

FRAMINGHAM

The quarterly publication of the Framingham Historical Society and Museum

HISTORY

Spring 2006

Volume 3 Number 1



Sewing room at Framingham State College, 1885

Photo from Framingham State College

Inside: House Tour, May 21, 2006

Framingham State College: Household Arts to Consumer Science

Hand Weaving and Fulling Mills in Colonial Framingham

2005 Contributors

The Fabric of Framingham Exhibition

FRAMINGHAM
HISTORICAL SOCIETY &
MUSEUM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles Murphy, President
Elsa Hornfischer, Vice President
Marlene Aron
W. Lee Cleveland
John Del Prete, Jr.
Helen Lemoine
Todd Robecki

STAFF

Anne Murphy, Director
Dana Dauterman Ricciardi, Ph.D., Curator
Jane Whiting, Museum Assistant
Jemie Miceli, Collections Chair
Bonita Bryant, Curator Emerita
Jane Coughlin, Intern
Martha W. Davidson, Librarian
Stephen Herring, Curator Emeritus
Grace Shwert, Gift Shop Manager
Marcia Stevens, Curatorial Assistant
Kevin Swope, Research Assistant
Barbara Taub, Curatorial Assistant
Frederic A. Wallace, Researcher

Framingham History is a quarterly publication of the Framingham Historical Society and Museum. Articles relating to the history of Framingham may be sent to Framingham History, Editor, P.O. Box 2032, Framingham, MA 01703-2032. E-mail submissions are preferred and can be sent as an attached Microsoft Word file to director@framinghamhistory.org.

The Framingham Historical Society and Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supported by its members, individual donors, and foundations. Membership is open to the public. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. For more information call (508) 872-3780, visit our web site at www.FraminghamHistory.org, or see our membership section in the back of this issue.

Museum Hours

Old Academy (16 Vernon Street)
Framingham Timeline Exhibition
Wednesday-Saturday, 12-4 p.m.
Research Library, Wednesday, 10-4

Edgell Memorial Library
(3 Oak Street)

Rotating Exhibitions
Thursday – Saturday 12 – 4 p.m.

From the President..... *Charles Murphy*

Welcome to another edition of *Framingham History*. While the articles enclosed will bring you up to date on a very busy spring and summer, I would like mention our progress with the Buildings Preservation Plan and our proposal to the Town of Framingham to secure long-term leases on the Village Hall, the Edgell Memorial Library and the Old Academy. We are nearly through our cycle of meetings with Ann Beha Architects and at our last meeting we were presented with a very realistic set of numbers and scope of work for the restoration of these historic treasures. The final Preservation Plan, along with its estimated cost, will be presented at our Annual Meeting on Thursday May 11. Our proposal for long-term leases has been reviewed by town officials and preliminary feedback has been encouraging. There seems to be agreement that the FHSM and the town will need to work in partnership to further the stewardship of our buildings. It is satisfying for me to leave my post as President at the end of April knowing that there is momentum gathering on many fronts that will propel the FHSM forward. In May, our new President, Elsa Hornfischer will take over and I am confident that with her experience, community involvement, and years of commitment to the FHSM, she will guide this organization well. I plan to stay involved, albeit in an unofficial capacity, and look forward to working with you all to preserve, collect and share Framingham's history.

From the Director..... *Annie Murphy*

As the new Director, I am pleased to come almost full circle with one year of programming and events at the Framingham Historical Society and Museum. The learning curve has been steep but incredibly interesting and exhilarating. It has been an education working on *The Fabric of Framingham* exhibition with our curator, Dana Dauterman Ricciardi, and exhibition designers, BaileyDonovan. The process of pulling together an exhibition is much like writing with the synthesis of different themes, characters, research, and other puzzle pieces. It is thrilling to see it come together and I can assure you that this will be an exhibition you won't want to miss. Part of my role in bringing you *The Fabric of Framingham* has been to find the resources that will enable us to upgrade the exhibition experience at the FHSM. The Sudbury Foundation provided us with a \$15,000 grant and the Framingham Cultural Council's pledge of \$1,500 has allowed us to hire professional exhibition designers BaileyDonovan. Madlyn and Howard Fafard sent over a crew to paint the exhibition space at the Edgell Memorial Library including the peeling ceiling and the Carlisle Foundation has encouraged us to match \$15,000 toward a proposal they are currently considering. This match will allow us to raise the remainder of our exhibition budget and we are working hard to find sponsors who would like to see their donations doubled. In addition to *the Fabric of Framingham*, the month of May brings the House Tour, the Patrons' Party, *A Day of Fashion* at Framingham State College and over 700 third graders visiting our museum over the course of four weeks. As you will see from the enclosed, it is going to be a busy few months and I look forward to meeting new friends and seeing familiar faces at upcoming events.

MISSION

To tell the story of Framingham by collecting, preserving and sharing the history of the town and its people, and to foster a sense of excitement in community and pride of place now and for generations to come.

Framingham State College: Household Arts to Consumer Sciences, 1898-2006

By Rebecca L. Taylor and Colleen E. Previte

Mary Hemenway, once called “the richest woman in Boston,” was a well known 19th century philanthropist, who had a strong interest in educating women. Between the 1870s and 1890s Mary Hemenway was a major sponsor of public education and preservation projects in Boston and Salem, and across the United States. These projects had a tremendous impact on Massachusetts’ first “normal school” which was moved to Framingham in 1853 with a mandate to train female teachers.

During the Civil War, Mary Hemenway observed the poor quality of sewing which was done for the soldiers by school girls. She believed that many mothers were not qualified to teach sewing to their daughters and she had introduced and financed sewing classes in the grade schools of Boston in around 1860. At this time, attempts to teach needlework to Boston school children were considered unsatisfactory as there was concern that sewing would take time away from more academic studies. The need to train girls in this area was evident when 3,000 women signed a petition begging for sewing instruction in all grammar schools. In 1872, the Massachusetts legislature stepped in to pass an act making instruction in sewing and other industrial subjects legal in the state. By 1875, sewing was being taught throughout Boston’s grammar schools.

Cookery education became the next area of interest for Mary Hemenway. In 1886, she established the Boston Normal School of Cookery, which was later changed to the Boston Normal School of Household Arts. Training of cookery teachers began first with summer programs in 1885 and then evolved into a more permanent part of the curriculum in 1887.

Mary Hemenway died in 1894; however through a provision in her will, her work was to be carried on for the succeeding fifteen years. With the cooperation of her trustees, the State Board of Education, and Henry Whittemore, principal of the Normal School at Framingham, the



Mary Hemenway

Photograph provided by Framingham State

Boston Normal School of Household Arts was moved to Framingham in 1898. This move established the first household arts department in Massachusetts and it was named after its benefactor.

The foundation in education established by Mary Hemenway was continually strengthened by many talented men and women, including Louisa A. Nicholass. She had been a principal at the Boston Normal School of Cookery and, under her direction, five students received the first diplomas from the Household Arts Department of the Normal School at Framingham on June 21, 1899. She was instrumental in developing the new field of “Home Economics” and in September of 1899, was invited to attend the first Lake Placid Conference in New York. The eleven attendees at this conference met at the request of Melvil Dewey (Dewey decimal system) and several others, to begin a study of home science. Dewey felt that home science

was “important to the educational community and to the American people.” Bacteria had just been discovered and Ellen Richards, an MIT trained chemist, was at the conference leading an effort to “clean up the home.” “Home Economics” was considered by the delegates to be a distinct section of economics. They felt that it should be a college course of study and not be confused with the lesser “household arts” (dusting, cleaning, mending) which would never be a part of the university setting.

The initial course of study in the Household Arts Department at the Normal School in Framingham was a two-year curriculum that included courses in chemistry, physics, physiology, general biology, bacteriology, food and dietetics. Changes to the curriculum occurred with the addition of a course in sewing in 1903, and the expansion of the program from two to three years in 1905. By 1909 the college had added courses in textiles, costume design and related arts. In 1922, the curriculum developed into a four-year program resulting in a Bachelor of Education degree from the Household Arts Department. It wasn’t until 1949 that the name Household Arts Department was changed to Home Economics Department at Framingham State College.

In 1970, Anna Billa, a long-time faculty member, was instrumental in creating the Clothing and Textiles major within the department. Today this program is known as Fashion Design and Retailing and currently has 200 students studying merchandising and design. These students are developing their portfolios and “real world” skills in pattern making, apparel production, business and buying plans. (See reference to “A Day of Fashion” on April 21st in this newsletter’s Upcoming Events section.) The Home Economics Department has since become the Department of Consumer Sciences and now enrolls approximately 350 students in three majors: Fashion Design and Retailing, Food and

continued on page 12

Hand-Woven Fabrics and Fulling Mills in Colonial Framingham

By
Frederic A. Wallace

Before 1650 the area we now call Framingham was a wilderness, uninhabited but for a handful of Native Americans. For the first English settlers like **John Stone**, who built a house and grist mill at the Falls (Saxonville) on the Sudbury River, it was a harsh existence. The challenges they faced providing even the most basic necessities for their families were daunting. Clearing the land, building homes and barns, preparing the soil, planting crops - it was back breaking work, but they were a hardy breed.

High on the list of necessities was protection for the body against the elements, warm clothing, and outerwear, as well as household items of fabric, such as warm blankets and bedding. Goods such as these were available, in theory - they could be imported from England. But they were far too expensive for the average family, and generally in short supply. Hand-woven fabrics were the answer to this need, and wool was the material of choice. Every household owned some sheep, and the basic tools for weaving. It would not be an exaggeration to say that hand weaving became a survival skill for these early settlers! It was part of the daily activity in every household, and it is estimated that by 1660 there were over 100,000 sheep in the Colonies!

An Act passed by the General Court (Legislature) of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1640 provides ample evidence of the importance of hand woven fabrics at this time. It established a yearly minimum quota on yarn making (wool

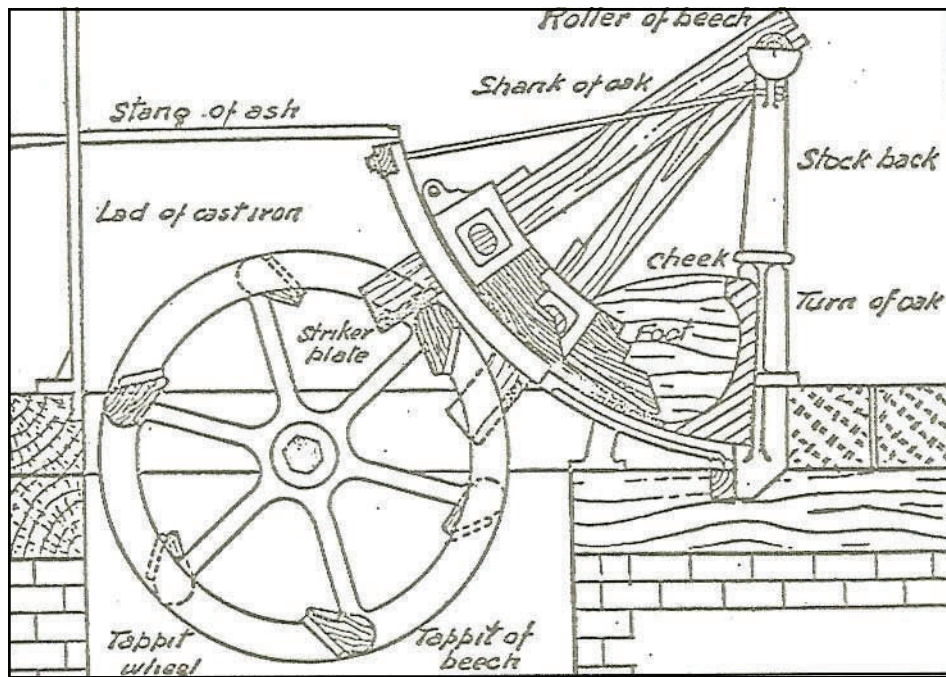
or flax) for every household in the Colony. The quota, ninety pounds per year per family, was sizeable!

Mills were important to the early settlers, and Framingham was blessed with a good supply of water power. The Sudbury River which bisects the town from the southwest to northeast had several suitable sites, and mills quickly sprung up along the river. The order in which they were built reflected their impor-

probably familiar to most people, but what exactly was a fulling mill, and how did it process hand-woven fabrics?

When the weaving was complete, the fabric was handled in one of two ways - it was either made directly into clothing and other products, or it underwent further processing, called fulling and/or finishing. Fabric of the first kind was called "undressed", that of the latter type "dressed" or "finished". Before fulling

and finishing are discussed, a brief word about the "undressed" fabrics will be informative. This fabric retained all the natural oils (lanolin, etc.) originally in the wool. This made it quite water repellent and durable. Hence it was ideal for heavy, rugged outerwear, horse blankets, for example. This fabric was taken straight from the loom and used without further processing.



Fulling Stock
Each "foot" strikes 40 blows per minute
From: *Early Cloth Fulling and Its Machinery*

tance to the basic necessities of life. The first were grist mills (see above, Saxonville, ca. 1647), and soon after came saw mills (late 1600s), which provided the lumber for building houses, barns, etc. Next came fulling mills (early 1700s), for the finishing of hand-woven fabrics. The fact that fulling mills were among the first ones built here is evidence of the central role that hand-woven fabrics played in the lives of the settlers. The functions of grist and saw mills are

The fabrics intended for use in garments worn close to the body, or for fine blankets, coats and hats, required further processing, i.e. "finishing". **This was**

the domain of the fulling mill. When a desired quantity of woven fabric intended for one of these uses had been produced at home, it was taken to the fulling mill. The behavior, known as "**fulling**" is unique to wool fabrics. When woven wool is immersed in water, and subjected to heat and friction, the individual fibers expand, become flexible, move about and intertwine. The spaces between threads become "filled." This happens because the individual

wool fibers have microscopic scale-like protrusions on their surfaces that hook onto adjacent fibers, causing them to be drawn together. At the end of the process, the individual threads (warp and weft) become almost indiscernible, and the fabric has a smooth, tight, uniform texture. This is the essence of **fulling**. Other fibers in common usage in Colonial times, such as cotton and flax, do not behave in this way.

This unique behavior of woolen fabric has been known since ancient times. In those days the process was done by hand (or more accurately by foot!); the wool fabric was placed in vats with soap and water, and bare-footed workers kneaded it by “walking in place.” It is said that the surname “Walker” has its origins in this trade. We might also guess that the surname “Fuller” had similar origins. It is possible that the early settlers here did fulling in that way before the mills were built, but there is nothing in the historical record about that.

By the late sixteenth century, Europeans had mechanized the fulling process, and our first settlers brought that technology with them. The essential parts of such a mill were a large tub, within which was mounted heavy wooden pounders. These were attached by a shaft to a lifting mechanism (tappet wheel - see attached illustration). The fabric to be “fulled” was placed in the tub with water and other ingredients such as soap or acid. Powered by a water wheel, the tappet wheel rotated, raising and releasing the pounders, so that they struck the water-soaked fabric repeatedly, causing the kneading action that produces the fulling. Depending on the size of the mill, there could be several pounders per tub. They could weigh a hundred pounds or more, and deliver up to forty strokes per minute to the fabric. The mills were noisy places to work, and potentially hazardous. Early Colonial newspapers carried more than one story of persons being struck and killed by the pounders! In legal documents of this period, Deeds and such, the occupation of those who operated fulling mills was given as “clothier.” It was not uncommon for them to own

shops as well, where they sold fabrics and clothing.

During the Colonial period, Framingham had several such mills. The first appeared about 1710 in the south of town, at a falls near the present day center of Ashland (at that time part of Framingham). It was built and operated by **Savill Simpson**, who had come from Boston to settle here in the 1690s. A few years later (the 1730s) a second fulling mill was built some distance upstream from there by **Col. John Jones**. At the falls to the north (Saxonville area), **Micah Stone**, great grandson of the original settler John Stone, had a fulling mill up and running by 1735. He owned a shop in the same vicinity. Finally, in the mid 1700s a fourth was built on Cochituate Brook, just upstream of where it intersected with Old Connecticut Path (the old fordway) by **Deacon William Brown**.

Additional processing was offered at the fulling mill, depending on the type of finished goods desired. They included “raising the nap” to give a nice fluffy feel to the fabric, bleaching (especially white goods), tentering (soaking the material and stretching it to specified dimensions), shearing the nap (cutting the raised nap to uniform length to give a smooth surface) and pressing, all done by the clothier.

By the mid 1700s, the Colonies had become so proficient at producing woven fabrics that they had excess capacity and were lobbying government officials for permission to export these goods. That idea was not welcomed by the British, who saw it as direct competition for their own products. It was just one of many issues that helped set the stage for the American Revolution. During the Revolution all millers in the Colonies were considered so important to the war effort that they were exempt from military service.

Sources:

The author wishes to thank Anne M. Cadrette, Assistant Librarian of the Os-

borne Library, at the American Textile History Museum for her assistance in researching materials for this report.

History of Framingham, Massachusetts, Rev. J. H. Temple, 1887, Centennial Year Reprint 1987

Handwoven Textiles of Early New England, Nancy Dick, Bogdonoff, Stackpole Books, copyright 1975

American Wool Handbook, pgs 552 ff
Early Cloth Fulling and its Machinery, E. K. Scott, The Newcomen Society for the Study of the History of Engineering & Technology, Transactions, Volume XII, 1931-32, pgs 31 ff.

Writer’s Guide to Everyday Life in Colonial America, D. Taylor, Writer’s Digest Books, 1997

Early American Newspapers, Series 1690 – 1976, NewsBank Inc. Website, Americana Archives.

Where Are You?

So you have lived in Framingham for a goodly number of years or all your life. You attended school here. Perhaps you were even a Town Meeting Member. You believe that you “know” Framingham, old and new. Let’s test you!

- You are in Saxonville at the Barney.
- This section of town was known by two other names: “New Boston” and “Brackett’s Corner.”
- Have you ever traveled the “Old Central Turnpike?”
- Cars of the street meet at the “Junction.”
- Our “Green Acres” never made it to television.
- One could acquire an education sitting on Bare Hill.
- There was often turmoil at Harmony Grove.
- Loyal sports would be found at the Agricultural Grounds.
- You may know Saxonville, but where is Coburnville?
- There were very few Native Americans attending the Chautauqua at Lake View.

Answers on page 7

For more information
www.FraminghamHistory.org

MUSEUM SHOP

From the Curator
Dana Dauterman Ricciardi, Ph.D.

Museum and Shop Hours
Thursday – Sunday 12 – 4 p.m.
Edgell Memorial Library (new)
Old Academy

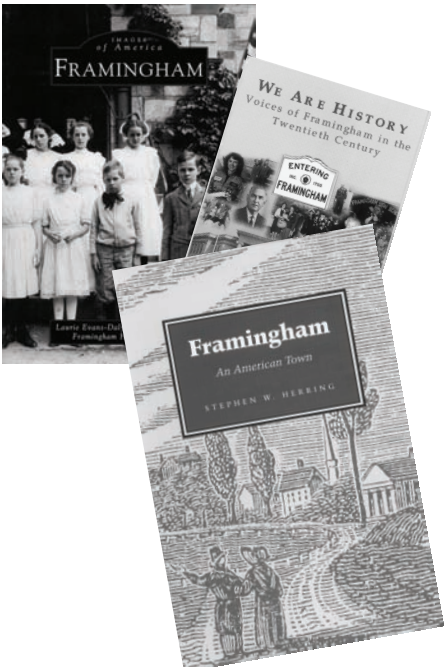


(Photos courtesy Dona Germond and John Neister; pin from FHSM Collections)

Suffragist pin \$26.50 (includes tax).
A reproduction of the pin issued by the National Woman's Party. Sterling silver.

The Essentials

- Images of America: Framingham** \$10
- Framingham: An American Town** \$24.95
- We Are History** (video)



MUGS \$5.00
All of our mugs are great reminders of our history. The 15oz. Logo mug is white with the FHSM logo in blue. The 12oz. mug comes in white or natural with early scenes of Framingham Centre.



Historic Houses Note Cards
\$1.60 each

An original series of eight cards featuring some of Framingham's most historic homes in beautiful and bright watercolors. Reproduced from original paintings by Framingham artist William Chignola. Also available in packages of all eight cards.



New and interesting pieces of Framingham history are always being added to our collection. The Collections Committee meets monthly to review photographs, written and printed materials, and three-dimensional objects that arrive as gifts or, occasionally – with funding permitting – are acquired as purchases.

Recently, thanks to the vigilance of Collections Committee member Robert Santone, a salt-glazed crock being sold at auction (on e-bay) came to our attention. The Historical Society was able to purchase the crock with the help of a generous contribution from Robert Santone and another generous contribution from Perry Bent Lowell, whose great-grandfather Burt Wells had worked at Fuller's dry goods store about 1880. The crock is decorated in cobalt blue, and bears the impressed mark "L. F. FULLER / SAXONVILLE MASS 2"

In addition to being a fine example of a late 19th-century salt-glazed crock, and in excellent condition, this piece has many connections to Framingham history, not only through the general store where so many Saxonville people shopped, but also through its owner Luther F. Fuller. Luther Fuller (1827-1901) was a well-known figure and an influential force in Framingham and in his own neighborhood in Saxonville. A resident of Saxonville for forty-seven years, he had moved there in 1854 to manage a general store, and within ten years became its sole owner. He was a deacon in the Edwards Congregational Church. In 1865 he was appointed postmaster of Saxonville, serving in that role for most of his remaining years.

Highly respected for his success in the dry goods store, Fuller served as Treasurer and eventually as President of the Framingham Savings Bank. He became a Board member of the Farmers and Mechanics Bank, the Framingham Union Street Railway Company, and the Framingham Electric Company. He was Trustee of the Framingham Hospital, the

Continued on next page



Luther Fuller Crock

Home for Aged Men and Women, the Framingham Town Library, and Edgell Grove Cemetery. In 1881 Luther Fuller was elected State Representative, where he took his place on the Committee on Mercantile Affairs. Last but – to us – not least, he was also a member of the Framingham Historical Society.

The Collections Committee, Board and staff extend our thanks to Robert Santone and Perry Bent Lowell, and to all the generous and thoughtful donors who provide the Museum with a growing range of the raw materials of Framingham history.

Costume and Textile Collection Named After Marjorie Maish

When collections are prepared for exhibition, individual pieces are scrutinized for their provenance as well as the history of how they came to be acquired. One of the observations that became apparent as staff worked on the costumes and textile collection this past winter, was that if it hadn't been for Marjorie Maish and her organization and care for over 700 pieces in the collection, there would not be the breadth of cultural material to exhibit *the Fabric of Framingham*. Marjorie and her husband Ralph were devoted friends of the FHSM and they worked tirelessly on collections, as board members and advisors in many capacities. In honor of Marjorie's work in collecting and preserving these pieces of Framingham's history, the FHSM will name the collection after her. A formal dedication will take place on opening night of the exhibition on May 7th. If you knew Marjorie and would like to make a contribution toward preserving her memory through *the Fabric of Framingham* exhibition, now is the time to do so. Your gift may be matched by a Carlisle Foundation grant of up \$15,000. Please call Annie Murphy, Director at 508-872-3780.

Answers to "Where Are You"

Barney – This was a lovely park owned and created by Mr. Simpson, owner of the Saxonville Mills (later Roxbury Carpet). It had trees, plants, flowers, waterways, and wild fowl. It is the site of today's Pinefield.

New Boston or Brackett's Corner – Today it is known as the Nobscot section of Framingham (Water Street, Edmands Road, and Edgell Road).

Old Central Turnpike – Known today as Route 135 or Waverly Street in Framingham.

Junction – A streetcar terminal at Route 9 eastbound and Concord Street.

Green Acres – A large picnic site on Elm Street in Saxonville near the Cameron Middle School area. It had fields for volleyball, softball, horse shoes, etc. as well as a large barn for dining and dancing.

Bare Hill - Site of Framingham State College...off Route 9 on Gates Street.

Harmony Grove – Known throughout the state as a popular picnic grove with music and catering for all occasions. Excursion trains brought revelers from long distances. Family reunions, suffragette meetings, temperance meetings, and anti-slavery meetings brought hundreds here. William Lloyd Garrison and Henry David Thoreau gave anti-slavery speeches in 1854. It bordered Franklin Street on the east up to Farm Pond on the west, Mt. Wayte on the north and the railroad terminal on the south.

Agricultural Grounds – Formerly near Temple Street on Route 9. Later moved to Bowditch Field area.

Coburnville – Winter Street Bridge at 135, east on Waverly Street to Irving Square, west on Hollis Street (both sides) to Ashland border on the south, north along Ashland line back to Route 135 (Waverly Street).

Lake View – On Mt. Wayte across from the old bowling alley (now a Juvenile Court Building). Mt Wayte starts at Union Avenue, passes Perini's office building, crosses Franklin Street and directly after the old incinerator turns right up an incline on the right. In this fairly secluded neighborhood a two-week summer educational and entertainment program was held. The view was of Farm Pond.



Join the Museum

*Be a part of
Framingham's history*

Yes, I would like to help preserve, collect, and share Framingham's diverse heritage!

Membership Benefits

- *Framingham History*, a quarterly publication
- 10% off purchases at our Museum Store
- Invitations to special events and previews

Individual \$ 25

- (student/senior rate: \$ 15)

Family \$ 40

- (student/senior rate: \$ 25)

Local Business \$ 200

Donor Levels

(includes 1-year membership)

- Friend \$ 100
- Supporter \$ 250
- Benefactor \$ 1,000
- Margaret Kendall Circle \$ 5,000

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

New Member Renewal

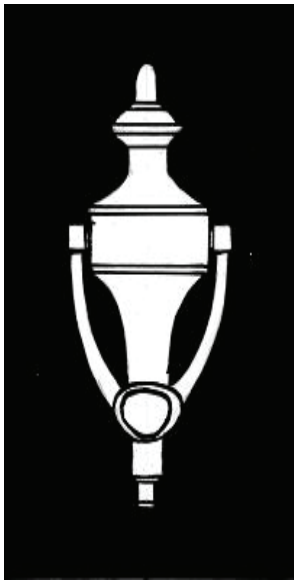
Please send me more information on:

Volunteering Planned Giving

**Please return completed form
and check to FHSM, PO Box 2032,
Framingham, MA 01703**

*If this copy of Framingham History is not your own,
please photocopy this section before filling out.*

000010



Visit nine Framingham sites, including several of this town's most exciting examples of "adaptive re-use!" A Civil War General's barn now an architecturally unique home in the Centre, a former Tavern and bakery now a country home, a contemporary styled colonial with a preserved historic barn as its neighborhood's drive-through exit, and newly created elegant loft residences in a mixed-use community once home to one of Framingham's largest manufacturers!

Complimentary beverage and snack at
283 Pleasant St
The Moses Ellis House
The Summit Montessori School

Framingham Historical Society & Museum

House Tour



Sunday, May 21, 2006 ♦
12:00 - 5:00

Tickets in advance...\$20

Tickets after May 14th...\$25

Patrons' Reception...\$100 includes open bar, reception, dinner, entertainment, and tour of an extraordinary home at 429 Belknap Road, "The Owl's Nest," on Saturday, May 20th *plus* a House Tour ticket for Sunday.



RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



SUMMIT MONTESSORI SCHOOL

TICKET ORDER FORM

Tickets are limited and will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis. You must pick up your House Tour Book and map May 21 from 10:30 a.m. at The Old Academy, 16 Vernon St, Framingham Centre. Tour books and maps will NOT be issued in advance. Tour begins at noon.

Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope; tickets will be mailed to you.

Name _____

Address _____

Town/City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Number of tickets:

Total tickets: _____ @ \$20

After May 14th: _____ @ \$25

Patrons Reception _____ @
\$100

Total enclosed

\$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Framingham Historical Society &
Museum
PO BOX 2032

Framingham Historical Society and UPCOMING EVENTS

w w w . F r a m i n g h a m H i s t o r y . o r g

April

5 - June 4

Exhibitions of work by Jeanne Williamson and Katherine Porter on view at the Danforth Museum of Art.

(See more about these artists on page 12)

19 Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

History/Biography Book Group

Barnes & Noble, Framingham

Title: *Dead Certainties*: by Simon Schama
Leader: Elbert Tuttle, Esq. Retired justice, Massachusetts Superior Court

The History/Biography Book Group is a collaborative program of the FHSM and Barnes & Noble Booksellers. The series is moderated by Dr. Mary Murphy. All discussions are held at Barnes & Noble on the third Wednesday of the month. Prior reading of the book is encouraged, but not required. Free and open to the public.

Spring Series: Famous Massachusetts Trials

21 Friday 12:30-2:30 p.m.

A Day of Fashion – Framingham State College

Luncheon at 12:30 in the “Snack Bar” at the Justin D. McCarthy Center. 1:30-2:30 Fashion Design and Retailing Portfolio Review in the Forum of the College Center. Review student portfolio work including apparel illustrations, original garments, theme boards as well as merchandizing, buying and promotion plans. This program is presented in collaboration with FSC in anticipation of the museum’s upcoming exhibition *The Fabric of Framingham*.

May

7 Sunday 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Opening Night: The Fabric of Framingham

– An exhibition presented by the Framingham Historical Society and Museum in collaboration with Framingham State College
Open to the Public May 11-September 23 at Edgell Memorial Library, 3 Oak Street, Framingham

Hours: Thursday-Saturday 12:00-4:00

11 Thursday 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Annual Meeting of the Framingham Historical Society and Museum

In addition to voting for new officers and board members, Ann Beha Architects will present their findings regarding a Preservation Plan for the Edgell Memorial Library, the Village Hall, and the Academy.

17 Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

History/Biography Book Group

Barnes & Noble, Framingham

Title: *TBA*

Leader: *TBA*

20 Saturday 6:00-9:30 p.m.

Patrons’ Party - Springtime in New England at the Owl’s Nest! A bountiful New England feast and musical entertainment provided by host Bruce Davis will be sure to please. Join us at this fascinating house featured in the [Boston Globe](#), on [Chronicle](#) and at the 2004 Framingham House Tour.

21 Sunday 12:00-5:00

House Tour - The theme of the FHSM’s 6th annual tour is “adaptive reuse.”

Among the 9 featured sites is a model loft condominium in the historic factory building at Dennison Triangle.

June

21 Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

History/Biography Book Group

Barnes & Noble Bookstore

Title: *Murder at Morses Pond* by Lydia Rosencrance

Leader: John LaChance, Esq.

TBA –

Joel Millman – This Framingham native and correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal* will be speaking on current issues in immigration in conjunction with the FHSM’s exhibition *The Fabric of Framingham*. His book: *The Other Americans: How Immigrants Renew our Country, Our Economy and Our Values* is recommended reading and is available at Amazon.com.

History/Biography Book Group Still Strong After Four Years of Programs

With the conclusion of the upcoming series “Famous Massachusetts Trials”, the History/Biography Book Group completes nearly four years of programs. Over the years, the group has discussed nearly three dozen books covering a wide range of topics including David McCullough’s magisterial [John Adams](#) and this month’s [Vertigo: The Making of a Hitchcock Classic](#). Discussion leaders are all experts in their fields: Dr. Greg Lint, Assistant Curator of the Adams papers at the Massachusetts Historical Society and Dr. Arthur Nolletti, Professor of English and Film Studies at Framingham State College as well as many others.

The upcoming Entwistle trial generated the topic for the Spring Series, “Famous Massachusetts Trials.” The series leads off with the grisley murder trial which not only included two well-known Massachusetts families – the Websters and Parkmans – but also led to major changes in Massachusetts legal procedures. Other trials under consideration are the Salem witch trials, the Sacco and Vanzetti anarchist trials and more contemporary events.

In addition to its own contributions to the community’s historical awareness, the Book Group spawned a comparable series to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Framingham Public Library. A two-part series “the Power of Ideas: 1855-1915; 1915-present offered books that presented ideas that changed or challenged America in the past 150 years. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, the series, moderated by Dr. Mary Murphy, featured many of our book group discussion leaders on such topics as the abolitionist movement, the rise of organized labor, the flu pandemic, and immigration. Check the library’s newsletter for dates and topics for the spring series.

The *Fabric of* Framingham

presented by the
FRAMINGHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM
in collaboration with
FRAMINGHAM STATE COLLEGE

*An exhibition that weaves
together the textile tradition
with the vibrant social
fabric of Framingham over
the centuries*

EDGEHILL MEMORIAL LIBRARY
3 OAK STREET
FRAMINGHAM, MA

Opening Night:
Sunday, May 7th from 5:00-7:00

Regular Hours:
Thursday-Saturday 12:00-4:00
For more information, please call:
508-872-3780

Sponsored by:
FRAMINGHAM CULTURAL COUNCIL



Massachusetts Cultural Council



EXHIBITION OPEN MAY 11-SEPTEMBER 23

Thank You

Contributions to the Framingham Historical Society and Museum in 2005

Benefactors - \$10,000 and over

Arthur Ashley Williams Foundation

Sponsors - \$1,000-\$9,999

Marlene Aron
Investment Property Specialists, Inc.
TD Banknorth
Citizens Bank
Fletcher, Tilton, and Whipple
Framingham Co-operative Bank
Framingham Cultural Council
Elsa & David Hornfischer
Highland Street Foundation
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation
Mary Murphy
Patterson and Gerry
Rotary Club of Framingham

Supporters - \$500-\$999

Advocates, Inc.
Madlyn & Howard Fafard
Paula & Kevin Foley
Charlene Frary
Haranas, Mayer, Hachowicz & Galvani
Karen & John LaChance
Jacques Jewelers
Jeanne & Stephen Starr
Middlesex Savings Bank
Charles & Noreen Murphy
The Prudential Foundation
In honor of Roger Heinen
Joseph and Faith Tiberio
Charitable Foundation
Penny & James Wortham

Patrons - \$100-\$499

Beverlee Adamski
Agostinelli & Teller
Nicholas Athanassiou & Jeanne McNett
Nitza Avni & Glenn Axelrod
Cindy Baird
Kathy Bartolini
Marie-Antoinette & Rudolph
Beaupre
Perry Lowell Bent
Hattie Best
Nancy Bianchi
Henry Blandin
Deborah & Irwin Blumer
Robert Bosch
Claude and Eugenia Bratica
David Brossi
Evans Carter
Bob Casagrande

Jennie Castellano
Elizabeth Chalmers
Debbie Chase
Deborah and Lee Cleveland
Judith Cohen
Orlo & Karolyn Coots
Grace Corrigan
Veronica Cronin
Martha Davidson
John & Shirley Dillon
Ginger Esty
Dick Daly & Laurie Evans-Daly
John & Brenda DelPrete
George Desmond
Arthur Fitts
Friends of the Framingham Heart Study
Ralph & Elizabeth Funk
Mark & Robin Galante
Louise & Victor Galvani
Benjamin & Christine Galvani
Paul Galvani
Paul Gass
Nelson Gifford
Joan Goldstein
Thomas Grassia
Marty Griffin
Berna & Wolf Haberman
George Harrington
Barbara Hartwell
Victoria Huot
Blake Jordan
Carol Kane
Janice Kiley
Pat Lavin
Barbara & Jeffrey Leimsieder
Helen & Kenneth Lemoine
Timothy & Elizabeth Lepaine
Waldo Lyon
M & M Liquors
Jemie & Anthony Miceli
Mirick & O'Connell
Valerie Mulvey
John & Christine Murin
Ned & Annie Murphy
Betty Muto
Edith Overly
Claude-Noele Peabody
Perini Corporation
William & Lisa Pezzoni
Judy Riegelhaupt
River's Edge Greenhouse
Todd Robecki
Paul & Marcia Rosenberg
Donna & Phillip Schaefer
Virginia Scott
Connie & Joe Shea
Morton & Shuman Law Offices
Grace Shwert
Susan Silva

Lisa Sinisalo
Marion Slack
Arline Steinberg
Marcia Stevens
Dianne & Walter Sullivan
Peter & Susan TenBroeck
Joan & Roseanne Thomas
Joe & Dotti Tosti
Jennifer Toth
Russell & Kathryn Tomasetti
Elbert Tuttle
Faith Waters
Fred Weeks
Jane & Peter Whiting
David & Mary Whittemore
Elaine Winterhalter
Janet Stone Wiggins

Friends \$1-\$99

Jack Achmakjian
Gloria Aspesi
Mary Beatrice
Thelma Belloli
Marcy & Clark Broden
Dawne Buckley
Marjorie Buckley
Arthur Butler
Mary Bularzik
Donald and Joyce Capobianco
Janet and Arthur Cella
Nancy Chmielski
Alice & John Costa
Amelia Deady
Devereux deGozzaldi
Doris Devine
Ann & William Dickson
Marilyn Duane
Otis Dyer
Cynthia Elliott
Ginger Esty
Kathryn Ferri
Paul Fino
Steven & Andrea Frank
Mary Gallagher
Christopher Garrahan
Barbara & Kevin Gatlin
Paul Gibbs
Dennis Giombetti
Patricia & Sidney Greely
Tammy Harris
Marilyn Harter
Jeanne Heath
Cliff & Bonnie Henrickson
Stephen Herring
Jean & Charles Hickson
Augusta & Kenneth Howes
Alma and Charlotte Hutchinson
Ruth Jones

Continued on next page

Betty & Dana Jost
Susan Karb
Alan Katelle
Peat Keane
Patricia & Luther Keil
Edward Kingsbury
Marcia Less
Barrie & Lawrence Lewis
Joan Mickelson Lukach
Dorothy McGuire
Sheryl Martin
Louis Martins
Arthur Mason
John and Judy McEntegart
George H. Meyers II
Michael & Elizabeth Mingoelli
Joan Murtaugh
Mary & Ken Muzal
Kathy O'Leary
Pearl Oliva
David Palmer
Debbie & Hector Petri
Peter & Brenda Pleshaw
James Porter
William & Clare Randall
June Robertson
Susan and Marc Rubinfeld
Janice Sage
Barbara Schlitzer
Joann & Quentin Sewell
Frances Shine
Georgia Sisson
Michael Spencer
Judith & Herbert Spivak
Judith Stames-Hamilton
Doris Stephanini
Kathleen Stinson
Maryelaine Sullivan
Rose Sweeney
John Travis, Jr.
Fred & Nancy Wallace
John & Priscilla Watson
Lee Zucker

Framingham State college.. Continued from
page 3

Nutrition, and Health and Consumer Sciences. The programs started in the 19th century by Mary Hemenway, to teach Massachusetts school children cookery and sewing, have expanded to training Framingham students for careers in food service management, clinical dietetics, consumer science education, community services, apparel design and product development, and apparel and home furnishing merchandising.

For further information about Framingham State College and the Department of Consumer Sciences see www.framingham.edu.

Danforth Museum Exhibitions Complements *The Fabric of Framingham*

From April 5th to June 4th, the Danforth Museum of Art will be exhibiting works of art by Jeanne Williamson and Katherine Porter. Both artists use mediums which have been traditionally identified with craft to create their art.

Williamson, a Natick artist who combines quilt making techniques with monotype, presents a fascinating group of abstract compositions, which use cloth as medium.

Although Maine artist, Katherine Porter is primarily known as a painter, she learned embroidery from her grandmother at a very young age. Her embroideries became "a pleasurable, but serious diversion from painting," but all correspond to her work. These abstract expressions of landscape, done from the 1970s to the present, use needlework to convey the artist's sense of "endless time and well being – of happiness" related to place.

Rebecca Taylor is a professor of Fashion Design and Retailing in the Consumer Sciences Department at Framingham State College.

Colleen Previte is an archivist at the Henry Whittemore Library

Sources:

Alumnae Association. (1914). *Historical sketches of the Framingham State Normal School*. Framingham: The Alumnae Association.

Coss, Millicent. (1939) *The history of the Mary Hemenway Department of Household Arts*. Framingham: Unpublished manuscript.

Cox, Bobbi. (2006). *A synopsis of the first Lake Placid Conference*. Retrieved 16 February 2006. <http://www.arches.uga.edu/~jschell/history/event/lakeplacid.htm>

Donham, S.A. (1954). *The first forty-three years, 1909-1952*. Eastern Massachusetts Home Economics Association.

McCartney, A.B. (1964). *Historical resume of: Alumnae Association of First State Normal School in America, State Teachers College at Framingham, State College at Framingham, Massachusetts*. Framingham: Alumnae Association of State College at Framingham.

Norton, A.O. (1926). *The journals of Cyrus Peirce and Mary Swift*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Timeline. (n.d.). *Framingham State College Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, The First One Hundred Years*.

LOCAL BUSINESS MEMBERS

Banknorth
Bernardi Auto Group
Capital Advisors, LLC
Conigliaro Industries
Citizens Bank
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
Convenient Cleaning
Corner Cabinet
Craig Bolivar Plumbing
Karen LaChance, ERA Key Realty
Fitts Insurance
Kathy Foran
Framingham Co-operative Bank
Charlene Frary, MetroWest Homes
Herb Connolly Acura
Investment Property Specialists
Law Offices of Peter A. Kachajian, Jr.
Long Automotive Group
Heidi MacPhee, Exit Realty
Murphy, Edwards, Goncalves & Ferrera, PC
Patterson and Gerry CPAs
PCT Landscape, Design & Construction
River's Edge Greenhouse
Seifel Custom Carpentry
Paul Silva, Custom Builder
Perini Corporation