



# NOW & THEN

at the  
**LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES**  
 (Downstairs at the STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY)  
**ISSUE #10**  
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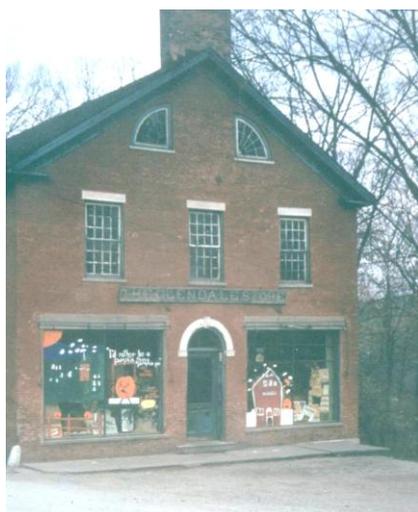
### 'A COUNTRY WOMAN'

The downstairs lobby exhibit features dresses on loan from the collection of Jane Fitzpatrick which were worn by Jane for many important occasions in her life (1960's through 1994). Stop by and see the dress she wore to the inauguration of President Reagan in 1985 (pictured right) along with many others. It will be available for viewing through Columbus Day weekend. Don't miss it.



### I REMEMBER -- HALLOWEEN PAINTING

I remember when the students at the Plain School would paint the store windows on Main Street at Halloween time. They would submit a design and be assigned a window to paint. The window-painting contest was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. The windows were judged and prizes given out for fourth/fifth grades, sixth/seventh grades and eighth/ninth grades as well as honorable mention. In a newspaper article about the event ca. 1958 the judges were Norman Rockwell, Mrs. Peggy Best and John Coolidge. Oliver C. Kempton was chairman for the Kiwanis Club at that time.



Does anyone remember painting a window and what type of prizes were given? The photographs of the Halloween paintings on the

windows of the old Glendale Store shown here are part of the archives collection. Does anyone know if these were part of the Kiwanis Club sponsored painting contest?



## SHADY PORCHES

Congratulations and many 'Thank You's go out to co-chairs, Mary Balle and Pat Flinn, the Shades along with their performance instructor, Tom Daly, and everyone who participated to make 'The Shady Porches' event held on July 31<sup>st</sup> a huge success.



## **STRAWBERRY HILL & THE EMMET FAMILY**

Lydia Field Emmet, a portrait painter and summer resident of Stockbridge, lived at 'Strawberry Hill' which is located at 28 Yale Hill Road. The Stockbridge Story 1739-1989 states "Each year before World War I, visiting friends on the way, she would mount her horse in Manhattan and commence a five-day ride to Massachusetts through Yonkers and up the Hudson Valley to Tivoli, and across from there to Stockbridge on the last day. The journey was repeated, in reverse, in the autumn." Lydia's two sisters, Rosina Sherwood (who lived at 24 Yale Hill Road) and Jane Emmet de Glehn, along with her cousin Ellen Emmet Rand, also were successful artists. Strawberry Hill became a gathering place for many artists and musicians. Lydia Field Emmet received a commission from President Herbert Hoover to paint an official portrait of the First Lady, which now hangs in the White House. Lydia's niece, Rosamond Sherwood (who lived at 26 Yale Hill Road) was instrumental in starting the Stockbridge Historical Society in 1969, in an effort to save the Old Corner House (48 Main Street) from demolition. The Historical Society turned into the Norman Rockwell Museum after a few years. Rosamond was also a noted local golfer, having a 60 year span as a championship golfer. She was a driving force in women's golf and involvement at the Stockbridge Golf Club.

The Museum and Archives has recently received a donation of pictures, letters and newspaper clippings along with a few sketches and drawings relative to the Emmet family from Charles & Joy Flint of Flint Art & Antiques. The Archives already contained a considerable collection on the family (pictures, letters, a scrapbook, clippings, an exhibit book, original paper dolls, picture books, etc). The recent donation makes a nice addition to the existing collection.

## **WHITTLESEY HOUSE**



(currently Interlaken) section of Stockbridge. We do not know whether the house still stands or not; but as Heman died in 1826 it existed at least until that date. Does anyone have any ideas where the Whittlesey house would have been located?

Willis S. Whittlesey III of Utah, on his recent visit to the Museum and Archives, donated the book Genealogy of the Whittlesey – Whittelsey Family (Third Edition 1992). The house pictured to the left was built by Eliphalet and Comfort (Waller) Whittlesey in Stockbridge (Eliphalet was a farmer and served in the 3d Berkshire Regiment during the Revolutionary War). The genealogy states that Heman Whittlesey, son of Eliphalet, resided at the home of his father until his death. Heman and his family were members of the Curtisville church and he "commenced the manufacture of woolen cloths for men's wear at Curtisville". This would lead you to believe that the house was built in the Curtisville

## **GEORGE WASHINGTON PLAQUE**

In our last issue we asked if anyone could shed any light on the plaque dedicated to George Washington which is situated just off the sidewalk in front of the Town Offices. Helen Pigott pointed out that the 1932 town report (under the auditor's report) lists "Washington Bi-Centennial" -- Tree Planting \$50, Stone markers \$8, Play House \$10.50, Posters \$4.75, Printing \$37.62, Band \$75 and Grounds \$14.13 for a total expenditures of \$200 which most likely relates to the plaque.



## **MUSEUM & ARCHIVES HOURS**

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9-5, Thursdays 9-1 and Saturdays 9-2**

*If you plan to spend time researching, it is always a good idea to call (298-5501) to check for availability.*