

REVITALIZING SOCIAL STUDIES IN THE GRANITE STATE

The Democracy Project, the Society's initiative to renew history and civics education in New Hampshire schools, has made good progress in 2019. Since launching two years ago, the Democracy Project has targeted three areas in which staff and trustees felt the Society could have the greatest impact, all focused on elementary education where the crisis in our schools is the most serious. The challenge is clear—social studies has nearly disappeared from K-6 education in the Granite State, and kids in their early years are no longer learning about New Hampshire's history or the fundamental ideas underlying American government. In response, the Democracy Project is concentrating on developing curricular materials for young learners, providing high-quality teacher training for educators, and advocating at the state and local levels for more support for social studies education.

In October the Society launched a comprehensive educational resource for both students and educators called "Moose on the Loose: Social Studies for Granite State Kids." All the materials are available online via a new website at moose.nhhistory.org without the need for passwords or access codes.

This resource is a social studies adventure for upper elementary students (ages 8 to 12 years old), covering

state history, civics, geography, and economics in a fun, interactive, and dynamic program. "Moose on the Loose" teaches children about New Hampshire while also introducing them to the important skills that will help them become active, informed citizens in a democratic republic.

The "Moose" website offers 18 units that cover the entire span of New Hampshire history, from the ice age to modern-day civics and government. Each unit presents history in a variety of ways, with images, stories, videos, infographics, and text, giving kids the mixed-media experience they expect in a world of fast-paced digital technology. All units also have lesson plans, projects, and assessments that help educators—whether in the classroom or at home—guide students in their explorations. A timeline, suggestions for field trips (with virtual field trips scheduled to be added at a future date), interactive games and activities, online reviews, and a wealth of primary sources, many of which are drawn from the Society's own museum and library collections, add to the experience.

"Moose on the Loose" is not just about history and civics, though. It offers a fully integrated approach to learning English language arts, math, and science

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Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In September anyone driving by 30 Park Street would have noticed a construction lift alongside the building. This equipment was being used by the company called Pro-Point Restoration that we hired to clean and repoint the historic building's granite façade.

As is always the case, any maintenance or repair we undertake requires an extra level of care, given our building's historical significance, as reflected by its National Register listing. Several issues needed to be addressed. The granite along the foundation had been discolored by plantings that were removed in 2016. We waited to see if Mother Nature would take care of the problem (through rain and sunshine), but it became apparent active cleaning would be needed. Beyond this cosmetic issue, the mortar joints in the granite masonry had begun to fail in many spots. This is not a good situation, not only for the long-term integrity of the building, but if not addressed it can allow water to infiltrate the interior. Indeed, last summer evidence of water penetration appeared in the plaster wall of our main second-floor gallery. An engineering inspection of the exterior masonry at that time confirmed that water infiltration had occurred through failing mortar joints.

Luckily for the Society, one of the country's top contractors for this type of project, Pro-Point Restoration LLC, is located in nearby Pittsfield. Pro-Point, with the invaluable help of Society trustee Jim Garvin, developed specifications for the work in line with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation*. To clean the historic masonry, only the gentlest chemical agents would be used, and great care would be taken in modulating the water pressure of the hoses used in the washing process. After much thought, we deliberately decided not to attempt to re-create the appearance of a "brand new" building, but instead to ensure that the process would be less harsh, as appropriate for a historic structure, by lowering slightly our expected level of cleanliness. In the end, Pro-Point used only pure water to wash the building.

The repairing of the masonry joints was also a delicate process. The building had been repointed a few times since its

1911 dedication, most recently in 1972. It turns out that the chemical composition of the mortar used then, in spite of good intentions at the time, was not optimal. The mortar lacked flexibility and, thereby, over



time was prone to cracking, opening up the joints to the weather. For the current repair we went back to an earlier mortar formulation with a high lime content, making it more flexible and therefore, more durable. Additionally, great care was taken in terms of color matching.



Pro-Point, which has repaired historic structures all over the country, was an ideal partner for the project. Its client list is a highly interesting one, including the Bunker Hill Monument, the Theodore Roosevelt home Sagamore Hill, Fire

Island Lighthouse in New York, and the Texas capitol, to name a few. Immediately prior to our job the Pro-Point workers were at the Point Reyes National Seashore in California, repointing a lighthouse cistern on a cliff five hundred feet above the waters below. One of the most remarkable episodes during that project, according to company principal Lester Baker, took place when whales could be seen swimming into the cove beneath the work crew, cocking their heads to watch the human activity.

Perhaps the most intriguing Pro-Point project was the restoration of Utah’s John Jarvie House in Brown’s Park National Wildlife Refuge. Located on a ranch 80 miles from the nearest town, the small stone house was the hideout of outlaws, including Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. For the restoration, Pro-Point workers obtained volcanic stone from the local hills. From Butch Cassidy’s place to Edward Tuck’s . . . quite a range of clients.

Bill Dunlap, President

GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the New Hampshire Historical Society is a thoughtful gift for anyone who loves New Hampshire and enjoys history. Annual membership levels are \$50 for an individual and \$75 for a couple. Another option is to endow a lifetime membership for an individual for \$1,000 or a couple for \$1,500. The Society will send a gift announcement card and a membership welcome package to you or directly to your gift recipient. To give the gift of membership, stop by the Society, call 603-856-0621, or give online at nhhistory.org.

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REVITALIZING SOCIAL STUDIES (continued from page 1)

through social studies. By this means, the Society hopes schools will be able to incorporate state history and civics, even if most of them no longer have dedicated time for social studies instruction. The integrated approach of the “Moose” encourages teachers to use it while simultaneously teaching English language arts, math, and science. For example, the site illustrates scientific principles by teaching how water mills powered an industrial revolution in New Hampshire. It makes math skills relevant by helping students chart a New Hampshire itinerary for a presidential candidate who has to cover large amounts of territory while meeting lots of people on a limited schedule and budget. It uses 19th-century newspaper articles about Irish immigrants to explore the difference between fact and opinion, a critical English language arts skill. The Granite State serves as a microcosm for the nation and its history, but it also serves as the perfect context in which children can discover the physical, creative, and social world around them.

All of this can be taught to students while helping them learn about the five key ideas that the Society believes characterize New Hampshire and the people who live here. The first idea is that while Granite Staters cherish traditions, they also embrace change. Second, New Hampshire is a land of immigrants. The third key concept is that Granite Staters have a symbiotic relationship with the land. Fourth, the people of New Hampshire are independent. And the fifth idea is that New Hampshire has had an outsized impact on American history. These five key concepts are woven throughout the “Moose on the Loose,” illustrating for kids the many ways in which our state is unique and has contributed to our national story.

During the summer of 2019 the Society also offered three teacher-training workshops to 125 educators, providing opportunities for teachers to learn about New Hampshire history and the most effective ways to instruct kids in social studies, such as using photographs, documents, maps, objects, and other primary sources. Teachers worked with national experts in social studies education and the Society’s own staff in intensive and inspiring sessions during which practical approaches were developed to get history and civics back in the classroom. The Society will be offering the four-day New Hampshire History Institute again next summer, along with a series of one-day workshops that go into greater depth on particular aspects of the Granite State, like New Hampshire’s role in the American Revolution or the expansion of tourism in the 19th century.

Recent months have also seen some developments in social studies on the state level, which should provide much-needed support for local school districts and educators. The New Hampshire Department of Education is getting ready to release revised state standards for social studies, which will also encourage local districts to recommit to this academic subject and help halt its marginalization in our schools. The Society played an active role in revising those standards. In addition, the New Hampshire state legislature convened a study committee this fall to explore civic engagement in the Granite State. With the Society serving in an advisory capacity, the committee focused much of its work on social studies education. The Society is also a member of a new group called the Civics Roundtable, comprised of Granite State nonprofits committed to improving civic





knowledge. Other members include Citizens Count, the New Hampshire Bar Association and Foundation, New Hampshire Humanities, the New Hampshire Institute for Civics Education, and NHPR's Civics 101. This group is working with educators, particularly the New Hampshire Council for the Social Studies, to identify classroom needs and develop instructional material for all grade levels.

Progress in this initiative owes a great deal to the dedication of the Democracy Project team, which includes the Society's Director of Education Elizabeth Dubrulle and Assistant Director of Education Jenn Walton; curriculum developers Rebecca Federspiel and Kate Fox Ransmeier; education staff members Katie Corbett, Kirsten Hildonen, and Mary Morris; with leadership provided by Society President Bill Dunlap and Vice President Joan Desmarais; and technical support from Library Director Sarah Galligan. Nearly 50 teachers from all over the state are participating in developing the "Moose" curriculum as part of the Society's Master Teachers group. They review lesson plans, try out activities, and provide input on practical

classroom techniques. In addition, some outstanding classroom teachers have written or contributed to lesson plans for the curriculum, including Amy Goudreau from Maple Avenue School in Goffstown, Brendan Scribner and Rebecca Sexton from Bernice A. Ray School in Hanover, Julie McNish from New Boston Central School, Megan Neurock from Cutler School in Swanzey, Barb DiFrancisco and Debbe Walter from Thorntons Ferry School in Merrimack, and Catherine Kolar from Charlotte Adams School in Nashua.

There is still much work to be done, with the "Moose on the Loose" expected to be complete by the summer of 2020 and training sessions in its use already underway in school districts around the state. In addition, the Society is constantly building new partnerships with educators, administrators, legislators, and other nonprofits to improve the ways we support social studies education. There is every indication that our efforts over the past two years are beginning to bear fruit and that meaningful, significant change in social studies education is within our reach.

The New Hampshire Historical Society is grateful to Democracy Project donors for investing in New Hampshire kids and social studies education.

Joel J. & Catherine L. Bedor, *in memory of Attorney Alexander J. & Loretta S. Corey*
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New Hampshire Daughters of the American Revolution • Savings Bank of Walpole • Robert C. & Janet A. Simmonds

PAPERS OF NORTH EPPING FAMILIES MADE AVAILABLE

Researchers now have access to the Burley and Haley Family Papers, documenting the lives of an inter-related group of North Epping families both at their homes in New Hampshire and further afield. The papers were donated by the Joseph C. and Robert M. Burley Family Trust, along with a generous financial contribution to help process and preserve the collection. (For more information, see “Two Centuries of Family Treasures Donated to the Society,” in our Winter 2018 newsletter.)

Before the papers could be made available to the public, they first had to be processed, which involved identifying, arranging, and describing them in order to create a finding aid, or collection guide, letting users know what is in the collection as well as where within

the collection to look for something particular. A descendent of the Burley and Haley families provided extensive background information about family members, including the date range covered by each individual’s papers. This made the arrangement and description much easier for the staff and volunteer archivist Sandra Wheeler.

After first becoming familiar with the collection, which includes letters, diaries, photographs, business records, and ephemera, Sandra next arranged the material into series to help researchers find what they need. Finally she stored the material in acid-free folders and boxes and wrote a 68-page finding aid, accessible through the Society’s online collections catalog at nhhistory.org.



In September 1900, Louise Wells (1878–1955) visited her future in-laws, Sarah Haley (1833–1912) and Joseph Cilley Burley (1830–1900), at their Epping home. Louise married their son Harry Burley (1867–1954) on April 17, 1901, in Buffalo, New York. Burley and Haley Family Papers, gift of the Joseph C. and Robert M. Burley Family Trust.



OBJECT SPOTLIGHT

On November 19, 1884, Hattie May Hoyt of Allentown married Hooksett businessman Eugene S. Head, nephew of Natt Head, governor of New Hampshire from 1879 to 1881. The bride's dress was made of white floral silk damask with needlework lace trim. A white dress trimmed with lace was a popular option for stylish women after the marriage of Queen Victoria in 1840. Before then, most women wore colorful wedding gowns that could be worn again on other occasions, but the British monarch set a lasting trend with her choice of a white gown. A dress such as this may have been copied from an engraving in a women's magazine. It was made using a combination of machine stitching and hand-sewn detail work.

Hattie and Eugene Head were community leaders in Hooksett, where Eugene was owner of the family brickyard and lumber business. The couple had two children—son William and daughter Mary. Through the years Hattie's wedding dress was well cared for by the family and is in excellent condition. After William died in 1960, his wife, Katharine, donated it to the New Hampshire Historical Society.

LIBRARY RESEARCH SERVICES

Are time and distance preventing you from doing your own research? If so, you can hire us to research sources at the New Hampshire Historical Society for you.

Society staff will assist you in framing the research proposal and in estimating the time required to research the topic. A fee is charged on an hourly basis (\$25 for New Hampshire Historical Society members; \$40 for nonmembers), plus the cost of document copies. For more information or to submit a research services request form, visit nhhistory.org/research on the Society's website or contact Collections Access Librarian Kristin Cook at kcook@nhhistory.org or 603-856-0641.



Textile conservator Renee Walker-Tuttle of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, installed the wedding dress of Hattie May Hoyt (1861–1949) in the Society's exhibition *Discovering New Hampshire*, where it will remain on view until next summer. New Hampshire Historical Society, gift of Katharine L. Head.



"A Family Record of Moses Dudley Esq'. of Raymond, in the County of Rockingham, and State of New-hampshire," by George Melvill (circa 1755–circa 1800), circa 1797. New Hampshire Historical Society, gift of Christine D. Foster. The Society's upcoming genealogy workshops, presented in partnership with the New England Historic Genealogical Society, will focus on using land records in family history research and how to trace female ancestors.

WINTER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Saturday, January 11, 2020, 2 p.m.

Lecture: Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares

Jennie Powers, known across the country as "the Woman Who Dares," was cited by the *Boston Post* newspaper in 1906 as having arrested more men than any other woman in America. A humane society agent in Keene from 1903 to 1936, Powers was one of the earliest such agents to become a deputy sheriff in the Granite State. As a documentary photographer, she used her camera to protest animal cruelty, family violence, and widespread poverty in New Hampshire's Monadnock region and beyond. Join Jenna Carroll from the Historical Society of Cheshire County to explore Jennie's life story and how this dynamic activist of the Progressive Era took a stand against social vices at the local level. This free public talk is a Humanities to Go program, made possible, in part, by New Hampshire Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Saturday, January 18, 2020, 1 to 4 p.m.

Genealogy Workshop: Tracing Female Ancestors

Women make up 50 percent of your ancestry, yet their lives, experiences, and even complete names are all too often forgotten by written history. This workshop, presented by Ann Lawthers of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, will help you reclaim their stories by providing resources and strategies for finding maiden names, discussing the road to naturalization for women in the 20th century, and uncovering the types of material and written culture they left behind. The cost of this workshop is \$35 for members of the New Hampshire Historical Society or the New England Historic Genealogical Society; \$50 for nonmembers. Space is limited, and advance registration is required. Register online through [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or by calling 603-228-6688.



Copper seal used by the Proprietors of the Bow Canal Corporation, 1808. New Hampshire Historical Society, gift of Winslow H. Osborne.

Saturday, January 25, 2020, 1 to 3 p.m.
Family Fun Day

Bring the whole family to the New Hampshire Historical Society for an afternoon of games, crafts, and storytelling. Explore our historic building, tour our exhibits, test your knowledge of Granite State trivia, and make a New Hampshire-themed craft to take home. Introduce your kids to the special things that make New Hampshire a wonderful place to live! Family Fun Day is geared for families with kids ages 6 to 10 years old, but all ages are welcome. Admission is free for Society members; \$5 per family for nonmembers. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is not required.

Saturday, February 8, 2020, at 2 p.m.
Lecture: Canal Fever in New Hampshire and Vermont

New England had an intense but short-lived fascination with canal building in the first decades of the 1800s, when travel by road was slow and arduous and railroads had yet to be developed. Waterways offered a faster, easier way of transporting goods and people. Navigational improvements on both the Merrimack and Connecticut Rivers presented great opportunities to New Hampshire and Vermont, setting off a brief period of canal fever. Great plans were laid to link Lake Champlain with the Connecticut and Merrimack Rivers, and even to the harbor at Portsmouth. Somewhat unexpectedly, the coming of the railroads dampened these dreams, and it was steel rails that ultimately linked these watersheds, not canals and locks. This richly illustrated talk by transportation historian Frank J. “Jay” Barrett Jr. will explore this important slice of regional history. Admission is free for Society members; \$7 for nonmembers.

Saturday, February 15, 2020, 1 to 3:30 p.m.
Family Program: Redcoats and Rebels: Gaming the American Revolution

Reenact the American Revolution through a tabletop role-playing game at the Society. Kids will spend the afternoon immersed in New Hampshire’s fight for independence from Britain. Each child will assume the identity of a historical character and have to choose sides in the journey from colony to country. This program is geared for kids ages 10 to 15 years old. Admission is free for the children or grandchildren of Society members; \$5 per child for nonmembers. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, and advance registration is required. Register online at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or by calling 603-856-0645.

Guided Gallery Tours — Winter 2020

Saturdays, January 11, February 8, and March 14, at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Fridays, January 17, February 21, and March 20, at noon

Enjoy a guided tour of the Society’s Park Street building and exhibitions in a 45-minute tour led by a member of the Society’s education or volunteer docent staff. Included in the price of admission, the tour is appropriate for visitors of all ages. Availability is on a first-come, first-served basis, and tours are capped at 12 people.

Admission to the New Hampshire Historical Society is \$7 for adults. Children ages 18 and under and members of the New Hampshire Historical Society are admitted free of charge. Full-time students and active military personnel and their families also are admitted free of charge with a valid ID.

**Saturday, February 29, 2020, at 2 p.m.
Lecture: Abby Hutchinson's Sweet Freedom Songs:
Songs and Stories of the Struggle for Abolition and
Women's Suffrage**

Deborah Anne Goss appears as Abby Hutchinson Patton, recalling mid-19th-century U.S. and New Hampshire history and performing rousing anthems, heartfelt ballads, and humorous ditties sung during the struggles against antislavery and for early women's rights. In the 1840s and 1850s the Hutchinson Family Singers strongly influenced the opinions of the era with their popular songs, promoting healthy living and social justice—most prominently the abolition of slavery. Participants are encouraged to join in the singing of the choruses or to read aloud a poem or political diatribe of the time. This free presentation is a Humanities to Go program, made possible, in part, by New Hampshire Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**Saturday, February 29, 2020
Exhibition Closes: Signs of the Times**

Come to see the Society's exhibition *Signs of the Times*, featuring an array of advertising, political, informational, and directional signs, on its final day.

**Saturday, March 7, 2020, 1 to 3 p.m.
Family Program: Giant Steps Across New
Hampshire**

Have you ever wanted to travel from Peterborough to Pittsburg, or from Portsmouth to Plymouth, all in one afternoon? Stop by the Society for games and activities using the Giant Traveling Map of New Hampshire. Kids will play with this room-sized map to explore the regions, resources, and history of the state we all love. No shoes are allowed on the map, so please be sure to wear socks! Geared for kids ages 7 to 11 years old, but all ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission is free, and registration is not required. The map is provided courtesy of the Mason Library at Keene State College.



“The Old Granite State,” sheet music cover for “a song, composed, arranged and sung, by the Hutchinson Family” from Milford; published by Oliver Ditson, Boston, 1843; picturing Abby Hutchinson and three of her eleven brothers. New Hampshire Historical Society.

In a program at the Society on February 29, 2020, Deborah Anne Goss will appear as Abby Hutchinson Patton, performing popular anthems and ballads of the 1840s and 1850s. Goss holds a BFA in Acting from Boston University's College of Fine Arts Theatre Division. Since the 1970s she has studied and taught singing and voice production, as well as performed on stage in both dramatic and musical roles.



Chester Village Cemetery photographed by Walter St. Clair in 1979. New Hampshire Historical Society. Learn how to plan a cemetery tour in your community at a workshop presented at the Society on March 28, 2020.

Saturday, March 21, 2020, 1 to 4 p.m.
Genealogy Workshop: Using Land Records in Family History Research

Land records are an important, but sometimes overlooked resource for many family historians. Hidden in the “metes and bounds” and other legalese, there can be critical clues to identifying extended family members, the location of ancestral homelands, and family relationships. Join the New England Historic Genealogical Society’s Chief Genealogist David Allen Lambert to learn how you can locate, read, and apply the information contained in land records to your own family history. The cost of this workshop is \$35 for members of the New Hampshire Historical Society or the New England Historic Genealogical Society; \$50 for nonmembers. Space is limited, and advance registration is required. Register through [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or by calling 603-228-6688.

Saturday, March 28, 2020, 1 to 4 p.m.
Workshop: Creating Dynamic Cemetery Tours

Few places evoke local history the way cemeteries do, and more and more people have taken to exploring them, hoping to find the stories they contain. Learn about the many ways that local organizations can put together compelling, crowd-pleasing cemetery tours. Some tours will be spooky, some theatrical, some strictly historical, and some high-tech—find the type of tour that’s right for your group and discover how to pull it together for an outstanding community event. The cost of this workshop is \$25 for members of the New Hampshire Historical Society; \$50 for nonmembers. Space is limited, and advance registration is required. Register online through [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or by calling 603-228-6688.

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The independent nonprofit that saves, preserves, and shares New Hampshire history.

Tales of New Hampshire Holiday Family Storytime



Bring your family to a free
holiday storytime at the
New Hampshire Historical Society!

Stories, crafts, and games—learn about holiday
traditions in the Granite State!

Saturday
December 14, 2019
10 to 11 a.m.
30 Park Street, Concord

FREE admission thanks to the generosity
of Concord Pediatric Dentistry.

All ages welcome!
Geared for kids 3 to 8.

