

THE HISTORY OF GREENSBORO

f r o m

1781 - 1860

**A GREENSBORO HISTORICAL
SOCIETY EXHIBIT**

SUMMER, 1996

b y

**THOMAS WOODWARD
BARBARA WOODWARD**



Ralph Fisher of East Hardwick was one of many visitors to stop by the Greensboro Historical Society to see its new exhibit on life in the town in the first half of the 19th century. The society is open four days a week. Professor Allen Davis will speak tonight at the Greensboro UCC on early life in Greensboro. (photo by Dorothy M. Ling)

Historical Society Exhibits Open For Summer

by Dorothy M. Ling

Last week, the Greensboro Historical Society began having the building open for people to visit and look at the exhibits several days each week. It is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m.

One can see tools and equipment used both inside and outside the home from bull rake to spinning wheel and yarn winder. There is a collection from the Hill family, one of the early settler families showing shoe lasts, a frame to make snow-

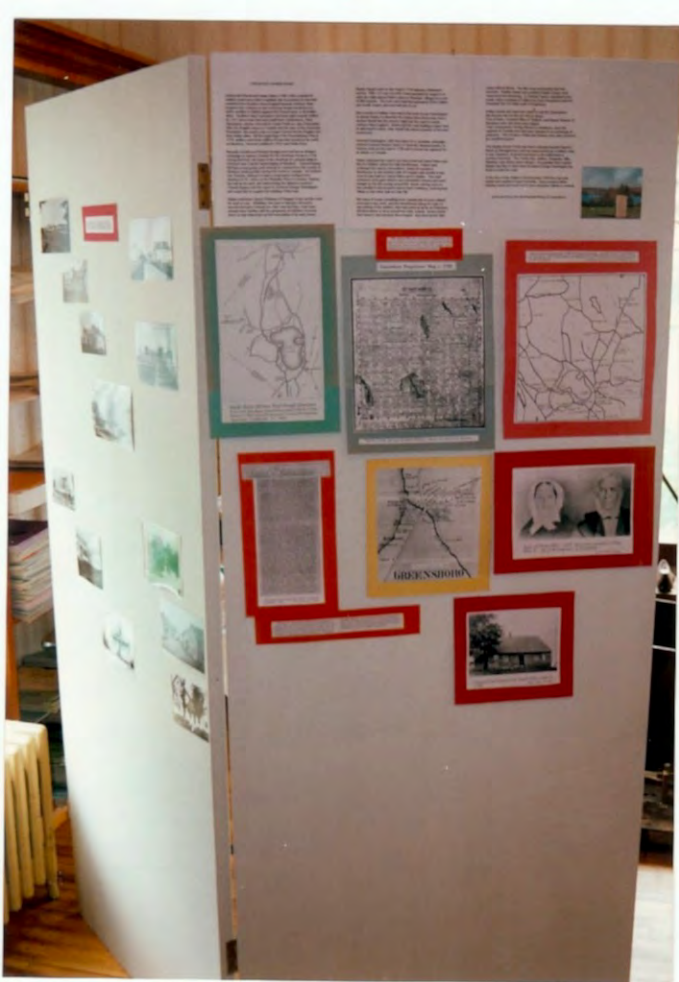
shoes and other items. One wall has shelves full of smaller household items used the last century. On the further wall is an early post office unit. These will be on view through Labor Day with possible additions.

There are photos, account books, an exhibit on the early founders and other books to examine. One can make several visits to see things missed the first time. All these articles point to how Greensboro residents lived in the early 1800s, up to 1860.

A lecture this evening also follows this theme. Allen Davis will

open the Greensboro UCC lecture series and speak on early life in Greensboro.

When driving by the historical building take a look at the sign out front that gives a brief history of the town. Nancy Buckley has put much time into reframing the sign and touching it up. It is still the original sign arranged by Donald Drown several years ago. Mary Ann Jeffrey has also worked on the garden putting in more perennials and annuals. Many others have worked to set up the exhibit and keep the building in tip top shape.









PUBLISHED BY — *Don Sieburg* — NEW LONDON, N. H.

Caspian Lake, Vermont. The high elevation (1404 ft.) of this Lake assures refreshing coolness in the summer, and the mountain breezes that blow over the water are keenly exhilarating. The Hazen Road Monument commemorates the military road which passed through this area.

Photo by Don Sieburg

P40277

 Postcard
by COLONIALPRINTERS PUBLISHERS, INC., Boston 15, Mass., U.S.A.

POST CAR

DS-1652

THE BAYLEY-HAZEN ROAD

During the French and Indian Wars (1756-1763) a series of military roads were built to facilitate the movement of men and materiel from Southern New England towards northern New England and Canada so that American troops would be in a better position to defend against the French army or its Indian allies. Southern New Hampshire had been fairly heavily settled by 1761 and a road had been build from Charlestown, New Hampshire, across Vermont to Crown Point on Lake Champlain. After the English victory in Canada and the start of the American Revolution, the enemy was no longer French but the English and their Indian allies. By the beginning of the Revolutionary War in 1776 settlers and some military forces had moved as far north as Newbury, Vermont (settled in 1761) and Wells River.

Benedict Arnold and Richard Montgomery had led an ill-fated campaign to capture Canada for the American forces in 1776. During that time, the head of the American or colonial militia in Vermont was Colonel Jacob Bayley of Newbury. Colonel Bayley felt that a road going north directly to Canada from the vicinity of Newbury would greatly shorten the route to Canada. He ordered one Thomas Johnson to lead a small party overland from Newbury to St. Johns on the Richelieu River in Quebec, blazing the trail as he went, and determining the distance involved. Colonel Bayley sent the report to General George Washington and urged him to support the building of the road.

Bayley instructed James Whitelaw of Ryegate to lay out the route for such a road. Whitelaw, who was to become Vermont's second Surveyor General (Ira Allen was the first), must have already been familiar with the geography of northern Vermont since he had helped lay out the boundaries of its early towns.

Bayley began work on the road in 1776 following Whitelaw's survey. With 110 men he built a road passable by wagon to a point six miles above Elkin's place in Peacham Village at a cost of 982 pounds. The men were paid the equivalent of ten dollars per month, board, and one-half pint of rum.

But a series of military reversals in the north forced Washington to advise Bayley to abandon the project since there was now a serious threat that the enemy might use the road to invade northern New England. Bayley quit the road building project and, to add insult to injury, was repaid only about a quarter of his own investment.

General Washington, with new plans for a Canadian campaign, ordered General Moses Hazen of Haverhill, Massachusetts, to resume work on the road in 1799 and to recruit his regiment for an attack on Canada.

Hazen extended the road to an area known as Cabot Plains and then to Walden, where he built blockhouses. Hazen then continued the road to Greensboro, where he erected a blockhouse on the western side of Caspian Lake similar to the ones he had built on Cabot Plains and in Walden. The road continued north past what is now Campbell's Corners and went straight up the hill curving around Mt. Sarah, running more or less parallel to the present road to East Craftsbury, entering that village on the other side of Cate Hill.

But news of troops retreating from Canada told of more military reversals in the north, and the blockhouses along the road, to say nothing of the settlers, who had come up as far as Peacham, felt themselves to be in precarious state, indeed. Small wonder that Hazen's men became discouraged: they were poorly clad,

many without shoes. The flies were particularly bad that summer. Hostile Indians and possibly English troops were rumored to be advancing. In October Hazen retreated to the south, and a company of militia from New Hampshire held the Peacham fort (12 miles north of Peacham).

Indian scouts who had been order^{ed} to hold the Greensboro blockhouse did not fare as well as others.

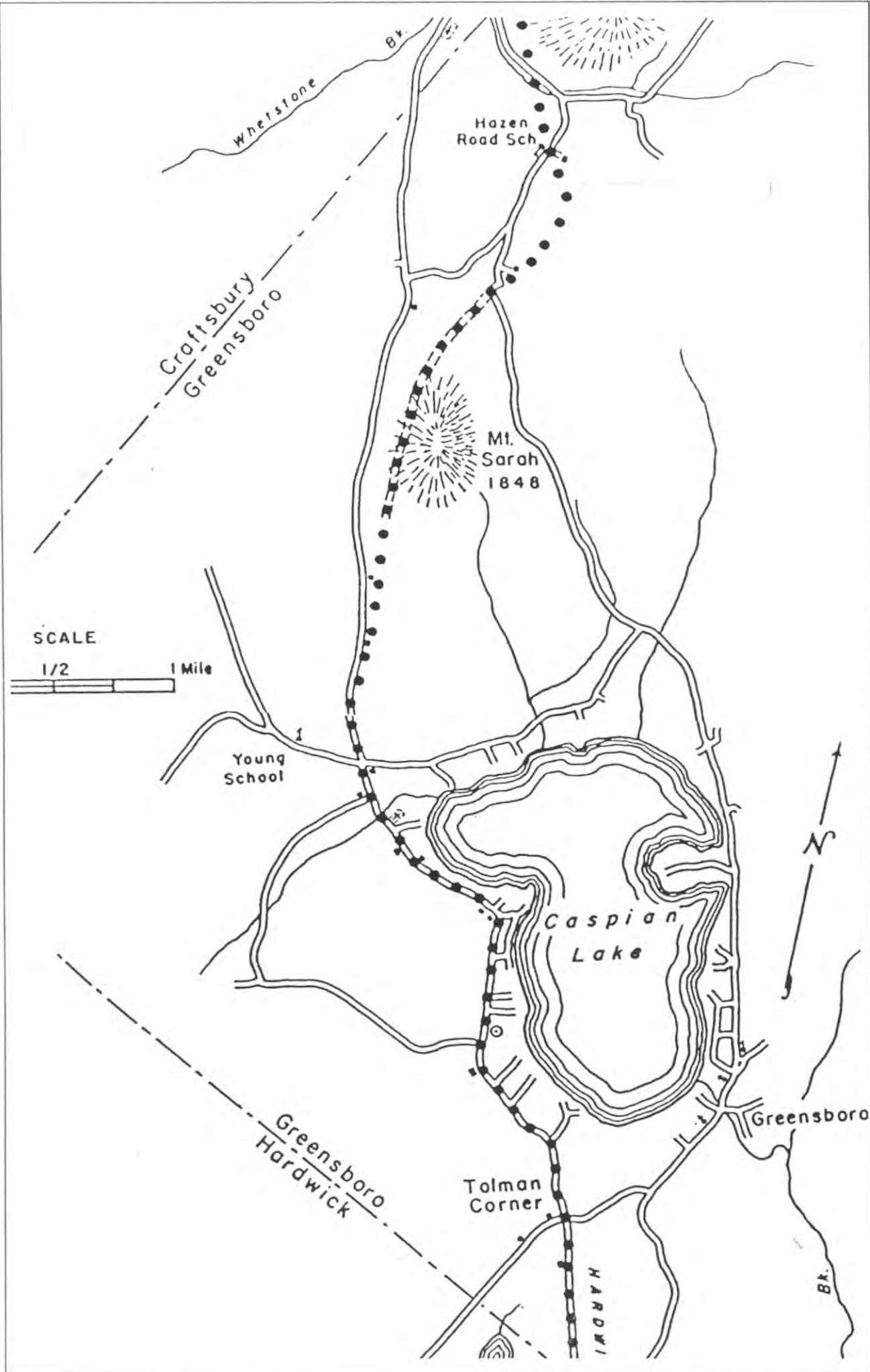
Two of them, Constant Bliss of Thetford, and Moses Sleeper of Newbury were shot down and scalped.

Their companions, having offered no resistance, were led captives to Canada and were later released in an exchange of prisoners. The remains of Bliss and Sleeper were later buried in an uncoffined grave.

The Bayley-Hazen Road was never extended beyond Hazen's Notch (in Montgomery) and was unsuccessful as a military road. It was, however, of great importance in the settlement of northern Vermont. The Town's first settlers, Shepards, Hills, Stanleys, and others came along it. It is possible that Colonel Bayley had this in mind when he asked George Washington for funds to build the road.

At the time of the Nation's bicentennial in 1976 the road was traced and marked in each township. Some portions follow existing roads but much of it is now overgrown hillside or swamp.

- excerpted from the bicentennial history of Greensboro



Bayley-Hazen Military Road through Greensboro.
From *Atlas of the Bayley-Hazen Military Road 1776 & 1779* by
Marcus A. McCorison (Northeastern Vermont Development
Association, Lyndonville, Vt., 1959).

Greensboro.

10

Glover N. 34° 8' 0" 6 MILES.

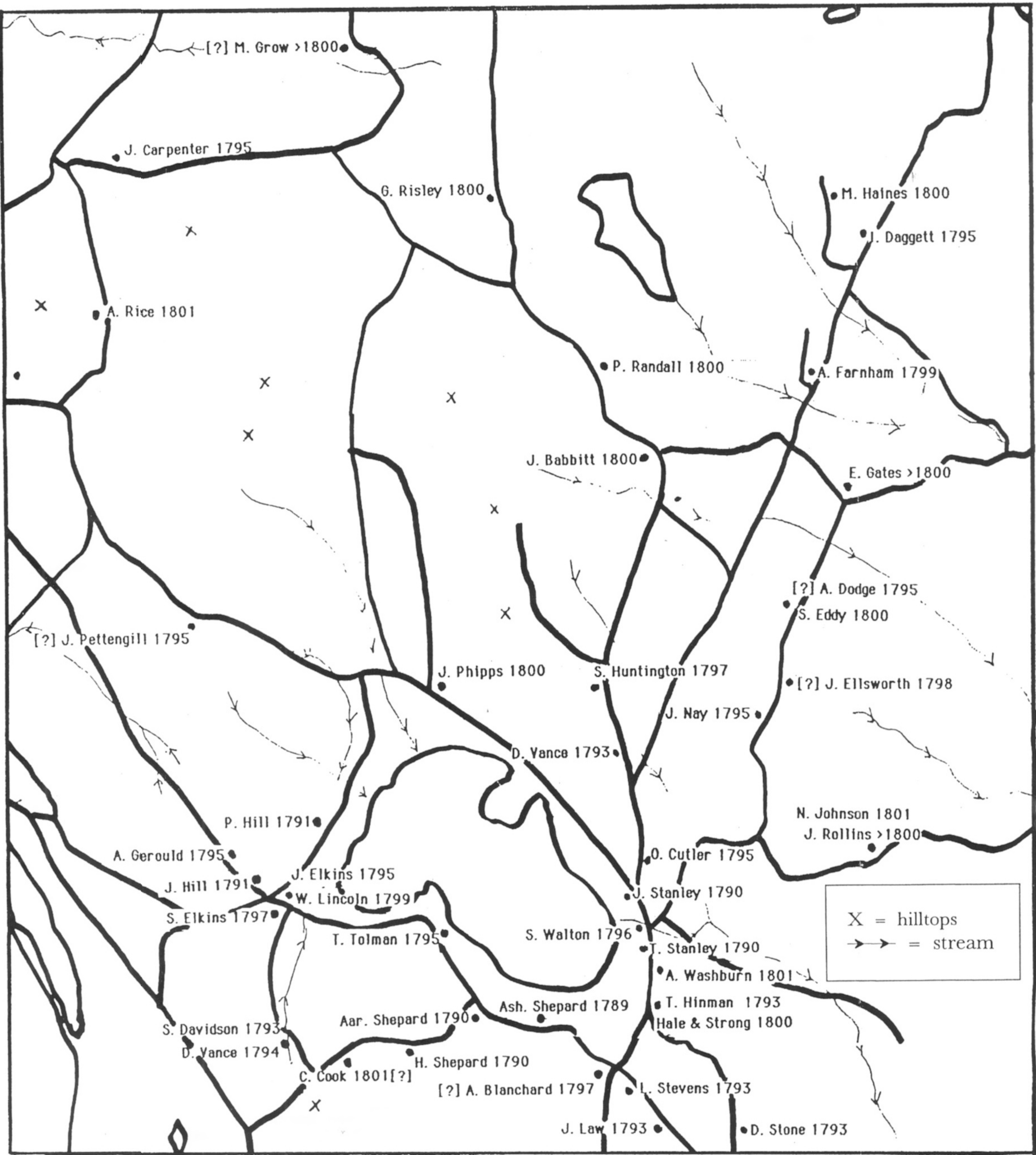
19 Range	No 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	19 Range
18	Samuel Spencer	David Galusha	Joseph May	Joshua Burnham	Dan Platt	Joseph Daggett	Thomas Chittenden	Timothy Green	John Hillhouse	Nathan Leonard	Gram School	Elisha Ely	18
17	College	Susannah Allen	Nathan Leonard	Elisha Ely	Beriah Brastow	Gram School	Calvin White	Simon Pettee	Noah Platt	Joseph Colt	Timothy Farrand	School	17
16	College	Susannah Allen	Nathan Leonard	Elisha Ely	Beriah Brastow	Gram School	Joseph May	Job Seaman	Edw. Hallam	Julius Demming	John Bigalow	Jabez Stow	16
15	Julius Demming	Job Seaman	Joseph Colt	Minister	Thomas Tolman	Thomas Tolman	Joseph Chester	Jonas Demming	John Lucas	Jonas Fay	Minister	Jedediah Hyde	15
14	Julius Demming	Jonas Kelton	Timothy Green, Jr	Parsonage	Wm. Hyde	Wm. Hyde	Barnabas Morse	Israel Hatch	Peleg Hill	Thos. Tolman	David Hillhouse	Guy Richards	14
13	Zebulon Jones	Zebulon Jones	James Gamble	David Hillhouse	David Hillhouse	Timothy Green	Jonas Kelton	David Jewett	Wm. S. Sheppard	David Galusha	John Hallam	Arnold Colt	13
12	John May	John May	James Gamble	John H. Cumpston	John H. Cumpston	Timothy Green	Wm. Williams	Daniel Raymond	Adriel Ely	Harris Colt	Timothy Green	Lyman Hitchcock	12
11	Roswell Hopkins	Roswell Hopkins	John Bigalow	Lois Tolman	Lois Tolman	School	Joseph Kellogg	Joseph Kellogg	Jabez Stow	Jedediah Hyde, Jr	David Jewett	Beriah Brastow	11
10	Theod. Sedgwick	Theod. Sedgwick	John Bigalow	Jonas Fay	Jonas Fay	School	Joseph May	Moses Robinson	Jabez Stow	Jedediah Hyde, Jr	Wm. Williams	Parsonage	10
9	Aaron Robinson	Aaron Robinson	David Galusha	Daniel Raymond	Daniel Raymond	Parsonage	Joshua Burnham	Moses Robinson	Noah Platt	Noah Platt	Timothy Farrand	College	9
8	John Mott	John Mott	Samuel Spencer	Elisha Clark	Elisha Clark	Minister	Dem. Platt	Timothy Green	Joshua Allen	Joshua Allen	Abiathar Waldo	Joseph Kellogg	8
7	Job Harris	Job Harris	John Hillhouse	Sam. Field	Sam. Field	Joseph Colt	Joseph Daggett	Jonas Kelton	Arnold Colt	Arnold Colt	Timothy Stanley	Wm. Hyde	7
6	John Lucas	John Lucas	Timothy Farrand	Peleg Hill	Peleg Hill		Barnabas Morse	Job Seaman	Harris Colt	Harris Colt	Asa Burnham	Zebulon Jones	6
5		Lyman Hitchcock	Wm. Williams	Peleg Hill	Peleg Hill		Barnabas Morse	John Hallam	Ambrose Hall	Adriel Ely	Joseph Chester	Elisha Clark	5
4		Lyman Hitchcock	David Jewett	Thos. Chittenden	Thos. Chittenden			John Hallam	Ambrose Hall	Adriel Ely	John Hillhouse	John H. Cumpston	4
3		Jonas Galusha	Jonas Galusha	Thos. Chittenden	Simon Pettee			Abiathar Waldo	Asa Burnham	Joshua Burnham	Moses Robinson	Susannah Allen	3
2		Calvin White	Calvin White	Abiathar Waldo	Simon Pettee	David Robinson	John Knight	Guy Richards	Samuel Spencer	Roswell Hopkins	John May	James Gamble	2
1		Theod. Sedgwick	Joshua Allen	Edward Hallam	Timothy Stanley	Joseph Chester	David Robinson	John Knight	Guy Richards	Aaron Robinson	John Knight	Dan Platt	1
Range	No 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Range

Hardwick Scale - 1 Mile to an Inch

Lots 100 Acres each except 19th Range, which contain 120 acres each.
 No 9 in 14th Range voted to Wm. S. Sheppard, the first child born in Greensboro.
 A true copy from the Crafts Book of Plans. J. M. Dewar, March 1910.

Greensboro Proprietors' Map c. 1788

**Lot No. 9 in the 14th range was voted to William J. Shepard, first child born in Greensboro.



X = hiltops
 ->->- = stream

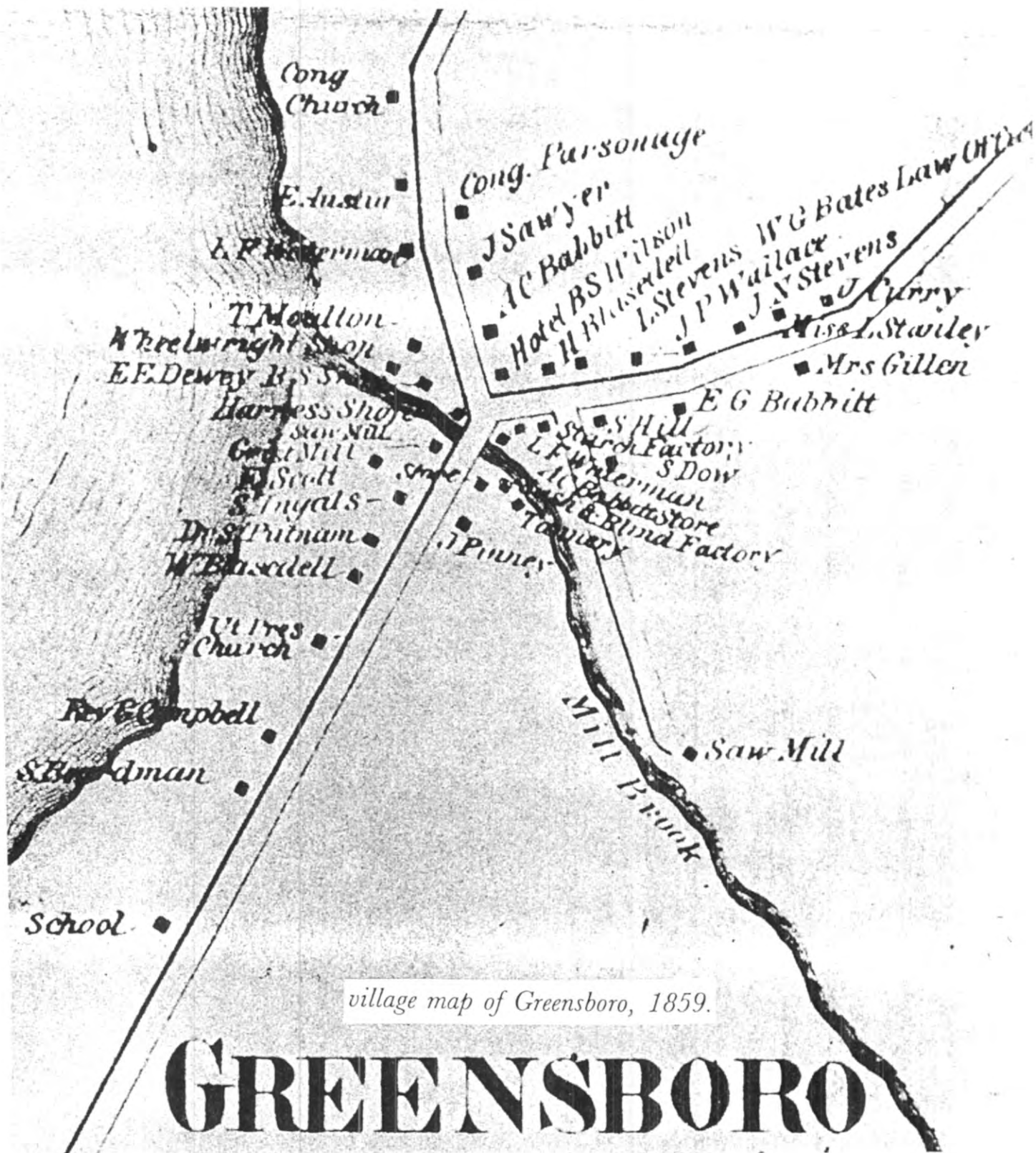
Map of Greensboro's early settlers (1789-1810) based on information from Rev. James P. Stone's History of Greensboro, 1854. Road locations are adapted from an 1878 map and are not necessarily accurate for this time period.

Compiled by Peter D. Watson and Wilhelmina Smith.

Charter of GREENSBORO

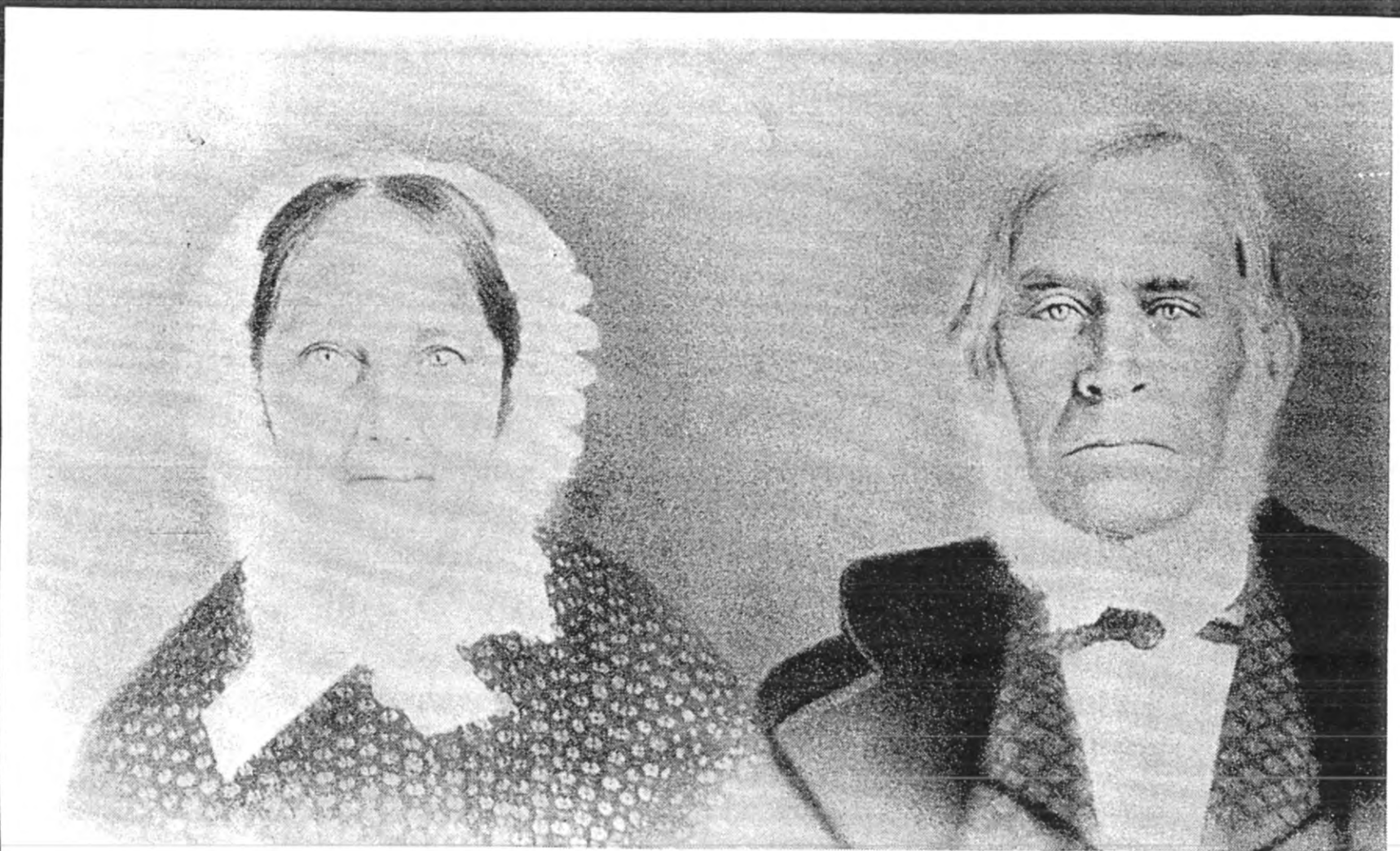
BE The Governor, Council, and General Assembly of the ^{the State of} Freemen of Vermont. To all People, to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting. Know ye, that whereas Harris Colt Esquire, and his Associates, our worthy Friends, have, by Petition requested a Grant of a Tract of unappropriated Lands within this State, in order for settling a New Plantation, to be erected into a Township. We have therefore thought fit, for the due encouragement of their laudable Designs, and for other valuable considerations us herunto moving, AND DO, by these Presents, in the Name, and by the Authority of the Freemen of the State of Vermont, Give and Grant the Tract of Land hereafter more fully described and bounded, unto him the said Harris Colt, and to the several Persons hereafter named, his Associates, in equal Rights or Shares, viz: Timothy Green, Timothy Green Junr, David Jewett, Guy Richards, Edward Kollam, John Kollam, David Allhouse, Joseph Chester, Jonathan Deming, Julius Deming, John Biggelow, Joseph Colt, Elisha Ely, Adriel Ely, Jabez Stow, Samuel Field, Zebulon Jones, Samuel Spencer, Peleg Hill, Dan Platt, Noah Platt, John Hillhouse, Daniel Raymond, Thomas Chittenden, Thomas Solman, Lois Solman, Job Searmans, Timothy Stanley, Seriah Krastow, Simon Pettee, Israel Hatch, John Henry Cumjston, Joseph Tagget, Ambrose Hall, Nathan Leonard, Asa Burnham, Susannah Allen, David Galusha, Jonas Galusha, Moses Robinson, Joseph Kellogg, Aaron Robinson, John Mott, Timothy Sarrand, Abiathar Waldo, Joshua Burnham, Joshua Allen, James Gamble, Lyman Hitchcock, John Knight, David Robinson, Jonas Fay, Rowell Hopkins, William Williams, John May, Calvin White, Jonathan Kilton, John Lucas, Joseph May, Jedediah Hyde Junr, William Hyde, Elisha Clark, Theodore Sedgwick, Barnabas Morse, Job Harris and Arnold Colt; which together with the five following Rights, or equal Shares, reserved to the several public uses in manner following include the whole of

The charter dictates that any land not improved or settled will revert to the freemen of Vermont to be regranted by their representatives to people who will cultivate and settle it. Of the original proprietors of Greensboro only three settled in the town: Peleg Hill, Timothy Stanley, and Thomas Tolman. Evidently, most of the other proprietors, including Governor Chittenden, were land speculators who sold their land to others or let it go cheaply at tax sales.



village map of Greensboro, 1859.

GREENSBORO



Aaron and Susan Hill, c. 1850. Aaron was a grandson of Peleg Hill, Sr., one of the proprietors of Greensboro.

Lewis Hill Family



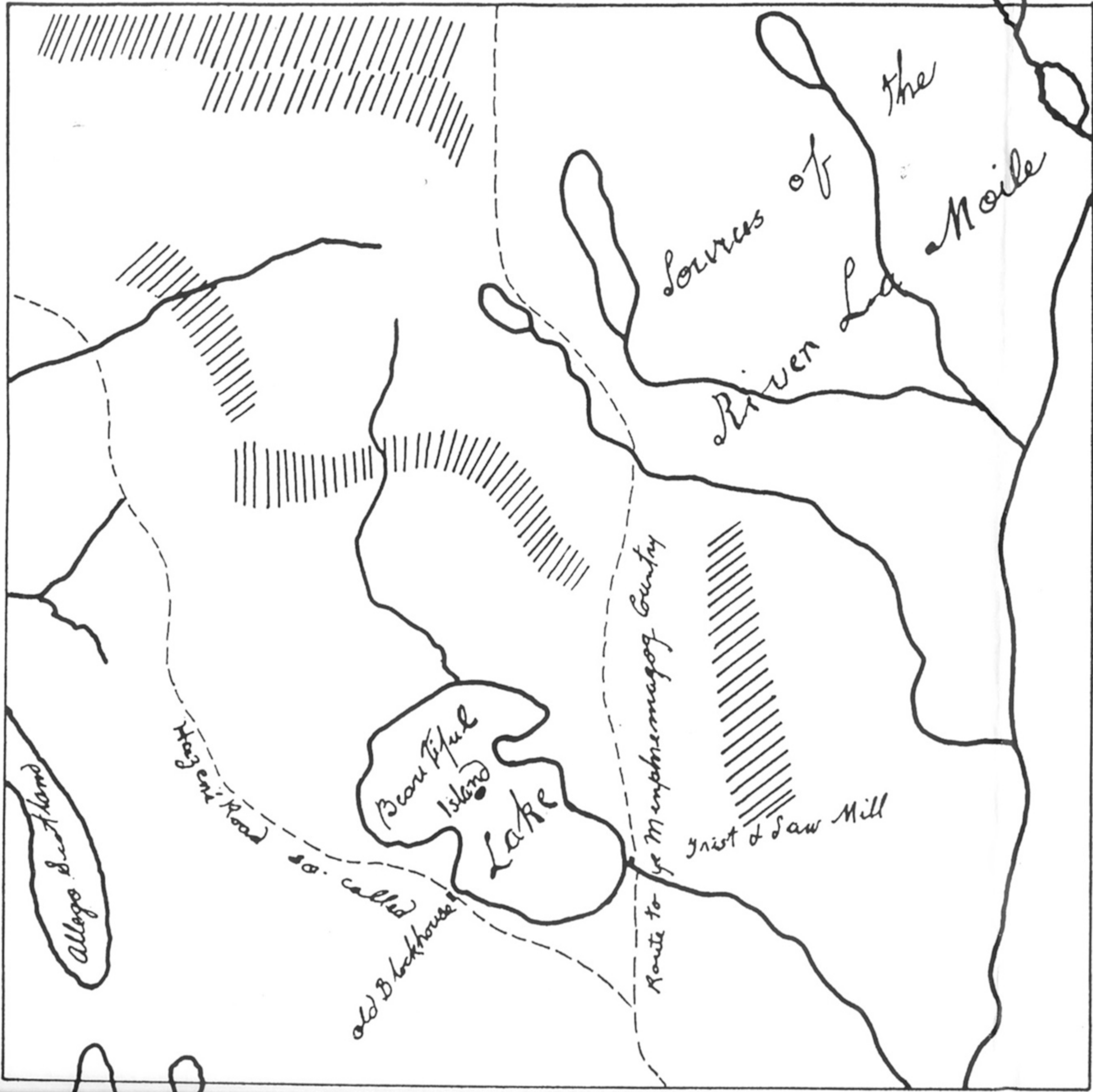
*Charles Cook homestead on Cook's Hill, settled in
1796.*

John Allen Family

S. 54° E. 6 miles.

CRAFTSBURY

N. 36° E. Six Miles.



S. 36° W. 6 Miles.

North 54° W. six miles.

GREENSBORO

at about this point it is supposed the source the outlet of Lake unite to form the La-moille.

Note The Allogo Scotland Pond is a Source of Black River, which runs from Craftsbury to the North & East & empties into the Memphremagog.

Taken from a Manuscript Plan of Greensborough in the hand of the townman

February 1794.

Note There are no large Mountains in the Town. The most considerable Hills are noted by this mark or shading ////////////////

The Surveyor General.

On behalf, & by the Request of the Selectmen of the Town of Greensborough. Thos. Tolman

HILL FAMILY EXHIBIT

LIKE EVERY OTHER EARLY GREENSBORO SETTLERS, THE HILL FAMILY, WHO CAME FROM CONNECTICUT IN 1791, WERE VERY SELF-SUFFICIENT AND MADE EVERYTHING THEY NEEDED AS WELL AS ITEMS TO SWAP WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS. THEY WERE SKILLED IN THE USE OF ALL KINDS OF WOOD, LEATHER, METAL, AND THE PROCESSING OF WOOL AND FLAX.

AARON HILL (SEE PHOTO IN GREENSBORO HISTORY, PAGE 26) WHO SETTLED IN NORTH GREENSBORO IN 1809, MADE HARNESES, SADDLES, BOOTS, AND SHOES FOR HIS OWN FAMILY AND TO BARTER. HE OPERATED A TAVERN, SET UP A GRISTMILL, SAWMILL, AND SHINGLE MILL ON SAWMILL BROOK, AND OPERATED A FORGE FOR MAKING NAILS AND TOOLS. HE MADE COFFINS AS WELL. HE ALSO MADE MAPLE SUGAR EACH SPRING AND GREW OATS, WHEAT, FLAX, APPLES, CORN, POTATOES AND OTHER VEGETABLES. HE AND HIS SONS BUILT MOST OF THE HOMES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD INCLUDING HIS OWN, THE PRESENT HOME OF LEWIS AND NANCY HILL.

ITEMS IN THIS EXHIBIT

CRADLE

Several generations of Hill children were rocked to sleep in this cradle.

COBBLER'S BENCH AND SHOE FORMS

Aaron Hill made leather shoes and boots for every shape and size of foot on this bench (but paid no attention to left or right!). After people butchered cattle, he used the hides, tanned the leather using tree bark, and stretched it over the forms.

SNOWSHOE FORM AND SNOWSHOE

Aaron and his sons made showshoes of brown ash which bends easily. Rawhide leather was used for lacing.

HETCHEL

Used to pull flax and wool through to break them into fibers before spinning.

HAND-MADE CRUTCH

WOODEN BARREL

Made by the Hills from cedar, which was easy to work, lightweight, and water resistant.

MILK PAN

Used to separate milk and cream. Milk was set in a cool place overnight. The cream rose to the top and in the morning it was skimmed, primarily for butter and sometimes for cooking.

DONUT PAN

Used for frying donuts in lard, which was stored in the pan to be ready for the next batch.

COPPER PAN

All-purpose kettle used for carrying water, dying clothes, washing, etc.

BIRCHWOOD DOLL

Primitive doll used as a plaything in the sugarhouse by generations of Hill children.

AUGER

With 3/4 -inch bit. Note long handle to enable bit to drill through large timbers and thick walls.

Woodward Collection

SMALL BLOCK PLANE

- Loaned by Sally Fisher

HAND SICKLE

Used for trimming.

Woodward Collection

OLD BLOCK PLANE

Used for all wood working. Note that the blade is still a part of the plane, making it workable today.

- Loaned by Gordon Richardson

Minutes of the 1818 Greensboro Town Meeting showing those persons in attendance.

LINEN BAG

The flax in this bag was raised, prepared into thread and woven by Susan White Mitchell, great-great-great aunt of Dorothy White Ling.

- Loaned by Dorothy Ling

BUTTER CHURN

This churn would supply the butter needs for a large family. Note that this one was made in Montpelier.

- Loaned by David and Andrea Perham

BOOT JACK

Probably home made, with square nails.

- Loaned by Gordon Richardson

YARN

The yarn on this winder was hand-spun and loaned to the exhibit by Mary Lee Merrill Metcalf.

LEAD POURER, LADLE

Used to melt and pour lead into bullet molds and for making plumbing and machinery repairs.

- Woodward Collection

PATCHWORK QUILT

Made by Mrs. Sam Ladd. Purchased by Marion Stegner and donated to the Greensboro Historical Society.

- Donated by Marion Stegner

OIL LAMP

The ubiquitous kerosene lamp was found in every home and office from about 1850 onwards until the arrival of electricity. Kerosene was manufactured originally from coal tar and shale oils and largely replaced the use of candles and whale oil for lights. Some homes in Greensboro still keep kerosene lamps for lighting emergencies when the electicity goes out!

Woodward Collection

CALF YOKE

Used to move small stock from place to place.

- Loaned by Gordon Richardson

Photographs did not come into common use until about 1860. However, some things don't change. Here are scenes which were probably very much the same in the first half of the nineteenth century.

SOLDERING IRON

Perhaps hand made.

- Loaned by Sally Fisher

WOODEN BOWL

Used daily in the kitchen for almost everything.

- Loaned by Dorothy Ling

1997.014.02

EARLY BUCKETS

Indispensable to the home and farm, buckets had many uses, especially in bringing water from a source to the house or barn, for collecting sap at sugaring time, or for bringing milk from the barn. Two filled buckets could be carried by means of a yoke (other parts of this exhibit) which hung from the shoulders.

- Loaned by the Robert Wilson family

OLD TRUNK

This is typical of smaller, personal trunks which were used for travel as well as the safe storage of special items like quilts or wedding dresses in the house. Note that this trunk is covered with leather, indicating its old age.

Woodward Collection

OX YOKE

Used to yoke oxen to a wagon, sled, stone boat, plow, etc. Yokes were adjustable to fit oxen of different sizes.

Woodward Collection

CHAMBER POT

Nearly every bed room had a chamber pot, saving one from a long trek to the privy or out house (an especially onerous journey on cold nights). This ornate chamber pot had a lid as did many.

CEDAR WATER PIPE

Wooden water pipes brought water to the home or the barn. After being drilled [see reamer on the floor near where you are standing], the log's ends were shaped to fit one inside the other to make a continuous water "pipe". Since cedar decays relatively slowly in the ground and while touching water, these pipes could last many years. Some systems lasted over a century.

- Loaned by Gordon Richardson

EARLY BARREL

1997.014.01

This barrel is made without nails or metal and probably by a local cooper. The staves were individually cut to the right width, then bent as the wooden hoops were wrapped and tightened in the proper place. The buyer would seal the barrel by filling it with liquid. Barrels had many uses such as for fruit and vegetable storage or simply for collecting rain water. Most towns had coopers.

- Loaned by the Robert Wilson family

EARLY 19TH CENTURY SYTHE

Used to cut hay, wheat, oats, and other grains. Surprisingly light in weight, it could be used all day without great fatigue. The mower carried a whetstone and whetted the blade perhaps hourly. Purchased locally in the 1920's by Thomas Woodward, Senior.

Woodward Collection

WROUGHT IRON DOOR LATCH

Before the advent of mass-produced hardware (roughly, the first quarter of the 19th century) household items such as latches were often made by the village blacksmith in his spare time.

TRUNK

Trunks like these stored clothing worn on special occasions such as weddings, funerals, and christenings. In this case, it held quilting pieces. Note the handworked, pattered letter.

MOTTO PICTURES

Embroidered motto pictures were a popular craft in the Victorian Period. The pattern was printed on a piece of paper, with pre-punched holes through which a threaded needle would pass.

Old tin types of the Fadden family.

CHILD'S CHAIR

Woodward Collection

HAND SICKLE

Used for trimming.

- Woodward Collection

ROPE CHAIR

The seat of this chair is woven from wood bark, possibly reinforced with other fibrous material such as spun flax.

- Woodward Collection

JUG

Used often to store special liquids such as vinegar, syrup, cider (or even "hooch").

- Woodward Collection

OLD BOOT

Note wooden nails used to attach sole. Handy boot straps were made a part of the boot itself. Boots before 1860 were often made to fit either foot.

- Loaned by Gordon Richardson

ICE TONGS

Lakes and ponds were the only source of ice in large quantities. Tongs like these were used to move chunks of ice from source onto sleds and from there to ice houses, where the ice was stored in saw dust.

WASH STAND

Before houses were equipped with plumbing, water was carried to the house in buckets for kitchen and personal use. Bedrooms often had wash stands such as this. A home with servants (or "a hired girl") had hot water brought into the bed room each morning for washing of the face and hands.

IRONS

Used weekly in most homes for ironing clothes. They were usually heated on the wood stove in the kitchen.

Note the FLUTER

This was a specialized iron for crimping ladies' collars and men's shirt cuffs.

Gold eyeglasses given on the 50th wedding anniversary of Helen Rogers' grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. McFarlane.

SNOW SHOVEL

TRYING PLANE

This special plane was used to edge boards (blade is missing).

GREASE CAN AND OIL CAN

Owned by Sam Ladd, born in Greensboro in 1866. He drove a taxi (first a wagon or buggy, then one of the first motor vehicle "station wagons") ferrying summer people to and from the railroad station at Greensboro Bend to their cottages. At the age of 100 in 1966 he was the oldest person in the State of Vermont with a license to drive. His house and barn are on the other side of the street across from the Drown Apartments.

- Donated by Bob and Anne Harbison
(who live in the former Ladd home)

The charter lists the sixty-seven proprietors who held the land in town in common until town and lot boundaries were surveyed. Then the "rights" were distributed among the proprietors by lottery.

LOADING CHRISTMAS TREES AT GREENSBORO BEND STATION

19TH CENTURY CHILDREN'S TOYS

COPY OF GREENSBORO TOWN MEETING
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 1862

- Showing a vote to raise taxes for soldiers' enlistment bounty.

"HAYING"

Although this well-known photograph by Samuel Chamberlain shows a Connecticut scene, it is nonetheless typical of the way haying was done in Greensboro during the entire 19th century. The older, more experienced person usually stood on top and packed the load, and the farm hands pitched the hay upwards. The horses moved on vocal commands ("Giddap! Gee! Haw! Whoa!") so that the hay rick driver did not have to handle the reins between pickup areas. Care needed to be taken to ensure that hay which was too green was not put in the barn, lest spontaneous combustion start a fire. A number of barns around Greensboro have been lost due to the storage of green hay.

- Donated by the Woodward family

MILK SEPARATOR

Milk was allowed to settle in the separator over night. In the morning, one opened the tap at the bottom and drew off the milk until the cream appeared behind the glass window. Made of tin. Many household and farm utensils and other items were made of tin in the early 19th century.

- Loaned by Al and Joan Fuller

OLD BOTTLES

- About 1850-1880. Prior to the Turn of the Century, and for some time afterward, Caspian Lake was the Greensboro's unofficial trash dump and remains today a place where divers can find interesting artifacts.

SHUTTLE

- for use with a home loom.

HANDMADE QUILT - 1847

This quilt belonged to Mrs. George Igleheart, mother of Mary Lois Igleheart Merrill

MORTAR AND PESTLE

Used to grind ingredients for cooking and preparing medicines.

- Loaned by Gordon Richardson

BUCKET YOKE

Carried on the shoulders to bear heavy buckets (water, milk, etc.).

- Woodward Collection

CHILD'S BONNET

This probably belonged to Mary and James Richie's child, Mary, who died June 5, 1860. The material is hand woven linen.

- Anonymous loan

YARN WINDER

Note the counting wheel on the left side which measured the winding of one full skein.

- Loaned by Bronwyn Potter

STOOL

Hand made (function not known). Hold in center suggests an attachment.

- Loaned by Sally Fisher

SPITTOON

Usually made of brass, spittoons were usually found in stores, offices and banks. Many men chewed tobacco or smoked cigars.

- Loaned by David and Andrea Perham

WOOL BLANKET

The wool in this blanket was raised, spun, and woven by Mary K. White, great grandmother of Dorothy White Ling.

- Loaned by Dorothy Ling

OLD BOTTLES FROM CASPIAN LAKE

Recovered by Bill Biancamano, who has dived in the Lake for over 20 years, these bottles indicate how much Caspian Lake was used as a convenient "trash dump" by Greensboro citizens (especially up through the mid-twentieth century). A number of the bottles recovered are quite old - pre-Civil War (for example, note the "blob-top bottle" to the left and the early carbonated beverage on the right). A book on the history of bottles (near where you are standing) has been kindly loaned by Professor Allen Davis. A number of these bottles can be identified by historic period.

- Loaned by Bill Biancamano

LEATHER SHOE

Perhaps a short man's or a woman's. Note the owner's repair of the sole.

- Loaned by Sally Fisher

SPINNING WHEEL

This wheel is typical of spinning wheels used in the 19th century to spin flax into thread or yarn. Most of the late 18th and early 19th century clothes were made in the home.

Woodward Collection

BABCOCK FARM LEDGER

Begun in 1838, this ledger shows accounts of sales, labor, perhaps barter, and other matters with a variety of customers. Begun in ink in a meticulous hand, it ends in 1874 with pencilled notations. Presented to Sally Fisher by Phyllis Atkins, Grand daughter. Note, "Greensboro" was spelled "Greensborough" at this time.

- Loaned by Sally Fisher

METAL SHOVEL

This wrought iron shovel was probably used for removing ashes from a stove or for placing bread in an oven.

- Loaned by Gordon Richardson

PEWTER CANDLE MOLD

This unusually large mold made 24 candles at one pouring. Not all candle molds had a handle like this one.

- Loaned by Sally Fisher

MORTAR AND PESTLE

Probably for household use. This could have been used to grind grains such as wheat for cereal or bread.

- Loaned by Dorothy Ling

MILK CAN

Milk cans of this type were used on all farms from some time before 1850 until the end of World War II, when refrigerated tanks were introduced.

- Loaned by David and Andrea Perham

ROCKING CHAIR

A favorite chair in early homes, used in all of America. Wood workers in the town, who made wagon wheels and parts for farm implements, usually made articles of furniture like this one.

- Loaned by Sally Fisher

"NORTH STAR" NEWSPAPER DATED 1831

Loaned by Sally Fisher

SHOULDER YOKE

Hand made to fit over the shoulders, this yoke represents a typical bucket carrier.

- Loaned by Gordon Richardson

SCALES

Besides being used in stores, these could have been used around the farm for weighing items such as butter, meat, lard, nails, potatoes, etc. for barter or sale.

- Loaned by Gordon Richardson

FAMILY BUTTER MOLD

Note the initials carved in the top, "AEH", after Abner Hill, Earl's father.

- Anonymous loan

1997.014.03

BUGGY WHEEL

Except in the winter months, when things were transported by sled, every vehicle in the other seasons had wheels. Wagon makers and wheel-rights were found everywhere as repairs were required constantly. Well-made buggy wheels like this one would last a century or more if properly cared for.

- Loaned by the Robert Wilson family

INKWELL

Apparently hand made and relatively old. The early settlers were skilled in many crafts, required by necessity.