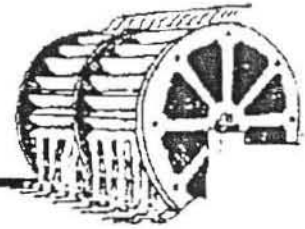


MILLWORK



April/May, 2006

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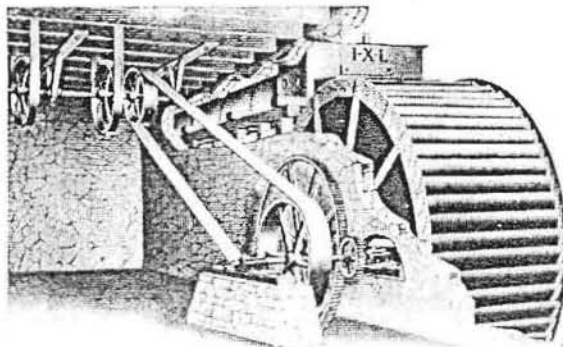
What's News?

Fine tuning... careful resource management... quality, not quantity... these phrases explain some of the changes at Hanford Mills Museum...

Fine Tuning: the Millwork you are reading is not like the newsletters of the past. The experimental format we are testing this season will feature shorter newsletters which are published more often. Each newsletter will include calendars of upcoming events and activities, they lists no longer be mailed separately.

Careful Resource Management: the Museum will now open for the season in mid-May, and close in mid-October. Traditionally, the Museum has had very few visitors during the first few weeks of May and last few weeks of October. In 2006 Hanford Mills will also adopt the tradition of "Museum Mondays." Monday is a day when many museums are closed, and our visitation on Mondays is generally low. The Museum will open on Mondays connected to holiday weekends: Memorial Day, July 3rd, Labor Day and Columbus Day. By opening a few weeks later and closing a few weeks earlier, the Museum will save several thousand dollars. And to increase revenue, the Museum has increased its admission fees for the first time in almost a decade. Admission fees for non-members are now \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children. Members are still free and our memberships are still the best value in town!

Quality, Not Quantity: each year the Museum's staff carefully evaluates every program and event, and we look at ways to improve them. Sometimes, the changes are dramatic. This year we've combined elements of two events to create "Saw It! at Hanford Mills" and we're holding "Saw It!" and "Miller's Harvest Festival" on Sundays. Please come and enjoy the fun!



SPUR MASTER WHEEL ON END OF WATER WHEEL SHAFT

Elizabeth Callahan
Executive Director

If you visit early this spring, you might notice the nice new coat of black paint on our waterwheel. The wheel was sand-blasted and painted over the winter to protect the metal.

Thanks

We'd like to thank the following people for donating to the Museum's collections in 2005:

Paul Agoglia
Keith Ballard
Elizabeth Callahan
Paul & Joyce DeVivo
Harrison & Audrey Dickson
George Freer
Patrick Grossi
Howard Hinkley
Tom Joyal
Kenneth Kellerhouse
Cynthia Kensey & Jay Hagar
Allyane Lange
Barbara MacClintock
Harry Maison
Richard Meyer
John & Peg Odell
John Petevs
Dawn Raudibaugh
Jean Reebe
Dan Rion
Clyde Robinson
Gail & Henry Rupp
Heather Stevenson
Charles Stewart
Paul Stillman
Marjorie Sundfors
Robert Winn
Ingrid Zeman



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Temperance in East Meredith

by Caroline de Marrais

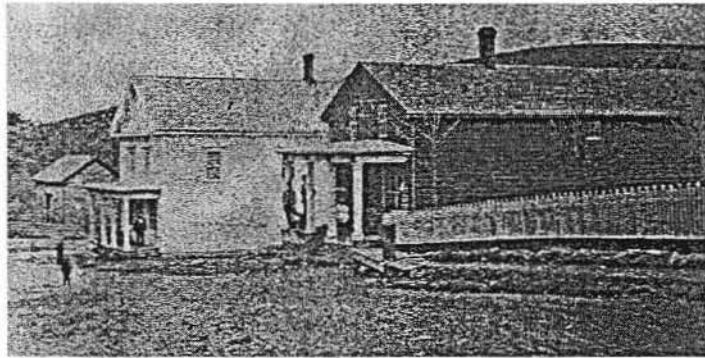
One of the great resources we have for historic research is the diaries kept by Elizabeth Hanford from 1864 to 1902. Elizabeth was the aunt of mill owner D.J. Hanford. She and her family also lived in East Meredith. Recently I've been using them to research the temperance movement in East Meredith.

Temperance, in general, means self-control in the way a person lives, but more specifically it refers to the movement started in the early 1800s which advocated abstinence from alcoholic beverages. People worried about the number of people who drank to excess, leaving families destitute, workers unable to do their jobs, and people dead in drinking related accidents and murders. A number of different organizations formed to promote temperance. At times, the movement was also linked to abolition and women's rights.

East Meredith was never a hotbed of drunken revelry. The only tavern in the village operated from 1869 to 1871. But in 1879 the citizens of East Meredith felt they needed a temperance lodge after listening to a lecture given by a Mr. Douglass of Oneonta, NY. So on March 28, 1879 they formed a lodge with fifteen members. According to Elizabeth's diary there were already similar

lodes in Davenport, Bloomville, and West Davenport, with the county lodge located three miles down the road in Davenport Center.

These lodges were members of the Order of the Good



Both these store buildings were owned by Levi Hanford, and both housed the temperance lodge on the second floor at different times. When the lodge was active, the white store had already been moved from this location to the center of town. This photo was taken c. 1874.

Templars. This fraternal temperance organization was established in Syracuse, NY in 1852. In some ways it was similar to a Masonic organization with rituals, regalia, and degrees. It was also ahead of its time by allowing women to join and to be elected to leadership positions.

The temperance fever struck East Meredith hard. Once the lodge was formed its members met almost every Saturday evening. Elizabeth Hanford's family let the lodge use the rooms above their store for meetings. Elizabeth often recorded spending part of the day before a meeting sweeping and cleaning. After the first month, they even rewallpapered the walls.

Elizabeth's diary entries are sparse – listing happenings in incomplete sentences,

but she gives a fairly good view of their lodge activities. Through the year the lodge was active, Elizabeth records that twenty five people were initiated into the organization. Women in the East

Meredith were elected to offices. Elizabeth, herself, was elected Vice Templar (vice president) in the first elections. Members of the East Meredith lodge often visited other lodges, and vice versa. They raised funds through events such as an ice cream and strawberry social and an oyster supper. Elizabeth recorded that the first social

made \$24.

Unfortunately, lodge meetings didn't always see smooth sailing. In May at the installation of the first officers, Elizabeth recorded that Mrs. Every "offended" and lost her office. Later, in September, Harm Holmes and James Mitchell had "charges preferred against" them. Presumably, they fell off the wagon. Then in November things began to come to a head. Elizabeth recorded another election of officers, where her son, Charlie was elected Worthy Chief (president). At the next meeting on November 2, the officers were installed, but Charlie resigned. He and the whole family continued as members, attending all meetings until November 29, 1879. On that

Continued on page 4

Up-Coming Special Events

Opening Day - Saturday, May 13

The museum opens for the season. Come see the mill at work!

Mothers' Day - Sunday, May 14

Bring Mom to visit & tour the museum site. Moms admitted free.

SAW it! at Hanford Mills - Sunday, May 28

See ad at left → → → → → → → →

Meredith Dairy Fest - Sat. & Sun., June 10-11

Visit Hanford Mills Museum's booth at the festival.

Fathers' Day - Sunday, June 19

Bring Dad to visit and tour the museum site. Dads admitted free.

Independence Day Celebration - Tues., July 4

Old-fashioned fun! Visit with President Teddy Roosevelt, enjoy tours, kids' fishing derby, frog jumping contests, games, ice cream and live music.

Summer Apprentice Workshop - July 17-20

A summer history day camp for children ages 8 to 13. 9:00-3:00 daily. \$85 per child for non-members, or \$70 per child for members. Pre-registration required. Call for application.

SAW IT!


at Hanford Mills



A celebration of wood in all its forms!

Sunday, May 28, 2006
10 am to 5 pm

Demonstrations:

- Lumberjack Skills
- Logging with Horses
- Modern Band Sawmill
- Pit Sawing
- Historic Sawmill
- Hand Hewing of Logs
- Woodcarving



Hands-on Activities for Kids & Adults. Try:

- Cross-cut Sawing
- Wood Splitting
- Nailing Races
- MORE !!!



Spring-Summer Workshops

Blacksmithing I (for beginners)

[A121]-June 10-11 - 9 am to 5 pm each day

ALSO: [A122] - July 17-19, [A123] or August 19-20

Learn the basics of blacksmithing — how to set up a shop, start fires and perform simple metal working techniques. **Fee:** \$90 non-members, \$81 museum members, materials & lunch included.



Summer Apprentice Workshop

Mon., July 17 to Thurs., July 20

This workshop will give children between the ages of 8 and 13 four days of hands-on historical activities. A brochure describing the program will be available soon. Use coupon at right to request a brochure or call or email.

Upcoming Workshops:

Timber Framing ~ Date June 30-July 2, Appliqué Quilting ~ Saturday, Sept. 23, Tatting ~ Date TBA, Wood Carving ~ Date TBA (A brochure with dates will come out soon.)

2006 Spring-Summer Registrations

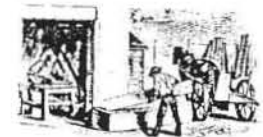
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____



Workshop Number	Fee
_____	_____

Send in the form at right and the registration fee to reserve a space today.

Return registration & fee to:

Hanford Mills Museum, P.O. Box 99,
East Meredith, NY 13757

For more information:

Call 1-800-295-4992 or E-Mail
hanford2@hanfordmills.org

*Don't forget your member's discount!

TOTAL FEE* _____

Temperance - Con't from page 2
date Elizabeth wrote, "I sent in a withdrawal to the Lodge tonight." And she records no further information about meetings until January 31, 1880 when she wrote, "Our good Templar Lodge Disbanded tonight & sold off their goods."

It is a mystery as to what caused the demise of the East Meredith Good Templar Lodge. It seems unlikely that it was an excess of drinking in East Meredith. More likely it was a clash of personalities. Another mystery is Elizabeth Hanford's March 19, 1880 entry where she wrote, "A temperance lecture in evening. They formed a new Lodge." That is all she ever says about this second lodge, so we know nothing about it.

The East Meredith excitement over temperance reflects a national trend in the

1870s and 80s which saw an increase in temperance publications. The East Meredith lodge was probably more important as a fraternal organization rather than a means to keep the village population sober. In the end something happened to tear the organization apart. The same cannot be said for the

national organization. On a final note, you might be interested to know that the International Organization of Good Templars United States of America is still in existence today. And if you are interested in taking the pledge you might want to visit their website at www.ioqt.us.



An Addition to the Hanford Mills Family

Hanford Mills Museum is happy to announce the birth of Aiden James to curator, Suzanne Soden. He was born on April 9, 2006. We guess we must have teased Suzanne too much about having her baby during our open season in May, so she had him a month early.

All joking aside, Aiden's arrival was a surprise. He weighed 4 pounds, 11 ounces at birth, but he's a healthy little boy. Hopefully he'll

attend a special event or two this summer so you can meet him.



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