

GL VER HISTORY

Providing for the Future, Remembering the Past
1783-1999

Vol. 8, No. 2

Glover Historical Society, Inc.

Summer 1999

Warning

The annual meeting of the Glover Historical Society, Inc. will be held on Thursday, July 8th, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. in the Glover Municipal Building. The principal agenda item will be election of directors. The terms of four of the Society's 12 directors will expire as of the date of the meeting. The Nominating Committee has nominated all four (Martha Alexander, Betsy Day, Peggy Day Gibson and Rita Lombardi) for re-election to the board of directors, and the candidates have agreed to serve if elected. Additional nominations may be made at the meeting. Four directors will then be elected at the meeting. As stipulated in the By-laws of the Society, the directors will meet thereafter to select the officers for the ensuing year from among the newly constituted 12-member Board.

Darn Delinquent Dues

Again: your mailing label indicates the expiration date of your paid up membership. Please continue to help the Glover Historical Society.

Report from the President

At recent meetings of the Glover Historical Society it was voted to pursue the publication of various historical items pertaining to Glover. Some of these are: 1) federal census records, 2) cemetery inscriptions, 3) birth/marriage/death records, 4) grand lists, 5) school attendance records, 6) church records, 7) family genealogies, and (8) a current town map showing the names of residents, road names and E911 addresses.

We still want your artifacts, photos, etc. for our collection, but we don't have space for large items, such as threshing machines, horse powers, manure spreaders, etc. We plan to enter all your past and future contributions of items into a computer so that we can quickly access that information.

Publication of family genealogies is a long-term project. We will start with the family records we have at this time. Please submit your information as soon as practical. Don't wait for every last item or you'll never finish, as is the case of many life-long genealogical endeavors.

The 1850 Federal Census of Glover has been completed and is now available. It contains the name, age, sex, occupation, worth and birth place of every person in the household. This is the first census to contain those details. Listed are the "households in order of visitation" per the 1850 original and, in addition, an alphabetized index.

The cost is \$20. Make your check payable to: Glover Historical Society and mail to: Martha P. Alexander, Treasurer GHS, 1225 Perron Hill, Glover, VT 05839.

In the 1791 census, Glover was "not inhabited." The 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840 censuses are now being transcribed for publication also. To those not familiar with early censuses, they only list the name of the "head of household" and various age brackets and sex of other members of each household. These five censuses will be included under one cover and include an all name index.

A Union House booklet is nearing completion. It is an expanded version of our last Newsletter with more and bigger photos.

For more information call or write me: Wayne Alexander, 1225 Perron Hill, Glover, VT 05839, Tel. 802-525-4419.

In this issue: James Vance, Glover's First Settler

Glover Day — July 24, 1999

Now that Glover Day is becoming a community tradition, more and more interesting activities are being included in the venue. The day begins with registration at 8:30 a.m. for the annual "Tour de Glover" 10-mile mountain bike race, which begins at the Green by the firehouse in Glover Village and ends at the Lake Parker Country Store in West Glover.

Registration for the "Run, Chamberlain, Run" 5-mile road race begins at 9:30 a.m. at the Runaway Pond rest area, with a starting time of 10 a.m. There will be shuttle transportation from the Green to the start. There is a \$10 registration fee for each race, which includes a Glover Day T-shirt. This year there will be a kids' race also, which begins at 10 a.m. at the Westlook Cemetery.

When the racers arrive at the finish line, the Green in the village of Glover, there will be music by the Bread and Puppet Brass Band and other local musicians, as well as the reenactment of the Runaway Pond story by Bread and Puppet, beginning at 11 a.m.

In addition to the usual games for kids, we will have a "Moon Walk Jumping House" where kids can pay quarters to jump around. There will also be a flea market for kids to sell their old toys from 10:30 until 11:30 a.m. on the Green. The Fire Department will be selling lunch at the fire station and the Busy Bee will offer a chicken barbeque.

At 12 noon, a 50/50 duck race will commence. Tickets will be sold in advance or on the day of the race. The ticketholder of the winning duck will split the prize

money with the Ambulance Squad.

In addition to all of the scheduled events during the day, we are inviting any organization or business in the community who wishes, to pay a \$10 donation to help with the advertising, and set up a table on the Green to sell their wares or advertise their services.

Because the Town Hall will be unavailable due to renovation, we are asking everybody to come prepared for rain or shine. There will be tents on the Green for the performances and for eating, but bring your umbrellas!

Citizens Advocacy will hold its annual barn sale at Joan Alexander's house on the northern edge of Glover Village, starting at 9 a.m. As always, the Glover Ambulance Squad will have its semi-annual bake sale; you can leave your home-baked donations at the Green any time after 8:30 a.m. on Saturday or call Betsy at 525-4051 for pick-up. This year, the Glover Community Church is having its auction on Glover Day, starting at 1 p.m.

It promises to be the best Glover Day ever, so please come and have fun with your neighbors and support the entire community. The event is sponsored by the Glover Ambulance Squad, Currier's Market, the Community National Bank, the Union House, North Country Hospital, *the Chronicle*, Sugarwoods Farm and Kingdom Sports.

Oral History Program

The Glover Historical Society will sponsor a program on collecting oral history, presented by Greg Sharrow on Wednesday evening, June 23, at 7:30 at the West Glover Congregational Church. Using excerpts of video and audio recordings from field research, Dr. Sharrow will present practical guidelines for planning and carrying out a community-based oral history project.

Dr. Sharrow is Director of Education at the Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury. He has conducted extensive field research, gathering oral history and information on traditions that are part of Vermont's collective cultural heritage. At the Vermont Folklife Center he produced "Never Done: Farm Life in Vermont," which won a Corporation for Public Broadcasting "Gold Award." He is also the author of "Many Cultures, One People," a handbook for Vermont teachers.

The evening presentation for adults will be done in conjunction with an oral history workshop for kids at the Glover Pioneer Day Camp during the morning.

About two years ago, Randy Williams noticed this drawing of a goose on a large rock in the middle of a field in West Glover. Upon closer examination, it was apparent that the drawing was actually etched into the surface of the rock. A recent visit by an archeologist confirmed that it is indeed a petroglyph and could date back between 500 and 1,000 years. Photo by Bob Johnson



James Vance, Glover's First Settler

James Vance came to Glover in 1798 to become the town's first settler. He was the second son of John and Ann (Hogg) Vance, Jr. of Londonderry, New Hampshire, and (probably) the grandson of John Vance who came to New England from Ireland in about 1695. At least five of his brothers and sisters immigrated to Vermont at about the same time, three of them settling in Greensboro.



This house (shown about 1950) was built by James Vance as soon as lumber was available. The first frame house in Glover; it is now the home of Bob and Gisele Clark.

The following is an account of John Vance's coming to Glover, taken from an old scrapbook at the Town Clerk's Office by Vance's great-great-grandson, Clayton Woodworth.

The settlement of Glover was commenced in 1798 by James Vance who came here from Londonderry, N.H. when he was 29 years old. His wife Hannah Abbot was from Dracut, Mass. They raised a family of five children, three sons and two daughters who lived to manhood and womanhood.

His purchase of land in Glover was lot no. 141, containing 160 acres for which he paid \$1.00 per acre in silver coin. His attention was drawn to this township when on a journey to Canada five years previous, because the region round about was touched by frost, a portion of Glover was green and flourishing, and that very spot he afterwards selected for his future home.

He fell five acres of trees in June 1798 which he cleared off and sowed to wheat and seeded to grass. It was so stout that it was almost impossible to dry on the ground.

Mr. Vance was a sailor in his younger days, was of a strong constitution, able to endure the hardships of a new settlement; and of a cheerful turn of mind.

He kept the second tavern in Glover, and at one time kept a store. He was quite a pettifogger in those days and was often pitted against Bill Baxter of Brownington in justice suits, and quite often came off victorious. He was a man well off in those days, always plenty of money and at one time he owned three farms, employed lots of help, cut large quantities of hay, kept a large stock, es-

pecially of horses, of which he was passionately fond. He always rode on horseback on the run; he was very energetic in all his business.

He cultivated a large orchard and one year gathered 1,000 bushels of apples and made 40 barrels of cider, which was nearly all drunk on the premises. He also had his New England rum every day for 30 years, was an inveterate smoker all his days. The last few years of his life he drank no spirits, only occasionally a glass of cider. He never was sick.

He lived and died of old age on the same farm where he began in life. He was 95 years, and 7 months old. His funeral was attended at West Glover Church, Rev. S.K.B. Perkins officiating. (Congregational Church)

.... Mr. Vance used to like to show visitors the spot

where he cut down the first tree. The story has been told that on one of his travels James found a hollow log that he thought would be a good place to sleep for the night, but first started a fire to drive out a bear that was in there.

James' name is among those noted as present at Glover's first town meeting in Harry Phillips' "History of Glover, VT and Runaway Pond." He was moderator of town meeting in 1821.

Samuel Vance was the youngest son of



James and Hannah are both buried in Westlook Cemetery.

James and Hannah Vance and he lived all his life on the same farm as his father had first settled. In fact, the farm came to be known as the Samuel Vance farm.

Samuel was married in Greensboro to Esther Cutler. Esther died in 1863 at the age of 51 several months after finally giving birth to a child, Warren. Eleven years later, at the age of 64, Samuel married again. This time his bride, Mary Bumps of Albany, was only 27 years. They had two sons, one of whom died in infancy. The second son, James C. Vance, never married.

In 1956 the farm was bought by Robert and Gisele Clark.

Glover Pioneer Day Camp 1999

The Glover Public Library will sponsor its third annual Glover Pioneer Day Camp this summer from June 21-25. Funding for this year's program will be provided through the Vermont Agency of Human Services, as well as a requested \$20 per camper fee. The program is open to all Glover kids going into first through eighth grades, as well as summer residents. This year the camp will be held at the West Glover Congregational Church in the mornings, followed by a hike and picnic each day along a different route to the old Parker Settlement, a mile away by road, where cellar holes remain from the town's first settlement, which was occupied from around 1798 to 1850.

Glover History

Published by Glover Historical Society, Inc.
Municipal Building, Glover, VT 05839

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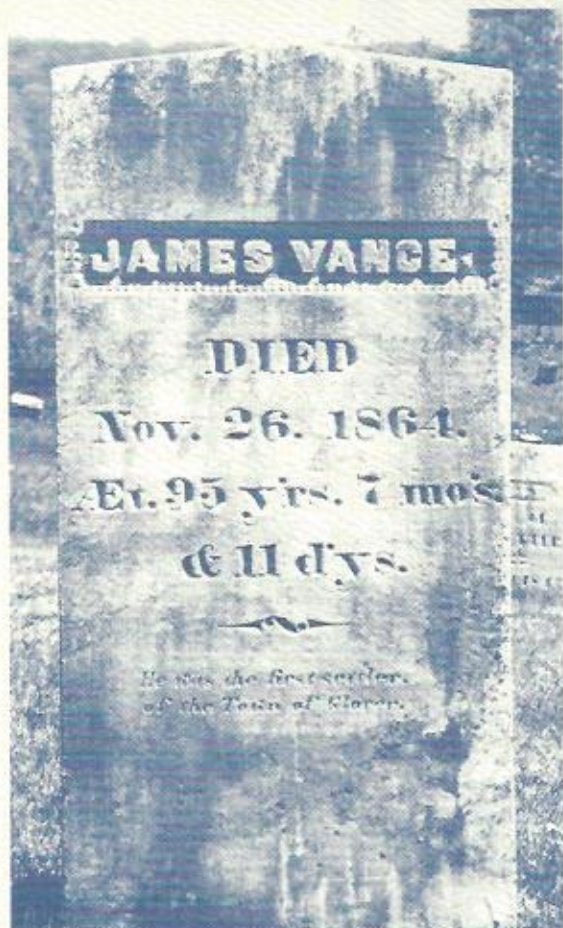
We will focus on three major projects during the week, exploring the history of the area from three different directions. One group will map the settlement, trying to locate all of the cellar holes in order to measure their dimensions. They will make models of the houses, practice skills in orienteering, map reading and observation.

Another group will explore the natural history of the area, viewing it from prehistoric time through the changes brought by settlement and up to the present. They will observe plants and animals that live on the land now, and look at the changing ecosystem in relation to human activity.

The third group will look into the move of the church building, which in 1850 was actually rolled on logs from the Parker Settlement along the Hinman Road by teams of oxen to its present location.

Campers will also play games, hike, build forts and hear stories. They will have guest speakers, demonstrations and a team of oxen in residence.

The community is invited to a party on Friday afternoon, June 25 from noon to 3 p.m. with a cookout, music, games, and presentations of our projects. For more information, call Peggy Day Gibson at 525-3034.



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