, walls, floor and drainage are first priority.

Thanks also to Randy Williams for his past secretarial services. He declined re-election because of his added responsibility with Glover Rescue. And thanks to Martha Alexander who has been treasurer since the beginning and is limited to six consecutive years by our by-laws. Ulo Sinberg is now secretary and Charlie Barrows, treasurer.

- Wayne Alexander

INSIDE:
*A Special
Glover Place—
the Leonard
Homestead!*



Dr. Percy Buck and his wife Grace, in 1964

A Research Project: *Dr. Percy Erastus Buck*

Percy Erastus Buck was *the* family doctor in Glover and surrounding towns during the first half of this century and stories of Dr. Buck are recalled by many.

One anecdote related by Agnes (White) Young (wife of Walter) follows:

"Dr. Buck saved my life! As a little girl I was stricken with a terrible side pain and Dr. Buck came with his horse and buggy, diagnosed appendicitis, and took me immediately from Mud Island to the train in Barton. He boarded the train with me. I was in so much pain, but just as we reached St. Johnsbury the pain vanished. Little did I know the appendix had ruptured. Dr. Buck rushed me to the hospital and I eventually recovered."

Please send us your recollections of Dr. Buck for a future newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

January 1 to December 31, 1997

Starting balance	Checking \$1,089.99		
	CD 1,506.20		\$2,596.19
Income			
Membership dues	\$ 684.00		
Donations	1,291.80		
Sale of history books	345.60		
Sale of maps	32.00		
Sale of video tapes	20.00		
Fred Gjessing memorials	160.00		
Marjorie Bickford memorials	25.00		
Glover Day	116.00		
Sale of poems	12.00		
CD interest	136.12		
Petty cash	2.00		
			\$2,824.52
Expenses			
Insurance	\$ 228.00		
Newsletter	474.40		
Supplies	47.28		
Postage	117.76		
Runaway Pond project	1,270.50		
Membership Barton			
Chamber of Commerce	30.00		
Ad, <i>the Chronicle</i>	8.00		
Glover Town Clerk	2.00		
			\$2,177.94
Ending balance	Checking \$ 600.45		
	CD 1,592.32		
	CD 1,050.00		
			\$3,242.77

In Memoriam for GHS Members

Lane Dwinell, 1906-1997. Governor of New Hampshire 1955-59, with Glover roots.

Frederik Cheney Gjessing, 1918-1997. Architect, Historic Sites Preservation, with Glover roots.

Percy Don Clark, 1906-1997. Farmer, businessman and Glover native.

From the Secretary

Please check the mailing label on this issue of *Glover History*. The date on the label indicates when your membership was due for renewal. Annual dues remain at \$5 for individuals or \$8 for families - please use the coupon below (or simply enclose a note) to send in your renewal if your current membership has expired. It is easy to forget—why not do it now? Regretfully, members in arrears for more than two years must be dropped to control printing and postage costs. Late last year we approached a number of our early friends whose memberships had lapsed, and several of them had indeed simply forgotten and promptly renewed.

The current membership of the Society stands at 127. We would like to welcome to our ranks anyone with an interest in Glover and the history of Glover. Filling out the coupon below and returning it with a check is all that it takes to join. If you are already a member and know of friends or neighbors who might wish to join, please let us know their names and we'll do the follow-up.

Glover Historical Society, Inc.

Municipal Building
Glover, VT 05839

Membership for 1998

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____

- ___ Family Membership - \$8.00 (spouses, children under 18)
 ___ Single Membership - \$5.00
 ___ Additional Donation of \$ _____

Glover History

An occasional publication of the
Glover Historical Society, Inc.
Municipal Building, Glover, VT 05839

President Wayne Alexander
 Vice President Bob Clark
 Secretary Ulo Sinberg
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THE LEONARD HOMESTEAD Compiled by Wayne Alexander

Introductory Note: The Leonard Homestead (1819 - 1939) was comprised of the present day Municipal Building, Betty Putney's house, and the barn. The Leonard farming operation was very advanced for its time. The entire Leonard Homestead brochure of 1919 is reproduced on the next two pages.



In one of the fertile valleys of THE GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE, noted for its Jersey Cattle, Morgan Horses, Bronze Turkeys and Maple Sugar, is located THE LEONARD HOMESTEAD, an estate of over five hundred acres. No more healthful climate, fertile soil, pure water or beautiful rugged scenery can be found than in this section of Vermont.

The Leonard Homestead farm lies on the east and west slopes of the valley on the outskirts of Glover Village with the buildings within its limits.



*A twelve-room house including a built-in sleeping porch. The hot and cold water system is equipped with its own heater and supplies the entire house. There is a bathroom on each floor.
[Present Municipal Building]*

On the east slope is a one-hundred-acre field, on the central edge of which are located the barns. This field of rich loam soil is worked entirely with tractor and horse drawn labor-saving machinery; even the hay in the field is loaded by machinery and unloaded at the barn with an electrically operated hay fork.



*A six-room cottage with modern cabinet kitchen, bathroom and every necessary convenience.
[Present residence of Betty Putney]*

Adjoining this field lies a one-hundred-acre pasture in which there are a thousand or more sugar maples with equipment for making maple sugar.

On the west slope is an eighty-acre lot heavily wooded with valuable growing timber, and a one-hundred-and sixty-five-acre lot including a large area of tillage land



Looking up the largest trout brook, from the footbridge connecting The Leonard Homestead grounds with the village street.

which makes this tract valuable pasturage. There is also a large amount of wood, softwood lumber and pulp available on this land. Another parcel of land on the west slope comprises seventy-five acres of good pasture in addition to a splendid growth of spruce and pine.

The entire farm is well watered by springs and trout brooks fed by springs. The buildings are supplied by five never failing springs in three separate systems. Fresh running spring water is before every animal and fowl on the farm at all times. Poultry houses with a yard of several acres accommodates three hundred fowls. A forty-ton ice house with a chance to cut the supply at its door provides ice at a nominal expense.

The Leonard Homestead barn was the most modern dairy barn in the area. The basement stable was the first I ever saw. All other farms were milking their cows in an "upstairs" stable. The brochure describes the barn in some detail. -W.A.

The stable, which is 36 x 112 feet, is cement to the windows. The equipment is the "STAR." The stalls have cork-brick floors and adjustable stanchions with removable plates containing record of animal. Water bowls automatically operated by the animals furnish fresh spring water at all times. Feed alley is in center of stable opening into hay and grain barn. There are calf pens, maternity pen and bull pen. Four horse stalls are equipped with water bowls and sanitary feed managers and have a separate entrance through harness and grooming room. There is a loft over the stable for bedding, conveyed through shoots [sic] to walks in stable making the least possible dust and litter.

The King System of ventilation is used with twenty-four fresh air registers and four large foul air ventilators. The air is always fresh.

Manure is conveyed by carrier on overhead track to a 20 x 40 foot manure pit, cement to roof, which is entirely separate from other buildings.

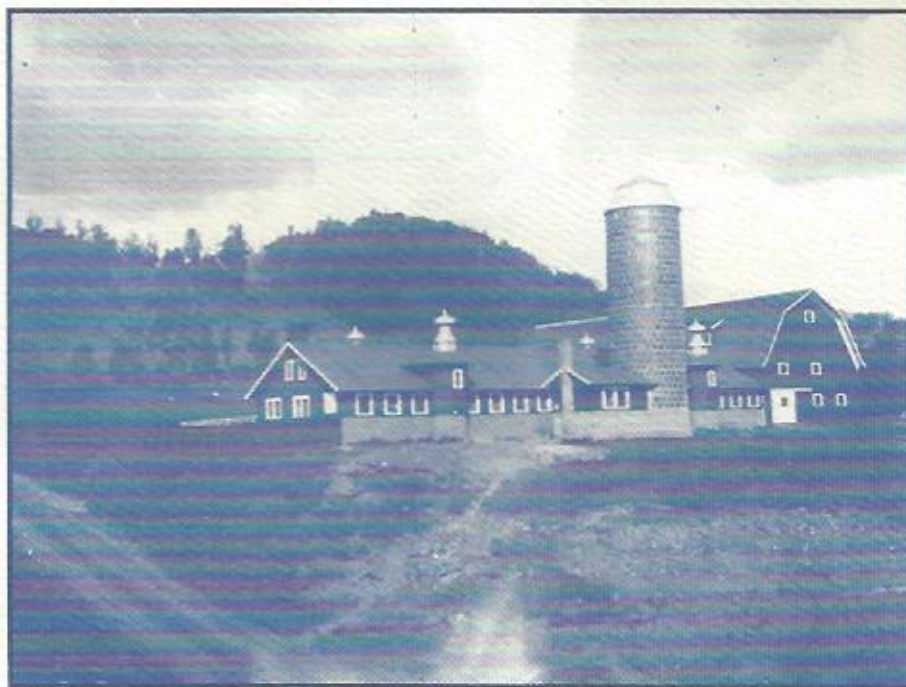
The balloon framed storage barn is 36 x 100 feet, with space figured to hold 180 tons of hay. A Louden hoist,

operated by electric motor, unloads hay from the wagons and carries it from mow to feed floor as required. The grain bins are located over the mixing room and extend to top of building. Grain is elevated to the bins with a John Deere grain elevator and spouted, as needed, to feed trucks.

The silo is Preston-Lansing glazed hollow tile 14 x 50 [feet], estimated to hold from 175 to 200 tons of silage.

Under the same roofs, but detached from the stable, is the milk room, equipped with hot and cold water, cooling tank and all sanitary conveniences for cleansing dairy utensils. The milking machine and separator used are DeLaval, operated by electricity.

The farm is equipped with all necessary modern farm machinery housed in a separate tool building. There is a garage and wagon house, and separate paint, oil and glazier room, with large storage room above. In addition there is a work shop, heated for winter use, equipped with carpenter and blacksmith tools and sink with running water.



Temesia's Owl's Roland 192261 is the sire of the present herd. He is an Owl Interest bull from one of the best Jersey herds in the world. His dam, grand dam and great grand dam on official tests averaged 825 lbs. butter fat in one year. The entire herd includes over fifty full blooded Jerseys of the very best breeding.

Leonard Homestead Chronology

by Betty Putney

"GRANDSUR" NOAH LEONARD (1750-1848) - 5th generation descendent of Solomon Leonard, who emigrated from England in 1630 and helped settle Bridgewater (CT?). Noah was a shoemaker and lived in MA and Keene, NH, where 10 children grew up.

In 1800, his sister Sarah at the age of 45 moved to Glover as the wife of John Conant. In the same year his daughter Lucy at age 23 came to Glover to join husband Levi Partridge. In 1803 his other daughter Abigail married Joseph Gray, who had come to Glover in 1799 to prepare a place for her.

In 1819 "Grandsur" and "Aunt Belhia" at ages 69 and 63 moved to Glover with their youngest son Willard, 23. They purchased land and built a house which stood just north of the brook where now the West Glover Road is situated west of the bridge crossing the river. Noah opened a shop and worked at his trade as a shoemaker.

Noah also purchased a grist and saw mill which son Willard operated until 1826, when he married Amy Lary of Wolfeboro, NH, and swapped the mill(s) for the farmland which is still part of the Leonard Homestead. Another son of Noah's, Calvin, also a shoemaker, married Octavia



Left to right:
Kate Leonard,
Howard
Bickford (son-
in-law) and
Willard
Leonard

Dwinell of Keene and moved to Glover. George Leonard, next to youngest of Noah's children, learned the printing trade from an older brother in Boston and came to Glover. Four of his children settled here.

Noah lived the last 28 years in the valley of Glover Village to an age of 98—a patriarch with 28 grandchildren living in Glover.

Willard's son Chapin (1837-1915) was active in community affairs and was town clerk from 1883. In 1915 he married Harriet Bean. It was he who built the present Leonard Homestead in 1890. Lumber for house, including woodwork, was cut from this farm.

Chapin's son Willard C. Leonard (1870-1943) attended the Orleans Liberal Institute in Glover and took a business course at Lyndon Institute. In 1892 he went to the Chicago

College of Pharmacy, getting a job in a pharmacy there without showing his credentials because "we never have any trouble with people from Vermont."

Upon his return to Glover, he married in 1892 Kate Owen, daughter of Judge C. P. Owen. He helped with the family farm for awhile, but there wasn't enough work. And so "after a talk with Father," he and Kate moved to New London, NH, where he worked as clerk in a drug store and became owner, then selling out to his clerk. Then came a variety of jobs in New London: postmaster, summer hotel operator, driver of a 5-horse stage coach making two trips of eight daily (most fun of any job), and owner of a livery stable.

Next he and his cousin C. Hayden Whitney purchased a mail order business for soaps which gave premiums for buying large quantities. Watches were in great demand as premiums, and he and his partner designed one to outsell the Ingersoll watch which sold for one dollar. The Leonard Watch sold for 98 cents. The New Haven Clock Company made it for him and eventually asked him to run the Chicago branch. He went to Chicago; his wife and daughter Harriet stayed in Glover.

He sold his interests in 1923 and returned to Glover, becoming very active in local and state affairs: House member in 1927-28, State Senator in 1931-32, selectman, lister, and town grand-juror. He wrote a *History of Glover* in 1940, from which this information is largely taken.

His daughter Harriet Bickford lived in the homestead with her four children and was town treasurer for seven years, town clerk for three.

In 1955 Betty Putney and Hester Webster bought the house from Harriet Bickford. It had been vacant several years and had recently been used as a nursing home. Betty was town clerk from 1952-1987 and was town treasurer from 1973-1987. Hester was treasurer from 1948-1973, four years before her death.

Upon Betty's retirement in 1987, the Town of Glover purchased the Leonard Homestead for a municipal building and converted the downstairs into a library and offices for town clerk-treasurer and assistant, selectmen, and listers and planning commission. The vault room of cement and steel was added at that time.

In 1990 the selectmen voted to use the attic and two large back rooms on the second floor to house artifacts and memorabilia of Glover's history being collected by the newly-formed Glover Historical Society. As of 1990 the other rooms on the second floor were not being used.

Some Things I Remember About the Leonard Homestead

By Wendell A. Phillips

Mazzini and Minnie Phillips, my parents, purchased the house we lived in from the Leonard Homestead. It was the home of Pliny Leonard, an uncle of Willard. I think he was a bachelor. When Willard decided to build the new barns he had the little house renovated to be used for the Superintendent who was going to run the farm. To my knowledge no one ever lived in it till my folks moved in. Then my Dad built the two car garage and a little shop in the back. Also, he planted the spruce trees along the east side of the house.

I came home from the C.C.C. camp in North Reading, Mass. in June 1934 just in time to go to work for the Homestead in haying. I had never worked with a hay loader before so of course they put me on the back end of

the wagon under the loader. This was a difficult job to make the load so it would be wide enough and tight so it would stay on till we got to the barn. Anyway we made it and it came off real good with the hay fork system they had.

I also had to milk and do chores. They had 6 or 8 two-year-old Holstein heifers who did not like the milking machines so it was my job to milk them by hand. Well, after being stepped on, kicked in the leg, put their foot in the pail, slapped me in the face with a wet tail, I managed to get them quieted down so we could use the milking machine before we finished haying.

The Homestead had a small pond and ice house just west of the house. My dad and I would help cut ice, fill the ice house and then we would have ice in the summer.

Leonard Homestead Barn Burns

Mazzini Phillips lived in the now Betty Putney house till 1945. He will be remembered as a long-time game warden ('20s, '30s, '40s). He was persuaded to take the job by legislator, Willard C. Leonard. Mazzini kept a diary of his daily work and events of the day:

Thursday—July 27, 1939. Found the Leonard Homestead Barn on fire when I got up at 5:30 this morning and was burned to the ground save the tool shed and all the tools. The milk room was saved with just a slight damage to the roof. West roof and side of tool shed badly burned. One calf was burned. South wind which was lucky for our place. We called the Orleans Fire Dept. but did not have to use them.