THE ARCHIVES OF THE EPISCOPAL DIocese OF VERMONT

The Diocesan Archives house the official records of the Diocese as well as those of closed Congregations and the official acts of the Bishops.

The Diocesan records include a complete set of Convention Journals from 1790 to the present. These Journals, especially the earliest ones which include anecdotal as well as statistical records of the Congregation, contain valuable information for anyone researching the history of either the congregation or the community. While the official acts of the Bishops are recorded in the Convention Journals, there is a separate record of Confirmation records, 1854 to the present.

Since by Canon, the records of all closed congregations are to be deposited, the Archives have the records for the closed Congregations in the following places: Bakersfield, Cambridge, East Berkshire, East Fairfield, East Georgia (both Immanuel and Christ Emmanuel Mission), Enosburg Center, Fairfax (Buck Hollow), Fairfield, Guilford, Jeffersonville, Milton, Montgomery, North Troy, Pawlet (as recorded in the records of St. Paul's Mission, Wells and Trinity Church, Granville, NY), Perkinsville, Tinmouth, Weathersfield and West Rutland. In addition, the Archives also have the record book of The Rev. Stephen Beach who was an early missionary in the Franklin County communities of St. Albans, East Berkshire, Fairfield and Sheldon.

The Archives are open by written request to anyone involved in researching the history of the town in which the congregation was located or the congregation in that town and for genealogical research. It is expected that the genealogical research is for personal use only and not intended for publication unless prior written permission has been obtained from either the Historiographer or the Bishop of the Diocese whose decisions regarding Archive policies are final.

Future plans include the publication of the Beach Record book, the records of St. Stephen's Church Tinmouth and the records of two of the Franklin Country Congregations for which we receive the most requests for information. They are Christ Church, Enosburg and Immanuel Church, East Georgia.

Additional information about the holdings of the Archives or sources for the history of the Anglican/Episcopal Church in Vermont from 1767 to the present can be obtained from Elizabeth E. Allison, Historiographer, 5 Rock Point Road, Burlington, VT 05401. (802) 863-3431 or email: callison@dioceseofvermont.org.

REPORT ON SAWYER CEMETERY WORKSHOP

On Saturday, July 22, 2000, about 25 people gathered at the Sawyer Cemetery for the workshop conducted by Charlie Marchant of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association. The ones traveling the farthest to help were two people from Virginia, one of whom is descended from Samuel Barker buried in the Sawyer Cemetery. We do not know of anyone else who can trace their ancestry back to a burial in the cemetery.

Charlie showed us about probing the ground to locate buried stones, digging around the stone, leaving enough space to avoid damaging the stone. We were also shown how to clean the stone and then how to glue them back together.

As was written in the last issue of the THGS Newsletter, the boundaries for the cemetery were much bigger than the present fenced in area. We do not know if there might be any gravestones in the unfenced part. We do know that over the years the area has been used for cattle grazing, which caused many broken stones. It appears that the placement of many of the stones are different than their original positions.

We have not been able to find a real early listing of the stones at the cemetery. However, in 1919 towns listed their cemeteries and those cards are interfiled with the vital records available at the Vital Records Office in Middlesex, VT. Tinmouth seems to have kept their copy of the cards and when the town records were filmed by the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, the town's cards were also filmed. At the time Sawyer Cemetery was listed, E. C. Taylor was the town clerk. The cards seem to have been prepared by an Etta Hart. There are 60 burials listed on these cards.

In 1959 the cemetery was transcribed by three women of the Ann Story Chapter, DAR, Rutland, VT. At that time they found fifty burials. It is interesting that five of these burials were not listed back in 1919. The introduction to this DAR listing is as follows: "This Cemetery is located nearly at the end of a private road west of the Tinmouth Village Church on the right hand side of the road. The cemetery is in a disgraceful state of neglect. It is not fenced in and cattle from the neighboring farm are allowed to wander..."
through at will. All of the stones except four or five, are down, broken and scattered throughout the plot, which at some time must have been a sizable cemetery, perhaps the first in the village. Some of the town fathers are buried here as well as several Revolutionary War Soldiers."

Margaret Jenkins has listed all the cemeteries in Tintonmouth, visiting the Sawyer Cemetery in 1982 and 1984. She found 49 stones, but mentions eight stones that the DAR listing showed and she didn't find. One of the stones she lists as not finding is ----aham C. ----esbrough. That is one of the stones we found during the cemetery workshop; it is broken but appears to be for Abraham C. Cheesbrough shown on the 1919 listing.

We were hoping that by getting the DAR listing we would be able to know where the stones were originally. But it appears that the stones were broken and moved around prior to 1959 when the DAR listing was made.

One of the stones that is in fairly good condition is for Samuel Barker [carved by Enos Clark of Middletown]. However, we do not know where the base of this stone is. Dawn Hance was able to find a footstone with the initials S B on it, so we think the headstone and the footstone should be together. The footstone was near the fence quite a distance from the headstone. A question: is the footstone near where the original grave was? If we could find a base that matches the headstone we would be able to know where Samuel Barker was buried.

There is a lot more work to be done at the cemetery and we hope to get together again to work on it. We would welcome the help of any of you who read this. Please get in touch with Gail Fallar, Town Clerk.

Joann Nichols

In 1982 I found the cattle still enjoying the shade of the cemetery. After a number of letters, a fence was installed. In 1984 the grass & weeds were so high, the stones were completely hidden. About three years ago, the brush and dead trees were removed. Let's work with our sister organization to get all our Vermont cemeteries in good condition.

Peggy Jenkins

**Branches & Twigs Index**

Complete runs of all 96 issues of Branches & Twigs, 1972-1995 are available in the following libraries.

- New England Historical and Genealogical Society has a full set plus a set for loan and the index.
- The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State St., Madison WI 53706-1482 but not the index as of 8/2000

If you know of other libraries with complete runs of B & T, please let your Newsletter editor know.

**B & T Back Issues**

Each issue is $2 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 12:5; 14:1,3,4; 16:2, 18:1,2,3; 19:4; 20:1-4; 21:1-4; 22:2,3,4; 24:1-4.

**VG Back Issues**

Each issue is $5 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 1:1-4; 2:1-4; 3:1-4

Your checks should be payable to GSV and sent to: GSV Back Issues, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006.

**Are You Moving? Replacement Copies**

Please notify the Society in advance of any address changes (including summer and winter addresses) at GSV, P.O. Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006. 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

**Book Review Policy**

Books for review should be sent to John A. Leppman, 29 Oak Hill Terrace, Bellows Falls, VT 05101.

**MEETINGS**

**NEHGS Getting Started**

New Time and Day

This program is offered the first Monday of every month from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA. This free program gives an introduction to NEHGS, its services and ways to help you find your family roots. Tips on how to begin your own family research, tour of the newly renovated library and a chance to meet the library staff. Non-members will receive a free pass to the library. No registration is required.

**SPRING VOCA MEETING**

The spring meeting of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association is planned for May 5, 2000, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Road, Springfield, VT, behind the Junior High School. They are planning on a speaker from the Springfield Historical Society. Please visit VOCA's web page at: http://hompages. together.net/~brutor/voca/vocahome.html

**SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS**

The Vermont Chapter of the Society of Mayflower Descendants holds two meetings a year, spring and fall. If you have Mayflower ancestry and would like to join, contact Ms. Sharon A. Matyas, Historian, 6126 Bennett's Corner Road, Memphis, NY 13112-9780 (315) 672-5882 e-mail: SAMatyas@aol.com.

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

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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.

For sale: Back issues of *Branches & Twigs* Vols. 16:4; 17:4-1; 18:1-4; 19:1-4; 20:1-4; 21:1-4; 22:1,2,3,4; 24:1-4 ($1.15 each issue, includes postage). Also, back issues of *Vermont Bicentennial Newsletter*. Vols. 1:2,3,4; 2:1-4; 3:1,2,4,4.5; 4:1.2 ($1.00 each issue, includes postage). Order from Kathryn E. King, P.O. Box 19332, Washington, DC 20036

GSV Newsletter, November 2000
**Vermont Families in 1791, Volume 1**
Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This award-winning first volume of a projected long series has stimulated research and guided many people to sources useful to establish their own ancestry. The goal of this series is to describe in detail the families listed in the First Federal Census taken in Vermont in 1791, the year Vermont joined the Union. Special Publication No. 1, 1992. xxvii + 281 pp., hardbound, $30.00

**Volume 2**
Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This volume covers 107 families and has improved formatting and more complete information on the third generation. Special Publication No. 5, 1997. xlvi + 304 pp., hardbound, $30.00

**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., hardbound, $30.00

**Member Research Directory**
Compiled by Janet E. Induni

The directory lists addresses and interests of a majority of GSV members. Each member listed provided up to five surnames of Vermont families on which he or she might like to share information. Published in 1998 for GSV members only. 63 pp., $3.00.

**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., hardbound, $30.00

**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, hardbound, $30.00

**Index to Branches & Twigs 1972-1995**
Edited by Robert M. Murphy

The long-awaited every-name index to GSV’s Branches & Twigs, published for 24 years, 96 issues. The 180,000 index entries include every name mentioned in every issue, except those cited in connection with Society business, those mentioned in purely casual historical context, and the ancestry service (“Apple Orchard”) feature, which was alphabetically arranged. Separate sections of this work list the coverage of each installment of the Apple Orchard, and provide a full author-title index to book reviews. Branches & Twigs included immense quantities of information of interest to Vermont family historians. Special publication No. 7, 2000, 572 pp., hardbound $65.00.

**Windsor County Vermont Probate Index, 1778-1899**
Compiled by Scott Andrew Bartley and Marjorie-J. Bartley

A comprehensive index of all files in the Probate Courts of the two districts (Windsor and Hartford) in Windsor County, Vermont, between the earliest records (1778) and the end of the nineteenth century. More than 20,000 files are indexed by the name of the major party in the case, place of residence, district, type of record, year, and volume of the bound records in which the record(s) will be found. Special publication No. 6, 2000, 560 pp., hardbound, $50.00.

**Sudbury, Vermont: Transcription of Vital Records and Genealogies of Residents**
by Mary Ann Z. Wheeler

A comprehensive transcription of vital and census records for this Rutland County town, plus carefully compiled genealogies of families. This book will take its place among the very best genealogical resources available about a Vermont town. A cooperative publication of GSV and Picton Press. 416 pp., hardbound, $49.50

**A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy**
by John A. Leppman

A reprint, with updates and some format changes, of the series recently completed in Vermont Genealogy, listing over 500 books and other published sources about Vermont and its counties and towns which are of particular use to genealogical researchers. (Family genealogies are not included in its coverage.) A useful reference work for any Vermont researcher. 66 pp. soft cover, $7.50 plus $1.50 postage.

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Conscious of the fact that sharing information or data with others, whether through speech, documents or electronic media, is essential to family history research and that it needs continuing support and encouragement, responsible family historians consistently -

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- are sensitive to the hurt that revelations of criminal, immoral, bizarre or irresponsible behavior may bring to family members.

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LIBRARY CLOSED
The Connecticut State Library, including the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, the Middletown and Willimantic Library Service Centers, and the State Records Center, will be closed all day Wednesday November 15th for staff training, and will reopen at regular hours on November 16th.

TOWN CLERK OF THE YEAR
Mary Lou Raymo of Dover was presented with a certificate as Town Clerk of the Year at the September Municipal Clerks Meeting.

GSV Newsletter, November 2000