

Friendship Museum

Spring Newsletter 2017



Memorial Day 1946



Winter 2016



April 2017

The Evolution of the Annex

Built in 1931 as a gas station by Hartwell Davis, it was later converted into an apartment house. The property was eventually sold to the Methodist Church, which wanted its large parking area. In 2011 the museum bought the building from the church for \$20,000 for its vast storage area. It was well aware that major restorations were in order.

A holiday fund raiser at Margaret and Ed Gagnon's and increased membership contributions gave us a start on basic repairs: plugging leaks, replacing broken ceiling tiles, purchasing shelving, and installing a space heater in one room dedicated to sensitive items.

In the following summer we moved all of the inventory not on display in the School House to the Annex: items stored in barns, attics, basements, and closets, plus two carloads of items stuffed unseen for years in boxed benches in the School House Museum.

Last summer the museum submitted a building plan to the town and was issued a permit to build. In April Don Bowden took down the perilous portico and removed the pavement and cement in front of the building with a giant excavator. Over the years the building became out of square, making it more difficult to renovate.



Brian Woods' artist's sketch of the facade of the Annex became the "blueprint" for the front of the building. Bubba Thompson and his two workers Sherrie and Dave have completed the front of the building. Retired electrician Rit Roberts has donated his time and skills to repair the rather sketchy wiring in the building. Many townspeople stopped by to marvel at the transformation, and Bubba wasn't shy about talking a number of them to pay for the windows and the front door. In less than a month almost \$14,000 was donated, adding to an anonymous donation of \$10,000 last spring.

The next steps are landscaping in front of the building and working on the left side of the buildings funds become available. We hope that you will contribute generously to this project. It is a gift that not only spruces up the Annex but Main Street as well.



