

The Marlow Historical Society's mission is to preserve and illuminate Marlow's history

Fall 2025

ECHOES OF BROTHERHOOD: THE LAST ODD FELLOWS LODGE IN CHESHIRE COUNTY

A History of the Odd Fellows in Marlow



DISPENSATION.

To all whom it may concern:

We, Horace A. Brown Grand Master of

the Grand Lodge of the **Independent Order of Odd Lellows**, of the State of New Hampshire, and the jurisdiction of the Order thereunto belonging.

Prieddship, Love, and Truth.

thorize and empower our trusty and well-beloved brethren,

William H. Seaman, Alvin A. Norme, Nicholas Duffy, Harlon E. Honey, Glorge A. Petto, Amos E. Pogers and George F. Bailey

and their successors, duly and legally elected, to constitute a Lodge in the towns of Moulene in the county of Cherkers and State of New Hampshire, to be known and hailed by the name and title of

Forest Lodge No. 69

And we do further authorize our said trusty and well-beloved brethren and their successors to admit and make Odd Fellows according to the ancient usages and customs of the Order and not contrariwise; with full power and authority to hear and determine, all and singular, matters and things relating to the Order within the jurisdiction of said Lodge, according to the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire, and of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the United States.

Provided, always, that the said above-named brethren and their successors pay due respect to the Grand Louge of the State of New Hampshire, and the ordinances thereof; otherwise this Dispensation to be of no force or effect.

And provided further, that this Dispensation shall be approved by the said Grand Lodge at the next annual meeting thereof.



Given under our hands and the seal of the Grand Lodge of the State of

New Hampshire, this thirteenth day of Sweenber

A. D. 1883, and of our Order the Sixty Fifth.

Hornee A. Brown Grand Master.

Joseph Kidden Grand Secretary.

The handsome dispensation document, with its ceremonial wording and cursive flourishes, officially authorized the formation of Odd Fellows Forest Lodge No. 69, in the town of Marlow, in the year 1883.

Ken Dassau, 176th Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of NH 1, emailed us this photo of the document, the original of which is prominently displayed at the Lodge. The dispensation establishes that Horace A. Brown, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the State of New Hampshire, and Joseph Kidder, Grand Secretary, "and the jurisdiction of the Order thereunto belonging"...by virtue of the powers vested in them "do hereby authorize and empower our trusty and wellbeloved brethren, and their successors, duly and legally elected, to constitute a lodge in the town of Marlow in the county of Cheshire and State of New Hampshire, to be known and hailed by the name and title of Forest Lodge, No. 69."2

According to 1880 area censuses the "trusty and well-beloved brethren" were:

William H. Seaman (Marlow), 46 year-old currier born in Nova Scotia, who lived with his wife and three adult children.

Alvin A. Young (Sullivan), tannery worker in his 30s who lived with his wife and three school-aged sons.

Nicholas Duffy (Hillsborough), 36 year-old currier born in Ireland who lived with his wife and four young children

Harlon E. Honey (Marlow), 34 years-old, worked in the currier shop, and lived with his first wife Harriet.

George A. Petts (Marlow), 39 year-old hotel proprietor living with his wife and two schoolage daughters.³

Amos E. Rogers (Marlow), 27 year-old farm laborer living with his parents and 24 year-old brother.

George F. Bailey (Acworth), 50 year-old farmer who lived with his wife, nine-year-old daughter and 88-year-old mother.

To honor the Odd Fellows' mission, these men worked together to "improve and elevate the character of mankind by promoting the principles of friendship, love, truth, faith, hope, charity and universal justice; to help make the world a better place to live by aiding each other, the community, the less fortunate, the youth, the elderly, the environment and the community in every way possible; and to promote good will and harmony amongst peoples and nations..."

For decades the members of Forest Lodge have lived up to these worthy goals by assisting and bringing together the Marlow community. Initially the Lodge rented space in the Marlow Academy building for its fraternal gatherings. They purchased the building on September 5, 1891 for the sum of \$600, and in 1903 acquired the adjoining seven-acre "Tontine" property from the heirs of Ezekiel Pierce and Bethuel Farley. The Lodge also cleared a tract of land behind the building for a park dedicated in 1991 to the memory of Abbie Werner Patria.4

Marlow Odd Fellows have since made the Lodge available for various functions including wedding receptions and memorial services, Episcopal Church services, craft shows, lectures, and exhibits. The Lodge itself has hosted Thanksgiving, Christmas, and St. Patrick's Day dinners, penny socials, and the ever-popular community breakfast on the third Sunday of the month. In July there were nearly 100 breakfasts sold, including take-outs. It holds monthly bingo nights licensed by NH Charitable Games, and has broadened its scope by participating in the Adopt-A-Highway program which covers Route 10 between Marlow's southern and northern borders. All activities are posted on social media. Individual members volunteer to help residents who need support by driving them to appointments and errands.

Membership is essential for Odd Fellows lodges. Just as it takes five members to petition for a charter to open a lodge, failure to maintain a minimum of five active members (the required quorum for meetings) will cause the Grand Lodge to revoke the charter.

This almost happened in 1983, 100 years after the dispensation, when the Grand Lodge of NH sent Past Grand Master Tom Johnson as a Special Deputy to take possession of the Marlow Lodge books. At the time meetings were not held at the lodge, but at the home of one of the members. Special Deputy Johnson's report from that time reads: "I must admit that things looked very dim for the future of Forest Lodge #69. The problems were basically two-fold – a lack of operating funds having \$.89 in the treasury with several unpaid bills, and a lack of attention to the building." Thankfully, instead of appropriating the books, Mr. Johnson set out to build up membership and secure the charter. He even took out a personal loan to assist the lodge. Thanks to his efforts, and with the help of other members such as then Marlow Post Master Jeff Miller, by the year 1989 the Lodge had 21 new members. Ken Dassau noted, "If Tom had given up, conceivably there would be no Lodge here today."

It is unfortunate that of the 104 IOOF lodges that were chartered in New Hampshire, just 17 remain. And of the 13 original lodges in Cheshire County, the only active one is Marlow's Forest Lodge No. 69.

Many fraternal organizations, select boards, libraries, school boards, fire departments, etc., struggle for membership and support due to a growing lack of public participation and social engagement. Unfortunately this trend is endangering the future of the last IOOF lodge in Cheshire County.

When a charter is revoked the building and its contents revert to the Grand Lodge of NH. The building would then be sold, as recently happened to Keene's Beaver Brook Lodge. Such a change would leave local residents and those in surrounding areas without a place to hold their events. If the building was privately owned, the cost of using it would be much higher than what is now "a recommended donation."

Through the years, we have witnessed the steadfastness and resilience of the Lodge which is a source of pride for its members and for the town of Marlow as a whole. To ensure its future may require an information and inspiration campaign, much like Past Grand Master Tom Johnson carried out in 1983, to inform the next generation about its history, and how we can all help Forest Lodge remain relevant in an ever changing world.

The valediction recited after every meeting reads:

I AM AN ODD FELLOW:

I believe in the Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of Man;

I believe in Friendship, Love and Truth as basic guides to the ultimate destiny of all mankind.

I believe my home, my church or temple, my lodge, and my community deserve my best work, my modest pride, my earnest faith, and my deepest loyalty, as I perform my duty "to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, and educate the orphan", and as I work with others to build a better world because in spirit and in truth, I am, and must always be, grateful to my Creator, faithful to my Country, and fraternal to my fellow man;

I AM AN ODD FELLOW!

- Ken Dassau is a 36-year member of Forest Lodge; Recording Secretary since 2012; 176th Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of NH; and Grand Instructor of the Grand Lodge of NH. He presently serves as the NH Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge.
- 2. Documented Odd Fellows lodges appeared in London around 1730. The first U.S. lodge, Shakespeare, No. 1, in New York City was established in 1806.
- 3. Read about George Petts in the Fall 2023 and Winter 2024 newsletters.
- 4. Abbie Werner Patria was the daughter of Lori and Tim Patria. She died under tragic circumstances in 1990. The Patrias ran the Marlow Village Store in the building at 162 Forest Road (Route 123).
- 5. In addition to the Odd Fellows, the Golden Rule Rebekah Lodge No. 30 shared the building. Golden Rule RL was instituted on October 1, 1886. They surrendered their Charter in 1967 and re-instituted on October 24, 1974. They later consolidated in 1986-87 with Friendship RL # 6 in Keene.). You can read about the donation of a Daughters of Rebekah handkerchief in the Fall 2021 newsletter.
- 6. An article about the Adopt-A-Highway program appeared in the Spring-Summer 2023 newsletter

REMEMBERING HOWARD'S GENERAL STORE by Stephanie Tickner

An ordinary metal ashtray, tarnished by time, has brought back happy memories to many Marlow residents. The ashtray was donated to the Historical Society by Guy and Becky Elliott of Newell Pond Road. Painted on it are the words:

STOLEN FROM HOWARDS GENERAL STORE TEL. Hilltop 6-3312 MARLOW, N.H.



I hadn't heard of Howard's General Store, so I looked for information in *The Keene Sentinel* archives and found in the Social Notes of the September 20, 1955 issue: "Mr. and Mrs. Charles Howard have purchased the Red and White Store, known as the Arne Aho Store, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Chester Davis". I then read that it closed in 1962, but was unable to determine the location. I wondered if it might have been the former store on Route 10.

Fortunately, Guy remembered that it was "at the very end of the road where the old bridge went over the river, which was then Main Street and Rt. 10. Bessie Webster lived next door, and the building on the corner was the post office. Fisk Perkins was the postmaster. Right across the road from the store was a gas station."

To gather more information, I posted a message and photos in the Marlow Facebook groups asking for recollections about either the Arne Aho Store or the Howard's General Store. I was also curious about what happened with the building in the time after the Howards closed the business in 1962 until it was torn down in the late 1980s. People responded enthusiastically!

Ellen Parker Rhodes

I can picture the inside of that store and Mr. Howard and his wife. I wasn't very old, but would go there to deliver the newspaper. I have a picture taken in their living room upstairs when I turned 10 by Marlene Dunn when she took me there on my birthday. It was sad to see the building gone. I believe my brother's godmother lived in an apartment upstairs too. My mother used to take us down to the store until we were old enough to go by ourselves. The looks of an old country store, the big door and wooden floors are a memory that's never forgotten.

Jim Strickland

I remember he [the store owner] moved his candy to near the checkout counter where he could keep his eye out for any candy thieves. I'm not sure if it was Charlie Howard or Arnie Aho. One of them or another employee was a butcher and I remember them unloading carcasses from a truck into a big cooler. I would ride my bike down to buy an ice cream bar. I liked ice cream even in the winter and people thought I was crazy.

Emily Bomely

I grew up in Marlow and was friendly with the Aho girls, especially Kristen. Their father died in 1953. I remember someone coming to our 2 room school house and

Howard's
GENERAL
STORE
Marlow, N. H.

At the Store . .
Extra Copies
Bicentennial
Sentinels and
Programs

Sun. 9 a.m.-12 noon
2 p.m.-6 p.m.

Howard's General Store ad from the Keene Sentinel August 1961, commemorating Marlow's

ushering Krisy out. There were 4 girls in the Aho family, Louise, Maria, Kristen and Lisa. Ella Aho sold the store not too long after the death of her husband. The new owners were Charlie and Dot Howard. Above the Red and White Store were living quarters that were very nice. There was a porch off the living quarters which overlooked the Ashuelot River. Charlie and Dot ran the store for a good many years. In the summer the teenagers hung around there while swimming and jumping off the bridge. It was always good to go in for ice cream or a cold drink. The Howard's also made fresh grinders to order.

Phebe Ramsey Thurston

I lived in Marlow as a child age 8 to 14 during the years 1941 through 1947 and this picture showing the Walt Nichols store looks the same as I knew it during those years!

Tony Martin Sr

Charlie [Howard] was one of the nicest men in Marlow. He ran what was a great General Store. We loved him!

Geoff Estes

I lived off Route 10 as a kid. I rode my bike to the store going over the old bridge that used to cross the river to Mill Street. It was a real old building as I remember. They had ice cream, candy, taps for engineer boots.

Jack Strickland

Thank you for the memories! Charlie Howard's store was straight down "old Main Street". It was on the edge of the river just a couple places down from the Blanks' [Mary and Al Blank] house. It was a big three and a half story building. The store was actually on the second floor but was accessed from the street right beside the white house where Linda and Jake lived [3 Main Street]. It was quite a place. It was originally called Nichols and Newton store. Arnie Aho bought it from the Nichols and Newtons. Ella [Aho] Davis was originally married to Arne Aho, but he died young, and she and Chet [Davis] took over the store and sold it to Charlie and Dot Howard. The store building also housed a barber shop. Chet Davis was Tony Davis' uncle.

Jack Strickland continued...

My two memories of Charlie's store:

- They had a huge display of vegetables and fruits in kind of a pyramid style display in the middle of the store.
- I remember Roy Forbes and Ted Williams (yes, THE Ted Williams,) pulling in to weigh their two deer that they had just shot by Roy's house on Marlow Hill.

Charlie went on to drive the school bus for Marlow and then became Security Officer for one of the Keene banks. He was road agent in town for a few years and was also chief of police.

Bucky White

Bucky shared that he moved to Marlow after the store had closed. He remembers that the building was in rough shape but wonders if it could have been saved. The walls were decorated paneling that had been damaged from dampness. The upstairs floors were sanded and clean though. The Wileys decided to take it down because it would have been so expensive to restore. Bucky also recalled a small walk-in ice cooler on the first floor. He said, "I wouldn't have wanted to walk into that thing...you never know if the door might close and you'd get stuck in there!"

Further research into the history of the building showed that it housed many different shops and markets through the years. It is labeled as such on Marlow maps: 1858 (Shop), 1877 (Joslin & Messer), and 1892 (RC Pike Store). The section on meat markets in Elgin Jones' History of Marlow NH reads:

"In 1853, Francis A. Rogers purchased the Keyes house next east of Perkins store and opened a market in a building that stood east of the house. The property was sold in 1857 to Stephen C. Joslin who, with his sons Andrew T. and John A. continued the business several years until the market was opened in the Joslin store. Mr. Joslin dying soon after, Andrew C. Joslin, a brother, took over the business. In 1871, Granville H. Messer became partner at the same time opening a meat and provision market in the basement. This partnership continued until 1882, when Messer withdrew from



The far building on the far right housed many different stores through the years, and appears here when it was the Nichols & Newton Store (looking east on Lower Main Street just before the Farley Bridge over the Ashuelot River, with the Christmas Trees Inn visible on the distant left).



The same scene in a photo taken by Stanley I. Sawyer after the "Blizzard of 1956". This photo was taken a few months after the Howards bought the store–there is still a "Red and White" sign on the store building.

the store but continued the other business. Joslin, because of illness, sold in 1889, to Bela C. Pike who operated for five years, when Granville H. Messer purchased it. F. Towne had purchased the Pike stock in trade continuing until 1899 when Etta Lowell Towne continued the millinery part of the business. She was succeeded by Mrs. Amos A. Rogers who continued until 1911, when the store became vacant until 1915. O. J. Faunce, who before this had been a Methodist minister, established the business again which he conducted successfully until 1922. At that time he sold a part of the stock to Miss Norton, he keeping the boots and shoes and small wares."

Property deeds and Keene Sentinel records provide additional information about the history of the building:

- James. M. Hannaford buys Joslin and Messer property Sentinel 11-8-1904.
- Alice Hannaford sells store to B.C. Howard (probably Clarence B. Howard) 1915.
- Clarence B. Howard sells store to Nichols & Newton 1925
- Arne and Ella Aho buy store from Walter Nichols 1948
- Charles and Dorothy Howard buy Arne Aho store Sentinel 9-20-1955

The building had several owners after the Howards closed the business in 1962: Romeo Papile and Theodore Barton (1965), Angie Finch (1965-1987), and finally Ken and Donna Wiley in 1987. The building was torn down shortly after that.

We are grateful to everyone who shared their memories of the stores that were once housed in this building. Learning about them evokes nostalgia for "the good old days". We wish we could just step into an old photo and be part of it.

THE FACEBOOK OF THE VICTORIAN ERA by Maria M. Baril

In our digital world, emails, texts and posts outnumber physical correspondence, and greeting card companies now sell e-cards! While digital data is stored electronically, however, physical data is literally at our fingertips. Which is more ephemeral? It's a question that we won't delve into here, but it comes to mind when we consider all the physical data in our museum and archives.

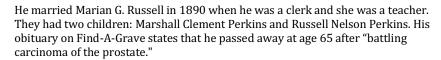
One small but fitting example is Waldo Perkins' autograph book, dated 1877-1879, signed by friends at the Marlow Academy. The book, which has survived in excellent condition, is filled with personal messages, verses, and sketches — tangible, intimate, sentimental

mementos of Waldo's school days.1



The signers are a cross section of the Marlow community. Among them: **Herman** Farnum, who is mentioned by Elgin Jones as "an engineer at the tannery who possessed considerable skill as a caricaturist"; Zilla J. Powers, music teacher, who died at 27 from puerperal fever following childbirth: **Rev. C.W. Taylor**, preacher. who ministered at the Marlow Methodist Church: Benjamin F. Tyler. Frederick C. Tyler, and Hannah F. Tyler, children of Lucy Seaver and Putnam Tyler, whom we featured in our Winter 2023 newsletter; and George L. Lowell, who later became Principal of the Marlow Academy.

Waldo Henry Perkins (1862-1928) was the son of Dr. Marshall Perkins (1823-1902)² Marlow's esteemed physician who served as assistant surgeon in the New Hampshire's 14th Regiment during the Civil War. His name appears in Elgin Jones History of Marlow. Chapter XVIII - Stores mentions that in 1892 Hosea Towne sold his store to James M. and Waldo H. Perkins.³ He is also listed as Post Master from 1909 to 1928.



We treasure Waldo Perkins' autograph book, and wonder if such books will remain obsolete. The sale of LPs has increased in recent years. People love the nostalgia, and find listening to music on vinyl very gratifying. Who knows!

Autograph books first appeared in the early modern period, the time after the Middle Ages (beginning in the early 1500s). Graduating students of central Europe would ask their classmates and teachers to sign their personal bibles. Publishers started adding blank pages to bibles, and eventually created small, sometimes leather-bound, books with only blank pages. Immigrants brought the tradition to America, where the practice peaked in the late 1800s, during Waldo Perkins' era.⁴

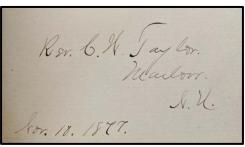
Autograph books are largely defunct today, though a comparable practice of signing physical yearbooks has endured into the present day. They have been likened to Facebook in how people in the 1800s partook of group communication.

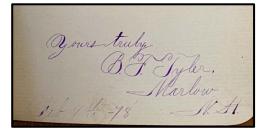
Autograph books are still sold, although they are touted more as a way to collect celebrity signatures. It might take an influencer with a large online presence to promote their use, and they could become the rage among high school and college students. Anyone up to the task?

- 1. See an earlier article about the autograph book in the Spring/Summer 2017 newsletter.
- 2. Read about Dr. Marshall Perkins in the Summer 2013, Winter 2016, Spring/Summer 2017, Spring/Summer 2020, and Winter 2022 newsletters.
- 3. Read about the Perkins Store in the Spring/Summer 2019 newsletter.
- 4. The Historical Society of Cheshire County has several autograph books in their collection, all from the same era. One, for the years 1874-1893, belonged to Alice Smith. Her parents, Elbridge Smith and Mary Ann Emerson, were married in 1859 and lived in Marlow through the Civil War. They were living in Gilsum when Alice started the book.

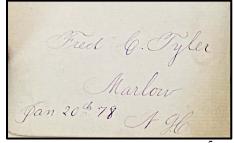












"THE DESTRUCTION HAS BEEN GREAT" Marlow's Lost Homes Series

In the 1930s Elgin Jones wrote in his History of Marlow: "It would be, at this late date, next to impossible to enumerate all the fires that have occurred in town during its century and a half... In the earlier years there seem to have been comparatively few homes consumed, tradition being silent along this line. In the seventy-five years just passed, the destruction has been great." This new series will periodically feature some of Marlow's lost homes.

Annie Huntley House

Slides taken by Stanley I. Sawyer (1933-1967) are an invaluable part of our collection. Among them is a sepia image inscribed with faded cursive, including the words "Annie Huntley" and "Fire of May 14, 1909".

A May 14, 1909 Keene Sentinel article entitled: "FIRE IN MARLOW - House of Mrs. Annie M. Huntley Totally Destroyed," described the location of the house as "on Main Street of Marlow village, formerly known as the Eben P. Knight place." The fire, which broke out in a connected barn, was of unknown origin. "The house and barn were totally destroyed, with most of their contents, including one horse and a number of hens."

An 1892 Marlow village map shows that the Eben P. Knight estate was on the south side of the road between the current homes at 187 and 195 NH Route 123. We have not found photos of the home, but we located postcards that show Annie Huntley's lot and the house at 187 NH Route 123 with handwritten notes that read: "After the Fire, May 14, 1909. Marlow, N.H." The Keene Sentinel article notes that the neighboring houses were saved with great difficulty, and that Annie Huntley had been in the process of "repairing and improving her house which was quite a good sized one, two stories in height."

The 1900 Marlow census shows that at age 16, Annie M. Huntley, as her name appears in the Sentinel, lived with her mother Annie N. Huntley, half-sister Clara Comings, and grandmother Clarissa Badger, at Clarissa Badger's farm on the north side of Route 123 west of Gustin Pond Road. Further research revealed that it was the mother, Annie N. Huntley who owned the home that burned, having purchased it from Elvira Knight, widow of Eben P. Knight, just three years before the fire. The Sentinel article mistakenly used the daughter's rather than the mother's name.

In 1926 Annie N. Huntley sold the lot to her daughters, and in 1984 the property was merged with 187 NH Route 123.





FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1909.

FIRE IN MARLOW. Ise of Mrs. Annie M. Huntley tally Destroyed.

A fire of unknown origin broke out about 3 o'clock this morning in the barn connected with the house of Mrs. Annie M. Huntley, on the main street of Marlow village, formerly known as the Eben B. Knight place, and the house and barn were totally destroyed, with most of their contents, including one horse and a number of hens. There was no insurance on the property.

The village has no fire apparatus other than buckets and the like. The fire was discovered by one of the neighbors, the barn at that time being all on fire while the flames were rapidly working into the house. The family of Mrs. Huntley was aroused and escaped with some articles of clothing but very little else could be removed from the dwelling. Mrs. Huntley's brother, who lived with her, lost some \$50 in money and a lot of tools. He is a carpenter by trade.

It was with difficulty that the houses of Mrs. C. M. Elliot and Ellen Whitte more, situated on either side of the Huntley house were saved. Had there been any wind this probably could not have been accomplished.

Mrs. Huntley had recently been repairing and improving her house which was quite a good sized one, two stories in height. She had a good home there and the loss will be a severe one to her and other members of her family.

Site of Annnie Huntley's house that burned on May 14, 1909, between the homes at 187 and 195 NH Route 123.



The view today of the site of Annnie Huntley's house that burned on May 14, 1909, between the homes at 187 and 195 NH Route 123.



Frank Lowell House

An undated photo in the Historical Society collection shows a horse drawn sleigh on Main Street in front of a large residence with two chimneys. It was located between the homes at 11 and 15 Main Street in Marlow village. As we mentioned in the Winter 2020 newsletter, it had been the west wing of the building at 11 Main Street, but in 1843 (or 1850, according to another source) it was moved 15 feet to the right and eventually became Frank Lowell's house.

An article in the Keene Sentinel on May 5, 1920 reported, "MARLOW THREATENED BY ANOTHER FIRE - Good work by Volunteers Confines Flames to One House". This fire that consumed the Frank Lowell house started in a chimney, just four years after the 1916 fire that burned all of the buildings on the north side of Main Street. The Sentinel article added that "residents thought that several houses would be wiped out by flames." Thankfully the other buildings were spared, but the Lowell house was "razed to the ground."

According to his obituary in the April 2, 1936 Keene Sentinel, Frank Lowell was a life-long resident of Marlow, and was a member of the Odd Fellows Forest Lodge. His property was eventually merged with 15 Main Street.



The Frank Lowell House before it burned, and the site today between 11 and 15 Main Street.



REENE EVENING SENTINED,

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1920

MARLOW THREATENED BY ANOTHER FIRE

Good Work by Volunteers Confines
Flames to One House

A fire which threatened to wipe out the houses on the south side of Main street in Marlow started in the house owned by Frank Lowell shortly before noon today. Heroic work on the part of the volunteer firemen in the village kept the flames confined to the house in which it started. The building was razed to the ground. It was partially covered by insurance.

Early in the morning a chimney fire broke out in the Lowell home and it was believed to have been extinguished. It broke out again however, between 11 and 12 o'clock and for a time the residents thought that several houses would be wiped out by flames. A bucket brigade was formed and water was brought from the pond, women as well as men assisting. Chemicals were also used and the house east of the Lowell home was saved, as was the Odd Fellows' building on the west.

Residents of Marlow called for help from Newport and from this city. An automobile with Engineer Foley and several firemen from Keene went to Marlow about 12 o'clock, but before it der control. This call accounted for the still alarm about 12.



Marlow Historical Society

Founded in 1976

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THE DROUGHT OF SUMMER 2025

New Hampshire is experiencing severe drought conditions this year. In Marlow, people have been asking if anyone has seen the Ashuelot River and mill ponds this low before. Those who have lived here for many decades do not remember seeing the waterways like this without work being done on the dam. These photos were taken September 20, 2025 to document this unusual event in our history. You can see more photos on the Marlow NH Historical Society Facebook page.



The Village Pond from Baptism Beach on Washington Pond Road, looking west.



The Ashuelot River dam and mill buildings from Route 10.