CENTURY FAMILIES:

MANY ROOTS TO GREENSBORO
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You are invited to
The Opening of
The 2001 Summer Exhibit

“Century Families:
Many Roots to Greensboro”

June 30, 2001
3:00 to 5:00

Greensboro Historical Society
Breezy Avenue
Greensboro

Please bring your family members
OPENING DAYS FOR FAMILIES IN EXHIBIT
Why were these families selected?

Selection was based on families that have lived in Greensboro for more than 100 years and still have descendants living and/or working in this area.

They came with diverse talents, capabilities and experiences from Scotland, French Canada, Portugal and England.

Most were farmers when they arrived a century ago. Their descendants have since gone into other professions and trades. A few of them are still farmers.

This is the first in a series of exhibits featuring Greensboro residents.
Joseph DeBrune came from the Azores to the United States to avoid service in the Portuguese navy.
EMISSION FACTORS IN SCOTLAND

The Scottish emigration began in the 19th century due to changing industrial and agricultural conditions within their country.

Various areas within Scotland specialized in manual techniques of pattern weaving involving silk, cotton and lace. Around 1877, the invention and implementation of the power loom hastened the decline of the hand loom weavers.

A new breed of cows were bred which produced large quantities of higher quality milk. Hand milking gave way to the invention of the milking machine. Larger herds required larger patches of land which now replaced the old tenant farms of yore. As the herds increased and the volume of milk increased, milk quotas were established, forcing more farmers to opt out and start herding beef and sheep. As farm expansion increased, land became unavailable forcing individuals to look elsewhere for cheap available farm land on which to earn a living and raise a family.

At about the same time, Vermont went thru the "Starvation Year" in 1816. Vermont suffered frost every month, crops froze and the farmers moved to homesteads elsewhere. Land became available, suitable for sheep and cattle. In addition, textile mills were being established within the state.

The Industrial and Agricultural Revolution impacted the Scottish farmers and their cottage industries. Their choice was to seek other areas to earn a living and raise a family...10% of the immigrants who came to Greensboro in the 1800's were from Scotland.
EARLY SCOTTISH SETTLERS

Of the numerous Scottish (Scotch) families that emigrated to Greensboro from their native land several founded large and prominent families in this and neighboring towns. The most significant of these to Greensboro were: George and Mary Young who settled in 1849 on the farm now owned by Earl Hanson. Their offspring include selectmen George and Everett Young, several prosperous farmers, Donald Drown, Albert Young and have numerous descendants currently living in Greensboro and nearby towns. John and Elizabeth (Patterson) Gebbie who settled on the farm where Sidney Stone has built his summer home. Their offspring have included numerous prosperous and prominent farmers including Thomas Gebbie and his sons, Alpha and Foster and his son Donald.

Several well-known Scottish families came to Massachusetts first before moving on to Greensboro and Craftsbury, those included Jason and Royal White and Mary (Patterson) White who moved north from Oakham, MA in 1834 and John and Mary (Cunningham) Urie who moved north in 1833.

In addition to the above the following also came to Greensboro from Scotland: Cuthbertson, McLellan, McFarlane, Ritchie, Jardine, McLaren, Barclay, Simpson, Wilson. (Include stories of trip over.)
SCOTTISH FAMILIES

Of the numerous Scottish families that came directly to Greensboro the following tale recounts with humor and pathos the adventures and the route that some took to get here in 1830 as told in part by Mr. J. C. Taylor in 1900.

"Mr. Barclay although long a resident of this town, is a native of neither this town nor country, but was born in Dondonald, Scotland. When he was about 24 years of age he decided to emigrate to America. The party with which Mr. Barclay sailed in the year A.D. 1830 consisted of himself, John Simpson, wife and five children, William Anderson and Miss Ann Moodie who afterwards became his wife, William Steele, James Mitchell and William Woodburn, wife and two children. When the party sailed from Greenock, almost all were on deck to see the last that could be seen of their beloved land as the vessel started on its long and tedious voyage." One "person provoked amusement later when having just taken something from his pocket, he was asked for something else that was in it, by exclaiming, 'Why didna you speak for it while my hand' was in my pouch.'"

"Our friends found that an ocean voyage was not all pleasure." In the 1830s and 1840s the ships they sailed on were very crowded. Below decks there was one corridor about one hundred feet long. On each side of this were small cubicles about six feet by six feet square into which they placed four, perhaps related, people. Each was allowed three quarts of water per day for all purposes and one pound of bread. There was no medical attention. It was expected that 10-20% of the passengers would die and be buried at sea before the ship landed at Quebec or Montreal.*

To make things even worse if possible, "they were assailed by stormy weather and by sea sickness. We do not know whether any of them felt as bad as the man who, on being attacked by that dread disease, begged his friend to promise him to care for his remains, but who, a few days later, told his friend that he

*The description from Family Names, Their Origin and History by J.N. Hook, p. 103
need not trouble himself about it as he didn't think there would be any remains. We do know however, that some of them had a generous share of that malady. To add to their discomfort, a storm settled down upon the sea, and for more than a day the passengers were nailed down in the hold, while the ship was tossed by the waves. During that time they must have had space to calculate how far it was to the bottom of the ocean. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson were helped during their sea sickness by the young Mr. Barclay, who has ever since been honored by invitations to all their family gatherings. At length, after six weeks and two days spent upon the ocean, their long tedious voyage was ended, and the weary but thankful voyagers stepped ashore at Quebec. From there they came to Burlington by way of Montreal where Mr. Barclay remained a short time. Mr. Anderson, Mr. Simpson and Mrs. Mitchell leaving their friends at Burlington, came on foot to Craftsbury. The others were brought into town by David Moodie. Mr. John Simpson had been preceded to this country by his brother George, who was so well pleased with this beautiful and promising neighborhood that he urged his brother to come to the castle, as he jokingly called it, which he had prepared for them. The goods and the two younger children George and John were taken from East Craftsbury on an ox cart to the castle. The road up through the woods by Mr. Gebbie's was rough being made of logs. The cart went jolting along until it came to a place more uneven than usual and then over it went and smash went the choice china which had come in safely thousands of miles over a storm tossed ocean, when almost at its destination. When they finally reached their castle they found that that lordly edifice consisted of a little log cabin located where now stands the large and commodious buildings of William B. Simpson now, in 1987, the home of Mary Sartorios. For thirty-three years after coming to this country they all lived in Greensboro and Craftsbury, so that the parents could start any morning and see all their sons and daughters before night.
"Mr. Barclay, who, when the party came here from Montreal...remained behind ..., soon came on to Burlington, where he stayed for a time working at his trade in a cabinet shop, getting good pay but having to take it in barter at the stores. But he too before long came to this neighborhood buying the farm on which he now lives. He remained however for a time at East Craftsbury working at the wheelwright trade with Liberty McIntire. In 1834 his father, mother, brother and three sisters followed him to this country. The father lived to be 74 and the mother 84 years of age. Mr. Barclay married Ann Patterson.

"John Patterson, Mr. Barclay's father-in-law, came from Scotland in 1820, his wife in 1821. Two of their twelve children were born in Scotland, ten lived to grow up. There are about a hundred twenty relatives now living.

"Only three who came over in that company from Scotland seventy years ago are now living, viz., Mr. Barclay and George Simpson of Connecticut who are both present today and Mrs. Janet Mitchell of East Craftsbury."
The funeral service for Albert Young, aged 77 years, who died suddenly Sunday afternoon, October 18, after a four days' illness at the Mary Fletcher Hospital in Burlington, was held Tuesday afternoon, October 20, at the Greensboro church of which he was a member. Mr. Young had been in ill health for a month before going to Burlington for observation and treatment.

Albert Young was born the eldest of five children to James Young and Jeanette Cutbertson Young on the Urie Farm in Greensboro, always having been a resident of this town.

On December 27, 1892 he was married to Margaret Taylor, daughter of Deacon and Mrs. John Taylor and they would have reached their 50th wedding anniversary in December had Mr. Young lived. Two sons were born to them, one dying in infancy and the son, Bruce, who lives with his mother now. Their early married life was lived for 15 years on the farm now owned by A. J. Gebbie, later they owned the Sumney and Leslie Shoate farms.

Mr. Young was a well to do farmer, having always followed the occupation of farming until he retired about eight years ago, when he bought home in the village. Although he did not hold many town offices he had a keen interest in the business of the town. He served as road commissioner at one time. He was a loyal church attendant and contributed liberally to the church and its mission work.

The pastor, Rev. Maurice Mahler, and a former pastor, Rev. Franklin Collins, of Topsham officiated at the funeral service. The bearers were five cousins and a nephew, namely, John Black, Roy Young, Everett Young, Alpha Gebbie, Foster Gebbie and George Willey.

Besides his wife and son he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Jennie Campbell, of Greensboro, Mrs. Mary Deibler of Orlando, Florida and by one bother, Andrew Young, of Craftsbury.

Interment was in the village cemetery.

The deep sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. Young and family.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish in this way to express our deep appreciation and thanks for the many kindnesses from our neighbors, relatives and friends during the illness and death of our husband and father, and for the beautiful floral tributes.

Mrs. Albert Young and son,
Bruce Young
Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Campbell
Andrew Young and family
Name: YOUNG
Address: 
City, State: 
Person No. 1 on this chart is identical to person No. ___ on chart No. ___
Date: 

8. George Young
   b 1792
   m Scotland
   d 15 Jan 1864
   pde & age 72-5-0
   maiden name: 

16. 
   b d 

17. 
   b d 

18. Alexander Muir
   b ___
   m Scotland
   d 30 Aug 1828
   pde R

19. Martha Spier
   b ___
   m __
   d ___

20. 
   b d 

21. 
   b d 

22. 
   b d 

23. 
   b d 

24. 
   b d 

25. 
   b d 

26. 
   b d 

27. 
   b d 

28. 
   b d 

29. 
   b d 

30. 
   b d 

31. 
   b d 

*cont. on chart no.

Name: YOUNG
Address: 
City, State: 
Person No. 1 on this chart is identical to person No. ___ on chart No. ___
Date: 

4. James Young
   b ___
   m ___
   d ___

5. Jeanette Cuthbertson
   b ___
   m ___
   d ___

6. Dea. John Taylor
   b ___
   m ___
   d ___

7. 
   b pb m d pd

8. George Young
   b 1792
   m Scotland
   d 15 Jan 1864
   pde & age 72-5-0
   maiden name: 

9. Mary Muir
   b ___
   m Scotland
   d 30 Aug 1828
   pde R

10. 
   b d 

11. 
   b d 

12. 
   b d 

13. 
   b d 

14. 
   b d 

15. 
   b d 

16. 
   b d 

17. 
   b d 

18. Alexander Muir
   b ___
   m Scotland
   d 30 Aug 1828
   pde R

19. Martha Spier
   b ___
   m __
   d ___

20. 
   b d 

21. 
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30. 
   b d 

31. 
   b d 

*cont. on chart no.

Name: YOUNG
Address: 
City, State: 
Person No. 1 on this chart is identical to person No. ___ on chart No. ___
Date: 

2. Albert Young
   b ___
   m Dec 27, 1892
   d Oct 18, 1942
   pde R

3. Margaret Taylor
   b ___
   m ___
   d ___

4. James Young
   b ___
   m ___
   d ___

5. Jeanette Cuthbertson
   b ___
   m ___
   d ___

6. Dea. John Taylor
   b ___
   m ___
   d ___

7. 
   b pb m d pd

8. George Young
   b 1792
   m Scotland
   d 15 Jan 1864
   pde & age 72-5-0
   maiden name: 

9. Mary Muir
   b ___
   m Scotland
   d 30 Aug 1828
   pde R

10. 
   b d 

11. 
   b d 

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   b d 

13. 
   b d 

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15. 
   b d 

16. 
   b d 

17. 
   b d 

18. Alexander Muir
   b ___
   m Scotland
   d 30 Aug 1828
   pde R

19. Martha Spier
   b ___
   m __
   d ___

20. 
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   b d 

31. 
   b d 

*cont. on chart no.
RELATED GREENSBORO FAMILIES
SCOTTISH DESCENT
Typical Scottish Cottages

CHOICE........make a living in a city environment
or........make a living in the New World
Marion Young
Drown

Norwood Drown
1949
50th wedding anniversary

Norwood LeForest Drown's House

9/29/01 248 S.
DONALD HAZEL RUTH ARTHUR MARION NORWOOD DROWN

HAROLD DROWN 1900-1918 GREENSBORO
ARTHUR WILLIAM DROWN 1904-1988 PENNSYLVANIA
HAZEL DROWN 1913 - MONTPELIER
RUTH DROWN 1917 - 1989 ORLEANS

CHILDREN OF NORWOOD AND MARION DROWN

DONALD DROWN 1911 - 1987 GREENSBORO KAISER FARM

LAURA DROWN AT ART AND HOBBY SHOW 1977

LAURA JORDAN 1913 - WORCESTER, MA WOMEN'S UNION HEIFER PROJECT
NORWOOD DROWN
1869 -
FATHER: NELSON
GREN'TN MILITIA
SAWMILL

MARION YOUNG
1879 -
CRAFTSBURY

JOSEPHINE MARION NORWOOD DROWN

MARION NORWOOD

JOSEPHINE MARION D. NORWOOD D.
HAROLD D. inf
WILLIAM Y. MARY P. W. ROYAL W.
Drown Lauredon dairy
Donald Drown made this clock for his wife, Laura

Donald Drown made this table from bird’s eye maple
Donald and Laura Drown's Farm in the Village
Formerly Melvin and Kaiser farm

David  Robert  James  Alfred
Sons of Donald and Laura Drown
DONALD DROWN WITH CLOCKS HE MADE FOR EACH OF HIS SONS

Donald H. Drown, 76, died Thursday in Copley Hospital, Morrisville.

Born in Greensboro June 29, 1911, he was the son of Norwood LaForest and Marion Jane (Young) Drown.

He attended Greensboro schools and later attended technical school in Worcester, Mass., where he met Laura Jordan. They were married April 25, 1936.

For many years the couple owned and operated the Lauredon Jersey Farms and Milk Processing Plant, and the Lauredon Dairy.

A former president of the Vermont Jersey Cattle Club, he was proprietor of the Lauredon Village apartments in Greensboro, and director of Heifer Project International for more than 30 years.

A well-known cabinet maker and lifetime member of the Greensboro United Church of Christ, he was also the organizer of the Interfaith Banquets in the Greensboro, Hardwick and Craftsbury area. He was a member of Caspian Masonic Lodge 87 of Hardwick and of Caspian Lake Grange.

Survivors include his wife, Laura, of Greensboro; four sons, Alfred Drown of Williston, Robert Drown of Burlington, James Drown of Hardwick and David Drown of Greensboro; two sisters, Hazel Rogers, Montpelier, and Ruth Blanchard, Orleans; one brother, Arthur Drown, Blue Bell, Pa.; four granddaughters; seven grandsons; and one great granddaughter.

Funeral services will be held at the Drown home in Greensboro Saturday, Sept. 26, at 1:30 p.m. Interment will be in the Greensboro Village Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heifer Project International, Overlook Farm, RR 1, P.O. Box 174-A, Rutland, Mass., 01543-9761.

Arrangements are under the direction of John and Marge des Grosseilliers of the Holcomb-des Grosseilliers Funeral Home, Church Street, Hardwick.
JAMES DROWN
1943 - 2001
GREENSBORO HARDWICK
MARRIED
ROWENA STEVENS

JAIMIE DROWN
RHONDA DROWN
JARRET DROWN

RHONDA'S FAMILY

RHONDA DROWN

HANNAH
CHELSEA
REBECCA
DONALD'S SONS AT THE KAISER FARM

ALFRED

JAMES  ROBERT  DAVID

ROBERT DAVID  ALFRED LAURA JIM DROWN

ALFRED DROWN

1940 -

GREENSBORO

COC, HL SKI TOURING, SCHOOL BUS DRIVER

NO CHILDREN
JAMES DROWN
FAMILY

JARRETT AND JAIMIE

JAIMIE AND MARGUISE

JESSE AND MEHRYN DROWN

MARQUISE JAIMIE JESSES MEHRYN
THE MCLELLANS LIVED ON MAPLEHURST FARM AND THE GEBBIES LIVED AT ROCKING ROCK FARM, LATER AT MAPLEHURST. MARY ANN AND MARTHA MCLELLAN MARRIED THOMAS AND JAMES GEBBIE RESPECTIVELY. THE REST OF THE CHILDREN WENT TO CALIFORNIA.

H.S. TOLMAN SOLD OUR FARM (MAPLEHURST) TO JOHN MCLELLAN, DECEMBER 15, 1877. JOHN MCLELLAN DEEDED ONE-HALF INTEREST IN FARM AND BUILDINGS AND LAND TO TOM GEBBIE IN 1883. ON JOHN'S DEATH, THE OTHER ONE-HALF INTEREST WENT TO TOM, HIS SON-IN-LAW. THIS HAPPENED ON AUGUST 26, 1898. TOM DIED; MARY ANN GEBBIE DEEDE THE FRM TO FOSTER T. ON APRIL 20, 1920.
Children of Thomas Gebbie and Mary Ann McLellan Gebbie

FOSTER THOMAS GEBBIE
1891 - 1957
GREENSBORO   GREENSBORO
MAPLEHURST GEBBIE FARM

ALPHA GEBBIE
1878 - 1958
ROCKING ROCK FARM   GREENSBORO
ALPHA GEBBIE
1878 - 1958
ROCKING ROCK FARM  GREENSBORO

MELLIE BABCOCK
1878 - 1964
GREENSBORO
RAN BOARDING HOUSE at BRONWYN POTTER'S

MELLIE AND ALPHA GEBBIE

ALPHA AND MELLIE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
Foster Thomas Gebbie
1891 - 1957
Greensboro, Greensboro
Maplehurst Gebbie Farm

Bessie Silver
1897 - 1955
Greensboro

Besse and Mother Harriet Silver
Foster and Bessie Gebbie's Children

THOMAS HOWARD
HARRIET DONALD
RUTH BETTY ANNE
1938

THOMAS GEBBIE 1919 - 1956
GREENSBORO  GREENSBORO
HOWARD GEBBIE 1921 - 1945
GREENSBORO  GERMANY
HARRIET GEBBIE 1923 - 1990
GREENSBORO  ILLINOIS
RUTH GEBBIE 1930 -
GREENSBORO
ELIZABETH GEBBIE 1932 -
GREENSBORO

Donald Gebbie 1925 - 1980
GREENSBORO

HOWARD GEBBIE

THOMAS GEBBIE
DONALD GEBBIE
GRANGE, SELECTMAN, SOILCONS.COM,
1925 - 1980
GREENSBORO  GREENSBORO
MAPLEHURST GEBBIE FARM

MADELINE GREAVES WAS BORN IN 1919 IN MORRISVILLE. HER FATHER WAS CLIFTON M. GREAVES AND HER MOTHER WAS DORRIS BARROWS. MADELINE PLAYS THE PIANO AND ORGAN, IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (CRADLE ROLL). HER MAJOR OCCUPATION SINCE 1972 HAS BEEN MENTAL HEALTH WORK AT THE VERMONT STATE HOSPITAL IN WATERBURY. SHE IS IN CHARGE OF THE "REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM". THE PROGRAM MAKES SURE THAT EVERYONE AT THE HOSPITAL IS "REMEMBERED" AT LEAST ONE DAY A YEAR BY PARTICIPATING CHURCHES IN THE STATE. THE NUMBERS HAVE DECLINED TO ABOUT 40 PERSONS OVER THE YEARS, BUT THE PROGRAM IS STILL ACTIVE. MADELINE IS ON THE STEERING COMMITTEE, WHICH SEES TO IT THAT THE PATIENTS GET PERSONAL ARTICLES THEY NEED. MADELINE HERSELF STILL "REMEMBERS" ONE PERSON AT THE HOSPITAL.
Some Tales I Remember Which Were Told To Me - Madeline Gebbie

Grandma Mary Ann Gebbie, (Donald's grandmother), was a very stern woman. The day Tom was born she made Bessie scrub the hardwood kitchen floor on her hands and knees. She used to get ready for church every Sunday and sit in the yard and honk the horn to hurry Bessie who had six children to get ready. The kids were never allowed to play cards or whistle on Sundays but as soon as she went for her nap, they would take off for Long Pond to fish and swim--two more forbidden joys. When she sold Foster and Bessie the farm, she stated in the deed that they should provide for her the rest of her life and at her death provide for her a decent Christian burial.

Foster never punished Tom, Howard, and Donald but once. Then he lined them up on the barn bridge and really strapped them.

One day when I was ironing a handsome man came to the door and said, 'I'm Donald Gebbie.' Thinking he was a fresh salesman I said I'll bet you are. But he proved to be son of George who was in the car. We had a wonderful visit and I hope someday to get to Rochester, N. Y. to see that branch of the family which is more related to Lester.

Howard, Donald's brother, was married only two weeks when he was killed overseas. His wife was the lovely Betty B. with whom I still keep in close contact and who used to come visit us every five years. She married a super man, Lewis Frizzell, who became very dear to Foster and Bessie.

Ruthie has the cradle which rocked Foster and Alpha. I used it for awhile for Pat but it was uncomfortable and Ruth made it into a magazine holder.

Bessie was a beautiful woman from what everyone has told me. She did a lot of solo work in town as did my mother. She went with my uncle who married my dad's sister before she met Foster. How different life might have been!
Donald and Madeline Gebbie’s Children

Susan, Don, Patsy, Peter

Don, Susan, Peter, Patsy
ANNUAL SUGAR PARTY

For many years Foster had wanted to invite the entire town to a sugar party at the farm. We did exactly that the very year before he died so he got to enjoy at least one. One year we had it on a Thursday because Betty Anne was there but it was more successful on Sundays. Donald and the boys would pack boxes of snow while before the party and crowds could eat on both sides of the sugarhouse. I made the pickles for the event. It usually took about 10 quarts and 10-12 dozen raised do-nuts and 8 gallons of syrup. Over the years several people came who had never tasted sugar on snow before. I remember the first time Bruce tried it. He had syrup drizzling down to his chin. The farmers would gather around the pan and talk with Donald about current farm issues. There were children of all ages and it was a pleasure to watch them play together. There was never a fight and they all romped through the woods and enjoyed each other. Some people came for the do-nuts and didn't like syrup. Others came for the homemade pickles. Dottie Gebbie could probably eat more sugar than anyone else. Esther always came with a load of my nieces and nephews. It was a social gathering for about 100 people each year. One time Donald said we had 99 and a pregnant woman--it came that close to 100.

Even when production years were not up to normal we had it just the same. People would even ask us when it was going to take place. Marjorie Blair's mother like it so much that she walked one year and had a sign on her back saying "Gebbies' Sugarplace".

Donald did many wonderful things in his day such as cut down hedge rows and make beautiful fields. He even took forest at Hardwick and made more field. The sugarhouse used to be down in the mud at the bottom of the hill. For two years he dreamed and planned how to move it and still keep the original hand hewn beams and the same design. He finally did it and the location was so much more handy. He put in a cement floor so you didn't have to wallow in the mud. It was neat putting the refrig. out there so the men could eat anytime they wanted and I could send all necessary pots and pans and staples out the first day of sugaring.

My boys were brought up on syrup. They and also the help could drink a cupful every time they came in with a load of sap. It was an economical move when they had two rigs to gather sap so the boys didn't have time to have a snowball fight while the tub was draining. It was like pulling teeth for me to get Donald to let one of the boys boil in case an emergency occurred. Under protest he let Donnie try it and then there came the spring he didn't have the power to get out there, much less boil. That season he went out once but it took him a long time to make it across the field and I imagine it was hard for him to realize he could no longer take over.
Maple Syrup Prices are as follows:

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<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>F. O. B. Greensboro</th>
<th>Packaging</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gallon</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Half Gallon</td>
<td>3.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quart</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pint</td>
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<tr>
<td>Half Pint</td>
<td>.75</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There is no charge for packaging in case lots of 4 or 6 Gallons, or 6 Half Gallons, or 12 Quarts, or 12 Pints, or 12 Half Pints.

Syrup continues to dribble for some area farmers

Maple sugaring season isn't quite finished in the Hardwick area, but most local producers are experiencing a poor season along with the rest of the state.

A late start combined with a warm spell in late March spelled disaster for most producers in Vermont. Less than half an average crop is expected, and only a small percentage of what has been produced is fancy.

But in North Greensboro there is still a lot of snow in some places, and Donnie and Peter Gebbie are still hoping for an average year.

As of Monday the Gebbies had not done well, but Peter Gebbie said the season isn't over yet. "I heard another cold front is coming in, and that could make a poor year into an average year," he said. "We haven't made any fancy so far, which is rare for us."

Over the weekend Mario Fradette was boiling at his family's sugarhouse near the Lamoille River off Rt. 16, and he was pleased to see the quality improve from B to A. He has over half a crop in, including some fancy, and is hoping the season will last until the end of the week.

"It's unbelievable that it's still going. That snow really helped," Fradette said.

David Marvin of Johnson, one of the state's biggest syrup producers and buyers, and president of the International Maple Syrup Institute termed the season a "disaster."

"We had every reason to expect and need a good season," Marvin said. "We could have sold a bumper crop at a good price."

Marvin said that promotional efforts have helped create a strong market for Vermont maple syrup, and dairy farmers certainly could have used a boost from their sugaring businesses.

But now Vermont producers won't have enough product to meet the demand, and could lose some of the markets that have been developed during the past few years. Customers will turn to other sweeteners, and could decide that Vermont maple syrup producers are unreliable.

There is also bad news for the average maple syrup consumer because retail prices will be driven up by the shortage. Marvin said the price for a gallon in a gift shop will be between $32 and $39 by this fall, "if there are any gallons available."

He predicts that only half gallons will be available at prices ranging from $20 to $24, which was the price range for a gallon last year and at the start of this season.

The impact of the poor season is even greater on the table market because of the very short supply of fancy and A medium amber, according Marvin.
January 30, 1878

dear Friends:

What a pleasure to receive your friendly note a few days ago. Then today—very unexpectedly—your delicious maple syrup, a rare treat and unobtainable here of course. Pancakes here are eaten, sprinkled with orange or lemon juice and sugar. Then rolled up. "Sometimes a savory filling, such as chopped chicken and mushrooms." These may be good for a change but really can't be compared to butter and Vermont maple syrup! Needless to say, we'll be thinking of you fellows when we enjoy this treat. Both Arnold and I have talked and shown our Vermont slides (pictures) in many churches, always including pictures of skiing on the服务体系! Guess you didn't know the ski lift once had agreed to England! The boys really miss winter sports and will have to make up for it next winter. Many thanks for reminding us of your help at Waterloo. I know it won't last!

With deep appreciation for your thoughtfulness,

Sincerely,

Arnold J. Brown
and Betsy

A John Dickinson Product    Made in Great Britain
July 22, 1985

Dear Mrs. Debbye,

Enclosed is the check to cover the rest of your syrup and postage. Debbye syrup has been a part of my life, as you know, forever. It is worth any price.

See you again when Am in the area.

Warmly,

John Fine

McCarthy At Gebbie Sugar Party

A vast number of Greensboro area residents and at least one celebrated politician attended the highly successful Greensboro Bicentennial Sugar-On-Snow Party held at the Donald Gebbie sugar house on Aug. 10.

A member of the Greensboro Bicentennial Committee said that well over 300 people came to the sugar house on a hot and sticky Sunday to be refreshed by the various refreshments that were available.

One guest was former Sen. Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota. Sen. McCarthy is now engaged in his third campaign for the presidency, this time as an Independent. He seemed to enjoy himself and is reported to have said, "Well, I guess that I am really in George Aiken country."
PATRICIA GEBBIE 1946 -
GREENSBORO
MARRIED
DONALD MERCIER

PATSY GEBBIE MERCIER

Jennifer and Jeremy

1972

Jennifer Mercier
1970
SUSAN GEBBIE 1948 -
GREENSBORO
MARRIED
WILBUR LOCKE

SUSAN GEBBIE AND WILBUR LOCKE
DEBORAH AND AMY

JOAN LOCKE - 1973

Deborah Locke - 1971

Amy Locke - 1974
DONALD GEBBIE 1951 -
GREENSBORO
MARRIED
AILEEN SHEA
Greensboro

Chris, Patrick, Liz, Donnie, Aileen, Kevin

Christopher - 1981
Patrick - 1983
Last Tuesday Donnie and Peter Gebbie were still wading around in about a foot of snow as they gathered sap for making maple syrup at the family farm in Greensboro. Ken King of Woodbury operated the small bulldozer to pull the sap tank. The warm weather early last week and again over the weekend has melted almost all the snow in the woods, but as of Monday the Gebbies were still in business. They gathered enough on Saturday to do some boiling, and the pipeline ran a little on Sunday, so they are waiting a couple more days to see what happens before calling it quits. (Photo by Vanessa Fournier)
PETER GEBBIE 1955 - GREENSBORO
MARRIED
SANDRA KING 1954
GREENSBORO

DONALD SANDY PETER MADELINE 1970'S

PETER AND SANDY GEBBIE

Peter Gebbie’s sketch
Gebbie butter press

MC LELLAN FARM
NOW GEBBIE'S MAPLEHURST
LUMSDEN

Picture of the Lumsden farm today
Lumsden Farm today 2001

HARRY Lumsden and LEE Bess Lumsden

Matilda Lumsden E LARRY
Scots Among the Yankees: The Settlement of Craftsbury East Hill

The East Hill migration was an unplanned association that nevertheless created one of the largest ethnic enclaves to be found in Vermont a century ago.

By Bruce P. Shields

Vermont's ethnic composition during the nineteenth century was predominantly old-line Yankee. Scots were rare. Three substantial groups of Scots did exist, at Barnet, at Ryegate, and on the East Hill, where the towns of Craftsbury, Glover, and Greensboro corner. The Barnet and Ryegate settlements, which predate Vermont statehood, are well documented in the published histories of those towns and in later articles. The origin of the East Hill settlement, partly because it lies in three towns, has never been thoroughly reported.

Vermont, in contrast to many other parts of the United States in the 1800s, had few foreign settlements where a new community retained an Old World identification. Most newcomers to Vermont from 1775 to 1825 came from the older parts of New England rather than from Europe. Elsewhere in the United States individual factories imported European labor or transplanted an entire manufacturing operation to American soil, including transfers from Scotland. The carpet mills at Lowell, Massachusetts (1820s), and at Thompsonville (in the town of Enfield), Connecticut (1840s), came from Paisley and Kilmarnock, respectively, both in Scotland.

Industrial recruiting did bring to Vermont such ethnic communities as the Welsh slate workers of Fair Haven and the Italian and Scots granite workers of Barre, but not the East Hill Scots. The East Hill settlement had no distinct organization. Behind the other Scottish communities, Ryegate and Barnet, were formal joint-stock companies created in Scotland.
between five and ten. This estimate is based on the number passed immediately before and after this half decade.

34 See Laws of Vermont, 1804-1835, passim. See also card index to Manuscript Vermont State Papers, compiled by Mary G. Nye. Search must be made in this invaluable scholarly aid by name as supplied in the laws, as Nye did not index under adoption, change of name, or inheritance rights.

35 For substantiation, see Laws of Vermont, 1841-1862. In the first period twenty-five and during the second sixteen of the adoptions completed granted only inheritance rights and no change of name. These are included in the figures given above, even though some of them probably concerned adults. That the general law of 1863 (see Laws of Vermont, 1863, 416-417) allowed the adoption of both children and adults without change of name argues for their inclusion.

36 See Laws of Vermont, 1853, Public Act No. 50, 42-44.

37 For these returns, see ibid., 1855, 222; 1859, 181.

38 The records of the Secretary of State’s Office on adoption, including those for 1853-1863, were originally located in its state papers division and later in its vital records division. Robert L. Haglerman, assistant editor of the State Papers of Vermont, compiled from these records and from the laws of Vermont 1801-1870 a card file of changes of name, including those involved in adoptions. The original set of cards is in the State Archives, Secretary of State’s Office. These cards also, of course, show only two adoptions under the law of 1853.

39 For substantiation of these figures, see Laws of Vermont, 1841-1862. For previous mention of these and other figures on the number of adoptions, see n. 36 above.

40 For the text of this statutory provision, see General Statutes of the State of Vermont (1863), 415-417.

41 That some foster parents—and possibly some adopted children as well—desired to leave the child’s name unchanged is at least suggested by the fact that about thirty of the 150 or so special acts passed in the previous decade and concerned with adoption did not include change of name but only inheritance rights.

42 The Vermont Supreme Court in a decision in 1866, which has already been discussed here as concerned with a case of adoption in about 1848, clearly implied that the courts might question whether a particular foster parent was a “suitable person” to undertake an adoption. As there were no provisions in either the common law or statute law to sanction such intervention by the courts in matters of adoption, the Supreme Court must have found authority for it in the general principles of the law. See Reports of Cases Argued and Determined in the Supreme Court of the State of Vermont: March Term, 1866, vol. 39, n.s. 21 (Town of Tunbridge v. Town of Eden). The Supreme Court also took the occasion to give high praise to the social advantages of adoption. See ibid., 23.

43 For the provision with respect to the change of name, see General Statutes of the State of Vermont (1863), 416-417.

44 For this provision, see Laws of Vermont, 1853, no. 50, 43, and General Statutes of the State of Vermont, chap. 56, 416.

expressly to finance emigration to the United States. No such company ever existed for East Hill.

The East Hill migration was an unplanned association that nevertheless created one of the largest ethnic enclaves to be found in Vermont a century ago. During thirty-five active years of immigration, some sixty families from a compact area of Scotland came to form a close-knit and related community in Vermont. At the high point of the settlement, as shown by the 1860 federal census, almost 10 percent of the combined population of Greensboro, Craftsbury, and West Glover was of Scots birth. In that same year, by contrast, only three Scots-born individuals (from a combined population of about 5,000) lived in the nearby towns of Hyde Park, Johnson, and Cambridge. In Stowe, a typical mid-nineteenth-century Vermont town, the only Scot in the 1850 census was one Edward Lothian, tailor. Brownington's one Scot was also a tailor. Had the East Hill Scots lived all in one town, the effect would have been similar to that of Barnet. But because of their dispersion among three towns, as well as for some religious and political reasons I discuss below, the distinctively Scottish features of their culture were dissipated rather than reinforced by town government.

The East Hill Scottish settlement was predominantly agricultural. The first Scots settler in East Hill, Robert Trumbull, was one of the first four settlers of Craftsbury. Born at Cambuslang, he enlisted in the Royal Marines about 1774. He jumped ship (literally) at Newport, Rhode Island, in 1779 and joined the Connecticut Volunteers. He retired in 1786 as a veteran on the American side of the Revolution. Trumbull and Ebenezer Crafts were the only Revolutionary pensioners resident in Craftsbury. Congress and state legislatures had promised land to all veterans who continued in service to the conclusion of peace. Possibly a beneficiary of bounty land, Trumbull joined a community of veterans both of the Revolution and of the government side of Shays's Rebellion. All other early settlers of Craftsbury were Yankees from the area of Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

Robert was joined by his brother, Thomas, who dwelled briefly at Wilbraham, Massachusetts. They jointly farmed at East Craftsbury Four Corners, where they built the first frame house in town. The Trumbulls helped organize a Reformed Presbyterian (commonly called Covenanter) church around 1813. This denomination had very strong ties to Scotland. The Trumbulls accumulated capital by a combination of farming and commerce, including the operation of a sawmill and possibly a gristmill on Whetstone Brook. From 1790 to 1820, the Trumbulls were the only Scots in the East Hill area. About 1820 Robert's son John King Trumbull returned to Cambuslang, then a country village east of Paisley in Scotland, to collect a legacy. The Trumbulls maintained strong ties to Scots in the
Barnet and Ryegate communities and Canada and to family in Scotland. The Trumbulls were willing to venture their capital to aid other Scots; they wrote mortgages in Craftsbury and Greensboro for some twenty-five years after 1820, helping nearly a dozen Scots families to buy farms.

Scots migrants overwhelming settled in Pennsylvania, Ohio, or other destinations in the American Midwest. The Trumbull family is almost certainly responsible for attracting the East Hill band of migrants to Vermont. In about 1800 John K. Trumbull's cousin Agnes married into the Barnet family of Somers, which (like the Trumbulls) originated in Cambuslang. During his trip to Scotland, John K. Trumbull surely visited relatives, probably including Somers in-laws.

New Scots emigrants appear in the East Hill area almost immediately after John K. Trumbull's journey. According to the History of Greensboro, the first Scots settler in that town was John Patterson in 1821; his town of origin is not stated. In 1825 the first group of Scots immigrants appears: Robert Boyd of Kilmarnock (who came to Greensboro), Alexander Shields of Galston, and William Woodburn of Darvel (both to Glover), all with roots in the Irvine Valley of Ayrshire. The earliest Scots settlers regularly traveled in groups consisting of extended family.

We can only speculate why thirty years passed from 1790 before other Scots joined the Trumbulls. Two general conditions inhibited Scottish immigration during that period. First, in the United States from 1788 to about 1800 a profound recession blocked economic development. Records in the Vermont State Archives demonstrate the issues: bitter petitions for money to build roads and bridges in the towns in the northeast and town meetings dominated by wrangling over the ratio of cash and kind in the payment of taxes. Second, in Britain before 1825 no person who had served an apprenticeship could emigrate without permission of the Crown. Skilled tradesmen therefore could not legally emigrate with their families and household goods, especially if their landlords were reluctant to lose them. Scots become numerous in East Hill soon after the 1825 amendments to the British Statutes of Apprentices. Scots craftsmen had traditionally lived on subsistence farms of less than 5 acres variously called "crofts" or "cotts," a style of life the new Scots settlers at first emulated. But they rapidly found that a farm of 60 acres or more could be acquired in East Hill for the value of a bare house in Scotland. Availability of land made America very attractive.

The pull of America reinforced a twofold push from Scotland: the industrial and agricultural revolutions. The spread of factories with power looms created unemployment throughout Scotland from 1790 on. During the initial slow increments of the industrial revolution, many self-employed contractors such as weavers, shoemakers, and coopers had enough assets to emigrate when their opportunity for work diminished at home.
Step by step with the industrial revolution, an equally remarkable agricultural revolution was taking place in Scotland. The large landowners who dominated British agriculture began consolidating farms especially rapidly after 1800 to eliminate leaseholds they considered too small to support a family. Displaced peasants (analogous to American sharecroppers) moved into towns, competing there as weavers or lace makers for jobs in small factories or as pieceworkers who worked at home. Simultaneously, therefore, economic pressure squeezed Scots out of handicrafts and off their farms. Sometimes called the Clearances, this rural depopulation is celebrated in melancholy songs such as Robert Burns's "My Heart Is in the Highlands."

By 1850 Scotland was the most urbanized country in the world. Rapid social change created political upheaval, marked by the great Reform Bill of 1832. Ensuing social turmoil inflamed the young Karl Marx, who made several tours of Scottish factories at this time. Popular opposition to both the agricultural and mechanical revolutions crystallized about 1840 into the Chartist movement, whose growth was characterized by riots and insurrections. Scots rural artisans were forced at an accelerating pace to choose between a move to a Scottish city to continue in their trade of weaving or a move to America to enable them to own a farm. Those who went to the great city slums became by the end of the nineteenth century the radical or communist backbone of the British Socialist Party. The East Hill Scots all preferred to leave their homeland rather than become proletarians in a city such as Glasgow.

Nowhere in Scotland were the changes greater than in the Irvine Valley of Ayrshire, some 30 miles south of Glasgow, on the estates of the Campbells of Loudoun, from which many East Hill migrants originated. Vermont may have been attractive because its geography and climate closely resemble Loudoun Parish. The Irvine Water flows in a deep valley among the fertile and rainy (60 inches annually) sandstone hills of eastern Ayrshire, providing many mill sites in the 15 miles from Loudoun Hill to Kilmarnock. An ancient borough (incorporated town), Kilmarnock was a center of trade and education from about the year 1200.

Between Kilmarnock and the watershed at Loudoun Hill lie the villages of Galston, New Milns, and Darvel. Galston was the castle village for the Campbells of Loudoun (closely allied to the Campbells of Argyle), whose estate of more than 100,000 acres reached from the suburbs of Kilmarnock to Loudoun Hill. Loudoun Parish roughly traces the traditional boundaries of the Loudoun estate. The earls of Loudoun and their cadets at Cessnock, just south of Galston, were among the wealthiest families in Scotland. In the 1820s Galston was an important economic center in Scotland.

Three miles east of Galston is New Milns, the market town of the
Loudoun estates. Two miles east of New Milns lies the village of Darvel, its main street dominated by a towering volcanic plug called the Hill of Loudoun. In 1825 Darvel had just begun to grow from a monthly farmers' market to a bustling manufacturing town. East of Darvel is the parish of Strathaven, on the Avon River in Lanarkshire. On the heights near Loudoun Hill is Stobbieside, site of the battle of Drumclog (1646), a key locale in the Covenanter martyrology. The religious link between East Hill and Loudoun Parish probably nearly equaled the link of kinship.

The Irvine Valley was a strong center of the Covenanter wing of the Scots Presbyterian Church. During the “killing times” of the English civil wars, from 1645 to 1688, the earls of Loudoun had led Covenanter armies, and members of the Loudoun family, along with many of their tenants, were executed by the invading English. The entire upper Irvine Valley constituted a nearly homogeneous social unit, with one laird (landlord), one kirk (the Presbyterian Church), and close kinship. That social unit was a clan—not in the nostalgic sense promoted at Highland Games but as a simple matter of fact—with the family at Loudoun Castle head of the clan. Later in the nineteenth century, the discovery of coal, introduction of railways, and social changes mentioned above eroded the clan relationship in the Irvine Valley as elsewhere in Scotland.

The Campbells of Loudoun were leaders in the “agricultural improvement” movement. As landlords they sought greater income by consolidating fields and siting factories and housing tracts on their lands. Yet linked by blood and church to their tenants and farmers, they resisted such harsh depopulation as resulted in the Highland Clearances. The gradualist “improving” philosophy of the Loudoun family encouraged tenants to “go out” (emigrate) with their families intact. Instead of simply evicting renters and demolishing their cottages, Loudoun estate would detach the old cottage with its kailyard (garden) so that the house could still be inhabited. For instance, in Darvel the farmanciently called Lilyloan contained about 60 acres. When the lands of Lilyloan (now known as Leeloon) were consolidated with those of Henryton (occupied by kin of the Findlay family of Greensboro), title to the cottage with 1.3 acres of land was granted to the family actually living on Lilyloan at the time. Henryton in time was lumped with the lands of Quarterhouse, Newhouse, and other steadings to create a tract of more than 400 acres, which can profitably be worked as a modern farm. As the land-based rural population of Loudoun Parish declined through the nineteenth century, families had to leave: their choice was Glasgow or America.

Some Irvine Valley Scots who came to East Hill brought enough cash to Vermont to buy their farms; some borrowed funds from family in Scotland; others relied on the friendly aid of kin like the Trumbulls already in Vermont. They hoped simply to recreate their Ayrshire lives in Ver-
The Craftsbury
Reformed Presbyterian
Church, built ca. 1835
and torn down 1910.
Courtesy of John
Woodruff, Simpson
Memorial Library,
Craftsbury, Vermont.

mont, with less disruption than they would have experienced by moving
to the factories of Darvel, Kilmarnock, or, worst of all, Glasgow. They
found at East Hill a Presbyterian church and farms where they could also
ply a variety of skilled trades, including weaving (wool and linen),
cooperage, fine joinery, housebuilding, shoemaking, and knitting, for
a diversified income. Almost all the Scots settlers of East Hill derived
from the upper Irvine Valley and adjacent parts of Fenwick, Avondale,
and East Kilbride Parishes and were connected to Loudoun Parish.

James Trumbull, elder son of Thomas Trumbull (the first Robert’s
brother), was referred to both in Craftsbury and Ayr as “Captain.” A cap­
tain in the Craftsbury militia troop, he was apparently engaged in trade,
for which purpose he traveled extensively. He is placed six times between
1828 and 1840 at the Galston home of Robert Shields, whose brother
John was forester for Loudoun Castle and whose nephew ran the mains
(home farm) for the Loudoun estates.12 A second brother to Robert Shields
was Alexander Shields, who moved to West Glover, Vermont, from Darvel
in 1827. James Trumbull may have had commercial dealing with the estates
of Loudoun.

The Andersons, five families of them, also came from Darvel and were
known tenants of Loudoun. James Anderson’s name appears on a Loudoun
estate list from 1835.13 The MacLaren, Boyd, and Smith families came
from Kilmarnock. From the Irvine Valley came Barclay, Calderwood,
Black, Esden, Kendrick, Macomber, Young, Moodie, Findlay, Shields,
Patterson, and Gilmour. From Paisley came John Ur_ie, and from Pollock­
shaw (7 miles north of Kilmarnock) came the Simpson and perhaps Mitch­
ell and Salmon families. The first wave of families who moved to East
Hill were interrelated, though the details are obscure.

Some local Vermont place-names arose from the Scots settlement. The
northwest corner of Greensboro and adjacent West Glover, now almost
depopulated, was long known as the MacLaren district; Barr Hill,
Gebbie Corner, and Mitchell Hill, all in Greensboro, commemorate Scots settlers. The area from Beach Hill in West Glover along the East Craftsbury road to the village of East Craftsbury is still known as Andersonville.

While their Vermont destination is known, the route by which these Scots entered the United States is uncertain. Naturalization documents do not exist for most because of the Covenanter heritage of much of the group. The Covenanter Church derived from the Reformation in Scotland. For fifty years during the civil wars, the Long Parliament, and the Restoration, armed forces of the Episcopalian governments both of Scotland and England ravaged the glens of eastern Ayrshire, leaving a legacy of antigovernment feeling. Partly in revulsion to government persecution, Covenanters refused on scriptural authority to take any kind of oath and refused to pledge allegiance to a government not founded on Scripture. A confessional church, the Covenanters held to a detailed set of published standards for both faith and social behavior.

Covenanter refusal to take oaths complicated their U.S. citizenship. Without oaths, they could not be naturalized in the usual way by swearing allegiance to the U.S. Constitution before a justice. East Hill Scots who arrived before 1850 simply never made naturalization declarations, and consequently their port of entry cannot be discovered, except by oral tradition. Some Andersons entered via Montreal, as did the Youngs. The Calderwoods landed at New York City and moved to Schenectady, from which place part of the family came to Craftsbury and Greensboro. Alexander Shields, according to tradition, landed first at Albany, New York, took a barge to Vergennes, Vermont, and then traveled by oxcart to Craftsbury. A Gebbie in transit found the situation at Montreal so pleasant that he never joined his relative in Greensboro. Isabelle Anderson's 1853 diary records a protracted voyage from Glasgow to New York. A narrative printed in the History of Greensboro describes a large party including Simpsons, Mitchells, Barcleys, and Smiths landing at Montreal. Apparently, the choice of migration route was opportunistic, perhaps dictated by what shipping was available from Greenock (dredging of the Clyde to permit navigation directly from Glasgow was not complete until the East Hill migration had ended).

Lack of naturalization led to a civil rights problem for the Covenanters, as found in a petition addressed by the Reverend James Milligan, Covenanter minister at Ryegate and Craftsbury, to the Vermont legislature in approximately 1833. The legislature was perplexed by the case and first tried to postpone action indefinitely. The petition begins by stating that the Covenanters were a people who for 150 years acknowledged no earthly sovereign. Milligan prays relief from taking the oath of loyalty, stating that the right of his parishioners to own property was being questioned.
and that they stood to lose their farms. From his petition it is unclear whether he meant the oath of naturalization or the Vermont Freeman's Oath, but because of his objection to swearing allegiance to a system that recognized slavery, he was doubtless referring to the oath of naturalization. The legislature, deadlocked at the same time in the anti-Masonic controversy, eventually supplied an enigmatic law designed to ease the situation for the Masons and the Covenanters alike.

Because Covenanters refused to take oaths, they also never served in political offices outside their towns. Their relatives who were members of the United Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, however, were not bound by this stricture; John Smith, for instance, represented Greensboro in the General Assembly. Covenanters were also elected to govern district schools: the Reverend John Taylor, the last Covenant minister in East Craftsbury, was superintendent of the village school. The Freeman's Oath was not made prerequisite for attendance at town meeting until the twentieth century. Covenanters scrupulously obeyed all civil laws and, according to Reverend Milligan, made certain that none of their own people ever became a burden to the town. Orphans and widows were provided succor among the more prosperous members of the community. Covenanters did much of their own road work and, following old provisions of Vermont law, laid taxes upon property of members to support their church. This tax was collected by their own tithingmen up to about 1850. The East Hill folk assimilated slowly to the Yankee ways of the Northeast Kingdom, marrying primarily among themselves for at least two generations, until after World War I.

Their settlement has no special architectural mark. Because they were not the original settlers in the area, they customarily bought existing farmsteads from Yankees who had migrated west. The simple New England gable or Cape house so closely resembles the lowland Scots farmhouse that no distinct architectural signature marks even the buildings the Scots immigrants designed.

Contrary to what we might expect from seemingly rigid religious principles, their Reformed view of learning prompted many Scots to aspire to a higher level of education than did their Yankee neighbors. The first generation attended Dartmouth and Union Colleges, among others. Robert Trumbull Jr. was a college professor. His cousin, son of Reverend Milligan by Robert Trumbull's daughter, in 1840 founded Geneva College in Northwood, Ohio. A number of the East Hill people attended Geneva, both in Northwood and after its move to Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. A Calderwood went to India as a missionary, and Dunbars who moved to Michigan were also college teachers. With their family connections to Scotland and church connections to Covenant communities...
nities throughout North America, they maintained a broad worldview. Their cosmopolitan intellectual outlook contrasted with a “clannish” personal style and strict adherence to detailed standards of behavior and belief.22

Prior to the Civil War, Covenanters worked with the Garrisonite radical abolitionists and supported John Brown’s group in Kansas. They strongly advocated educating blacks and pushed for full political and economic emancipation. Despite their horror of oaths, Covenanters served in the Civil War, though apparently because of the demographics few names from the East Hill community are recorded. The Ryegate and Topsham Covenanter churches, however, contributed their share. Following the Civil War, a number of young people from East Hill families taught at the Freedmen’s School in Washington, D.C., which became Howard University. They also joined the great westward move following the opening of the railroads, still tending to emigrate in kinship groups.

East Hill women were well educated, possibly because in Scottish law women were accorded more parity with men than in Anglo-Saxon law. By the end of the nineteenth century, the East Hill emphasis on education and sexual equality produced women of great talent. To take just two instances, Margaret Calderwood Shields was one of the first U.S. women to receive a Ph.D. in physics; Mary Jean Simpson was a commander of the Women’s Army Corps and later dean at the University of Vermont.

Personal diffidence, aversion to secular politics, and a continuing strong commitment to farming have kept the East Hill people relatively little known inside Vermont. At the same time, members of those families made their marks in church and intellectual affairs throughout the nation. Eventually, some of the social changes they left Scotland to avoid overtook northern Vermont. The Covenanter Church in East Craftsbury reorganized as United Presbyterian in 1906, soon after the counterpart church in Scotland reunited with the Kirk of Scotland. Since then consolidation of farms, out-migration, and demographic shifts have diluted the community. A few remain on farms that have been in the family since the 1830s. Correspondence with the Scots cousins died out, but a stay in rural Ayrshire will suggest that much of the culture remains on East Hill.

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Notes


2 Letter dated 23 January 1926 from Winfield Scott, commissioner of the U.S. Bureau of Pensions, to Penelope Smith, a descendant of Robert Turnbull. Second-generation photocopy in possession of the author. The name in Scotland was Turnbull, while a metathesized t is common in lowland
Scots speech, the name was surely assimilated to that of the famous Connecticut family. Cambuslang is now an urban neighborhood in the city of Paisley.

1 Narrative, no date, written by Anna Green of Cincinnati, Ohio (granddaughter of Robert Trumbull), among the papers of Hannah Babcock of Craftsbury Common.

2 Frederic P. Wells, History of Barre, Vermont (Burlington: Free Press, 1923), 615.


4 Edward Miller and Frederic P. Wells, History of Ryegate, Vermont (St. Johnsbury, VT.: Calvinian Company, 1913), 49, details efforts of Lord Blantyre to restrain emigration of some valued tenants.


6 Striking visual documentation of what the East Hill settlers were avoiding is to be found in Thomas Annan, Photographs of the Old Closes and Streets of Glasgow, 1868/1877 (New York: Dover, 1977).

7 For general information, see John Strawhorn, The History of Irvine (Edinburgh: John Donald, 1986). See also James Mair, Pictorial History of Galston (Darvel, Scotland: Alloway, 1988).

8 Good information on these villages is currently available in Historical Aspects of New Mills (Newmills and Greenholm Community Council, 1990) and in James Mair, Pictorial History of Darvel (Darvel, Scotland: Alloway, 1990). A decidedly unsympathetic view of the Covenanters, with a very flattering picture of their tormentor, James Graham of Claverhouse, is given by Sir Walter Scott in Heart of Midlothian. Because of that novel, it was rare to find any work by Scott in a Covenanters home. Burns, though he also lampooned the Covenanters in “Holy Willie,” was, as a Kilmarnock poet, much beloved by the East Hill Covenanters. A sentimentally friendly portrait of the people of the Irvine Valley is in John Galt’s novel Annals of the Parish, first published in Blackwood’s Magazine in 1821, which details many customs still observed by the East Hill Scots some generations later. A current reprint of Galt is Annals of the Parish, illustrated by Charles E. Brock (Edinburgh: James Thin, Mercat Press, 1980).

9 Information from present owners of Lilyloan.

10 Letters written by various hands to Alexander Shields of West Glover, Vermont, between 1827 and 1855. A transcription of these letters by Isabel D. Shields done in the 1960s is in possession of the author; the holographs have been dispersed.

11 Mair, Darvel, 70.

12 The Scots Worthy by John Howie of Lochgoil, first published as Biographia Scotiana in 1775 and reprinted many times since, has numerous short and inflammatory biographies of people killed for their faith by the government forces from 1645 to 1688. Probably every East Hill family owned a copy, which was used in devotions. Most of the families were descended from martyrs listed in this book. For a modern edition, see John Howie, Lives of the Scottish Covenanters (Greenville, S.C.: A Press, 1981).


14 The holograph petition may be found in the manuscript Vermont state papers, vol. 63, p. 171, located in the Vermont State Archives, Secretary of State’s Office, Montpelier.

15 Vermont Constitution, part 2, sec. 66: “Every person of good character, who comes to settle in this State, having first taken an oath or affirmation of allegiance to the same, may purchase, or by other just means acquire, hold and transfer land.” Apparently, sharp operators deduced that the Covenanters, never having taken the oaths, could not “acquire, hold and transfer” land and therefore could be dispossessed expeditiously.

16 Reverend Nathan Robinson Johnston, formerly Covenanter pastor at Topsham, Vermont, in his memoir Looking Backward from the Sunset Land (Oakland, Calif., 1898), 176, has a detailed discussion of the rationale behind the prohibition of voting. He explains that the proslavery clauses of the U.S. Constitution make allegiance to it unthinkable but that participation at the town level required no oath.

17 Records of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Craftsbury, 1833–1855. A microfilm copy is deposited in the repository of Vital Records in Middlesex, Vermont.

18 A disciplinary incident previously cited by Herbert C. McArthur of the University of Vermont in “Craftsbury Session Books,” VHS Proceedings 22 (1954): 10-20, involved a young man who not only walked home from St. Johnsbury on the Sabbath but who was distinctly heard to whistle in the process. To this seemingly trivial discipline, contrast a man — no doubt a copperhead — excluded from church for maintaining that slavery was acceptable so long as it continued where it already was practiced.
Within the genre of Vermont town histories, the photo history has become the choice of many local historians over the past forty years. Photographs are usually loosely grouped by topic, with captions relating dates and observations about the people, buildings, and scenes pictured. Depending on the available photographs, these histories tell diverse stories united only by some relation to a place defined by a political boundary. Confronted with such a smorgasbord, *Vermont History* reviewers tend to praise the quality of the photographs, their captions, and even the layout and reproduction.

Judged in this vein, *Arlington Along the Battenkill: Its Pictured Past* is certainly one of the best Vermont photo histories published. It excels at presenting a remarkable body of photographs with substantial captions that identify subjects and comment on some aspect of life or change in Arlington. The variety of photographic subjects is noteworthy, ranging from landscapes to social group and building portraits to scenes of industrial and farm labor to a sewing bee, a steamship launch, and the Smith's Cash Store Chicken Catch! For such diversity, we are in large measure indebted to George Russell of Arlington, who began collecting historical material and photographs early in this century, eventually establishing one of the foremost Vermont history collections (now preserved as the Russell Collection of Vermontiana at the Martha Canfield Library).