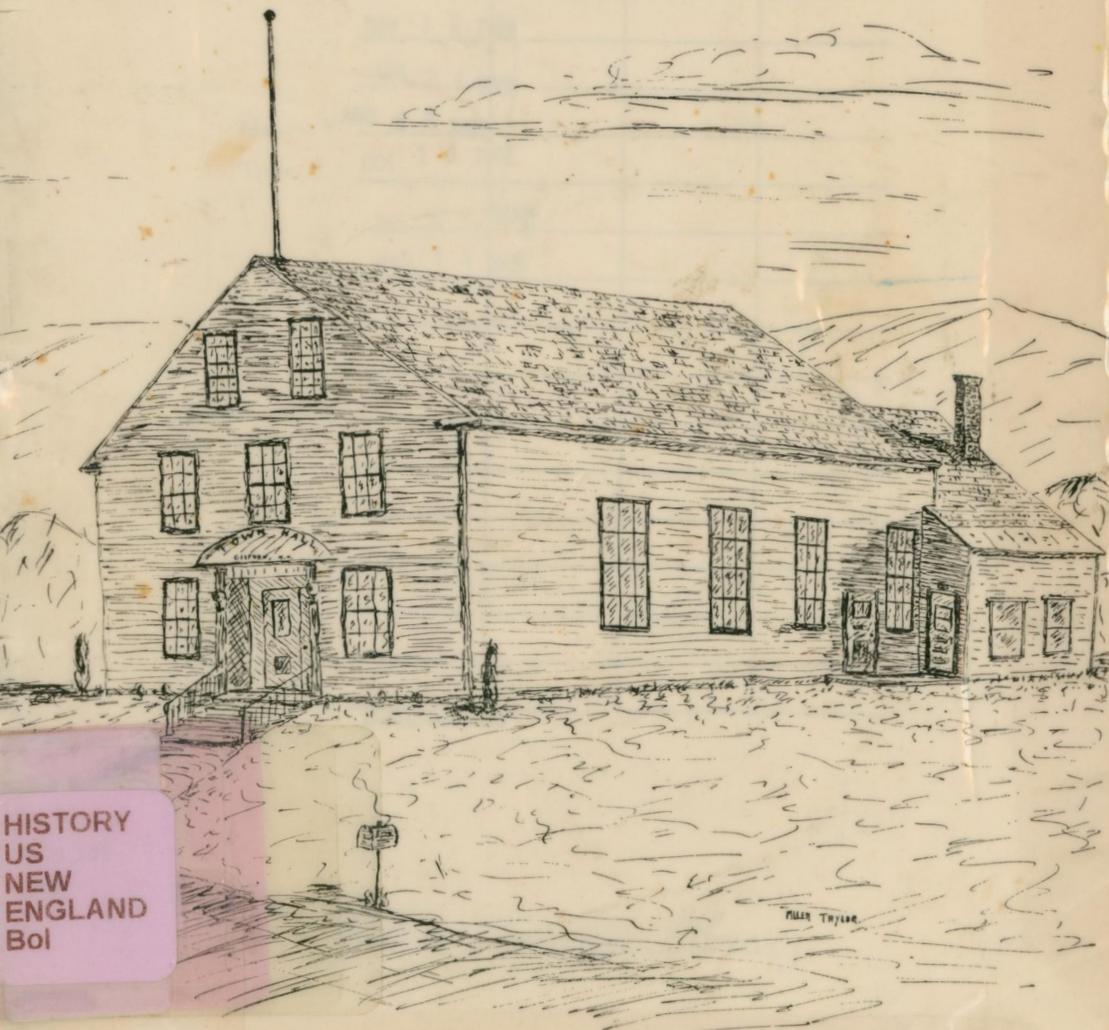


The

# GILFORD STORY



HISTORY  
US  
NEW  
ENGLAND  
BoI



## Acknowledgements

THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE WISHES TO EXPRESS THEIR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO ALL WHO HAVE GIVEN OF THEIR TIME OR HISTORICAL MATERIAL TO MAKE *THE GILFORD STORY* POSSIBLE.

Among those who deserve special thanks are:

Marion Hunt Atwood — The Hunt Papers on The History of Gilford

Lena Weeks — Gilford Church History

Cover Designed by — Allen S. Taylor

Map of Boundaries — Harry L. Smith

### REFERENCES

Gilford Town Records; Lancaster's *History of Gilmanton*; *History of Merrimack and Belknap County*; *Winnepesaukee Lake County Gleanings*; Gilmanton Town Records; The collected papers of Theo S. Jewett; and Watson's *History of Gilford*.

---

*The Thompson Ames Historical Society wish to extend sincere thanks to all who assisted in the preparation of "The Gilford Story," for the Sesquicentennial. Recognition is due Hector Bolduc whose enthusiasm and effort led to the unearthing of very fascinating material. To Judge Theo S. Jewett, Helen E. Park, Ruth M. Weeks, and Harold B. Smith who as members of the publishing committee gave freely of their time and thought to its preparation; and to Sigmund Lavine who brought it all together in this booklet.*

ESTHER PETERS, *President*  
Thompson Ames Historical Society

August 25, 1962

185  
37

One hundred and eight  
Englanders left the security  
wilderness of the "Upper  
pioneers were joined by others  
the desire to sever the legal  
stronger yearly. Finally, in  
and a legislative act, permission  
as a separate town.

This brief history of Gilford  
of the Thompson Ames Historical Society  
marking the one hundred and  
attempt to give personal credit  
used in this book would be  
to all who provided us with  
in old books, to carefully w

Dedicated to those members  
Parish" in 1777, the pages  
history of Gilford. Far more  
volume is written, but it is  
those interested in the history  
that additional chapters can

## Preface

One hundred and eighty-five years ago a band of hardy New Englanders left the security of their Gilmanton homes to settle in the wilderness of the "Upper Parish"—modern Gilford. In time these pioneers were joined by others. As the settlement grew and prospered, the desire to sever the legal ties that bound it to Gilmanton became stronger yearly. Finally, in 1812, after lengthy petitions, longer speeches and a legislative act, permission was granted to organize the community as a separate town.

This brief history of Gilford has been compiled under the auspices of the Thompson Ames Historical Society as part of the celebration marking the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of this event. An attempt to give personal credit to all who have contributed material used in this book would be a difficult task. However, we are grateful to all who provided us with data—from scraps of paper tucked away in old books, to carefully written records and documents.

Dedicated to those men and women who settled in the "Upper Parish" in 1777, the pages that follow are by no means a complete history of Gilford. Far more research must be done before such a volume is written, but it is our sincere hope that this booklet will prompt those interested in the history of our town to seek more information so that additional chapters can be added to *The Gilford Story*.

THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE



THE THOMPSON AMES HISTORICAL BUILDING



THE CAPTAIN GILMAN HOMESTEAD  
(Mrs. Solveig Olsen)

## THE G

The strongest incentive  
past achievement in individual  
local, state or national history  
true patriotism, and the sur

## EARLY H

In 1606 King James I o  
a parcel of land extending  
In 1620 the northern portio  
Council of Plymouth. Part  
On March 9, 1621 John M  
parcel of land adjoining  
Laconia. This included the

The first penetration i  
surveying party, composed o  
John Sherman and Jonathan  
order to establish bounda  
Grant, said to be the headv  
left the inscriptions on End

In 1727 Gilman Town  
four of them were named  
this was shortened to Gilm  
it lacked the water power  
growth was soon checked  
once seriously considered a  
Hampshire's capitol city. V  
are still some elderly residen  
fathers told them that the  
period!

To some townsmen, los  
the great number of Indians  
only was the region the h  
savages came from great  
savages could be driven out,  
banks of the swift-flowing  
memories of recent massacr  
Gilmanton wisely made no

## THE GILFORD STORY

The strongest incentive to future progress is the knowledge of past achievement in individual, state, or national life. Familiarity with local, state or national history develops civic pride, which is basis for true patriotism, and the surest guarantee of loyal citizenship.

HENRY H. METCALF

(State historian and president of Old Home Week Associations, secretary N. H. Ter-Centenary commission, publisher and editor of the *Granite Monthly*)

### EARLY HISTORY OF GILFORD

In 1606 King James I of England granted to the Virginia Company a parcel of land extending to and including southern New Hampshire. In 1620 the northern portion of the Virginia Grant was given to the Council of Plymouth. Part of this grant was bought by John Mason. On March 9, 1621 John Mason and Sir Fernando Gorges purchased a parcel of land adjoining Mason's previous purchase, and called it Laconia. This included the territory on which Gilford now stands.

The first penetration into this region was made in 1652 when a surveying party, composed of Captains Simon Willard, Edward Johnson, John Sherman and Jonathan Ince journeyed into the vast wilderness in order to establish boundaries of the Massachusetts Bay Company Grant, said to be the headwaters of the Merrimack River. These men left the inscriptions on Endicott Rock at the Weirs.

In 1727 Gilman Town was incorporated by 177 persons. Twenty-four of them were named Gilman — hence, Gilman Town. Later, this was shortened to Gilmanton. At first the town flourished, but as it lacked the water power so essential to industry in those days, its growth was soon checked. Yet, strangely enough, Gilmanton was once seriously considered as a contender for the honor of being New Hampshire's capitol city. While Concord was eventually chosen, there are still some elderly residents of Gilmanton who insist that their grandfathers told them that the town was actually the capitol for a short period!

To some townsmen, losing the capitol was not half as important as the great number of Indians in the lake area of the "Upper Parish." Not only was the region the home of several fierce tribes, but bands of savages came from great distances to fish at the Weirs. If these savages could be driven out, it would be possible to erect mills along the banks of the swift-flowing streams that fed the lakes. However, with memories of recent massacres still vivid in their minds, the residents of Gilmanton wisely made no attempt to migrate northward. Then, about

1750, a fort was built at the Weirs on the shore of Lake Winnepesaukee and interest in the "Upper Parish" was revived. When the Indians were brought under control, the area began to be settled.

### GILFORD IS SETTLED

While the exact date that the first permanent settlers arrived in what is now Gilford is unknown, the date most historians agree upon is 1777, the year James Ames and Captain Samuel F. Gilman took up land in the "Upper Parish" of Gilmanton. Shortly before this, Samuel Jewett built a house in the vicinity of Province road in present-day Laconia.

Among Samuel's descendants are the late Stephen S. Jewett, the well-known lawyer and his son, Judge Theo S. Jewett, the historian. Judge Jewett has in his possession the drum and rifle used by Benjamin, Samuel Jewett's son, in the American Revolution. He also has a unique bit of Americana — a receipt for gun powder which became wet when the patriots retreated from Bunker Hill and was sent to Samuel Hobart of New Market, New Hampshire to be reconditioned. The powder was later used at the Battle of Bennington.

The receipt is signed by Samuel Jewett who was an employee of Hobart and reads:

*"For the purpose of making, pounding, and granulating 217 pounds of gunpowder in the following quantities: Sixty pounds of cannon powder, 108 pounds of musket powder, and 49 pounds of priming powder for pistols."*

Family tradition has it that Samuel walked from New Market to Charlestown in order to enlist in the Revolution, only to discover that Cornwallis had surrendered to Washington at Yorktown. For pay, Samuel received a second hand coat, a belt and a used pair of shoes. Upon returning, Samuel settled in the Laconia area.

Captain Gilman homesteaded near Lily Pond and built a large log cabin which his family occupied. Gilman built the house recently owned by Mrs. Solveig Olsen. Because the log cabin stood for many years in an open field across from the Olsen home, in earlier times old-timers would boast of having seen the "first log cabin in Gilford."

History relates that when settlers took up land north of Captain Gilman's property before roads were cut through the forest, they blazed trees from their cabins to the Gilman place. This enabled their womenfolk to find their way to the captain's to bake bannock, as they had no ovens.

Captain Gilman was a businessman and traveled to Portsmouth exchanging produce for molasses, sugar, flour and rum. On one of these trips he returned with James McCoy, an orphaned lad. He adopted James who became a wealthy man and whose name is remembered by the McCoy Cemetery, the McCoy pasture and the McCoy fields.

James and David Ames, present-day Gilford, located known as the William W. Ames can still be seen in the w. Gilford — James to Alton Campton — at an early date.

Legend links the Ames apple to this part of New Hampshire of David Ames, Sr., brought bags from Londonderry.

Mrs. Ames was evidently traps on horseback, her landing in a trap. Realizing receive proper attention, M. way to Londonderry by a doctor. Although Mr. Ames damaged, that it had to be

The Hunts settled here built a home in the interior only wood lathe in the region. Hunt settled near Captain resident of the community.

Dr. Charles W. Hunt was assistant surgeon to the Civil War, serving as an ant surgeon. At Gettysburg three consecutive days and that when he contracted resistance and died.

Thomas E. Hunt, born War and was a hospital at the Rebellion he taught school State Legislature.

Charles W. Hunt, son of Thomas W. and Harriet schools including the "ba school.

Perry E. Hunt was children became teachers Eunice, who first taught Gilford at both the Lily Eunice also compiled a history as did her father now lives in Sanbornton in the State Legislature member of that body.

James and David Ames were also among the early settlers of present-day Gilford, locating just east of the intervale on what is now known as the William Watson farm. The cellar holes of their houses can still be seen in the wooded area near Clay Bank. Both men left Gilford—James to Alton where he dealt in real estate; David to Campton—at an early date.

Legend links the Ames name with the spreading of the Center apple to this part of New Hampshire. According to the tale, the wife of David Ames, Sr., brought scions of the fruit to Gilford in her saddlebags from Londonderry.

Mrs. Ames was evidently a brave woman. While checking his bear traps on horseback, her husband was thrown to the ground his leg landing in a trap. Realizing that her husband might die if he didn't receive proper attention, Mrs. Ames saddled her horse and rode all the way to Londonderry by way of "spotted trees" and returned with a doctor. Although Mr. Ames' life was saved his leg was so badly damaged, that it had to be amputated.

The Hunts settled here early. Abel Hunt arrived in 1783 and built a home in the intervale section. He had, for many years, the only wood lathe in the region and was a skilled cabinet maker. Enoch Hunt settled near Captain Gilman's in 1794 and became a distinguished resident of the community, as were his sons William, Joseph and Samuel.

Dr. Charles W. Hunt, a graduate of Dartmouth Medical College, was assistant surgeon to the 12th New Hampshire Volunteers during the Civil War, serving at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville as assistant surgeon. At Gettysburg, he remained at the operating table for three consecutive days and nights—an ordeal that so weakened him, that when he contracted typhoid fever shortly afterwards, he had no resistance and died.

Thomas E. Hunt, brother of Dr. Hunt also served in the Civil War and was a hospital assistant at the Battle of Fredericksburg. After the Rebellion he taught school in Gilford and was a representative to the State Legislature.

Charles W. Hunt, son of Dr. Hunt, had three children, Julia W., Thomas W. and Harriet E. Hunt. Julia taught in several Gilford schools including the "back of the mountain school" and the intervale school.

Perry E. Hunt was active in Gilford affairs. Three of his four children became teachers. Stanley at Meredith, Tilton and Laconia; Eunice, who first taught elsewhere and then served for many years in Gilford at both the Lily Pond and New Grade schools; and Marion. Eunice also compiled a great deal of material dealing with Gilford's history as did her father and grandfather. Marion (Hunt) Atwood now lives in Sanbornton and represented that town for several terms in the State Legislature—the sixth generation in her family to be a member of that body.

Gilford's first blacksmith, Samuel Blaisdell, went to Lily Pond in 1789 and his homestead is presently the residence of W. F. Bartlett. He had six sons, William, John, Daniel, Enoch, Philip and Samuel, and all were active in church affairs. Mrs. Samuel Blaisdell served the community as nurse and doctor before the arrival of a resident physician.

The Morrills took up land on Liberty Hill and Barnard Morrill worked for several years in the tannery owned by Jeremiah Thing. He later purchased the Hoyt-Smith Mill at Gilford Village and operated a lumber and grist mill. After his death, the mill was run by his son John J. Morrill. The mill was abandoned and the property taken over by Judge John Morrill.

Dr. George M. Munsey was one of Gilford's early physicians. His practice was large and extended to Moultonboro, Center Harbor and Alton. Beloved for his readiness to answer calls for help regardless of weather, time or distance, he was also an excellent speaker and often lectured on temperance in connection with the Washington movement.

Many other individuals and families pioneered in the settling of Gilford. Unfortunately, space does not permit mention of all. At the risk of omitting some names — records being incomplete — this list of families who homesteaded before 1800 is presented: Thurston, Watson, Whittier, Stevens, Rowe, Smith, Sleeper, Morrison, Morse, Mooney, Knowles, Hoyt, Eaton, Carr, Bennett, Flag, Lovett, Sanborn, Cotton.

#### "NEW HAMPSHIRE BORN A TOWN"

The desire to better themselves which had driven men to take up land in the deep forests, rolling fields and fertile valleys of the "Upper Parish" did not diminish with the passing of years. As these sturdy individuals looked about their community and saw what they had accomplished, they were fired by a new ambition — to live in a town of their own creation. Through back-breaking toil they had created taxable property out of the wilderness, so why, they asked one another, should Gilmanton profit? If the "Upper Parish" could achieve independence such monies could be spent on its needs alone, instead of going into the general funds of Gilmanton. Work soon became action and the following is a copy (complete with signatures) of the document submitted by the residents of the upper parish to the selectmen of the town of Gilmanton requesting incorporation into a separate town in 1811.

#### PETITION

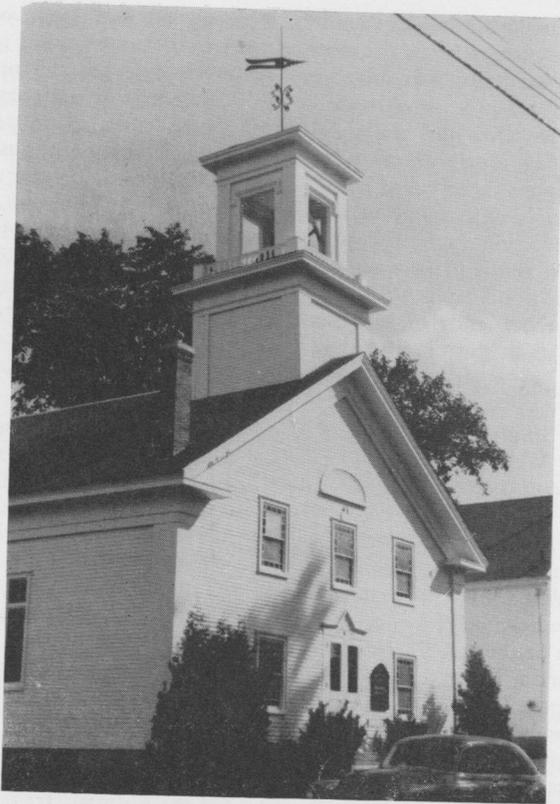
To the gentlemen selectmen of the town of Gilmanton the petition of us the subscribers inhabitants of the northerly part of Gilmanton humbly sheweth that our situation is so remote from the place of holding our annual and other meetings we have to travel from five to twenty



THE GILFORD  
Rev. R.



INTER  
(The



THE GILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH — 1833  
Rev. Raleigh H. Dutton, Pastor



INTERVALE SCHOOLHOUSE No. 1  
(The George Sawyer Home)

miles to said place which renders it expensive and so inconvenient that a large portion of us (at many times) cannot attend said meetings. Therefore, we humbly request your honorable body to call or warn a town meeting of the inhabitants of said Gilmanton at some convenient time between this and the first of May next ensuing to see if the town will pass a vote granting leave for an incorporation of that part of the upper parish (so called) of Gilmanton that lyeth on the northerly part of the eleventh range of hundred acre lots from thence eastwardly in such direction as to follow the ridge of mountains to Alton line covering all the land between the above named lines Alton line, Winnepiseogee Pond and Winnepiseogee River to said eleventh range including the islands in said pond belonging to Gilmanton and your persioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Gilmanton 14th March 1811

Ebenezer Smith  
 Benjamin Weeks  
 Daniel Hoit  
 Phillriese Rand  
 Samuel F. Gilman  
 Lowell Sanborn  
 James Folett  
 Jacob Randlett  
 Benjamin Sanborn  
 John Gilman, Esq.  
 John Sargent  
 John Goss  
 Wm Hunt  
 Levi Goss  
 Nehemiah Sleeper  
 Levi Gilman Esq.  
 Ephm Brown  
 Elisha Bean  
 Malachi Daviss  
 Tho Sewell  
 Johon Sewell  
 Wm Sewell  
 Josiaih Moulton  
 Joseph Rand  
 Joseph Libbey  
 Benj Libbey  
 John Daviss  
 Esekiel Currier  
 Moses Rowell  
 Henry Plumer Jr.  
 Jon Nelson Jr.  
 Noah Weeks

Israel Potter  
 Wm Libbey  
 Joseph Sleeper  
 Jereh-- Bartlett  
 Benja Weeks Jr  
 Thos Saltmarsh  
 Enoch Hunt Jr.  
 Jon A. Whittier  
 Jona Sanborn 4th  
 John L Weeks  
 Jona Thompson  
 Noah Danford  
 Elish Gove  
 Levi Gilman  
 Levi Gilman, Jr.  
 James Hoit Esq.  
 Jona Elkens  
 Ephm Brown Jr  
 Senior Hoit  
 Matthias Weeks  
 Sam Follett  
 Howel Langley  
 Ebenezer Smith Jr.  
 Benja Leavitt  
 John Smith Jr.  
 Jones Sleeper  
 Samuel Thurstin  
 Joshua Eaton  
 Andrew Gilman  
 Paul Stevans  
 Benja Richardson  
 Samuel Thurstin Esq.

Geo Theuerson  
 Lowell Sanborn, Jr.  
 Enoch Hunt  
 David Sanborn  
 Elisha J. Sanborn  
 Sam G. Sanborn  
 Benja Wilkinson  
 Thos Boynton  
 Barnard Morrill  
 Jere Gilman  
 Nathan Hath  
 Solomon Bean  
 Ichabod Burrel  
 Josiah Sawyer  
 James Bean  
 Joseph Sanborn  
 Sam Leavitt  
 Sam Welch  
 Robert Carr  
 Thos - Foster Jr.  
 Isaac Runnals  
 Benja Sewell  
 John Boyd  
 Eliphalet Blasdell  
 Richard Sanborn  
 Benja Morrison  
 Henry M. Blake  
 John Meloon  
 Sam Gilman Esq.  
 David Gould  
 Benja Eaton  
 Sam Connor  
 Parker Chase  
 Simon Gilman  
 Abraham Dearborn  
 Manaah Glidden  
 Isaac Buzzel  
 Joseph Bickford  
 Geo Buzzell  
 Andrew Whittiter  
 Jona Sanborn  
 John Knowles  
 Jere Bedee

Recorded July 31st 1811

Geo Theuerson  
Lowell Sanborn, Jr.  
Enoch Hunt  
David Sanborn  
Elisha J. Sanborn  
Sam G. Sanborn  
Benja Wilkinson  
Thos Boynton  
Barnard Morrill  
Jere Gilman  
Nathan Hath  
Solomon Bean  
Ichabod Burrel  
Josiah Sawyer  
James Bean  
Joseph Sanborn  
Sam Leavitt  
Sam Welch  
Robert Carr  
Thos - Foster Jr.  
Isaac Runnals  
Benja Sewell  
John Boyd  
Eliphalet Blasdell  
Richard Sanborn  
Benja Morrison  
Henry M. Blake  
John Meloon  
Sam Gilman Esq.  
David Gould  
Benja Eaton  
Sam Connor  
Parker Chase  
Simon Gilman  
Abraham Dearborn  
Manaah Glidden  
Isaac Buzzel  
Joseph Bickford  
Geo Buzzell  
Andrew Whittiter  
Jona Sanborn  
John Knowles  
Jere Bedee

Frederic Lewis  
John Crosby  
Rich Martin  
Miles L. Thurstin  
Jesse Thing  
Thos Thompson  
James Macoy  
Levi Goss Jr.  
Jere Gilman  
Geo. Rand  
Levi Shaw  
Ezekiel Gilman  
Miles Leavitt  
Moses Wilcom  
Joseph Potter  
David Thurstin  
Abel Glidden  
David Glidden  
Jacob Morse  
Joseph Potter Jr.  
Henry Hoit  
Jeremiaih Thing  
Sam --- Hoit  
Same Clarke  
Samuel Clark  
Moses Langley  
Jacob Blaisdell  
Henry Sleeper  
G. N. Munsey  
Abraham Gilman  
Joseph Thing  
John L. Martin  
Joshua Gilman  
Ichabod Buzzell Jr.  
David Thompson  
Josiah Clogh  
Stephen Leavitt  
James Buzzel  
John Mooney  
Joseph Eaton  
Nathan Whitham  
John Lamprey

Recorded July 31st 1812 by Wm. Blasdell Town clerk.



THE RICHARD JEWETT HOME  
(Mr. and Mrs. Ena Morin)



THE JEWETT HOMESTEAD, 1779  
(Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Bolduc)

There are 16 rooms in the White Mountains and Lake features was a primitive icebox about seven feet high and three which could be brought up into pulleys.

The huge double doors in the hall which has a graceful staircase to the rooms in the front of the kitchen to the rooms in the older parts of the house are a while exposed corner posts can be seen days, when mail was carried to the Place was used as a stopping place established the first maple sugar has been used every season since.

The Jewett family was engaged in large cooperage which was local and shoes. Benjamin Jewett, lived in Gilford Village. He was alive many years.

Dozens of ledgers, diaries, and early Gilford were left by the Jewett house. These have proved valuable history. They sold the house and property then came into the hands of sold it to Gedeon Bolduc in 1870 his son, Charles H. Bolduc and

Near the Benjamin Jewett house lived for many years. Now it is a two and a half story house with pegs. The large front door, from which a very narrow staircase leads to spacious bedrooms upstairs, and fireplaces are found downstairs complete with Dutch oven, as kitchen. Old beaded, granite present kitchen. The property was sold to Flora A. Hill, who resold it to Charles H. Bolduc who purchased the house from Mr. E.

KIM

One of Gilford's most interesting buildings was built by Benjamin A. Kimball, on the Lake Shore Railroad. Construction begun in 1897 and completed

There are 16 rooms in the house, which has a superb view of the White Mountains and Lake Winnepesaukee. One of its unusual features was a primitive icebox in the cellar. It was a large cupboard, about seven feet high and three feet wide, equipped with several shelves, which could be brought up into the pantry by a series of ropes and pulleys.

The huge double doors in the front of the house lead into a large hall which has a graceful staircase leading to the second floor, turning to the rooms in the front of the house. A second stairway leads from the kitchen to the rooms in the rear. The rafters and beams used in the older parts of the house are all handhewn, joined with wooden pegs while exposed corner posts can be seen in the front rooms. In early days, when mail was carried from Dover to Portsmouth, the Jewett Place was used as a stopping point to change horses. The Jewetts also established the first maple sugar industry in 1811. The old sugar house has been used every season since.

The Jewett family was engaged in several businesses. They had a large cooperage which was located in the village and also made boots and shoes. Benjamin Jewett, Jr., Esq., for many years operated a store in Gilford Village. He was also a justice of the peace and postmaster for many years.

Dozens of ledgers, diaries, and day books containing much data on early Gilford were left by the Jewetts in the attic when they sold the house. These have proved very helpful in doing research on Gilford history. They sold the house in 1917 to George L. Lucier. The property then came into the hands of John C. and Mystie E. Lucier who sold it to Gedeon Bolduc in 1919. The farm was then purchased by his son, Charles H. Bolduc and has remained in his possession.

Near the Benjamin Jewett house is another in which Jewetts lived for many years. Now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Ena Morin, it is a two and a half story house of hand hewn timber set with wooden pegs. The large front door, of Christian cross design, opens into a hall from which a very narrow staircase with spoke banister leads to two spacious bedrooms upstairs, one with an unusual fireplace. Two other fireplaces are found downstairs; one in the parlor, and a very large one, complete with Dutch oven, in the bedroom which formerly served as kitchen. Old beaded, grooved panelling is still to be seen in the present kitchen. The property was sold by Richard Jewett in 1913 to Flora A. Hill, who resold it to Isaac Breton. Mr. and Mrs. Morin purchased the house from Mr. Breton (Mrs. Morin's father) in 1931.

#### KIMBALL'S CASTLE

One of Gilford's most famous landmarks is Kimball's Castle built by Benjamin A. Kimball, president of the Concord, Montreal and Lake Shore Railroad. Construction of the large stone building was begun in 1897 and completed in 1899. "The Broads" as it was affection-



THE WINNIPESAUKEE FARM IN 1943



KIMBALL'S CASTLE, BUILT 1897-1899  
(Alvord's Wild Life Sanctuary)

ately called by Mr. Kimball  
commands a sweeping view

Long considered one  
it was occupied by the  
Charlotte Kimball, B. A.  
estate, which embraces a  
Life Sanctuary. Her gift

Mr. Kimball fashioned  
supervised much of the  
workmen were housed in  
steamer on Lake Winnipe  
and was beached at Glen

Most of the rock used  
south side of Locke's Hill  
pieces of granite which to  
The interior woodwork was  
to America, and then carried  
to the castle where it was

"SM

One of the most interesting  
belonging to Mr. and Mrs.

This old house, which  
by Caleb Marston in 1793  
it is situated at the foot of  
It faces north looking over  
Mountains.

The house consists of  
The present kitchen was  
building, once a carriage  
large chimneys — one at each  
served eight fireplaces. From  
from the other; all in wood  
brick arches in the cellar  
a glazed dome.

The frame of the house  
place with wooden dowels  
windows but only a few remain  
Much of the original beam  
several interesting rum chests  
the front of the house, is a

Down the lane in front  
fields and pasture, is a large  
clear water. This spring  
Shore Park (Lake Shore I

ately called by Mr. Kimball, is situated on the top of Locke's Hill and commands a sweeping view of Lake Winnepesaukee.

Long considered one of the finest summer homes in New England, it was occupied by the Kimball family every year until 1960, when Charlotte Kimball, B. A. Kimball's daughter, died. She left the entire estate, which embraces approximately 400 acres, to the Alvord Wild Life Sanctuary. Her gift is known as the Kimball Wilderness Preserve.

Mr. Kimball fashioned the castle after one on the Rhine and supervised much of the construction personally. During its erection, workmen were housed in the hulk of the *Lady of The Lake*, an early steamer on Lake Winnepesaukee, which had been condemned in 1894, and was beached at Glendale.

Most of the rock used to build the castle was quarried on the south side of Locke's Hill and hauled to the site by teams. The large pieces of granite which top the structure, were brought from Concord. The interior woodwork was built to specification in England, shipped to America, and then carried by train to Glendale and thence by oxen to the castle where it was assembled.

#### "SMILING HILL FARM"

One of the most interesting of Gilford's old houses is the farm belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence W. Guild.

This old house, which has been restored by the Guilds, was built by Caleb Marston in 1793. Appropriately named "Smiling Hill Farm," it is situated at the foot of Carr Hill on the northerly slope of Mt. Rowe. It faces north looking over Lake Winnepesaukee toward the White Mountains.

The house consists of three main buildings which are connected. The present kitchen was formerly the shed. Attached to this is another building, once a carriage house, now a work shop. There are two large chimneys — one at each end — in the main house. They originally served eight fireplaces. Five fireplaces remain each somewhat different from the other; all in working condition. A complex construction of brick arches in the cellar supports the chimneys. One dutch oven has a glazed dome.

The frame of the house is built of handhewn beams held firmly in place with wooden dowels. Indian shutters once protected all the windows but only a few remain. There are sixteen rooms in the house. Much of the original beaded wall board is in place and there are also several interesting rum cupboards and medicine closets. The porch on the front of the house, is a rather recent addition.

Down the lane in front of the house which leads to the bottom fields and pasture, is a large spring which continuously spills out crystal clear water. This spring was once piped directly to the hotel at Lake Shore Park (Lake Shore Inn).

Upon the death of Caleb Marston, its original owner, "Smiling Hill Farm" came into the possession of Jonathan Leavitt. Jonathan Prescott then acquired it and the property was eventually bought by Carroll Follet who sold it to Mrs. Artimise Bedard.

The late Todd Wallace purchased the farm from the Bedards and lived there for a short while. Mr. and Mrs. Guild purchased it in 1944.

### THE MORRILL PLACE

One of the finest of Gilford's old homes is the Morrill farm on Morrill Street, now owned by Frank Varney. Containing twelve rooms, the house has three magnificent fireplaces. The hearth and frame of the fireplace in the front parlor are decorated with imported English tiles, a luxury which few houses of the time could afford. The openings to the Dutch oven and ash receiver in the kitchen fireplace are covered with elaborate design and covers. Suspended over this fireplace by iron chains is a "drying rod" used in olden days to dry herbs. A rum cupboard is also built into the framework of this fireplace. Tremendous brick arches in the cellar support the fireplaces and chimney structure.

Mr. Varney has taken great pains in restoring the house, being very careful not to remove any of its old features. Many furnishings are original family heirlooms. Among these are a grandfather's clock dated 1780 and a fine secretary which stands a full seven feet tall. The latter is said to have been used by one of the first lawyers in Gilmanton.

The fine wainscoting on the lower portion of the front room is made from two boards, each nearly three feet wide and fifteen feet long. Paneling and flooring made from similar boards are found throughout the entire house.

The staircase leading from the front hall to the upper rooms is a work of art. Narrow, and staggered at different levels, its bannister has four main posts with smaller joints and dowels set between, secured with pegs.

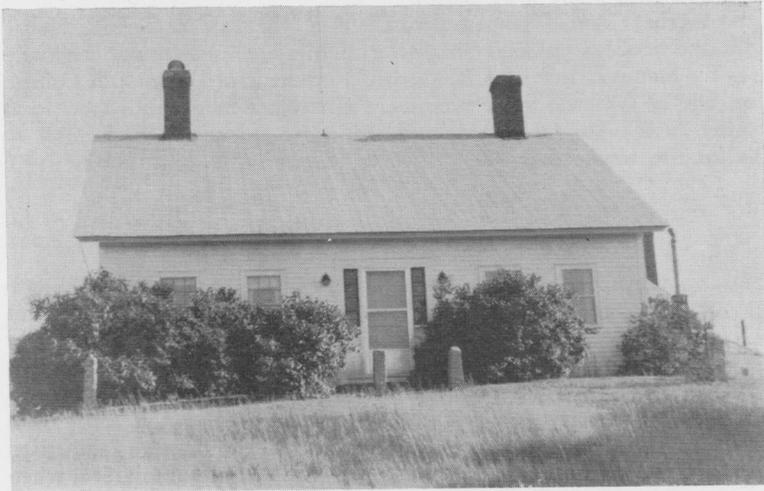
Most of the windows in the house contain the original hand blown glass panes. A beautiful wood-work ceiling in one of the parlors is the work of J. F. Morrill, who once owned the house and is responsible for many of its unusual features. His name and a date are carved in a closet in the kitchen.

James Robinsen Morrill (son of J. F. Morrill) occupied the house after his father. His daughter, Flora, married Charles Collins and they lived in it for many years. Their son, Lewis R. Collins, then obtained the property and Mr. Frank Varney purchased it from him in July 1950.

The Morrill family was a large one and very prominent in town affairs. James R. Morrill held several local offices and was a member of the Legislature. George Morrill was a well known masseur and a



THE HOME OF ROYAL C. VAN  
WORKS, A B



THE SAM GRANT PLACE  
(Mr. Richard P. Wallsten)



THE HOME OF ROYAL C. VAN ETEN, JR. WHICH WAS THE SITE OF THE OLD GLASS  
WORKS, A BLACKSMITH SHOP AND A BRICK KILN

successful farmer. He was also a member of the House of Representatives and held many town offices.

Another Morrill homestead located at the foot of School House Hill and now the property of Mr. and Mrs. James Stamps, originally was the homestead of John B. Morrill, a graduate of Dartmouth College and one of Gilford's most prominent citizens, whose opinion on local matters was highly respected; and who gave freely and generously of his time to town affairs.

#### THE PHILBROOK RAND HOME

On returning from the Revolutionary War, Lieutenant Philbrook (sometimes also spelled Philbrick) settled in Gilford near the home of Abel Hunt. Watson's *History of Gilford*, and Lancaster's *History of Gilmanton*, mention the Philbrook Rand place in speaking of town roads in 1789. In 1792, Philbrook Rand bought 30 acres of lot No. 11 from Nathan Brown. In 1795, he purchased another ten acres from Ebenezer Smith, tax collector for Gilmanton. Simon Rand inherited the farm from his father, and it remained in the family until 1872, when it was sold to Levi Gove.

In 1898, Sarah S. Page acquired the property from Mary I. Gove, and in turn E. Noyes Whitcomb bought it from Mrs. Page in 1900, and lived there until 1943, when the house was purchased by Walter A. MacLennar. Parkman D. and Helen M. Howe bought the place in 1946, and it is now their summer home.

#### THE OLD SANBORN PLACE

The house now occupied by the Donald Yorks was the home of several generations of Sanborns. Orman Sanborn was the last to occupy it and lived there till 1948, when it was purchased by the Yorks.

Built in 1823, the present house has many fine old features. A huge archway in the center of the house supports five fireplaces, all of which are usable. Three of these fireplaces are located downstairs and two upstairs. The one that served the old kitchen has a unique Dutch oven and an immense storage bin for ashes with a metal door in the front that closes it and also regulates the flue.

The house is situated half way up Brake Hill and was often the stopping point for travelers going from Gilford to Gilmanton, as a cooperage and small store were also located here. Moreover, the road was rough, so passers by often found it necessary to stop at the Sanborn Blacksmith Shop to repair their wagons.

The cooperage once operated by Joseph Sanborn is located a short distance below the house and still contains many of the old tools.

Barrels made here were transported to Portsmouth for sale to merchants; however, many also were sold in the village for salting and

preserving meats. Joseph Sanborn was a cooper and a cider maker. In later years the cooperage was used for storing cider.

A large barn at the rear of the house was built together with nails made on the premises in the Mine.

A few Indian shutters possibly predates 1823. Most of the shutters are of tongue-and-groove panelling.

#### THE S...

The Frohock place, as it is known, comprises several buildings near the top of Mount Rowe Mountain. These buildings include a house, one, an immense barn, a garage, and a garage. In front of the house is a view of Alton Bay and Lake Umbagog; while on the easterly side of the house is the sole reminder in Gilford of the old Mount Rowe Mountain. Between the house and the upper pastures and across Mount Rowe to the east.

A tour through the Frohock place in the 19th century. With the exception of the house, the homestead remains just as it was when the family retained possession of the place. Frohock.

The earliest deed recorded in the town records. There are also deeds to various parcels of land purchase date 1797 and 1799. The Frohock family came to Gilford from Deerfield, Vermont, of William Sawyer who settled in Gilford after emigrating from Lincolnshire, England.

Set above the large house is a small property. It was used as a cooperage when they were building the main house. The house serves three fireplaces, one in the "keeping room" and one in the "keeping room" in the attic a special vent pipe. The windows are huge and framed in iron. Every wall is panelled with wide boards two and solid, but worn. Even the window facing north has two panes of glass in a round brick frame and open

preserving meats. Joseph Sanborn used quantities himself for making cider. In later years the old cooperage was used as a slaughter-house.

A large barn at the rear of the house is said to have been put together with nails made from iron taken from the Gunstock Iron Mine.

A few Indian shutters remain in the older part of the house which possibly predates 1823. Much of the house is paneled with beaded tongue-and-groove panelling.

#### THE SAWYER HOMESTEAD

The Frohock place, as the Sawyer homestead is now known, comprises several buildings nestled high on the northern slope of Rowe Mountain. These buildings include; a large house, a somewhat smaller one, an immense barn, a good-sized poultry building, a pump house, and a garage. In front of the house, which commands a breath-taking view of Alton Bay and Lake Winnepesaukee, are two very large maple trees; while on the easterly side there is a big mulberry tree. This is the sole reminder in Gilford of the silk industry that once flourished on Rowe Mountain. Between the houses and the barn an old road leads to the upper pastures and above this a foot path serves as a short cut across Mount Rowe to the Belknap Mountain Recreational Area.

A tour through the Frohock property takes one back to the 18th century. With the exception of electricity and plumbing and new shingles the homestead remains just as it was when built about 1780. The family retained possession until 1896 when they sold to Mrs. Lillian Frohock.

The earliest deed recorded to the Frohock place is dated 1781. There are also deeds to various parcels of land added to the original purchase date 1797 and 1798. All these deeds are to Josiah Sawyer who came to Gilford from Deerfield, New Hampshire. He was a descendent of William Sawyer who settled in Newbury, Massachusetts in 1640, after emigrating from Lincolnshire, England.

Set above the large house is a smaller building, the first on the property. It was used as living quarters for the family while they were building the main house. A large chimney in the center of the house serves three fireplaces, one in the kitchen, one in the living room and one in the "keeping room." This chimney has an unusual feature — in the attic a special vent furnishes heat for upstairs. The fireplaces are huge and framed in lovely old panelling from floor to ceiling. Every wall is panelled with the old feather-edge tongue and groove panelling with boards two feet wide. The original floors are still firm and solid, but worn. Every window has Indian shutters. The large window facing north has twelve, over eight panes of glass. The beams are handhewn and joined with wooden pegs. In the keeping room, a round brick frame and open hearth supports a large brass kettle. A

spice cupboard stands near the kitchen fireplace. Many of the early primitive furnishings used in the house were found packed away in the barn and other building where they had been stored when newer articles replaced them.

The main house has large Christian cross doors which are still hung on the original strap hinges. Over the front door is a row of four panes of hand blown glass, while many of the windows also have their original glazing. There are five main rooms on the ground floor; a summer kitchen located on the westerly end, a kitchen and bedroom at the rear; a living room, and a large bedroom on the front of the house, and the attic, divided into three rooms. Like the little house, the windows in the main house have Indian shutters, which are panelled, and slide into the window casings. One of the most unusual features of the house is its unique construction. There is a double set of foundations and walls throughout the frame. The space between them, measuring over a foot in width, is filled with pieces of brick and sawdust, an early attempt at insulation.

Many of the primitive kitchen utensils and implements used at the farm have been preserved. Among them are several pieces of earthenware made by one of the old potters in Gilford. One of the most interesting is a large milk-setting dish.

Up the hill is the old pump house, which was also used at various times as a piggery, and for machine storage. A hand pump set over a well inside the building is still in working condition.

Across from the main house is a smaller building once used as blacksmith shop and slaughter house. On the second story is a wooden wheel which was used to hoist the meat carcasses for dressing. The ropes are still in place. One of Mrs. Worcester's most fascinating discoveries was an old buffalo robe decorated with Indian designs. On it are drawings of several Indians, executed in yellow paint, with a brown trim. The border of the robe is decorated with red, yellow, and blue circles, and blue arrows.

The town of Gilford is fortunate that such a historic old home came into the possession of Dr. and Mrs. Worcester, who have done much to restore its former beauty and preserve its historic interest.

#### NOAH WEEKS HOMESTEAD

About 1787, Deacon Noah Weeks, a brother of Benjamin Weeks, settled on Liberty Hill, and he and two of his sons, Noah and Asa, also deacons, are buried in the old graveyard on the south slope of the hill. The Deacon Noah Weeks homestead, now the residence of Mr and Mrs. Kenneth Peters, is situated close by, overlooking Cotton Hill, Lake Winnisquam, and the mountains to the south. It is built in the style of the old farm houses, often called Cape Cod, but of somewhat larger dimensions than most. The hand hewn timbers used in its construction

measure twelve by twelve  
widow of the second Dea  
in that family until 195  
Peters.

Because early Gilford  
the educational needs of  
tain a large number of  
Though only ten school d  
other records of the same  
late as 1872 there were fo  
ages of six to sixteen. Ses  
youngsters helped their  
harvest.

Schoolhouses were us  
a woodshed and privies in  
sat on plank benches and  
desks were installed in  
flanked by a globe on th  
the master a blackboard h  
stool and a dunce cap. A  
the daily chores of filling  
waste baskets were assign  
washing were done after

Ignorant of modern  
tensions and leads to frus  
politicians, schoolmarms  
swish of a hickory or bir  
which was more flexible-  
as the chanting of "A, B,

The unruly usually to  
However, sometimes they  
were accepted by early e

A "Turn Out" cons  
stuffing the chimney with  
into the building. When  
the students immediately  
could not reenter and re  
however, that if the maste  
tically over and the pupil  
for the punishment they k

Older boys usually pl  
early in the morning and  
deliberately left unlatched  
barricaded the door with  
then settled down for the

measure twelve by twelve inches. It was sold, in 1874, by Mary Weeks, widow of the second Deacon Noah, to Sarah F. Emerson, and remained in that family until 1955, when it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Peters.

### SCHOOLS

Because early Gilford extended over such a wide area, the only way the educational needs of the community could be served was to maintain a large number of one-room schools throughout the township. Though only ten school districts are listed in the Town Report for 1813, other records of the same date give the number as eighteen. Even as late as 1872 there were fourteen districts catering to pupils between the ages of six to sixteen. Sessions were held only during the winter as the youngsters helped their parents during spring planting and the fall harvest.

Schoolhouses were usually high roofed, rectangular buildings with a woodshed and privies in the rear. Before desks came into use, students sat on plank benches and wrote their lessons on hand slates. Later desks were installed in rows facing the teacher whose chair was flanked by a globe on the right and a bookcase on the left. Behind the master a blackboard hung on the wall and in the corner stood a high stool and a dunce cap. A wood stove occupied a prominent position and the daily chores of filling the woodbox, hoisting the flag and emptying waste baskets were assigned by the teacher. Sweeping and window washing were done after school as "punishment work."

Ignorant of modern theories that corporeal punishment creates tensions and leads to frustration, with no interference from P.T.A.'s or politicians, schoolmarms and masters did not spare the rod. The swish of a hickory or birch switch—though some preferred willow which was more flexible—was as common a sound in the classroom as the chanting of "A, B, C."

The unruly usually took reprimands and whipping with good grace. However, sometimes they rebelled. But "Turn Outs" and "Takeovers" were accepted by early educators as just another occupational hazard.

A "Turn Out" consisted of forcing everyone out of school by stuffing the chimney with rags and paper, causing smoke to back up into the building. When the coughing and sneezing teacher retreated, the students immediately blocked the doors and windows so that he could not reenter and resume classes. Rules of the game specified, however, that if the master gained entry, the "Turn Out" was automatically over and the pupils returned to their seats, and quietly waited for the punishment they knew was their due.

Older boys usually planned a "Take Over." They came to school early in the morning and entered it through a window that had been deliberately left unlatched the previous afternoon. Once inside, they barricaded the door with desks and chairs, blocked all windows and then settled down for the siege

Upon arriving, teacher would try to talk the pupils into immediate surrender, stressing that if they gave up, their punishment would be trivial compared to what it would be if his terms were not accepted. They rarely were. The master would then seek help in storming the schoolhouse from those pupils who had not joined the mutineers. He did not often get it, for the youngsters knew if they aided him, they faced reprisal from the older boys. Moreover, they were enjoying the battle — and getting time off from school in the bargain! Therefore, forced to handle the situation alone, the teacher would tuck his books in the crotch of a nearby tree, remove his coat, roll up his sleeves and launch his attack.

From peepholes in their barricade the boys would watch as he circled the building hoping to find a flaw in their defenses. His every move was announced with shouts of, "He's heading for the rear!" — "He's going to the last window!"

Eventually, the master was either able to crawl into the woodshed through a window and push open the schoolroom door or smoke his pupils out. If the door proved too stoutly defended, he would take a gunny sack from the shed, fill it with leaves, stuff it down the chimney, set it afire and then cover the chimney. The teacher then sat down and waited for his smoke screen to work. In time, the door opened and the culprits with eyes smarting, would rush out into the arms of the master who was waiting with a supply of limber switches.

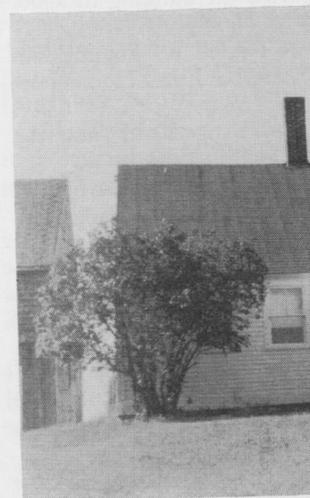
### SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The following brief account gives the location of the school houses and school districts for Gilford in 1872. Relatively little is known concerning the old school houses as school was often held in private homes. Moreover, some districts had several school buildings and the district numbers were changed from time to time.

School district No. 1 was located at the intervale and had a large attendance. The first building used as a school was located on the side of a hill in Sawyers' Pasture and later was moved. The building was at one time located close to the brook but was moved, as in the spring-time the brook would overflow and flood the school. Miss Julie Hunt taught here for several years. It is now the George Sawyer home.

District No. 2 was the Carr School situated just below the Peter Kling home. The foundation can still be seen at that spot. The building was moved to Lily Pond after it was no longer used as a school building and became the Bernard Smith home.

District No. 3 was called the Mooney School. The building (often referred to as the Little Red School House) looks much as it did in 1865. It was formerly located across the street in the Grant pasture and was used as a cattle shed by the Grants. Sam Grant relates that children attending school used to frighten his father's cattle and make them wild. Therefore, his father told the town that it could use the building only if it was set across the road so his cattle would not be bothered.



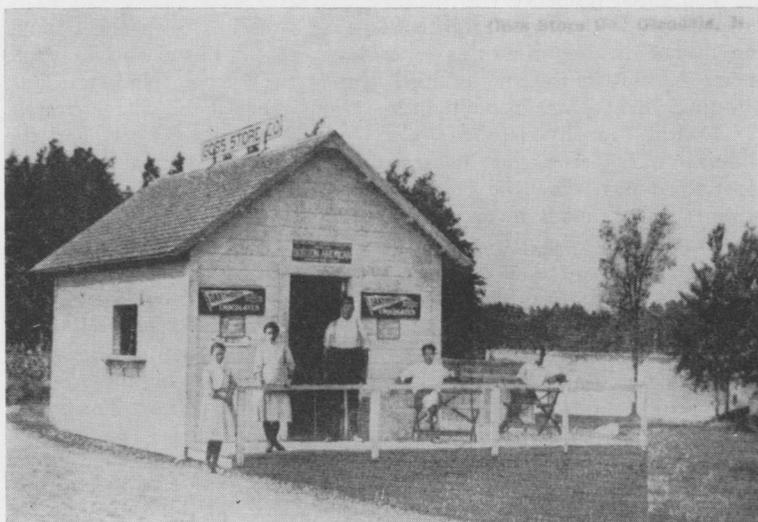
THE  
(M



THE N



THE OLD WEEKS HOMESTEAD  
(Mrs. Grace M. Weeks)



THE NOAH GOSS STORE CO., GLENDALE  
(Dorothy's Restaurant)

This was done and the building is still at the corner of Glidden Road. Mr. Grant recalls that Mr. Tom Guay remodeled the building in about 1902.

District No. 4, the Laconia School, was located on South Main Street near the Congregational Church where the Elks' Home now stands.

District No. 5, the Thyngs School, was on Thyngs Road (now the Frank Bean Road). Nothing remains of the building today.

District No. 6 was the Lily Pond School. Originally it was located closer to the corner of the intersection. It is presently occupied by Arthur Haskell. The home of Herbert Dore which is next to the Haskell home, is built from the building that used to serve as the school's woodshed and privy.

District No. 7 was known as White Oaks School. The building is still standing and is now owned by Mrs. Dorilla Sargeant, who purchased it from the city of Laconia in 1927. It sets off the road on the right just above the Dame Farm on the White Oaks Road.

District No. 8 was at Gilford Village where school was held at various places. The home of Elverton Whitney was for many years the Village School. Another early school in the village was located on Hoyt Road near the Philip Labonte home. For about four years a private school on the high school level was held in the town hall. James M. Ames, Julia Gove and Ansel Sawyer were responsible for forming this school. Gertrude Bartlett was the teacher for the four winters that the school was in session and boarded at the Levi Sawyer home, now the Van Etten residence.

A second school of "Higher Learning" was held over the Grange Hall. The instructor at this school was D. C. Bliss, who in 1898, operated Bliss College on the third floor of the Laconia National Bank Building. School was also taught at various times at the village church.

District No. 9 was called "The Under Mountain School" and the building which served as the school house is still on the hillside of Hoyt Road just below the Grace Weeks residence. It now serves as a summer home and is owned by Mrs. Ann Ruther. The double door privy marked *Boys* and *Girls* still stands at the rear of the building.

District No. 10 is now the home of Richard Swain on Liberty Hill. This school was formerly located across the road from its present location. It served for many years as the Liberty Hill School House.

District No. 11. The School building for this district, known as "The Back of the Mountain School" was located just off the road on the bank of the brook on the right beyond the Arlberg Inn. The corner stones and other rocks from the foundation are still there.

District No. 12. The building used as a schoolhouse in district twelve is on Morrill Street and is presently the home of Mrs. G. A. Jarvin. It was called the Morrill School because of the large number of Morrills that attended it.

District No. 13. This district was the Lake Village section and

consisted of three schools. of the building used as the C of the present Mechanic Street third was located west of the Belvidere Street. The building was destroyed by Fire in 1903.

A very early school is said to have been held in Lakeport, which is also thought to be where the first school was about 1795.

District No. 14. This district was situated on the right beyond the abandoned for years, then sold to adjoining property. Later it was moved to another site.

The old school on Schoonmaker Street was Peterson home and was sold to his blacksmith shop. The school was used for schools for short periods.

#### GILFORD

Once established in the town, they desired their blessings and desiring a church. Therefore, on the summit of a hill, on the Ralph Henry place, the "Upper Church" was built in 1792. Elder Martin served as pastor.

Martin A. Haynes in his history describes this building as follows:

"It was a stately edifice, with a double door in front leading to the building. The door opened west and south; a sounding board, a pulpit, and the signers' seats (the seats were oblong) pews, above and below the pulpit, banisters, with double rows of windows, grand appearance commanding the view, and pride to the townsman. It endured for ages, and yet it stands on the summit of a hill, about six hundred feet above the commanding one of the finest prospects in itself a conspicuous landmark in this region."

Many of the residents of the town in 1797 they held a council at the site of the present of a Baptist Church building. The following year, however, a meeting was held with Richard Martin as pastor.

As the years passed, many of the residents became citizens of the town.

consisted of three schools. The first was on Pear Street at the end of the building used as the City Barn. Another was located at the site of the present Mechanic Street school, but was destroyed by fire. The third was located west of the bridge in Lakeport on Elm Street near Belvidere Street. The building was destroyed during the Lakeport Fire in 1903.

A very early school is said to have been operated at 95 Gold Street in Lakeport, which is also the oldest house there. The date of this school was about 1795.

District No. 14. This district had a "Dame School" which was situated on the right beyond The Hampshire House. The building was abandoned for years, then sold by the town to a Mr. Mason who owned adjoining property. Later it was moved by Mell Drew of Laconia to another site.

The old school on Schoolhouse Hill was located near the C. W. Peterson home and was sold by the town to Charles Gove who added it to his blacksmith shop. Other buildings in Gilford also served as schools for short periods.

#### GILFORD'S CHURCHES

Once established in the "Upper Parish" the settlers, grateful for their blessings and desiring a place to worship God, decided to build a church. Therefore, on the summit of Gunstock Hill, near the present Ralph Henry place, the "Upper Parish Meeting House" was erected in 1792. Elder Martin served as its first minister.

Martin A. Haynes in his "One Hundredth Anniversary of Gilford" describes this building as follows:

"It was a stately edifice, two stories in height, steepleless, a broad door in front leading to the broad aisle, galleries on three sides, the east, west and south; a sounding board, suspended over the high and narrow pulpit, and the signers' seats opposite in the left; square (and a few oblong) pews, above and below; built-in panel work, with rail and banisters, with double rows of small and thickly set windows making a grand appearance commanding admiration in the beholder, and wonder and pride to the townsman. Its timbers were massive and should have endured for ages, and yet it stood scarcely fifty years. It sat on the very summit of a hill, about six hundred feet above the lake level, and commanding one of the finest prospects and scenery of New England, and itself a conspicuous landmark and object of veneration and beauty in all this region."

Many of the residents of Gilford were Baptists and on October 12, 1797 they held a council at the Meeting House to discuss the establishment of a Baptist Church but no agreement could be reached. The following year, however, a Free Will Baptist Church was organized with Richard Martin as pastor.

As the years passed, members of other religious denominations became citizens of the town. Therefore, an agreement was made by

which the Meeting House was used jointly for services by the Free Will Baptist, the Christian Baptist, the Congregationalist and Universalist congregations. Eventually, because of the confusion this created and ill-feeling between the various groups, each faith held services in various locations. However, town meetings were held in the Meeting House until 1840 when the present Town Hall was built. Then it was sold to Captain Benjamin Weeks and demolished.

As the Free Will Baptists wished to have a building in which to hold services, that group formed a committee consisting of Barnard Morrill, John P. Smith and Benjamin Rowe to formulate plans for a meeting place. The trio drew plans for a church and suggested selling pews to defray the expense of building it. Construction was begun in July 1833 and the building—presently the Gilford Community Church—which cost \$1,100 was dedicated on New Year's Day, 1835.

In 1898 the bell of this church cracked. This created a serious situation. For not only did the bell summon the faithful to services on Sunday mornings, but it was also tolled on important occasions. Perhaps its most unusual function was that of announcing a death in the community. The signal was two quick strokes, struck three times in succession. Single strokes, spaced five seconds apart gave the age of the deceased.

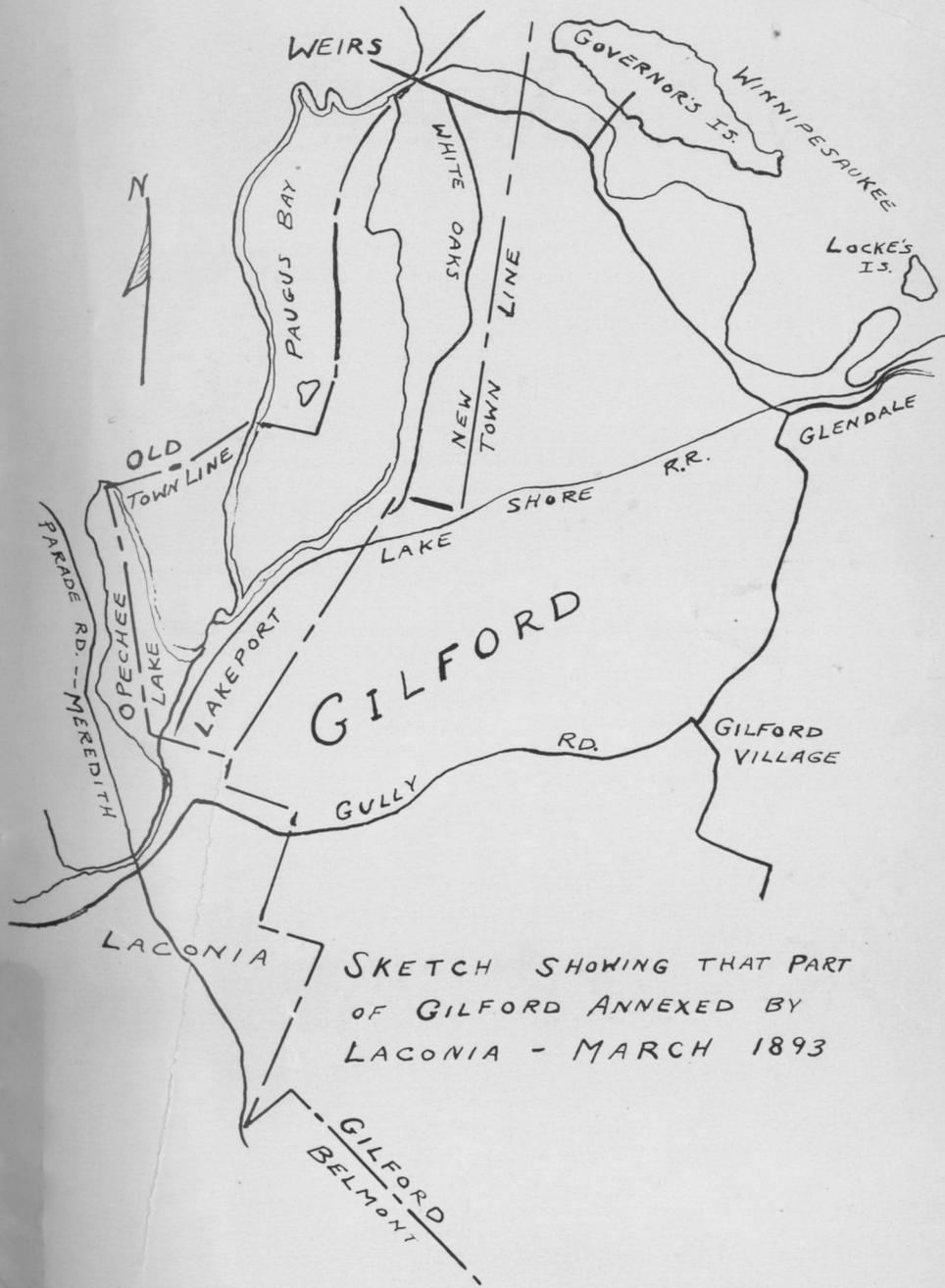
The price of a new bell and the cost of hanging it was met by funds made available in the will of Julia A. Ladd of Shirley, Massachusetts, through the efforts of Herman S. Hoyt of Boston. Hoyt also donated \$513 for the purpose of repairing and remodeling the building. As a result, a vestry was constructed in the old singer's gallery, cushions were placed on the pews and a pulpit suite added. An organ was also installed. Mr. Hoyt then presented the church with a chandelier, eight side lamps and a silver communion service.

At the same time, Rev. John G. Munsey, who filled the pulpit at this time, was given a pewter communion set consisting of a large goblet and plate, by the congregation. The set is now on display in the Historical Society Building through the generosity of Mrs. Ruth Munsey Weeks.

In the early 1900's services were held by the First Fruit Harvesters over the Grange Hall which was then Jones' Store. A group of Dowie Followers met at the home of Thomas Britton, now occupied by Dr. Willis Hoyt.

The Universalists built a church on Main Street and occupied it for several years. After a period of disuse, it was purchased by the Methodist Society, completely repaired and utilized as their place of worship until 1933. Finally, in 1941 the building was sold to Mr. Lee of Gilford, who in turn, sold it to Rev. Mazie Sheppard of Meredith. Two years later, the land on which the structure stood was purchased by George Ames, formerly of Gilford. He then gave the property to the town for the purpose of incorporating an historical society in the memory of his father Thompson Ames. On November 18, 1943, the land was deeded to the Thompson Ames Historical Society.





SKETCH SHOWING THAT PART  
 OF GILFORD ANNEXED BY  
 LACONIA - MARCH 1893



OLD GILFORD VILLAGE SCHOOL HOUSE  
(Elverton Whitney Home)



EARLY VIEW OF BELKNAP MOUNTAIN SHOWING THE WHITNEY PLACE ON HOYT ROAD  
AND THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE AT UPPER RIGHT, ABOUT 1890.

"To the Honorable State of New Hampshire first Wednesday of June, 1890.

"We the subscribers, of Gilmanton in said state

"That said town is inhabitants so numerous, the public business of said town

"That the undersigned miles to attend town meetings is so inconvenient and oppressive;

"That as the number of inhabitants is now over seven hundred, and the town is so large for the convenience of a large town, it should be divided into two distinct towns;

"We therefore respectfully request that the same may be dissolved, and the same with the inhabitants be divided into two towns, with town privileges, by the Honorable State of New Hampshire.

"The dividing line to be run from the river on the northeasterly side of the town, through lots, in the second division of the town, to the Lower Parish line (so called) on the twelfth range; thence southerly by the first range (And that each lot of land owned by any person in Gilmanton in which said owner be non-residents then the same be situated.) Thence northeasterly to the river running from the river to Winnipese thence southerly by Winnipese. Including all the islands in the town of Gilmanton. Agreeable to a resolution passed on Monday, the 27th day of June, 1890, as may appear by said report.

"We would farther request that the dividing line would be the most convenient and generally of any that can be run, and that the same be residing within the above described town, twenty, the above described town; — And your petitioners pray.

"Gilmanton, June 5, 1890.  
(Signed by)

"To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened at Concord on the first Wednesday of June, instant:

"We the subscribers, inhabitants of the northerly part of the town of Gilmanton in said state, respectfully represent —

"That said town is so large in point of territory, and the inhabitants so numerous, that it is extremely inconvenient to transact the public business of said town;

"That the undersigned are obliged to travel from five to twenty miles to attend town meeting, which burden, to many, is very inconvenient and oppressive;

"That as the number of legal voters in the whole town exceeds seven hundred, and the territory is so extensive, it would add much to the convenience of a large majority of the inhabitants to have the town divided into two distinct towns.

"We therefore respectfully pray that the tract of land hereinafter described may be disannexed from the town of Gilmanton, and that the same with the inhabitants thereof, may be incorporated into a town, with town privileges, by the name of Gilford:

"The dividing line to begin on the easterly side of Winnepeseogee river on the northeasterly side of the eleventh range of hundred acre lots, in the second division in said town, running on said eleventh range southeasterly to the end of said range; thence northeasterly on the Lower Parish line (so called) to the easterly corner of lot No. one in the twelfth range; thence north about seventy-five degrees east end of lot No. seven in the first range of Masonian lots in said Gilmanton, (And that each lot of land that may be cut by said division line which is owned by any person in Gilmanton shall be considered belonging to the town in which said owner or owners belongs, but if said owners shall be non-residents then the land shall belong to the town in which it is situated.) Thence northerly on the dividing line between Alton and Gilmanton to Winnepeseogee Lake; thence westerly by said lake to the river running from the same place to a place called Great Wares; thence southerly by Winnepeseogee River to the bounds first mentioned. Including all the islands in said lake and river belonging to said Gilmanton. Agreeable to a vote of the inhabitants of said Gilmanton on Monday, the 27th day of May last, and the reports of their committees, as may appear by said reports.

"We would farther represent that the above contemplated division line would be the most convenient for the inhabitants of said town generally of any that can be drawn; and as the number of legal voters residing within the above named limits exceeds two hundred and twenty, the above described tract would make a very conveniently situated town; — And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

"Gilmanton, June 5, 1811.

(Signed by) "Moses Rowell and 146 others."

"State of New Hampshire.

"In the Senate, June 19th, 1811. — Upon reading and considering the petition of the inhabitants of Gilmanton: Voted, that the petitioners be heard on their petition before the General Court, on the first Tuesday of their next session, and that they cause a copy of the petition and order of Court thereon to be posted up in three public places, in said Gilmanton, at least six weeks before the second Tuesday of March next; also that they cause the Town Clerk to be served with a copy of the same, the like term of time before the said second Tuesday in March; that any person or persons may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer should not be granted. Sent down for concurrence.

"Peter Farnum, Assistant Clerk.

"In the House of Representatives the same day, read and concurred.

"A true copy, attest,

Clement Storer, Speaker.  
Moses L. Neal,  
Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Copy of the act creating the town of Giford:

"STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twelve.

"An act to incorporate the inhabitants of the northerly part (L.S.) of Gilmanton into a separate town with all the privileges and immunities of the other towns of the State.

"Whereas a petition signed by a number of the inhabitants of the town of Gilmanton, praying to be incorporated into a separate town, has been presented to the General Court of the State, and the prayer thereof appearing reasonable: Therefore —

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened, that all the land and inhabitants within the following limits, namely: Beginning at the easterly side of the Winnipisseogee river on the northeasterly side of the eleventh range of hundred acre lots in the second division in said town, thence running southeasterly on said range line to the east end of said range, thence northeasterly to the northeast corner of lot No. one on the twelfth range, thence north about seventy-five degrees east three miles and about ninety rods to Alton line at the east end of lot No. seven in the first range of Masonian lots in Gilmanton, thence north and west on said Alton line to the Winnipisseogee Lake, thence westerly on said lake and river to the first mentioned bounds, including all the islands in said lake annexed to the town of Gilmanton — Be and the same are incorporated into a town by the name of Gilford, and the inhabitants who now reside or shall hereafter reside within the above mentioned bounds, are made and constituted a body politic and corporate and invested with all the



THE V  
(



TH  
(M



THE WHITE OAKS SCHOOL HOUSE  
(Mrs. Dorilla Sargeant)



THE MORRILL SCHOOL HOUSE  
(Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Jarvin)

powers, privileges and immunities which other towns in the State are entitled to enjoy, to maintain a district town, to have continuance and succession forever.

"And be it further enacted, that each lot of land which may be dissected by the aforesaid divisional line which is owned by any inhabitant of Gilmanton or Gilford shall be considered as belonging to the town in which said owner resides, but if such owner shall be a non-resident in either of said towns, the lot shall be taxed in the town of Gilmanton.

"And be it further enacted, that all moneys or other property on hand or now due, or that shall hereafter become due to or be the property of the town of Gilmanton by virtue of any grant or other act done or performed before the passing of this act, shall be divided between the remaining town of Gilmanton and the said town of Gilford according to their present proportion of public taxes, excepting the parsonage right of land, the improvement of which shall be appurtenant to the town in which said land lies, and excepting the moneys arising from the sale of two lots of land granted by the proprietors of Gilmanton for the use of ministry, which money shall be the property of the town in which said lots respectively lie.

"Provided, always, that nothing in this act contained shall in anywise release said northerly part of the town of Gilmanton from paying their proportion of the support of any poor now residing in other towns, or their offsprings whom by the law the town of Gilmanton may hereafter be liable to relief or support; but the said town of Gilford shall be holden to pay their proportion of such debts, and the relief of such poor in the same way and manner as if this act had not been passed.

"And be it further enacted, that Benjamin Weeks, Esquire, and Simeon Hoit, or either of them be empowered to call a meeting of the inhabitants of the said town of Gilford, for the purpose of choosing all necessary town officers to continue in office until the annual town meeting of said town for the choice of town officers, which shall forever be holden in the month of March, and the said Benjamin Weeks and Simeon Hoit or either of them shall preside in said meeting until a Moderator be chosen to govern the same; which meeting shall be holden in the month of July next, and shall be warned by posting up notifications at all the meeting houses in said town of Gilford fourteen days prior to the days of holding the same. Provided, however, that all town officers residing within the limits of said town of Gilford and chosen by the town of Gilmanton shall continue in their respective offices during the time for which they were elected, with full power to execute the same, and all taxes already assessed or that may during the present year be assessed by the Selectmen of the Town of Gilmanton upon the inhabitants residing within the limits of Gilford shall and may be levied and collected from said inhabitants by the proper officers of the town of Gilmanton.

"And provided further, that all public taxes which the town of Gilmanton shall or may be compelled to assess before a new act of pro-

portioning the public taxes a pass, may be assessed, levied town of Gilmanton upon the the selectmen of the town of their proportion of such pub the treasury of The Town of if this act had not passed.

"any herein to the contr

"STATE C

"*In the House of Repres*  
bill having had three several  
Sent up for concurrence

"*In Senate*, June 16th, 1  
time was enacted.

"Same day by the Gove

"Recorded agreeable to  
"Attest,

A NAME I

Once the "Upper Parish were faced with the problem

In accordance with the a name, was bestowed in o citizens, Captain Samuel B. representative to the State Legislat and the War of 1812.

Because he had taken p in South Carolina during t settlement *Guilford*.

However, on the petiti spelled *Gilford*. Therefore Concord contain the same m source of the misspelling. So after working for hours wr others claim he didn't know hold the letter was left out Mason himself was to blam poor speller. His descenda ability to spell by explaining who well may have misspell

portioning the public taxes among the several towns in this state shall pass, may be assessed, levied and collected by the proper officers of the town of Gilmanton upon the inhabitants of the town of Gilford, in case the selectmen of the town of Gilford neglect to assess, levy and collect their proportion of such public taxes and pay the same seasonably into the treasury of The Town of Gilmanton in the same way and manner as if this act had not passed.

"any herein to the contrary notwithstanding.

"STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

"*In the House of Representatives*, June 13th, 1812. — The foregoing bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

Sent up for concurrence.

Clement Storer, Speaker.

"*In Senate*, June 16th, 1812. — This bill having been read a third time was enacted.

Joshua Darling, President.

"Same day by the Governor approved.

William Plummer.

"Recorded agreeable to the original.

"Attest,

Saml Sparhawk, Sect."

#### A NAME FOR THE NEW TOWN

Once the "Upper Parish" separated from Gilmanton, its residents were faced with the problem of choosing a name for the community.

In accordance with the custom of the time, the honor of selecting a name, was bestowed in one of the town's oldest and most famous citizens, Captain Samuel B. Mason. He was an early settler, representative to the State Legislature and a veteran of both the Revolution and the War of 1812.

Because he had taken part in the battle of Guilford Court House in South Carolina during the Revolution, Mason decided to call the settlement *Guilford*.

However, on the petition to establish the new town, the word was spelled *Gilford*. Therefore, the incorporation papers drawn up in Concord contain the same mistake. There are several theories as to the source of the misspelling. Some say that the town clerk was so fatigued after working for hours writing the petition that he became careless; others claim he didn't know a "u" belonged in the word. Still others hold the letter was left out deliberately. However, it is possible that Mason himself was to blame — he had the reputation of being a very poor speller. His descendants for years laughingly excused their inability to spell by explaining they had inherited the trait from the man who well may have misspelled the town's original name.



THE LILY POND SCHOOL HOUSE  
(Mr. Arthur Haskell)



THE CARR SCHOOL HOUSE  
(Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Moody)

## TOWN

One of the biggest events was town meeting and Gilford affair. Families from outlying areas packed in lard pails. No town or two of cider. Early arrival Sanborn wagon; for the best and Jonathan Colby. As soon as quickly spread around that town.

In addition to regular town meetings also held on town meeting on the town warrant was quarterly recess which would affect their throats. Trouble usual — this was the name given to Laconia areas. Fights and jug had been passed around. horse always came up and used street between the outstanding.

The day usually ended at a store or tavern, discussing problems women visited over a cup of coffee.

Before the town was first held in Gilmanton. Gilford the old Belknap Mountain road the Murray Weeks home past ton. It is still passable by jeep.

## HISTORY OF

According to *Winnispesaukee* Island, near the Weirs, was a grant, which formerly included the island is now a part. U.S. Lake Region, Gilmantown was Province of New Hampshire England's appointee, was included by the purchasers of the original grant was made in 1727, the first John Wentworth, lieutenant signed the grant and chartered the grant was that '500 acres to governor and equal reservation to governor, both reservations to Pond.'

## TOWN MEETINGS

One of the biggest events in early New Hampshire communities was town meeting and Gilford was no exception. It was an all day affair. Families from outlying areas attended with picnic lunches packed in lard pails. No town meeting was complete without a jug or two of cider. Early arrivals would watch down the road for the Sanborn wagon; for the best cider came from the cellars of Joe Sanborn and Jonathan Colby. As soon as the wagon appeared word would quickly spread around that two or three jugs were under the seat.

In addition to regular business, state and national elections were also held on town meeting day; and many a long drawn out article on the town warrant was quickly settled on the promise of a fifteen minute recess which would allow the men to break open a jug and wet their throats. Trouble usually started when the "Towneys" arrived, — this was the name given to those voters from the Lake Village and Laconia areas. Fights and brawls were common, especially after the jug had been passed around. A difference of opinion as to the fastest horse always came up and usually ended with a race down the village street between the outstanding rivals.

The day usually ended with a gathering of the men at the village store or tavern, discussing politics, crops, and other matters, while the women visited over a cup of tea and exchanged recipes and gossip.

Before the town was incorporated in 1812, town meetings were held in Gilmanton. Gilford citizens traveled to Gilmanton by way of the old Belknap Mountain road (the Commons). This road led from the Murray Weeks home past the old Bachelder place across to Gilmanton. It is still passable by jeep.

## HISTORY OF GOVERNOR'S ISLAND

According to *Winnepesaukee Lake Country Gleanings* "Governor's Island, near the Weirs, was originally a part of the old Gilmantown grant, which formerly included the present town of Gilford, of which the island is now a part. Unlike all other towns in the Winnepesaukee Lake Region, Gilmantown was granted and chartered as a town by the Province of New Hampshire, while Governor Shute, the King of England's appointee, was in power. All other town grants were made by the purchasers of the old Mason grant. When the Gilmantown grant was made in 1727, Governor Shute was in England, and the first John Wentworth, lieutenant-governor, was acting-governor and signed the grant and charter of Gilmantown. One of the conditions of the grant was that '500 acres and a house lot' should be reserved for the governor and equal reservation was to be made for the lieutenant-governor, both reservations to be on the 'southerly shore of Winipisiokee Pond.'

"Governor Shute never returned to his office in New England and never claimed his reservation, which was laid out for him by the proprietors of Gilmantown in the present intervale section of Gilford, a short distance southeast of Governor's Island. The island itself was reserved for Acting-Governor Wentworth, at his own request. But as nothing was done in the way of development of this region for about forty years after the Gilmantown grant was made, the island remained in its natural state until the third Governor Wentworth (also an appointee of the King of England) came into office as governor of the Province of New Hampshire.'

"Governor John the Second, as he was called also received the appointment of 'surveyor of the king's woods,' including all the territory about the lake. "Kingwood" was the first name given to a vast tract on the northeasterly side of Lake Winnepesaukee, in which he acquired a large reservation on the north shore of Lake Wentworth, embraced in the later town of Wolfeboro, where he established a temporary summer capital. Governor John the Second immediately became interested in the development of the entire Winnepesaukee Lake Region, caused the first survey of the lake and its islands to be made, roads to be constructed and started the first organized movement to induce settlement.'

"Aware that his uncle, Governor John the First, had been granted Governor's Island, he applied for a transfer of the grant to himself, for the purpose, tradition states, of establishing here a magnificent permanent summer capital. The validity of the first Governor Wentworth's title to the island not being clear, there being simply an entry concerning the reservation upon the records of the Gilmanton proprietors, and it appearing that both the grantee and the town had abandoned their claims, the claimants of the Masonian 'rights' were disposed to include the island within their remaining 'holdings'. The matter of the title was not fully straightened out until 1772, when, the purchasers of the Masonian grant and rights having succeeded in establishing their claims, by which they were admitted owners of all ungranted territory in the lake region (including all the islands in Lake Winnepesaukee), passed the following measure, giving Governor John Wentworth the Second a clear title to Governor's Island:

"Whereas, there is an island lying in the westerly part of Winipisiokee Pond which has heretofore been called, distinguished and known as Governor's Island, not severed to the particular right of any proprietor, it is considered and therefore voted that all the right, title, interest and estate of said proprietors of, in and to the said island in Winipisiokee Pond, called, distinguished and known by the name of Governor's Island, be and hereby is granted to His Excellency John Wentworth, Esq., to have and to hold the said Island to him the said John Wentworth, Esq., his heirs and assigns forever. A true copy attest.

"Dated July 29, 1772. Geo. Jaffrey, Proprietors' Clerk

"Governor Wentworth for four years, until dispossessed by the Revolution, which then reverted to the State of New Hampshire. During his brief ownership he surveyed and partly laid out the island, including the broad approach to the former great colonial mansion.

"After Governor Wentworth's death, the shares of the fifteen proprietors of the islands in the lake at one time and his heirs retained it until the Revolution, when it was improved to any great extent, with the exception of the clearing of the old mansion, the island remained in its natural state of large pine trees, which were not cut because there were no sawmills in the market. The only way to get down the trees and burn the land after the Revolution was removed in regard to saving the king's navy.'

Eleazer Davis, who had purchased the island in 1799 from the Peabodys, was there. Tradition tells that he went away from his home and worked on a cotton plantation. He was killed down a slave, killing him. His estate was reimbursed the owner by payment was made, the offer of the deceased slave. Natt had his father to send the required money, insisted upon his immediately.

When Natt arrived, he said to his father, "Now, Natt, you h'aint got no money on the island an' you go on there a while, I'll have you run away ag'in I'll have you consarn ye."

The island was then abandoned and he was glad to get out of his trouble.

He hired men to work on the island and they returned for their labor. Before he returned he had a unique quality of making people work for the sake of hearing him talk. He had a lot of money. After filling his meager needs he would show them the way to get them what fine fellows they were. All they seemed to require, a

"Governor Wentworth was in possession of the island three or four years, until dispossessed by the colonists, when it seems to have reverted to the State of New Hampshire during the Revolutionary War. During his brief ownership of the island he caused it to be surveyed and partly laid out, in accordance with his elaborate plans, including the broad approach or roadway leading up to the site of the former great colonial mansion, half-way up the hill."

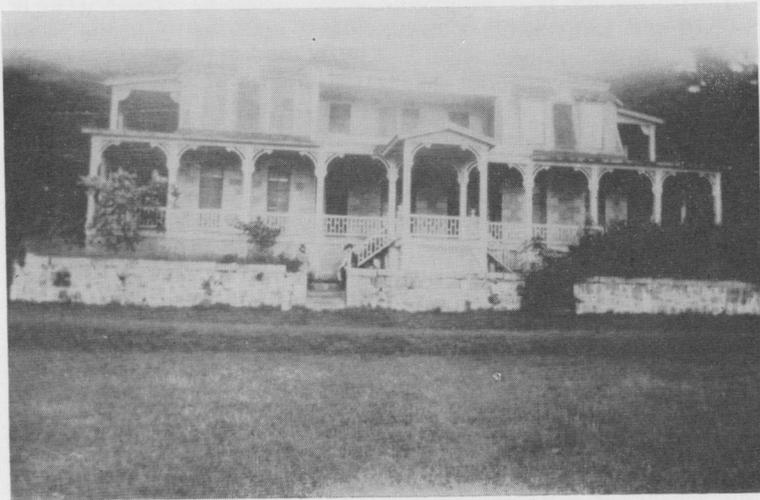
"After Governor Wentworth was dispossessed, Joshua Peirce, one of the fifteen proprietors of the old Mason grant who owned all the islands in the lake at one time, secured possession of the Island and he and his heirs retained it until 1799, though it does not appear to have been improved to any great extent during their occupancy. With the exception of the clearing on the southerly side, in the vicinity of the old mansion, the island remained nearly covered with a heavy growth of large pine trees, which were comparatively worthless at that time, because there were no sawmills and no means of getting the logs to market. The only way to get rid of this fine old growth was to cut down the trees and burn them. This was the usual method of clearing the land after the Revolution, when England's restrictions had been removed in regard to saving all pine trees 'suitable for masts for the king's navy.'

Eleazer Davis, who had a large farm on Alton Ridge, bought the island in 1799 from the Peirce heirs and installed his son, Nathaniel there. Tradition tells that Nathaniel or "Natt" as he was called, ran away from his home and went South where he became an overseer on a cotton plantation. He was very ill-tempered and one day struck down a slave, killing him. By law, anyone who killed a slave had to reimburse the owner by paying the price of two slaves, and until the payment was made, the offender was held in custody by the owner of the deceased slave. Natt had no money, but he finally persuaded his father to send the required amount. However, the old gentleman insisted upon his immediately returning home.

When Natt arrived, his father took him to the island and said, "Now, Natt, you h'aint good for nothing at all, but there's that there island an' you go on there an' live or starve; an' if I catch you trying to run away ag'in I'll have you locked up, an maybe you'll be hanged, consarn ye."

The island was then almost an unbroken wilderness, but Natt was glad to get out of his trouble so easily.

He hired men to work for him, offering them board and room in return for their labor. Before long, Natt discovered that he had the unique quality of making people work for him for nothing, just for the sake of hearing him talk. For it was rarely that any of them got any money. After filling his men with "lots of grub and high faluting talk," he would show them the work to be done, pat them on the back, tell them what fine fellows they were and urge them to go to it. That was all they seemed to require, and most of them would nearly break their



MANSION HOUSE ON GOVERNOR'S ISLAND. WAS ONCE THE SUMMER RESIDENCE OF THE GERMAN EMBASSY. IT WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE IN 1934

backs trying to see who could  
earned for Natt the title of

Natt Davis was also a  
which swept New England  
was able to convince a la  
surrounding areas, that the  
and the take-off point for  
Governor's Island. Many h  
they failed to plant crops  
some instances, neighbors o  
the matter in their own h  
for them. "The day and  
end was set and postponed  
converts were so carried aw  
'ascension robes' and gath  
awaited 'the last call.' Th  
were used as a gathering p  
are said to be the largest ev

History has left no rec  
explain why the end of the  
However, it is safe to assu  
into working for him for  
been able to afford a suitab

For several years the  
and a sizeable community  
Bridge. Serving the two  
farmers in outlying area  
church, a school, and a c  
hogsheads to be sent to Po  
the West Indies to the col

Ike Morrill of Gilford  
thousand dollars from the  
cattle and piled up brush at  
from straying. His friend  
money for the island and  
laughed less, when, in 188  
noted politician and newsp

Clarence Dame of Gil  
the island during the time  
to stone and used it exte  
buildings. When the "ca  
known, was built, forty  
provided shade.

Mr. Hutchins had a h  
the island during the sum  
geese and several head of  
and six hundred dollars a

backs trying to see who could do the most. It was these qualities that earned for Natt the title of "Sage of Davisville."

Natt Davis was also a leading figure in the Millerite movement which swept New England in 1834. By using his "gift of gab," Natt was able to convince a large number of people in Davisville and surrounding areas, that the world was coming to an end that summer and the take-off point for the celestial kingdom was his farm on Governor's Island. Many had so much faith in Natt Davis's word, that they failed to plant crops or to harvest those they had planted. In some instances, neighbors of such individuals and town officials took the matter in their own hands and had crops planted and harvested for them. "The day and hour when the world was to come to an end was set and postponed several times during the summer, and the converts were so carried away with their belief that they donned their 'ascension robes' and gathered in the fields on top of the hill and awaited 'the last call.' The large flat fields north of the Davis house were used as a gathering place by this religious body. Their meetings are said to be the largest ever held in this locality.

History has left no record to show how Natt Davis was able to explain why the end of the world did not come at the appointed time. However, it is safe to assume that a man who was able to talk others into working for him for nothing, (and like it) would certainly have been able to afford a suitable and satisfactory explanation.

For several years the community of Davisville enjoyed prosperity and a sizeable community was established in the vicinity of Davis Bridge. Serving the two dozen or so residences and numerous farmers in outlying areas, were two stores, a blacksmith shop, a church, a school, and a cooperage which manufactured barrels and hogsheads to be sent to Portsmouth for use in shipping molasses from the West Indies to the colonies.

Ike Morrill of Gilford, purchased the island for the sum of five thousand dollars from the Davis Estate. He used it as a pasture for his cattle and piled up brush at the entrance of the bridge to keep his stock from straying. His friends made fun of him for paying so much money for the island and referred to him as "Crazy Ike." They laughed less, when, in 1880, he sold the island to Stillson Hutchins, a noted politician and newspaper publisher, at a huge profit.

Clarence Dame of Gilford recalls that there was much activity on the island during the time that Mr. Hutchins owned it. He was partial to stone and used it extensively in the construction of all his farm buildings. When the "castle" or "Mansion House" as it was long known, was built, forty men worked on it under an awning that provided shade.

Mr. Hutchins had a herd of Shetland ponies which ran wild over the island during the summer months, also large flocks of ducks and geese and several head of fine pure-bred Jersey cows which cost five and six hundred dollars apiece, a tremendous price in those days. A

seasonally. Yet, for some reason, Gilford's silk industry, began in 1840 was abandoned within twenty years.

A reminder of Rowe's enterprise can be seen at the foot of Rowe Mountain in back of the Frohock place. Here a large mulberry tree still stands.

### SUMMER RESORTS

Gilford's natural beauty and strategic location made it a favorite of tourists at an early date. Moreover, Gilford lay directly in the path of travelers visiting the White Mountains.

Realizing that providing accommodations for summer tourists might be profitable, a few residents began to supply them. At first they opened extra rooms in their homes to guests and later, as business prospered, added more rooms and eventually built camps and cabins.

Among the first to engage in this new enterprise was "Natt" Kimball, proprietor of the Mountain View Farm (now Kings Grant Inn). "Natt" used to meet his summer boarders at the station with his double-seated wagon. He would also take them to the White Mountains and back if they so desired.

Elmer Sanborn entered the summer resort business at an early date. He started at the Winnepesaukee Farm in 1917 and had accommodations for twenty-five to one hundred people. Mr. Sanborn, now 91, is retired and lives in a small house near Winnepesaukee Farm. He enjoys good health, has a keen mind and recalls: "They were a hungry lot of people. Most of the food fed to the boarders was raised right there on the farm. We used to buy sugar and flour by the hundred-weight. During the war food was hard to get and we had to raise more beef and pork. The business got so good that I built the annex and five cottages. Many of our boarders came back year after year. The tourist business really helped Gilford grow, as many people liked it so much they moved here and became year-round residents."

The Lake Shore Park and Dockham Shore areas were favored by tourists. Clarence Dame has many recollections of their early development. He calls on his memory to state, "I can remember the first house that was put on Dockham Shore. It was moved from Glendale across the ice with twenty yoke of oxen. That was quite a sight. It was quite a job getting all those teams assembled. Sam Prescott of Prescott Farms was in charge. He had his oxen and several teams from the County Farm. All the farmers in the area brought their teams over to help. Once they stopped on the ice to rest and the weight was so great that water started seeping over the ice. Mr. Prescott noticed this and hurriedly got everyone going again. This time they didn't stop until they reached shore. For a long time it was the only house on the shore and had only a path leading down to it.

"Alvah Dockham had the first mowing machine in Gilford. When it arrived half the village came over to watch it being put together and

used for the first time. It had there."

TAN

Jeremiah Thing built a the Trask house. His son below the Hoyt Mill and and the mill pond can still be

Thing's mill had an en upstream. The water from hoops covered with wood, th back to the brook. Though recently a hide scraper and s hoops from the flume, timb

Benjamin and Matthias in the village for a short tim in Gilford include: Captain and John Martin also on Gu chased and operated by S. I. I. Morrill and Samuel W Smith Mill on "The Minis than the other mills and was

Before the town had a in their homes. As early as were issued to various resid such licenses were granted in D. Eager and Captain James

Licenses were explicit a served. A typical license f May 15, 1828 reads: "To w to certify that we the subscri by these presents give and town full power and licens retailer from the date here rum, gin, or other spirits in sell mixed liquors part of w witness thereof we have set Gilford in the year 1828."

15 M

used for the first time. It was one of the largest crowds they ever had there."

### TANNING INDUSTRY

Jeremiah Thing built a tannery on Liberty Hill about 1792 near the Trask house. His son, Morrill Thing, also operated a tannery below the Hoyt Mill and above the Hunter Mill. The foundations and the mill pond can still be seen directly behind the Fire Station.

Thing's mill had an enormous dam made of stone ten feet thick upstream. The water from it entered a flume, sixty feet long, of iron hoops covered with wood, then spilled into the pond and was channelled back to the brook. Though operations at this site stopped in 1855, recently a hide scraper and some lead sheeting were unearthed, and iron hoops from the flume, timbers and parts of machinery were found.

Benjamin and Matthias Weeks, father and son, also ran a tannery in the village for a short time. Others who briefly engaged in tanning in Gilford include: Captain James Follet on Gunstock; Richard Martin and John Martin also on Gunstock. The Martin concern was later purchased and operated by S. S. and Joseph Gilman. Bernard Morrill, I. I. Morrill and Samuel Wright had a tannery on the old Hoyt and Smith Mill on "The Ministry Lot." This mill was built much later than the other mills and was run by steam power. It closed about 1920.

### TAVERNS

Before the town had any stores or hotels, individuals sold liquor in their homes. As early as the 1790's, town records show that licenses were issued to various residents to engage in dealing in spirits. Three such licenses were granted in 1812 to Horatio G. Prescott, Lt. Winthrop D. Eager and Captain James Follet.

Licenses were explicit as to the quantity and kinds of liquor to be served. A typical license found on page 258, Vol. I. Town Reports, May 15, 1828 reads: "To whom it may concern — greetings these are to certify that we the subscribed Selectmen of the Town of Gilford do by these presents give and grant unto Benjamin Jewett, Esq. of said town full power and license to exercise the business of a tavern, or retailer from the date here until the 22nd of March 1829 to sell wine, rum, gin, or other spirits in less quantities than one gallon and may sell mixed liquors part of which are spiritors for the time aforesaid in witness thereof we have set our hands. This 22nd day of March at Gilford in the year 1828."

15 May Samuel Leavitt  
Samuel Sanborn  
Ephraim Mallard, Selectmen

In 1823 a license was issued to John Bodger authorizing him to conduct a tavern at the Strafford Hotel in Gilford, whose site is unknown. Possibly, it was the hotel behind Liberty Hill that catered to tourists on their way to the White Mountains as the old Liberty Hill road was once a section of the main highway between Boston and the north. Little data is available about this hotel, but the ruins of its foundation show it was a large building. Excavation of the debris here unearthed a large pewter platter — which bears no maker's mark — in excellent condition.

#### THE PEST HOUSE

A cellar hole about one hundred yards past the Dick Talbot home has been a topic of conversation for many years among Gilfordites, for it marks the supposed site of the town's "Pest House."

In 1813-14 a severe epidemic of "spotted fever" (probably small-pox) swept through the Gilford area. Lancaster's *History of Gilmanton* and other records relate that entire families were wiped out by the plague. The fever reappeared about 1830 and again in about 1845. By this time it had become a practice for communities to isolate the afflicted, placing them in a building (usually an abandoned farm house) as far removed from the center of population as possible. These buildings were appropriately named, "Pest Houses."

The unfortunate occupants of these houses had to treat themselves. The stronger ones nursed the weaker and when a victim died, he was hastily buried. Occasionally a doctor would make a call. Leaving his horse a good half mile from the house, the doctor would walk the remaining distance on foot, giving what little comfort he could to the ill.

The Gilford pest house came into use during the epidemic of 1845. Little is known about the house or its owners, except that it had been unoccupied since about 1840. However, there are many tales connected with it. One relates that five brothers had died there and after the house was destroyed by fire about 1885, five trees grew out of the ashes. Legend claims these represent the souls of the brothers. Years later, the tale runs, a sixth tree invaded the brothers' cellar and took root but "because the brothers resented it" old timers say, was struck by lightning and destroyed. Nevertheless, there is a jagged stump in one corner, while five healthy trees still grow in the cellar and are known locally as "The Brothers."

Research by the Ames Historical Society has established the presence of five unmarked graves in the field to the rear of the cellar — probably the source of Gilford's favorite legend.

Arthur Eaton who recalled the burning of the pest house, states that the men from the village who came to fight the fire, turned back when they realized where it was.



CELLAR FROM THE ENOCH HUNT



THE CALEB M. HUNT HOUSE  
(Lawrence W. Hunt)



ELL FROM THE ENOCH HUNT HOUSE NOW THE HOME OF MR. IRVING KAISER



THE CALEB MARSTON HOMESTEAD BUILT IN 1793  
(Lawrence W. Guild Home, Pictured in 1926)

## THE CATTLE POUND

Gilford has had several cattle pounds, though only one was officially built by the town. It was on the Hoyt Road on a ledge just above the Philip D. Labonte home. However, for convenience, the settlers "back of the mountain" built a pound, but it was in existence for only a short time. Item number 15 on the town warrant dated 9 March, 1813, reads "to see if the town will vote to build a pound the present year."

Item number 24, "voted to postpone the building of a pound for the present year."

Item number 25, "voted to make use of Ebenezer Smith Esq.'s yard for the present year as a pound."

Item number 26, "choose Ebenezer Smith Esq. as pound keeper."

The town also voted at the town meeting to use Ebenezer Smith's yard as a pound through 1815 and accepted:

Item 41, "voted to build a pound the present year."

Item 42, "voted not to accept the offer made by Elder Martin of a piece of ground to build a pound on."

At a town meeting held June 7, 1815, the following was voted:

"Voted to build the pound on one of the four places which have been named and on that place which it can be built on the cheapest.

"Voted that the wall of the pound be four feet thick at the bottom and three at the top and six and a half high and also a door and a lock and the inside of the wall to be plumb."

"Voted to reconsider the above vote as far as it respects the width of the wall at the top and vote that it should be two feet thick at the top."

"Voted that the soil be dug off for the wall at the pound in several places as follows: six inches at Lt. Rand's and six inches at Capt. Hill's and eighteen inches at Capt. Gilman's."

"The building of the pound sold at vendue to Josiah Osgood at sixty-five dollars and to be built between now and the twentieth of October next."

"Voted that the selectmen be the committee to examine the pound after it is built and accept it."

## GILFORD ACADEMY

Gilford Academy, founded in 1820, was housed on Academy Street, Laconia. It enjoyed an excellent reputation and was considered one of the finest schools in the East. Its program was divided into four major groups: The English Course, The Junior Year, The Middle Year, and The Senior Year. The English Course included reading, spelling, geography, arithmetic, history, grammar, and English composition.

The courses in the Junior year were: arithmetic, grammar, philosophy, algebra, ancient geography, natural history, botany, and physiology.

The Middle Year Course included political economy, botany, and rhetoric.

Courses for the Senior Year included moral science, trigonometry, French, German, Latin and

Eventually, the Academy was housed in the graded schools of the town. The Gilford Academy building is on the corner of Main and Court Streets.

Gilford's military history began with the earliest settlers were veterans of the War of 1812, although it was not until 1812 began, although it was not until 1812 sent a detachment to the Hampshire law, the town soldiers held "a muster" Fortunately, the records of fascinating glimpses of years.

The training of the militia when many of them served. To honor these men, Gilford in Lakeport on July 5, 1881, constructed of Concord granite the monument by Post 3 on a complete day of ceremonies.

MT.

The organization of the efforts of R. H. Sanborn meetings were held in Re March 11, 1875, Mt. Belknap in the direction of C. Shaw deputy.

Richard H. Sanborn and Mrs. Daniel Hoyt were the subjects designed to benefit the town out its eighty-seven year history with pot, pan, and trip.

GUN

According to an article in the May, 1895, Gunstock Monthly

The Middle Year Course offered: chemistry, physiology finished, political economy, botany, geology, geography of the heavens, and rhetoric.

Courses for the Seniors were: philosophy, geometry, bookkeeping, moral science, trigonometry, history and poetry. Several languages — French, German, Latin and Italian were also taught.

Eventually, the Academy was consolidated with the high and graded schools of the town. When the old High School was built, the Gilford Academy building was hauled by John Edwards to the corner of Main and Court Streets and is now a part of the Harriman Block.

#### THE MILITIA

Gilford's military history is as old as the town. Many of its earliest settlers were veterans of the Revolution and when the War of 1812 began, although it was the youngest town in the State, Gilford sent a detachment to the battlefields; for, in compliance with New Hampshire law, the townsfolk maintained a militia. The citizen-soldiers held "a muster" several times a year to parade and drill. Fortunately, the records of the militia have been preserved and provide fascinating glimpses of yesteryear.

The training the militia received stood its members in good stead when many of them served in the Federal Army during the Civil War. To honor these men, Gilford erected a monument in Bayside cemetery in Lakeport on July 5, 1880. Designed by J. F. Morrill of Laconia, constructed of Concord granite, it is twenty feet high. The unveiling of the monument by Post 37 and its dedication was the highlight of a complete day of ceremonies.

#### MT. BELKNAP GRANGE

The organization of the Grange in Gilford was largely due to the efforts of R. H. Sanborn, a member of the legislature. Preliminary meetings were held in Reverend Pearsons' brick house and finally, on March 11, 1875, Mt. Belknap Grange Number 52 was established under the direction of C. Shaw, secretary of the State Grange and general deputy.

Richard H. Sanborn was the first Grange Master; and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hoyt were the first to be initiated. Always active in projects designed to benefit the town, Mt. Belknap Grange has also throughout its eighty-seven year history, been noted for the skill of its membership with pot, pan, and traditional recipes.

#### GUNSTOCK MOUNTAIN

According to an article published in the Manchester Union in May, 1895, Gunstock Mountain owes its name to an unusual incident.



FELIX RATTEE, AND LEON PAILLEUR, LEAVING AFTER A SNOW STORM TO ROLL THE ROADS IN GILFORD. PICTURE TAKEN AT THE SMILING HILL FARM IN 1918



THE OLD CARR PLACE  
(Leslie H. Curtis)

It reports that Green Chase was hunting in Gilford and, when Chase stopped to rest, he spotted a large animal. When Chase raised his musket to fire, the animal's companions fled. Chase then threw the club like a club, dealt the animal a blow but broke his gun stock. The animal received its name.

Liberty Hill got its name in 1812 on the Weeks property. A circular pile of rocks which still be seen on a ledge.

#### GILFORD

No book dealing with the history of Gilford without mention of its old buildings. The only other thing to link the town to its original state or modern condition.

While many present-day buildings are their love for history, preservation is quietly gone about repairing the town's early buildings.

This was done by Arthur A. Curtis in a novel entitled, *The House on the Hill*, set against the background of the site of the Bill Rozen house. "Grandma" Barlett buys the house that gave the house its name through a knot hole into the ground. This quaintly written volume covers the Corner and other fragments of the town's history.

In construction and design, the house is a quarian's delight. Only a few remain, and, unfortunately, those that remain are arbitrarily — for many years — steeped in lore and legend.

The Carr Place, now known as Curtis Road (Carr Hill), was built by Joseph Fifield built in 1790 (II-A) was constructed, which passed in front of

It reports that Green Chase and two hunting companions went wildcat hunting in Gilford and, as the snow was quite deep, wore snowshoes. When Chase stopped to repair a broken binding on one of his snowshoes he spotted a large cat on a ledge directly over his head. He raised his musket to fire, but the hammer broke. Seeing this, his companions fled. Chase then took the musket by the barrel and swinging it like a club, dealt the animal a tremendous blow which killed it, but broke his gun stock. Thus, the mountain we know as Gunstock received its name.

Liberty Hill got its name from a flag raised during the War of 1812 on the Weeks property above the present Girl Scout Camp. The circular pile of rocks which were piled around the base of the pole may still be seen on a ledge.

#### GILFORD'S OLD HOMES

No book dealing with the history of Gilford would be complete without mention of its old homes. For these buildings do more than any other thing to link the past with the present. For whether in their original state or modernized, they symbolize yesteryear.

While many present-day owners of these dwellings have, out of their love for history, pride in past generations or sheer enjoyment, quietly gone about repairing their dwellings, seeking no publicity, one of Gilford's early buildings has been immortalized.

This was done by Adelbert Clark, a native of Gilford, who wrote a novel entitled, *The House of the Singing Bottle*. The plot of this tale is set against the background of a quaint Cape Cod house which stood on the site of the Bill Rozen home. It was supposedly haunted, but when "Grandma" Barlett buys it, it is found that the eerie wails and moans that gave the house its evil reputation, were caused by the wind blowing through a knot hole into the neck of a bottle stored under the eaves. This quaintly written volume is also filled with accounts of Martin's Corner and other fragments of Gilford history.

In construction and furnishings Gilford's old houses are an antiquarian's delight. Only a few of them can be described in detail here, and, unfortunately, those chosen for description have had to be picked arbitrarily—for many others contain fascinating features and are steeped in lore and legend.

#### THE CARR PLACE

The Carr Place, now the property of Leslie Curtis, is located on Curtis Road (Carr Hill) just below the Guild place.

Joseph Fifield built this house in 1824. When the new highway (11-A) was constructed, plans were made to abandon the old road which passed in front of the Fifield home. Joseph immediately put his

home up for sale and it was purchased by Joseph P. Smith. The farm tool-shed is known as the "Bean House" as it was in this building that the Bean family lived for many years. It is believed that this was the original home built by the Fifields before the big house was constructed.

In April, 1862, Julia A. Smith, daughter of Joseph P. and Rebecca Smith, was married to Horace L. Carr, son of Richard and Betty Carr. They made their home at the Smith residence and became half owners.

The farm was well adapted to accommodate two families. The east end of the house occupied by the Smiths, contained a large kitchen with a large open fireplace and brick oven for cooking. A large parlor, located on the south side of the house, also had a fireplace. Upstairs over the kitchen were two small bedrooms, and over the parlor a large bedroom with a fireplace.

The west end of the house, occupied by the Carrs, had four rooms — a kitchen, two bedrooms and a parlor. There were fireplaces in the kitchen and parlor. A large hall with front and back stairs separated the house. When Rebecca Smith died in 1869, the property came wholly into the possession of Horace L. Carr.

Horace Carr and Julia Smith had one daughter, Sadie. When Julia Carr died in 1890, Sadie remained on the farm and cared for her father until his death in 1914. The farm then came into the possession of Sadie Carr Curtis and her husband, Charles E. Curtis. In 1928, Leslie Curtis, only son of Sadie and Charles Curtis, became sole owner and he resides on the farm today.

Essentially, the construction of the house remains the same. Although the back stairway and pantry were torn out to accommodate a modern kitchen and an upstairs bathroom added. There are now four large bedrooms instead of five small ones and the original kitchen has become a living room.

In the front parlor stands a lovely old grandfather's clock with an unusual painted face, which was purchased by Robert Carr in 1786 and carted to the old homestead. The corner beams and the old Christian-cross door still remain. The house is beautifully furnished with many antiques, including an old secretary, a chair and a table, which have been handed down for generations.

#### THE COTTON HOUSE

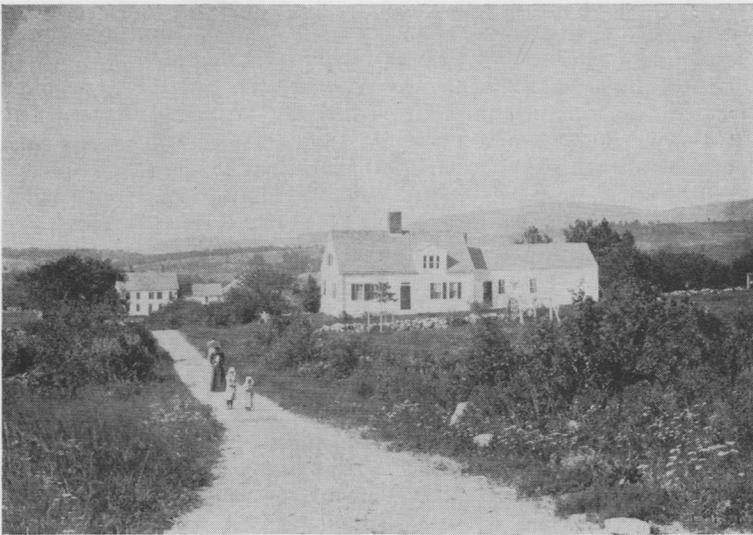
The home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Sheble, perched high on Cotton Hill, commands one of the finest views of lakes and mountains to be found in Gilford. It was built about 1790 by the Cotton family, who also built a number of other houses in this vicinity. Mrs. Esther Dorr Webb, a descendant of another branch of the Cotton family, purchased the property in 1893, at which time the large barn, which stood across the road from the house and obscured the view, was taken down.

The foundation of the house is made of huge granite blocks, and its boards and timbers were sawed at the old Shaker mill, formerly





THE MORRILL PLACE  
(Mr. Frank Varney)



THE COTTON HOUSE 1790  
(Mr. and Mrs. Warren Sheble)

located on Shaker Brook, near Loudon. A tremendous central chimney rests on two brick arches built in the cellar, and has three fireplaces, the largest of which has also an old baking oven at one side. The fourth side of the chimney, facing the entrance, has no fireplace, but into its arch are fitted a number of unusual little cupboards, which give the house its present name, "Queer Cupboards."

An unusual feature of the old Cotton place is the small chapel at the east of the house. Mrs. Webb's son, William Walter Webb, who was the Episcopal Bishop of Milwaukee, had the chapel built for his own and family use in 1920. Before that there was a small chapel in the main house. The present one is modeled after a small Swiss chapel, and its bell came from a little Belgian church demolished by shellfire in World War One. The chapel is dedicated to St. Augustine.

Mrs. Sheble, the present owner, is Bishop Webb's niece.

#### THE HUNT HOUSES

When Abel Hunt settled in Gilford in 1783, there were only a few scattered houses. Although the Lake Shore Road, between Alton Bay and the Weirs, was completed in 1780 by the "proprietors" of Gilmanton for the purpose of inducing settlement in the "Upper Parish," Abel Hunt's farm could be reached only by a blazed trail through the woods and he had to build a road for which the town later reimbursed him. Another blazed trail led from the Lake Shore Road to Lake Village. This "Cartway" was important as the only stores in the vicinity were located at Lake Village and at Meredith Bridge. In later years, when a gristmill was built at Lake Village, Abel Hunt carried bags of corn and meal on his back to and from the mill.

Abel Hunt purchased the old Whittier farm from Ebenezer Smith, Jr. This home is presently occupied by Dr. William J. Baker. Later Hunt built the home now owned by Alger Sherman. This is the building most commonly associated with the Hunt family. Seven generations of Hunts have lived there: William Hunt, Enoch Hunt, William Hunt (son of Enoch), Thomas Jefferson Hunt, Thomas E. Hunt, Perry Hunt, and Stanley Hunt.

Jeremiah Hunt made the shingles for the house and much of the furniture. Both Enoch and Abel Hunt were master carpenters and for a long time Abel had the only wood lathe in Gilford. Several other members of the Hunt family were also skilled carpenters with the result that the Hunt house was well furnished and considered one of the finest homes in Gilford. In later years, much of the old floor boards and panelling were removed and used to build a house in Lakeport. The fireplaces were also changed at this time. In the 1880's an ell of the old house was detached and moved further down the hill where it was converted into a separate building. It is presently owned and occupied by Irving Kaiser.

An interesting story is told of Perry E. Hunt, who, while serving as a soldier in the Civil War, he saw a slight elevation surrounded by a lake, dotted with islands and so impressed him that he went back to find it, to make his home on that part of Lake Winnepesaukee. The background of his dream.

The Hunt family, particularly Perry E. Hunt, has been active in compiling local history. Perry E. Hunt assisted in the historical address at the center of Gilford at the time of its publication.

Perry E. Hunt assisted in the publishing of segments of local history, *Gleanings*.

Eunice Hunt carried on the work and wrote many interesting notes which came into the possession of Atwood and have proved most valuable.

#### THE JEWETT HOUSE

The Jewett name has been prominent in the history of Bennington since Benjamin Jewett settled west of Bennington by Charles H. Bolduc. He was identified by the large bay window. Jewett genealogy states that he built a home here in 1759, in the Bennington district. His holdings were in the Bennington district. Samuel Jewett (first settler) lived in the Bennington village. The first home built by Samuel Jewett was situated to the south of the present location. It was added to this house and it was the present location.

The Jewett family lived in the Bennington village. The house was being built. That house was identified by the large bay window. In 1838, the house was enlarged and was damaged slightly by fire. The roof of the house was remodeled. In 1905 the carriage house was built. This building has been identified by the large bay window. The second story of this building was added and they installed a rope pulley system in the wood. The house has been reconstructed, following the original plan. The outside is unchanged, but the interior has been replaced with Franklin stone. The cellar have been boarded over.

An interesting story is connected with the Hunt home. While serving as a soldier in the Revolution, Abel Hunt had a dream in which he saw a slight elevation surrounded by woods and hills and a charming lake, dotted with islands and backed by lofty mountains. This dream so impressed him that he went hunting for such a place, resolved, if he found it, to make his home there. Fate or chance directed him to this part of Lake Winnepesaukee, and he immediately recognized it as the background of his dream.

The Hunt family, particularly Thomas E. Hunt, was long active in compiling local history. He wrote several articles in 1912 about Gilford at the time of its hundredth anniversary, and also gave an historical address at the centennial celebration.

Perry E. Hunt assisted Edgar H. Wilcomb in the writing and publishing of segments of local history in *Winnepesaukee Lake Country Gleanings*.

Eunice Hunt carried on the work of her father and grandfather and wrote many interesting papers on Gilford. After her death, the notes came into the possession of her sister, Mrs. Marion (Hunt) Atwood and have proved most useful in compiling this history.

#### THE JEWETT HOMESTEAD

The Jewett name has always been prominent in local history. Benjamin Jewett settled west of Gilford village on the farm now owned by Charles H. Bolduc. He was the first to settle in this district and the Jewett genealogy states that he cleared land out of the wilderness and built a home here in 1759, becoming one of the largest landowners in the district. His holdings went well into Laconia, bordering the land of Samuel Jewett (first settler in Laconia) and far to the north of the village. The first home built by the Jewetts is the long narrow building situated to the south of the present Bolduc house. A section was later added to this house and it now serves as a garage and woodshed.

The Jewett family lived in this building while the main house was being built. That house was incorporated into another and can be identified by the large bay windows which were later added. About 1838, the house was enlarged, but was struck by lightning about 1880 and was damaged slightly by fire. While repairing this damage, most of the house was remodeled. At the same time a large barn was built. In 1905 the carriage house (now a garage and storage building) was erected. This building has a walkway, connecting it to the main house. The second story of this building was used by the Jewetts to store wood and they installed a rope pulley on the rear of the building to haul up the wood. The house has been remodeled several times; and although the outside is unchanged, little remains of the original interior. During reconstruction, following the fire, the fireplaces were removed, and replaced with Franklin stoves, and the two large Dutch ovens in the cellar have been boarded over.

band of several hundred sheep was also grazed on the island and housed in the old stone barn during the winter.

There was no more interesting sight than the Hutchins' family coach drawn by four matched horses driven by an old Irishman in livery. Mrs. Hutchins (who was considerably younger than her husband) always rode in the coach while her husband insisted on sitting on the driver's seat next to the driver. The old coach was destroyed when the stone barn burned in 1952.

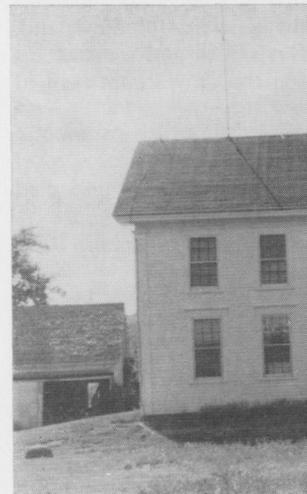
Many celebrities, among them, Presidents Grover Cleveland and Theodore Roosevelt were entertained at the Mansion House which was destroyed by fire in 1934. Prior to World War I, the German Embassy leased the property, and it was the scene of several diplomatic world conferences. There are tales of underground tunnels from the house to the lake in order to make speedy departures possible, but no such tunnels have ever been located.

The stone barn used by Mr. Hutchins for his livestock and the storing of farm machinery played an important part in the social life of Governor's Island in later years. It has been the community center for members of the Governor's Island Colony; the Young Peoples Association has used it for social activities, and Sunday mornings during July and August, it became a religious center. Mrs. Crescens Hubbard of White Plains, New York was chairman of the Church Service Committee for several years, during this era. The services were held in the barn during World War II, when gasoline was rationed, and the Islanders found it difficult to attend services in Laconia or Gilford. Rev. Jules Ayers, minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania conducted services each season at the barn, which has been the scene of several weddings and christenings. Mr. Ayers now fills the pulpit, at the Gilford Community Church for the month of August.

In 1952 the old stone barn was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. However, some of the old Davisville buildings are still standing. "Braeside," the former residence of the Hutchins' farm managers, is presently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Dave A. M. Sturrock. The old creamery which was formerly located on the east shore of the island was moved to its present location by Mr. Sturrock in 1940 and is now used as a studio by Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Stoessel. The old blacksmith shop, renovated by Mr. Sturrock, is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jones.

The Natt Davis house was destroyed by fire in 1870. Near the ruins, an old stone water tower, built in the Davis era, can still be seen. The Melvin Pray home is an old Davisville dwelling having been used as a home for Natt Davis's help.

The house now occupied by Dr. Howard Halfman was formerly known as the "Lighting House." According to historical lore, if there was an electrical storm within fifty miles of the lake a bolt of lightning always struck this house. When the house was purchased by Mr.



THE PHILBROOK  
(P



OLD SANBORN PLACE  
(Donald P. York)



THE PHILBROOK (PHILLBRICK) RAND HOMESTEAD  
(Parkman D. Howe, Jr.)

Grider, he installed lightning rods, and there was never any further damage.

The Old Davis cemetery is located on the East side of the Island. It is here that the remains of "The Sage of Davisville" and some of his descendants rest in peace. The inscriptions on the gravestones read as follows:

Nathaniel Davis, died April 18, 1857 ae 79.

Polly — Wife of Nathaniel Davis died Jan. 5, 1815 ae 32.

Clarrissa — Second wife of Nathaniel Davis born July 26, 1788 died October 16, 1868.

Polly S. — Daughter of Nathaniel and Clarrissa Davis born Oct. 29, 1815 — died April 6, 1843.

Henry McCawley died Dec. 21, 1857 ae 23.

Today, the island is again a thriving community composed of forty year-round residents and ninety summer residents.

## INDUSTRY IN GILFORD

### *Blacksmithing*

Like all farmers, the first settlers were independent men. However, while their toil in the fields furnished their families with food and their womenfolks' skill with wheel and loom provided them with clothing, they frequently needed the assistance of a blacksmith.

From the smithy's forge came a long list of articles — hinges, tableware, ox-shoes, nails — that farmers could not make themselves. Therefore, it is not surprising that the first trade to be established in Gilford was blacksmithing. The first smith to arrive was Samuel Blaisdell in 1789. He settled at Lily Pond and members of the family were there until 1918.

Blaisdell came from Gilmanton with his tools stored in an ox-cart. While en route to Gilford, he found John Gilman and his family sitting in the middle of the road, as their wagon had a broken axle. The smith immediately set up shop and while their wives prepared a meal, the two men repaired the damage. Then, they traveled on to Gilford together.

Captain Charles Beede also did blacksmithing in Gilford at an early date at an unknown location, but soon moved his forge to Meredith Bridge. Later John Blaisdell, son of Samuel, made hoes and edged tools in his large smithy which stood where the Free Will Baptist Church and the Town Hall now stand. Wadleigh took over Beede's second shop on the banks of Gilford Brook. Axes, farm tools and excellent chains were made at Dudley Leavitt's smithy while Winthrop and Josiah Gilman manufactured hinges, small tools and nails. Antipas, their father, also did blacksmithing in a small way in the southern part of the Village which was sparsely settled. Parts for wagons, axles and

similar articles were fashioned in his shop very long. Gilman 1

In addition to blacksm He made sidewalk plows a of Laconia and Gilford to Swain's forge was on Liber and others including a Mr little is known of their act have done well in Chattlebo

One has only to look a never an extensive industry in the town. However, t manufactured from a kiln t Sam Harris property "back

The largest kiln in Gilf side of the bridge. Clay wa large enough nor of such However, this area is still l

In 1849, Isaiah Morrill nuggets. He did, howeve Mexicans. On his return enough bricks to build a hor

Shoemaking began in a successful enterprise. Amo George Ward and David Gilmans were cobblers in C Gunstock Hill, and Danie village at the Bernard Morr

Another early cobbler the village, moved his busin "Thomas Payer, Boot and S Building. Perhaps the first went from house to house of the family, boarding in did he receive cash for his p which he then traded with it is interesting to note that pair of boots made in 1863 Gilford cobbler.

similar articles were fashioned by Jacob Blaisdell, but he did not operate his shop very long. Gilman Leavitt ironed wagons, carriages and sleighs.

In addition to blacksmithing, Charles Gove was a wheelwright. He made sidewalk plows and also the huge rollers used by the towns of Laconia and Gilford to pack down the roads in winter. Charles Swain's forge was on Liberty Hill and William and Ebenezer Stevens and others including a Mr. Cross were smiths for short periods, but little is known of their activities, although Henry Wadleigh seems to have done well in Chattleborough (Saltmarsh Pond).

#### BRICK MAKING

One has only to look around Gilford to see that brick making was never an extensive industry here; for few brick buildings can be seen in the town. However, the Van Etten home is built from brick manufactured from a kiln that once stood on the building's site. The Sam Harris property "back of the mountain" is also of native brick.

The largest kiln in Gilford was the Doe Brick Yard on the Meredith side of the bridge. Clay was hauled here, but the deposits were neither large enough nor of such a quality as to make expansion possible. However, this area is still known as "Brick House Hill."

In 1849, Isaiah Morrill joined the California goldrush, but found no nuggets. He did, however, learn the art of brickmaking from the Mexicans. On his return to Gilford he set up a kiln and made enough bricks to build a home.

#### COBBLERS

Shoemaking began in Gilford in the early 1800's and was a most successful enterprise. Among the early workers in this trade were George Ward and David Hale Munsey, while three generations of Gilmans were cobblers in Gilford. Samuel had a shop at his house on Gunstock Hill, and Daniel, his grandson, set up his bench in the village at the Bernard Morrill place.

Another early cobbler was Thomas Payer who, after working in the village, moved his business to the intervale. His sign, which reads: "Thomas Payer, Boot and Shoemaker," is now in the Historical Society Building. Perhaps the first cobbler in Gilford was William Clark who went from house to house every year making shoes for each member of the family, boarding in each home until he was finished. Rarely did he receive cash for his product; usually he was paid in farm produce which he then traded with merchants for items he wanted. In passing, it is interesting to note that Mrs. Grace Weeks has in her possession a pair of boots made in 1863 for her husband, Willis Edwin Weeks by a Gilford cobbler.



THE ABEL HUNT HOUSE  
(Whittier Farm)  
(Dr. William J. Baker)



THE ENOCH HUNT HOUSE. SEVEN GENERATIONS OF HUNTS LIVED HERE  
(Alger Sherman)

In 1825 Joseph Potter built a mill on the vale which was operated for many years. John M. Potter, later ran the mill. He built two houses near the mill on the ground. The first was Copp's house, but is now badly decayed. The second building which is still standing is the old mill's foundation stone. Recently, excavations in the mill's center — probably the mill's foundation — a large stone wheel, rimmed with iron, was found in the center — probably the mill's foundation. The saw used at Copp's was found in the Baptist Church. It is now in the possession of the Baptist Church.

After Hazen Copp died, his father built several houses, and in 1854 the mill was modernized. That year contains the following: "The mill erected by Hazen Copp of 1854 was put in by B. J. Cole, Esq."

The Arthur Manning establishment. The building has been restored considerably, including a large wooden barrel system. When the barrel was used, water to the brook at the mill.

The heavy growths of the Gilford provided farmers with casks they needed to store their foods. At first, most of the cooperage in Portsmouth and the individuals to make them.

Joseph Sanborn established a place, now the Donald farm, roadside just below the mill farm, known as Brake Hill. Descending it — is the settlement of certain Mr. Gilman, who had a mill as a result of his trading, he tapped it several times, to his driving and had an

### COPP'S MILL

In 1825 Joseph Potter built a sawmill on his land close to the interval which was operated for him by "Boston John" Batchelder. His son, John M. Potter, later ran the mill until it was sold to Hazen Copp who built two houses near the mill — one on a hillside, the other on level ground. The first was Copp's home, and for its day, was a fine residence, but is now badly dilapidated. His hired help lived in the second building which is now occupied by Ernest Toby. Much of the old mill's foundation still remains as does part of the stone dam. Recently, excavations in the cellar hole resulted in the discovery of a large stone wheel, rimmed with iron, with an iron axle through the center — probably the mill's old grinding stone, while the up-and-down saw used at Copp's was found by Arthur Manning in the cellar of the Baptist Church. It is now in the Historical Society Building.

After Hazen Copp died, his son, Augustus Copp, who, like his father built several houses, carried on the business until his death. In 1854 the mill was modernized. A Lakeport paper for January 4th of that year contains the following item: "A new grain mill is being erected by Hazan Copp of Gilford; machinery for the mill built and put in by B. J. Cole, Esq."

The Arthur Manning house is said to have been part of the Copp establishment. The building is a half Cape Cod structure and has been restored considerably by the Mannings. It has many features including a large wooden barrel set under the shed floor and connected by a pipe to a spring on the hillside across the road — an unique water system. When the barrel is full, an overflow outlet carries the excess water to the brook at the rear of the house.

### COOPER SHOPS

The heavy growths of oak on the hills and mountains around Gilford provided farmers with excellent material to make the barrels and casks they needed to store salt pork, cider, corned meats and other foods. At first, most men made their own, but the demand for cooperage in Portsmouth and other coastal cities prompted enterprising individuals to make them commercially.

Joseph Sanborn established a large cooperage on the old Sanborn place, now the Donald York farm. His shop still stands by the roadside just below the main house. The steep slope above the York farm, known as Brake Hill — wagons had to apply their brakes while descending it — is the setting for an old Gilford story. It tells how a certain Mr. Gilman, who had gone to Portsmouth to barter, had secured as a result of his trading, a keg of imported rum. On the way home he tapped it several times, with the result that he paid little attention to his driving and had an accident on Brake Hill.

The excited horses bolted, breaking their harness and the wagon rolled downhill with Gilman clinging frantically to the seat. Just above the Sanborn property, the broken wagon-tongue struck a rut, tipping the wagon end over end, pinning Gilman beneath it. At the same time, the keg broke loose and rolled along until it was stopped by a large stone. Old Joe Sanborn, at work in his cooperage, had seen the accident and was on his way to assist Gilman when he noticed that the keg was leaking badly.

Joe didn't know what to do. He liked good rum and he was also a kind-hearted man. Finally, he decided what was proper. Ignoring Gilman's yells for help, Sanborn dashed into his house, collected all the bowls and jugs he could and filled them with rum.

Later Gilman related, "the ordeal was a frightful one to bear" — as it must have been. For not only were Sanborn and Gilman rivals in the cooperage business, but the latter resented his neighbor getting the benefit of the rum he had treked from Portsmouth. Eventually, having salvaged all the liquor he could, Joe freed the uninjured and angry Gilman.

This episode soon was known all over town and caused hearty laughter. It also had its serious side. One of the church elders used the event as the topic of a sermon entitled: "The Evils of Spiritous Liquors Threatens the Brotherhood of God."

Natt Davis had a cooperage at Davisville. His casks and barrels were loaded in gondalows and taken to Alton where they were hauled by six horse teams to Portsmouth and sold to the West India Company who used them to ship molasses and rum. On the return trip the wagons were filled with goods purchased for private citizens, millmen and merchants.

In the fall coopers toured the town repairing the casks and barrels. They also furnished new barrels in preparation of the apple harvest and the making of cider. Everyone had his own idea about the best way to make cider and families prided themselves on their "secrets."

Jonathan Colby, for example, pressed his apples by hand and it was said that "you couldn't walk away with a quart of that cider" while Joe Sanborn's potent drink achieved its excellence because he allowed his apples to stay on the tree until "a touch of the frost."

Not only were such coopers — Nathan Hatch, Ebenezer Hunt, Ezekiel Collins and Moses Jewett — who later moved to Cape Cod where they made fish barrels — busy supplying cider containers in the fall, but also they prepared casks for their customers to salt down pork or beef as well as barrels for pickling cucumbers.

During the winter, coopers made barrels and casks for distant markets. Casks were piled twenty feet high on carts drawn by six oxen with the coming of good weather and hauled to the coast. While few of these tremendous loads ever tipped over, such accidents when they occurred were usually quite serious.

In the early 1890's Mill Pond was washed out by freshets and the house of Oliver Colby, the best in Gilford, is still there. The ponds was regulated by timber backing up and damaging the mill.

Jonathan Colby, great-grandson of the Leavitt mill. It was here that the car shops in Laconia were built down, the lumber the wrecked Lake Shore Park.

Recently an old saw mill wash-out — was found. It is now known about it save that At present it is on display in the Building.

Research has disclosed that on the brook below the River known about it save that Whittier and Jeremiah H. a few years. There were Thomas Forter, the other l

## THE

The first general store Benjamin Weeks in his home other stores were opened in operation — three in the Island).

Stephen Perley ran a store which was very successful. The building was sold and the emporium was in the present of business, his stock was market at the same site. In many years.

Benjamin Jewett, All market (Jewett, Chase and stands. George and John Wadley, C. V. Henersey, I occupant, Elverton Whitman small store beside that of

Noah Goss ran a shop Restaurant is now located. way Station. At one time.

### COLBY MILL

In the early 1890's Miles Leavitt built a sawmill which was twice washed out by freshets and twice rebuilt. The third site was behind the house of Oliver Colby and the mill pond, which was one of the best in Gilford, is still there. Incidentally, the height of water in mill ponds was regulated by town ordinances to prevent the water from backing up and damaging the land and crops of those upstream.

Jonathan Colby, great-grandfather of Oliver Colby, rebuilt the Leavitt mill. It was here that much of the oak used in the construction of the car shops in Laconia was dressed. When the building was torn down, the lumber the wreckers salvaged was used to build a garage in Lake Shore Park.

Recently an old saw used at the Colby Mill — apparently lost in a wash-out — was found. It is six feet long and of the up-and-down type. At present it is on display in the Thompson Ames Historical Society Building.

Research has disclosed that there was a grist and threshing mill located on the brook below the Richard Talbot home on Hoyt Road. Little is known about it save that it was owned and operated by Jonathan Whittier and Jeremiah Hunt who made carriages and furniture for a few years. There were two other mills on Miles River. One run by Thomas Forter, the other by Brown & Leavitt.

### THE GENERAL STORE

The first general store in Gilford was opened in the 1790's by Benjamin Weeks in his home. As the population of the town increased, other stores were opened and during one period there were four in operation — three in the village and one at Davisville (Governor's Island).

Stephen Perley ran a store in the Old Gunstock Meeting House which was very successful, but the business was forced to close when the building was sold and moved to the village. Benjamin Weeks' emporium was in the present-day Grange Hall and when he went out of business, his stock was auctioned. Later, Levi Thompson had a market at the same site. Here, the Gilford Post Office was located for many years.

Benjamin Jewett, Albert Chase and Jeremiah Thing opened a market (Jewett, Chase and Thing) where the Gilford Store now stands. George and John Munsey took over from them, followed by Wadley, C. V. Henersey, Lyman Goss, William Taylor and the present occupant, Elverton Whitney. A man named Jones also operated a small store beside that of Wadley, selling grains and farm supplies.

Noah Goss ran a shop at Glendale for many years where Dorothy's Restaurant is now located. He also had charge of the Lake Shore Railway Station. At one time, C. V. Henersey was in business at the Goss

place with the result, that this section was called Henersey's Landing for years.

### GLASS MAKING

Unfortunately, little is known about the glass industry established in Gilford at an early date. We do know that the works was in the home of Royal C. Van Etten, Jr., on Main Street. This site was also the location of a brick kiln and blacksmith shop.

Mrs. Elliott Robinson, a former owner of the house, relates that while making repairs, she found both in the cellar and on the site of the garage — evidently a dump for slag at one time — large amounts of glass. Mrs. Robinson saved some of the pieces and upon examination, they appear to be parts of wedged shaped ink bottles and variously styled medicine bottles. The latter are six-sided and pale green in color. Other broken pieces unearthed include fragments of ornate flasks that were decorated with figures, flowers and scrolls.

Pottery making was more extensively carried out in Gilford than glassmaking. Goodhue's kiln, in which he used clay carted from the Weirs, produced a wide assortment of earthenware.

### THE GUNSTOCK IRON MINE

In the early 1800's iron was discovered on Gunstock Mountain and a blast furnace and foundry were built in what is modern-day Lakeport, then part of Gilford. The ore was eighty-five percent pure and did not have to be smelted. However, the vein was small and soon exhausted, forcing the foundry to close. Hikers on the westerly slope of Gunstock can see the large depression that marks the site of the mine.

Gilford blacksmiths made nails from "Gunstock iron." They were noted for their unusual softness, but a number of houses in town contain them, including the old Thurston homestead, now owned by Leon Tilton and the Orman Sanborn place, occupied by the Yorks.

### HUNTER MILL

About 1860, a man known only as "Mingo" (Negro) built a mill below the tannery near where the Christianson and Landry homes now stand. It was a "pulling mill" for wool and flax cloth made by local women. The mill was also equipped to saw shingles in the spring, card wool in the summer and thresh grain in the fall. A flume from a dam carried water to the wheel, the amount being regulated by a gate. Deacon Hunter who purchased the property from Benjamin Gilman added the threshing and cutting machinery which was operated at various times by Meshech Sanborn, and Christopher Gilman.

Gilford millers, like their services. Their pay threshed for a customer quarts a bushel. Similar carding.

Town records for 178 Hoyt (Hoit) and Ebenezer Brook (Gilford Brook) lo for the period of fifteen ye acres for the benefit of the bonds not to cut timber people of that part of the within fifteen years, that when the term had expire not purchase it.

This mill was for mar the early village building time, the mill was sold to the saw mill part was dis mill and shingle mill. T library and its massive sto looking down into the w Gilford.

The fierce fire that s area about 1854 destroying Major meant the end of o lumbering. For while the the fire ravaged the water that they provided little p

Although soap-makin housewives, soap was als Among these was Noah

Noah not only made a liniment and a worm supposed cures for either efficacious — according to

In the spring and f them in large baskets to At all seasons, he visited vicinity and collected bon loaded, Noah would driv

Gilford millers, like others of their day, rarely collected cash for their services. Their pay was "taking toll"—the amount of grain threshed for a customer was measured and the miller received two quarts a bushel. Similar scales regulated lumber sawing and wool carding.

#### SAW MILLS

Town records for 1788 show that permission was given to Simeon Hoyt (Hoit) and Ebenezer Smith Esq., to erect a mill on Gunstock Brook (Gilford Brook) lot No. 10, 13th range (now Gilford Village) for the period of fifteen years; and to clear on each side of the brook two acres for the benefit of the mill yard, providing however, that they give bonds not to cut timber or wood from the adjacent lots, and if the people of that part of the town should wish to build a meeting house within fifteen years, that they have leave to saw free of expense; and when the term had expired, the mill could be removed if the town did not purchase it.

This mill was for many years the only one in the district. Many of the early village buildings were made from lumber sawed here. In time, the mill was sold to Bernard Morrill who remodeled it. Eventually the saw mill part was discontinued and it was used as a tannery, grist mill and shingle mill. The mill was located close to what is now the library and its massive stone foundation and flume may still be seen by looking down into the water on the left while crossing the bridge to Gilford.

The fierce fire that swept through the woodlands of the Gilford area about 1854 destroying the timber on Mount Gunstock and Mount Major meant the end of one of the town's most flourishing industries—lumbering. For while there was sufficient timber to the north and east, the fire ravaged the water-shed and the level of the streams fell so low that they provided little power.

#### SOAP MAKING

Although soap-making was an accepted chore of most Gilford housewives, soap was also made commercially by several individuals. Among these was Noah Davis, for many years "the town character."

Noah not only made and sold soap, but also peddled *Spring Tonic*, a liniment and a worm medicine. Not only were his "prescriptions" supposed cures for either external or internal pains, but were equally efficacious—according to Noah—for man or beast!

In the spring and fall Noah gathered roots and herbs, packing them in large baskets to use in compounding his various products. At all seasons, he visited daily every tavern, market and hotel in the vicinity and collected bones and scraps of meat. When his wagon was loaded, Noah would drive home, dump his load out on the shed floor,

sort fat, bones and meat into kettles and then cook them. What he didn't use for medicine, he fed to his many hogs.

The lye Noah used to make his soap came from leaching hardwood ashes. He also went about town gathering these in the same way as he did the ingredients for his cure-alls, but if he could not collect enough, obtained them from a burning-pit in the field behind his house.

### SHEEP RAISING

The rough highlands about Gilford with their lush grasses proved ideal for sheep raising at an early date. Most farmers used the wool themselves, selling any excess for cash which they used to buy articles impossible to secure by barter.

Old Gilford families still possess and treasure woolen homespun items made by their ancestors. Mrs. Ruth Weeks of Governor's Island has a full-size bed blanket spun from native wool by her great-great-grandmother. It is dyed yellow and blue, the only inexpensive colors available to housewives of the time. Sea coast traders furnished the indigo to provide the blue while the yellow was made from saffron which grows abundantly in New Hampshire.

In addition to their wool, the sheep furnished farmers with lamb and mutton — both a welcome change from beef and pork. Surplus sheep also provided cash, for in the fall, the drover, dressed in a long blue frock, would arrive in town. He would go from farm to farm and was welcomed as he bought the animals their owners wished to cull from their herds.

Nothing was more exciting for the youngsters of the period than the arrival of the drover. For in front of him would be a motley collection of beasts and birds — sheep, cattle, hogs, horses, ducks and geese — all bleating, bawling, grunting, quacking and hissing. It was as if they were seeing the animals marching along to enter Noah's ark.

### SILK INDUSTRY

Even residents of Gilford are astonished to learn that silk was produced here. The industry was introduced by Benjamin Rowe whose Gunstock Valley farm had such poor soil that he could not raise crops of any kind. Rowe, quite by accident, discovered that mulberry trees thrive in light sandy soil and decided to plant some. When they were established, he secured some silkworm grubs and in time, harvested a fine grade of silk.

These were sold unreeled and produced an excellent quality of silk. Others, encouraged by Rowe's success — particularly those with poor farmlands — also set out mulberry trees and imported silkworms, with the result that a large number of cocoons were sent to Boston



THE OLD FROHOCK PLACE

(D)



THE

(D)



THE OLD FROHOCK PLACE. ORIGINAL SAWYER HOMESTEAD 1780  
(old house)  
(Dr. John T. Worcester)



THE OLD FROHOCK PLACE  
(Dr. John T. Worcester)  
(new house)