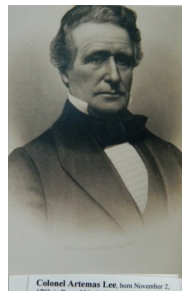


Narragansett Historical Society

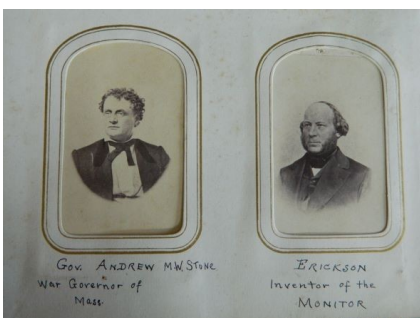
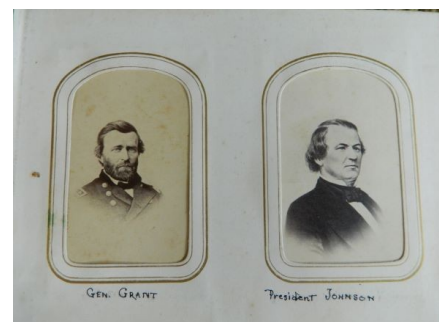
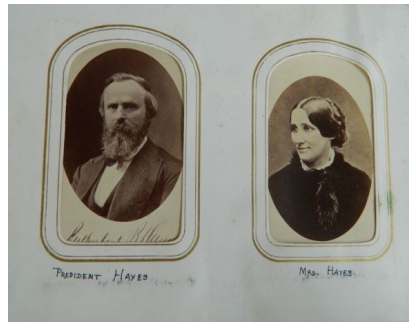
On the Common in Templeton MA

October 2021

Next meeting Wednesday night November 3rd. at 7pm



Glimpses in the past are provided by the many albums donated through the years. Here Artemus Lee and his wife Lucy show us the home and business they built on South Road back in 1829. His political interests brought him to create this album of important people and images of our history. We currently have over 40 of these family albums digitized and available to view on our computer in the document room. As winter creeps in, we will close the building after our December 5th tree lighting event. If you see the signs up on a Saturday afternoon or the trucks parked out front on Tuesday night, you really should stop in for a visit.



Silver Level Sponsor

SCOTTY'S POTTIES



Your business can be shown here
Or on any page in our newsletter.
Ask your employer to sponsor The Historical Society

Event Sponsors



**A special Thank
you to
Templeton Light**



TCTV
Templeton Community TV
Public | Education | Government

Information & Entertainment for Templeton



Find us on:

TCTV Cable Channel 8



J. O. Winch

James Orville Winch

The sign hanging outside the cobbler shop on the east side of South Road read “J. Orville Winch” with the letters forming an arch over the image of a boot. It was here that James Orville Winch made the shoes and boots for Templeton men, women and children. He also cut the hair of many of the male residents as well, as it seemed to be the New England custom that a shoemaker would offer this service. But J. Orville Winch was much more than just a cobbler and barber. He was one of Templeton’s leading citizens in the second half of the 1800’s to the time of his death in 1911.



Orville learned the trade of boot and shoe making from Otis Davis whose shop stood in the space just south of the Brick Store (now the Historical Society Building.) Upon completing his apprenticeship in the spring of 1856, and not yet twenty years old, Orville was offered the chance to purchase the business, which he did after ascertaining that it was because Mrs. Davis felt her social ambitions did not fit in well with those of Templeton. The building, originally the law office of Hon. Lovell Walker, was in poor repair so Orville had it removed and located his shop in the north end of the ell of the Brick Store Building. It was soon apparent that this location would not accommodate the business that the shop experienced.

In 1858, J. O. Winch bought the house on South Road (#45) from Dr. Jonathan W. D. Osgood and shortly thereafter decided to have a more spacious building erected for his growing business. The new building, built in 1872 by Abel Dudley, was just south of the house and quite close to the road. The three room shop measured forty feet by eighteen, was clapboarded and painted white. The shop made and sold a variety of shoes and boots for men, women and children with prices ranging from 35 cents for carpet slippers to \$5 for French calf boots with hemlock soles, pegged. Haircuts were priced at 10 cents, with an extra 5 cents if the beard was trimmed.

More can be learned about J. Orville, his family, the home on South Road, and the business of earning a living in the later 1800’s in Templeton. Stop by the Narragansett Historical Society Building to access the books and other manuscripts there.



*Thank you * Sponsorship * Thank you*

Gold Sponsors 2021



SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION

Platinum	\$5,000.00	Gold	\$1,000.00	Silver	\$750.00
Bronze	\$500.00	Event	\$250.00		

Lifetime memberships are still only \$100.00 sign up a friend to-

NARRAGANSETT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PRESENTS:

AN OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!

Featuring our 2nd annual fresh cut
wreath sale!



**SUNDAY DECEMBER 5, 2021
1:00PM-4:30PM
1 BOYNTON RD TEMPLETON MA**

Also including:

Bake sale

Music by Narragansett Marching Band

Christmas Tree Lighting

A special visit from Santa

See Facebook for more details



"A moment in time"

by: Harry Aldrich Jr. Historian

Memories of The Past

Well, fall is here and soon the leaves will be turning to many colors and falling off the trees. I thought this month, I would write about what it was like back in the mid 1900's this time of the year. Back then what is today Patriots Road was the main route from Boston to the Mohawk Trail, Rt. 2. Once the leaves had started to turn, people would come through town heading out to the trail on the weekends to observe the foliage. The traffic in the centers of Templeton and East Templeton was so heavy that the town would have to have police officers on duty in both centers to control the traffic. Without them, it was almost impossible to get out of any of the side streets. There would be a solid line of traffic from East Templeton all the way through Templeton Center. As the town did not have full times officers back then, they were lucky if they could find enough officers for traffic control.

In the center of Templeton, there is a house that sets next to the old post office that was once the home of Doctor Batchelder who had a practice in Templeton during the Civil War. At the time of this story it was owned by Mr. Hervey Cormier better known as Snowball. Snowball worked at Gem Industries at the time. He came up with an idea how to take advantage of all the traffic and purchased a popcorn machine. On Saturday and Sunday's, he would set up his popcorn machine and sell popcorn. He found it to be quite profitable and later had a small building put up and started selling hotdogs and burgers along with the popcorn. Business was so good that he eventually quit working in the shop and started a business called the Templeton Lunch. As time went on, his little restaurant became very popular and got a reputation for serving good home cooked meals and deserts. The business thrived for many years until Snowball passed away. After which it slowly diminished and eventually was sold. Recently it was used as a bakery.



President's Page

by: Brian P. Tanguay



This month we had the opportunity to acquire a Stage Coach, yes, an original Concord Stage coach from the 1800's. Since we just got the sleigh and moved the Boynton Wagon into the Carriage shed, there is simply no room. So I found a home for it in Westminster with a family member where we can restore it over the next year or so. A few simple wooden pieces, secure the flooring to be a bit stronger, make a few hinges for the luggage rack, and work on the wheels and axles. Most likely it will be painted and pinstriped as it may have been back in the day. This coach was used in Gardner for many years.



Plans include setting it up during our events both on the common, in the garden and at the kite fest for photo opportunities. It's always a bonus for the kids to climb up into these historic vehicles to get a feel for what it was like for their Great Great Grandparents when they moved about in the 1800's.

We also were the recipient of a donation from an anonymous fund kept at the Community Foundation of North Central Mass, a similar fund, like ours, but run by local business men who search out non profits and lend them a hand. I approached one of those involved when I heard of this fund and after a letter was sent to introduce our organization and the needs we are up against, they agreed to offer a \$6,000.00 grant for use as we see fit. I am also searching other funds for similar guidelines to help move the Grange project along. Our involvement with the Foundation has proven beneficial since they provided us with a \$7,500.00 grant a few years ago. Thanks to good people who set up these funds and those who manage them, we can build our Society quicker and attain our goals.

2022 is coming fast, we applied to the Templeton Cultural Council for grants to be used for entertainment and supplies during our events planned. Similar to the past years, we hope to find the help we need to keep them going, if you enjoy our events, pick the one you like the most and offer to spend some time with us to help with the many tasks we need to get done. From as simple as sitting in the building to watch our visitors and answer questions, to setting up outside and tearing down at the end of the day. Either way, we really could use more help.

2022 OFFICERS:
President: Brian Tanguay
Vice Pres. Thomas Hurd
Secretary Amy Guthrie
Treasurer Kelly Elliot
Curator: Brian Tanguay
Historian: Harry Aldrich

2022 DIRECTORS:
3 year Mary Miller
2 year Amy Guthrie
1 year Jessie Duguay
Harry Aldrich John Chouinard Eileen Bouvier
vacant vacant vacant

TRUSTEES:
Tom Jeleniewski
David Huhtala
John Brooks
vacant

Contact info:

Main email: nh1924society@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Brian Tanguay



**ITEMS FOR THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME
any time.**



Find us on Facebook—Search for **TempletonMuseum (Narr Hist Society)** It's filled with the History of Templeton, Baldwinville, Otter River and East Templeton. Pictures, stories, and faces of the people who lived here years ago. Some new images will be shared from around the town. We have created a "page" instead of a "profile" 1800 members following

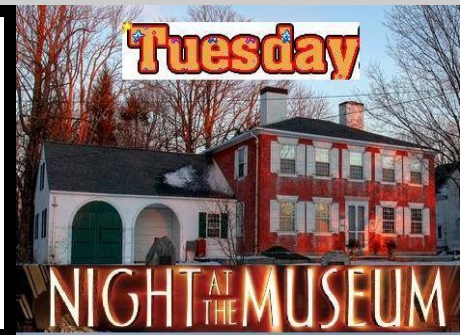
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2021191824825853/>

**Located at 1 Boynton Rd. and 9 Hubbardston Rd
Templeton MA**

Meeting Notice: 7:00 PM unless otherwise advertised

November 3rd Monthly Membership meeting!

Tuesday nights we are open from 6-8pm



DONATIONS ACCEPTED

YES! I would like to make a donation to the
Narragansett Historical Society
I / We have enclosed a check in the amount of \$_____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Thank You

**Narragansett Historical Society and send to
PO Box 354, Templeton, MA 01468.**

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.



**Narragansett Historical Society
P.O. Box 354
Templeton, MA 01468**