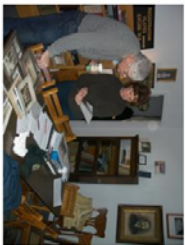


Photos and Information are Gathered for New Buxton Documentary

On Saturday, March 26th, Patrick Bosant and Matt Fletcher met with Brent Hill and Rita Bradbury to gather photos and information for the new Buxton Documentary being produced by Saco River Community Television. The station has received a grant from Narragansett Number One for the project which will be completed in 2011.



Matt Fletcher of Saco River Community TV photographs BHHS Collection.



Brent Hill & Rita Bradbury help gather information for new documentary on Buxton.



Patrick Bosant, of SRCTV, searches photo album for Buxton Documentary at BHHS library.

Foundation Grant Money Improves Historic Town Building

Buxton Center National Register Elden Store, built in 1802, and one of the oldest buildings in Buxton, is benefiting from a grant, originally designated for the Old Town Hall, from the *Narragansett Number One Foundation*. Local contractors and professionals have been hired to complete the first phase of the work in the spring of 2011, which includes the repair and painting of existing windows, the replacement of doors, the installation of a new sign, which now graces the building, and a landscape plan. Existing trees in their mature state are too large for the lot and have been decimated by aggressive pruning necessary in a recent CMP effort to decrease electrical outages.

Originally, Elden Store housed a general store in Buxton's early industrial center and by 1850, it had become the home of the *Hanson Coat Factory*, the leading industry of the Town, employing 1200 people. The building was given to SAD 6 at its formation and was later returned to the town when the District had no further use for it. It housed the BHHS from the early 1970's until 1995. It is presently used for Civil Emergency Preparedness and the Buxton-Hollis Historical Society continues to lease a portion of it.



A second grant application has recently been submitted to *Narragansett Number One Foundation* to assist with the second phase of the project.



South side of Elden Store, showing plywood covered opening soon to be replaced with new custom double doors.

My Clark Family Journey by Janet Clark Reed

I have wonderful memories of living several of my early years in Clark's Mill, a village in Hollis, Maine. It was the early 1930's and during that time I went to the first three years of my schooling at the Clark's Mill Schoolhouse. It was a one room schoolhouse for grades one through eight and, at that time, there were about 18 students and one teacher. I had two classmates, Huguette MacDonald and Myrna Crockett. I think that although my relatives only lived in six or seven of the houses in the village, it was a community where everyone else felt like family, too. At the time, I didn't realize the Clark history that was all around us.

We Clarks trace our ancestry in America to Edward Clark who was born about 1622 in England and who was married to Dorcas Bosworth in 1648 in Haverhill, Massachusetts. Haverhill, a frontier settlement very close to the New Hampshire border, was founded in 1640 by 12 English Puritans from Ipswich and Newbury, MA. Pennicket was the original name. The land was purchased from the Indians for 3 lbs 10 shillings. Early residents in the area were farmers, fishermen, ship builders and traders.

Let's look back now to Edward and Dorcas. One of their sons was Joseph and one of Joseph's sons was David. David left Haverhill and moved about 35 miles north-east to Kittery/Eliot, Province of Maine, sometime before he died in 1761. The Province of Maine belonged to Massachusetts until 1820 when Maine became a state. Next in my Clark line was David's son, Nathaniel who married Abigail Dennett in 1749 and two of their sons were Nathaniel, their third child, and John, their ninth. John, and later Nathaniel, moved from Kittery, Maine to Hollis, Maine just before 1800 and settled in what we now call the village of Clark's Mill. Again the distance of that move was about 35 miles.

Nathaniel, my Great, Great, Great Grandfather, was born July 14, 1754 in Kittery and married Sarah Peppercell Frost of Surgeon Creek, Kittery on October 21, 1779. They had five children, all of whom were born in Eliot/Kittery before their parents migrated to Hollis. The youngest of their children was born in 1796, John moved first and built a house. When Nathaniel moved with his family to Hollis, then named Philippsburg, they moved into John's house and lived there until Nathaniel had built one for himself and his family. John was married to Mary Cutts and they were parents of seven children. John and Mary and John Jr. and his wife, Sarah, are buried in the little cemetery on route 35 (the Clark's Mills Road) as you drive toward Route 5. My sister and I explored there several years ago and it helped me make some family connections.

Nathaniel and Sarah's first child was my Great, Great, Great Grandfather Charles Clark (my NEW ancestor) who married Betsy Peterson. Betsy was from Saco (where I also lived from 1938 until I married in 1952). Charles and Betsy Clark had 11 children and lived in a house that had burned before I lived in Clark's Mill, but the land was part of my playground and we used the cellar hole for hide and seek. Their son, my Great, Great Grandfather, Charles Jr. (born January 11, 1812), married Almira Ann Deering and they had seven children.

I quote from, *"A Sketch of Clark's Mill and its Early Settlers"* in speaking of Charles Jr.: "Charles succeeded his father in farming and grinding corn into meal that was said to be better than anybody has since produced. Having quite an amount of pine timber and having this great mill, he naturally drifted into lumbering in a small way. As business increased, he enlarged his original mill and thus laid the foundation for the extensive business carried on by his sons and grandsons." This was when Clark's Mill, the village name, got started.

The third of Charles and Almira's seven children was my Great Grandfather, Charles Franklin Clark, who married Mary York of Waterboro, November 21, 1869. He carried on with the lumbering business started by his father, and also had a store. Charles Franklin built the big house with the cupola in the 1890's, where he lived until his wife, Mary, died in 1910. In 1903, he financed the building of the Methodist Church (now a private home). Later he married Eliza York, Mary's sister, and built the house across Whippoorwill Lane from the big house. This was the house where I lived for three happy years.

Charles Franklin Clark and Mary had five children, two girls and three boys. Their eldest son was my Grandfather, Walter Ellery Clark. His sisters were Marica and Ida, and his brothers were Lucien and Cecil. At last I can speak of family members I grew up knowing. All of my Grandfather's siblings were my Great Aunts and Uncles and their children and grand children are the cousins I've always known.

My grandfather, Walter, married Sadie Carter and they had seven children, my five Aunts and one Uncle and my Dad. They were: Ada, Ellery, Jeannette, Inez, Herman (my Father), Grace and Winifred.

It was wonderful living in this village even that short time because, of course, my cousin Barbara Dennett and her parents, Aunt Jane and Uncle Chet, and my Smith cousin Ed, Don and Patsy and their mother, Aunt Grace, were here and Uncle Cecil and Aunt Blanche and Uncle Lucien and Aunt Edith and Cousin Lauren, his wife Dot and son Bobby. Besides being able to walk to the little school, I could also walk across the road to the little church. My classmate Myrna Crockett lived up the lane. The store for candy and tonic was down the road. Who could ask for anything more?