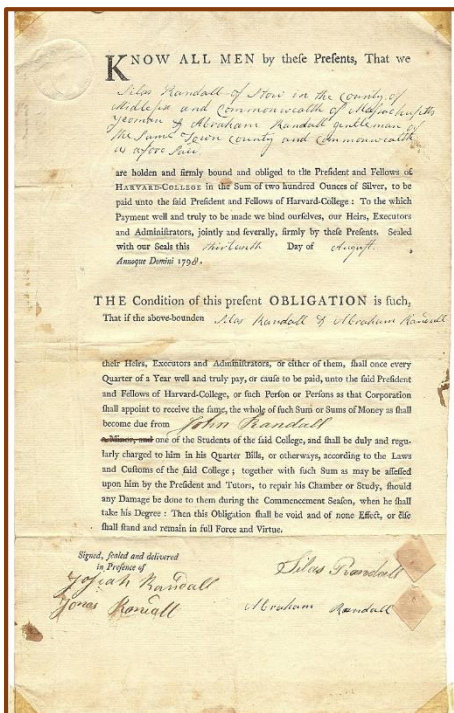


News from the Stow Historical Society

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

March 6, 2016



12" X 8"

The Randall Legacy Lives On

Two weeks ago Stow's Randall Library received an email inquiry from a woman in Alabama. Would the library be interested in two John Randall documents from 1798 and 1802?

The donor was sorting through her late husband's books and found these documents folded in one of his books. She googled John Randall, Stow, MA and immediately noted the name of Stow's library.

Massachusetts to Alabama to Massachusetts!

Over 200 Years Old

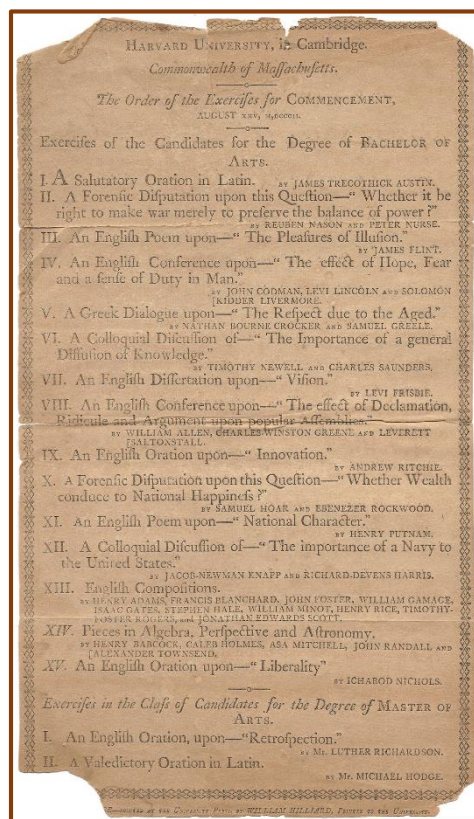
The promissory note above is dated August 13, 1799. Randall family members promised the "President and Fellows of Harvard College" 200 ounces of silver for the education of John Randall of Stow, MA.

The John Randall (1774, Stow – 1843, Boston) became a well-known Boston physician, marrying Elizabeth Wells, the granddaughter of Samuel Adams.

On the right is the Harvard University 1802 graduation program. John Randall is XIV.

The John Randall, mentioned in these documents, was the grandfather of John Witt Randall, who donated funds to build the Randall Library.

These documents are in the Stow Town Vault. Color reproductions in the exact size are at the library.



14" X 9"



Spring Programming



Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, April 16, 2016

Randall Library

3 PM

Preserving New England Native Culture Today

Katherine Hamilton of Stow presents her Girl Scout Gold Award Documentary

Sunday, May 1, 2016

Stow Town Hall

3 PM

Mary Margaret O'Connell: Lowell Mill Girl

Sharon Kennedy, a Grammy nominee, will present a one-woman show



Saturday, May 14, 2016

Center School Lobby

10 AM – 4 PM

SpringFest

SHS will have

1. a smorgasbord of Stow historical artifacts on display
2. final drafts of the new Lower Village and Hillside Cemetery maps with updated spreadsheets
3. Stow historical buildings' inventory books

Sunday, May 22, 2016

West School Museum

Noon – 4 PM

OPEN HOUSE

Part of Freedom Way's Hidden Treasures 2016



Saturday, May 14 - Sunday, May 22

Preserving New England Native Culture Today

**Katherine Hamilton of Stow
NRHS Senior**

**Presents her
Girl Scout Gold Award Project**



**Film Documentary about the Nipmuc Nation
and their Land in Grafton**



Randall Library

3 PM

Saturday, April 16, 2016

**On Display: Stow Native American artifacts
and copies of Stow's Native American deeds
and documents, 1683 to 1685**

*Sponsored by the Stow Historical Society
and the Randall Library*

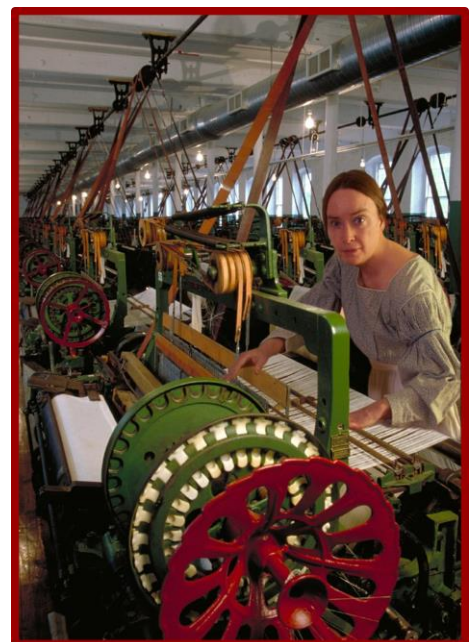
Mary Margaret O'Connell: Lowell Mill Girl



**Stow Town Hall
3 – 4:30 PM
Sunday, May 1, 2016**

**Storyteller, Sharon Kennedy, a Grammy nominee,
presents her one-woman show,
Mary Margaret O'Connell,
for audiences from 9 to 109.**

**On Display:
Historic Photos of
Stow's
Gleasondale Mills**



***Sponsored by the Stow Historical Commission
and the Stow Historical Society***

This program is sponsored in part by a grant from the Stow Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



Sharon Kennedy

Storyteller



Sharon Kennedy has been telling stories professionally for more than 25 years. She was honored in Yankee magazine as one of "60 people who make New England, New England." Then she and her character Mary Margaret O'Connell were featured on ABC-TV's "Good Morning, America".

Sharon has 10 one-woman shows for adults in her repertoire and three for children, but Mary Margaret O'Connell is her best known character, pleasing audiences from 9 to 109.

Sharon has performed at storytelling festivals from Maine to California and at Irish festivals from Boston to Savannah to Milwaukee. She has told stories on National Public Radio and in theaters, bookstores, and coffee houses. She co-produced a storytelling concert series for six years in Brookline and, in partnership with the Charlestown Working Theater, she developed and produced six different one-woman shows over a period of 10 years.

Sharon records with Rounder Records and has several tapes and CDs available. Her Irish discs are filled with the wit and the wonder of the old Irish tales as well as with beautiful Irish music on harp, fiddle, and accordion. Her "Turtle" tape and her "Patchwork Quilt" CD feature stories and songs from a great variety of cultures including African, Jewish, Scottish, and Puerto Rican. All of her discs have won numerous awards. "The Patchwork Quilt" was nominated for a Grammy Award.

Sharon has collected oral histories from Irish, Latino, African-American, and Haitian populations in a number of Massachusetts communities including Lowell, Melrose, Lawrence and Medford. Besides developing shows from these oral histories, she has written a book entitled, "The Voices of West Medford" and created a website at haitianmedford.com.

She has collected folktales in Mexico, Ecuador, Ireland, and most recently in Ghana and Burkina Faso.

<http://www.sharonkennedy.com/>

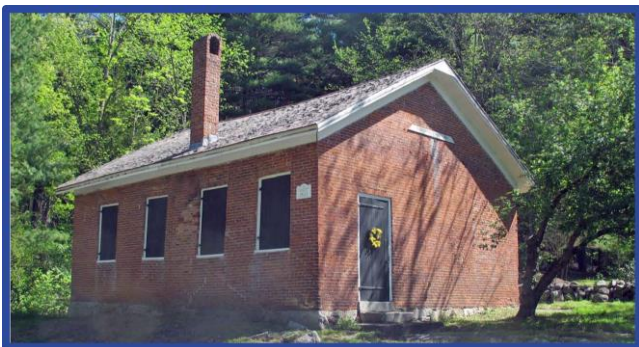


Saturday, May 14 - Sunday, May 22

Explore the Hidden Treasures of Freedom's Way National Heritage Area's MA and NH communities.

STOW'S HIDDEN TREASURE: WEST SCHOOL MUSEUM

One Room was Enough



**Sunday, May 22, 2016
Noon – 4 PM
Jct. Harvard & Hiley Brook
Roads**

Travel back in time, exploring Stow's 1825 one-room schoolhouse. Explore the school artifacts, view the 1829 School Roster and immerse yourselves in schooling from 1825-1903.



<http://www.discoverhiddentreasures.org/>