

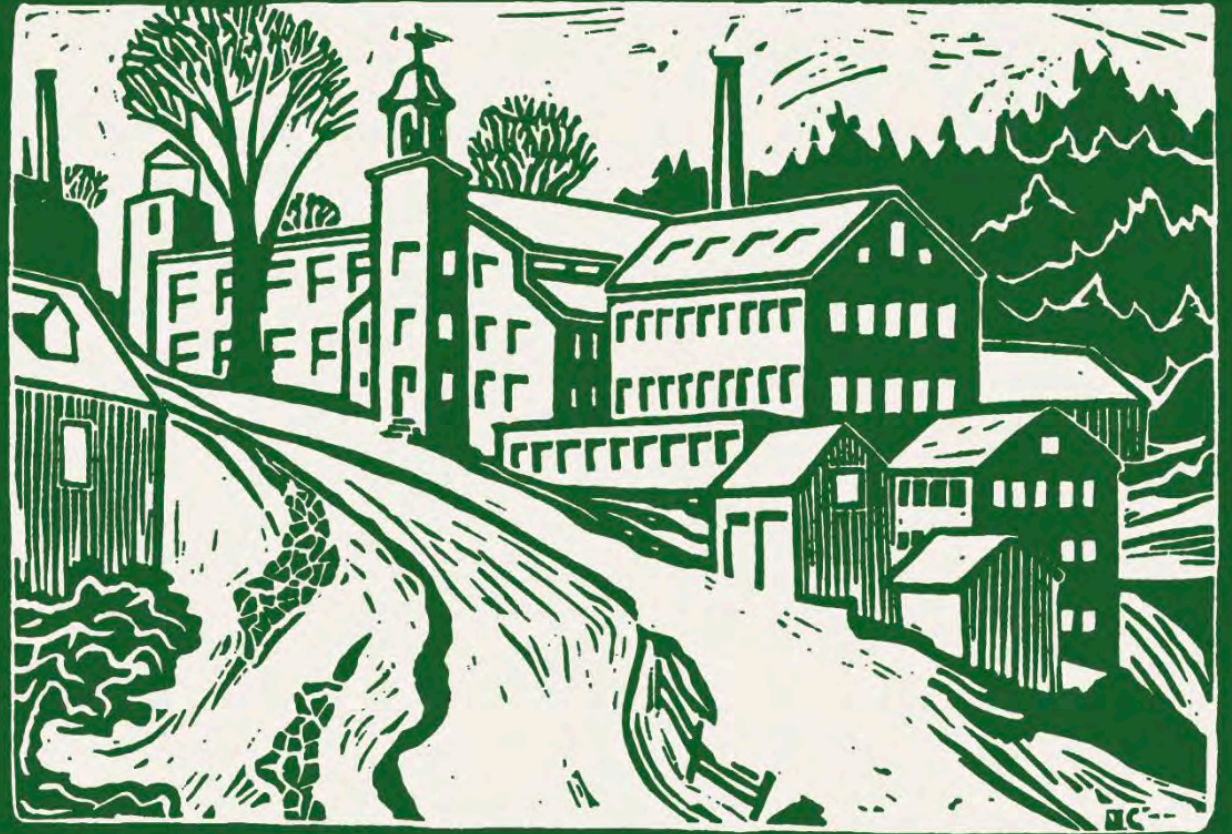
Historic Harrisville, Inc.

Activity Update

in lieu of

Fall 2021

Incorporator's Meeting



HISTORIC HARRISVILLE
Celebrating 50 Years • 1971-2021

50th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, August 28, 2021, Historic Harrisville celebrated its 50th anniversary with a day filled with open houses, a hike, and a gathering at the Bollerud Field.



Open House

Nine buildings were open to the public, with HHI Trustees stationed at each location to talk with visitors about the building's history and rehabilitation.



Trustees Lisa Anderson and Cathy Buffum spoke with visitors at St. Denis, where Louise Dierker's *Sounds of Harrisville* was played, and a *Harrisville Then and Now* photo exhibit was on display.



Trustee Andrew Maneval spoke to people in his office as people were touring the Cheshire Mills Complex



Several artists, including Gretchen Murray (left) and Joan Hanley (right), opened their studios to visitors during the open house.



Trustees Dan Langille and Shane Long greeted visitors to the Harris Store House, where at least two artists studios were open.



Intern Nico Riley prepared a photo display *Summer Fun in Harrisville*, which he presented with Trustees Sarah Tibbetts and Laurie Appell in the Granite Mill.



Sarah Scott prepared an exhibit recalling the preservation work done as part of the Dublin Bypass project in the 1980s. Trustees Chick Colony and Peter Allen were available for discussion.



Because of the unusually wet summer, the turbine was operating so visitors could see and hear it using water to generate electricity for the Cheshire Mills Complex.



Trustee Doug Gline showed HHI's turbine-generator to scores of visitors and discussed the project's operation and history



Those attending the open house were able to see inside the Trip Hammer Shop and offer suggestions to Trustee Deborah Abbott regarding its future reuse.

Group Hike

Trustee Alison Weber with her husband Steve, led a hike of HHI's Zophar Willard Woods, land owned by HHI for conservation and recreation.



PREPARED BY:
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Scale in feet

Celebration at the Bollerud Field

In the evening, people gathered at the Bollerud field to hear talks by Anna Schuleit Haber and Jack Davis, and to partake in a champagne toast!



Artist and HHI Tenant Anna Schuleit Haber wowed the audience with her observations about Harrisville.



Trustee Emerita Jeannie Eastman and long-time volunteer Lida Stinchfield greeted guests upon arrival. Seen here chatting with hostess and Trustee Kathy Bollerud.



Trustees Deb Abbott and Deirdre Oliver were ready to hand out wine and other beverages as guests arrived at the Bollerud's.



A large and enthusiastic team of volunteers led by Trustee Cathy Buffum prepared and served appetizers and desserts to attendees.



Trustee Katrina Farmer talks with other guests at the celebration. Her son, Jackson, read a poem as part of the evening's program.



Trustee Les LaMois caught up with his friend Roger Eastman while people socialized before the program.



Trustee Pooky Hayden enjoyed the evening's event. Joined here by HHI founder Jim Putnam, who spoke as part of the evening's program.



HHI Chairperson Bry Kingsbury welcomed guests and introduced the evening's speakers.



Author and Harrisville resident Jack Davis gave a moving talk about his experiences in Harrisville, and how the community inspires him.



In addition to a brief story about the early days of Historic Harrisville 50 years ago, founder and Trustee Chick Colony made a toast to celebrate HHI's 50th anniversary.



Trustees Dan Langille (far left) and Michelle Aldredge (far right) enjoyed a glass of champagne to honor Historic Harrisville.



Trustee John Knight and his family attended, introducing the next generation to Historic Harrisville.



The daughters of HHI Chairperson Bry Kingsbury passed flowers out to many lucky attendees.

50th Anniversary Book Project

To commemorate the 50th anniversary, a book is being created to document HHI's work over the past 50 years.

With funding from the Putnam Foundation, book sales, and other donations, the completed book will be distributed in the spring of 2022.

If you haven't done so already, you can reserve your copy at:

<https://www.historicharrisville.org/news/anniversary-book>



(Note: The final book design and title may differ from the image above.)



Co-authors Elizabeth Durfee Hengen and Rusty Russell (center) attended the 50th anniversary celebration to get a sense of the community that has developed in association with Historic Harrisville.

Rehabilitation and Maintenance

Historic Harrisville's focus continues to be the rehabilitation and maintenance of Harrisville's historic buildings, to be used as offices, studios, manufacturing and residences of community members.

Led by Fred O'Connor, our property team has continued to work hard through 2021, accomplishing many small but important projects.



Fred O'Connor (above) was assisted by Demetri Grosner (top right) and Kat O'Brien (bottom right) in 2021.



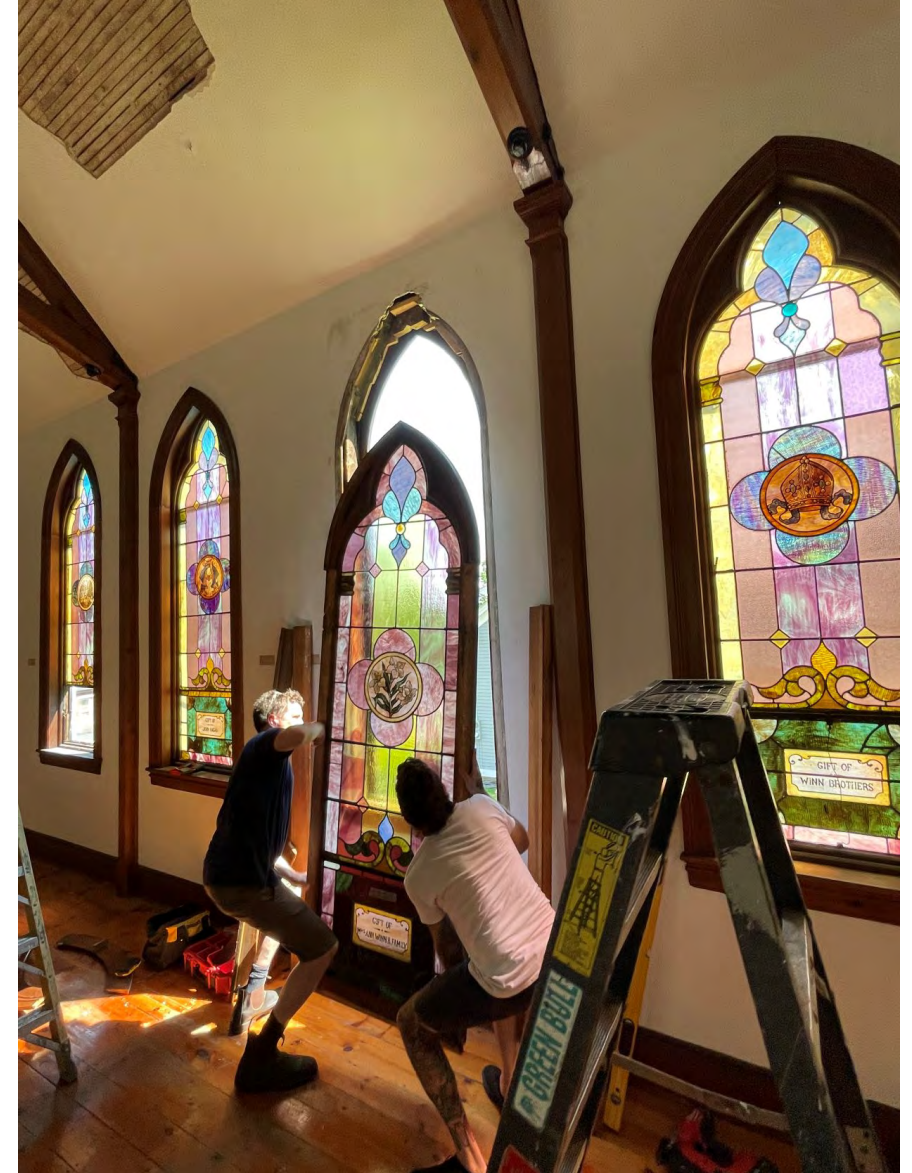
St. Denis

With the generous support of people in Harrisville and with ties to the community, HHI raised more than \$13,000 to match a \$10,000 grant from the 1772 Foundation and New Hampshire Preservation Alliance for the restoration of four stained glass windows at St. Denis.

We plan to conduct additional fundraising to complete the restoration and rehabilitate the building for use as a community and cultural center in the coming year(s).



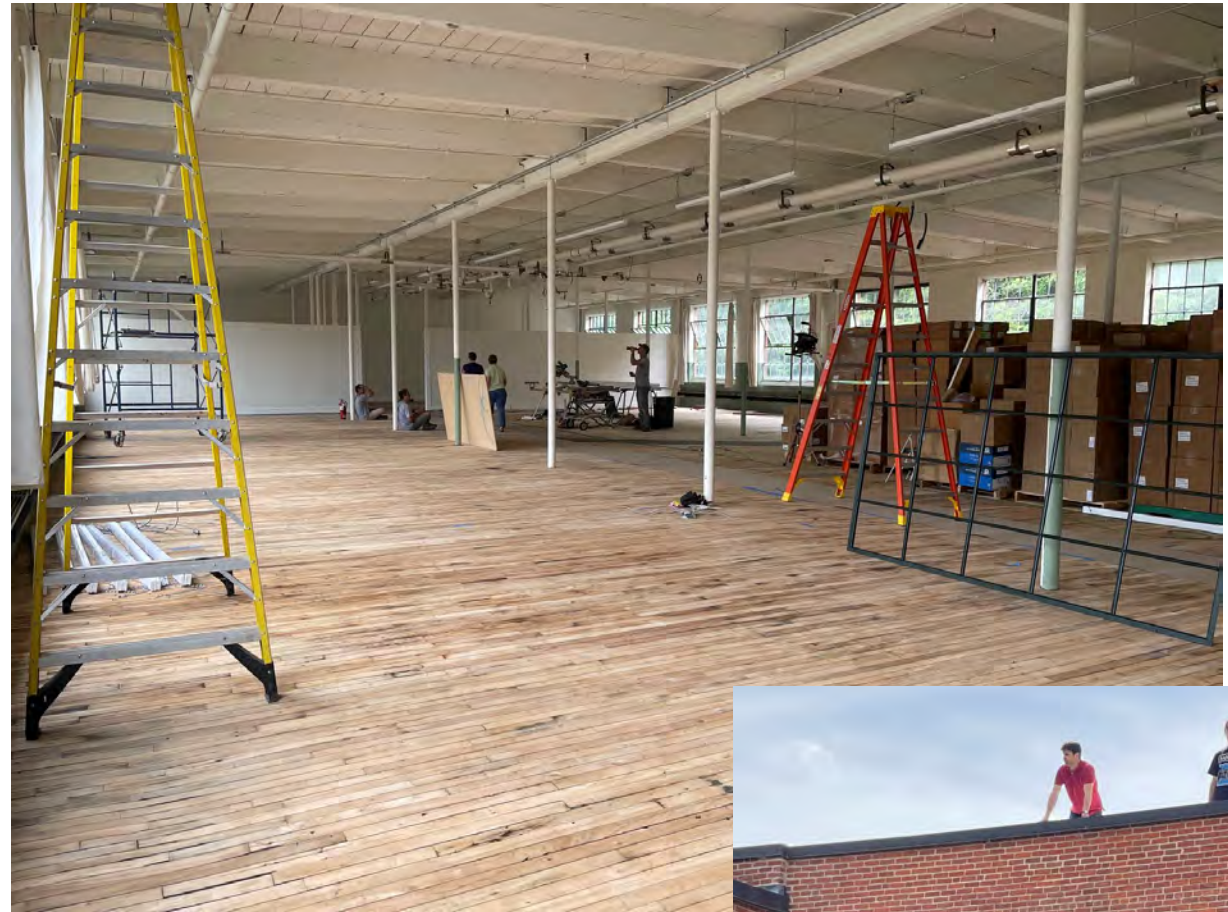
A restored stained glass window awaiting reinstallation.



Reinstallation of one of the four restored stained-glass windows in St. Denis, August 2021.

Cheshire Mill No. 6

Harrisville Designs is in the process of renovating Mill 6 to accommodate their Spinning Mill. This extensive project has involved removal of walls, refinishing floors, upgrades to electric, light, and heating systems. Soon, a new electric service will be installed via Mill Alley, and a solar array will be built on the building's flat roof.



The upper level of Mill 6, with studio walls removed and wood floor being refinished. This space is now in use, housing several functions of the active textile manufacturing business.



HHI Trustee and HD Managing VP Nick Colony works with Demetri Grosner to illustrate for the HDC what visual impact the proposed solar array will have on the village.

Property Management

Becca DeFusco continues to serve as the property manager for HHI. She is the smiling face you see when you walk into the office, or the cheerful voice you hear when you call on the phone. Becca communicates with HHI's tenants, and coordinates leasing, rent payments, maintenance, and repairs.



Shown here serving appetizers to guests at Historic Harrisville's 50th anniversary celebration, Becca DeFusco manages HHI's property rentals.

New Tenants

With the relocation of Harrisville Designs spinning mill to Cheshire Mills No. 6, several artists had to be relocated in the spring and summer of 2021. Two opted to move to other studios owned by HHI. Sadly, five others moved out of the community.

However, five new artist tenants have also moved into the community this year. Please join us in welcoming:

- Victoria Burge
- Lily Featherston
- Nevena Pilipovic-Wengler
- Sasha Pilipovic-Wengler
- Pat Spalding

More information about these artists can be found on HHI's website at: <https://www.historicharrisville.org/our-tenants>



An example of the work of Cheshire Mills Boarding House tenant Lily Featherston.

Harrisville General Store

The Harrisville General Store continues to be an inviting place where people can gather for food, beverages, and the company of others.

The store has kept doing what it does best, and added new features, including Friday night dinners.



The Harrisville General Store has been fortunate to maintain its wonderful staff through 2021. Led by Store Manager Samantha Rule, the team makes amazing food and provides friendly service to its customers. Left: Raymond, Sam, and Teresa all suited up for the annual deep clean. Above: Teresa and Molly, who make so many of the store's tasty treats.

Friday Night at The Store

In 2020, we began offering dinner at the General Store on Friday nights, with dine-in dinners (with beer and wine available) in the summer months, and Friday night take-out when sitting on the patio is less desirable. These dinners have been very popular, allowing the staff to exercise their creativity, and providing delicious dining options for local residents.

If you haven't done so already, please sign up for the store's weekly newsletter with menus and links to online ordering.

<https://harrisvillegeneralstore.com/>



Above: a sample of the dine-in menus offered on Friday Night at the Store in the summer months. Weekly take-out is available on Fridays through the winter.

General Store Challenges

Most of the fears and concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic are behind us now that most people in the community, and everyone at the store, is vaccinated. However, during 2021 the store still faced many challenges, primarily related to difficulties staffing, obtaining food and supplies consistently, and getting new equipment, when needed.

We truly appreciate all the financial support for the store, including the walk-in refrigerator (now delayed until at least February 2022 due to inability to get parts) and convection oven (also delayed). We look forward to receiving this new equipment soon, to boost our productivity and efficiency. Thanks again for continuing to support the store and being patient as we wait to make these improvements.



This summer, the Harrisville General Store had a large, wonderful staff! We were sorry to see so many leave at the end of summer to return to school or take new jobs. The great team that remains enjoyed a nice staff send-off party at the end of summer, show here.

HHI Committee Reports

Although the staff at Historic Harrisville and the Harrisville General Store handle most of the daily operations of the organization, a significant amount of work is conducted by HHI's committees, comprised of Trustees and other volunteers. If you are participating in a committee of HHI, please let us know.

All are welcome!

Historic Harrisville Committees:

- Archive
- Communications
- Conservation
- Development
- Education
- Energy
- Events
- Governance
- Preservation
- Safety
- Store

Energy Committee

Historic Harrisville is committed to minimizing and mitigating our contribution to climate change by improving efficiency, using renewable forms of energy, and promoting energy consciousness.

This year, the Energy Committee has been working hard on all aspects of this goal by:

- Improving efficiency by building and installing storm windows and adding insulation
- Generating renewable energy by maintaining and operating the hydro-electric equipment;
- Working with Harrisville Designs to plan for installation of for additional renewable solar energy generation;
- Modifying and updating heating system controls to ensure more efficient operation; and
- Replacing obsolete heating equipment with more efficient equipment that utilizes renewable energy



Chair of HHI's Energy Committee Doug Gline has been working hard to ensure extensive improvements (insulation, efficient heating, solar power) as part of Harrisville Designs renovations to the Cheshire Mill Complex.

Coming Soon: Solar!

Harrisville Designs, which now occupies all of Mill No. 6 in the Cheshire Mills Complex, has contracted with Revision Energy for the installation of an 80 KW PV solar power system to be installed on the flat roof behind the brick parapet. The 186-panel array is estimated to produce over 90,000 kWh on an annual basis.

Historic Harrisville will be looking into fund raising for the construction of our own PV solar power generating system. Revision Energy has proposed a 35-40 KW PV system for the southeast sloping roof of Building 5. It is estimated the new 108 panel system would produce an additional 40,000 kWh annually, providing renewable energy for HHI's other buildings (via group net metering).



With Historic District Commission approval, HHI and Harrisville Designs are working together to plan the installation of a solar array on the nearly-flat roof of Mill No. 6, which will generate the electricity needed by HD's operations.

Hydro-Electric Generation

After almost 3 years in operation our power generation total is over 440,000 kilowatt hours (kWh).

This YTD we have produced 125,000 kWh and presently have a credit of 42,400 kWh with Eversource to offset electrical usage at the mill complex.

This year we anticipate enrolling HHI into a “group net metering plan” which will allow us to utilize the excess power generated at the Mill complex to offset electrical use in some of our other buildings, rather than saving the credit for use by the mill complex later. The General Store being a prime candidate with its significant electrical power requirements.

We continue to maintain and improve the infrastructure necessary for efficient operation of our hydropower facility.



38 kW “Francis Type” Hydro Turbine drives an induction generator, installed in Oct/Nov 2018.

Turbine/Generator was manufactured by Dependable Turbines Ltd. in British Columbia, Canada.
T/G Controls and Utility Intertie designed and built by Thomson Turbine Generators.

Annual power production ranges between 140,000kWh-160,000 kWh.
Cheshire Mill Complex uses approx. 60%-70% of the power generated and the excess electricity is put back onto the local power grid for use/credit later.

Mill Complex Energy Usage

We have recently invested funds into our pellet boiler heating system including replacing existing combustion chambers and circulation pumps. A pellet boiler control system upgrade was also performed to allow for more efficient operation of our bio-mass heating system.

As part of the renovation project undertaken by Harrisville Designs in the Mill complex, we have upgraded heating system controls to direct digital (DDC) for better control and monitoring of space temperatures in Buildings 5 and 6 and added these renovated spaces to our Building Management System.

We removed a failed oil-fired furnace in Walt Seigel's motorcycle shop and in its place have installed and connected new hot water heating units to the Mill complex heating loop which utilizes the bio-mass wood pellets as the primary energy source.

We have constructed and installed plastic storm window inserts for the windows in Building 6 which should result in more comfortable conditions and substantial heating energy savings.

As part of the Harrisville Designs renovations new spray foam insulation has been added to areas of Building 5 to reduce heat loss.

Harrisville Designs has also installed new energy efficient LED type lighting in the spaces that they have renovated.



Above: Kat O'Brien was hired by Historic Harrisville to make and install storm windows in Mill 6. Now that that project is finished, she is repairing storm windows for other buildings, and helping Fred restore the large wood sash windows at the Community (Brick) Church.

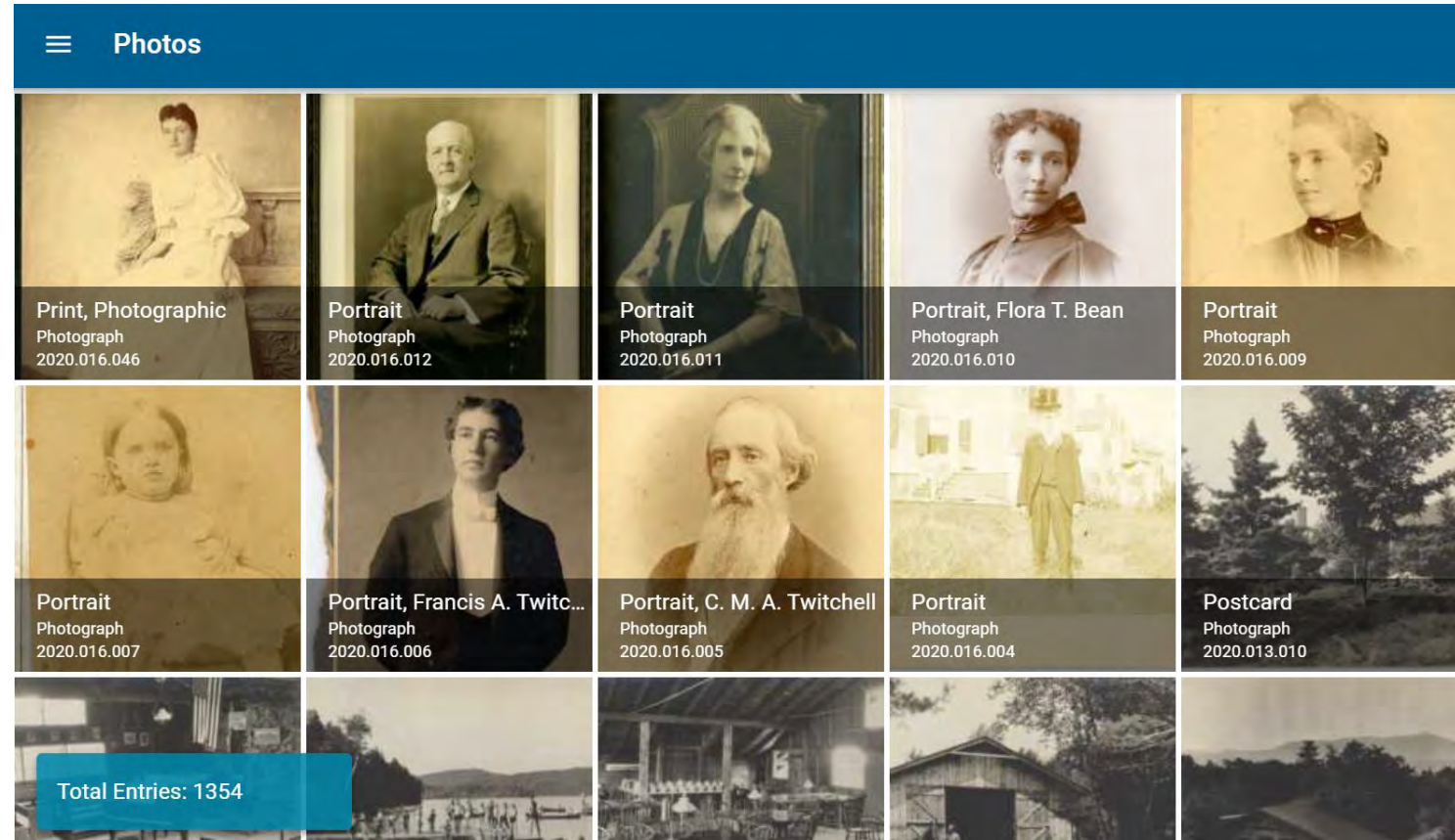
Closed cell foam insulation was added beneath the exposed floor of Mill No. 5, built by Filtrine in 1985. The space above, which was formerly storage, now houses Harrisville Designs' shipping department .

Archive Committee

The archive committee has not met since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, but limited work in the archive continues.

- We have migrated our electronic catalog to a new platform, which makes scanned items much more accessible.
- We have also acquired a new scanner and are working on digitizing additional records.
- An intern and part-time staff person prepared two exhibits for the 50th anniversary.

The archive committee will be re-activated in 2022.

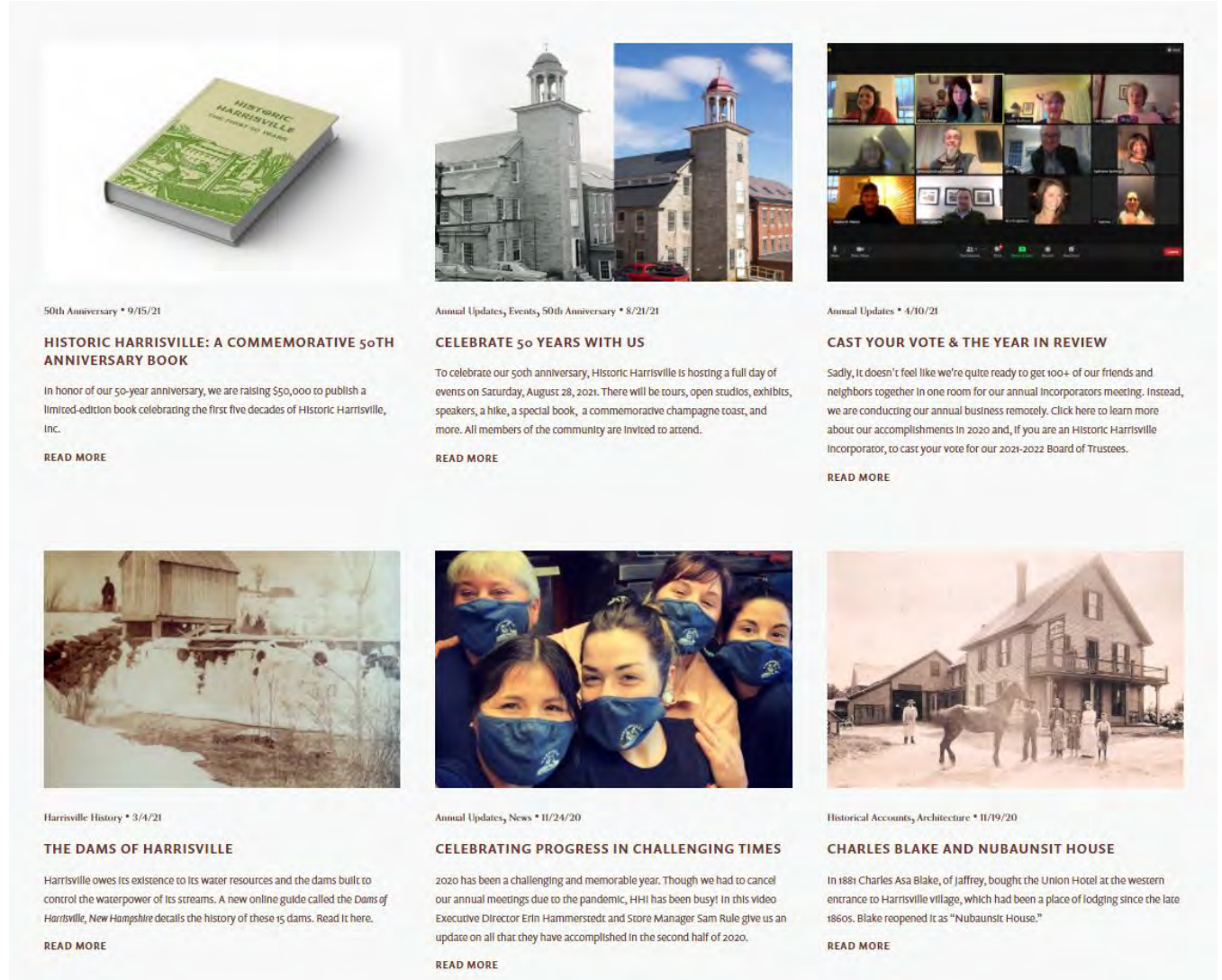


The HHI Archive has migrated to a new platform that allows for easier, visual access to historic records, and will enable us to share select collections with the public via our website.

Communications Committee

Over the past year, the Communications Committee has made great strides with community outreach, which was one of the goals of the new strategic plan.

We launched a new, improved website last fall, which has allowed us to easily accept online donations, post regular articles, and connect better with our supporters. We are sending out email newsletters for both HHI and the Harrisville General Store and posting updates on the website and social media. Publishing articles in *Common Threads* has also allowed us to tell our stories to a wider audience.



50th Anniversary • 9/15/21
HISTORIC HARRISVILLE: A COMMEMORATIVE 50TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK
In honor of our 50-year anniversary, we are raising \$50,000 to publish a limited-edition book celebrating the first five decades of Historic Harrisville, Inc.
[READ MORE](#)

Annual Updates, Events, 50th Anniversary • 8/21/21
CELEBRATE 50 YEARS WITH US
To celebrate our 50th anniversary, Historic Harrisville is hosting a full day of events on Saturday, August 28, 2021. There will be tours, open studios, exhibits, speakers, a hike, a special book, a commemorative champagne toast, and more. All members of the community are invited to attend.
[READ MORE](#)

Annual Updates • 4/10/21
CAST YOUR VOTE & THE YEAR IN REVIEW
Sadly, it doesn't feel like we're quite ready to get 100+ of our friends and neighbors together in one room for our annual Incorporators meeting. Instead, we are conducting our annual business remotely. Click here to learn more about our accomplishments in 2020 and, if you are an Historic Harrisville Incorporator, to cast your vote for our 2021-2022 Board of Trustees.
[READ MORE](#)

Harrisville History • 3/4/21
THE DAMS OF HARRISVILLE
Harrisville owes its existence to its water resources and the dams built to control the waterpower of its streams. A new online guide called the *Dams of Harrisville, New Hampshire* details the history of these 15 dams. Read it here.
[READ MORE](#)

Annual Updates, News • 11/24/20
CELEBRATING PROGRESS IN CHALLENGING TIMES
2020 has been a challenging and memorable year. Though we had to cancel our annual meetings due to the pandemic, HHI has been busy! In this video Executive Director Erin Hammerstedt and Store Manager Sam Rule give us an update on all that they have accomplished in the second half of 2020.
[READ MORE](#)

Historical Accounts, Architecture • 11/19/20
CHARLES BLAKE AND NUBAUNSIIT HOUSE
In 1881 Charles Asa Blake, of Jaffrey, bought the Union Hotel at the western entrance to Harrisville village, which had been a place of lodging since the late 1860s. Blake reopened it as "Nubaunsiit House."
[READ MORE](#)

HHI's new website includes a "news" page with blog posts to fun and important updates and information.

Development Committee

Although there were no major capital fundraising campaigns this year, HHI thanks all its supporters for participating in several smaller, targeted projects.

With your help, we raised:

- \$ 23,856 for stained glass restoration at St. Denis church
- \$ 29,101 for the Harrisville General Store, including \$15,521 for a new walk-in refrigerator and \$2,780 towards a new convection oven
- \$ 30,863 to produce a book commemorating HHI's first 50 years (*fundraising for this project is ongoing!*)

Next year we will likely focus on capital fundraising for the rehabilitation of St. Denis as a community and cultural center, and continued restoration of the stained-glass windows.

We also hope to begin working with you on planned giving, to ensure that HHI's good work can continue long after its current supporters are gone.

Our annual appeal will begin soon. We hope you feel compelled to contribute to this important, sustaining year-end fundraiser!



A photo exhibit of Harrisville buildings in 1968 and 2020 illustrates the amazing historic preservation work that has occurred in Harrisville more than 50 years. The cars and trees have changed, but the buildings remain the same!

Town Committee Reports

Historic Harrisville's Board of Trustees includes representative of the Select Board, the Historic District Commission, and the Conservation Commission.

Other boards and committees were also invited to share updates.

As always, please refer to the town website for additional information.

<https://harrisvillenh.org/>



Historic District Commission

The Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 2, at the Granite Mill to receive comments on draft regulations for exterior changes to properties in the Harrisville Historic District. This discussion will continue at the HDC meeting on Tuesday, November 23. The draft regulations can be found at:

<https://harrisvillenh.org/government/historic-district-commission/>

The HDC recently updated its reference photographs for sites in the District.

Submitted by Anne Howe on Behalf of the HDC



Harrisville Trails

The winter and spring of 2021 was especially busy for the Harrisville Trails volunteer group. Over the years many townspeople had expressed interest in having a map of the Harrisville trail system to be made available.

Earl Horn, a trails volunteer, offered to take on the project. With a small group of other volunteers, the work began. Funds to support this project were acquired through the MAST Grant Program. Trails were identified and landowner permission was obtained. The initial draft of the map was created with the help and expertise of Southwest Regional Planning Commission. Then the endless work of editing, additions and corrections continued. There was also a full page of text written to describe the history, special features and difficulty of the trails. While this was all happening, trail signs were being created, placements chosen and parking areas identified. The goal was to have the map completed by April. A copy of the map was included in the April/May edition of Common Threads. Mission Accomplished!

Harrisville Trails volunteers also helped identify trails on the Zophar Willard property owned by Historic Harrisville. These trails offer pedestrians safe hiking between Hancock Road, the River Trail and upper Prospect Street.

Submitted by Barbara Watkins on Behalf of Harrisville Trails



Examples of the new trail signs that have been made and installed by the Harrisville Trails group.



Looking Forward to 2022

Annual Appeal

Each year, HHI conducts an annual fundraising campaign to support our operations. Our rental properties and general store cover most of our expenses, but we experience a shortfall each year. AND we look forward to improving and expanding! Your support allows us to keep doing what we do and do more! Please donate online via our website at <https://www.historicharrisville.org/donate>, or mail a check to:

Historic Harrisville

PO Box 79

Harrisville, NH 03450

