

Canterbury Historical Society

Minutes – September 8, 2025

Elkins Memorial Building

Trustees Present: Bill Adams, Fred Brewster, Anne Emerson, Pam Jackson, Mary Kerwin, Jeff Leidinger, Sam Papps, Chuck Sanborn, Sandy Scripture, David Tirrell-Wysocki, Mary Ann Winograd. Also present: Naomi Scanlon, Alan Stone, Lydia West, Sue Russell.

Meeting called to order at 4 p.m. by Fred Brewster.

1. July meeting minutes approved and placed on file.

Motion to approve passed unanimously. Move - Sandy Scripture. Second - Chuck Sanborn.

2. **Treasurer's Report:**

Mary Ann Winograd presented the July and August 2025 reports. **They are attached.** As of 8/31/2025, total assets, including checking account and cash donations: \$7458.95.

Tricentennial Committee finances. **Report is attached.** As of 8/31/2025, total assets: \$614.32. Naomi reported the bank is charging a monthly account fee and a fee for paper reports. The committee is working with the bank to have the fees discontinued.

Motion to approve all reports passed unanimously. Move – Bill Adams. Second – Jeff Leidinger.

3. **Archives Report:**

Sam Papps reported the Beck family donated a historic poster and that CHS also has received the Clifford family bible, a box of Ladies' Benevolent Society documents and a set of audio tapes from Shaker furniture maker Brian Braskie of conversations between his mother and Shaker Eldress Bertha Lindsay. The tapes are being digitized.

4. **President's Report:**

- **Motion to accept the resignation of Trustee Harry Kinter, with sadness, approved unanimously.** Moved - Jeff Leidinger. Second - Bill Adams.

- Fred Brewster reported Chuck Sanborn and Anne Emerson have agreed to become Trustees Emeritus. (Sue Russell would like to become a trustee and Lydia West is considering the same).
- Fred said that at a future meeting, he will propose establishing a Student Trustee position.
- Fred also reported that during September, the Elkins Building will be open on Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m. to allow members of the public to view the Summer Boarders' exhibit and learn more about CHS. He will submit a notice of the viewing hours to the town email.
- Regarding a possible CHS book of Shaker memories, Fred reported that he met with Shirley Wajda, the Village's curator of collections, and Collections Manager Renee Fox. Shirley said the Village does not object to CHS receiving all proceeds from a memories book, but suggested it should not be counted on as a major fundraiser. She also reported that Jack Beard is conducting interviews of townspeople for the Village's own archives. Fred said before proceeding, CHS must decide whether it wants to embark on the book project, and, if so, would it involve conducting fresh interviews, transcribing current ones, relying on AI to help or having townspeople write their own memories. He will form a committee to investigate and reach out to potential committee members.
- Fred and Jeff Leidinger have discussed establishing a CHS Endowment Fund to help finance CHS projects. They are reaching out to possible key donors.
- Town committee photos – No new developments. Photographer Paul Lepasquer has agreed to take the photos. Next step is reaching out to town committees.
- Feature story of the month – Dave Tirrell-Wysocki reported stories are scheduled through November, with dozens of potential stories in the pipeline. Trustees offered new story ideas, including artists in Canterbury, musical performances, the effect railroads had on the town, the 100th anniversary of the Elkins Building in 2027, the role of the Canterbury Center church in the town, the Canterbury sand pit that helped form the base layer of I-93 and erased a favorite Sunday afternoon picnic spot, the history of the parish house.

5. Programs and Committees:

Programs Committee – Chuck Sanborn and Pam Jackson will look into speakers for CHS programs, possibly through New Hampshire Humanities and the Elkins Library. More immediately, a speaker is needed for the CHS Annual Meeting in November. Fred reported that Shirley Wajda at Shaker Village is willing to be a presenter. Fred will reach out to Librarian Rachel Baker and Shirley. Trustees set a date of November 13.

Exhibits Committee – The committee will keep the Boarders' exhibit up for foreseeable future.

Sign committee – No report. Its work depends on the Old House Committee.

Old House Book Committee – Jeff Leidinger reported the committee is developing an information/story format sheet for trustees to approve that can be sent to the owners of old homes. Cooperating homeowners would be asked if they want to write a story about the history of their homes or have CHS write a story. Either way, the format or template would be helpful as part of the data being compiled on Canterbury's old homes. Jeff reported that so far, stories about 12 houses are in the works. Jeff and Dave Tirrell-Wysocki will discuss options on developing the publication, including cost and logistics and who we might engage to do it.

Oral History Committee – Mary Kerwin reported the project essentially is on hold. Based on her research through the Oral History Association, she said the project is much more complex than initially envisioned, with consent for the use of interviews far into the future a key concern. She is continuing her research and suggested it might be worthwhile sometime in the future to send a representative to Oral History Association workshops presented at the group's annual meetings.

One-room Schoolhouse – Chuck Sanborn reported the work for this year's program will start, now that school is back in session.

Maintenance Committee – Jeff Leidinger reported that he and Geoff Hubbell completed several important Elkins Building projects in time for the Canterbury Fair. Jeff is investigating running an electrical line from Town Hall to the Houser Museum.

Cellar Holes Committee – Bill Adams continues researching cellar holes and producing CHS website articles about his discoveries. He reported that 10 of 17 locations explored so far were tenant housing, the topic of his latest website post.

He also said a metal detector operator has been added to the committee, so far turning up three ancient coins.

Website Development Committee – Alan Stone reported the site is working well, with steady visits. From August 10 to September 8, 547 visitors produced 979 views. Bill Adams’ cellar hole posts are very popular – often the most visited in a 30-day period. Other highlights from charts that Alan provided (**attached**) show 8,523 visitors from the U.S. and seven other countries producing more than 38,000 views in 2025. Alan reported there is no content for several CHS committee or project pages, so he will take them down until content is provided. He also is investigating setting up a donate tab.

Tricentennial Committee – Naomi Scanlon reported the committee continues to narrow countless celebration suggestions from committee members and residents. Many new suggestions for Tricentennial projects came from Canterbury Fair attendees, including a town-wide harvest dinner, planting 300 trees, historic house tours, a town-wide scavenger hunt and a time capsule. The committee continues focusing its goals, including what type of permanent Tricentennial remembrance might be left for the town. The committee also is preparing to apply to the Pomeroy Foundation for a grant to obtain a roadside marker and a state historical marker.

6. Other Business:

Motion to approve Alan Stone as a trustee, to complete Harry Kinter’s term was approved unanimously. Move – Dave Tirrell-Wysocki. Second – Bill Adams.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 pm.

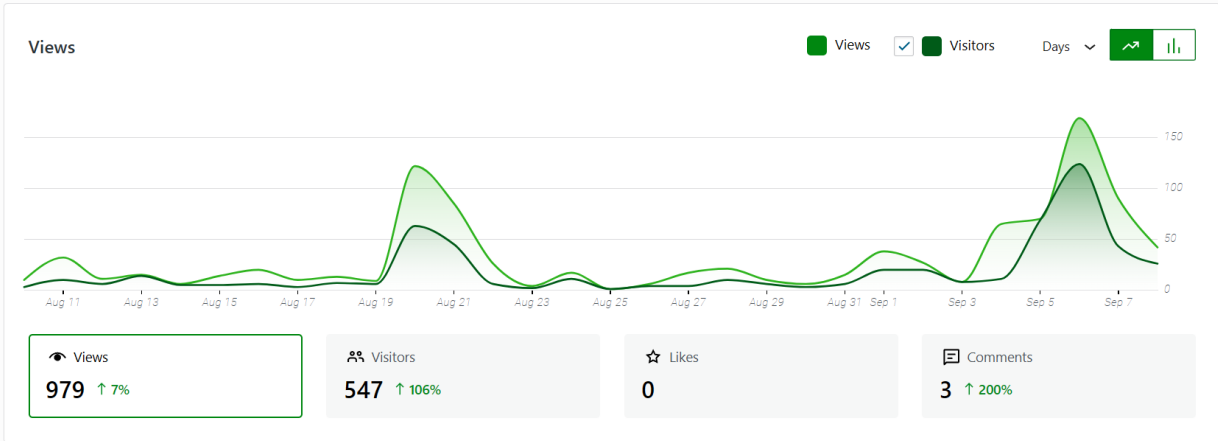
Respectfully submitted,

David Tirrell-Wysocki

Recording Secretary

Last 30 Days

← → Aug 10 - Sep 8, 2025 📅



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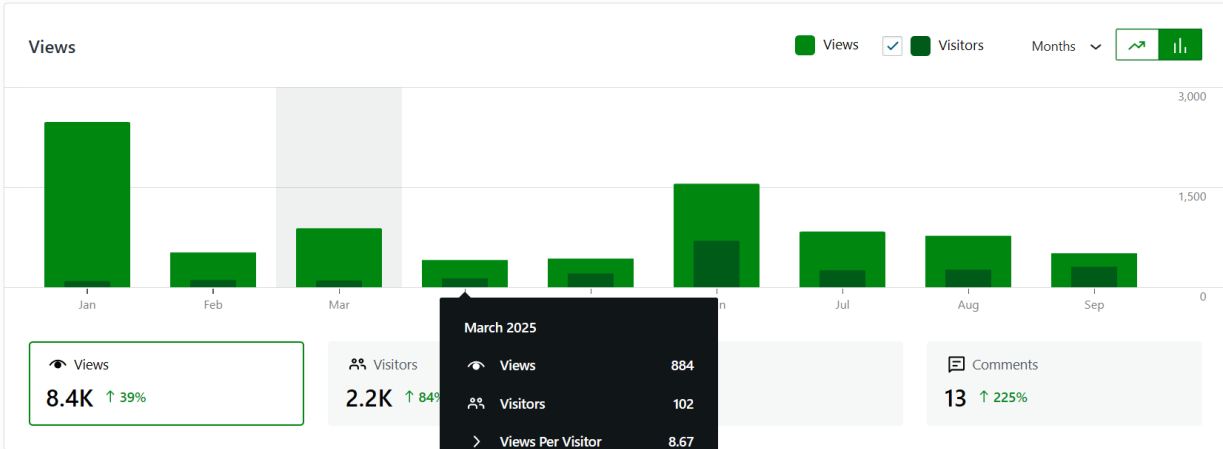
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Tricentennial Committee	94	jnhfu.cbsyss.com	1

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2025 in review [View all annual insights](#)
 Updates every 30 minutes



Posts 34	Words 9.3K	Likes 2	Comments 13
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All-time highlights

<p>All-time stats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Views: 38,222 Visitors: 8,523 Posts: 64 Comments: 24 	<p>Most popular time</p> <p>Best day Wednesday <small>18% of views</small></p> <p>Best hour 12:00 PM <small>10% of views</small></p>	<p>Most popular day</p> <p>Day January 18 <small>2025</small></p> <p>Views 837 <small>2% of views</small></p>
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