

SEE Notice Below!

- ***Letters Advising Property Owners of New Property Values***
- ***Trunk or Treat and Halloween Dates/Times***
- ***History Corner: Downtown New Hampton Was Once “Smith’s Village”***

THE “NEW HAMPTON CONNECTION”

E-mail notices will be sent from this office with dates, locations and times of Town Meetings, special meetings, special events, and other important town events or information. We hope you will find these notices helpful. These e-mails will not provide notice of regular scheduled meetings, deadlines, holiday hours, general information, etc. For such scheduled information, please check the town web site www.new-hampton.nh.us or call the Town Office at 744-3559. All public meeting notices are posted at the Town Office and Public Works Department. All town newspaper notices are placed in the Laconia Daily Sun.

Please talk with other New Hampton residents who may not have been contacted to see if they are interested in receiving these e-mails. I also would encourage you to get the “word out” about important information to those who may not have e-mail.

If at some future time you change your e-mail address or you wish to be removed from the list please send an e-mail to selectmen@new-hampton.nh.us.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Michael A. Drake, Eric Shaw, and Bruce Harvey

Town of New Hampton
6 Pinnacle Hill Road
Tel. 744-3559

October 16, 2023

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Completing the Revaluation Process

Letters being sent to property owners on October 16th

The assessing firm of Commerford Neider Perkins (CNP) has set the final property values based on the current market conditions. CNP is sending each property owner, a letter with their new assessed value and detailed information regarding taxpayer hearings if there are questions or concerns regarding the value. The letters will be sent to the last address of record so if you do not receive yours in a timely manner, please contact the Selectmen’s Office so we can provide you with the information. *(A sample of this letter is available on the Town Website homepage.)* There will be a limited period of time to schedule a

hearing ([call 603-410-6444](tel:603-410-6444), between Oct. 23rd - 25th, with Hearings being held Oct. 27th through Oct. 30th). These hearings are to be scheduled with Commerford Neider Perkins. Once these hearings have been completed the new valuations will be used to generate the new tax rate and tax bills. If a property owner is still aggrieved by their value after they receive their tax bill, they may then file an abatement with the town by March 1, 2024.

An explanation of how a revaluation is done can be seen on the homepage of the Town Website.

For the tax year 2023, as required by state law, all property values have been updated to market value as of 4/1/23 using qualified sales in the Town of New Hampton for the prior two years. This process is required at least every five years. Market value is defined as the amount of money a typical, well-informed purchaser would be willing to pay for a property in an arm's-length sale, also known as a "qualified sale" per NH RSA 75:1.



Trunk or Treat
Saturday, October 28th from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Anyone looking to participate should have their car at the public safety building no later than 4PM.

**Regular Trick or Treating will be on Halloween (Tues, Oct. 31st)
from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.**

History Corner
Downtown New Hampton Was Once "Smith's Village"

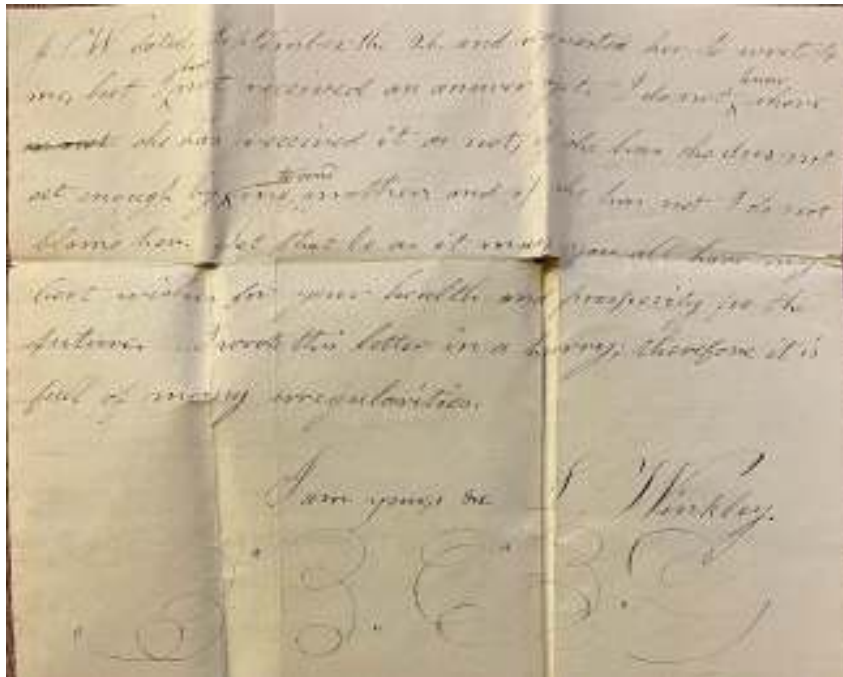
Captain Daniel Smith (1767-1828), son of Daniel Smith of Exeter, came to New Hampton from Meredith. He settled in the village and became so successful that the center was soon called "Smith's Village." He started a grist mill below Hatchery Pond, built Smith's Tavern at the corner of Shingle Camp and Main Street, and created a toll bridge across the Pemigewasset River. Elected as a selectman, he served in town government for many years.

Featured today is a letter from 1827, with the extremely rare postmark, "Smith's Village." Samuel Winkley of Barrington, NH enrolled as a student in New Hampton School in the fall of 1827, and in this November letter to his brother, William, he looks to arrange travel home. He writes:

Sir, with much pleasure I seat myself to write a few lines to you... I am well and contented, and have been remarkably so, ever since I have been here... This is a fine school, and it has good instructors, and the scholars are all very friendly, and obliging to me, though they are all strangers...

I wish that whoever comes [for me], would come on Friday the twenty third day of this month; the school will finish on that day, and I should like to go home the next day, or if you could make it convenient; I should like to go to the Shakers and stay all night and go to meeting; as it would not be much out of the way. I board at Mr. James Howes, about one mile northeast of the Academy. The Academy is about 5 miles West of Foggs Tavern.

...You all have my best wishes for your health and prosperity for the future. I wrote this letter in a hurry; therefore it is full of many irregularities.



Surprised at the idea of the Shakers offering a “B’n’B”, I checked with the archivists at Canterbury Shaker Village and found that, indeed, the Shakers welcomed overnight guests. NHS students boarded at the James Howe home on Straits Road, and Fogg’s Tavern, between Winona and Waukegan, was a popular stopping place for travelers in the region.

Post Script: There is a story that has come down through time about Captain Smith and his bridge over the Pemi:

At one point when floodwaters swept the bridge away, it is said that Smith stood on the shore and remarked bitterly, “There goes some more of my property to hell.” Upon hearing which, a bystander is said to have replied, “Well, you can recover it when you get there, Esquire Smith!”



Collapse of a Toll Bridge (built after Capt. Smith's)

With thanks to:

A Small Gore of Land: A History of New Hampton, New Hampshire Founded in 1777, Pauline Swain Merrill, John C. Gowan and others, 1977

New Hampton, New Hampshire: A Chronicle, Kathy Neustadt and Tom Curren, 2003

“Fogg Tavern (for) American Studies,” Kathie Harpole, 1969, Gordon-Nash Library archives

Note: copies of the first two books above are available for sale in the Gordon-Nash Library.

For more information on the history of the town, please visit the newly updated New Hampton Historical Society website at <https://www.newhamptonhistory.org/>

Kent Bicknell
President, NHHS
Curator of Special Collections
The Gordon-Nash Library at New Hampton School
September 27th, 2023

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