

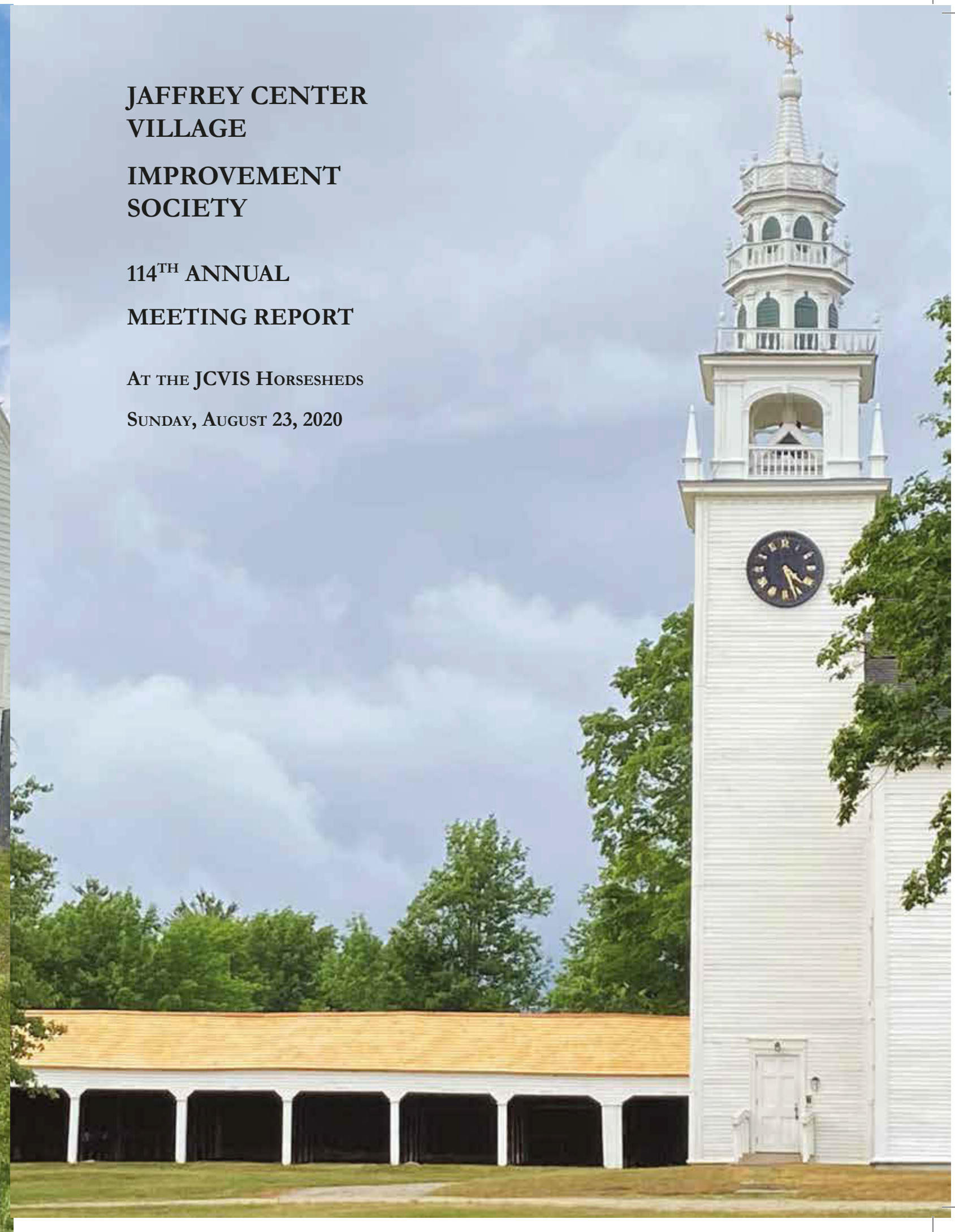


**JAFFREY CENTER
VILLAGE**

**IMPROVEMENT
SOCIETY**

**114TH ANNUAL
MEETING REPORT**

**AT THE JCVIS HORSESHEDS
SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020**



JCVIS Properties in the Jaffrey Historic District

Jaffrey Historic District area was designated as an historic district in 1975

JCVIS Properties and Date Acquired

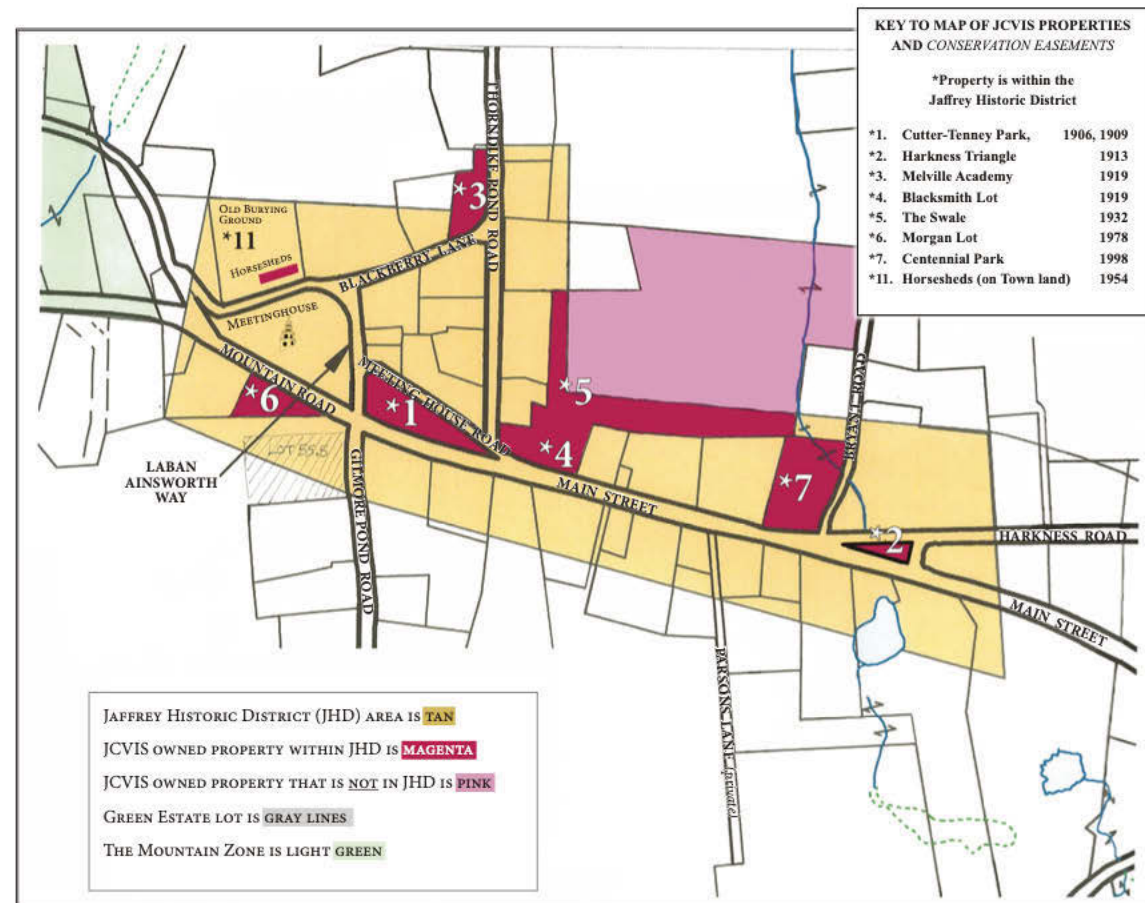
1. Cutter-Tenney Park: 1906 Lower Triangle (Tenney); 1909 Flagpole area (Cutter)
2. Harkness Triangle, 1913
3. Melville Academy, 1919
4. Blacksmith Lot, 1919
5. Swale, 1932 (pink area outside of Historic Dist.)
6. Morgan Lot, 1978
7. Centennial Park, 1998
11. Horsesheds 1954 (on Town land)

Note: Outlined in light gray is the area of the Greene Estate property (Lot 55.5) on Gilmore Pond Road. The VIS is considering an option to purchase in the future.

Not shown: 8. Sandi Best Lot, 2011, the 6.23 acre "View Forever" of Mt. Monadnock, opposite 70 Thorndike Pond Road

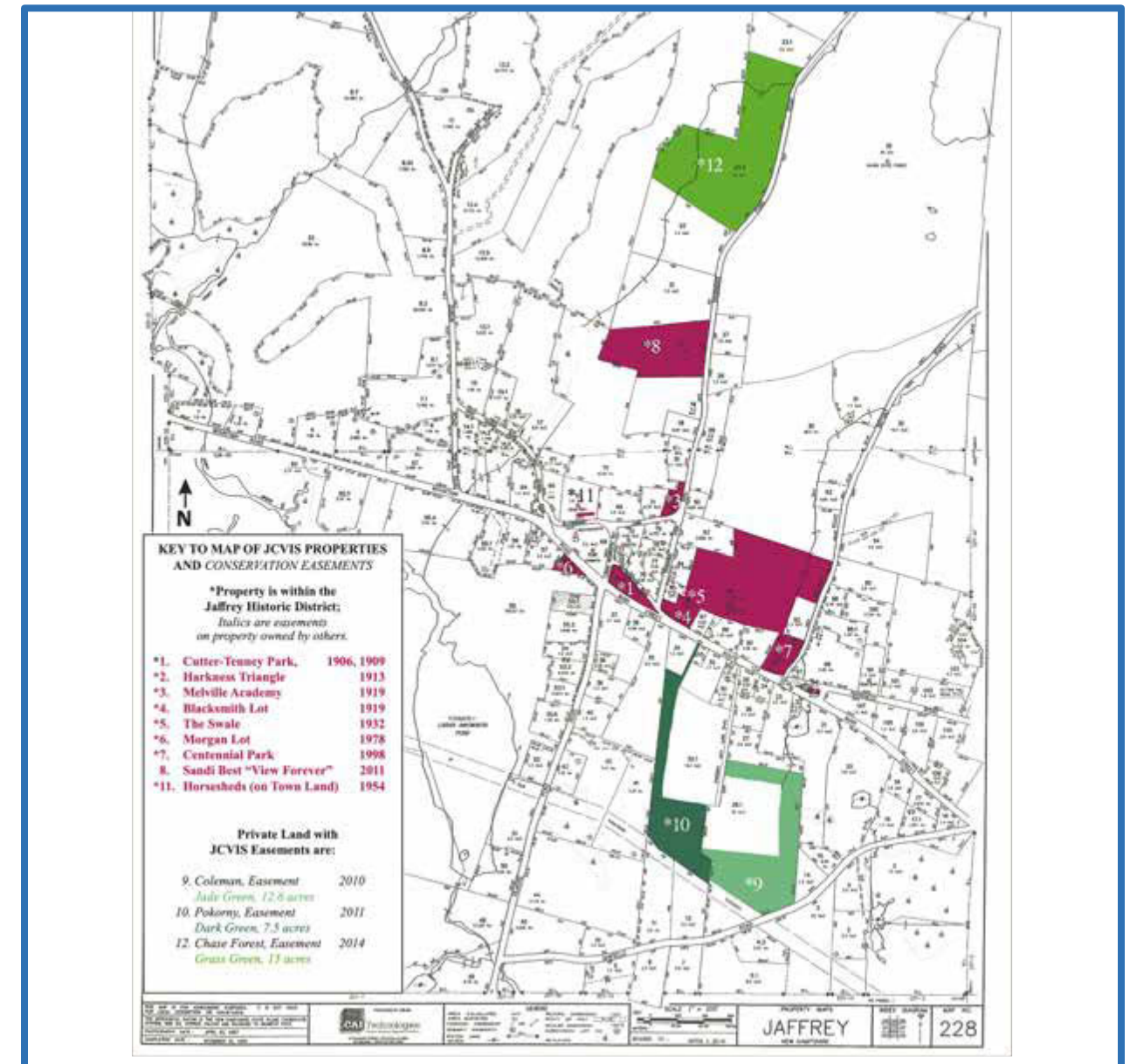
The JCVIS holds conservation easements in perpetuity on property owned by others::

- 12.6 acres owned by William and Mildred Coleman at 43 Parsons Lane
- 7.5 acres owned by Margaret and Gene Pokorny at 24 Parsons Lane
- 15 acres owned by Robert Chase between 107 and 169 Thorndike Point Road.



MAP OF VIS PROPERTIES AND EASEMENTS

NORTH ↑



SOUTH ↓



**114th Annual Report, 2019-2020
Annual Meeting, Aug. 23, 2020
The Horsesheds, Blackberry Lane**

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114th Annual Meeting
4:00 pm Sunday, August 23, 2020
The Horsesheds, Blackberry Lane

AGENDA

Call to order: Suze Campbell, President
Approval of 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes – Mary F. Ley, Recording Secretary

IN MEMORIAM

Moment of Silence for Deceased Members

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Report of the Treasurer, Peter Russell
Report of the Finance Committee Chair, Ken Campbell

ORDER OF THE DAY

A Membership Tribute to Suze and Ken Campbell,
Presented by Pam and Bruce Hill

REPORTS

Report of the President, Suze Campbell
Report of Buildings Vice President, Sam Greene
Report of Historian, Ken Campbell
Report of the Conservation Easements Vice President, Rick Stein
Report of Landscaping and Grounds Vice President Bruce Hill
Report of Vice President at Large Sam Hackler
Report of the Curator, Melville Academy Museum, Suze Campbell
Report of Recording Secretary, Mary Ley
Report of Corresponding Secretary, Tom Schiele
Report of VIS Membership Committee, Suze Campbell

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

Properties of the VIS 2020
Timeline 114 Years of the VIS, 100 Years of Melville Academy Museum
History of March Welcome Spring Dinners

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Anne Webb, Past President

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Melville Academy Museum is closed this summer due to the COVID-19 pandemic , but If you would like a tour, please call or email Suze Campbell to make a special appointment; 978-831-9118, or suzecampbell@mac.com



MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING

113th Annual Meeting, Sunday August 18, 2019
Melville Academy Museum, Jaffrey

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm.

Members of the Board of Directors who were present:

- Sam Hackler, Presiding Officer and Vice President at Large
- Peter Russell, Treasurer
- Suze Campbell, Melville Academy Curator
- Ken Campbell, Chair of Finance Committee and Historian
- Sam Greene, Vice President of Buildings
- Rick Stein, Vice President Conservation Easement
- Patty Scholl, Corresponding Secretary
- Mary Ley, Recording Secretary

Other VIS members present:

Richard Ames, Sallie Austermann, Lindra Best, Dorothy & Harold Davis, Herbert & Collette Gramm, Linda Grant, Eileen Hackler, Bruce & Sally Larsen, Doug Ley, Miki Osgood, Gene & Margaret Pokorny, Tony Scholl, Betsy & David Trimble, Anne & Cassius Webb

Guest: JoAnne Carr (guest speaker)

Members of the Board of Directors who were absent: Tim Gordon, President, Bruce Hill V.P.

Total in attendance: 29

Welcome: Sam Hackler, Vice President at Large welcomed the members to the 113th Annual Meeting of the Village Improvement Society. He asked members to take a moment to read the minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting in the Annual Report

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting were moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

Order of the Day: JoAnne Carr, Jaffrey's Planning and Economic Development Director, presented the "Process of Reconfiguring the Jaffrey Traffic Pattern".

The slides are available at: https://www.nh.gov/dot/projects/jaffrey_16307/index.htm The purpose of this project is to address the traffic congestion and safety related deficiencies associated with the current configuration of the US 202 intersections of Main Street with Peterborough Street, and Main Street with River Street, while enhancing pedestrian mobility and supporting the quality of life and economic vitality of Jaffrey's downtown.

This traffic project has a long history beginning back in the 1970's with discussions and then a DOT public hearing on May 6, 1981. There was no public consensus at the time and traffic lights were eventually installed. Fast forward to today... the Town of Jaffrey has been awarded federal funding for the project and is on NH DOT's 10 year plan. However, to move forward there needs to be a 'predominance of support from the community'.

Go to the Town of Jaffrey's website for more information on the project.

<https://www.townofjaffrey.com/home/pages/downtown-traffic-project-0t>

The website has a great deal of information on the project such as photos from the "Roundabout Rodeo" with large trucks and buses navigating the proposed roundabouts and drone footage of typical downtown traffic.

The final public hearing will be held on Oct. 2nd at 6 PM at the VFW. It is important to express your opinion either in person at the hearing or with a letter.

Report of the President, (Tim Gordon was not in attendance.) The President's report was read by Sam Hackler: see page 7 of the 2018 Annual Report.

Report of the Treasurer, Peter Russell

The financial report is on pages 9-11 of the 2018 Annual Report. Peter reported that 2018 was a successful year for donations. The JCVIS received \$80,000 from the Mary Kidd estate and is expecting a bit more when the estate has been finalized. It was an unrestricted gift to the Society and the BOD will use it carefully for 'special projects for the benefit of the JCVIS. Because of this large donation, the group's IRS tax filing situation has changed from the postcard return to a 990EZ filing (which is not easy!). The BOD hired Randy Hull, a tax accountant to file the Federal 990EZ and the State return. He has made several recommendations for bookkeeping changes including reporting accounts on a 'cost basis' vs. a 'market basis' for 2019. This requires capitalizing expenses and including depreciation costs. Currently the Mary Kidd funds are in a Fidelity money market account with a 1.87% yield.

Finance Committee Report, Ken Campbell

The Finance Committee comprised of President Tim Gordon, Treasurer Peter Russell, Dave Davis & Ken Campbell, meet to monitor the status of the JCVIS investment funds. See pages 12& 13 of the Annual Report for the description of the individual fund accounts and their basic performance.

In Memoriam/Moment of Silence, Ken Campbell called for a moment of silence for those JCVIS members who died the previous year: **Robert G. Ayres, Nora Barton Bryant, Jean-Frances Pressey Ellston, Evelyn Barbara Schulman Hammerman, Norma Alyce Bastow Houghton, Sanford 'Sandy' Michael Isaacs, Roderick Lemonde MacFarquhar, Janet Shively Magoun, Judith Royce and Sidney Bixler.**

Reports of Vice Presidents:

Buildings, Sam Greene

Sam reported that his main priorities are:

- a.) Melville Academy maintenance
- b.) Horsesheds roof project

Sam met with Dennis Wright about exterior painting at the Melville Academy. It was agreed that repainting one side of the building every 2 years would be a sensible maintenance plan for the Melville. It is planned to start in the Spring.

The Horsesheds roof is in much need of reroofing, with active leaking of the roof onto the building's frame and sheathing. Sam used the specifications for the Meeting House roof using old growth yellow cedar shakes. Sam has received proposals from two reputable roofing contractors (Brad Davis, contractor for the Meeting House roof, and Guyer & Sons Roofing from Marlborough). These 'soft quotes' both came in at \$30-\$40,000 depending on what is found once the roof is off. There could be significant rotten framing to fix as well as replacing the shakes. Sam may contact local carpenter Andy Webber to get his opinion on the carpentry needed. The BOD approved hiring a contractor to perform the project starting in early 2020. Fundraising is the next agenda item and will be discussed at the September BOD meeting.

Conservation Easement Program, Rick Stein

Rick reported that there is no current activity for conservation easements right now. Rick has been replacing VIS signs and trail markings. Rick will be doing his annual survey of the current easements this fall and hopes anyone interested will join him.

Grounds and Landscaping, Bruce Hill

See Bruce's report on page 16 of the Annual Report. The Harkness Triangle area has been an area of concern recently. After the beneficial special 5-step maintenance program, the grass was damaged by the recent road paving activity.

At Large, Sam Hackler

Sam's report is on page 17 of the Annual Report.

Sam Hackler reiterated the importance of making your voice heard regarding the Rte. 202 project. He is one of the three Commission members who will make the final decision after the meeting on Oct. 2nd. The other two Commission members are Andrew Card and former Executive Councilor David Wheeler as appointed by Governor Sununu. Sam believes the group that is the loudest and the most articulate will prevail.

Melville Academy, Suze Campbell

Suze’s report as Melville curator is on pages 18-20 in the Annual Report. Suze proudly reported that Melville’s visitor numbers were very good this summer. Her report has a list of all the new items added to the Museum this year. Suze showed the members one of the new acquisitions, a bronze cast of President Lincoln’s hand by Augustus Saint-Gaudens that was made two days after Lincoln’s nomination for President. This item was donated to the museum by Skip Cornelius.

Corresponding Secretary, Patty Scholl

Patty reported that she had written over 200 thank you notes for dues and donations since last year. She urged all members to let any new people in town know about the JCVIS and all the good things the organization does.

Historian’s Report, Ken Campbell

The Historian’s report is on pages 21-25 in the Annual Report. Ken has documented all the land the VIS owns and has continued to fill in any blanks on the Timeline of the VIS since 1906. This upcoming year we will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Melville Academy Museum.

Membership List, Suze Campbell

The Membership List, current as of August 4th, is on pages 26 -27 of the Annual Report. This list includes persons who have paid dues or donations to the JCVIS during the last eighteen months. If anyone was inadvertently omitted from the list, please let Suze Campbell know.

Nominating Committee Report, Anne Webb

Anne Webb reported that the Nominating committee had met several times over the last few months. She thanked Patty Scholl for her service, saying Patty was taking a ‘breather’ but would be welcomed back when she was ready to ‘re-up!’ Anne expressed gratitude that the following group is willing to serve the organization in the coming years.

The slate of nominees to serve a two year term (2019 -2021) on the VIS Board of Directors are:

Susan T. Campbell	President
Thomas F. Schiele	Corresponding Secretary
Samuel Greene	Vice President – Buildings
Samuel Hackler	Vice President – at Large
Richard Stein	Vice President – Conservation Easements

The following Board positions will continue their terms until Summer 2020:

Peter Russell	Treasurer
Mary F. Ley	Recording Secretary
Bruce W. Hill	Vice President – Landscaping and Grounds

Appointments by President, with approval of Board:

Susan T. Campbell	Curator of Melville Academy Museum
Kenneth D. Campbell	Historian

Appointment by President:

Kenneth D. Campbell	Finance Committee Chair
Harold (Dave) Davis	Finance Committee Member

There was a motion to accept the slate of nominees. It was seconded and approved unanimously.

There was a motion to accept the previous reports. This motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

New business:

Suze outlined her theme as President for next year is to be based on:

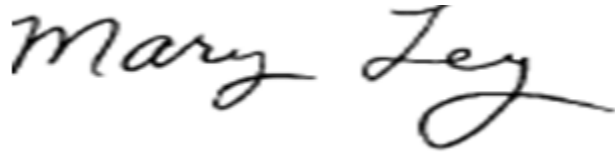
- 1.) Aspirations
- 2.) Action
- 3.) Accomplishments

Members were urged to attend the Picnic at Centennial Park following the meeting.

Suze Campbell mentioned that she will send out an email reminder to the membership regarding the need either to attend the Oct. 2nd meeting or to write a letter for the Rte 202 issue.

With no other new business to consider, there was a motion for adjournment which was seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Ley, Recording Secretary



IN MEMORIAM 2019-2020

Robert Banker, 82, September 23, 2019

Sidney Rogers Bixler, 79, August 17, 2019

Bancroft Farrar Greene, 78, December 22, 2019

Arthur Henry Hamilton, 87, August 7, 2019

Dr. Charles Howard Hamilton, 89, November 15, 2019

Geraldine Thierry Lyle, 95, March 19, 2019

Francis Xavier Quinlan, 91, June 12, 2020 (Life Member)

Edward James Shea, 82, January 22, 2020

Their obituaries will be placed in the VIS Life Stories binder in Melville Academy Museum



TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear Members,

2019 Financial Statements with Notes and a 2020 Budget are attached. The figures are unaudited and reflect changes made to the Balance Sheet in 2018 as recommended by Randy Hull, Tax Accountant. Starting in 2018 our organization's fund balances have been reported on Cost Basis. The market value of JCVIS funds is now reported in a footnote to the Balance Sheet and in more detail in the Finance Committee report.

During 2019 \$2970 of Melville dedicated funds were used to help fund projects at the Melville museum.

In December, 2018 the JCVIS received an \$80,000 bequest from the Mary Kidd Estate. The board voted to use these funds for "special projects for the benefit of the JCVIS." In 2019 an appeal was initiated to raise money to replace the roof on the Horsesheds. As part of this effort the board voted to use \$10,000 of the Mary Kidd bequest to match donations to this project.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Russell, Treasurer



JCVIS
Balance Sheet
2018 vs 2019

	<u>Dec 31, 19</u>	<u>Dec 31, 18</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Checking/Savings					
1100 · Cash Accounts-Total	114,411	96,096	18,314	19%	
1146 · Fid MM - VIS Maint Fund	12,484	12,251	232	2%	
1148 · Easement Accounts-Total	19,317	18,690	628	3%	
1155 · Fid. Amer Fund Bal - 21st Cent	11,062	10,673	389	4%	
1160 · Fid. Puritan-Wetherell-Melville	36,857	37,392	(535)	-1%	
1170 · Fid. Janus- A. Poole Horsesheds	18,227	17,584	642	4%	
1180 · Fid. Oakmark-Swale/Cent Park	10,322	9,274	1,047	11%	
Total Checking/Savings	<u>222,679</u>	<u>201,962</u>	<u>20,718</u>	<u>10%</u>	
Total Current Assets	222,679	201,962	20,718	10%	Note 1
Fixed Assets					
1240 · Melville Acad Bldg Improv.	5,958	5,958	0	0%	
1240 · Accum Deprec.	(172)	(19)	(153)	-805%	
1240 · Land	47,600	47,600	0	0%	
Total Fixed Assets	<u>53,386</u>	<u>53,539</u>	<u>(153)</u>	<u>-0%</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>276,065</u>	<u>255,501</u>	<u>20,565</u>	<u>8%</u>	Note 2
LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
Equity					
3100 · Unrestricted Net Assets	96,096	20,010	76,087	380%	
3200 · Temp. Restricted Net Assets	135,731	128,640	7,090	6%	
3300 · Perm. Restricted Net Assets	23,673	22,160	1,514	7%	
Net Income	<u>20,565</u>	<u>84,691</u>	<u>(64,126)</u>	<u>-76%</u>	
Total Equity	<u>276,065</u>	<u>255,501</u>	<u>20,565</u>	<u>8%</u>	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>276,065</u>	<u>255,501</u>	<u>20,565</u>	<u>8%</u>	Note 3

Note 1 Per recommendation of R Hull, Tax Accountant, Fund balances are reported at Cost Basis.

Market Value of Total Current Assets on 12/31/2019 was \$242,257.38

Note 2 Other Assets. The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation holds and manages two funds for the benefit of the JCVIS.

As of 12/31/19 these assets totaled \$222,923.65 and are carried on the NHCF books.

Note 3 Liabilities: None

8/1/19
Cash Basis

JCVIS
Income Expense
2019 vs 2018

	Jan - Dec 19	Jan - Dec 18	\$ Change	% Change	
Ordinary Income/Expense					
Income					
4100 · Donations, Gifts, Grants	21,295	86,557	(65,262)	-75%	Note 1
4200 · Membership Dues	5,115	5,953	(838)	-14%	
4300 · Event Income	4,112	7,320	(3,208)	-44%	
4400 · Investment Income	7,116	9,162	(2,046)	-22%	
4500 · Investment Gains/Losses		(12,710)	12,710	100%	Note 2
4700 · Sales Income-Merchandise	294	0	294	100%	
4800 · NHCF & Other Income	8,364	8,243	121	1%	
Total Income	46,296	104,525	(58,229)	-56%	
Expense					
6100 · Property Expense	17,023	9,720	7,303	75%	
6200 · Event Expense	4,496	7,084	(2,588)	-37%	
6300 · Fundraising Expense	937	673	264	39%	
6500 · Sales Merchandise Expense	0	0	0	0%	
6610 · Bank Fees	115	46	69	149%	
6620 · Business Registration Fees	75	75	0	0%	
6650 · Dprec & Amort	153	19	134	705%	
6700 · Insurance	2,119	1,899	220	12%	
6710 · Memberships	237	244	(7)	-3%	
6720 · Office Expense	76	74	2	3%	
7000 · Other/Misc. Expenses					
7100 · Professional Fees	500	0	500	100%	
Total Expense	25,731	19,834	5,897	30%	
Net Income	20,565	84,691	(64,126)	-76%	

Note 1 2018 Includes \$80,000.00 from the Mary Kidd estate. Funds are in a Fidelity Money Market Acct.

Note 2 Per tax accountant investments now on balance sheet at cost basis, so market gains/losses are no longer shown.

8/1/20

JCVIS
2020 BUDGET

	<u>Jan - Dec 19</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 19</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 20</u>
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income			
4110 · Donations	\$10,000	\$14,195	\$5,500
4120 · Grants	\$1,400	\$7,100	\$1,500
Total 4100 · Donations, Gifts, Grants	<u>\$11,400</u>	<u>\$21,295</u>	<u>\$7,000</u>
4200 · Membership Dues	\$6,000	\$5,115	\$5,000
4310 · Event Income-Meals	\$5,000	\$2,385	\$2,500
4320 · Event Income-Other	\$2,500	\$1,727	\$1,500
Total 4300 · Event Income	<u>\$7,500</u>	<u>\$4,112</u>	<u>\$4,000</u>
4400 · Investment Income	\$3,500	\$7,116	\$7,000
4700 · Sales Income Merchandise	\$0	\$294	\$0
4810 · NHCF Income	\$8,400	\$8,364	\$8,400
4820 · Other Income	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Income	<u>\$36,800</u>	<u>\$46,296</u>	<u>\$31,400</u>
Expense			
6110 · Maintenance	\$15,500	\$14,430	\$55,000
6120 · Utilities	\$250	\$247	\$250
6130 · Operating Expense	\$3,250	\$2,346	\$1,500
Total 6100 · Property Expense	<u>\$19,000</u>	<u>\$17,023</u>	<u>\$56,750</u>
6210 · Event Expense-Meals	\$4,500	\$1,680	\$2,000
6220 · Event Expense-General	\$2,500	\$2,816	\$2,000
Total 6200 · Event Expense	<u>\$7,000</u>	<u>\$4,496</u>	<u>\$4,000</u>
6310 · Printing	\$500	\$530	\$500
6320 · Mailings	\$450	\$407	\$450
6330 · Other Fundraising Exp.	\$200	\$0	\$200
Total 6300 · Fundraising Expense	<u>\$1,150</u>	<u>\$937</u>	<u>\$1,150</u>
6500 · Sales Merchandise expense			
6610 · Bank Fees	\$75	\$115	\$75
6620 · Business Registration Fees	\$100	\$75	\$100
6650 Deprec. & Amort		\$153	\$153
6700 · Insurance	\$2,000	\$2,119	\$2,200
6710 · Memberships	\$250	\$237	\$250
6720 · Office Expense	\$275	\$76	\$275
7000 · Other/Misc. Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
7100 · Professional Fees	\$750	\$500	\$500
Total Expense	<u>\$30,600</u>	<u>\$25,731</u>	<u>\$65,453</u>
Net Income	<u><u>\$6,200</u></u>	<u><u>\$20,565</u></u>	<u><u>-\$34,053</u></u>



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

“The Finance Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and two additional members, all to be appointed by the President, and also the Treasurer and President ex officio. It shall advise the Board of Directors on investments, planning, budgeting, and financial review.”

Article VI, 2015 VIS Bylaws, pg. 16.

The Finance Committee thanks all members and donors for your continued support of the JCVIS. It is your dedication, commitment, dues and donations that help the organization to continue the stewardship necessary to preserve our historic village community.

This is a report about the history of VIS investments in 2019 and an update on developments through July 31, 2020. Due to requirements, the Treasurer’s Report from QuickBooks is now on the basis of cost, not market value. The goal of the Finance Committee is managing prudently for market value so we measure by market value. The Finance Committee in 2019 was composed of Ken Campbell, chair; Dave Davis, and ex officio, Treasurer Peter Russell and President Tim Gordon (January 2018-August 2019) and President Suze Campbell (August 2019-present). The Treasurer executes any changes in the investments through Fidelity.

Mary Kidd Bequest – An unrestricted bequest of \$80,000 from the estate of Mary Harek Kidd (Mrs. Coburn Kidd) was received in December 2018. Mary died Nov. 28, 2017 at the age of 97. The Finance Committee in 2019 discussed two ways to invest her unrestricted bequest:

1. To keep the money unrestricted for special projects in a money market (due to the volatile market), where it has earned daily interest at a rate up to 2% per year.
2. To guard against future temptation to use the money by putting it into the VIS-controlled but restricted 21st Century Endowment Fund and earn about 4% (\$3,200) a year on the \$80,000. The 21st Century Fund was started in 2011 and is invested through Fidelity in American Funds Balanced Portfolio (BLPCX). The 12/31/2018 balance in that fund was \$10,675. The VIS goal has been to add general revenues to the 21st Century fund until it reached \$25,000 to \$50,000 before taking out income. The Kidd bequest would bring the fund to more than \$90,000, which at 4% would yield about \$3,600 income per year. The Finance Committee decided to recommend that the VIS Board keep the Kidd bequest unrestricted. The VIS Board voted later to use these funds for "special projects for the benefit of the JCVIS." Later, the Board voted to use \$10,000 of the Kidd bequest to match fund-raising donations for the Horsesheds roof, completed June 25, 2020, at a cost of \$41,120. Generous donors VIS raised more than \$20,000 to put on the new roof.

The 2019-2020 Market – The S&P 500 in 2019 recovered from its 2018 loss of 6.59% and climbed from 2506.85 on 12/31/18 to 3230.78 on 12/31/19, a rise of 28.88%. The coronavirus world pandemic rocked the 2020 market, and on July 31, 2020, the S&P 500 closed at 3271.12, an increase of 1.25%.

VIS Cash, Mutual Funds and Invested Accounts

VIS Maintenance Fund – The VIS started this fund in 2016 and put \$8,000 into Fidelity Government Cash Reserves (FDRXX) money market fund, designated as a general funds reserve account for (but not limited to) use as a VIS General Maintenance Fund. It provides flexibility in

funding maintenance of any of our properties when the need arises. The cash balance on 12/31/18 was \$12,251.37. On 12/31/19 it was \$12,483.57.

1146 VIS Maintenance, FDRRX Cash Reserves. 12-mo. change: \$232; 1.9%.

Bal. 7-31-20 **\$12,517 FASGX7**, up \$34.

The Conservation Easement Fund was created in June 2011 to be a totally spendable fund restricted as a reserve to contest future violations of easement and for easement administration (signs, costs of monitoring, etc.) The Easement funds in 2019 were held partly in a TD Bank Savings Account and were partly invested in a 70% stock fund, Fidelity Asset Manager 70% (FASGX). Funds have been invested gradually since 2015. The combined balance on 12/31/18 was \$18,690. On 12/ 31/19 it was \$12,548 in **FASGX**, \$6,769 in TD, a total of \$19,317, up \$627, 3.3%.

In 2020, the TD portion was switched to Fidelity Treasury Money Market, FZFX

Bal. 7-31-20: Fidelity's FASGX portion was \$12,901; the new FZFX total was \$8,808, a total of \$21,709, up \$2,392.

JCVIS 21st Century Endowment Fund is invested in American Funds Moderate Growth & Income Portfolio (BLPCX). It is an endowment fund controlled and owned by the JCVIS, started in 2011. The VIS intends to reinvest and add general revenues until the endowment reaches at least \$25,000 to \$50,000 before taking out income. The accumulated donations of \$3,500.14 were invested in January 2015 in BLPCX. The Board added \$2,000 in unrestricted donations in 2015, 2017 and 2018. The Dec. 31, 2018 balance was \$10,673; on 12/31/19, it was \$11,062.

1155 21st Century Endowment, BLPCX. 12 month change: \$389, 3.6%

Bal. 7-31-20 \$12,868, up \$1,362.

The Wetherell Fund/Melville Academy Museum – The Fidelity Puritan Fund (FPURX) is used to support and maintain Melville Academy and its museum. It was established in 1967 through a \$10,000 restricted bequest from Lawrence Wetherell. Josephine Wetherell also bequeathed \$10,000 to the VIS in 1975 of unrestricted funds. The Wetherell Fund was at \$37,392 on Dec. 31, 2018 and dropped \$535 on Dec. 31, 2019 to \$36,857.

1160 Wetherell/Melville Academy Museum, FPURX: 12-month change -\$535 (-1.4%).

Bal. 7-31-20 jumped to \$48,959 up \$12,102.

The Alice Poole Fund (Horsesheds) – The Janus Henderson Balanced Class T Fund (JABAX) is used to support and maintain the Horsesheds. Created in 1941 by a permanently restricted bequest of \$3,000 from VIS member Mrs. John W. (Alice) Poole, it was originally intended for “improvements and maintenance of the old cemetery by the Town Hall” (Meetinghouse). The Town now supports the cemetery. The VIS has used this fund to maintain the VIS Horsesheds on the Town’s cemetery land. The Alice Poole Fund was at \$19,388 on Dec. 31, 2018. The Board added \$2,000 of general funds to it and on 12/31/19, it was at \$23,730.

1170 Poole/Horsesheds, JABAX. Bal. 7-31-20 \$9,069 after \$15,000 was withdrawn for the Horsesheds roof.

The Swale and Centennial Park Fund – The Oakmark Equity & Income Fund (OAKBX) supports the Swale and Centennial Park. It is a temporarily restricted account that can be entirely spent. The fund was at \$10,563 on 12/31/18 and on 12/31/19, it was at \$12,602.

1180 Swale & Centennial Park, OAKBX. 2019 Gains: \$2,039; 10.51%. Bal. 7-31-20 \$11,629, down \$1,973 (19.3% .

Fidelity Cash/Transfer Account – The VIS Core Account is a reservoir to feed the checking account when it dips below \$2,000. In 2019, it was earning a yearly rate of nearly 2%. The rate fluctuates weekly. It temporarily includes the \$80,000 Mary Kidd bequest as we didn't want to risk that bequest when it came in during a volatile stock market. Due to COVID-19, the 7-day yield has plunged to 0.01% on 7/31/19. The VIS is looking into alternatives. Fidelity Government Money Market SPAXX Bal. 7-31-20 \$93,602.

ALL FIDELITY ACCOUNTS

12/31/18: \$115,862.66 12/31/19: \$224,877.04 7/31/20: \$210,354.84

Some VIS accounts are partly in TD Bank so the totals don't always correlate.

Other Assets: NH Charitable Foundation JCVIS Endowment Fund– The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation (NHCF) owns and controls a JCVIS endowment fund which generates income each February of more than \$8,000 a year, about 4% of the rolling average balance of the last 20 quarters. These funds are not carried on the VIS books because they belong to the NHCF. The account began in 1997 with a deposit of \$11,550. The VIS began to take income in 2010 with an initial distribution of \$4,766. In 2014, the late VIS President Mary Payson bequeathed \$100,000 to the NHCF/JCVIS Fund, doubling the endowment. In the 11 years of 2010-2019, the VIS has received \$71,502.

NHCF VIS Endowment #3027-1 & #4288-3. 2019 income was \$8,364; 2020 income was \$8,372. Balance 12/31/19 \$221,427. Balance 6/30/20 \$203,724.

Finance Committee Meetings: The Finance Committee met twice in 2019 and conferred in 2020. It made recommendations to the Board on budget and on allocating and investing funds, and discussed fundraising to reroof the 1810 Horsesheds structure with a cedar shake roof, as requested by the Jaffrey Historic District Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Campbell, Chair, on behalf of the Finance Committee:

Members Dave Davis and *ex officio*, President Suze Campbell and Treasurer Peter Russell.



Ken Campbell poring over numbers, Dave (Harold) Davis providing wisdom, Peter Russell keeping finances straight, and Suze Campbell directing operations.



REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

The 2019-2020 year for the JCVIS has been a busy and successful one in spite of the interruptions and inconveniences shared by everyone due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The theme for the year was supposed to be “Aspirations, Actions, and Accomplishment” with an emphasis on planning for the future of the VIS and brainstorming ways to move forward. While there has been much action and we have had many accomplishments, aspiring towards the future has become a quixotic exercise. Nevertheless, the slower pace of life caused by the COVID-19 virus has provided an opportunity for deferred maintenance and reflection.

The dates and phrases that are in bold type indicate that there are pictures illustrating my report.

Last year **the Annual Meeting on August 18, 2019** was well attended and the **Centennial Park Picnic afterwards** was a fun gathering of familiar and new faces.

Fall Clean Up 2019, for the annual parade of the benches on their way for winter hibernation in the Horsesheds, took place on **Saturday, October 19**. We had an added helper that day, Bob Warfield, who was visiting Rick Stein. His parents, Virginia and Robert Warfield, were the very accomplished and well-known bird carvers and painters who lived for many years on the road named for them, and who were keen members of the VIS.

On November 9th, Ken and Suze went to Windswept Mountains View Christmas Tree Farm in Richmond, NH and chose a 13 foot Nordman pine for this year’s Christmas Tree on the Common. It was delivered **on November 30 and a group of us decorated it with lights** just before the great snow storm began.

The big storm on Dec 1-3 that dumped 26 inches of snow on us made it difficult to gather around the tree and walk to First Church, so we were challenged to get ready. Many snow plows came to the rescue for **Caroling on the Common**. They made it possible to sing with cheer and hearty voices around a beautifully lit tree and then make our way through the luminaria-lined and widely plowed paths to First Church. We entered through the Sanctuary doors, and then we gathered in the **Parish Hall for libations**, a pot luck supper, and desserts.

For the winter months, the **VIS rented one Horseshed to the First Church in Jaffrey minister, the Rev. David Felton** to lodge his car, powered by 235 horses, during snowy weather.

No sooner had we begun to plan for the oncoming new year’s events, than we had to pause for social distancing and wearing masks in order to avoid being infected with the corona virus.

The March 15th Annual Welcome Spring Dinner and Newcomers to the VIS had to be cancelled on March 10th and we have been social distancing ever since.

Spring Cleanup took place on April 25. We arranged three benches in a horseshoe pattern around the flag pole in Cutter Park, attracting new visitors within an hour.

On May 16th, an EF-1 Tornado (initially thought to be a microburst) swooped along Route 124 hitting most dramatically right at Wolf's Way and then skipping down to Centennial Park where it snapped off several of the majestic, stately tall white pines there near the brook at the bottom of the hill. Most fortunately no trees fell on top of the Minteers' house, or any houses on Wolf's Way or near Centennial Park. **See Bruce Hill's Report on Landscaping and Grounds**

On June 22, the Guyer and Sons Roofing crew tore the old shingles off the Horsesheds roof and began work to put the new roof on. By Thursday, June 25 it looked as if a great swath of gold satin lay on top of the nine horse stalls. See Sam Greene's Buildings Report and the **Historian's Pictorial Report**.

July 4th festivities, including the VIS Ice Cream Social, were cancelled, with a virtual Reading of the Declaration of Independence taking place instead. Thanks to Steve Jackson's technical expertise, people were able to watch this presentation on You Tube on the Town web site at noon on the actual day of July 4. As of July 13, Clay Hollister reported that 347 people had watched. By now, Steve says that 371 people have watched it. This year it was the turn of the VIS President to introduce the Reading, so I had the honor of welcoming people to the virtual event. Clay Hollister gave a special tribute to Rob Stephenson who started this July 4 tradition in the Meetinghouse 20 years ago. Rob will be moving to Rivermead but we hope he will remain active in Jaffrey history projects.

Cleanup of the topped trees is proceeding at Centennial Park. Because of social distancing, the difficulty of eating with masks on, and sharing good food being problematic in this day and age of the COVID pandemic, our traditional gathering after our Annual Meeting will instead be at the Horsesheds on August 23. This will be entirely appropriate to celebrate the Horsesheds' new cedar shake roof.

Business items that we have attended to this year: we have upgraded our insurance policies to cover the Horsesheds, and have purchased an Officers and Board of Directors liability policy from Monadnock Insurance. We still carry our other insurance policy with the Hill Family Insurance Company.

We are working on a redesign of the VIS WEB site and this will take place over the next few months with the help of Sean Driscoll, and Allison Georgopoulous, a neighbor on Gilson Road.

The Board considered a proposal from Elizabeth Smith and Claire Bean regarding the future of the Lloyd Robinson house at 370 Main Street. It is an anchor of Jaffrey Center and as such, it is of great concern that it should not deteriorate any further, both to the VIS and Jaffrey Center neighbors. At the present time, however, the VIS is not in a position to be able to rescue the house.

Many houses in the Jaffrey Center area have been sold or are for sale and this is both challenging the stability of the community and creating opportunities for growth and new participation in the life of the neighborhood. For sale or recently sold are the following houses belonging to: Robinson, Stephenson, Larsen, Deshongs, Morse, Quinlan, Meyers, Chase, MacFarquhar.

Two maintenance issues: **Tom Schiele continues to lower the Cutter flag** upon direction from the state; and a new lock box is on the Melville Academy Museum door. People wishing access to Melville should contact me, Suze Campbell.

Respectfully submitted, Susan T. Campbell, President of the VIS

VIS ANUAL MEETING 2019 AT MELVILLE ACADEMY MUSEUM



Patty Scholl, outgoing Corresponding Secretary, and Mary Ley, Recording Secretary, welcome guests at the 113th VIS Annual Meeting in front of the post office boxes at Melville Academy Musuem.



A group of 29 gathered for the meeting.



Sam Hackler was Presiding Officer.



Joanne Carr, Jaffrey's Economic and Planning Director, presented the proposed changes.



The Order of the Day was a report about the proposed traffic changes in downtown Jaffrey.

ANNUAL CENTENNIAL PARK PICNIC, AUGUST 18



Lindra Best, Anne and Cassius Webb begin the line at the Pot Luck food table.



Salads are always popular.



Betsy and Dave Trimble and Lindra Best sample the food offerings.



A beautiful still life of a plate of melon on one of Margaret Pokorny's table cloths.



Rick Stein introduces Eric Healy, new owner of Carol Hess's house.



A friendly gathering catching up on news while munching.



Mary and Doug Ley. Doug is one of our three NH State Representatives, and the NH House Majority Leader.



Mai and Louise, granddaughters of Suze and Ken Campbell, and Jack, grandson of Margaret and Gene Pokorny, make friends in the park and invent a game.



Heather and Richard Ames with daughter Casey and her daughters. Richard, our Senior State Rep, is Vice-Chair of the Ways and Means Committee.



Old friends Sally Larsen and Gene Pokorny.



Rick Stein, Alex Bird and Christina Gadong Neal.

FALL CLEAN UP



Dick Ames, Bruce Hill, Heather Ames, and Bob Warfield inspecting fences needing to be painted.



Annual Fall Parade of the Benches, Ken Campbell and Dick Ames.



Loading the benches onto Bruce Hill's trailer.



The benches go in the Horsesheds for the winter.



Bob Warfield and Rick Stein pruned bushes.



A goldfinch bird carved by Robert Warfield and painted by his wife, Virginia Warfield.

VIS DECEMBER FESTIVITIES



The 1775 Jaffrey Center Meetinghouse is lit up for the holidays with the help of the Town's floodlight.



Melville Academy Museum's candle lights and flood lights brighten Thorndike Pond Road until the end of May.

We were pleased to see more houses than ever brightened with window candle lights to give Jaffrey Center a cheerful glow for the Holidays. Thank you everyone! VIS VPs Bruce Hill and Rick Stein hung red-ribboned wreaths on Jaffrey Center's running horse street signs and on doors of VIS buildings to usher in the holiday season.



Bruce Hill hangs a VIS wreath at Thorndike Pond and Meetinghouse Roads.



Bruce, Rick and Peter Russell string lights on the VIS 13' Nordman Pine tree purchased from and delivered by Windswept Mountain View Farm in Richmond NH.



Decorating a holiday tree on the Common is an old tradition the VIS restarted in 2006. This Wayne King record album from the Melville Academy Museum collection dates from 1963.



Notice the wide plowed path around the tree!



Janet Grant leads early carolers at sunset, 4:37 P.M. on Dec. 8.

We had more carolers than ever. We counted 70 who were able to sing around the tree, thanks to the snow-moving efforts of Jim Pickford, Cody Gordon, Bruce Hill, Ken Campbell and Sam Greene. Bruce Hill's friend, Mark Knowland, helped Ken, Rick Stein and Ann St. Cyr place luminaria on wide snow-cleared paths from the Meetinghouse parking lot around the tree and to the First Church's Sanctuary front doors.



Luminaria flicker in the snow. Jaffrey had 26" of white fluff earlier in the week.

DECEMBER RECEPTION AT FIRST CHURCH IN JAFFREY

The festive reception in the Parish House was attended by some 70 people, and we enjoyed many different potluck treats from various members of the VIS and friends. Additional lighting with lamps instead of overhead lighting made the occasion quite mellow. Thank you, First Church! And thanks to all, especially those who helped with set-up and clean-up.



Festive table cloths and decorations are set up in the Parish House before the reception.



Cassius Webb and Steve Jackson set up the bar table.



Mark and Sarah Knowland, Bruce and Pam Hill's Friends, get to party through Sanctuary.



Ann St. Cyr makes a last-minute check on what drinks are being served at the December 11th VIS party in the First Church Parish House. In background is one of the potluck tables plus Decorations that The VIS coordinated with Electric Earth's Carla and Marcia Press. Thank you, EE.



Jane Cunningham has lived in the Joseph Thorndike Cottage next to the Meetinghouse Common since 1969.



The Dessert Table



People enjoyed time to chat, December 11, 2019



First Church's minister, David Felton's 235 horsepower Lexus is parked in Stevens Horseshed waiting for arrival of snow.

JANUARY CLEAN UP, AFTER EPIPHANY, JANUARY 6

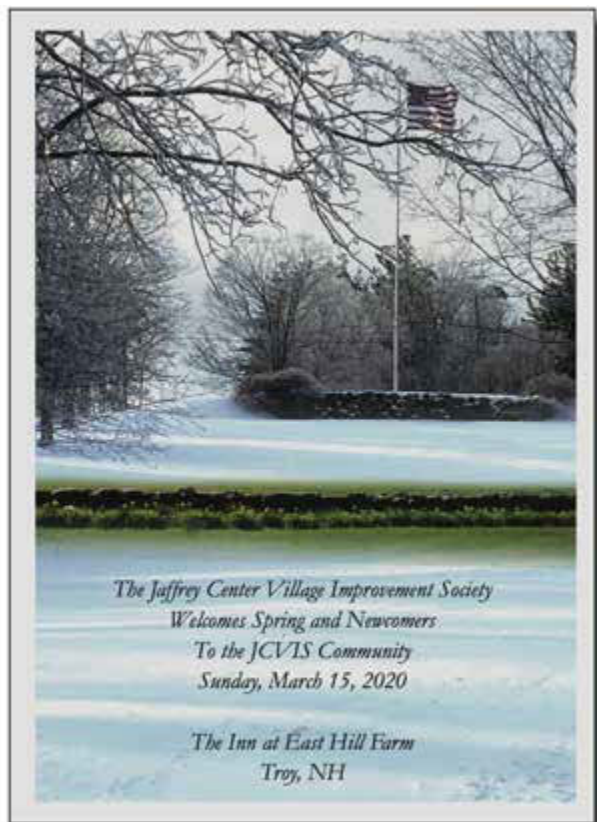


The tree was removed from its hole on Jan. 11.

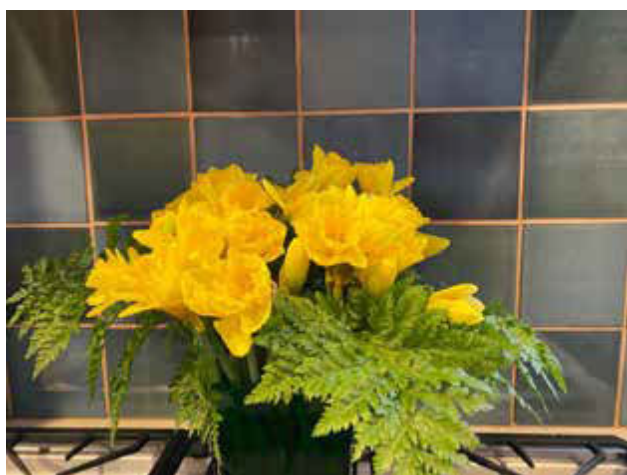


Bruce, Ken, Rick and Sam helped chain the tree to Bruce's car and he towed it away to a ceremonial bonfire in Sam Greene's yard.

THE MARCH WELCOME SPRING AND NEWCOMERS DINNER PARTY



Trompe L'oeil daffodils on snow covered Cutter Park, expecting real ones at the dinner.



Daffodils purchased for party were enjoyed by several BOD members in their homes.

THE DINNER WE MISSED!

Dinner with Newcomers to the VIS and Jaffrey

Amos Fortune's Freed Man's Table of Hors d'oeuvres with

Local cheeses with crackers
Crudités with a spring herb dip
East Hill Farm's special meatballs
East Hill Farm's own sliced kielbasa with onions & peppers in mustard sauce
Pineapple wrapped in bacon
Pickled spring beets with fresh horseradish sauce
Deviled eggs
Smoked salmon on Fire Dog Breads' Vollkorn bread
Olives, sweet pickles and pepperoncini

Laban Ainsworth's Communion Table of Appetizers with

East Hill Farm's award winning lemon & orzo & kale soup
Fresh baked whole wheat bread
Spring greens salad with spinach from Tracie's Farm & arugula dressed with East Hill Farm's lemon vinaigrette
East Hill Farm's signature honey & almond fritters with maple syrup

Hannah Davis's Millinery Main Course Table with

East Hill Farm's slow cooked glazed corned beef
East Hill Farm's scrumptious maple walnut chicken
Oven roasted new potatoes
Spring carrot medallions with olive oil and dill
Asparagus with lemon cream drizzle

Willa Cather's Writing Table with her Favorite Dessert

Gooseberry cobbler served with
Connolly Brothers Dairy Farm vanilla ice cream

Jonas Melville's Stay After Class Coffee and Tea Table

SPRING CLEAN UP



Work begins at 9:15.



Setting up Bruce's wagon to carry the benches.



The work crew: Rick Stein, Ken Campbell, Sam Greene, Peter Russell.



Hoisting the benches: Rick, Peter, Sam.



Every year we contemplate the best arrangement for the benches. A new idea this year was to put them in a horseshoe in front of the flag pole.



First visitors arrived at the benches an hour later.

A VIRTUAL JULY 4 2020



The Meetinghouse dressed up in red, white and blue buntings for July 4

Carol Hess photo



Suze Campbell, VIS President, welcomes VIRTUAL guests at the Meetinghouse for the 20th Annual Reading of the Declaration of Independence

Steve Jackson photo



Clay Hollister presents Rob Stephenson with a bottle of Shackleton Scotch in honor of Rob's Antarctica collection and for starting the Jaffrey Reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2001

Steve Jackson phot



BUILDINGS REPORT

In 2020 the VIS continued its scheduled round-robin of Melville Academy painting. Dennis Wright's crew prepared and painted the westerly side of Melville, including painting and the repair and painting of windows. (As stated last year, our continued goal with Melville is to perform painting of the entirety of Melville over every 10 year period -a worthwhile goal for any Jaffrey Center house with multiple coats of old paint on old clapboards). Steeple, window and spot painting will continue to be performed as wear is observed. Dennis is scheduled to paint the front side of Melville in 2021. This is expected to be a little more expensive than the west side due to the increased clapboard area and entrance detail on the south side. We have a meeting scheduled for September to discuss the project on-site.

New Melville business: As a result of Hurricane Isaias on August 4th, one of the eight Melville steeple spires became dislodged and fell to the ground. Once I meet with Andy Webber, who has performed work on the spires in the past, I hope to be able to report at the annual meeting on the cost of repairs and reinstallation.

Look up and smell the fresh cedar!! In late June, the Horsesheds were reroofed with old-growth yellow cedar shakes made in British Columbia. Yes – expensive materials. The materials and specifications were replicated from the specifications that were put out for bid when the Meetinghouse was re-roofed a couple of years ago. Two competitive bids were received based on those specifications. Guyer & Sons Roofing of Marlborough was chosen to perform the work. Above the old plank sheathing you see above you, there are layers of synthetic underlayment, plywood, roofing felt, “cedar breather”, and 18”x5/8” taper sawn cedar shakes. In addition to the roofing work, they replaced some trim detail which will be caulked, primed and painted by Dennis Wright in the near future.

The VIS Board would like to thank all of you who contributed to the Horsesheds roofing project. The Mary Kidd fund was especially instrumental in enabling us to meet our fundraising goal.

In other “building” news: I think it should be noted that the VIS was approached regarding potentially purchasing or otherwise facilitating the rehabilitation of the Lloyd Robinson property at 370 Main Street. Though the Board certainly recognizes the need for this building's preservation and rehabilitation, the Board unanimously agreed that at the current time and at the current price, it was not in the Society's interest, or congruent with its mission statement, to take this property on as a project. The Board certainly hopes that market forces will play-out resulting in the successful purchase of this property by someone interested in restoring its architectural character.

Respectfully submitted,
Sam Greene, V.P. Buildings



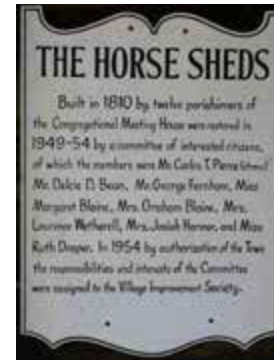
HISTORIAN'S REPORT

The Village Improvement Society on June 25, 2020 reroofed the Horsesheds for the third time in the 66 years since the VIS began maintaining the structure in 1954. The Horsesheds were built privately in 1810 by 12 church members on Town of Jaffrey cemetery land. The Town in turn granted the builders a concession, “*only for the space of 999 years,*” on condition that they keep the stables in decent repair. The original builders, First Church members who tied up their horses and buggies in the “stables” while they attended church services in the Meetinghouse or did errands in the small village, were (east to west) Josiah Mower No. 1; James Stevens No. 2; Samuel Pierce No. 3; Parker Maynard No. 4; Roger Brigham No. 5; Jerome Underwood No. 6; Eleazer Spofford No. 7; David Gillmore Jr. No. 8; David Gillmore No. 9; Edward Spaulding No. 10; Moses Worster No. 11 and Abner Spofford No. 12.

The Horsesheds’ disrepair in 1949 prompted the Town to consider tearing them down. One shed, the Mower shed No. 1, had been torn down a few years earlier to create the east gate to the Old Burying Ground. The 1949 Town Meeting voted to remove the adjacent Hearse House building. Citizens objected, however, to the demolition of all 11 of the remaining sheds. Helen E. Shattuck and Edith McCoy gave the Town the titles to their sheds which were taken down, probably No. 11 and No. 12. Eleanor Shattuck Austermann, head of an interim committee, conferred with the owners of the Horsesheds and reported “*they are all agreeable to giving up their title if the sheds are to be restored as a historical monument.*”

This “Horse Sheds” sign now hangs on the inside wall of the farthest shed to the west, now titled “Worster.” The sign commemorates the citizens committee whom the Town

authorized in 1949 to restore the Horsesheds without any cost to the Town.



The 1949 Town Meeting appointed Carlos T. Pierce, a VIS vice president, to head the “Committee for the Restoration of the Old Meetinghouse Horsesheds.” The original committee included Delcie D. Bean Sr., Margaret G. Blaine and George B. Farnham, and later, Mrs. Graham Blaine, Josephine Blaine Wetherell (VIS president 1928-1948), Mrs. Josiah Harmar, and Miss Ruth Draper.



1953: Volunteers hard at work

The Committee completed the work in 1953 at a cost of \$1,801, which was privately raised. The Town said the Committee may authorize “any organized civic group or Society to see to the reconstruction and maintenance of the Horsesheds.”

On Aug. 10, 1954, VIS President John D. Johnson and the VIS agreed to take over control of the Horsesheds from the

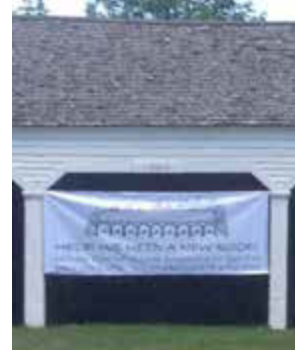
Committee. The transfer was recorded in Cheshire Deeds Volume 603/pages 420-421. Since 1954 the Horsesheds have been used for a multitude of civic events: many years of the First Church August Fair, which ran consecutively from 1916 until the 2020 fair had to be cancelled due to COVID 19; the VIS Ice Cream Social following the July 4th Reading of the Declaration of Independence, a patriotic celebration that began in 2001; VIS flea markets, and various other civic events.

In September 1969, VIS minutes report that the president, former Ambassador Robert Newbegin, said he *“had been in touch with the present [lease] owners and all had expressed a willingness to transfer their interests permanently to the VIS. Mr. [Francis] Quinlan would draw up new documents for fifty dollars, and if agreed to, a plaque would be placed in the sheds expressing appreciation to members of the original Restoration Committee ... A motion providing for the acquisition of the sheds, payment of the fee to Mr. Quinlan and the erection of the plaque was made, seconded and unanimously approved”* [emphasis supplied]

The VIS reroofed the Horsesheds in 1972 and 1997. The VIS made many other structural improvements through 2014. It was decided the roof would need replacement within five years at a cost of \$40,000 to \$50,000. The VIS Board of Directors began to fundraise and to research the means of replacing the roof in accordance with the wishes of the Jaffrey Historic District Commission to use cedar shakes on the Horsesheds similar to those used on the Meetinghouse. The Meetinghouse was re-shingled in 2017 with old growth, Alaskan yellow cedar shakes that may last up

to 40-50 years rather than the usual 20-25 years.

Fundraising publicity began in 2017 at the VIS July 4th Ice Cream Social with a 10-foot banner and an article in the local papers.



July 4, 2017: "Help! We Need a New Roof!"

In November 2019 a request was sent out to VIS members and friends, noting that the VIS would match up to \$10,000 in donations through the bequest of Mary Kidd. Over \$20,000 was raised, thanks to the VIS's many very generous donors including seven people who donated \$1,000 or more and became VIS Life Members. Adding other money that the VIS had reserved, once again VIS members met the challenge of re-roofing the Horsesheds. The roof is warranted for 30 years and cost \$41,120.

The following photos by Ken and Suze Campbell tell the story of the reroofing which took just three days, from Monday, June 22 to Thursday, June 25, with a day out for an inaccurate prediction of rain.

Respectfully submitted, Ken Campbell,
Historian



Sam Greene, V.P. for Buildings



6/21/20 The Horsesheds before new roof.

Day 1, Monday, June 22



7:30 a.m. 6/22/20 Ken inspects supplies. At 8:00 a.m., a Guyer & Sons Roofing veteran crew of 7 men and a woman began working.



The "Gold Standard" label and 30 Year Warranty for the Yellow Cedar Shakes.



9:40 a.m. 2200 sq. ft. of shingles stripped in 100 minutes; plywood protects 2 nearby gravestones.



9:45 a.m. Looking up to the sky from inside. Despite gaps, the boards were better than expected, ready for strengthening with 1/2" plywood.



2:00 p.m. Full plywood on both sides, ready for 3rd layer, black 30-lb. roofing felt, completed by end of day.

DAY 2, TUESDAY, JUNE 23



Carrying a 4'x8' plywood sheet up a ladder to cover the first layer: Rhino Roof U20 synthetic underlayment to ward off moisture.



8:02 a.m. Loaded up with cedar breather and shakes to install above the black felt.



Cutting plywood to fit the ridge area.



Laura Cela shows the "EQLIFTER" truck.



Cedar Breather® is a hard nylon mesh ¼" thick that allows continuous airflow under the shakes.



Unrolling the Cedar Breather 1/4" mesh to let the shakes breathe.



The metal drip edge, a finishing touch, is attached after Cedar Breather and new wooden fascia molding.



Foreman Harry St. Lawrence and crew member use a long alignment board to align the first row of shakes at the base of the back roof.



Back side shingled by end of Day 2; front is still felt. Meetinghouse's 2017 yellow cedar has weathered to gray.

DAY 3, June 25, 2020



8:00 am Harry carries red cedar ridge cap – two glued parallel boards, each extending an end to avoid having a cross seam that could leak.



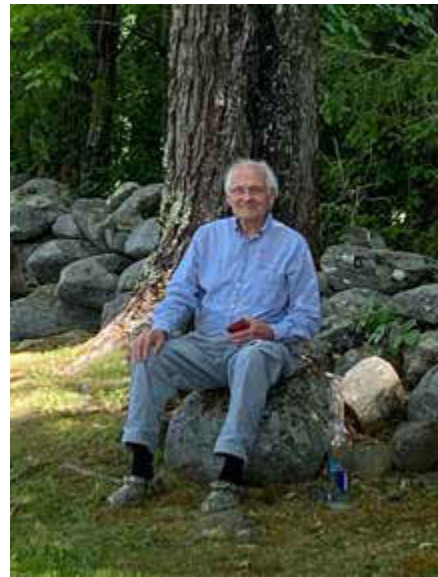
3:12 p.m. With front shingling finished, Harry sets the ridge cap. The flexibility of wood was evident: when the ridge line dipped, the wood was sat upon to make it tight to the shakes. By 4pm the ridge cap is finished and by 4:20 the workers are cleaning up.



Done at 4:21 PM and glowing gold in the sun.



4:30 p.m. The Guyer crew: L-R: Estuardo Zhanuy, Jose Yaguchi, Rodrigo Upaya, Angel Agualemo, foreman Harry St. Lawrence, Ruben Saetcios, Laura Cela.



VIS Historian Ken Campbell

Thank you to First Church, which opened its restrooms for the crew and to Rev. David Felton who served the crew Klondike bars on two 90 degree days.



CONSERVATION EASEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Conserved easement properties were inspected by annual walkthrough last November. With periodic replacement of identifying V.I.S. Easement signs and selective refreshment of trail markings completed, the properties were conserved. There are currently no additional easements in progress. We welcome and we are happy to provide conservation easement information to interested parties. Those interested in surveying the current easements, on an autumn walk, are invited to join me.

Respectfully submitted, Rick Stein



Rick Stein, V.P. for Conservations Easements



Bob Chase, eminent hand surgeon, photographer and woodworker at 2005 First Church Fair



The Robert Chase Forest Easement, between 107 and 169 Thorndike Pond Road.



Jay and Vanessa Sprague, new owners of Bob Chase's Woodbine Farm and the Chase Forest VIS Conservation Easement



The Coleman Easement on Parsons Lane



REPORT ON GROUNDS AND LANDSCAPING

Gordon Services continues to keep our parks mowed including a recent cutting of the Swale. The lawn of the Harkness Triangle is starting to green up again after a recent drought. No doubt the special attention with a 5-step maintenance program of fertilization, weed control, and insecticide has proven beneficial. We may consider this program for the Cutter Park and Melville lawns in the future.

We engaged Potter Tree Service to clear out dead trees north of the creek in Centennial Park. A spring microburst damaged several large white pines in the park necessitating additional tree work. Two stumps were left as pedestals for tabletops, adding to the 2 picnic tables we leave on site. The residual wood chips from this clearing were saved and some have been spread as mulch around our blueberry bushes.

Rick Stein, Peter Russell, Ken Campbell, and Sam Greene kindly moved the benches from winter storage in the horse sheds to our parks, providing opportune and safe meeting places for friends during this difficult period of physical distancing.

Bruce Hill
V.P. for Grounds and Landscaping

CENTENNIAL PARK BEFORE



The picnic benches by the stream.



Looking toward the Swale.

AFTER THE MICROBURST AKA EF-1 TORNADO



A microburst, later classified as an EF-1 Tornado, snapped off the tall white pines at about 15 feet.



White pines cut down to one-fourth their size.



Trees fell across the stream.

CLEAN UP BEGINS



Greg Potter arrives with heavy equipment.



Ken inspecting the task ahead.



Greg planning the project



Rick Stein watching the noisy chipper.



Greg feeds a tree top into chipper.



Wood chips left for mulch.



Wood chips mulching blueberry bushes.



Tree stumps left for stools for kids.



Table tops will go on the tree stumps.



Bruce Hill, V.P. for Grounds and Landscaping



V.P. AT LARGE REPORT

As most Jaffrey residents are aware, on July 16, 2020, the Jaffrey Roundabout Project was cleared to go forward by the Commission appointed by Governor Sununu and the Executive Council. The Commission was chaired by David Wheeler of Milford, who had been an Executive Councilor during the outset of this project many years ago. Commission members Andy Card from Jaffrey and Sam Hackler from Peterborough were also in attendance.

This decision to proceed at this hearing was based upon the criteria of "Necessity". There were numerous people who either submitted testimony on their own or signed a group petition for this hearing, all from the Town of Jaffrey. The last open public hearing was held in October of 2019 at the VFW Hall in Jaffrey. The final Hearing of Necessity was held this past July, 2020 via Zoom.

The three Commissioners were in agreement that the project met these criteria, and that the Jaffrey Roundabout 202 Project should go forward.

There were two suggestions made by the Commission. It was recommended by Commissioner Andy Card that the project be designed to protect all children when crossing this intersection. Commissioner Hackler felt that the State and Town should work together to provide more adequate parking solutions in the downtown area. Specifically, diagonal parking should be explored. All Commission members were in support of both of these recommendations.

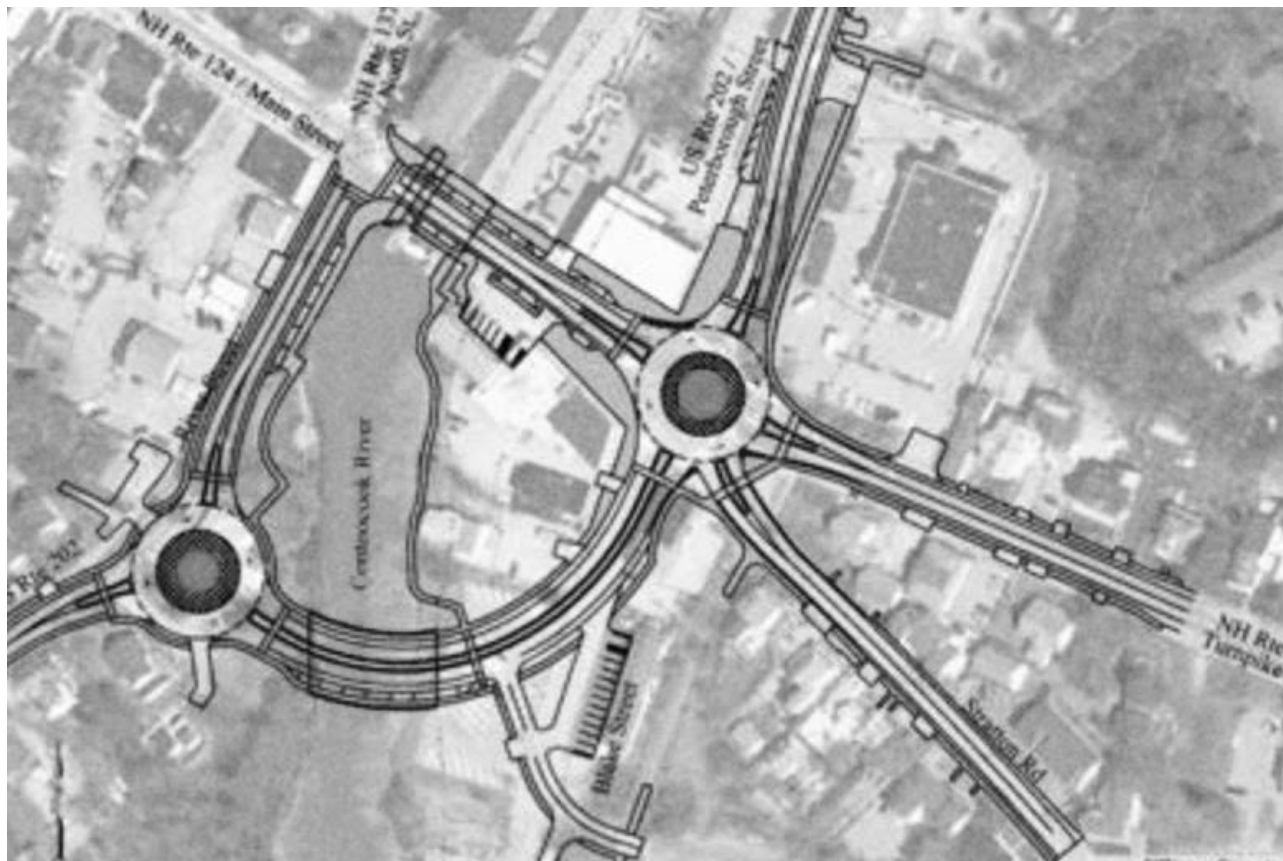
I urge that a new "Advisory Board" be formed to help with the implementation of the project, working with the Town and the DOT to coordinate many of the concerns of the residents.

It is very important that people are aware of the time line of the project. Not all phases of this project are done together – the residents should know what to expect and when.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sam Hackler, V.P. At Large



JAFFREY'S NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN:



Twin Roundabouts Plan Approved by Highway Layout Commission July 16

The Executive Council's commission of chair David Wheeler (former Executive Councilor), Andrew Card and Samuel Hackler unanimously approved the \$8.6 million project on July 16. Trucks going north from Rindge on Rte. 202 (left side of plan) are to go right (before the Jaffrey War Memorial Park) and enter the first rotary (left), cross the river on a new bridge, enter the second rotary (right, top of map) and proceed straight north onto Rte. 202 to Peterborough. The current dogleg forces drivers to wait for a green light on 202/River Street, and then make a sharp right turn onto Rte. 124/Main Street. One block later, they must wait for a green light and then make a wide swinging left turn onto Rte 202/Peterborough Street. The change will alleviate the traffic congestion caused by the Rtes 202-124-202 dogleg. Work is planned to begin in 2022.



MELVILLE ACADEMY MUSEUM REPORT

Melville Academy serves as a Museum whose mission is to preserve and communicate the history of Jaffrey, the Academy, and the Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society.

Statement of purpose, March 1, 1996

The Museum has been a lonely place this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic's interruption of our 4th grade school children's annual trek and the usual stream of visitors during the summer months of July and August. We have fulfilled the Town's requirement of being open at least one day during the year – we entertained visitors on the 4th of July.

Otherwise there has been activity such as installing a new lock system. There is now a lockbox with keys inside the box on the front door handle. We have adjusted the timer on the lights several times. A parapet spire blew off the top of the building and awaits repair.

A number of items have been framed by Inkberry and will be hung in the coming months. Otherwise our displays remain in winter mode.

A big project we are undertaking is to scan the Coburn Kidd book about Jaffrey Center houses so that we will be able to search for various details when doing history research projects.

Mary and Coburn Kidd exhibits at Melville Academy Museum. The Museum now has some enlarged photographs of Mary and Coburn Kidd, Coburn's two Jaffrey books, and a transcript of Mary's 2014 video interview with Steve Jackson and Ken Campbell, telling of her life as a diplomat's wife and as a stenographer and translator in a cold war trial that resulted in the freeing of a U.S. journalist falsely accused of spying. The Mary Kidd interview video is at <https://vimeo.com/87530825>.

Respectfully submitted,
Suze Campbell, Curator



Sally Larsen and Mary Jo Marvin, Mary Payson, and Sally Roberts:
recent Curators of Melville Academy Museum



REPORT OF RECORDING SECRETARY

In the past year, the JCVIS Board of Directors met both virtually and in person. The BOD meetings were as follows:

- September 29, 2019 -Virtual Meeting
- October 16, 2019- Campbell residence
- October 30, 2019- Campbell residence
- February 20, 2020-Campbell residence

March 2020: COVID-19 Pandemic begins

- April 23, 2020 – Virtual
- April 27, 2020 – Virtual
- May 8, 2020- Virtual
- May 20, 2020 - Virtual
- July 15, 2020 – In person, at Centennial Park

Minutes for the BOD meetings are available on request.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ley





REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Since our annual meeting last year, I have written over 175 thank-you notes to all those who have sent in dues and donations. During this time there have been the 2019 and 2020 membership/donation request letters, the letter requesting donations to help pay for the new roof for the Horsesheds, and the Campbell tribute (acknowledged separately). Thank you again to all those who have contributed most generously to the efforts of the JCVIS.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Schiele



Tom has taken over tending the flag from Randy Morse who took over from Dick and Jane Cunningham.



We wish Randy Morse and Barb Lezotte congratulations and a fond farewell as they start their new life in Tellico Village, near Knoxville, Tennessee. Randy is former Buildings V.P. and flag tender.

We will really miss you, Randy!

You are always welcome to come back and visit.



JCVIS CURRENT MEMBERSHIP AS OF AUGUST 15, 2020

The following lists include members in good standing who have paid dues and/or donations to the VIS in the nineteenth month period from January 1, 2019 to August 15, 2020. In spite of the COVID-19 time of social distancing, the JCVIS has experienced a record number of new members, 44 new members in 26 households. As of August 15, 2020, the total membership is 283 members in 174 households, including 239 current VIS members residing in 148 households.

The Welcome Spring Dinner celebrating newcomers was very successful in attracting new members, even though we had to cancel it five days before the March 15 event due to the corona virus pandemic. Fifteen people became new members as a result of this event.

Thank you for your dues and donations. Membership in the JCVIS is open to anyone who is interested in preserving this historic community and is willing to give volunteer time and financial support to do so. Dues categories range from \$10 to \$1,000. Please let me, Suze, president@jcvvis.org, know if you have been inadvertently omitted from this list. We hope that former members will renew their membership.

We thank those who have purchased tickets to VIS events such as the March Welcome Spring Dinner and/or have purchased items from silent and live auctions or the Museum, but **please note** that these payments do not constitute membership in the VIS. The exception to this policy is that people who made reservations for the cancelled March 15th, 2020 Dinner and who donated this money instead to the VIS, automatically have become new members. THANK YOU!

The list of new members below is followed by a second list of current members. Please note: each list mentions the woman's name first, and last names are alphabetized by the woman's last name.

We are so happy to welcome our record number of 44 new members!

Karen Ayers	Jennifer Greene
Alex Bird	Pat Harmon
Dax and Trevor Bayard-Murray	Eric Healy
Marcia Breckinridge	Peggy Hogan and Gary Penfield
Adam "Skip" Cornelius	Stephanie and Robert Kyte
Courtney Cotiner and Aaron Abitz	Casey Leach and Chuck Saunders
Jaqueline Davis	Kristin Leader and Paul Robb
Stephanie Plent Denman & William Denman	Ramona Li and Bruce Bartels
Linda Dube and Michael Sohngren	Kathy Lunetta and Mark Duffield
Sharon Epple and Carol Gross	Tonya and Jonathan Marshall
Sabrina Estabrook and Timothy Russett	Melinda and Matthew McCarthy
David Felton	Elizabeth Smith
Allison and Jimmy Georgopoulos	John and Vanessa Sprague
Carole Gourvellec	Ann St. Cyr

With grateful thanks, we acknowledge our current members:

Heather and Richard Ames
Joan and Stephen Ames
Mary Amirsakis
Rev. Shayna Appel
Lesley Appleby, Jeanne Leviss, and
Julie Settles
Ann (Bailey) Arthur
Val Atkins and Mike Lichter
Demi (Sally) Ayres
Sallie Austermann
Deborah Babson
Dorothy and Ken Bacon
Anne and Jim Banghart
Nancy Beiter
Nancy and David Belletete
Josephine and George Benedek
Bonnie Bennett
Lindra Best
David Bliss
Richard Boutwell
Charity Brown
Joanne and Bruce Buck
Cynthia and Donald Burgess
Virginia Burward-Hoy
Suze and Ken Campbell
Kathleene and Andrew Card
Emily and Bob Carr
Helen and Ian Carr
Sarah and Alexander Caruthers
Julie and Lou Casagrande
Libby and Robert Chase
Nancy and Allen Clapp
Judy Collier
Billie and Bill Coleman
Darci Corrigan
Jane Cunningham
Barbara and Hal Danser
Dorothy and Dave Davis

Barbara and Peter Davis
Lynne and Steve Dodge
Bill Driscoll
Judy and Sean Driscoll
Nancy Elder-Wilfrid and Daniel Wilfrid
Susan Faure and Richard Pedott
John O. and Nazli Field
First Church in Jaffrey
William Fritz
Carolyn Garretson and Harry Young
Sherry and Ross Gauthier
Carol and Stephen Gehlbach
Toni Gildone and Sam Greene
Martha Gilroy
Linda and Zav Giragosian
Tim Gordon
Sally and Bill Graf
Collette and Herb Gramm
Janet Grant
Linda Grant and Jim Reiman
Susan Greene
Eileen and Sam Hackler
Cynthia Hamilton
Sylvia Hamilton
Sara Hamlen
Kevin Hampsey
Linda and Gus Harris
Pam and Bruce Hill
Caroline and Clay Hollister
Owen Houghton
Lisa and Steve Jackson
Gunilla Johanson
Jackie Johnson
Margot Johnson
Sally Keller
Nancy Kemmis
Ilona Kwiecien
Sally and Bruce Larsen

Tracy and Josh Levesque
Mary and Doug Ley
Phyllis and Larry Liebman
Nancy Lloyd
Pat and Don MacIsaac
Eleanor Maki
Marcie and Joe Manning
Mary Jo Marvin
Nancy Massey
Peter McGowan
Nina and Archie McIntyre
Laurel McKenzie and Charles Turcotte
Judith and Bob Melzer
Stephanie and Jack Minter
Bonnie Mitchell
Randy Morse
Lisa and Todd Muilenberg
Alisa and David Nash
Kara and Jason Nero
Robin Oliver and Brad Smith
Marilyn Olsen and Mark Beckwith
Miki Osgood
Charlie Palmer
Martha Pappas
Joyce and Vladimir Petkovich
Margaret and Gene Pokorny
Dee and Ed Poole
Tara and Emery Prior
Amy MacGregor Radin and Robert Radin
Lisa and Ross Ramey
Martha and Bill Raymond
Laura and Michael Redmond
Tinka Reed
Chris and Ron Reid
Nancy Clay Rierson
Sue Roston and Philip Bailey
Marianne and Jim Rothnie

Cynthia and Mark Rouvalis
Mary Roy and Henry Hammond
Ann Royce
Betty and Kent Royce
Marie Royce Ruffle
Jinnie and Peter Russell
Kit and Tom Schiele
Bill Schofield
Pat and Tony Scholl
Ann Raleigh Schulte
Travis and Dan Shattuck
Betty Shea
Tanja and Leonard Short
Nancy Sommers and Joshua Alper
Rick Stein
Rob Stephenson
Nancy and Kevin Sterling
Elise and Don Strickland
Judy and Peter Tarpgaard
Nancy (Ann) Taylor
Louisa Thoron
Deborah and Steve Thurber
Sharon and Marc Tieger
Elizabeth Tong and Russ Butler
Betsy and David Trimble
Jenda and Charles Trimble
John Van Ness
Millie Vigneault
Louise and Bernie Watson
Anne and Cassius Webb
Kathy and Bill Weibel
Pat and Steve Weiner
Ellen Widmer
Elizabeth and Marc Winiacki
Daleena Wright
Tuesday and Dennis Wright

VIS PROPERTIES AND EASEMENTS

(Chronological Order)

Cutter-Tenney Park

Location Main Street, Laban Ainsworth Way & Meetinghouse Road, Map 228/Lot 75

Use Park, flagpole, benches, watering trough (flowers), bubbler.

Acres 0.98

Acquired 1906 “a park forever” and 1909

From Dora Tenney 1906, \$100, Deed

Price Oct. 8, 1909; Jonas Cutter, \$2,000, Deed Mar. 28, 1909

Harkness Triangle

Location Main Street at Harkness Road, Map 228/Lot 110

Use Open space

Acres 0.12

Acquired 1913

From Annie Henschman, Deed Oct. 7, 1913; and Annie Cutter (Deed Caroline H. Cutter) Oct. 7, 1913

Price Gift

Melville Academy

Location 39 Thorndike Pond Road, Map 228/Lot 80

Use Local history museum and VIS headquarters; historic building

Acres 0.46

Acquired Aug. 1919 (Use); Deed 1960

From Town

Price Gift, 1960

Blacksmith Lot

Location Main Street at Thorndike Pond Road, Map 228/Lot 86

Use Open space, now with The Swale

Acres About 0.75

Acquired 1919

From Edmund C. Shattuck

Price \$1,500 Deed Oct. 31, 1919

The Swale

Location Behind northern Main Street between Thorndike Pond and Bryant Rds. Map 228/Lot 86

Use Open space

Acres 12 (12.79 with Blacksmith Lot)

Acquired Deed 1931

From Rev. Charles S. Mills

Price Gift, Sept. 30, 1931

Horsesheds Building

Location On the south bound of the Old Burying Ground, Map 228/Lot 67

Use Historic building; July 4 VIS Ice Cream Social, Annual First Church Children’s Fair, other events through VIS

Acres The Town owns the land under them

Acquired 1954 – Maintenance, from Town.

From 1969 – Ownership from the descendants of original builders in 18101810. JCVIS plaque placed in “Worster,” the far- west shed.

Price Nominal, Deed, August 10, 1954

The Morgan Lot

Location Mountain Road at Gilmore Pond Road, Map 228/Lot 56.

Use Open space

Acres 0.61

Acquired 1978.

From John J. Morgan

Price \$9,000, Deed June 28, 1978

Centennial Park

Location Main Street at Bryant Road. Map 228/Lot 91

Use Park, flagpole, picnic tables, benches, bridge to The Swale

Acquired 1998. Deed July 8, 1998

From Jane Walling

Price \$35,000

Best Family Land

Location West side of Thorndike Pond, between #63 and #107

Use Open space, view of Monadnock

Acres 6.23

Acquired 2011

From Sandra Best

Price Gift, Deed signed Dec. 29, 2011

Conservation Easements Held By VIS

35.11 acres of 47.66 total acres on properties owned by: Margaret Pokorny, 24 Parsons Lane, 7.61 a./14.16 a. William Coleman, 43 Parsons Lane, 12.5a./18.5a. Robert Chase, forest between 107 & 169 now owned by John (Jay) S. Sprague, Thorndike Pond Road, 15 a./15 a



TIMELINE OF THE VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY, SERVING JAFFREY CENTER SINCE 1906

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1906 The Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society is founded “to improve and to ornament the streets and public grounds of Jaffrey Center and vicinity, by doing such acts as shall tend to beautify and to improve” the area. Silas Buck of Parsons Lane is elected president. Dora Tenney agrees to sell the VIS her “flat-iron lot” for \$100 as “a park forever” at Meetinghouse Road, Thorndike Pond Road and Main Street. Jonas Cutter agrees to sell the former Cutter Hotel site on the hill (where the flagpole is) for \$2,000 and extend the park. The deeds are recorded in 1909.</p> <p>1907 VIS builds a watering trough of granite to replace the horse-nibbled wooden trough on Thorndike Pond Road at Main Street. Josephine Wetherell started the tradition.</p> <p>1908 VIS launches fundraising to repair the tower of Melville Academy, a Jaffrey public school. President Silas Buck dies. Margaret Casson Robinson, a founder, is elected president. She led the VIS for 20 years.</p> <p>1913 The Harkness Triangle, at Harkness Road and Main Street, is given to the VIS by Annie Henchman and Alice Cutter. VIS members form the Cemetery Association to restore the Old Burying Ground.</p> <p>1919 Dr. and Mrs. Wesselhoeft give the VIS a Chickering grand piano. A welcome gift but where to put it? How about the Melville Academy that closed last year? They asked the Town and the VIS was granted permission to use Melville Academy if they restored the historic building. The VIS installs electric lights, restores the windows, paints and furnishes it. The VIS purchases the old blacksmith lot at Main Street and Thorndike Pond Road from Edmund C. Shattuck for \$1,500.</p> <p>1920 The VIS holds a grand opening of Melville Academy Museum on Aug. 4.</p> <p>1921 Mrs. Robinson chairs a VIS committee to</p> | <p>raise funds “for restoration of the Town Hall.” The Town asks Bowman F. Cann, a builder and VIS vice president, to do the work, including restoring the main door to its original center position. The VIS raises \$5,000 of the \$8,000 cost. The VIS has funded many thousands of dollars of improvements to the Meetinghouse from 1923 to the present.</p> <p>1928 Mrs. Benjamin L. Robinson, 64, resigns as president after 20 years. She died four years later. Josephine Blaine Wetherell (Mrs. Lawrence H.), active in the VIS and Melville as vice president since 1919, succeeds her, and flamboyantly presides for another 20 years before stepping down to concentrate on the Melville Academy Museum.</p> <p>1931 Rev. Charles S. Mills gives the VIS the Swale, about 12 acres of boggy meadow. The Swale is later combined with the ¾ acre blacksmith lot.</p> <p>1941 Alice W. Poole (Mrs. John Ward Poole) leaves the VIS a \$3,000 endowment to take care of the Old Burying Ground.</p> <p>1945 Across from the Monadnock Inn, the cellar hole of the former Bigelow store is bought by the VIS to prevent development. It was later sold to the Torrey family. Some of the stones had been used years earlier for the Thorndike Pond Club building.</p> <p>1948 Josephine Blaine Wetherell retires as president after 20 years and is succeeded by John D. Johnson; he served the VIS eight years.</p> <p>1954 The VIS took over care of the 1810 Horsesheds from a Town Committee (nearly all VIS members) who helped restore it from 1949 to 1954. The VIS has maintained the Horsesheds with paint, several structural repairs, signage, and new roofs in 1972 and 1997.</p> |
|--|---|

- 1960 Melville Academy needed a new tower, new roof, new front steps and work on the foundation. The Town conveyed the title to the VIS for \$1.00. provided that it maintains it as a historical landmark. Cost for repairs: approximately \$9,000, underwritten by Mrs. Lawrence Wetherell.
- 1967 Lawrence Wetherell dies and leaves \$10,000 to establish a fund to support Melville Academy. Mrs. Wetherell dies in 1974 and leaves \$10,000 to the VIS.
- 1968 At the Annual Meeting at Melville Academy, “the floor in the center of the hall suddenly sank about 10 inches with a loud crash.” Cost: \$3,000.
- 1969 VIS President Robert Newbegin announced that all the descendants of the citizens who built the Horsesheds were willing to transfer their interests permanently to the VIS. Francis Quinlan would draw up new documents and a plaque would be placed in the sheds
- 1973 Molly MacCready, with the help of Margaret Bean, Marjorie Shattuck, Ken Jewett, and Don Eaves, start a comprehensive inventory of the museum’s artifacts.
- 1975 VIS publishes *Jaffrey Center New Hampshire, Portrait of a Village*, a comprehensive history of the houses and buildings with 185 photos, many by former VIS President Coburn Kidd, who also financed it.
- 1975 The Jaffrey Historic District, established by Town Meeting vote in 1969, wins recognition on the National Register of Historic Places.
- 1978 The VIS buys John Morgan’s 0.61-acre lot on Mountain Road across from the Meetinghouse Common for \$9,000.
- 1990 Museum Curator Jeanne Duval and President Mary Payson carefully rearrange the collection in the newly painted first floor of Melville.
- 1991 The 1775 Meetinghouse is closed to the public because of “severe foundation block tilt” and other major problems. VIS President Mary Payson starts The Committee for the Restoration of The Meetinghouse. The VIS helps raise \$66,000 in private funds for the \$155,000 restoration by the Town. A structural engineering study of Melville Academy reports the first level is structurally unsound. Cost to repair: \$14,527.
- 1993 Jaffrey and the VIS celebrate the re-opening of the Meetinghouse on July 3. The VIS raises another \$4,200 to build the balcony railing.
- 1996 The VIS raises \$8,000 to restore and gild the four Meetinghouse clock faces.
- 1997 The JCVIS Endowment Fund at the NH Charitable Foundation is started with a deposit of \$11,550. The JCVIS reroofed the Horsesheds.
- 1997 Grant for \$2,435 from the American Conservation Consortium, Ltd was received to repair Melville bell tower and interior.
- 1998 The VIS creates Centennial Park at Main Street and Bryant Road after buying Jane Walling’s 1.3-acre lot for \$35,000.
- 1999 Mary Jo Marvin serves as Museum Curator from 1999 through 2010, assisted by Sally Waters Larsen. They catalogue and expand the collection with Past Perfect software. Sally Roberts, VIS fundraiser, does much of the data entry. Sally Larsen continued as curator from 2010-2013.
- 2001 Robert B. Stephenson of VIS initiates the July 4th Reading of the Declaration of Independence at the 1775 Meetinghouse, a joint project of the VIS, the Jaffrey Historical Society, the Historic District Commission and the Town’s Meetinghouse Committee. The VIS starts its July 4th Ice Cream Social tradition. Noel Pierce loans the old Jaffrey Center Post Office boxes to Melville Academy.
- 2003 VIS raises \$52,000 to pass along to the Town to buy land expanding Cutter Cemetery.
- 2006 The VIS celebrates its Centennial with many events. Robert B. Stephenson writes *Marshal the Willing Forces, A Centennial History of the Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society*. The VIS holds a tour of historic houses and sells Spode plates with scenes of Jaffrey and Mt. Monadnock.
- 2008 The VIS adds the August Picnic in Centennial Park – in the Horsesheds if it rains – to its annual events: the March Dinner, Spring and Fall Cleanup, July 4th Ice Cream Social, and Christmas Dinner at the Inn.
- 2009 VIS amends its Articles of Agreement to allow VIS conservation easements to maintain the area’s rural character in perpetuity. By 2014, 35.1 acres are under VIS easements: the contiguous parcels of Coleman and Pokorny on Parsons Lane and 15

woodland acres of Robert Chase, from 107 to 169 Thorndike Pond Road.

- 2010 The VIS begins to take annual “spending distributions” (earnings) from the NH Charitable Foundation’s JCVIS Endowment Fund. The first payment was \$4,766.
- 2011 Sandra Best gives the VIS 6.23 acres with a view of Mt. Monadnock. The land is between 63 and 97 Thorndike Pond Road; the VIS now owns and maintains 22.5 acres.
- 2014 The late Mary Payson, president 1989-93 and 2001-2005, leaves \$100,000 to the JCVIS/NHCF Endowment Fund, yielding an additional \$4,000 + per year.
- 2016 The VIS celebrates its 110th Anniversary! Museum Curator Suze Campbell organizes collection into themed areas. Electricity infrastructure upgraded.
- 2017 Melville Academy Museum adds track lighting to first floor hallway.
- 2018 The late Mary Kidd, widow of late VIS president Coburn Kidd, bequeaths \$80,000 to the VIS. Melville Academy Museum adds track lighting to all exhibits. The VIS, Jaffrey Historical Society,

Civic Center and Chamber of Commerce put on national celebration, *Willa Cather’s Spirit Lives On!* Museum expands its exhibit on Willa Cather, restoring the only published photo of Cather with her companion, Edith Lewis. It was taken on the Jaffrey Meetinghouse Common in September 1926.

- 2020 Due to COVID-19, the VIS Annual Welcome Spring Dinner on March 15 was cancelled March 10, as was Melville Academy Museum’s 100th Anniversary season.

The Horsesheds get a 30-year warranted 5-layer roof of yellow cedar shakes. 74 VIS members donate \$20,011 for the roof; VIS matches first \$10,000 through Mary Kidd’s bequest and pays the remaining \$11,009 of the \$41,120 cost. Guyer & Sons Roofing of Marlborough, NH did the work in three days.

Compiled by VIS Historian Ken Campbell principally from *Marshal the Willing Forces, A Centennial History of the Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society*, and from *VIS Timeline, Excerpts of JCVIS Minutes 1906 to 2005*, both written by Robert B. Stephenson.



Mary Kidd and Coburn Kidd in their garden at 63 Thorndike Pond Road in the 1970s. Mary, the daughter of Czech immigrants, played a significant role in the release of accused spy William Otis, an AP/NY Times journalist fraudulently convicted by the Czech government in 1951. Mary transcribed and translated the trial, showing how the Czechs had altered the testimony. Otis, sentenced to 10 years, was released in 1953.

LIST OF MARCH DINNERS

March 30 2003	Brazilian Bonanza	<i>The Monadnock Inn</i>
March 28 2004	An End of Winter Welcome to Spring Grecian Odyssey	<i>The Monadnock Inn</i>
March 13 2005	Yankee Doodle Dandy	<i>The Shattuck</i>
March 19 2006	<i>Valkommen!</i> JCVIS Annual Spring Dinner: Smorgasbord by Gunilla and Sven Johanson	<i>The Shattuck</i>
March 25 2007	<i>Bon Appetit</i> “A Gallic Gathering” French dinner By Mary Payson and Sally Roberts	<i>The Monadnock Inn</i>
March 16 2008	A Soupcon of Soup & Song, Cabaret and Dinner with P. J. Cooke	<i>The Shattuck</i>
March 15 2009	St. Patrick’s Day Party	<i>The Monadnock Inn</i>
March 14 2010	Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring Farmhouse Dinner	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>
March 13 2011	Welcome Spring at Mrs. Edwards’ Boarding House Dinner	<i>Sunflowers Café in Jaffrey</i>
March 18 2012	Locavore Spring Dinner	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>
March 17 2013	Jaffrey Center Entertains Downton Abby1923	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>
March 16 2014	Get Ready for Spring Party	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>
March 15 2015	SS Monadnock Spring Cruise	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>
March 13 2016	Big 110 th Birthday Bash 2016	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>
March 12 2017	Welcome Spring: An Invitation to a Festival of Flowers	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>
March 11 2018	Around the World in 80 Days with the JCVIS, Annual Welcome Spring Dinner	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>
March 19 2006	“Sugaring Off,” Welcoming the Early Signs of Spring	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>
March 15 2020	Welcome Spring and Newcomers to the JCVIS Community NECESSARILY CANCELLED DUE TO THE COVID – 19 VIRUS	<i>The Inn at East Hill Farm</i>



REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2020

The JCVIS Nominating Committee, with the approval of the VIS Board of Directors, nominates the following people to serve in positions on the VIS Board of Directors from 2020-2022, subject to approval by the VIS Members at the 2020 Annual Meeting:

Peter R. Russell	Treasurer
Mary F. Ley	Recording Secretary
Bruce W. Hill	Vice President
Alex Bird	Vice President

The following Board Members continue their terms until Summer 2021

Susan T. Campbell	President
Thomas F. Schiele	Corresponding Secretary
Samuel Greene	Vice President
Samuel Hackler	Vice President
Richard Stein	Vice President

Appointments by President, with approval of Board:

Susan T. Campbell	Curator of Melville Academy Museum
Kenneth D. Campbell	Historian

Appointment by President:

Kenneth D. Campbell	Finance Committee Chair
Harold (Dave) Davis	Finance Committee Member

Nominating Committee is composed of Past Presidents: Rob Stephenson, Anne Webb, Ken Campbell, Tim Gordon, Suze Campbell, and appointee, Peter Russell

Finance Committee: Ken Campbell, Chair, Dave Davis, Peter Russell, Suze Campbell, ex officio

Respectfully submitted by Anne Webb on behalf of the VIS Nominating Committee:

Rob Stephenson (President 1997-2001), Anne Webb (President 2005 – 2007), Ken Campbell (President 2007 – 2012), Suze Campbell (President 2012 – January 2018), Tim Gordon (January 2018 – August 2019), Suze Campbell (February 2019) and Peter Russell (at large appointee).

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT