

**Mill Hollow Heritage Association**  
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**December 2015**

***A message from our President***

*Dan Curll*

We are hard at work putting together a 3 - 5 year plan for the renovation of the Mill as a working museum. Part of that planning process includes a Needs Assessment to determine how to organize the renovation and establish priorities and costs. We are awaiting word from the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance regarding a small grant for that purpose.

After three years of service, Mow Kazati has stepped down from the Board as of November. We are all indebted to his calm leadership and tireless commitment to restoring the Mill and making it available to the community.

We were delighted to see many old friends and make many new acquaintances at our Open House September 6th and during our Saturday morning work sessions at the Mill throughout the summer. We are eager for you to get to know the Mill and our goals for it. We now have a web page. Please visit us at [www.milhollowheritageassociation.org](http://www.milhollowheritageassociation.org).

You will be hearing from us after the first of the year regarding our long range restoration plan and our fundraising plans

**MHHA applies for NH Preservation Alliance grant**

Helen Frink

The Mill Hollow Heritage Association has applied for a grant from the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, which receives support for its grants program from the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP). Consultant Robert Neeld, Engineering Ventures, of Lebanon, NH and Burlington, VT made his first visit to the mill in late October, taking measurements and examining the structural stability of the dam and the building. Mr. Neeld's condition assessment report will become the basis for decisions about necessary repairs, their estimated cost, and their priority order. All recommendations will relate to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the preservation of historic buildings. His findings will become the basis for next year's applications to the LCHIP and other organizations such as the Society for Industrial Archaeology. This is a small first step toward realizing our vision for the mill – we're on our way!



**Mill Open House was a great success**

Bob Brown

**Thank you** to our nearly 200 visitors for making this summer's Open House a great success. We had 197 visitors sign in from 12 different states and 26 different towns! Over 60 of our visitors were from Alstead and a number of them related stories of having toured the Mill with Heman Chase years ago. One of them even helped Heman back in the 1960s replace the penstock (or flume) that carries the water from the mill pond to the turbine. We are thankful for your interest and flattered by your offers to volunteer as well as the offers to donate items.

**Maintenance work on the Mill continues**

Bob Brown

Window restoration and painting are moving along slowly. Eight windows and their sills have been completed of over 50 units in the building. Small window panes are delightful in appearance, but labor intensive in maintenance! Juliana Stevens has put in considerable time cleaning and oiling rust covered and frozen tools. Thank you Julie!

**Looking back in time**

Margaret Chase Perry

Hartley Dennett built the Mill over the years 1914-1920. The letters left behind by the Chase-Dennett family are a wonderful source of the Mill's history.

Hartley wrote to his mother in June 1915, “We worked all last week on the Mill. Mr Asbell and his helper and one of the neighbors came two days to work at the forge making brackets – tie irons to hold the old thing together tight. The carpenters were here Monday, too, and now a couple days will get it into good condition to leave awhile [for summer’s farming demands]. All the timbers are in and it is being leveled up and prepared for floor boards, which won’t go on yet except that I shall lay boards all over so no one will tumble through. I wish you could see the mill. It is a delight to me. Now next time I go at it, it will be the chimney and the dam. And window frames and sash. It will be a very charming building.”



Mill Hollow ca. 1917

Left to right: The Blacksmith Shop, the Banks’ Barn, and the Mill as they appeared near the Mill’s completion. Note the apparent lack of windows in the Mill. Beyond the Mill is the Brick House and the Raymond house. The barn on the right was called the Sheep Barn.

### **Visit our web page**

**[www.milhollowheritageassociation.org](http://www.milhollowheritageassociation.org)**

Where you will find a nice piece of history of the mills in Mill Hollow by Margaret Chase Perry, various news and events stories, a page with historical photos of the Mill over its lifetime & some photos of the flood of 2005.

### **Put Your Amazon Shopping Dollars to Work**

Here’s how:

- Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) . Log into your existing Amazon account or create one.

- Search “Mill Hollow Heritage Association” and select it as your charity.
- Amazon will then donate to MHHA 0.5% of your purchase prices. It adds up over time!

### **Support the Mill**

MHHA is now a nonprofit registered as a 501(c)3. The size of our membership demonstrates to grant-making foundations and other major funders that the Mill has community support. Your contributions help to offset operating expenses such as printing, postage, materials and other basic costs. Send your contribution to **Mill Hollow Heritage Association, 801 Forest Road, Alstead, NH 03602**, or go to [www.millhollowheritageassociation.org](http://www.millhollowheritageassociation.org) and click on “Donate” for easy on-line giving.

**Thank You for Your Support!**