

Madison Historical Society

December 2020



NEW!

Notecards for Sale

\$10/set

5 colored or 6 black & white
5.5" x 4.25", includes envelopes

To order, call:

Nancy Martin at 603-986-8690,
or The Madison Library 603-367-8545



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www.madisonnhhistoricalsociety.org



LEFT: This used to house the old furnace which has been inoperative since 1992.

RIGHT: New storage area and outer wallboard for hanging displays.

FAR RIGHT: The new storage area for folding chairs.



Demolition of the old furnace area and removal of the furnace and parts were courtesy of Stu, Bill, Cindy and Karen Lord. Noel & Linda Smith helped with clean up removal. The new light inside the room was paid for by the historical society and done by DW Electric. The wall board and its installation was graciously donated by Chris Martin and Paul Jean in memory of Roger and Olive Clayton.



LEFT: Cellar stair walls were waterproof painted as were the other walls of the basement. Board members Linda Balogh, Betty Fernandes (and Tino), Penny Hathaway, Karen Lord, Mary McIntosh, Nancy Martin and Linda Smith did the painting.

RIGHT: Wall filled with old wooden signs from the Madison area.

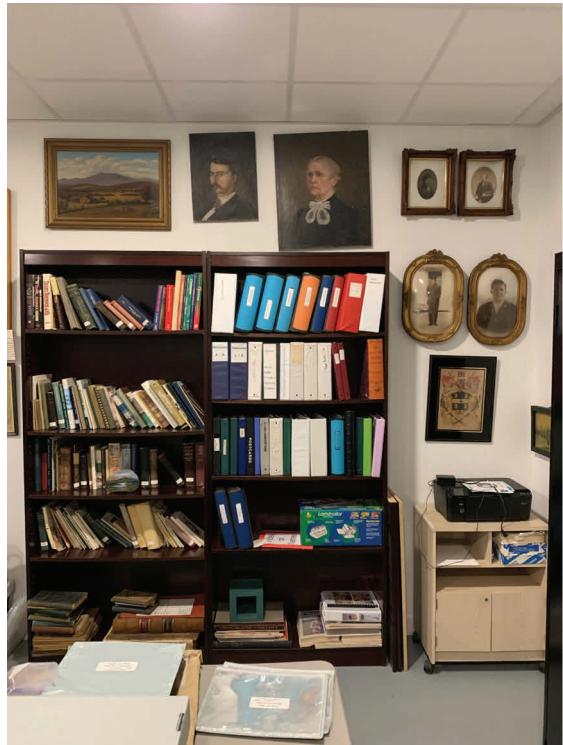


RIGHT: Basement walls painted and items cleaned and temporarily placed.

BELOW LEFT & RIGHT: The 6th Grade of the Madison Elementary School painted these four boards for the stage area upstairs in 1991. We recently removed them and stored them in the basement to be a background for display items. Those items have yet to be determined, but this area will be open to the public sometime next year.



Progress, continued...



All four (4) of these images show our new humidity controlled room in the basement. The walls are being used to hang our collections of paintings, photographs and such. When we are open from May to October, some of these will be upstairs on display. These items may rotate from year to year. At the close of our season, these painting will be brought back down to this room for safe storage in the winter.

This room is a work in progress. As curator, I am busy cataloging all of our collections. Each item gets cleaned, marked properly, photographed, and entered into the computer program we have for museum collections. Then it is carefully wrapped and placed in an archival box that is labeled for its contents. This work will take a long time, but when finished, we will be able to locate any item we have in the building and its provenance. Not all items have a provenance, unfortunately, but we'll do our very best.



When the Covid pandemic is over, and we can open our doors again, we want our community to come and wander through our building and see what is new! No summer 2021 "theme" has been decided, but we will keep you all abreast as to what is happening and when.

Oh, I always include my **WISH LIST** this time of year! I'd like to see the Madison Historical Society get some type of moveable display boards. We have a lot of photographs of Madison, Silver Lake and Eidelweiss from over the years which would be fun to exhibit, but we do not have enough wall space to do so properly.

If you'd like to give a donation this holiday season, we would certainly put it to good use with moveable display boards. We are a 501(c)3 charity, and the address is PO Box 505, Madison NH 03849.

Thank you again to our community for all the support you've shown us over the years!

Happy Holidays,

Karen Lord, Curator



We continue with our Fundraising efforts and offer both T-Shirts, baseball hats and now Sweatshirts. Sweatshirts are currently by order only so they will take a few weeks to receive them.

T-Shirts are available immediately.

Call Linda Smith (603) 367-4640 or text: ldns7558@gmail.com

Roger Clayton was a huge supporter of the Madison Historical Society and a great source of information about the town. On the next page we have reproduced an article published in an earlier edition of our newsletter that he put together on the EARLY MILLS OF MADISON. Many of you have seen it, but we have a lot of new members that have not. We hope you enjoy reading it (again).

**The Madison Historical Society's
T-Shirt Fundraiser**



Proceeds from this fundraising event will help build a proper storage area in the basement for our collections.

T-Shirts in sizes Adult S,M,L and XL : \$15.00
XXL: \$17.00

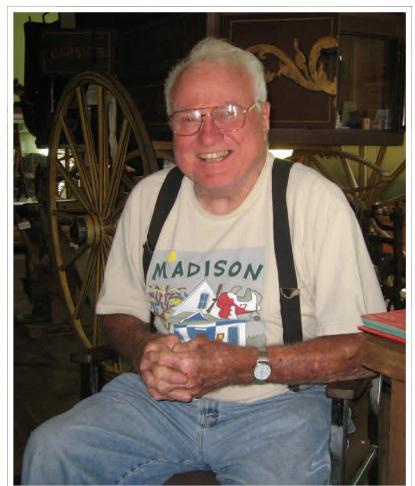
Hat: \$20.00

Thank you for your support.

**The Madison Historical Society's
Sweatshirt Fundraiser**



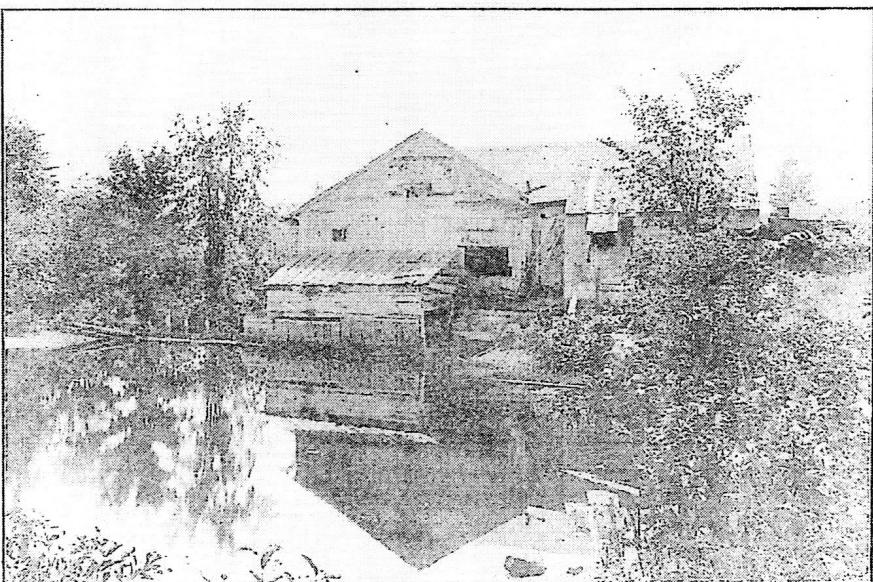
1/4 Zip Sweatshirts Mens/Unisex has ribbing waist; Woman's slightly fitted & no ribbed waist.
Choose Navy or Heather Graphite
Sizes: S,M,L are \$40.00 picked up at MHS. If shipped to you: \$48.50
Sizes: XL, XXL are \$42.00 picked up at MHS. If shipped to you: \$50.50
Currently by order only. Call Linda Smith (603) 367-4640 or text:
ldns7558@gmail.com



EARLYMILLS OF MADISON, NH

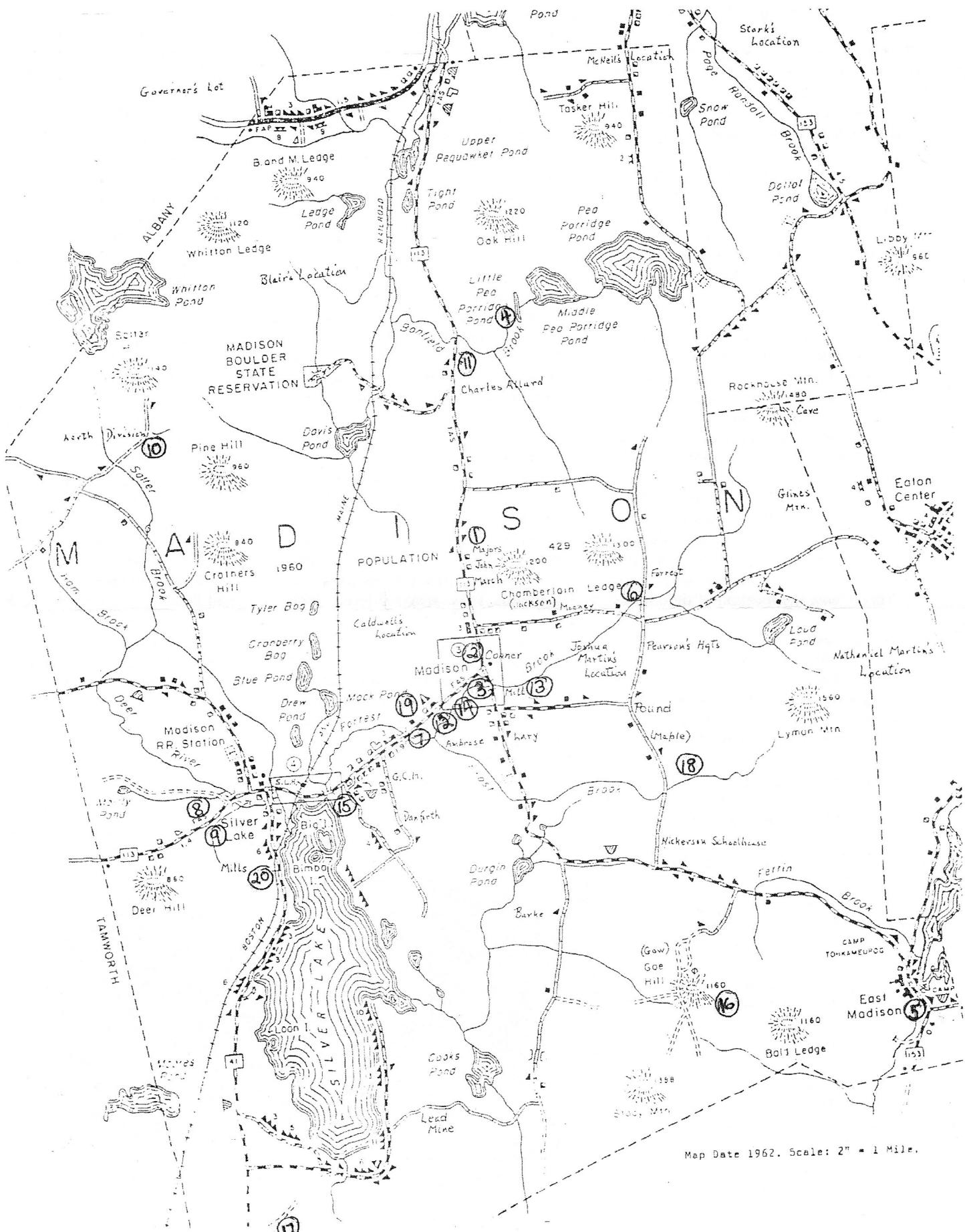
This updated compilation of the early mills of Madison was recently put together by Roger Clayton. The numbered mills listed here correspond to the numbers on the map located on the following page.

1. Dr. James Jackson ~ Henry Colby ~ The Majors: Tanned hides and made shoes.
2. Kenerson's: John conducted both watch and clock making, and shoe manufacturing at Madison Corner. His son, Randall had a small jeweler's shop in 1852.
3. William Kennett was the largest lumber operations in the early years. Logs were put in Silver Lake which floated to Ossipee Lake, then through Effingham Falls to Saco, Maine.
4. A Saw Mill was located on Banfield Brook near Flow Dam at Pea Porridge Pond.
5. Blaisdell's Mill at Purity Pond (formerly Long Pond) was owned by Robinson Blaisdell. Then Edward Hoyt obtained a Saw and Grist Mill, and also sawed shingles & shooks. This is now the location of the Fitness Center at Purity Springs.
6. A Mill was located on Forrest Brook near Charles Bickford's Farm.
7. A Woolen Mill was located near Albion Twombly's—probably in 1824.
8. Colby's Lumber Mill was located on the Deer Hill Brook near the Deer Hill bridge.
9. Also on the Deer Hill Brook was a mill known as Marsh's Mill.
10. A Saw Mill was located in North Division.
11. A mill called Percy Mill was located toward Conway.
12. At the location of Albion Twombly's Slaughter House was Snell's Mill where Grist was ground and lumber sawed.
13. During the Civil War, Charles Hunt built a Saw and Grist Mill near the brook at Madison Corner. He sold it to George Chick who sold it to Eli Banfield.
14. In 1870, George Chick built a mill below Madison Village near where the Madison Garage is now. Water power came from a canal near Dr. Martin's house. The power increased by a thirty horse power steam engine. They manufactured lumber, staves and box boards. This mill burned in 1881.
15. In 1883, Mr. Chick erected a Mill at the north end of Silver Lake, furnished it with a 65 horse power engine for manufacturing of lumber, bobbins, box-boards, etc. Also a planning machine. A Copper Shop and Grist mill were run in connection with the sawmill. It was destroyed by fire. The mill has been destroyed by fire and rebuilt three times. This mill has been in operation ever since under the management of John F. Chick & Son (now Chick's Packaging).
16. A Saw Mill was located on Gove Hill near the Shaw Town Road.
17. New England Box Company of Greenfield, MA operated a Band Saw Mill at Lily Pond on the Plains Road. They stored the logs in the pond. This mill is now The Madison Lumber Mill which continues to run today.
18. There was a rather elaborate Mill operated by Ebenezer Jackson on Maple Grove Road on Bert Chick's property. This mill power was supplied by a canal and used to grind grain and saw barrel staves and wood shingles. They also produced apple cider.
19. A Saw Mill was operated by Edward Lyman on the Plains Road, Silver lake (Rt. 41) near Deer Hill. Upon his death in 1994, his son Willis ran the mill for a few more years before closing it down.
20. In 1921, Albert Clayton and J. Clifford Ward, Sr. purchased 120 feet of land from John F. Chick and built a garage at Madison Corner—Clayton and Ward's. In 1924 they built a sawmill which was mostly operated in the winter when other business was slow. The mill was moved to where the new Burke Field stands today and opened for year round business in 1940. The mill was sold in 1959 to Bruce Thomas. The mill was also leased out to several operations including Robert Floyd of Tamworth who reported that there were 12 to 14 good men who worked the mill in the early 1960's. The lumber was sold to Merrill Transport of Maine. At some point about this time the mill was then also leased to Charlie Drugg of New England Box Co., what we know now as International Paper Company. The mill was finally sold to brothers Harvey and George Blake in the mid 60's. The Blake brothers then tore the building down and took some of the machinery to their operation in Limington, Maine.



Blaisdell's Mill at Long Pond (Purity Springs, East Madison)
Date Unknown.

MILL LOCATIONS IN MADISON, NH



UNCLE DANNY'S POETRY, continued

Published in the Boston Globe, Nov. 9th, 1928

(Daniel Lary Harmon: born 3/9/1867; died 11/1/1935; buried in the Gilman Cemetery)

ROSCOE G. GREENE Auto Service—Two Cars

(Uncle Danny) Leads the Parson Astray

(Uncle Danny) and the parson for a ride went one day,

They headed for Bartlett, the Zoo so they say.

As far up as Conway, all went very well,

But when the road parted, there's a story to tell.

The parson habitually said, turn to the right,

But (Uncle Danny) as firmly said, turn on more light

Where you see pleasant pastures, a shorter road, too,

To bring you out quickly, right up to the Zoo.

So blissfully ignorant, the parson obeyed,

And turned to the left, more strife to evade.

But the road was so crooked, the hills were so steep,

That the parson's old Ford could just hardly creep.

Until at last, the gas was so low,

He had to drive backward, to make the thing go.

And so it was that the road they did take;

So rough and so winding to the Zoo made them late.

And would you believe it, as sure as fate,

They had to go on to keep a parson's date.

And thus the worst I am sure you will see,
If you are out with (Uncle Danny) don't follow me.
And take his advice to turn from your way,
For if you do you'll sure rue the day.

By Rev. E. C. Adams, Bradford, R.I.

JOHN CHICK & SON Building Material of All Kinds

REFRAIN BY (UNCLE DANNY)

When following the parson, past the dog on a chain,
We found that Tiges Anchor, as long as the lane.
I learned that said parson going into reverse,
Was like dodging a metre, just falling to earth.

WEBER'S ICE CREAM PARLOR Madison Corner

"At the Turn of the Road"

Take the east, go to Eaton, get lost,

Take the north, go to Conway, get found,

But why not stay here with Billy

And have candy and cream by the pound.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Nancy Martin, Christina McAllister

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www.smile.amazon.com

Madison Historical Society
PO Box 505
Madison, NH 03849

MEMBERSHIP FORM:

Single Membership - \$10.00 _____

Family Membership - \$15.00 _____

Senior Members (over 80) - free _____

Gift Membership (from _____) _____

Donation _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

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