



NOW & THEN
 at the
LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES
 (Downstairs at the STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY)
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slmanl@roadrunner.com
 Maria L. Carr, Editor

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stockbridgelibrary.org

1895 Census Record

Manufacturing POWER for Stockbridge

	Number	Horse Power (Full Capacity)
Mechanical Power		486
Steam Boilers	3	43
Steam Engines	4	41
Water Wheels	8	445
Animal Power		
Horses	3	---

DID YOU KNOW?

Caroline Evans was appointed to the position of Superintendent of the Music Department at the Stockbridge Public Schools in 1897. During this period she went by horse and buggy to the Glendale and Curtisville Schools in addition to the Stockbridge Plain School. She held the position until 1924.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Barbara is looking for volunteers to make padded hangers and dress covers for storing textiles in the new shelving units that will be installed in the M&A. Some sewing is required.

Contact Barbara for more specifics at ballen@cwmares.org or 298-4703.



Construction on Rear Entryway (pictured above)

CEMETERY TOURS



September 5 Amazing but True: Strange and Surprising Stockbridge Stories

October 3 Above and Below: The Cemetery and the Gravediggers

The tours start at the Cemetery Gates on Main Street at 4 p.m. Parking is available across the street at Procter Hall. (Research for these tours is being done by Karen Marshall, Stewart Edelstein, and Rick Wilcox)



DRINKING FOUNTAIN/WATERING TROUGH

At one time horses were our main means of transportation and state law required that watering troughs be installed at strategic locations for them. They were provided by either county governments or private citizens and some were designated as memorials.

In Stockbridge, Mr. Albanola presented the trough located on Main Street at the entrance of Elm Street, to the Laurel Hill Association. According to the Laurel Hill book "It was placed at the Library corner, complete with two tin cups and chains, for the convenience of pedestrians and bicyclers." Mr. Albanoli was a former Italian freedom-fighter who had been released from an Austrian prison. He had made his way to New York City and then to Stockbridge where he prospered. Albinoli offered the trough to the town in gratitude for the peace and hospitality he found here.

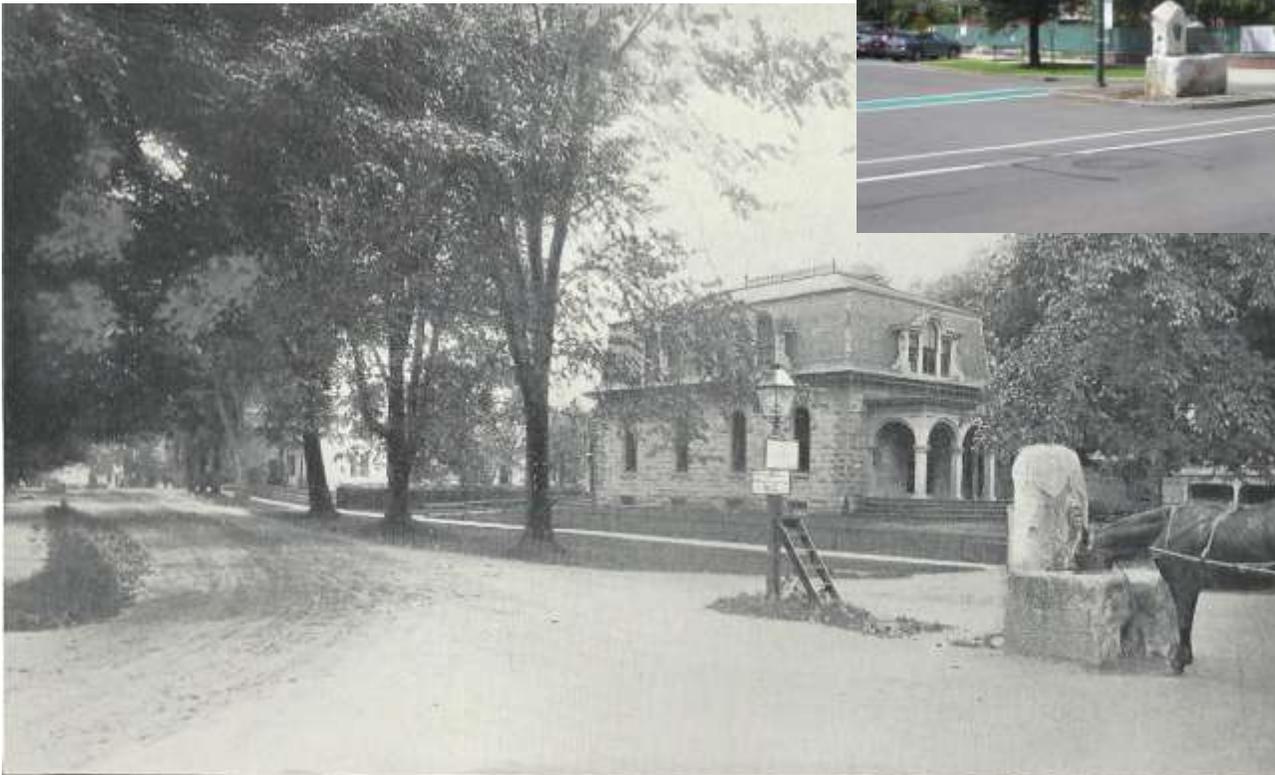
Installed in 1881, the watering trough is made of white Alford marble. It has a head of a leering bronze satyr mounted on an upper block which covers the plumbing fixture. The large block of marble for the back weighs six and a half tons. At one time there were public drinking cups chained to its side that sat in two niches cut into the stone. The bas-relief sculpture of a satyr's head on the fountain was sculpted by Augustus Saint-Gaudens according to town records.

In 1966 the Laurel Hill Association had it connected to the water main after being out of service for 15 years. The bronze satyr had been stolen from the fountain a few years before that but was recovered.

The trough sat directly on the asphalt. As the road was repaved over the years, it gave the appearance that the trough sank further and further into the road as layers of asphalt were added. During the Main Street renovations in 1987, the 116-year old horse trough was cleaned and buffed revealing the two phrases on the sides which had been hidden by layers of asphalt that had been laid over the years (Left side = UTILITY IS PREFERABLE TO GRANDEUR; Right side = MERCIFUL MAN IS MERCIFUL UNTO HIS BEAST). The trough was elevated onto a small island at that time and put back into service.

This year the Laurel Hill Association removed the rose bushes that surrounded the trough. Although they were quite pretty, they were hard to maintain and very overgrown. Laurel Hill Association plans on placing field stone to cover the dirt around the trough and will use container plantings in the future.

The picture below shows the watering trough c. 1898 with the Library in the background. To the right is the same view taken August 2015 with parked automobiles replacing the horse. Notice the street light in the picture below has a ladder against it for the lamplighter to use.



STOCKBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

LIBRARY RENOVATION PROJECT

It rained in Stockbridge on Saturday, August 15. It rained a lot. And – as can happen – that rain found its way into nooks and crannies and holes. It even managed to sneak its way under the doors of the Museum and Archives.

You might be expecting a tale of woe or a disaster story. Instead, this has a happy ending.

The water did get in and saturate the carpet, which has since been removed. But the collection is safe and intact due to the many hours spent by our volunteers last summer when they diligently packed up the collection. They followed the rules about preserving artifacts and papers, using extra padding and double wrapping. Everything was up and off the floor when placed on the shelves and in the enclosure. These extra measures ensured that the collection stayed dry and protected.

Only four collection items were touched by the water – two flags, a photograph, and the rear of a piece of furniture. The flags were treated as soon as they were found (*one of which is shown in the photograph above*). The other two have been dried and will be dealt with in the immediate future.

Kudos to all who helped safeguard our collection.



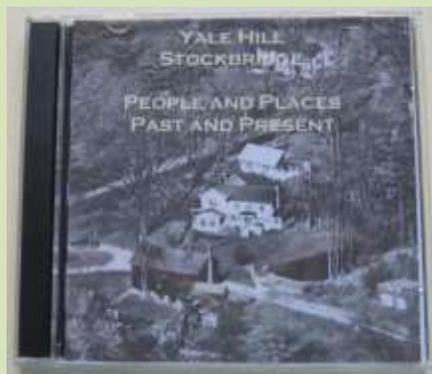
DONATIONS

Although the M&A has been closed for over a year with the exception of a small display at the Merwin House, it has not been forgotten. Generous donors continue to contribute to the collection. A few of those received recently are:

A doll made by Dorothy Cooney who lived on Church Street donated by Margo and Dennis Locke (*below right*).

A cannonball found in Interlaken by Gary Johnston (*below left*).

A digital account by Helen and John Davies of the history of Yale Hill (*below center*).



MUSEUM & ARCHIVES TEMPORARY HOURS DURING RENOVATION PROJECT

The M&A office and display area has relocated to 14 Main Street in the Merwin House.

The display area of selected items is open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays from 10-1.

For research or donations, please contact Curator Barbara Allen at 298-4703 to make an appointment. (*If you need to contact the Library, call 298-5501*)