"Cemetery Seen as One of Worst in the State"

The above headline made the front page of the Rutland Herald, Rutland Region, Section C, Tuesday September 9, 1997. This was a follow up to the front page article that appeared on September 8, 1997 titled "Man is Hoping to Salvage Graveyard" both by Sandi Switzer.

A report at the Castleton Historical Society, done in the 1950s notes 50-60 burials in the Hydeville Cemetery. Hydeville is a section of Castleton on Route 4a. It was a very busy area in the last century with mills and a number of slate and marble companies. Records indicate the cemetery was in use from about 1830 to 1885.

Back in 1957 Mrs. Marvel Swan of Rutland copied the cemetery for the DAR. She was able to find only one stone: Eliza Ann Bliss, died July 24, 1861 age 42 years, and the marble mausoleum. She described it thus: "On a hill, near the middle of the plot, is a white marble mausoleum, the only evident marker. By cutting a path with a sickle, it was possible to reach the mausoleum 'Samuel Whitlock and Family'. No headstones could be found in the surrounding dense undergrowth. The structure is square and built of white marble, with a small opening in front and toward the top. This chamber is set high on what appears to be another marble chamber with broken slate doors. The inside of the lower chamber is lined with slate and plastered. The lower chamber is now open and empty except for some fallen stones, and the whole structure may fall before too many more years."

I visited the cemetery in August 1988 and found the same conditions. One of the employees of Brown's Auto Salvage helped me locate seven stones, and the mausoleum, but not the Bliss stone. He thought there were more stones.

Mr. Howard Cain, of Mattituck, NY, wanted to visit the cemetery on a Sunday. He unable to gain access due to a "No Trespassing" sign. He became hurt, betrayed, insulted for his ancestors and began a campaign to right the situation. He has written letters to all who might help including Gov. Howard Dean, Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., Rutland County State's Attorney James Mongeon and your editor.

A meeting at the cemetery was set for Sept. 2, postponed until Sept. 8, 1997. Fred Kenney, an aid to Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., wrestled dense foliage and climbed over fallen trees to view what is left of the four-acre yard. He was accompanied by Mark Brown, owner of the Brown's Auto Salvage, Sandi Switzer, Herald Correspondent, and Albert Pulling, past president of VOCA. A Pulling helped clear the dense brush off the few markers that were located and noted: "Vermont law mandates that all cemeteries be maintained."

Mark Brown said anyone is welcome to visit the cemetery during working hours. He said he understands the number of burials in the cemetery of more likely about thirty.

Fred Kenney said: "The Responsibility falls on the Select Board to make a decision on what to do and then find the money to do it." Howard Cain is determined the cemetery will be cleaned up.

Volunteers are gathering to start the brush removal and to locate the lost stones. It is hoped a Scout working for his Eagle Badge will take this on as his project.

Peggy Jenks

Town Clerk of the Year Award

Grace Simonds, GSV vice-president, presented the "Town Clerk of the Year Award" to Clifford J. Huester, Town Clerk of Bridport, Addison County, VT at the annual Vermont Town Clerk and Treasurers Association meeting held at Mt. Ascutney Ski Resort on Sept. 15, 1997.
Kendall Hoadley of South Woodstock and Lester Miller. They also have photographs and Pictures of old Woodstock and also some postcards.

Many oral histories of Woodstock people done in 1979 are in the collection.

There are Vertical Files on Woodstock and Woodstock people and Vermont and Vermont people (mostly local.)

Some local cemetery records are held by the library.

Interlibrary loan is available for most of their books, but there are some non-circulating books as well.

Photocopying service is available at $0.15 a page.

Norman Williams Public Library is located at 10 South Park Street, Woodstock, Vermont 05091 (802) 457-2295

The library is open to the public.

Winter hours: Monday-Friday 10 am - 5 pm; Tuesday & Wednesday 7 pm - 9 pm; & Saturday 10 am - 4 pm

Summer hours: Monday-Friday 9 am - 4 pm; Tuesday & Wednesday 7 pm - 9 pm; & Saturday 9 am - 3 pm

copied from: http://www.uvm.edu/~histpres/vtiana/nwilliams.html

CONTRIBUTIONS

There have been no contributions to the Permanent Fund or the Computer Fund.

The Computer Fund represents the Society's support of the LDS Family Search research station located at the Vermont Historical Society in Montpelier. This is just a friendly reminder that donations to the Computer Fund are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Please send your donations to GSV, P.O. Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006. Please mark your check, "Computer Fund."

Janet Induni, Treasurer

REPLACEMENT COPIES

Please notify the Society in advance of any address changes (including summer and winter addresses). Your copies of Vermont Genealogy and The GSV Newsletter are forwarded to you by the Post Office with additional charges to the Society if you have filed a forwarding notice with the Post Office.

We will send you replacement copies of Vermont Genealogy by first class mail for a small replacement fee of $3.25 for each issue. Replacement copies of The GSV Newsletter will be forwarded at no charge.

Thank you for letting us know of any address changes in advance. This helps keep costs down.

Janet Induni, Treasurer

B & T Back Issues


VG Back Issues

Each issue is $5 (including postage). Currently available: Volume 1:1-4

Your checks should be payable to GSV and sent to: GSV Back Issues, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478

PUBLICATION OF VERMONT RECORDS

The Genealogical Society of Vermont is interested in encouraging the publication or filming of unpublished Vermont town records. If you are considering such a project, contact: John A. Leppman, 29 Oak Hill Terrace, Bellows Falls, VT 05101

VOCA ADDRESS

The last GSV Newsletter contained an incorrect web-site address for VOCA. Please visit VOCA's web page at: http://homepages.together.net/~btrutor/voca/vocahome.htm

The Vermont Old Cemetery Association is a nonprofit organization founded in 1958 to "encourage the restoration and preservation on neglected and abandoned cemeteries in the State of Vermont..." Membership is open to all. Meetings are held twice yearly on the first Saturday in May and October. VOCA News is published by the editor four times a year to coincide with the seasons. Dues are $5.00 a year, $20.00 for five years, mailed to the treasurer Richard A. Jacobson, 7 Harbor Ridge Road, So. Burlington, VT 05403.

GSV Newsletter, November 1997

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VERMONT WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING REINSTATED AND NEW MEMBERS:

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A REMINDER
Please look at your address label. Your membership expires on the date shown on the label. Send your check in US funds to:
Genealogical Society of Vermont,
PO Box 1553
Saint Albans, VT 05478-1006
Dues are $20 for US addresses
Canadian & Mexico $25, foreign $30

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Membership Directory
A Membership Directory is set for early in 1998. It will include lists of Vermont families GSV members are researching.

FAMILY REUNIONS
Announcements of family reunions must be received by the editor no later than March 15 each year to be included in the May Newsletter. Be sure to include date, place, name & address of contact person.

PAID ADVERTISING
The Newsletter is now accepting paid advertising at the rate of $3.00 per column inch. All advertising must relate to genealogy, preferably Vermont genealogy and must be received before the deadline of the issue the ad is to appear in. Checks must be made out to GSV but sent to the Newsletter editor along with the exact wording for the ad. GSV offers no warranty on the services of the advertisers.

ROOTED IN THE GREEN MOUNTAINS
A quarterly newsletter dedicated to genealogical and historical research in & around Rutland County, VT. $8.00 annually, 2 free queries. Send a check or money order to:
ROOTED IN THE GREEN MOUNTAINS
PO Box 81, Fair Haven, VT 05743
Vermont Families in 1791, Volume 1
Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This award-winning first volume of a projected long series has already stimulated research and guided many people to sources useful to establish their own ancestry. Special Publication No. 1, 1992. xxvii + 281 pp.

Volume 2
Edited by Scott A. Bartley

See the enclosed flyer for full information and pre-publication prices for Volume 2.

Vermont Families in 1791: Change of Address

When submitting information for the 1791 project please write to Scott Andrew Bartley, Editor at 258 Shrewsbury Ave. #4, Boston, MA 02118-2143

See the July 1996 Newsletter for detailed instructions on how to submit data.

Vital Records of Putney, Vermont to the Year 1900
Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens

This is not just a verbatim listing of such events, but a complete, concise and accurate compilation from all primary sources available in the town. This material is augmented by the ministerial records of the pastors who served from as early as 1776. Special Publication No. 2, 1992. x + 406 pp.

Georgia, Vermont Vital Records
Edited by Peter S. Mallett

The first of its kind for northern Vermont, 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, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax. GSV Special Publication No. 4, 1995.

Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont and the Records of the First Church of Rockingham

Reprinted from the rare first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source for one of Vermont's oldest towns, chartered in 1752. The town records extend to 1845, church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this publication is an indispensable index of nearly 10,000 names, constructed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley. GSV Special Publication No. 3, 1994. 323 pp.

Each of these five books is $30.00. Please add $3.50 for postage for the first book, $1.00 for each additional book in the same order to the same address. Please add the Vermont Sales Tax of 5% ($1.50/book) for books mailed to a Vermont address. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

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