



Stony Brook **CURRENTS**

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A Newsletter of the Suffield Historical Society

May 2015

The mission of the Suffield Historical Society is to collect, preserve and stimulate interest in the history of Suffield and the region and to actively share it. The Society hopes to inspire a sense of community, as well as to provide an understanding and appreciation of Suffield's past.

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TIMOTHY HALE

ORIGINAL SUFFIELD PROPRIETOR

by Ed Chase

On the south corner of Kent Avenue and South Main Street stands "Spencer on Main." Once, however, this land and the four lots south of it were grants to five Original Proprietors from Windsor. Nathaniel Cook and George Jeffrey each received 40 acres, while John Millington and James Rising were both granted 50-acre plots. In 1673, Timothy Hale received the largest of the five grants, totaling 60 acres. The first three men settled in Suffield after King Philip's War and, shortly thereafter, returned to Windsor. We covered James Rising's history in our September 2009 issue of *Stony Brook Currents*, and this month will discuss the contributions of Timothy Hale, who started his Suffield connections on the east side of what is now South Main Street.

Hale's origins have not yet been certainly established, owing perhaps to early Windsor references listing him at times as "Hale" and other times "Hall." A decade before receiving his grant, Timothy Hale married Sarah Barber of Windsor¹. At least seven of their eight children² were born in Windsor, but their youngest (Hannah) may well have been born in Suffield.

Timothy is listed among inhabitants "having the privilege and liberty of voting" in the first Town Meeting, March 9, 1682. Seven years later, Timothy died. However, his sons, Timothy Jr. and Samuel, remained in Suffield, and their descendants have left their mark on our town's history.

Timothy Jr. was elected Hog Reeve in 1727 and 1749. Town records note his remarks concerning a new highway in 1731 and also refer to him as the "Worthy Mr. Hale" when he was sent to Saybrook in 1709 to seek a minister for Suffield.

The name remains prominent as Hale Street, which runs from the intersection of Prospect and Spencer to the top of Taintor Hill. Hale was a prominent surname in our community through the late 1800's. Though the name has pretty much disappeared from the contemporary population, Hale DNA is present in many current citizens of Suffield – including my wife, Eleanor Rose Chase.

Timothy Jr.'s great-granddaughter Caroline married Gad Rose³ (grandson of James Barlow, another Suffield Proprietor).

Caroline grew up on the lands surrounding the intersection of Mountain Road and Stone Street in West Suffield. Their homestead once stood on the northeast part of the intersection, where the Rusin family lives today. The original building was torn down by their son Oliver, and the current dwelling at 1728 Mountain Road was Oliver's home. His brother built the historic Barlow Rose house across the street. The family also built the structure at what is now 1669 Mountain Road.

- 1 Sarah Barber, the daughter of Thomas and Jane Coggin Barber of Windsor, married Timothy Hale on November 26, 1663.
- 2 Timothy and Sarah Barber Hale had eight children: Sarah b. 1665, Timothy Jr. b. 1667, John b. 1670, Thomas b. 1672, Samuel b. 1674, Vine b. and d. 1675, Josiah b. 1678 and Hannah b. 1680.
- 3 Gad Rose was a direct descendant of one of Wethersfield's founders, Robert Rose. Gad was also the great-grandson of Suffield Proprietor James Barlow, through his granddaughter Deborah Barlow and Justice Rose of Granville.

References: *Documentary History of Suffield 1879*, H.S. Sheldon, 1879; various internet genealogies; *History of Hale, Windsor Connecticut*; *Ancestral Line of the Rose Family for 12 Generations*, Marguerite Bates Rose of West Suffield, Connecticut, 1982.

ANTIQUÉ INTIMATES: UNDERWEAR OF YESTERYEAR

by AnneBorg

The summer exhibit at the King House will consist of items pulled from the museum's collection of slips, camisoles, drawers, bustles and union suits to showcase old fashioned underwear. If any of you have a crinoline, bustles or other unique items tucked away in your attic that we might borrow, we would be delighted to include them, as our collection runs to the more mundane.

We hope you'll all stop in over the summer to see what your great-grandparents wore! We may also showcase some of the really lovely dresses that Pam Baldini has rediscovered during her project in the attic.

ART CONTEST

Thirteen entries were submitted to the art contest held as part of the King House 150th anniversary. There was a wide diversity of media ranging from knitting to photos to collages, and they are currently being judged by artist and trustee Laurie Tavino. They will be on display at the King House shortly after we open for May and June and possibly longer.

A SUFFIELD COWBOY

by Barry Sisk

A young man who was born and raised in Suffield traveled to Denver, Colorado, in the Fall of 1899 because of tuberculosis. Howard Fuller Pease, 22, was accompanied by his aunt and uncle, Sarah L. Pease Fuller and Edward A. Fuller, who had raised him.

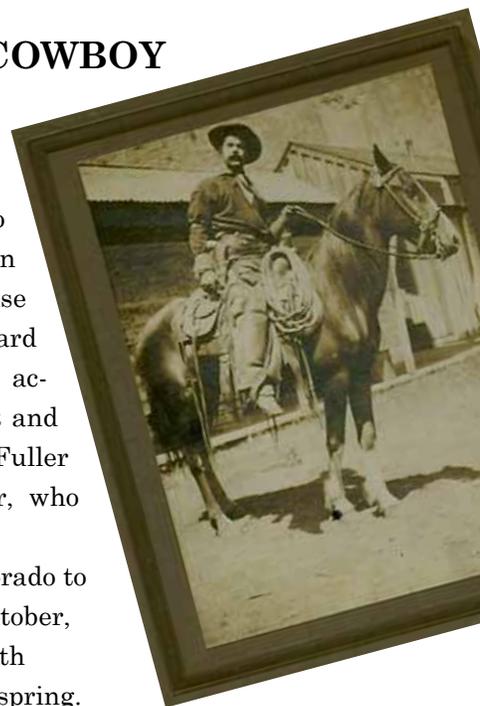
Uncle Edward left Colorado to return to Suffield in October, but Sarah remained with Howard until the next spring. Howard lived in a Colorado sanatorium for a number of years. But at some point, he was well enough to seek employment with a wholesale grocer in Denver. Later he worked as a cowboy on a cattle ranch in the area, apparently learning on the job. He finally returned to Suffield in the Spring of 1912.

Howard was the only child of William H. Pease and his wife Julia Ardelle Fuller, who were married in 1874. In 1876, this son was born at Aldenheim on North Main Street. (Aldenheim was built by Howard's grandfather, Dr. Howard Alden, and still stands today on North Main Street as the home of SHS members Nikki and Tom Deupree.) Julia died in 1878 when her son was only two, and Howard's father, William, died just four years later. William's sister, Sarah L. Pease Fuller, and her husband, Edward Fuller, had no children of their own. Thus they agreed to raise their orphaned nephew.

Howard attended Suffield schools and graduated from Hartford High School. He began his career as a bookkeeper for W. W. Cooper. However, when he was diagnosed with TB, the family took him to the dry, mountain air of Denver.

After returning to Suffield in 1912, Howard worked for his uncle as the manager of a tobacco warehouse for the firm, E.A. & W.F. Fuller. On October 15, 1912, he married Mary Ella "Nellie" Morris, whom he had met at Pleasure Beach in Waterford.

Following in the footsteps of previous generations, Howard was a member of the Second Baptist Church.



(An ancestor, Hannah Pease AKA Mrs. Zeno Pease was one of its founding members in 1805.) He was also a trustee of Suffield School, now Suffield Academy. Howard died in 1927, leaving Nellie with five children: Sarah “Sally,” Edward, Lucy, Mary and Ardelle.

Today, three great-grandsons (John and Michael Berry and David Sisk) as well as two great-great-grandsons and a great-great-granddaughter live in Suffield. A grandson and two granddaughters live in the Pleasure Beach neighborhood where Howard met Nellie.

Editor’s Note: Your author, Barry N. Sisk, is the widower of Howard and Nellie Pease’s grandchild, the late Ruth Washburn Sisk.

ANNUAL FIELD TRIP

This year’s SHS annual field trip explores the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation as well as two historic homes in Lincoln and Watham, Mass.

The Codman Estate

The 18th century Codman House in Lincoln overlooks a farm and pleasure grounds. In the 1730s John Codman carried out extensive improvements to the original Georgian house and its surrounding grounds. Sixty years later, in the 1790s, his grandson updated the house in keeping with contemporary fashion and filled the house with the finest New York furnishings. Today, the interiors are furnished with portraits, memorabilia, and art works collected in Europe, showing the decorative schemes of over two hundred years, including those of noted early twentieth-century interior designer Ogden Codman Jr.

The estate has a hidden turn-of-the-century Italian garden with perennial beds, statuary, and a reflecting pool filled with water lilies. The estate also features a 1930s English cottage garden.

Walter Gropius House

Another site we will visit is the 1938 Walter Gropius house. Gropius founded the German design school known as the Bauhaus. He was one of the most influential architects of the twentieth century. He designed Gropius House as his family home when he came to Massachusetts to teach architecture at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design.

While the house is relatively small, it is revolutionary in impact. Gropius combined the traditional elements of New England architecture—wood, brick, and fieldstone—with materials not commonly used in residences. These included glass block, acoustical plaster, chrome banisters, and modern fixtures.

In keeping with Bauhaus thinking, every aspect of the house and its surrounding landscape was planned for maximum efficiency and simplicity of design. The house contains furniture designed by Marcel Breuer and fabricated in the Bauhaus workshops.

Charles River Museum

The final stop on the tour is the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation. The museum is located in the former boiler room of the first integrated cotton mill in America. It houses a large collection of products that were made in Waltham and vicinity. Watchmaking artifacts, automobiles, textiles, clocks, machinery and engines are all on display.

The bus will leave from King House at 7:30 AM on Saturday, May 16, 2015, and will return to Suffield about 6:00 PM. Cost of the tour includes transportation, a box lunch, snacks, museum admissions and tips. The cost of this tour is \$60 per person.

To register send in your check with the form below to Ed Chase.

TRIP REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(S) _____

PHONE _____

SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO “SUFFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY”
to

Ed Chase, 33 Abraham Terrace, Suffield, CT 06078

Questions? Call Ed at (860) 668-2962

UPCOMING EVENTS

**NOTE CHANGE IN DAY
FOR MAY MEETING**

150 YEARS OF SIGNATURE QUILTS

Tuesday, May 12

Senior Center 7:30 p.m.

These quilts were used by churches, organizations and families to raise funds for towns, veterans, orphans, worldwide organizations and benevolent causes close to home. Sue Reich, an AQS Certified Appraiser, NQA Judge and author of several books on signature quilts, will share her knowledge and some of her treasures with you.

SPRING TRIP

Saturday, May 16

Lincoln & Waltham, Mass.

7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Departing from the King House

See article inside for more complete details.

**NOTE CHANGE IN DAY
FOR JULY SOCIAL**

SUFFIELD'S PAST IN PHOTOGRAPHS

Wednesday, June 17

Senior Center 7:30 p.m.

Photos from the late Hawley Rising Collection selected by Curator Lester Smith and Trustee Anne Borg. See what Suffield was in days past with a contemporary historical perspective.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Tuesday, July 14

King House Lawn 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Bring friends and family to an old-fashioned Ice Cream Social on the King House lawn. Pack a picnic, bring lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of neighborly visiting. The Society will provide ice cream and entertainment.

Rain date: Thursday, July 16

King House Museum
232 South Main Street
Open to the Public, Free
Wednesdays and Saturdays
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
May through September
Newsletter
Maggie Phillippon, Editor
Anne Borg, Compiler

www.SuffieldHistoricalSociety.org

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