

EAST MONTPELIER Signpost

Volume 2, No. 1

September/October 1991

A LITTLE TOWN HISTORY

THE BIRTH OF OUR TOWN

The state of Vermont is joyfully celebrating 200 years of statehood. Yet most of the state's towns have had much longer histories, the earliest being chartered in the 1750s with many more in the 1760s. Our town, however, had a very different beginning.

Neither the earliest nor the latest, the Town of Montpelier was chartered in 1781 to a group of proprietors led by Col. Jacob Davis. Its boundaries were laid out on a map, as in most Vermont towns, as a square of land 6 miles on each side. The actual organization of the town, however, was started a decade later, the very same day that Vermont became a state, March 4, 1791. Settlement of the town was now under way. Commercial interests quite naturally crowded into the valley where the rivers intersected, while farms spread out over the broad surrounding hillsides.

In 1809 Montpelier Town was chosen to become Vermont's capital, and of course that meant much to the growing village near the rivers. The farms, on the other hand, were affected less. The separate interests of village and farm came to a head in 1848 when village leaders asked the state legislature to divide the town into two entities. Almost without hearings, the deed was done and on January 1, 1849, a jagged boundary line was drawn on the map marking off the new town of East Montpelier. Thus we were one of the last towns in Vermont to be officially organized.

It is interesting to reflect on how this act changed the futures of both towns. Consider that East Montpelier's area is nearly three times that of Montpelier, while Montpelier's population in 1990 was recorded as more than three times ours. Then there's the obvious disproportion in the grand lists, despite the state's extensive tax exempt property in Montpelier. As for leadership, in 1849 a substantial number of town officials were in the East Montpelier side of the division. It should be noted that a majority of the rural residents protested the separation when it was taking place, partly on its merits and partly because the action was viewed as being hasty and undemocratic. The citizens were

never asked to vote. Yet today, with all the wisdom of hindsight, one may conclude that separation probably served both rural and urban interests best.

Jean Cate

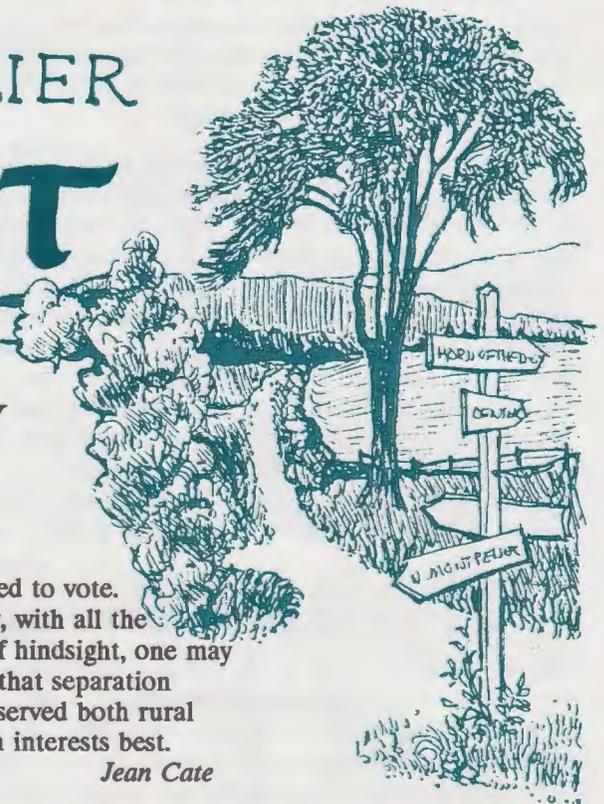
200 YEARS OF SCHOOL DAYS

The earliest schools were held in homes and barns and geared to seasonal farm demands. In the late 1700s, towns were allowed to set up school districts and by 1794, Montpelier had 6. By 1829 there 16 districts and 6 part-districts and when East Montpelier was carved away, it had 10 districts and shared one with Montpelier.

Boundaries and students changed with the population shifts. In 1802 the Morse School had 16 students while Four Corners had 60. Two years later the Morse School had 32 while the East Hill School enrolled 85 -- all in one room! It should be pointed out that there was often a considerable difference between the number enrolled and the number regularly attending. Scholars provided their own books and paper, and terms were usually limited to one winter term and one summer term.

Each district was run by a Prudential Committee, generally 3 men, which hired and fired teachers, saw that wood was provided, and assessed school taxes. By 1827 state law required that each town have a superintending committee and a town superintendent who was a local citizen. Later professional educators became superintendents and served the schools in several adjoining towns.

For many years there were 6 neighborhood schools with 8 grades in each. The town paid tuition for students to attend high school elsewhere. In 1964 the Town voted to build a central elementary school on Vincent Flats Road. Closing the district schools was a very emotional issue, as these schools represented real community centers which knit the neighborhoods together. Parents were upset that students



would have to be bussed across town and attend schools with strangers.

Hard on the heels of this change was the vote in 1967 to join Berlin, Calais, Middlesex, and Worcester in constructing a regional high school. In 1971, U-32 Junior-Senior High School was opened.

The 8 school buildings still in existence are as follows: Cutler, closed in 1946, now owned by Mathew Rubin; Four Corners, closed in 1988, voted at town meeting to save for a community center, incorporated in 1989; Center, closed in 1966, now owned by Tarin Chaplin; Horn of the Moon, closed in 1966, now owned by William and Sandra Joy; East Village, closed in 1966, voted at town meeting to renovate and use as municipal office; Peck or #10, closed in 1908, now owned by Russell and Jean Landolt; Morse, closed in 1981, voted at 1986 town meeting to return to the Morse family heirs, now owned by Ray and Jody Brown; North Village, closed in 1966, now owned by John E. Fothergill, et al. and Candce Beardsley.

Anne Sherman

JUST ABOUT 200 YEARS OF PRAYERS

The first house of worship in Washington County was built in 1793 by the Quakers, who subsequently created their second Meeting House from a store in 1802. The leader of the Society of Friends was Clark Stevens whose services were well attended with 150 people coming to the hilltop at the end of Quaker Road. Both structures were located on what is now Cherry Tree Hill Road.

The Union Meeting House in North Montpelier built in 1867 was a Universalist church which shared a minister with the Brick Church. It was located on Route 14 south of the Sibley House and the village. When it was torn down in the mid-50s, three stained glass windows were moved to the Brick Church and its bell to the Meeting House.

The Old Meeting House, one of the town's two existing churches, was built in 1823 in the Center on land deeded to the trustees of the Methodist Church by General Parley Davis. The timbers used for the Meeting House were cut from trees in the "Center Grove", which is where the first town meeting was held in 1820. The frame of the building is firmly anchored with great chains to the ledge upon which it is built and is indeed founded upon a rock!

The interior has the original plaster on the walls, unpainted pine box pews fitted together with wooden pegs, and hand hewn beams supporting the building. Two small box stoves between the pulpit and first row of pews were the sole means of heat for the church before 1970. Wood heat remains the main source of warmth today, although a furnace was installed in the 1970s and is used as a backup.

Town meetings were held in the church until the late 1840s. Church services were held irregularly. After 91 years without a resident pastor, the Old Meeting House opened its doors on a fulltime basis on September 12, 1965.

Several years ago the Shelburne Museum asked permission to move the Meeting House to the museum grounds as it was considered the finest example of early Vermont architecture. Fortunately this idea was rejected.

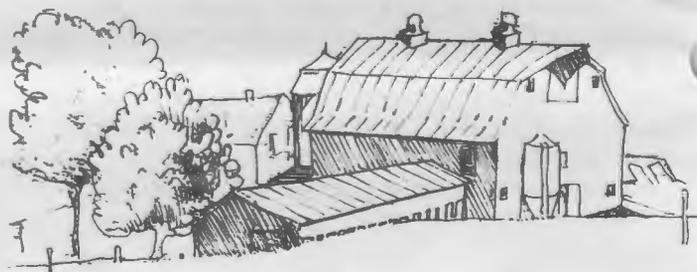
The Old Brick Church, at the junction of Routes 2 and 14 and Quaker Road, was built in 1833 on land given by Arthur Daggett and owned by the Universalists. It was erected by Stillman and Truman Kelton and others. The bricks in the building were made at a site on Route 14 on the outskirts of East Montpelier Village. Three of the stained glass windows came from the North Montpelier Universalist Church when that church was demolished in 1954. The other three windows were gifts.

Regular worship services were held between 1834 and 1881, after which services were intermittent. Fulltime services resumed in 1910 with large congregations attending, but only summer services were held between 1935 and 1951. Since 1951, the church has had regular services.

An early minister of the church was Olympia Brown, the first ordained woman minister (Universalist) in the United States. Hamilton Coe Throckmorton has served as minister to both churches since 1987.

Four denominations are represented in both churches: American Baptist, United Methodist, United Church of Christ, and Unitarian-Universalist. Sunday services are held at 9:30 a.m. at the Old Meeting House and at 11:00 at the Old Brick Church, with joint services in July and August. The churches also serve as the site for many social and cultural events, providing community services and adult and youth Christian education.

Janice Waterman



A CENTURY OR TWO OF FARMING

Back in 1788 a couple of young men from Peterborough, New Hampshire, settled on the hill lying west of the East Village and laid up log houses on their lots. They went south for the winter (early tradition?) and returned in the spring with their families to begin clearing the land. One homestead, settled by Solomon and Mary Dodge, was located on the hilltop west of Lyle Young Road where the tradition of well-managed farming began with Solomon's daughter Lydia and her husband John Rodney Young. Her grandson Lyle Perkins Young married Kate Foster, Austin Cleaves' great-aunt. Cleaves took over the farm in 1968.

John and Mary Ann Templeton were the other couple who came from Peterborough. The farmstead located at the intersection of Center, Lyle Young, and Templeton Roads was begun in 1810 by John Templeton, Jr., where sheep as well as cattle were raised. It is now owned by Roger (a direct descendant) and Genevieve Chapell.

Nathaniel Peck also arrived in Montpelier in 1788 from Royalston, Massachusetts, and settled a couple of miles north of the Templetons and Dodges on Center Road

where his farm is also still owned by his descendant Joanne (Hill) and Roy Bair.

In the valley east of the Dodge homestead, Lemuel McKnight began a farm in 1794 which carried down through to Ella McKnight who died in 1982. The farm on Snow Hill Road is still operating, although in transition from its owners Richard and Bonnie Hall. On Center Road, just a mile south of the Templeton Farm, Nathaniel Ormsbee settled in 1800 on the farm that is now owned and operated by Allen and Maybeth Butler.

In 1805, Benjamin Ellis began farming on the hillside west of County Road at the homestead where George and Barbara Fitch continue nearly a century of farming begun by their own family.

In 1836, Hiram Sibley began opening up the fields across the valley from the Templeton Farm, where the classic mustard colored 1899 barn marks where Jeff and Bonnie Sibley carry on the family farming tradition on Sibley Road.

These are some of the earliest farms established before the East Montpelier/Montpelier division. All are still farmed to some degree, with a few still being in the same family.

Cherie Langer

DID YOU NOTICE...

SOMETHING DIFFERENT? There are no business or personal interviews this issue. We chose to break with our usual format to celebrate Vermont's bicentennial. Much of these bicentennial stories is based on the excellent history of our town, *Across the Onion*. We are grateful to authors Lyn Blackwell and Ellen Hill for allowing us to use it. We hope you enjoy the historical slant of this issue. We'll be back with our business and people feature next month.



LONG-TIME POSTMASTER RETIRES



Jim Hudson

Jim Hudson retired on May 3, 1991 after 30 years as Postmaster in East Montpelier. When Jim's service began in 1961 there were 100 post office boxes and 100 on the mail route. Today there are 170 post office

boxes and 360 on the mail route. Jim recalls sorting and bundling the mail by hand before automation came along. Mail now goes to White River Junction or Burlington for sorting. Jim plans to relax, play golf and take it easy in his retirement and has found the transition easy to make!

TOP OF THE SIGNPOST

Thanks to you all, we are celebrating our first birthday and starting bravely into our second year. Our finances are shaky, but you responded to our plea in July with enough \$\$\$ to pay for this issue. That made us feel very good. Meanwhile we're exploring ways to become more secure financially. One good start is our "Angel Committee", a resourceful team who is working on the Signpost Auction to be held during the Variety Show on Rally Day. While the Variety Show will present East Montpelier talents in front of the footlights, the auction will show off some other kinds of talent -- crafts, professional skills, great cooks, and the like -- during the intermission.

Putting together this anniversary issue makes us reflective. A lot has happened in a year. We knew that we wanted to create a paper that kept you all in touch with the town's business, official and unofficial, and that we wanted it to reach everyone in town. Beyond that we were feeling our way about the layout, about editing our writer's work, and about finances. What a lot we have learned and are still learning!

A great deal of credit must go to the authors of our articles. Haven't they done some fine stories? We really didn't know when we started this venture who in our town enjoyed writing, but almost everyone we have asked has agreed and done a great job. What we need now is an expanded list of writers. Would you like to do an occasional interview and writeup of one of your East Montpelier neighbors? The pieces are short and the pay non-existent, but the joy of seeing your work in print is enormous. Talk with any of our team about helping; their phone numbers are on the back page.

Are you ready for another year? We are!

Jean Cate

DO YOU HAVE A LOCAL BUSINESS?

Looking for a way to get the word out about your home business or day care? Why not try placing an ad in the *Signpost*? Perhaps your trade is a seasonal one and an ad in the November/December issue would be just right. A 2½ x 1½ ad costs \$15.00 per issue or \$75.00/year for 6 issues. You can provide your own text or business card or Janet MacLeod will design one for you. We think it's a great way to promote East Montpelier businesses. We hope you do too! Interested? Call Janice Waterman at 223-5826.

Deadline for the next issue is October 1. Please get your copy to Janice Waterman, RR 1, Box 4330, Montpelier, 05602, 223-5826.



THE TOWN WEATHERVANE



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Weston Cate, Allan Couch, Austin Cleaves

May 22, 1991

- * Granted listers 30 day extension to complete Grand List.
- * Approved permit for Washington Electric Coop to relocate power lines on Towne Hill Road project.
- * Received complaint about trash burning.
- * Approved purchase of survey map cabinet.

June 3, 1991

- * Special meeting to interview the seven candidates who applied for Administrative Assistant position.

June 12, 1991

- * Heard report from Veteran's Honor Memorial. Agreed that the more expensive granite memorial would last longer than wood and approved paying for the granite version.
- * Heard report from road foreman.
- * Agreed to erect signs on Center Road stating "One Lane Road" between Butlers and Chapells.
- * Agreed to put a STOP sign at end of Cummings Road onto County Road.
- * Voted to hire William Bryant for 20 hours/week as Administrative Assistant. Benefits will be shared proportionately with Waitsfield where Mr. Bryant works 20 hours per week.
- * Set tax rate at \$2.06 per hundred. Grand List is set at \$889,889.
- * Signed dog warrant and turned list of unregistered dogs over to Constables Dennis Carver and Arthur Montague.
- * Approved purchase of two 2-line phones for Town Offices.
- * Reappointed Charles Johnson and Edie Miller for 3 year terms on the Conservation Fund Committee, Charles Johnson as Chairman. Appointed Brian Lusignan to a 2-year term to replace Richard Angney who could not continue on board.
- * Did not approve selling checklist for use by mailing label company.

June 26, 1991

- * Reviewed and approved VSAC Employment program contract.
- * Discussion of speed limit on Towne Hill Road was tabled for research.
- * Roadside mowing will be scheduled for beginning of August.
- * Requested Town Clerk to write letter to State Water Quality Division advising them that their efforts to upgrade the classification of Winooski River Waterways were welcomed.

July 11, 1991

- * Permission given to John Chaloux to have fireworks July 27 at Blueberry Entertainment Center for Montpelier High School class reunion.
- * Contract for Administrative Assistant was reviewed and amended.
- * Appointed Richard Angney as town's representative to the Central Vermont Economic Development Corp. for next year.
- * Selectman Cate reported that Sodom Pond Road was in poor condition and needed some repair.
- * Still need a volunteer for the Wrightsville Beach District representative for East Montpelier.

July 24, 1991

- * Report from Butch Davis on various road projects underway. Selectmen expressed concern about road crew taking vacations at the same time and agreed it should be Town Policy that the road crew review vacation plans with the Board and get approval.
- * Discussed development road specifications for a 14-lot subdivision off Paul's Square with Richard Casavant. Reviewed plans and will forward to District Agency of Transportation Administrator.
- * Winter sand bid reviewed and approved for 3500 cubic yards.
- * Voted to postpone action on CV Landfill contract pending the District's completion of negotiations.
- * Charles Johnson accepted the reappointment to Conservation Fund Advisory Committee but declined its chairmanship.

- * Discussed business sign on a town road signpost; Selectmen requested immediate removal of sign as road signs are clearly not erected for advertising by individuals.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair: Johanna DeMartino

May 16, 1991

- * Welcomed Ed Blackwell who was appointed to replace Wes Cate.
- * Heard preliminary proposal from Edward Deegan regarding a 4-lot subdivision on Codling Road.
- * Discussed with John and Sue Fisher the possibility of opening a bed and breakfast in a home they contemplate buying in the Horn of the Moon area.
- * Heard request from Carla Messier to put a trailer on parcel of land on Route 2. Advised to contact the Zoning Administrator, as Board of Adjustment approval will be needed.
- * Reviewed contract of Michaela Stickney who has worked on LESA and Act 200 projects. Further work and estimate of costs to be reviewed.
- * John Hall briefed Commission on ideas for location of the Veteran's Honor Roll. Commission suggested Four Corners School be a possibility.
- * Approved final plat application for 14-lot subdivision submitted by Richard and Carole Casavant.
- * Approved sign for Washington County Field Days for 60 day period.
- * Briefly discussed application submitted by Laurent and Claire Couture for a golf driving range on McKnight Road. Detailed plan must be submitted before further review.

June 6, 1991

- * Held public hearing to review the final plat for a 2-lot subdivision proposed by Thelma Welsh on a 3.7 acre parcel on Route 14. Voted to approve the final plat as submitted.
- * Heard report from Zoning Administrator.
- * Discussed Town Plan. Hope to have editor/planner review it (without changing content) soon.

July 11, 1991

* Listened to outline of plan to extract sand, gravel, stone, and topsoil from eight acres on Brazier Farm. Current plans call for extraction of 25,000 yards of material per year generating approximately 30 trucks per day. Selectmen have indicated that they have agreed to upgrade the road. Mr. Brazier was advised that he will need approval from the Board of Adjustment and that the project requires Act 250 approval.

* Received a complaint regarding lack of fencing around ponds on Goldman complex. Roger Chapell has confirmed this and will review permits to see if the issue had been addressed.

* Reviewed and approved a sign permit for James S. Kelly for his stove business on Route 2 in the village.

* Discussed housing section of the Town Plan.

July 25, 1991

* Reviewed and commented on the permit review statement developed by the Vermont Coalition for Integrated and Efficient Permit Review.

* Stuart Friedman will look into possibility of applying for Project Care funds if it seems worthwhile.

* Town Plan update given by John Riley. Housing section reviewed.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Chair: Earle Ellingwood

May 13, 1991

* Public hearing to determine if Warren and Mary Noyes shall be permitted to install two gas pumps in front of Creamery Country Store and a lumber storage shed to rear of building. Approved construction of storage shed. Did not approve installation of gas pumps.

May 29, 1991

* Public hearing re: whether Barre Granite Assoc. needs to renew its permit to operate granite treatment facility off Route 14. Approved permit with condition of applicant filing ground water sampling program.

* Voted to issue permit to Richard and Carole Casavant for planned residential development proposed.

EAST MONTPELIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD

Janice Aldrich, Phil Cookson, Rich Davidian,
Tony Klein, Burr Morse

June 6, 1991

* Three extra ports were installed into the septic system.

* Hot lunch program lost money this month. Prices will need to be raised for next year. Voted to increase price of lunch from \$1.25 to \$1.50.

* Voted to move non-discrimination policy to second reading.

* Voted to move Success in Regular Classroom (Act 230) Policy to second reading.

* Pam Somers hired as 4/5-time music teacher for 1991-92 school year.

* Board went into executive session to discuss teacher negotiations.

* Voted to have Hull, Fothergill, Segale and Co. audit the books for the 1991-92 school year.

* Voted to allow Four Corners Schoolhouse Assoc. to sell any books and desks from the school and receive profits.

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION

President: Don Donnelly

We welcome Karen VanZandt and Ruth Frost as new members of our Board. We finally received our federal tax exempt notification and are now eligible to apply for grant money.

A disappearing staircase was installed over the stage area to give access to the attic. Peter Hill donated the staircase and Arnold Matava installed it. Four desk/chairs were refinished by Francis Farmer and will be on display on Rally Day and kept for historical purposes. Priorities for repair work have been made, which will begin as soon as money is available.



Bill Bryant, Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen, will be in the Town Office Monday mornings, Wednesday afternoons and all day Thursday.

TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE

Steve Sinclair, Janet MacLeod, Paul Cate
Harry Morse, Bradford Lane, Earle Ellingwood

Everyone over 30 can remember with nostalgia the days when magnificent elm trees graced every town in America. After Dutch elm disease moved across the landscape, each surviving elm, like the one on the Signpost masthead, was treasured.

Did you know that the Elm Research Institute has been working for years to develop a resistant strain of American elm tree? Your Town Forest Committee has arranged to get 100 of these trees. Better yet, you can get one for your own property by making your request early. The cost will be \$15, and each tree will be enclosed in its own tiny greenhouse-like container (called Tubex) to foster a healthy start for the young tree.

More information about these trees will be available on Rally Day, at the town office, or from any Forest Committee member. The trees you order may be picked up Saturday morning, October 5, at the Elementary School. You will receive an information sheet and you also can watch trees being planted at the school for a demonstration of good planting techniques.



Norman C. Rice
President
(802) 229-1506

DUNROVEN ASSOCIATES

RR 1 Box 110 East Montpelier, Vermont 05651

SURVEYING AND MAPPING
SITE ENGINEERING

SOIL AND PERCOLATION TESTS
SEPTIC SYSTEM DESIGN

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT PROCESSING

YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

An information meeting on a possible waste disposal facility in East Montpelier will be held Monday, September 16 at 7:30 at the Elementary School.

An advisory vote on siting a facility will be held on Thursday, October 3 at the Elementary School. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Note different times.)

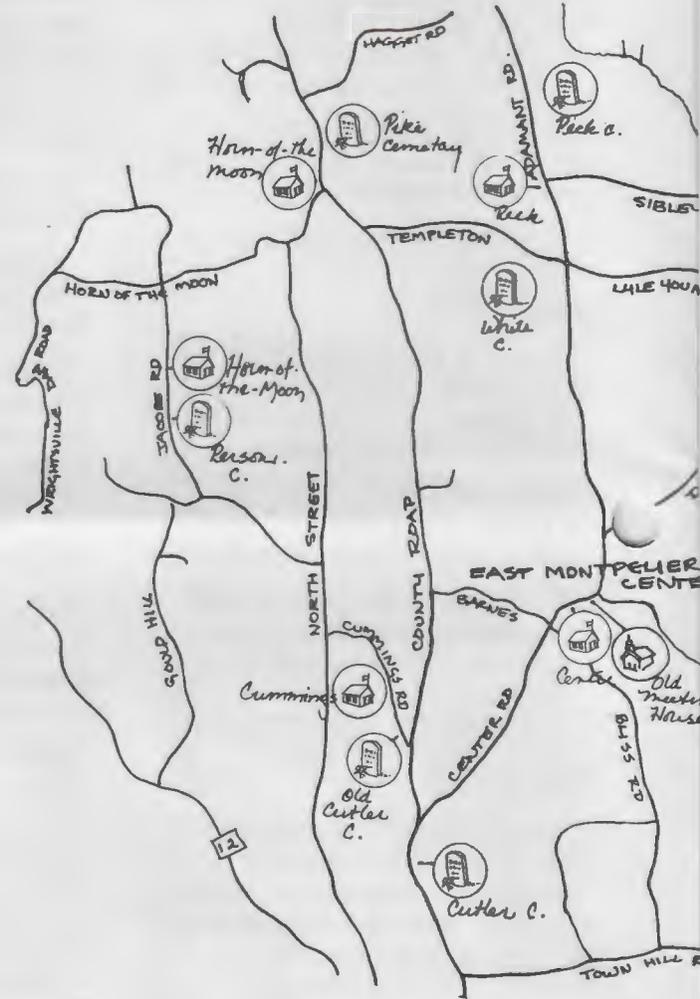
*Templeton Barn
built in 1879,
now owned by
the Chapells*



The Old Meeting House



*The Ormsbee
Homestead,
now owned by
the Builers*



*Peck barn
built in 1842,
now owned by
the Bairs*

*The Young Farm
built in 1895,
burned in 1947,
now owned by
Austin Cleaves*

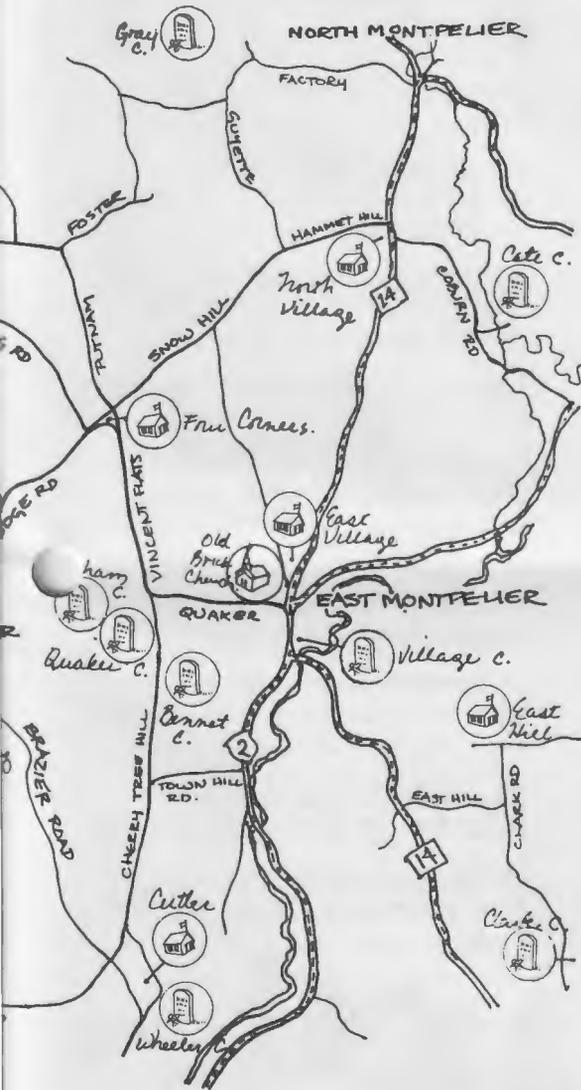




North
Montpelier
School



The Old Brick Church



Center School
remodeled
in the '40s



Four Corners
School,
circa 1900



Sibley
Farm
1934

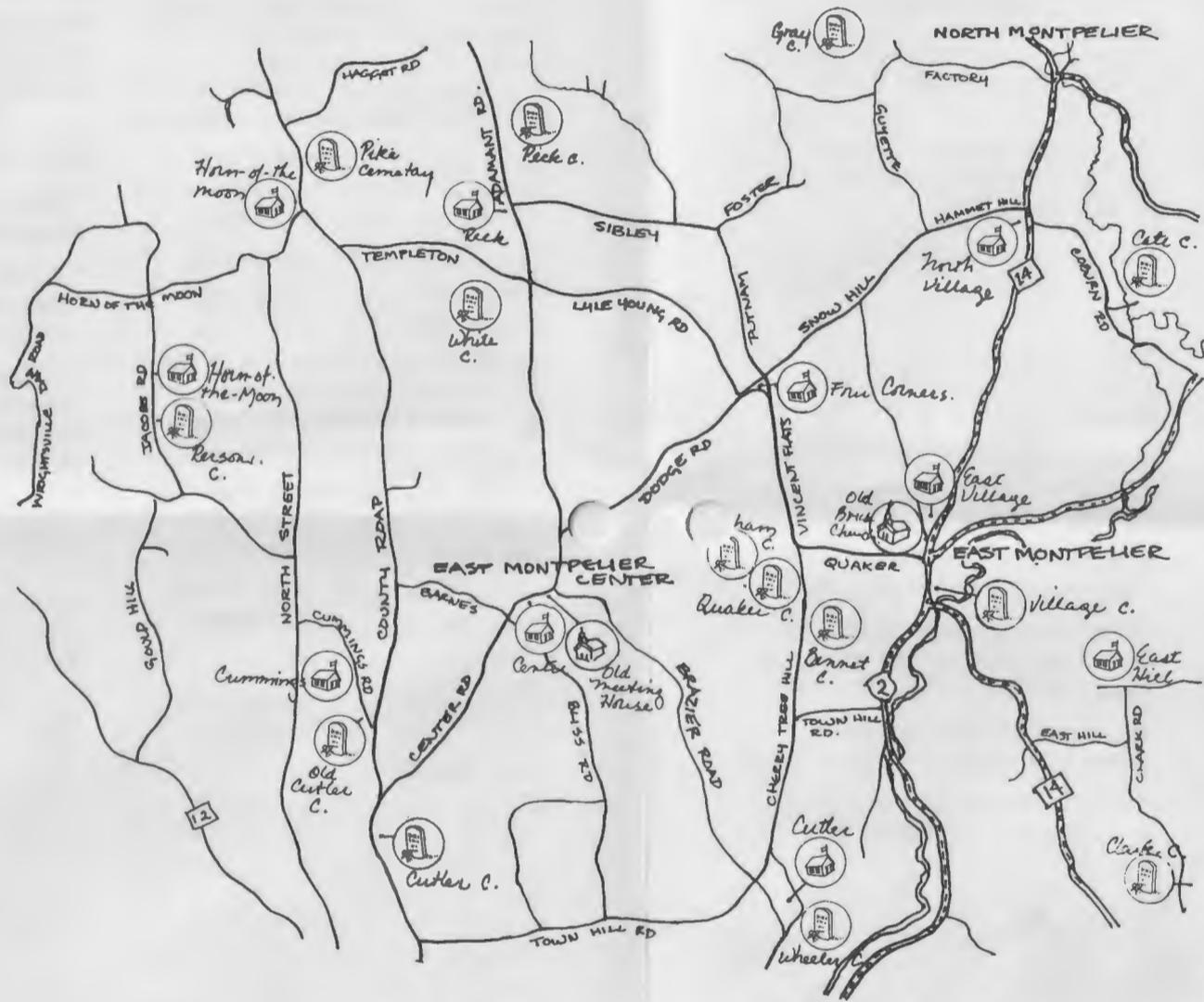


Horn of
the Moon
School,
early 1900s

Home owned by the Chapells



School



Peck barn built in 1842, now owned by the Bairs

Four Corners School, circa 1900





**MARK RALLY WEEKEND
SEPTEMBER 7 & 8**

Saturday

9:00 Oldtime games with Glenn Gannon, hikes in the Town Forest and softball.

10:00 Art Show at the Four Corners Schoolhouse and a Craft and Hobby show at the Elementary School.

11:00 Parade pass the Elementary School with Joe Brown as Grand Marshall, floats, fire engines, the Fife and Drum Corps, clowns, horses, antique cars and decorated bicycles. Kids who want to decorate their bikes can join Rose Riley at 10:00 at the bike rack at the Elementary School.

1:00 Bus Tour leaves the school for a trip to see the early schoolhouses (or their sites); you must reserve a seat on the bus by calling Carolyn Shapiro at 229-5676 and pay a \$3 fee.

1:00 Oldtimers share memories in the Library.

1:00 Tour of the Cate Farm, an organic fruit/vegetable farm (1 pm) and the Bragg Farm's maple production/sales business (2 pm). Meet at the Elementary School and carpool.

4:00 Carroll Badger Memorial hike, an easy but spectacular hike that begins at the Old Meeting House.

5:00 & 6:00 Old Fashioned Supper at the Old Brick Church with red flannel hash, baked beans, johnny cake, cabbage salad and apple dessert. For reservations call 223-5705. Adults: \$5.50, children, \$3.

7:30 Variety Show at the Elementary School. Mini-auction at intermission.

Sunday

11:00 Oldtime Church Service at the Old Meeting House, followed by a Community Picnic with sandwiches, drinks and dessert available at modest prices (12:00), followed by an Old Fashioned Musicale with early Vermont music and a Dudley Sing (1:00).

Is your psyche looking to do a good deed? Have you a skill, a craft, a white elephant which you could donate to help the *Signpost*? These gifts will be put on the block at the Rally Day Auction, to be held during intermission at the Variety Show Saturday night, September 7. Call Jean Vissering at 223-3262.

Copies of *Across The Onion* available at the Town Office.

Annual Fall Fair will be held on September 21, 1991, from 10-3 at the Old Meeting House. There will be a chicken pie dinner at noon. Make reservations by calling 223-5175. There will be an auction, flea market, bake sale, plant, produce and preserves, and book tables and children's clothes and toys.

MILESTONES

(Received by the Town Clerk by Aug. 1)

BIRTHS

♥ Marshall Brandon Coté born April 25, 1991, to Anita Bullis & Michael Bernard Coté.

♥ Martin Karl DeGeus and Grace Katherine DeGeus born May 7, 1991, to Loreen & Robert DeGeus.

♥ Christopher Raymond Swift born May 16, 1991, to Catherine & William Swift.

♥ Brianna Shea Dwyer born May 16, 1991, to Melissa & David Dwyer.

♥ Anders Asa Christiansen born May 23, 1991, to Jennifer & Andrew Christiansen.

♥ Caitlin Anna Mugford born June 5, 1991, to Brunella & Bret Mugford.

MARRIAGES

♥ Jeffrey Roy Biron and Robin Denise Lee, June 1, 1991.

♥ Cary Alan Breer and Virginia Lee Anne Basile, June 22, 1991.

♥ Bartholdi Frederick Holbrook and Anne Trooper, June 30, 1991.

♥ James Michael Stacy and Rebecca Mae Fitch, July 2, 1991.

PASSINGS

Henry Edward Spaulding passed away on May 29, 1991. He was husband of Marion Spaulding and lived in Sandy Pines Trailer Park.

Milton Pulsifer passed away on July 29, 1991. He was a long time resident of East Montpelier and leaves his wife Betty and three sons.

LAND TRANSFERS

98 acres on Fitch Road from George & Barbara Fitch to Claudia & Bruce Fitch.

.01 acre from Bernard & Donna Harriman to Town of East Montpelier for right of way.

3.22 acres on Towne Hill Road from Hugh & Susan Hawkins and Dennis & Nancy Hawkins to David Towers.

7.55 acres on Brazier Road from Hugh & Susan Hawkins and Dennis & Nancy Hawkins to Stephen & Janet Connor.

House and land on Gould Hill Road from Janet Lane to Janet Lane, John Lane & Mark Lane.

43 acres on Foster Road from Seldon Dodge to June Morse & Sybil Miller.

Conservation easement on 285 acres from Austin Cleaves to Vermont Land Trust, Inc./Town of East Montpelier.

House and 9.5 acres from Ernest & Nancy Ward to Robert & Susan Rigger.

Mobile home in Sandy Pines from James Raymond to William & Lillian Dodge.



DENNIS R. HAWKINS 223-3994		HUGH M. HAWKINS 229-0114
Driveway and Lawn Construction Mowing, Bush Hogging Snow Plowing Sanding		229-4166 WHOLESALE - RETAIL

SO YOU LIVE IN EAST MONTPELIER...

Do you know where the highest point in East Montpelier is?

Do you know where the coolest swimming holes in the Winooski are?

Do you know where the herons nest?

Do you know where wild orchids and pitcher plants grow?

Do you know which brook in town is the longest?

Do you know where to find the best sunrise and sunset views in town?

Do you know that the Town of East Montpelier has at least one legal trail and several class 4 roads in addition to the dirt roads we all know and love?

Have you ever been to the Town Forest?

The trails group of the Community Activities Committee is interested in what outdoor activities people enjoy in town. Many folks, for example, enjoy the use of the snowmobile trail network, thanks to the Gullyjumpers Club. Others canoe, tube or swim in the Winooski or fish the brooks. Informal trails are used for walking and horseback riding.

It would be very helpful to us if you would fill out the form on the back of this sheet, and drop it off at the Town Office or mail it to Madeleine Mongan, RR 1, Box 4280, Montpelier, VT 05602 (phone 223-2579).

Thanks for your help!

The Trails Group
Nona Estrin, Madeleine Mongan, Caroline Shapiro

SPECIAL NOTE: On Rally Day, September 7, you will have a wonderful chance to explore the Town Forest with some expert naturalists as your guides. Hikes will be leaving from the Town Forest parking area at 9:00 a.m. You will be looking for mushrooms, birds, ferns and other natural treasures, as well as tracing the history of the old sugarhouse and equipment now buried deep in the forest. Call 223-7745 for more information.

TRAILS PLANNING FOR EAST MONTPELIER

1. Do you think the town should preserve existing trails? Yes No
2. Do you think the town should develop new trails? Yes No
3. Do you think the town should develop bike paths? Yes No
4. Do you think the town should develop horse trails? Yes No
5. Do you think the town should develop trails that people with disabilities, young children, and older people will enjoy? Yes No
6. If the town develops trails, should the town:
 obtain permission from landowners each year
 purchase permanent easements
 do both of the above as appropriate
7. Should the trail development be paid for by:
 the town
 the state
 other
8. Please add comments about what outdoor activities you are interested in in East Montpelier.

If you would like to help us as we discuss these issues, please call us or fill in your name and address here:

Thanks from the Trails Group:

Nona Estrin 223-7745
Madeleine Mongan 223-2579
Carolyn Shapiro 229-5676

September 1991

TOWN PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

If you've read the past issues of the *Signpost*, you know that the Planning Commission has spent a lot of time working on the new Town Plan. The topics proposed are listed below; those marked with an asterisk have had preliminary review.

Introduction

The Community Population:

- Citizen Property Rights
- *Citizen Resources & Participation in Government
- *Neighborliness & Community Assembly
- *Religion

Land Use:

- *Agriculture
- *Woodland Resources
- *Villages and Residential Areas
- *Fish, Wildlife, and Natural Areas
- *Wetlands and Waterways
- *Trails
- *Scenic Resources
- *Recreation

- Education
- *Housing

Transportation and Utilities:

- *Transportation
- Solid Waste
- Sewage Disposal
- Water and Aquifers
- Energy & Energy Conservation

General Government:

- *Municipal Government
- *Finance

Health and Safety:

- *Fire Protection
- Ambulance, Police and Disaster Planning
- Social Services

*Business Activity

- Historic Resources
- The Children's Plan Summary

Each section will include a history of the topic, its current status, goals, and plans of action. The current status section will objectively relate what is going on today; the goals are broad visions of what the future should hold, and the plans of action are

recommendations for specific actions to be taken by the town or its citizens. The Draft Plan will recommend the formation or continuation of citizen committees who will be charged with carrying out the Plan of Action.

During the next few months we will continue to review the recommendations, and we will be looking for maps, photographs and illustrations. We intend to have a final draft ready by the end of the year.

Copies of the current working draft are circulating among those who submitted recommendations. If you are interested in reading the working draft, a copy is available at the Town Clerk's office where you may read it there. You may also request copies of sections of your particular interest from the Planning Commission.

We encourage you to read these drafts. We need to receive as much citizen input as possible, as soon as possible, before the formal hearing process begins. This should assure that the Plan reflects the desires of the townspeople. Your comments are most welcome and should be directed to the Planning Commission c/o East Montpelier Town Clerk.

John Riley

EAST MONTPELIER

*E is for the Eastern sunrise which renews each day,
A is for All the farms we see,
S is for the Sunlit hills,
T is for the Times we look forward to,*

*M is for a Memorial to our past,
O is for the One and only time we pass this way,
N is for the Natural Beauty abounding,
T is for the Testimony to our heritage,
P is for Preserving our forests and open fields,
E is for the Ecology of all,
L is for Looking to the future,
I is for our Incredible destiny,
E is for the Enrichment of our young,
R is for the Realization of Community Spirit.*

*If each of these ideas were recalled
Each and every day
Our town could be the best.*

*The Best for everyone of us
With the caring and awareness of all
This Community Spirit could command
A certain goal to be achieved
To make EAST MONTPELIER the best.*



Sylvia Tosi

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

*Kenneth Baird
Steven & Kirsten Novak Bower
Allen, Maybeth & Gary Butler
Roger & Genevieve Chapell
Arlene Clark
Cora Copping
Rosendo & Val Cueto
Gladys Dunkling
Malcolm & Diana Fielder
Jesse Gibbs
Ellen Hill
Bradford & Ruth Lane
Dr. Robert Nist, DMD
D. James & Iona Philbrick
Lori Pinard
Ralph Ross
E. May Slayton
Robert & Alice Smith
Loring Starr & Michael Dworkin
Clifton & Shirley Wright*

*Janet Bennett
James Brock
Paul & Sandal Cate
Susan Chickering & John Ayers
Dwight & Irene Clark
Allan & Nancy Couch
Richard & Sally Donaghy
Ronald & Therese Ferland
George & Barbara Fuch
David & Darlene Grundy
Albert & Betty Jerome
Henry Murray
Conrad & Anne Ormsbee
Robert & Deborah Phillips
Alban & Margaret Richey
Edward & Carolyn Schuinger
Carlton Smith
Samuel & Barbara Starr
Charles & Anna Towne
Florence Young*

Thank you so much for helping the Signpost move into its second year.

COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

Selectmen	2nd & 4th Wednesday	7:00	Town Office
Planning Commission	1st, 3rd, 4th Thursday	7:30	"
Zoning Board of Adjustment	2nd & 4th Monday	7:30	"
Conservation Fund Advisory Comm.	3rd Tuesday	7:00	"
Volunteer Fire Department	Every Tuesday	7:00	Fire Station, Templeton Rd.
U-32 School Board	2nd & 4th Tuesday	7:30	U-32
Elementary School Board	1st Thursday	7:30	Elementary School
Town Clerk's Office Hours	Monday-Thursday: 9-5, Friday: 9-12		Town Office
Zoning Administrator	Tuesday & Thursday	1:00-2:30	Town Office

Meeting times are subject to change

EVENTS CALENDAR

Tuesday, September 3	School Opens, grades 1-12	U-32, Elementary School
Tuesday, September 3	Kindergarten screening	Elementary School
Wednesday, September 4	Kindergarten screening	Elementary School
Thursday, September 5	Kindergarten begins	Elementary School
Saturday, September 7, 9:00	Rally Day (see article)	Elementary School & others
Saturday, September 7, 11:00	Parade	Vincent Flats Road
Saturday, September 7, 5:00, 6:00	Red Flannel Hash Supper, 223-5705	Old Brick Church (reservations)
Saturday, September 7, 7:30	Variety Show	Elementary School
Sunday, September 8, 11:00	Bicentennial Church Service	Old Meeting House
Sunday, September 8, 12:00	Community Picnic (lunch available to purchase)	Old Meeting House
Sunday, September 8, 1:00	Old Fashioned Musicale	Old Meeting House
Monday, September 16, 7:30	Waste Facility Information Meeting	Elementary School
Saturday, September 21, 10-3	Fall Fair	Old Meeting House
Saturday, September 21, 12:00	Chicken Pie Dinner, 223-5175	Old Meeting House (reservations)
Thursday, October 3, 7 a.m.- 6 p.m.	Waste Facility Advisory Vote	Elementary School

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1ST ANNIVERSARY

INSIDE:

**A LITTLE TOWN
 HISTORY
 RALLY DAY
 WEATHERVANE
 ELM TREE
 COMEBACK**

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