



Freedom Historical Society

“Preserving Freedom’s Past for Future Generations”

28 Old Portland Rd, PO box 548, Freedom NH 03836

www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org

Celebrating 50 years as a Non-profit Corporation!

November 2018

The Freedom Historical Society was formed in 1965 and incorporated in 1968 and has sought to secure Freedom’s legacy. We continue this effort because of the value we all receive in preserving Freedom’s past.

**Freedom Historical Society
Mission Statement**

The purpose of the Freedom NH Historical Society is to collect, research and display objects and records relating to the town’s history for educational and cultural preservation. The Society fosters and inspires awareness and appreciation of the town’s past through the records and collections in the Allard House and Works Barn Museum, and through its cultural education programs and publications.

2017 – 2018 Board Members

President s	John Shipman- Roberta MacCarthy	
Vice President	Scott Cunningham	
Treasurer	John Shipman (acting)	
Secretary	Sylvia Carney	
<u>Directors</u>		
John Perkins	Anne Gaudette	Steve Thurston
David Trook	Anne Furtado	Carole Taylor
Roberta McCarthy	Jean Marshall	Barbara McEvoy



www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org

FHSociety28@gmail.com

[Like Us on Facebook:](#)

Mailing Address:
The Freedom Historical Society
P.O. Box 548
Freedom NH 03836

The Freedom Historical Society & Museum is located at 28 Old Portland Rd in Freedom. We are open from Memorial Day to Labor Day on Saturday & Wednesday from 10 am – 12; open year round on Wednesday only from 10 am - 12. Open other times by appointment.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends:

I must say, it’s been a very pleasing fall for the Freedom Historical society and I highlight three positives below. It’s nice when things go well☺!

First, this past summer the Board of Directors announced the new Lifetime membership level to recognize the 50 year milestone of the Society being incorporated. The goal established was five lifetime memberships by the end of 2018. It is so pleasing to announce that we have doubled our goal and now have ten inaugural lifetime members so far; and we have two more months left in the year! This level of support really shows how much Freedom cares about preserving its history.

Secondly, the last educational program this year (October 24th) was a big hit and we are very appreciative of musician and historian Jeff Warner and the NH Humanities Council for sponsoring him. It capped off a pleasant evening which started with our annual potluck dinner which was attended by 40+ members

Finally, four new members were elected to the Society’s Board the annual membership meeting that followed the above dinner (see below). The board now has 11 board members which is great! Like I said, it’s nice when things go well!

Sincerely,

John Shipman, President

FHS RECENT NEWS

- **The FHS 2019 Calendar.** The 2019 FHS calendar “Remarkable People of Freedom’s Past is selling well but there are still some left (think holiday gifts). This is an interesting and educational product and a sure ‘collectable’. The calendars are available at the FHS museum (Wednesday mornings) and at the Freedom Village Store, or by ordering them on-line from us. Thanks to Roberta MacCarthy and Anne Gaudette for pulling off this beauty☺.
- **Collections Update:** Nadine Chapman and our consultant (Cathy Stone) are making good progress in sorting out several issues with our Past Perfect collection database. Some related to past methods used and some related to how we are to do things now. The database is a wonderful tool, but requires a lot of detail and following standard procedures to make it most useful. We have also purchased the last of the archival materials under the 2017 Henney Grant and have made a new grant application to the Henney Fund for additional file and storage cabinets. Finally, we have received some appreciated income from the sale of some deaccessioned items that Roberta MacCarthy has graciously sold at her antiques booth. It all helps!
- **How to turn a quilt into stairs!**



Nadine, Nancy and Scott- Thank you!!

The recipe is:

1. Get one enthusiastic board member (preferably Nadine Chapman!) to come up with the fundraising idea of making and raffling off a quilt made up of Old Home Week T-shirts. Then turn her loose to make the project happen!
2. Get OHW T-shirts donated from Mary Hockmeyer and Peg Scully (Thanks to both!)
3. Convince one top quality Freedom quilt maker (in this case, Nancy Ferry!) that this is a worthy project on which to spend her valuable time (and boy, did she ever!)
4. Provide the opportunity to Freedom residents and guests to own a beautiful prize at only a \$5 ticket (thank you Freedom people!). Then award the winner with a beautiful quilt and priceless piece of Freedom history memorabilia.
5. Identify a board member (Scott Cunningham graciously volunteered!) to find a contractor and oversee the building of the stairs, using proceeds from the quilt raffle.
6. Take a photo of the key players on the completed project (see above) and THANK THEM VERY MUCH!!
Result: a set of stairs from the back of the Works barn to the lower shed so that volunteers and museum visitors can safely get access to the collection items and storage area in the lower part of the property, next to the river. Everyone wins☺!

- **We Need Your Help!** Have I mentioned this before ☺? We need the help of volunteers to help with any and all aspects of our museum work. No experience necessary; we will show you what to do. A couple of hours here and there will help. We usually do museum work on Wednesdays, but we can adapt to your schedule.

DID YOU KNOW?



That there were 10 neighborhood school houses in Freedom back in the day? You will be pleased to know that the Freedom Heritage Commission is in the process of putting signage at each of these locations so that you can see where these old neighborhood structures were. Its likely most children walked to their local school, but we have stories of some riding their horses to get there.

See: www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org and learn more interesting Freedom tidbits under “Explore on-line”

As we celebrate the 50 years since the Society incorporated, we felt it would be fitting to celebrate and recognize those that contributed most to our ability to have a historic house and barn museum in Freedom.

The Story of the Allard House

It was in 1828 when Luther Harmon of Effingham conveyed to Captain Zebulon Pease, also of Effingham, the deed to 1½ acres of land at this spot for \$75. (“Freedom” did not become the name of the town until 1832.) A deed of 1840 states that a blacksmith exists on the property (a few rods to the left of the granite markers along the driveway...on today’s next door neighbor’s land) and it makes sense that a house was built at the same time or before the shop. Cyrus Fowler (1818-1876) was a blacksmith and “leased” the shop and likely the house prior to owning the property. This was common practice at the time. Fowler was deeded 1/3 acre of land for \$50 in 1842 from Zebulon Pease. Then, in 1846, Fowler bought another 20 square rods of the land for \$35. Fowler was still living in the house in 1860.

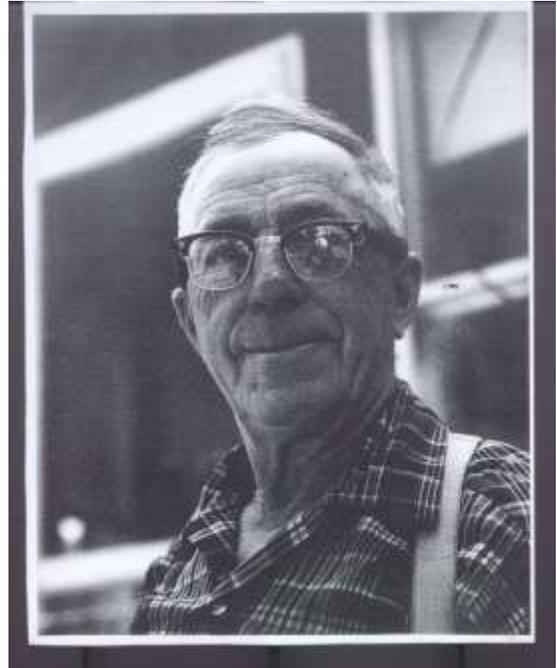
Just after the Civil War years, in 1868, the property was owned by tailor, Alonzo Pease. His shop was quartered above the E. I. Towle & Co. store that once stood on the northwest end of Old Portland Road, on the corner. A photo from 1890 (a copy hangs in the Allard House dining room) shows the building with a sign advertising Pease’s shop.



Allard House, 1890’s

The house changed hands a few times according to legal conveyance records but the most colorful part of the story comes when in 1943 George and Marguerite Allard take possession. Later in 1943, they also purchased the tannery lot behind the house next to the brook. As an aside, the Freedom Tanning Company operated for over 50 years, beginning around 1860;

foundation blocks can still be seen on the site along Cold Brook.



George Allard

George was a well-liked Freedomite who assumed various jobs about town. In 1949, “Margie” Allard opened a small restaurant on the enclosed porch of the home and continued serving light lunches and desserts until about 1970. George passed away in July 1975.



Margie Allard

Margie Allard bequeathed the property to the Freedom Historical Society in 1976. Upon her death in 1979, the Society took ownership and made it the home of the Freedom Historical Society & Museum.



Allard House, 1980. Ready for a new barn.

In 1981, the Works Barn replaced a smaller barn in the same place. In 1982, the Society’s Board wrote that: “it was generally agreed that the Allard House should be furnished as a modest, comfortable Freedom home occupied by a small family in the mid-to-late 19th century. We are not attempting to restore it as George & Margie’s personal residence, but rather a memorial to them and other Freedom people.”



Allard House, 2018

Allard House Chain of Ownership

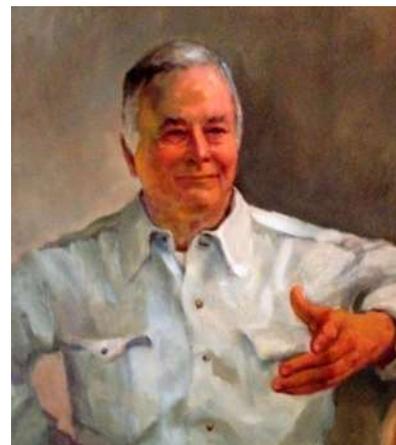
Luther Harmon	Prior to 1828
(Land only)	
Zebulon Pease	1828
(Blacksmith shop on property)	
Cyrus Fowler	Prior to 1840
(It is speculated that he built this house prior to owning the property)	
Zebulon Pease	1842
Blacksmith	
Cyrus Fowler	1860
(Cyrus depicted as living here)	
Elisha Smith Hayes	
& Rose F. Hayes	1867
Alonzo Pease	1868
Tailor	
John C. Churchill	1870

Hiram Philbrick	1917
Mildred P. Goss	1918
Harrison M. Judkins	1931
Joseph S. Mills	1931
George & Margie Allard	1943

The Works Barn Museum



Nelson Works was a passionate collector of trade tools and equipment from yesteryear. His collection required years of gathering and is now entirely displayed in the Barn. His collection practices were more regional than specifically focused on Freedom; but, the items collected are still representative of those used in Freedom. He initially own and operated the Freedom Museum Corporation and housed his collection at Elm Street in town. Glad Works was also involved in the museum, both before and after it moved to its current location.



Nelson “Skrow” Works

The Works Barn was built by Freedom volunteers under the direction of curator and collector, Nelson “Skrow” Works. When completed in 1981 it replaced a smaller, existing barn. The new barn housed the large collection in Skrow’s Freedom History Museum, which he donated in its entirety to the Society.

The Works Barn Museum holds collections of old items such as farm implements, tools, documents, books, photographs, town maps and records of events of historical interest. The Society's collection is to focus on items that were made or used in Freedom's past or are associated with a person who lived in Freedom or an event that happened in Freedom. The intent is to educate people on trades and tools used in Freedom prior to the 20th century.

It is noteworthy that the Barn is of "post and beam" construction, and held together by pegged mortise and tenon joints. Jerry Brooks was heavily involved in this project and is a source for how the work was done. Posters celebrating the barn raising are hanging in Freedom's Town Hall. A brief video tour of the museum is available at freedomhistoricalsociety.org

Memberships

Many, many thanks go to our members who have renewed for 2018 and to first-time members. We could not do this without YOU! There is still time to renew and a form is at the back of this newsletter.

Lifetime Members (Inaugural year): Bill Barrett, GW Brooks & Son, Susan & Ramon Marks, Roberta MacCarthy, John & Sylvia Manley, Barbara McEvoy, Nancy Seabury, Laura & Maynard Thomson, Catherine Watts, and Rachel Ward (gifted to her son & daughter-in-law).

Angels: Emily Phillips

Sponsors: James Holmes, Lucy Works, Laura Robinson, Linda Walls, Dann Lewis, Costantino Real Estate, William & Sally Stoops, Ramon & Susan Marks, David Meserve, Jane & Richard Nylander, Gay Mocerri, Brandon Buttrick, Lee Allison, Tim Allison, Eric & Joanne Whitehouse, George Winters, Warren & Patti Manhard, Frank & Judy Virnelli, Roberta MacCarthy, Robert Phinney, Bill & Nancy Essex; Gene Corbett, Nancy & Bill Essex; Beverly Glynn, Lucy Kendall, Jane Luke, Manley, Richard & Ellen Many; Jean Marshall; Robert Phinney, Ed Reed, John & Carolyn Woodard.

Contributors: David Cheever, Beth & Peter Earle, Il & maureen Elliott, Charles & Margaret Gibbs, Kim Reis, Robert & Ruth Smart, Charles & Terri Brooks, Fred & Beverly Trail, Larry & Nancy, Wogman, George & Ivernia Thompson, Dick & Hazel Gauley, Beth Hentz, Gale Morris, Jayne Britton, Janet Smith, James Brown, Carl Bloomquist, Deborah Shadd & William Grimm, Elizabeth Hentz, Bonnie McCue, Alice Custard, Robert & Karen Hatch; Sylvia Carney, Lee Fritz, Betty Fuller, Linda Habif, Jack Middleton, Dorothy Read, Christine Shields, John Shipman, Carolyn & William Stone, Steve & Diana Thurston, and Janice Zecher.

Families: Charlie & Pat Bojus, James Brown, Ruth Paul, Peg Scully, Larry Meserve, James & Betsy Bradt, Jane & Rick Davidson, Stacy Fortier, Dallas & Judy Fuller, Alan & Beverly

Grant, Elaine Gentile, Nettie Nason, Dianne Cahill, Sylvia Bouve, Myrtle & Don Macleod, Rachel Ward, George & Aila Clauson, Ellie Stokes, Tim Hartsfield & Jody Shellene, Alan & Roberta Davidson, Ned & Judy Kucera, Gale Johnson, Carroll & Sandra Jacobs, Pat & Frank DelGigante, Mary Staples, Art & Barbara Robinson; Rochelle & Scott Brooks; Furtado, Anne & Norman Fertado; Dick & Hazel Gauley; Ingrid & Ray Hemphill; Andrew Krotinger; Paul & Donna Tung; and Joyce Watson.

Individuals: Ray Dahlstrom, Joanna Mera-Krinsky, Sue Stamm, Ed Boyer, Judith Smith, Gail Bizer, William Thompson, Lorraine Martin, John Immediato; Arthur Birnie; Francis Blouin, Dorothy Brooks, Jane A. McKenzie; Ruth Allard Paul.

The generosity of all of you is most appreciated.

Additional Donations

There are many members and supporters who gave additional donations to the general fund or to the Archival Project fund in 2018. We are very grateful for this generosity and thank the following people for going above and beyond with donations so far this year: Jack Middleton, John Towle, Charlie & Holly Watts, Peter & Caroline Watts Collins, Nancy Seabury, Peg Scully, Jim & Betsy Bradt, Norman & Anne Furtado, Roberta MacCarthy, Laura Edmond, North Broad Bay Association, Betty Fuller, Pat Hatfield, Dick and Hazel Gauley, Carroll Jacobs, Marcia Trook, Beth Hentz, Don and Janet Johnson; Dann Lewis, John & Sylvia Manley, Jane Luke (these last two donations in memory of Tom Luke), John Perkins, Frank & Judy Virnelli, Gary & Diane Wagner, Paul Wheeler. We want to thank an anonymous donor for the donation to help us upgrade the museum's military exhibit. Thank you, all!

Volunteers!!

We would be nowhere without our wonderful volunteers who work hard and quietly on the Society's projects. Thank you to Roberta MacCarthy, Anne Gaudette, and Sylvia Carney for excellent work to create our annual fundraiser, the 2019 FHS Calendar, "Remarkable People of Freedom." And thank you to Both Roberta and Anne for their program on the same subject. Thank you to Nadine Chapman for all of her continued efforts and work as the "keeper of the collections". Thank you to our project volunteers: Judy Smith, Noel Quinton, Hillary Johnson, Elizabeth Davis, and for their work and commitment for all they do. And, thank you to the

Ogren Family and to Ed Boyer who faithfully helped with grounds maintenance summer and winter.



Jeff Warner, Olde Songs of NH, sponsored by NH Humanities Council. October 24, 2018 FHS Program, Freedom Town Hall

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When you shop at smile.amazon.com
FHS has received more than \$50 so far from
Amazon!*

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/02-6013998>

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Local Businesses Support your Historical Society

We thank our local businesses that have made a significant contribution to our operating costs in 2017 by advertising their businesses in our fund-raising calendar. We encourage you to do business with them. If you would like to be, or know someone who would like to be a sponsor, please call 539-5799. It helps everyone to “shop local”!

Beth Day Massage Therapy

Camp Calumet

Constantino Real Estate, Gerard Constantino

Cooper Cargill Chant, Deborah A. Fauver, Esq.

Deb’s Custom Upholstery

Exit Realty, Grace Brooks

Freedom House Antiques

Freedom Village Store

G W Brooks & Son, General Contractors

Gary Wallace Auctioneers, Inc.

Green Mountain Furniture

Hatfield’s Bed & Breakfast

Jakes Seafood

James C Farinella Building & Remodeling LLC

Freedom Gallery, Barbara McEvoy, artist

Minuteman Press

McConkey & Associates

Re/Max Presidential Realty, Paul Wheeler

Sentinel Financial, Paul Olzerowicz CPA, CFP, ChFC

Watercolor & Pastel Artist, Terri Brooks, artist

Thrivent Financial, Sarah Groleau

Waddell & Reed, Margie Amico, Financial Advisor

Ward’s Boat Shop

White Mountain Survey & Engineering

Help us save money! Send us your email. Ours is FHSociety28@gmail.com

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP AND DONATIONS

"Preserving Freedom's Past for Future Generations"

Membership Level: Lifetime \$500 (NEW!)

Sponsoring \$100 Contributing \$50 Family \$25 Individual \$10

Yes I'd like to make an additional donation to boost progress:

Additional Donation: \$_____ Please specify, if you wish:

General Use Museum renovation Computer & Internet

Electric & Propane Preservation Supplies Programs

Memorial in honor of: _____

Your Name _____

Mailing Address _____

_____ Zip Code _____

Winter Address: (if applicable) _____

_____ Zip Code _____

E-mail Address _____

Yes, I'd like to know more about helping with a small project.

Yes, You may publish my name as a member.

Please submit with your check, payable to **Freedom Historical Society, and mail to Box 548, Freedom, NH 03836.**

Thank you! Remember, your membership & donations are tax deductible.



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