

News from the

WHATELY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEW ACQUISITIONS

A GE Porta-Mobile Police Radio

donated by Constable Edwin Zaniewski, who has served in the Whately Police Department since 1987. Used by Harold R. Swift, Jr. (1937–2019), Whately's first Police Chief, in the 1970s, the radio enabled communications between Whately and the State Police, as well as the Franklin County Jail, at a time when Whately had no communications system of its own. (WHS 2023.020.001)



Three Whately photographs by Hatfield photographer Lewis Kingsley (1853–1924), brother of the Hadley artist Elbridge Kingsley and Whately resident Stephen Kingsley (1847–1932). These beautiful prints depict views of the Mill River valley (below), Chestnut Plain Road in the town center (above), and the road north beyond the Sanderson homestead on North Street. Stephen Kingsley was the second husband of Mary Elizabeth Graves Roote (1849–1943) of Whately. Her great-

great-grandchildren, Bill, Judy and Shirley Markland, donated the photographs. (WHS 2023.038.001/2/3)

Nasami Farm road sign that directed customers to the nursery on North Street begun in 1983 by Robert August on land formerly part of Roaring Brook Farm. Nasami sold Christmas trees in the winter and ornamental trees and shrubs in the warmer months, and developed a reputation in the area for its selection and quality. In

2003, August sold the business to the New England Wildflower Society, now Native Plant Trust. This sign was donated by Nancy August and family. (WHS.2023.052.001)



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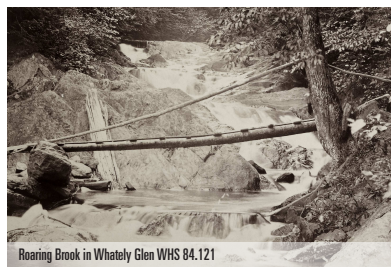
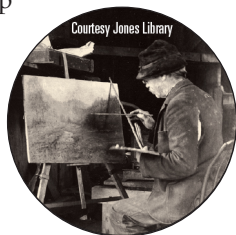


Check out the new Whately Historical Society Facebook page by clicking on the Facebook link at the bottom of the WHS homepage—
whatelyhistorical.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Kingsley Brothers: Artists in Whately Glen Talk · Thursday, March 16, 7 pm · Town Hall Auditorium

Elbridge and Lewis Kingsley grew up in Hatfield in the mid-1800s and created an impressive portfolio of photography, illustrations, and paintings of the Valley—including images of Roaring Brook and Whately Glen. Elbridge achieved world fame for his wood engravings and recruited leading artists to join him in Whately to work from nature. Speakers Allison W. Bell and Maida Goodwin are co-curators of the *Roaring Brook* exhibit and authors of *Glorious Mountain Days: The 1902 hike that helped save the White Mountains* (2019). This talk is in conjunction with the WHS *Roaring Brook* exhibit and sponsored jointly by WHS and the Hatfield Historical Society.



New! Roaring Brook exhibit explores natural history, industry, recreation and tourism, and other aspects of this much-loved but

little-known area of the town. Opening to the public on Thursday, March 16. Open: Tuesdays 9 am–noon; first and third Saturdays of each month, 10 am–noon; and during the WHS festivals, Sundays May 28 and Oct. 3.

A Whately Sampler

Sunday, April 23, 4 pm, Town Hall Auditorium

This three-part presentation includes:

- The story of Whately-born **brothers George, Albert and Homer Bartlett**, all born in the 1840s, who established a renowned building firm in North Adams. They built the Hampshire County Courthouse, Trinity Church in Shelburne Falls, and other notable structures across western Massachusetts.
- Richard Colton, retired National Park historian from the Springfield Armory, will discuss Asher Bartlett's 1813 **flintlock musket**, made for the Massachusetts militia, and other muskets from his private collection.
- A introduction to using **Hidden History**, the digital map of Whately developed by the Historical Commission for the Town's 250th. Learn how to explore the locations and markers of the Town's boundaries; the many taverns in early Whately; and lesser-known aspects of the town's history.

Spring Festival · Local music and food, plus fun workshops on historic woodworking and pollinators · **Sunday, May 28, noon–3 pm, Town Hall lawn**



Support the Historical Society

Offer Materials · We're always looking for items that illustrate the past and complement our holdings. Call for an appointment to bring materials to Town Hall. Our archivist and curator will review all offers to decide which to add to the collection.

Volunteer · We always need help maintaining and documenting the collection, social media, and planning and supporting events. Call Adelia at 665-3837 or email info@whatelyhistorical.org.

Contribute & Become a Member · Join others who care about the history of our town! Receive notices about all public programs and invitations to special activities. Donations to support our work of preservation, documentation and expansion of our museum collection are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Individual donors of at least \$10 become one-year members; higher annual contributions are encouraged: Supporter \$40, Sponsor \$75, Patron \$150. Donors of \$500 or more become five-year members. Make your check out to: *Whately Historical Society*. Send it with name, address, phone number and email address to Whately Historical Society, P.O. Box 7, Whately, MA 01093. You may also pay with a credit card or via PayPal at www.whatelyhistorical.org.

The Whately Historical Society was founded in 1966 to preserve the town's history and to educate townspeople and others about Whately's past. The Society sponsors programs, research and activities about the history and culture of Whately and the region; maintains a museum of Whately documents, images and objects; and responds to inquiries about Whately history and genealogy.

The Whately Historical Society is incorporated as a charitable organization in the Commonwealth of Mass. and has been designated as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the IRS.

Explore www.whatelyhistorical.org to learn more about our collections, access resources about Whately history, learn about future events, and purchase Town histories, historic postcards and note cards, T-shirts, or sweatshirts.

Officers

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