



Middletown Springs Historical Society, Inc.
Middletown Springs, Vermont 05757

Newsletter

November - December, 1987

Dear Friends:

After a busy summer and a successful program of eight special exhibits in the museum, the season ended with the annual meeting, at which two new trustees were elected: Joanne Trucker and Steven Sax. The remaining trustees are Kay Avery, Robert Clayton, Herbert Davison, Karen Kay, Theron Krouse, Shirley Moyer, Elsie Norton, Larry Roach and David Wright.

At the next meeting, December 5, the following slate of officers were elected: President: Robert Clayton, Vicepresident: Herbert Davison, Secretary: Larry Roach, Treasurer: Shirley Moyer.

At the same meeting these committee appointments were made: museum: Hazel Grover and Janet Webber, membership: Karen Kay, public relations: Robert Clayton, building maintenance: Kevin Rooney, mineral springs park: Theron Krouse, library: Elsie Norton, and research: Herbert Davison.

PRE-CHRISTMAS EVENT

For the third year the popular event, Xmas on the Green, will be held around the lighted Christmas tree just below the driveway between the Church and Community House. The date is Sunday, December 13, at 4 P.M. Sheet music of popular songs will be passed around, and the singing will be led by Danny McKeen. All are welcome and please bring a flashlight if possible. It gets dark around 4! If the weather is

THE COMMUNITY HOUSE



The top picture above shows the house as a tavern about 1800, and below as it looks today as a community center.

favorable, the perimeter of the Green will be lighted by candles.

The Grange is in charge of the whole event, and the Ladies Aid will provide refreshments in the dining room of the Community House after the singing. The Stencil Room will be open from 2 to 4 with an exhibit of old-fashioned toys.

For a renewal of membership please make checks payable to the M.S. Historical Society and send to Karen Kay, North St., Middletown Springs, VT, 05757. The dues are: Individual--\$4, Family-\$5, Contributing-\$10, Sustaining-\$50, Life-\$100.

Name Address Zip Amount

CATCHING UP ON OUR HISTORY

Almost everyone familiar with our town knows that Middletown received its charter from the Vt. Legislature in 1784 and was rechartered as Middletown Springs in 1885. But there is a date variation.

The Rutland County Directory of 1881-2 contains a colored map showing the well-known shape of the town surrounded by Poultney, Wells, Tinmouth and Ira, and it is labeled MIDDLETOWN. Within are two dots. One is Burnham Hollow, and the other is Middletown Springs P.O.

THE TOWN DESCRIBED

In its description of the town it refers to several characteristics, then adds: "Middletown Springs, a post village in the center of the town, has three hotels, four stores...(etc)"

This obviously means that sometime after the mineral springs were rediscovered in 1869, but well before the 1885 grant of "Springs", the full name was used, but referring only to the close village area. Interesting!

KEEP US INFORMED

The Newsletter is sent by Class 2 mail and will not be forwarded if the person addressed has moved. If you do move, or know of some member who has, please let us know. We don't want you to miss a single issue!

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A RARE VIEW



Now and again a visitor will ask when the Montvert Hotel burned. This rare view shows the 35-year old veteran being carefully dismantled in 1906.

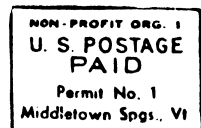
NATIONAL REGISTER STILL AVAILABLE

If there are homeowners who missed being on the National Register of Historic Places because of their house's location, there is still a chance to apply for individual membership. Herb Davison has the necessary application forms.

RENEWALS FOR 1988?

Membership renewals for 1988 are not due until the next Newsletter, but you may use the form on the opposite page if you wish. If there is an '86 after your address this time, please do use it.

Herb Davison
Research Chairman



Mr. David Wright

Town 05757