

News from the Stow Historical Society

A newsletter for all friends of Stow history.
Please feel free to pass it along to others who might be interested!

August 30, 2021

In this issue:

- Lake Boon Water Carnival, Labor Day weekend
- New Books:
 - *Celebrating Stow's Women*, published by the SHS
 - *A History of Lake Boon, 100th Anniversary of the Lake Boon Association*
- Donations and research inquiries to the SHS
- Stow's Whitney siblings and their 1920's bequests to the Town of Stow

Lake Boon Water Carnival

“The annual Lake Boon Water Carnival will take place on **Labor Day Weekend, Friday, September 3 through Monday, September 6.**”

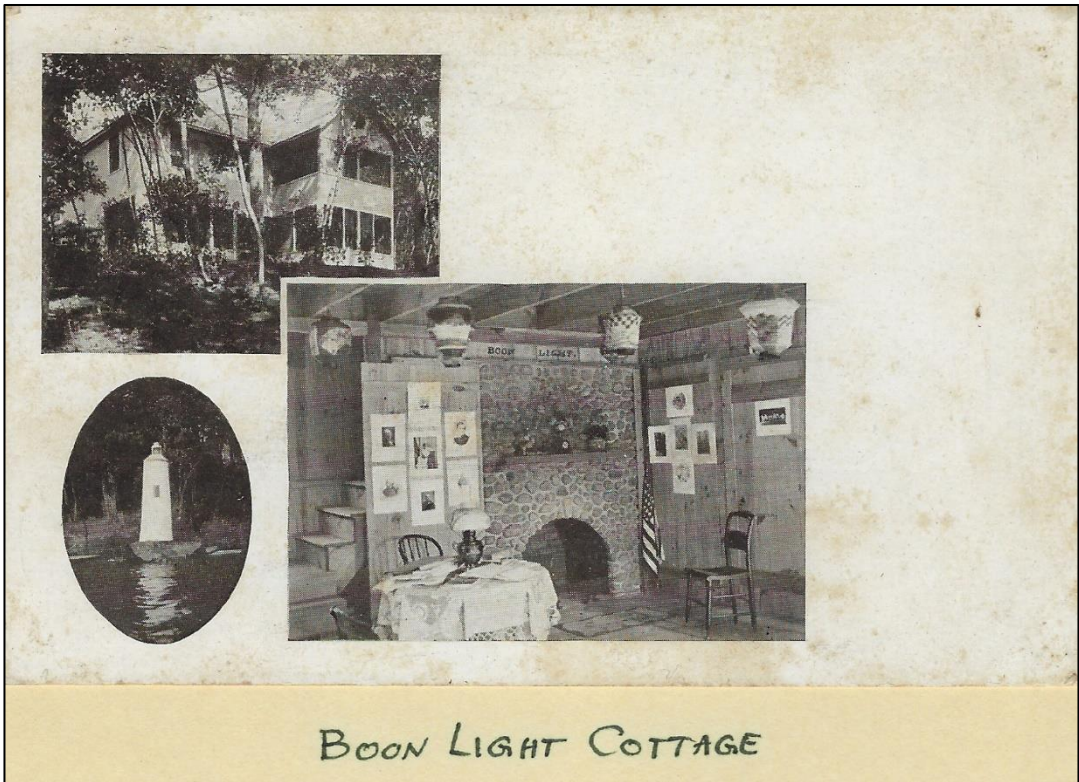
Source: www.lakeboon.org – view for schedule

“This year we celebrate the Lake Boon Association’s centennial of incorporation in 1921! Especially for the centennial celebration will be the festive music of an antique carousel organ playing mid-day on Saturday at the panoramic Pine Bluffs Town Beach lookout. In addition, *A History of Lake Boon*, the newly released comprehensive book by Prof. Richard Gelpke, will be available for purchase.”

This summer the SHS has had the opportunity to scan and digitize three scrapbooks owned by Stow residents.

The next three pages are a few examples of the Lake Boon collection, which complement Dick Gelpke’s new book, *A History of Lake Boon, 100th Anniversary of the Lake Boon Association*





Postcard
ca. 1905



LAKE BOON

RULES TO BE OBSERVED
BY
ALL LESSEES OF COTTAGES.

1. No garbage or refuse, swill, tinware, broken crockery, ashes, etc., shall be placed upon, or left lying on, or buried within any land belonging to George H. and Alice M. Barton.

2. No odor shall be allowed to escape from any closet, sink, or cesspool. Each lessee shall so attend to each closet, sink or cesspool under his charge or use that it shall always and at all times be odorless.

3. No drainage from sinks, closets or cesspools shall be allowed to enter the lake.

4. No washing of clothing shall be allowed in the lake, nor shall any water used for such washing be allowed to enter the lake.

5. Nothing shall be done, nor shall anything be brought into or kept in any cottage, or other building, which shall in any way raise the rate of fire insurance on any cottage on our land.

6. No fires shall be allowed on any of the lots or upon any of the surrounding land unless permission in writing be obtained of the Town (Stow) Fire Warden and this written permission has received the written endorsement of at least one member of the Committee elected by the owners of the cottages.

7. All noise, loud talking or singing, or disturbance of any kind must cease at 10.30 P.M., except on Saturdays and then at midnight.

8. No clubs shall be allowed the use of any cottage except by the written permission of George H. or Alice M. Barton, or of at least two members of the Committee elected by the owners of the cottages.

GEORGE H. BARTON.
ALICE M. BARTON.

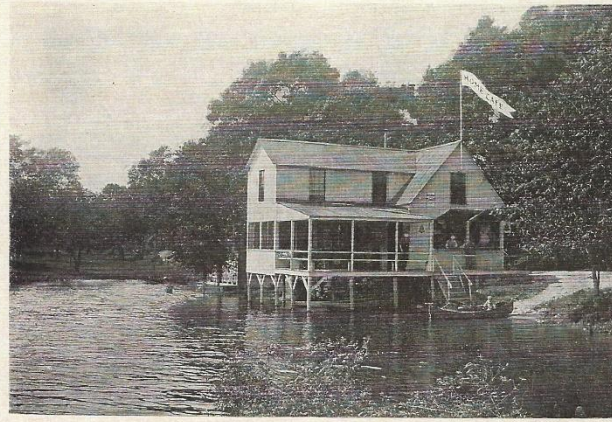
THOMAS E. JACKSON,
FRANK G. PRATT,
FRANK A. THEALL,
ALBERT E. LARKIN,

} *Committee elected by
the Owners of Cottages.*

Undated photo
ca. 1920's



ON LAKE BOON



BOLAM'S DEPT STORE AND HOME CAFE
AT THE VERY NORTH POINT OF LAKE BOON.

The SHS's new book, *Celebrating Stow's Women, 1920 and the 19th Amendment*, featured Elizabeth Bolam.

This summer the niece of Bob Rooney, pictured below, inquired whether the SHS had any photos of or articles about Bob, who owned Boon's Cove after the Hanson's.

The society had just scanned the photo below. Does anyone have photos or articles about Boon's Cove during the 70's after Bob Rooney bought the beach?

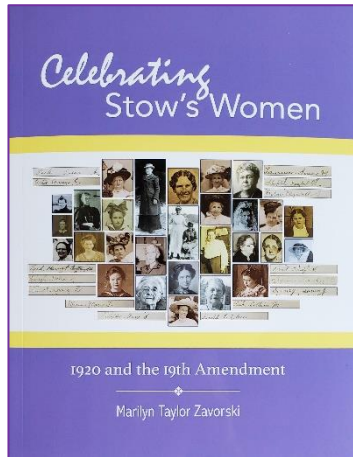
2B The Middlesex News, Fri., August 10, 1979



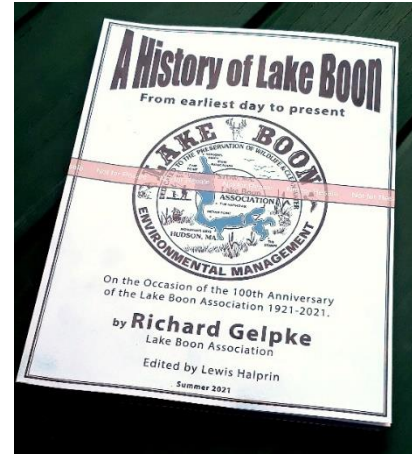
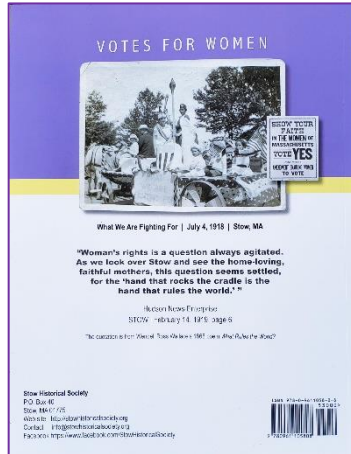
INTERNATIONAL RESORT? — It may look like the French Riviera, but it's actually Lake Boone in Stow,

where Bob Rooney, owner of Boone Cove, enjoys the golden rays of Thursday's sun.

New Books about Stow



This limited-edition, 146-page book is printed in color and priced at \$20 – cash or check made out to the Stow Historical Society. Reply to this email or to info@stowhistoricalsociety.org. For a mailed single copy add \$5.00. The books are also for sale at the Stow COA Gift Shop and the Randall Library.



This 274-page book will be on sale for \$20 during the Carnival. See www.lakeboon.org for the 3-day schedule.

New Donations

THE LAWRENCE FAMILY

In July Rev. Diane Badger of N. Easton, MA donated a broad assortment of documents and photos which originated in the Samuel and Susan Proctor Lawrence home at 27 Gleasondale Road. These artifacts have toured the country as they have been passed down through the generations.

Among the photos were two outstanding pictures of the Lawrence house at 27 Gleasondale Road.



27 Gleasondale Road, Stow, MA

Both photos were dated 1897.

To the left is the extended Lawrence family with the horse and carriage.

Below is the Lawrence daughter, Bertha, 31, with her bicycle and her grandmother, Emily Gates Lawrence, 78.



The SHS's photo collection of Lawrence family has grown. The donated photos included a cabinet card photo of the Lawrence's son, Eugene Burr Lawrence (1865-1959).



The society has a photo of their daughter, Bertha Faustina Lawrence (1866-1919).



The photo collection included a large selection of cabinet cards of young people ca. 1885. Rev. Badger theorizes that they were once in the photo album labeled "December 25, 1884, Bertha Lawrence." This would have been the year Bertha graduated from high school in Stow.

Then there was this tintype photo:

This is the first photo of Samuel Lawrence, and he is photographed with Stow's revered doctor.



Samuel Lawrence (1841-1900) and Stow's doctor, A. C. Livermore



Dr. Able Cutting Livermore (1825-1891) SHS portrait

Sadly, there were no labeled photos of Stow's beloved Susan Proctor Lawrence, who was featured in *Celebrating Stow's Women, 1920 and the 19th Amendment*.

There are so many stories to be explored in the Lawrence donation.

THE STOW FAMILY

In August the SHS received additional photos to add to the Stow family collection from Bob Trumpolt, Stow native, now from Michigan.

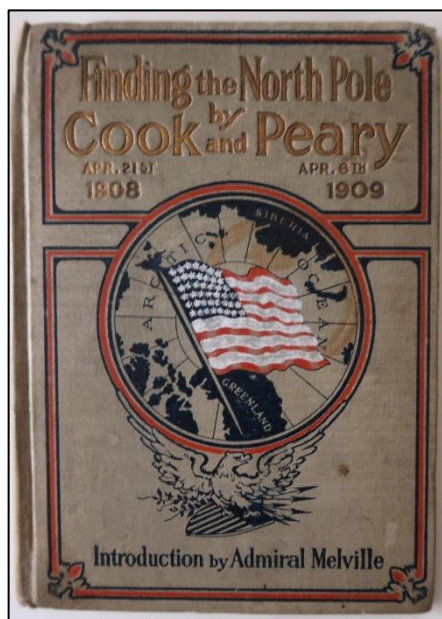
Bob's donation also included this book.

The Name STOW

In 1683, when Pompositticut Planation became a colonial town, "Governor Simon Bradstreet picked the name STOW from a list of 'comely English names,'" (Childs, *History of Stow*, pages 6-7), since he had journeyed to the colonies with John Stowe.

The Stow family lived in Roxbury and later in Marlborough. Stephen Stow of Marlborough married Abigail Smith of Stow and moved here in 1756, buying the Boaz Brown late 1600's farm on Harvard Road in 1764.

Bob Trumpolt is the 4th great grandson of Stephen Stow and the 8th great grandson of John Stowe.



Copyright, 1909 by W. E. SCULL

Bob's aunt, Marian Stow (1912-2008) wrote her name on the inside cover.



Marian was one of nine children of the George Jason Stow family who lived at the Stow Tavern on Great Road, one of three Stow family homes in the town.



Barns at the Stow Tavern, 1918

The three youngest Stow children

- Helen, 9 (1909-2001)
- Marian, 6 (1912-2008)
- Alice, 4 (1914-2000)



George Jason Stow, early 1900's

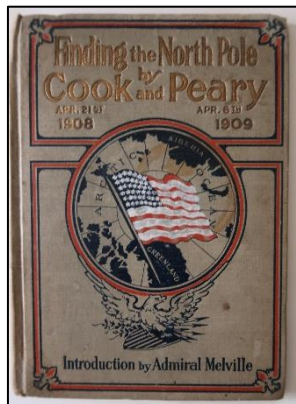
The Stow Tavern
 Great Road almost opposite Hudson Road

Owned by
 Abraham Stow (1784-1863)
 Edmund Stow (1839-1914)
 George Jason Stow (1870-1951)



1942

The book contained sample pages and illustrations "to give an intelligent idea of the features in the complete book." Below is the bottom half of page 3 of the book.



The Complete Work Contains

500 pages, giving the information as shown in accompanying Table of Contents, and includes nearly 100 illustrations printed on high surface paper.

The text pages will be printed on paper of the same high quality as shown in his sample.

The complete book measures 9 1/2 x 7 inches in size and will be bound just as is represented by this sample in heavy boards, covered in Extra Cloth, and stamped in gold and the three American colors, Red White and Blue.

WARNING We caution agents and the public against the unreliable catch-penny books made with scissors and paste that will be thrown upon the market. **Admiral Melville's Name on this work stamps it with authority.** Do not make the mistake of buying any other.

Agents need have no hesitation in claiming for this work all that we state above, and **Purchasers** can order this work on the above claims made for it

We guarantee this book to be just as represented by this prospectus

THE PUBLISHERS.

At the end of the sample pages was this page.

THE MOST DARING FEAT IN HISTORY

Finding the North Pole

DR. COOK'S OWN STORY OF HIS DISCOVERY, APRIL 21, 1908
THE STORY OF COMMANDER PEARY'S DISCOVERY, APRIL 6, 1909
TOGETHER WITH THE MARVELOUS RECORD OF FORMER ARCTIC EXPLORATIONS

With an Introduction by GEORGE W. MELVILLE
Rear Admiral U. S. N., Retired

The Survivor of Three Arctic Expeditions, who Recovered the Records of the Jeannette Expedition, and also the Remains of De Long and his Companions and was Given a Gold Medal by Congress for his Distinguished Services

THIS THRILLING STORY OF HARDSHIP AND DANGER gives the whole history of Arctic Exploration with its terrible sacrifice of human lives, loss of ships, and disaster and hardship and suffering from the days of the Vikings to the present time. It tells of the search for the Northwest Passage by Hudson, Baffin, James Cook and other early explorers; of the ill-fated expedition of Sir John Franklin, who perished in the frozen North, and the subsequent efforts to find him; of the explorations of Kane and Hayes; of how De Long perished with the "Jeannette"; of the famous Greely Expedition, of its rescue by Captain (now Admiral Schley); of how Nansen in the "Fram", reached what was then (1896) "Farthest North"; of how Abruzzi in 1900 eclipsed this feat; of Andr e's fatal attempt to reach the Pole in a balloon; of Wellman's unsuccessful attempt in an airship; of the twenty-three years of heroic effort of Lieutenant Peary and of the **CROWNING GLORY OF COOK'S AND PEARY'S ACHIEVEMENTS.**

THIS GREAT BOOK CONTAINS OVER 500 LARGE OCTAVO PAGES, PRINTED ON HIGH-GRADE PAPER AND LAVISHLY ILLUSTRATED WITH AUTHENTIC PHOTOGRAPHS

Cloth Binding, Stamped in Gold and Colors.....Price \$1.50
Half Morocco Binding, Marbled Edges.....Price \$2.00

AGREEMENT.—We, the subscribers whose names appear on the following pages, agree to take the number of copies of the above named book set opposite to our respective names, and pay the specified prices on delivery of the book, provided the same is equal to the sample shown by this Prospectus. Delay in delivery shall not invalidate this agreement.

“AGREEMENT.—We the subscribers whose names appear on the following pages, agree to the number of copies of the above named book set opposite to our respective names and pay the specified prices on delivery of the book...”

On the next four agreement pages

Stow High School teacher, Miss Robbins, wrote the names of her 1926 students in Grade VII, History & Geography and in Grade VIII, History.

Alice Stow was in 7th grade.
Marian Stow was in 8th grade.

Was this sample book used as a textbook in the Stow schools?

Stories about Stow’s 1926 students need to be researched.

Miss Robbins

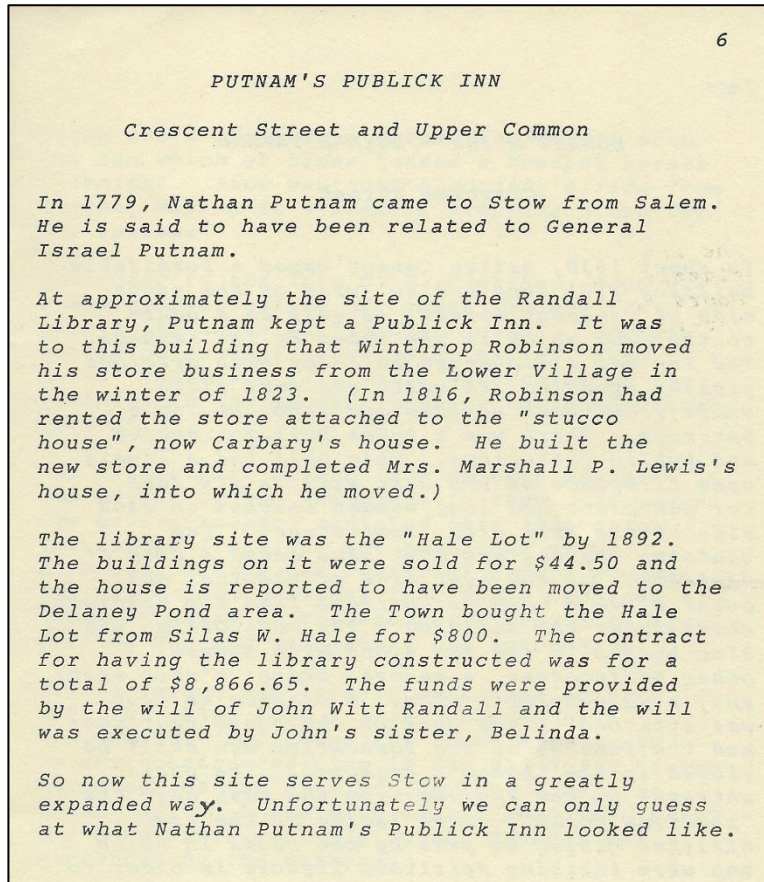
NAME of Child.	Grade	Classes.	ADDRESS	PRICE
Abto Spitalo.	7th	History & Geography.		1926
Forest Kasten		"	"	
Heather Magatis.		"	"	
Violet Estela.		"	"	
Hilda Stodover.		"	"	
Viola Jones		"	"	
Laura Hess.		"	"	
Melvin Mason.		"	"	
Ernest Cole		"	"	
Lawrence Thomas		"	"	
Ledia Emerson.		"	"	
Richard W. W.		"	"	

June Inquires Received by the SHS

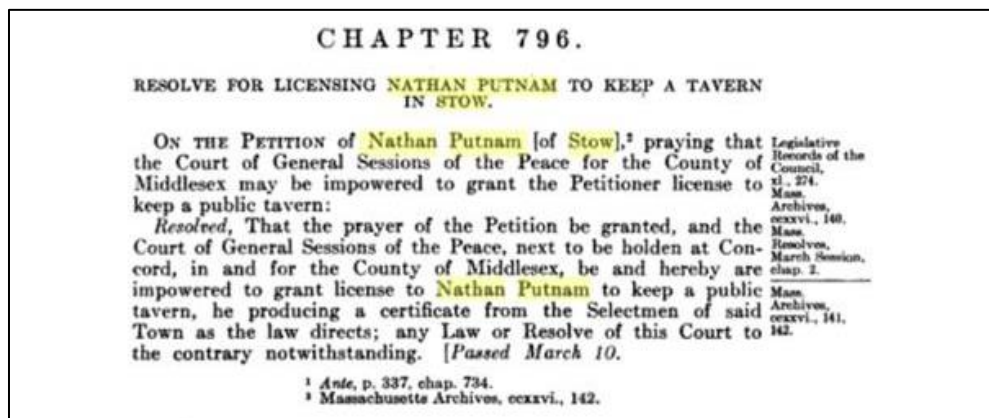
Stow buildings were closed to the community due to Covid cautions.

Susan Melton, who retired to Alabama, emailed a request for assistance to further connections to her extensive research of her family branch who originated in Stow, MA. She had traced this branch of her tree back to Stow's first proprietors, the Hapgoods and Gates. Her detailed documentation also included the Putnam/Conant/Gibson/Whitney/Wheeler families.

She desired help with Nathan Putnam who kept an inn in Stow. The only source available was the 1983 booklet written by the Stow Tercentenary Committee, "*There is a Tavern in the Town, in the Town...*"



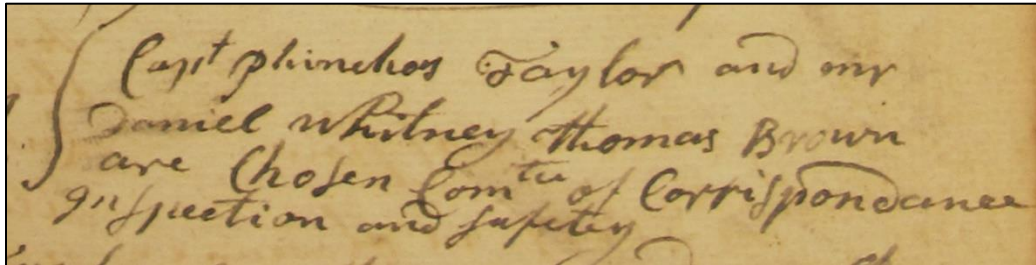
The society also located that the *Massachusetts Resolves 1779-80* (page 367) issued the license:



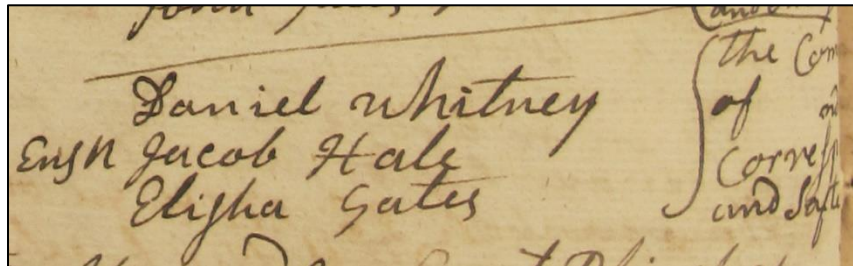
For her DAR application she required proof that her descendant, Daniel Whitney (1720-1782), was a member of Stow's Committees of Safety and Correspondence during the American Revolution.

The SHS has digitized the Stow's Town Meeting Minutes during the American Revolution years. His name was in the March 3, 1777, and March 2, 1778, minutes.

One lucky lady with the town being closed to research!



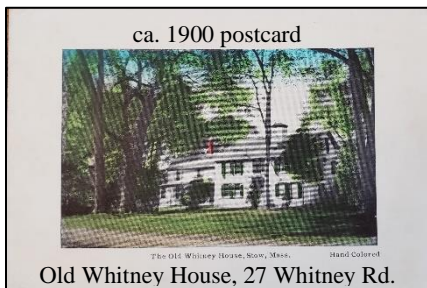
March 3, 1777, Stow Town Meeting Minutes



March 2, 1778, Stow Town Meeting Minutes

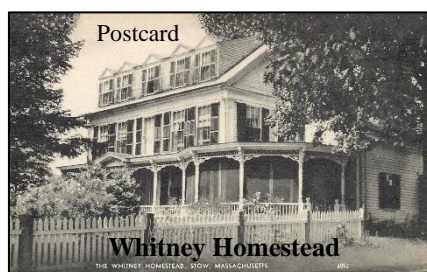
Lynn Gates from Minnesota, a direct descendant from Stow's Gates/Whitney family also contacted the SHS for assistance with her massive family research. She was planning a road trip to Stow in early July, which she delayed several days to arrive when Stow's Town Building would be open to the public.

Lucy Gates married Moses Whitney in 1806. Until this marriage the house at 27 Whitney Road was known as the Gates Homestead. Now the Old Whitney House, it remained in the Whitney family for the next 125 years.



Lucy and Moses Whitney had two daughters, Mary and Lucia. They married their Harvard cousins, James F. and Edwin Whitney.

James and Mary Whitney removed to Albany, NY where James was a grocer. Seven children were born in Albany, and they returned to Stow when James' business burned in the late 1840's.



Moses Whitney built Lucia and Edwin a new house in 1844, the Whitney Homestead at 485 Great Rd.

When the James Whitney family returned to Stow in the late 1840's, they lived in the Old Whitney House and Moses, Lucy, Edwin and Lucia lived on Great Road.

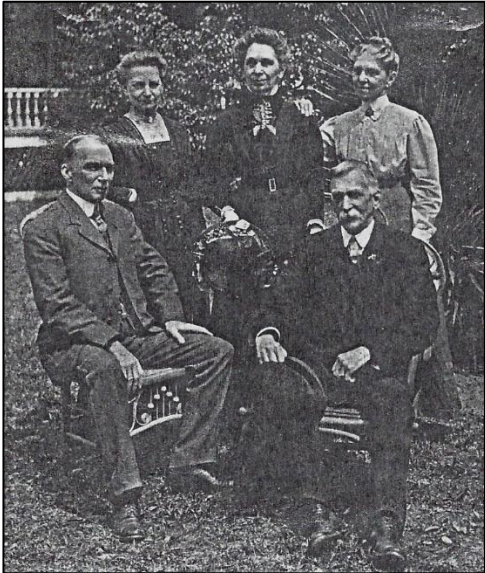
The Whitney Family

Mother: Mary Gates Whitney born and died in Stow, MA, 1886
Father: James Fordyce Whitney born in Harvard, died in Stow, MA, 1874

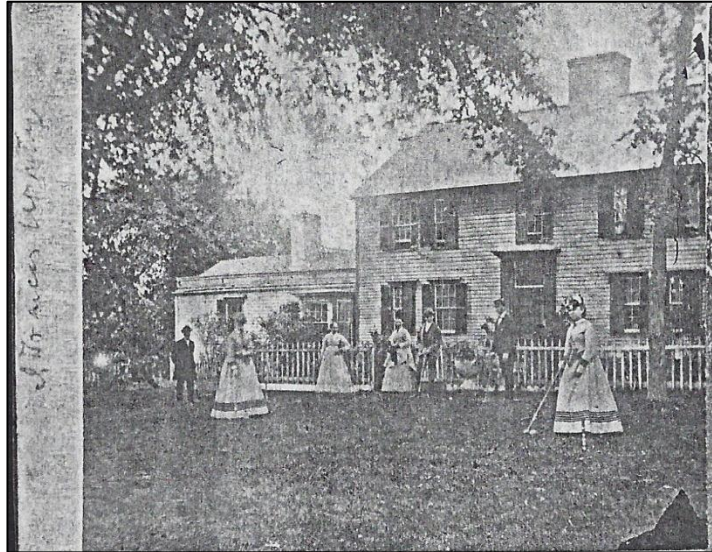
Four of seven Whitney children:

Cyrus Henry	born Aug 29, 1839, Albany, NY	died Feb 1, 1927, Stow, MA
James Francis	born Oct 24, 1842, Albany, NY	died Oct 26, 1923, Somerville
Adeline	born Nov 13, 1846, Albany, NY	died Aug 25, 1928, Stow, MA
Martha Gates	born Dec 19, 1848, Albany, NY	died Oct 12, 1924, Brookline, MA

All are buried in the Lower Village Cemetery.



Back row:
 Martha Whitney Adeline Whitney Mary Whitney Warren (1844-1919)
Front Row:
 James Whitney, Cyrus Whitney



Half of a Stereograph photo of the 7 Whitney's in Stow – Civil War era

The above photos are from a scrapbook created by Jody Newman who lived in the Old Whitney House for many, many years. The SHS is in the process of digitizing this extensive collection of documents and photos.

The SHS has a large collection of clothing and textiles from the Whitney's homes. This collection was shared with Lynn Gates on July 9th. The collection includes the homespun towel belonging to Marcy Perry Whitney (1726-1828). Yes, she lived to be 102 years old! The collection also includes the 1834 wedding dress of Mary Gates Whitney, a 1850's drawn bonnet, shawls, baby and toddler clothing of the Whitney siblings, Victoria era piano shawls...



Lynn Gates and Marilyn Zavorski

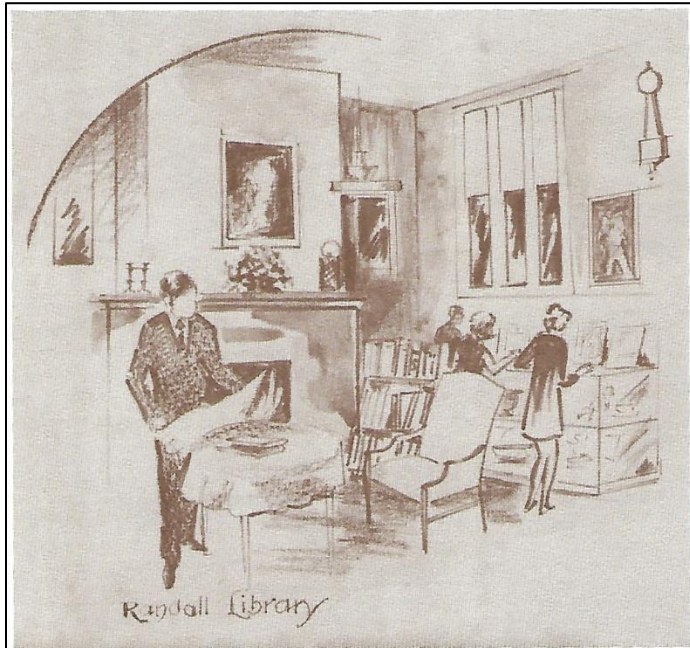
The **FOUR WHITNEY SIBLINGS** all bequeathed to the Town of Stow funding to build an addition to the Randall Library and to furnish this historical room to house and preserve historical works.

Article Three of the wills James, Martha, Cyrus, and Adeline all read the same:

Article Three I give and bequeath the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to the Randall Library in the Town of Stow, Massachusetts, to be used in building and furnishing a suitable addition to the library for the purpose of housing and preserving historical works. The income of this gift may be accumulated by said Randall Library until the fund with its accumulations and any other moneys available for the purpose, is sufficient to pay for such addition.

Cyrus H. Whitney, signed September 5, 1924

Whitney Historical Room 1971 Sketch



Historical Room in Randall Memorial Library where the Stow Historical Society holds its monthly meetings and where historic artifacts are encased for viewing.



1975 SHS – after the dedication of the new addition to Randall Library.

The reference table in photo had been in the former library's reference room, which is where the children's tables are now located upstairs.

April 2021



The Whitney Historical Room awaits the installation of the picture rail system so that Stow's historic portraits, paintings, maps, and photographs can be rehung.

What a gift Stow was bequeathed!