



The FERRYMAN

ANNUAL MEETING

VOLUME VII No.2

DOBBS FERRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OCTOBER 1986

DOBBS FERRY HISTORY PRESERVED
IN MICROFILM OF "YESTERDAY'S NEWS"

The Dobbs Ferry Historical Society has been pursuing a program of preservation microfilming of the Greenburgh Register and the Dobbs Ferry Register newspapers (published between 1879 and 1970), with the help of matching grant funds from the New York State Shared-Cost Newspaper Microfilming Program, from private lenders, and the support of members and the general public who see the value in making "Yesterday's News" accessible for the future.

The process of preparing historic newspapers for microfilming is detailed, time-consuming and fascinating. Since the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society began its project a few years ago, many careful, volunteer hands, aged 14-80, aided in the process.

This past summer we were fortunate in employing the volunteer efforts of a group of students, organized by Eagle Scout-candidate Jeff Hedberg, which included: Alex Berger, Scott Filizzola, Bryce Inouye, Kris Johnson, Julie Kahn, Robert Mohl, Jennifer Ward-Willis and Juliana Yun.

These High School students were trained in historic newspaper preparation by Historical Society director, Tema Harnik. They learned the care and handling of fragile paper materials, cleaning methods, use of document repair tape, and how to "read" bound volumes for dating consistency and numbering information which will lead to the preparation of typed "targets" to be filmed within the issues of the newspapers.

The summer "preparers" logged over 70 hours of recording and repairing volumes from 1930-37. Additional welcome assistance came from Historical Society member, Mrs. Georgette Hedberg.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING: Oct. 8



Aerial views combine with grass-roots architectural awareness, as the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society presents its Annual Meeting on Wednesday evening, October 8 at 7:30pm, in the Community Room of the Library at 153 Main Street.

A brief business meeting, and election of Trustees to the class of '89, will be followed by a free program from 8-9pm with Dobbs Ferry's 1986 Artist-in-Residence, Lynn Margileth, who will illustrate her view of "Dobbs Ferry Through an Artist's Eyes," in slides, paintings and drawings.

Ms. Margileth's unique vision, artistic expression and keen teaching skills aided Middle and High School students in interpreting local architecture in linoleum prints and drawings, 18 of which were published as postcards.

The Annual Meeting program will feature a series of aerial, color slide views of Dobbs Ferry taken by Ms. Margileth from a plane, in flight over the Hudson shore-- affording even life-long, local residents a view of the village they've probably never before encountered. All are welcome to this free event. Come and meet artists, art students and members of the Dobbs Ferry community. Please use the garden entrance on Cedar Street.

1886

DOBBS FERRY 100 YEARS AGO: EXCERPTS
FROM THE PAGES OF THE GREENBURGH
REGISTER NEWSPAPER IN 1886

August 6, 1886 (Vol.VII, no.6, p.4):

From an editorial:
"How to Build Up Dobbs Ferry"



"Talk it up.
Write it up.
Help to improve it.
Beautify its streets.
Patronize its merchants.
Advertise in its newspapers.
Contribute to a village church.
Speak well of its enterprising

public-spirited citizens. If you are rich,
invest in something; employ somebody.
Cheer up the men who go in for improvements.
Don't kick about any necessary public im-
provement because it is not at your own door,
or for fear that your taxes may be raised a
few cents.

Never spend a dollar out of town that you
can use for the same purpose in town.
Buy your goods, employ labor, and pay
your taxes here."

Nov. 5, 1886 (Vol.VII, No.19, p.5):

An account of the ceremonies surrounding
the inauguration of the Statue of Liberty,
October 28, 1886:



"(President Grover) Cleveland stepped
forward, and, with his left hand leaning
on the railing before him and the right
thrust into the breast of his frock coat,
went at once into his speech of acceptance:
..."We are not here today to bow before
the representation of a fierce and war-
like god,...but we joyously contemplate
instead our own deity keeping watch and
ward before the open gates of America....
Instead of grasping in her hand thunder-
bolts of terror and of death, she holds
aloft the light which illumines the way
to man's enfranchisement.

"We will not forget that liberty has here
made her home;.... A stream of light shall
pierce the darkness of ignorance and man's
oppression, until liberty enlightens the
world."

"A number of the French guests spoke, and
then Chauncey Depew delivered the commem-
orative oration, and the services closed amid
a din of cannon and whistles and cheers the
like of which was never heard before."

Feb. 12, 1886 (Vol.VI, No.32, p.5):

"Mr. McComb's new houses on Palisade
Street are likely to bring a very de-
sireable class of citizens into the
village; a class who are not so poor
as to be dominated by their wants, nor
so rich as to be indifferent to public
affairs."

May 7, 1886 (Vol.VI, No.44, p.4):

"The shad are running abundantly in
the river. The fishermen are now ship-
ping from this village to the New York
market about 1000 every day. The catch
this season will be a fair, but not a
large one. It was interfered with at
first by the dirty condition of the
river, which rendered it impossible
to use the nets."

May 28, 1886 (Vol.VI, No.47, p.4):

"Twenty-three bicycles and one tricycle
were in sight on Main Street at one
time last Sunday. The tricycle bore a
gentleman and a lady. The bicycle is a
useful invention which has come to
stay."



June 4, 1886 (Vol.VI, No.48, p.5):

"John Flaherty, who has lived in this
village for several years past, is on
the ocean on his return to Ireland, in
some what impaired health."

July 9, 1886 (Vol.VII, No.1, p.5):

"Father O'Conner, after a quarter of a
century of continuous hard labor, is
enjoying his well-earned rest at But-
lerstown, Ireland."

IN MEMORIAM: 1986

JESS PEARCE, former village historian;
JON NIELSEN, designer, Ferryman logo;
HELEN BAUMAN
BETTY HAZEN
LYDIA STEINEMAN

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE TO THE 1985-86
TRUSTEES OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THANKS FOR COMING TO OUR CLASS--
DOBBS FERRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN THE CLASSROOM

Members of the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society extend thanks to the industrious Board of Trustees who served during 85-86:

Madeline Barker, Virginia Barton, Laurel Frees, Richard Hazen, Joanne Kavanagh, Frances Neill, Sr. Mary Agnes Parrell, Cathy Polgreen, Filomena Ricciardi, Christine Roraback, Elisabeth Rothschild, Martha Schwartz, Henry Walter, John Whiting and Steve Yarabek.

Nominated for re-election (3-year term):
Laurel Frees, Sr. Mary Agnes Parrell
and Filomena Ricciardi.

Nominated to fill the Trustee class of '89:
Peter Sivco
Betty Thompson

One additional Trustee will be nominated
to fill a vacancy in the class of '87.

ORAL HISTORY STAFF DEVELOPMENT COURSE
OFFERED FOR AREA TEACHERS IN MARCH '87

Historical Society Director, Tema Harnik, will be giving a course in oral history for classroom use at the Teacher Center of Ardsley, Greenburgh and Elmsford in March and April of 1987.

Open to inservice credit-seekers whether or not they teach in member school districts of the Center, the class will meet Tuesdays, from 4-6:30pm March 3- April 7 at the Teacher Center's Warburg Campus in Hartsdale.

The course will introduce oral history as a communications and research tool, and focus on the variety of its classroom adaptations within the social studies and language arts curriculums. Participants will learn oral history and interviewing techniques themselves, and be responsible for planning and carrying out a taped interview.

ORAL HISTORY IN DOBBS FERRY

We'd like you to share with us your stories of Irish roots in Dobbs Ferry, and your reminiscences of all immigrant family experiences upon arriving in Dobbs Ferry from other lands. Call or write to us so that we may help to record your memories of other times and traditions.



The historical society has been adding to the education process throughout 1986. Fourth graders in Armonk and Ardsley had complete oral history workshops, led by Tema Harnik. The Armonk project focused on the history of the Byram Hills school district, while our neighbors in Ardsley's Concord Road Elementary School interviewed local residents from all walks of life, as part of a grade-wide study of their village from the time of its 1896 incorporation. All those interviewed by the children were invited to attend the 4th graders' original play, depicting Ardsley in 1896.

Here in Dobbs Ferry, the 4th grade classes of Mrs. Kyner and Miss Pearce had a June showing of "Stucco & Stones: The Look of Italy in Dobbs Ferry", right in their own classroom.

Here's what the Springhurst students wrote to us:

"I am very glad you came to the school to show us the slides. I'm 1/5 Italian, and I like to learn about that. I never knew that the houses in Dobbs Ferry looked like they do in Italy. I used to live at 1 Main Street. My landlord and his family are Italian. There is a grape arbor there where I used to play. Those slides made me realize how much I missed it there.

"Sincerely, Elizabeth C. Kates"

"Thank you for coming. The slides were great. I recognized alot of places. I saw my grandmother('s) house. The history of Dobbs Ferry is very interesting.

"Sincerely, Daniela Amendola"

"... My favorite part was when you showed what Dobbs Ferry use(d) to look like. I also liked...when you showed the resemblance of Dobbs Ferry to Italy. Thank you very much for coming.

"Sincerely, Keith "

"...I liked the scenes of the flowers and brick houses. I also liked some of the scenes in Italy.... I never knew Dobbs Ferry looked like Italy so much. I think the Palazzo is a work of art.... I thought the presentation made me learn a lot.

"Your friend, Elizabeth Newman"

"...I thought it was interesting to see how the Italians brought their ways of doing things to Dobbs Ferry....

"Sincerely, Billy McKinney"

STOREFRONT HISTORY THEATRE PROJECT RECEIVES SUPPORT FROM LOCAL BUSINESS MEMBERS AND FROM THE WESTCHESTER ARTS FUND OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS IN WESTCHESTER

A grant of \$1000 has been awarded in support of the Historical Society's STOREFRONT HISTORY THEATRE slide exhibits, by the Westchester Arts Fund of the Council for the Arts in Westchester. The Historical Society is proud to be among the 51 local cultural organizations (and only 3 historical organizations) receiving a CAW grant for 1986-87.

These funds, in addition to support from our local business and professional members, will go towards developing a new slide episode "Drawn from Dobbs Ferry", which explores local artist's views of this village in paint, print and photography. 1986 Dobbs Ferry artist-in-residence Lynn Margileth has been conducting a series of taped interviews with artists who have used Dobbs Ferry's village-scape as subject matter in their art, and who include: Emile Berger, Rachel Gordon Bernstein, Ralph Fasanella, Evelyn Fitzgerald, Karla Knight, Marilyn Lurio, Cathy Polgreen, Paul Parker, Florence Parker, Natalie Schifano, Vincent Schifano, Dana Walrath and Amie Ziner-Mills.

THANKS TO OUR LOCAL BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN 1986:

ASTORIA FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOC. * DR. ROBERT BAUER, HUDSON VALLEY EYE ASSOCIATES * BROWN BAG BOOKSTORE * CARY'S PHARMACY * CLASSICAL WINES AND LIQUORS D & N AUTO BODY SHOP * DF SERVICE STATION * DAN'S SPORT CENTER * EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME * EVERGREEN FLOWER SHOP * CAROL GILL ASSOCIATES * GOTHAM DESIGN * HASTINGS PRIME MEATS * HASTINGS STATIONERY * HOUSE OF CHARM * HUDSON VALLEY REALTY * JAKES HAIR STUDIO * JAY'S STATIONERY * ROGER FOX AND ARTHUR LERNER, D.D.S. * NISCO CLEANERS DR. HARRY NOYES, PSYCHOLOGICAL MOTIVATIONS * OCEANA PUBLICATIONS * THE OFFICE STORE ON ON KITCHEN * THE PAPER SHOPPE * STANLEY PINSKA ASSOCIATES * PRIDE DRIVE-IN CLEANERS PRUDENTIAL BACHE SECURITIES * READERS HARDWARE * THE REMBAR COMPANY * RICCI'S DELI JOHN P. STREB AND SON, REAL ESTATE * T J'S HOME VIDEO * TONG'S KITCHEN * TREE FROG REALTY/CENTURY 21 * VALENTINO SHOE REPAIR * CAROLYN WORTHING * YE VILLAGE REALTY *

and for the continuing support of the Dobbs Ferry Hospital Association, Dobbs Ferry Woman's Club, Evening section and Day sections; and for the assistance of Morgan Press.

Thanks, too, to those of our members who remember us at work through Corporate Employer Matching Contributions Programs at CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, EXXON, IBM AND THE MOBIL FOUNDATION. Does your employer offer matching cultural/educational contributions?



HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

SUPPORTING.....\$ 50-100	SUSTAINING.....\$ 18
BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL..\$ 30	FAMILY.....\$ 12
CONTRIBUTING.....\$ 25	INDIVIDUAL ADULT...\$ 8
STUDENT/LIMITED INCOME....\$ 3	
RESIDENTS OVER 80.....honorary	

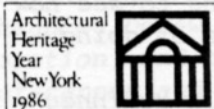


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