

Genealogical Society of Vermont

Newsletter

Volume 30, Issue 3, Whole No. 119

www.genealogyvermont.org

Winter 2023/2024

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Note: we now have a single mailing address.

Genealogical Society of Vermont

57 East Shore North Grand Isle, VT 05458

DONATIONS

Brenda Lewis of Johnson City, Tennessee

> Bruce Phalen of Lewes, Delaware

Carleton J. Howard of Boulder, Colorado

Deborah Barber of Woodside, New York

President's Message

he Genealogical Society of Vermont held our Fall Membership Meeting on October 28, 2023, at the Andover Town Hall. The meeting was a success and it was certainly nice to see those who attended. Thank you to the speakers: Avis Conley Hayden, who presented "Lucy Terry Prince & Family: One of Vermont's Earliest Black Families" and Mariessa Dobrick, who presented, "Documenting the 1914 Simonsville Murders in the State Archives." Both gave excellent presentations. I would be remiss without a special thank you to my mother, Elizabeth W. Stevens, who provided the majority of the catering.

The GSV Board is currently making plans for our Spring Membership Meeting, with the tentative date in May of 2024, and the location in the Southwestern Vermont. Look in the next Newsletter and on our website **www.genealogyvermont.org** as we get closer to the meeting for details on speakers and exact location, etc.

Recently there have been several changes on the GSV Board, that the membership should be aware of. As previously noted in my past President's Messages, Alice Blakey Marsh resigned as GSV Secretary in May of 2023. After a lengthy search for an interim Secretary the GSV Board has appointed Judy Goss, longtime GSV member and former NERGC Tri-Chair, to fill the position. Judy will be a great asset to the GSV Board and we all welcome her.

Bob Murphy, has retired from the GSV Board position of Past President. I speak for the entire GSV membership, when we say, thank you for everything that you have done for the society over the years. You are greatly appreciated and we will certainly miss your input and wise counsel. Bob has also retired from indexing future issues of *Vermont Genealogy*. An expert in the fine art of indexing, he provided the indexes for many issues of the journal and was the driving force behind the indexing project of *Branches and Twigs*, which was published in 2000. Personally I always enjoyed working with Bob, and we are all indebted to him for his years of service.

After serving on the GSV Board since 2006, Jane Belcher has retired as Treasurer. We thank Jane for over seventeen years of dedicated service and the professionalism that she brought to the position. We all wish her the very best in her retirement. The rest of the Board has appointed membership chair Diantha Howard to the position. As a result of the merger of the positions, GSV will now only has one mailing address: **57 East Shore North, Grand Isle, VT 05458**. This means that all memberships dues, meeting registrations, publication orders will be mailed to only one address.

GSV is looking for a new webmaster. Diantha has done an excellent job over the years, but with the increased responsibilities of being GSV Treasurer, she finds herself overextended and would like to step down from the position. If there is anyone, who would like to become the new GSV Webmaster, or at least help with our website, please contact Diantha for the particulars.

GSV is also looking for someone to fill the Board position of Publicity Chair. The position had been dormant for over a decade, and the Board thinks it might be a good time reactivate it. This consists of getting the word out about GSV Membership meetings, etc. If you feel that you might be interested, please send me an email at <u>stevens@vermontel.net</u>.

Just a reminder. Members now have the opportunity to receive both the GSV Newsletter and Vermont Genealogy digitally. Digital memberships help us save money with ever rising printing

(President's Message, Continued on Page 4)

New Civil War Records: National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938 on Fold3

Fold3 is pleased to announce the addition of records for soldiers who resided in **National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938**. This collection contains records for twelve National Homes where disabled soldiers and sailors could live following the Civil War.

During the Civil War, many benevolent and philanthropical groups ran soldiers' homes where disabled soldiers could live and receive care on a short-term basis. In 1865, Congress approved the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. Later, the name was changed to the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

The National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers was instituted following the Civil War. The purpose of these homes was to provide a place for disabled American soldiers and sailors to live. Admission to a home was voluntary and soldiers could request which home they wanted to live in. Since admission was voluntary, soldiers could also choose when they wanted to leave, both temporarily and permanently.

This database contains records from twelve National Homes. The majority of the records consist of historical registers, but other records included in this database are indexes to the historical registers, applications, admissions, deaths, burials, and hospital records.

The following is a list of the names of the twelve National Homes covered in this database as well as which records and years there are included for each:

- Bath Branch, Bath, New York Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1876-1934; Register of Deaths and Index to Register of Deaths, 1879-1929
- Battle Mountain Sanitarium, Hot Springs, South Dakota Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1907-1934
- Central Branch, Dayton, Ohio Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1867-1935
- **Danville Branch, Danville, Illinois** Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1898-1934
- Eastern Branch, Togus, Maine Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1866-1934; Hospital Index, A-Z; Burials Records, 1892-1932; Death Records, 1893-1899
- Marion Branch, Marion, Indiana Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1890-1931
- Mountain Branch, Johnson City, Tennessee Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1903-1932
- Northwestern Branch, Milwaukee, Wisconsin Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1867-1934
- Pacific Branch, Los Angeles, California Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1888-1933
- Roseburg Branch, Roseburg, Oregon Applicants, 1894-1918; Admissions 1908-1932; Deaths, 1894-1937

- Southern Branch, Hampton, Virginia Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1871-1933
- Western Branch, Leavenworth, Kansas Historical Registers and Indexes to Historical Registers, 1885-1934

About the Records:

The Historical Registers generally consist of four sections – Military History, Domestic History, Home History, and General Remarks. Some of the information recorded in these sections includes:

- Name of soldier
- Name of home or branch
- Date of admission
- Birthplace
- Rank
- Company and regiment
- Date and place of enlistment
- Date and place of discharge
- Physical description (height, complexion, eye and hair color)
- Occupation
- Marital status
- Religion

Names and a few other pieces of information have been keyed only from the historical registers. Therefore, these are the only records that are searchable using the search template above. Images of all of the records (historical registers, indexes to the historical registers, applications, admissions, deaths, burials, and hospital records) can be viewed by using the browse table below.

To learn more about National Homes, read the article Genealogy Notes: The National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers by Trevor K. Plante, published in Prologue: Quarterly of the National Archives and Records Administration, Spring 2004, Vol. 36, No. 1 (available online at: <u>https://</u> www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2004/spring/ soldiers-home.html.

https://www.fold3.com/publication/1427/us-national-homes -for-disabled-volunteer-soldiers-1866-1938.

The publication no Vermont genealogy collection or library should be without.

A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy, 2nd edition

by John A. Leppman, softbound. Item No. GSV 11.

Special Sale Price \$5

Shipping and handling is \$3.50 for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy in the same order.

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What to Expect from FamilySearch in 2024

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH—FamilySearch International is giving a sneak peek at some of its 2024 plans. Of course, every year brings more free genealogy records to explore and new and improved experiences to help you make more fun family discoveries. Here is a glimpse of some of the things coming at FamilySearch in 2024.

Genealogy Records

FamilySearch will continue to work with record custodians and other organizations around the world to digitize millions more historical records, to preserve them and make them more widely available.

Record digitization efforts will include more than 75 countries in 2024 from every habitable continent and island group—Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America, and Oceania. Peru and Portugal collections should see significant new additions.

In addition, we are always happy to make specialized and high-interest record sets more available. Last year FamilySearch worked in collaboration with Ancestry and the Library and Archives Canada to make the 1931 Canada census freely available to search. FamilySearch.org will add the full 1921 Canada census this year and continue to work on gathering oral genealogies from Africa and other unique record sets and making them available to search.

Speaking of oral genealogies, an updated search experience will be released that will allow you to easily explore the oral genealogies that have already been collected by FamilySearch in over 15 countries in Africa. Users will be able to search by tribe, village, and/or surname and get instant access to the photos, audio recordings, and lineages that were captured during the interviews.

Advances to Computer-Assisted Indexing

In 2024, FamilySearch will continue to improve its computer -assisted indexing algorithms to recognize and index historical genealogical records in Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and English. Our handwriting recognition technology, coupled with the help of online volunteers, is making millions of record images text-searchable faster, vastly improving your ability to discover your ancestors worldwide.

Full-text Search

On a related note, FamilySearch has been leveraging its state -of-the-art, AI-powered handwriting recognition technology to also improve its record search experience. We try to index the most important details of a record to help you find your ancestors. In 2024, we are working to make your search even more powerful by adding full-text search capability to select record sets.

New Volunteer Experiences

New volunteer experiences through FamilySearch's Get Involved initiatives will allow volunteers to more easily assist with reviewing computer-assisted indexes.

Previous enhancements have allowed volunteers to help quickly review indexed names on their mobile phones and work on record sets of personal relevance or interest. The 2024 Get Involved updates will include options that allow patrons to help review all fields in a record, in ways that are easier and more mobile-friendly. (See how your volunteer efforts from past years have helped others here!)

More Digital Books

FamilySearch will add more contributing organizations in 2024 that will continue to expand the number of digital publications added to its free Digital Library. These full-text searchable publications include genealogy books, family histories, local histories, maps, yearbooks, and more.

Better Sharing Capability for Family Groups

The FamilySearch Family Tree, is a free, highly collaborative tree, where any relatives—including cousins, parents, grandparents, and so on, can work together to document their ancestry. To protect privacy, the Family Tree limits visibility of information entered for living relatives.

This year, new updates to family groups on FamilySearch will allow users to share information about living relatives within a group so that family members do not have to reenter information about shared living relatives. More details will come, but photo-sharing and collaboratively recording family memories and details about living family members will be much easier with this new update.

Be a Part of the Future of FamilySearch by Testing New Updates

FamilySearch is eager to hear from its users about its site and get feedback on what is working well and how we can improve your experience. In 2024, we plan to offer interested users the opportunity to help test select experiences as they are being developed. Keep an eye out on the FamilySearch blog for more information.

FamilySearch.org Press Release



(President's Message, continued from page 1)

and postage costs. If you have "gone digital" and want to dispose of your paper copies of the journal; we accept copies in clean saleable condition to add to sale inventory. There are several issues that are now out of stock, and it is always helpful to fill in those voids when we have requests for those particular issues. If interested, please send me an email.

Please make sure that we have your most current email address, so you don't miss any of our correspondence. Also please send any changes in your postal mailing address, so you don't miss any publications to GSV Treasurer Diantha Howard at: *diantha.howard@uvm.edu*.

The date and location for the 18th New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC) 2025: New Englanders Here, There, and Everywhere has now been set. The conference will be held on October 29 through November 1, 2025 and we will be returning to Manchester, N.H. Note this will be a departure from NERGC's traditional spring date. The current plan is that the 2027 conference may return to the spring schedule. Be sure to look for updates on the conference in the GSV Newsletter, on the GSV website <u>www.genealogyvermont.org</u> and on the NERGC website <u>www.nergc.org</u> as we get closer to the date of the conference.

GSV is compiling a list of volunteers that are willing to provide help to people who may need some assistance in their Vermont research. Do you consider yourself an expert in a particular locality or larger geographical area in Vermont and would like to provide research assistance? You can have your name and contact information added to the list. Please note that this is not solicitation for personal research services, but volunteers wishing to share there Vermont based knowledge with the larger genealogical community. If interested in being added to the list please send you name, contact information, and your particular area of expertise (i.e., town or county, etc.).

Everyone should have received the Spring 2022 issue [27: 1] of *Vermont Genealogy*, this past fall. The Fall 2022 issue [27: 2], will be a special issue, a Vermont research guide by Drew Bartley, who is also hard at work on the Spring 2023 issue [28: 1]. We hope to be caught up and back on schedule and thank you for your patience.

A couple of days after Christmas I received the results of AncestryDNA test. I had long been on the fence about doing it, but decided ultimately to take the plunge. It confirmed the paper trail, and helped support it in several cases, and the ethnicity mix was not a surprise. The DNA matches have also helped to flesh-out several lines down to present day, which is certainly encouraging to any genealogist.

Finally thank you to everyone who supported GSV through your memberships, purchases and donations. Let's make 2024 a success in all of our Vermont research endeavors.

Jonathan W. Stevens, President

New Members

Scott Magoon 871 N. Hiwassee Rd Choctaw, OK 73020 email: <u>okgenealogist@gmail.com</u>

Octavia Ashby 7779 Poplar Pike Germantown, TN 38138

Deborah Barber 44-03 48th Avenue #216 Woodside, NY 11377 email: <u>deborah@newtowngenealogy.com</u> researching: Barber, Benson, Cutler

> Genealogical Society of Vermont Fall Membership Meeting October 28, 2023 Andover, Vt. Town Hall

Avis Conley Hayden: "Lucy Terry Prince & Family: One of Vermont's Earliest Black Families"



Mariessa Dobrick: "Documenting the 1914 Simonsville Murders in the State Archives"



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Registration is officially open for the annual genealogy conference of the Ohio Genealogical Society. This year's slogan is "Rockin Around Your Family Tree" with a very strong 1950's theme. The conference runs from Wednesday April 10th to Saturday April 13th at the Kalahari Hotel & Resorts in Sandusky, Ohio. Full early registration by February 23, 2024 is \$225.00 for non-members Full regular registration by March 29, 2024 is \$265 for non-members. DNA topics include finding a female ancestor, using ethnicity results in your research, adoptee success using DNA and organizing a DNA interest group in your society. Military topics include military unit histories, the Selective Service System and military maps. You can avail yourself of a variety of sessions on ethnic groups (British, Scottish, German, Dutch) as well researching your French and Indian War ancestor, and your

Hessian Revolutionary War soldiers. Sessions will cover forensic genealogy, researching like a 1950s genealogist, the Greatest Generation, identifying photos and telling your own story. Full information is on the web at <u>https://www.ogs.org/2024-conference/</u>. If you wish to stay at Kalarai Resort you will need to book a reservation separately from conference registration. Your hotel reservation will include admission to the "world's coolest indoor waterparks:" 173,000 square feet of wet wild fun! Room rate is \$150.00 plus tax in the OGS room block. The last day to book reservations in the OGS room block is March 9, 2024.

FamilySearch Announces Historic Release of the 1931 Census of Canada

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, 16 January 2024—FamilySearch, the world's largest genealogical organization, and Libraries Archive Canada (LAC), are happy to announce the completion of the free, fully searchable index and images of the 1931 Census of Canada. This significant achievement is a remarkable resource for genealogists, historians, and anyone interested in uncovering their Canadian roots. Search the census now at **FamilySearch.org**.

The digital images of the 1931 Census of Canada, the 7th census for Canada, were made available by the Libraries and Archives Canada in June of 2023. Ancestry®, and nonprofit FamilySearch, then went to work extracting information written on each enumerated page to create a name-searchable index of over 10 million people waiting to be discovered from its 234,678 pages.

Key Highlights of the 1931 Census of Canada Release

• Full Accessibility: Each enumerated page of the historic 1931 Census of Canada has been digitized and made available online, ensuring that researchers worldwide can access this invaluable resource from the comfort of their homes.

• Fully Searchable Name Index: With the introduction of a fully searchable name index, individuals can now easily locate their ancestors and discover unique insights about their lives. Whether you're seeking birthplaces, occupations, or household members, FamilySearch's robust search functionality yields a high probability you will discover your Canadian ancestors if they are in the census.

• **High-Quality Images:** The release includes high-quality images of the original census records, preserving the historical integrity of the documents while enabling users to view them in remarkable detail.

• **Collaborative Effort:** This project was made possible through the collaborative efforts of FamilySearch and Ancestry.com, which transcribed and indexed the records, and the Library and Archives Canada, which generously provided access to the census materials.

FamilySearch invites anyone with Canadian roots to explore the 1931 Census of Canada and embark on a journey through time to uncover their family's stories. This release aligns with our commitment to help preserve and provide access to the world's genealogical records, making family history discoveries more possible for all.

To access the 1931 Census of Canada and begin your journey of discovery, please visit **FamilySearch.org**.

POSTING NOTICE.

Whereas, my wife, Florence Massey, has left my bed and board without just or sufficient cause, I hereby warn all persons harboring or trusting her on my account, that I shall pay no bills of her contracting after this date.

Clifford V Massey, Plymouth, Vt., July 12, 1920

POSTING NOTICE.

Whereas my wife, Angeline Melinda Austin, has left my bed and board without just or sufficient cause, I hereby warn all persons harboring. or trusting her on my account, that I shall pay no bills of her contracting after this date.

Lewis Austin. Shrewsbury Vt., July 15, 1920.

> The Vermont Tribune (Ludlow, Vt.), issue 15 July 1920, p. 8.



GSV PUBLICATIONS

The society offers the following publications for purchase by our members and readers. GSV members receive a 10% discount on the purchase price. Postage and handling is extra—please add \$5.50 for the first item (*except where noted*) and \$1.00 for each additional item in the same order to the same address. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

Genealogical Society of Vermont, 57 East Shore North, Grand Isle, VT 05458

Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 1 is out of print.

Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 2. Scott A. Bartley, ed., 1997, 304 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 5; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 non-members. This second volume covers 107 families, has improved formatting and more complete information on the third generation of early Vermonters.

Vital Records of Putney, Vermont to the Year 1900. Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens, 1992, 406 pp. Item No. GSV 2; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 non-members. This is a complete compilation from all primary sources available in the town. This is augmented by the ministerial records of the pastors who served as early as 1776.

(Continued on page 7)

Item Number M 001	Description Digital Membership: New or Renewal \$25	Quantity X	Price = Subtotal		
M 002	M 002 Print Membership: Please Refer to Last Page for Price				
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D 001	Donation				
			*There is no tax on GSV material.		
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WANT TO CONTACT US?

Our website is at http://www.genealogyvermont.org/

News, articles and comments for the newsletter should be mailed to:

Genealogical Society of Vermont 57 East Shore North Grand Isle, VT 05458

stevens@vermontel.net

Newsletter deadlines are: April 15 — Spring issue July 15 — Summer issue Oct. 15 — Fall issue Dec. 15 — Winter issue

Vermont Genealogy, the GSV Journal contact information: Scott Andrew Bartley drew@yourgenealogist.com

Send copies of relevant books for journal review to: John A. Leppman Book Review Editor 20 Thwing Lane Bellows Falls, VT 05101-1640

Moving? Let Us Know

Please inform GSV if you move. Send notices to: Diantha Howard 57 East Shore North Grand Isle, VT 05458

ADVERTISING POLICY

The GSV Newsletter accepts paid advertising at \$3.00 per column inch. It must relate to genealogy, preferably Vermont, and must be received before the deadline listed above. Checks made out to GSV are sent to 2962 Vermont Route 12A, Braintree, VT 05060-8779 along with the *exact* wording for the ad. *GSV* offers no warranty on the services of advertisers.

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Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont and the Records of the First Church of Rockingham. Reprinted from the 1902 and 1908 first editions, newly indexed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley, 323 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 3; **Sale Price \$20**. Reprinted from the first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source of one of Vermont's oldest towns. The town records extend to 1845 and church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this edition is an index of nearly 1,000 names.

Georgia, Vermont Vital Records. Peter S. Mallet, ed., 1995, hardbound. Item No. GSV 4; **Sale Price \$15**. This volume presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the town. All the civil books were transcribed as well as the records from the Georgia Plains Baptist Church, Congregational Church, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax.

Windsor County, Vermont Probate Index, 1778-1899. Scott Andrew Bartley and Marjorie-J. Bartley, compilers, 2000, 560 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 6; \$45.00 members, \$50.00 non-members. This is a comprehensive index of all files in the Windsor County Probate Court Districts —Windsor and Hartford. The records cover the period from the earliest 1778 records through the end of the nineteenth century, more than 20,000 probate files. The files are indexed by the name of the major party in the case, place of residence, probate district, type of record, year, and probate record volume .

Index to Branches & Twigs, 1972—1995. Robert M. Murphy, ed. 2000, 572 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 7; \$58.50 members, \$65.00 non-members. (Mail orders should add \$7.50 for postage and handling, not the \$5.50 normally charged.) This is the every-name index to GSV's Branches & Twigs, published for 24 years in 96 issues. The 180,000 entries include every genealogically important name mentioned in every issue. Separate sections of this work list the coverage of each Apple Orchard installment, and provide a full author and title index to book reviews. Branches & Twigs include large quantities of information of interest to family historians.

Sudbury, Vermont: Genealogies, Vital Records, and Census Records. Mary Ann Z. Wheeler, 2000, 416 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 8; **Sale Price \$20**. This book is a comprehensive transcription of census and vital records for Sudbury, plus carefully compiled genealogies of families. This book is among the very best genealogical resources about a Vermont town. This is a cooperative publication between GSV and Picton Press.

A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy, 2nd edition. John A. Leppman, 2005, softbound. Item No. GSV 11; **Sale Price \$5**. (Mail orders should add \$3.50 for postage and handling, not the \$5.50 normally charged.) This is a new edition of A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy was released in April 2005. It includes more listings than the first edition, most published since 2000. It is keyed to Scott Andrew Bartley's Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories (Vol. 10, No. 1 of Vermont Genealogy, also designated GSV publication number 10.).

Index to the History and Map of Danby, Vermont, Compiled by Joann H. Nichols. (1998), softbound, Item No. D1; \$3.50, plus \$3.50 shipping for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy. An index to J[*ohn*] C. Williams, History and Map of Danby, Vermont (Rutland, Vt., 1869; reprinted S.L. Griffith Library, 1976). Limited Number Available.

Vermont Genealogy Back Issues:

Issues 1: 1-13: 4, are available for \$5.00 each, except special issues 10: 1 and 11: 1 & 2, which are available for \$10.00 each. Issues 14: 1 & 2, 14 : 3 & 4, 15: 1 - 27: 1, are available for \$10.00 each. There is a mailing fee of \$3.50 (\$5.50 to Canadian addresses). For multiple issue orders, please add \$1 for each additional 1 to 5 issues. Note: issues 1: 4, 3: 3, 3: 4 and 4: 4 are out of print.

Genealogical Society of Vermont 57 East Shore North Grand Isle, VT 05458

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Dues Notice!

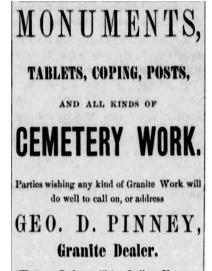
Please look at your address label for your membership expiration date. Your membership expires on the date shown on the top line of the address label.

Dues are \$30.00 for US addresses. Canada and Mexico are \$40.00 All other foreign addresses are \$55.00 in US funds.

Membership includes our journal *Vermont Genealogy* and four issues of our newsletter. These publications will keep you abreast of genealogical news and present current articles on genealogical source material, conferences and meetings, techniques and queries. If you would like to receive a membership card, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your dues.

Send membership dues and applications to:

Genealogical Society of Vermont 57 East Shore North Grand Isle, VT 05458



(Works at Grahamsville). Ludlow, Vermont.

The Vermont Tribune (Ludlow, Vt.), issue 21 Dec. 1883, p. 4.