

Warning Out Warrants of Amherst, New Hampshire 1763-1771; 1789-1795

INDEX OF NAMES

Badger, Samuel from Boston with [presumed children] Samuel Jr., Joseph – warned out 1790
Boutwell, Rebecca of Reading, Mass. – arrived Sep. 1762, warned out Nov. 1762; warrant filed March 1763
Bowers, Oliver & wife Elizabeth; [with presumed child] Esther – warned out 1790
Cambridge, Charles & wife Lucey from Rindge; [with presumed children] Joseph, Edward, Charles, Elizabeth, and Lucy – warned out 1795; remained in town for several years
Coverly, Nathaniel & wife Susanna from Concord – warned out 1795; remained in Amherst for rest of year
Curtice, Samuel Dr. & wife from Marlborough, Mass.; [with presumed children] Polly, Samuel, Fanny, Wm, and Robert – warned out 1790; settled permanently in Amherst Village, became prominent
Davis, Eleanor (aka “Nel”), single woman – arrived June 1764, warned out Aug. 1764
Dilaway, John & wife Olive with children Olive, Salley, John, Betty, Lucy, Samuel of Hollis – warned 1789
Dutton, John Jr. – warned out of Monson [now Amherst] 1770; settled there
Johnston, Ruth, an illegitimate daughter of Mary Williams – arrived April 1765, warned out June 1765; warrant filed Sep. 1765
Kidder, Josiah [Sr.] came from Tewksbury – warned out of Monson [now Amherst] July 1767; settled there
King, William & wife Ester with 2 children – arrived Jan. 1765, warned out April 1765; warrant filed Sep. 1765
King, William & wife Easter with their children Easter, William, John, Elizabeth & Joseph, came from Merrymac – arrived Jan. 1770, warned out Feb. 1770; warrant filed March 1770
Richardson, Andrew & wife Mary, came from Tewksbury, Mass. – arrived Nov. 1769, warned out Dec. 1769, warrant filed March 1770
Upton, Sarah, a minor daughter of Caleb Upton deceased, came from Fitchburg in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and stayed at house of Ensign Sam' Stuard – arrived 6 weeks prior to warning out Feb. 1771; warrant filed March 1771
Wilson, George & wife Martha with children Abigail, John, Elizabeth and Aaron, lawful inhabitants of Lyndeborough – arrived March 1770, warned out June 1770; returned to Lydeborough

OVERVIEW of WARNING OUT in Amherst – by Katrina Holman

At the time the Town of Amherst, N.H. was incorporated, newcomers who didn't have the means – or perhaps maybe might no longer have the “wherewithall” in the near future – to support themselves were simply, legally and officially, kicked out of town in order to make sure that they would not become charges of the town. The selectmen would make out a warrant addressed to the constable, who carried out the “warning” to depart to the named individual(s), confirming the action in writing with date at the bottom or reverse of the warrant paper; and then it was filed with the Court of the General Sessions of the Peace (held in Portsmouth until the Province of New Hampshire's division into counties was implemented in 1771). Such warrants were also called “caution against a pauper.” Two batches of such hand-written documents by Amherst authorities have been found, among Court records preserved in the New Hampshire State Archives: 1763-1771 (8 warrants) and 1789-1795 (6 warrants). (The earlier batch, from Amherst's first decade as a township, is known to be incomplete: The record book of Amherst town treasurers, 1763-1810, contains this entry for 1763 regarding accounting for Lieut. Andrew Bradford, constable: “to Serving Warrants to warn 3 persons out of Town – 7 [pounds] -0-0 [old tenor].” Do you, dear Reader, know of other surviving Warnings Out for/from Amherst?) It's unclear whether those individuals and families warned out in this early period were actually forced out of town. During the 1790s, judging by the later batch of surviving Amherst warrants, the warning was a pre-emptive strike so-to-speak to prevent future liability, since most, if not all, of those named became residents in town. (A number of N.H. towns, including Peterborough, warned out *all* newcomers, desirable or not, as a matter of course. The website of Historical Society of Cheshire County (as of April 2012) states that between 1777 and 1788 the selectmen of Dublin warned more than 100 families out of town. However, many people so warned eventually went on to become respectable taxpaying citizens. They cite the example of a man warned out in 1778 who was elected selectman of Dublin three years later and for many years was the highest taxpayer in town.)

Legal Background: In 18th century New Hampshire, towns were legally obligated not to let inhabitants starve or freeze to death. The smaller the community, the greater the burden, so towns' liability for paupers hinged on the definition of "inhabitant." Early law recognized the right of towns to exclude strangers. In 1679/80, the General Lawes & Liberties of the Province of New Hampshire enacted by the General Assembly in Portsmouth dealt with the right of a constable or selectman to warn out of town a newcomer who had need of relief. A law of 1680/1, stipulated that masters of vessels were not allowed to drop off such persons, except if someone took them on as apprentice or covenant servant, or they had to post a bond. "An act directing the admission of town inhabitants" of 1718 clarified that only freeholders and proprietors of land, those born there, and those that had served an apprenticeship and had not moved to become inhabitants elsewhere, shall be admitted to the privilege of elections in such town, others only with approval from the selectmen. This law further spelled out that towns were not obliged to support any needy persons not approved who had been warned to depart and leave before 12 months' residency. A 1719 act gave the towns 3 months to warn a newly arrived person out (except those there for education or medical treatment). In 1771, the warning out period to defeat settlement was extended to 12 months. The practice of warning out continued in N.H. for some 119 years. (Source: "Warning Out in New England, 1656-1817" by Josiah Henry Benton, 1911, online Google Books; reviewed in *Boston Evening Transcript*, 21 Nov. 1911, p. 13, online news.google.com (as of April 2012).)

1763-1771

Location of Records: Dedicated folder at N.H. State Archives, Fruit St, Concord, N.H. (accessed Feb. 2012) contains these eight – and only these eight – warrants.

Transcription below of selectmen's warrants by Katrina Holman (with attempt to retain orthography/punctuation but anyone wishing to quote exactly should check for self); however, did not fully transcribe hand-written label by clerk of court with date filed nor constables' notes written on reverse or at bottom of warrant paper (so should be verified for accuracy). Rev. 21 April 2012.

(1) Warning of Rebecca Bo(u)twell Out of Amherst, March 1763

[Note: The March 1763 date at top is probably when Court received return confirmation.]

Province of New Hampshire, To David Heartshorn one of the Constables for the Town of Amherst in said Province Greeting –

Whereas **Rebecca Boutwell of Reading** in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay & County of Middlesex Came to Sojourn or Dwell in this Town the 7 th day of September last past –

And as we are Informed hath not a sufficiency to support herself (long) whereby she may in Time be Chargeable to this Town –

To prevent which You are hereby Required in his Majestys Name to Warn the above named Rebecca Boutwell to Depart & **leave this Town within four days** from the Date hereof, of which you may not fail & make due return of this Warrant to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace that shall be next holden at Portsm[outh] for & within our Province of New Hampshire aforesaid –

Given under our Hands & Seal this 30 th day of Nov[embe]r **1762**.

[Signed:] Solomon Hutchinson, Robert Read, Jno Shepard Jr., Selectmen

(2) A Warrant to Warn Out of Town.

Province of New Hampshire. To either of the Constables of Amherst in said Province Greeting.

Whereas **Eleanor Davis Single woman** came to this Town on the 26 of June 1764 last past in Order to Sojourn or Dwell here: and from good Authority we are informed that she hath not sufficiency to support herself; and consequently will in a very little time be Chargeable to this Town, unless proper Measures are taken to prevent the same – Pursuant therefore to the Laws of this Province in such Cases made and Provided, You are hereby Required in his Majestys Name Instantly to Warn the said Eleanor Davis to Depart & **Leave this Town within two days** next after such Warning, hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant to the Court of General Session of the peace for said Province at their next Session in Portsmouth which sitting will begin on the Second Tuesday of September next. Given under Our Hands

and Seal this 20 th day of August in the 4 th year of his Majestys Reign Anno Domini **1764**.
[Signed:] John Shepard juner, Thos. Wakefield, Robert Read, John Graham, Selectmen

[Reverse] Amherst August ye 17 th [huh? Check dates]

According to this within written warrant I have warned Eleanor Davis to depart this Town of Amherst in province of New Hampshire within two Days. Ebenezer Lyon, Constable.

Research Note by K. Holman: Town treasurer Wm Peabody's records for 1764 include: "by his ["Eben'r Lyon Constable"] Serving a Warrant to warn Nel Davis out of Town – 0 [pounds] - 15 [shillings] - 0 [pence] [new tenor]." (Source: "Amherst Town Treas'y's Book 1770," begun by town treasurer M. Nichols in 1770, starting with accounts of 1763-1766 delivered to him by his predecessor, Capt. Wm Peabody; continued in ever less detail until 1810; donated 9 Sept 1897 to Amherst Town Library by Mrs. H.C. Dodge.) The only other mention of "warning out" in the record book of Amherst town treasurers, 1763-1810, contains this entry for 1763 regarding accounting for Lieut. Andrew Bradford, constable: "to Serving Warrants to warn 3 persons out of Town – 7 [pounds] -0-0 [old tenor]." Constables also "warned" male citizens about town meetings and collected taxes.

(3) Warrant vs King

Province of New Hampshire. To Either of the Constables of Amherst in said Province Greeting. Whereas **William King and Ester his wife with two of their children** came to this Town on or about the middle of January last past in order to Sojourn or Dwell here and from good Authority we hear that the said William hath not sufficient means to support himself and his said Family and Consequently will in a very little time be chargeable to this Town unless proper measures are taken to prevent the same – Pursuant therefore to the laws of this Province in such Cases made and provided, You are hereby required in his Majestys name Instantly to Warn each person included herein to depart and **Leave this Town within two days** next after such Warning. Thereof fail not and make Return of this Warrant to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for said Province given under our Hand and Seal this _ird day of April **1765** in the fifth Year of his Majesty's Reign.

[Signed:] John Shepard jun., Thos. Wakefield, Moses Nichols, Selectmen

[Reverse] Province of New Hampshire, April ye 7 th 1765. Pursuant to the within warrant this day warned the persons within named to Depart and leave the Town of Amherst according to the Law of the same. Nathan Kendall, Constable of Amherst.

(4) Province of New Hampshire, Amherst, Sept 176 . Constable Warrant for Warning Out of Town.

Province of New Hampshire. To either of the Constables of Amherst in said Province Greeting. Whereas **Ruth Johnston, an illegitimate daughter of Mary Williams** came to this Town on the sixth day of April last, in order to Sojourn or dwell here, and as she is poor & unable to Support her Self, unless Speed measures are taken to prevent it, She will be chargeable to this Town, Wherefore you are hereby in his Majestys name required Instantly to Warn the said Ruth Johnston to depart and **Leave the Town within Fourteen days** then next following such warning, hereof fail not & make return of this Warrant to the Court of Genl Sessions of the peace for said Province next to be holden in Portsmouth for & within the same Province. Witness our hands and Seal this 20 th [?, scratched and blotched] day of [May, changed to] **June 1765**

[Signed:] Jno Shepard jun'r, Mos. Nichols, Thos. Wakefield, Selectmen.

[Reverse] By virtue of the within warrant at home Directed this 11 th of June 1765 I warned the within named Ruth Johnson to Depart and Leave the Town of Amherst according to the Law of the Warrant. William Peabody, Constable for Amherst

(5) Warrant vs Richarson &c Amherst, March 1770:

Province of New Hampshire. To Either of the Constables of Amherst in said Province Greeting.

Whereas **Andrew Richardson and Mary His Wife** came to Sojourn or Dwell in this Town on or about the forth [sic] Day of November 1st and **last from Tukesbury in the Province of the Massachu.** and not have any wharewithall to Support them Selves long as we apprehend and it being unreasonable that this Town Should Support them for the Preventing thereof –

In his Majestys Name you are hereby Required forthwith to Warn the above named Persons to Depart and **Leve** [sic] **this Town within fourteen Days.** Hereof you may not fail and make Due Return to the Court of General Sessions next to be holden at Portsmouth in Said Province given under our hands and Seal this first Day of December in the tenth year of his Majesty's Reign A.D. **1769**

[Signed:] Thos. Wakefield, Nahum Baldwin, Selectmen of Amherst

[Directly below on same side]

Province of New Hampshire. Amherst ye 15 th Dec'r 1769 W Town Juner

Pursuant to the above warrant I have warned the above named Andrew Richardson & Mary his wife to Depart and Leave this Town according to the Law [rest cut off in photocopy]

(6) Warrant King &c / Amherst, March 1770

Province of New Hampshire. To Moses Nichols one of the Constables for the Town of Amherst for the Present year – Greeting –

Where as **William King & Easter his Wife to geather with their Children Easter William John Elizabeth & Joseph** Came into this Town and **Last from Merrymac** on or about ye 19 of Jan'y 1770 to sorjorn [sic] or Dwell in this Town and is thought that they have not Where with to Support themselves Long –

Therefore you are in his Majestys Name Required forth with to warn the above named Persons to Depart and **Leave this Town within fourteen Days** Next after Warning.

Hereof Fail not and Make Dew Return of this Warrent as the Law Divert

Given under our Hand and Seal this 21 st of Febuary [sic] A.D. **1770**

[Signed:] Reuben Mussey, Nahum Baldwin, Thos. Wakefield, W. Town Junr, Select Men

[Note: The 1770 Warrant warning out King & family deviates much from conventional spelling.]

[Reverse:] Amherst ye 12 March 1770. Pursuant to the within warrant I have warn'd the within named person to Depart & Leave this Town According to the Tenor of said Warrant.

[Signed:] MNichols Constable

Research Note by K. Holman: Two men named William King, presumably Sr. and Jr., are listed with families on same page of 1790 census of Amherst. A death notice at Merrimac for Mr. William King, aged 64, appeared 5 Feb. 1795 in the *Amherst Journal*, the first newspaper published in Hillsborough county; the death of William King on 31 Jan. 1795 was recorded by the Congregational Church of Amherst. Widow Esther King died in Amherst, April 1813, aged 72 (death notice in *Farmer's Cabinet*). There is a William King in Merrimac in 1800 and 1810 censuses. The only head of household named King in Amherst in 1810 was Robert M. King (b. c.1780 according to 1850 census of Wisconsin), who in 1803 had married Betsey Barnard (1779-1872), eldest child of Rev. Jeremiah Barnard (1750-1835). A house on the Plain, owned by Col. Robert Means and occupied by Robert M. King, was burnt Sunday, 19 Sep. 1807, but timely aid from people attending the nearby meeting-house saved most of the furniture and prevented the blaze from spreading. As Secomb's *History of Amherst* contains no genealogy for King families, it's unknown whether Robert was related to the family warned out, but possibly he was Esther's son, because Robert Means King and Esther King were both baptized as adults in the Congregational Church in Amherst in 1800.

(7) Warrant vs Wilson. Caution ag't a Pauper from Selectmen of Amherst, June 1770

Province of New Hampshire. To either of the Constables of Amherst in said Province Greeting

George Wilson and Martha his Wife, Abigail, John Elizabeth and Aaron their Children, Lawful Inhabitants of Lyndeborough in the same Province came to this Town on or about the last day of March last past to Sojourn & Dwell here and may be chareable [sic] unless Care is taken to prevent –

Therefore You are hereby Required in his Majestys Name forthwith to Warn the several persons above named to Depart and **Leave this Town within Six days** from the Date hereof –

Dated at Amherst June 19 th 1770.

[Signed:] Thos. Wakefield, John Shepard jun., Daniel Campbel, Selectmen of Amherst

[Directly below on same side of paper:]

Province of New Hamps. Amherst ye 22 June 1770

I have warn'd the above named persons to Depart this Town, by Reading said warrant to said Wilson & his wife – [signed:] MNichols Constable

[Note: In his signature, Nichols combined initials from first and last names into a single unorthodox letter. Daniel Campbel consistently spelled his surname with a single “l”.]

Research Note by K. Holman: It appears that the family did return to Lyndeboro, because in addition to George Jr. born 1758, Abigail 1759, Joseph 1762, John 1764, Elizabeth 1767, and Aaron 1769, Hannah was born there to this couple in July 1771. (Births from N.H. records, transcribed 1905 from Lyndeborough town records, on familysearch.org.)

(8) Caution agt a Pauper from Selectmen of Amherst, recd & filed 5 th day of March 1771

Province of New Hampshire. To either of the Constables in Amherst in said Province Greeting

Whereas **Sarah Upton, a Minor Daughter of Caleb Upton Deceased**, six weeks preceeding last monday night, came **from Fitchburg in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay** into said Amherst to sojourn or Dwell, and is not a lawful Inhabitant of said Amherst, nor hath she means Sufficient to Support herself And **Ensign Sam' Stuard into whose House she was received** & now Dwells, has Advertized the Subscribers of it according to a Law of this Province in such cases made & provided so that if she should stand in need of the least it must be borne by said Amherst unless means are taken to prevent Therefore You are hereby Required in his Majestys Name forthwith to Warn said Sarah to Depart and **leave this Town of Amherst within Fourteen Days** next following such Warning: and make Due Return of this Warrant as your Doings therein[.]

Dated at said Amherst the 14 th day of Feb'y A.D. 1773 [?, last digit looks like “three”, but “1” more likely] –

[Signed:] Jno. Shepard jun'r, Thos. Wakefield, Daniel Campbel, Selectmen of said Amherst

[Reverse:] 21 Feb 1771, Province of New Hampshire.

In Obedience to the within Warrant I have warned the within named Sarah Upton to Depart & Leave this town according tot he Ten[o]r of said Warrant. Moses Nichols Constable

Comment by Katrina Holman: Stewart must have known the 1766 law (still in effect, possibly superseded later in 1771 by new law) which imposed a penalty on those “secretly entertaining strangers in their houses till they become inhabitants, which they are allowed to be in three months” and required the host to inform the authorities within 20 days. The house of Samuel Stewart (1716-1776) was the older part of the one still standing at 19 Main Street, known after later owner-occupants as Hon. Samuel Dana Mansion and Dr. Matthias Spalding House.

1789-1795

Location of Records: "Hillsborough County Warrants to Warn Out of Amherst," Folder B, 7607 (B1-B26) at N.H. State Archives, Concord. File contains these six records and no others.

1789: **Dilaway John & wife Olive**, children Olive, Salley, John, Betty, Lucy, Samuel of Hollis (N.H. Archives file 7607 Folder A, A17)

Continuation of Their Story: In 1790 and 1800 censuses there was a John Delaway/Dillaway living in the 2nd Parish of Amherst (later Mont Vernon). In 1800 he and his presumed wife were aged 26-45 and had a boy and girl under 10. It is my theory that they hailed from Andover, Mass., where on 20 Aug. 1778 John Dillaway and Olive Davis married, and their daughter Olive Dillaway was born 10 Oct. 1778. An article entitled "Historic Amherst: A Suitor Spurned in Francestown" by Katrina Holman (published in *The Amherst Citizen*, 8 Feb. 2011, p. 6) is the story of Miss Olive Dillaway who in 1800 (*Village Messenger* newspaper of Amherst, N.H., 11 Jan. 1800) lived in the household of Capt. Peter Woodbury, formerly of Amherst, with his wife and their six young children including future governor Levi, the in-laws newly arrived from Amherst, another young woman and six lads and young men (per census) (presumably in the Woodbury Homestead at One Main Street in the center of Francestown, N.H.). Olive Deleway/Dillaway married Oliver Holmes (1772-1848), a carpenter, in Francestown in March 1802 and they had two daughters who would settle in Vermont after marriage. (This Oliver, son of Enoch, was the nephew and namesake of the most influential man in town, who was an innholder having opened the town's second tavern in 1775 and one of the original directors of the Second Turnpike of N.H. in 1800, and died in 1806.) The *History of Francestown* (1895) also says that Olive died in 1857 in Francestown. -Katrina Holman

1790: **Badger Samuel** from Boston; Samuel Jr., Joseph. (N.H. Archives file 7607 Folder A, A18)

Research Note: This was probably the artist who had relatives of his wife in Amherst.

1790: **Curtice Samuel Dr. & wife** from Marlborough, Mass.; Polly, Samuel, Fanny, Wm, Robert. (N.H. Archives file 7607 Folder A, A25)

Continuation of Their/His Story: Dr. Curtis was a graduate of Harvard Collage (1766), had been a surgeon in the army of the Revolution, and commenced a medical practice in Amherst in 1789 (*Secomb's History of Amherst*, p. 875). Curtis became innholder of a new tavern (which by 1809 he called a "hotel and coffee-house") in the Village on south side of Common, having bought the land with an existing house in March 1790 for 115 pounds (deed 26:142). In Aug. 1792 it became the stop for a new weekly stage coach between Boston-Amherst (*Independent Chronicle and the Universal Advertiser*, Boston, Mass., 6 Sep. 1792, p. [4]). He also ran an apothecary shop there "at the sign of the PESTLE and MORTAR" offering drugs, medicines, soap and garden seeds for sale (*Amherst Journal and N.H. Advertiser*, 30 Jan. 1795). Soon the Post Office was at/in his inn (*Columbian Centinel*, Boston, Mass. 4 Oct. 1797, p. [1]) and he was postmaster 1797-1803 (*Secomb*, p. 447). He was commissioned as a Justice of the Peace in 1802 (*Secomb*, p. 214). Curtis retired from inn/tavern-keeping in 1810 (*Farmer's Cabinet*, 5 June 1810), moved to house on Carriage Road, and leased out hotel until sold by his heirs in 1820 (deed 127:151). -Katrina Holman (rev. Nov. 2023)

1790: **Bowers Oliver & wife Elizabeth**; Esther. (N.H. Archives file 7607 Folder A, A28)

1795: **Charles Cambridge & wife Lucey** from Rindge; Joseph, Edward, Charles, Elizabeth, Lucy. (N.H. Archives file 7607 Folder A, A30)

Continuation of Their/His Story: Mr. Cambridge became storekeeper in Amherst Village, was captured as a resident in 1800 census with children and in 1801 tax invoice, owning no real estate but residing on Courthouse Road (listed between William Gordon and Capt. Daniel Prior; *Amherst Town Records* vol. 2, p. 202) and was still resident in 1804 (*Secomb's History of Amherst*, p. 77). Both Mr. and Mrs. received posted letters (e.g., Mrs. Lucy Cambridge in Oct. 1807 according to list published by postmaster in the *Farmer's Cabinet*). This is probably same Charles Cambridge who moved to Mont Vernon, where he resided in 1811 when he married one Anna Langdell of Boston and was captured in 1830 census with young children. -Katrina Holman (rev. Nov. 2023).

1795: **Coverly Nathaniel & wife Susanna** from Concord. (N.H. Archives file 7607 Folder A, A30)

Continuation of His Story: In Jan. 1795 Mr. Coverly founded *The Amherst Journal*, the first newspaper in Hillsborough County, published in Amherst Village, but it was discontinued at the close of the year. There are no recorded deeds for Coverly, neither in grantee nor grantor index. (Newspaper was resurrected with a new name the following Jan. by someone else using Coverly's printing press, moved to 3 Carriage Rd.) -Katrina Holman

Warned Out of Monson (South Amherst) But Stayed

The land south of Souhegan River, now part of Amherst, was not initially within the bounds of Narragansett No. 3 plantation, soon renamed Souhegan West township. It was part of Monson.

1767: **Josiah Kidder Sr.** (b. 1717 in Billerica), a cabinet-maker, removed from Tewksbury, Mass. to Monson, N.H. about May 1767 and settled at a place known as Peacock village, now in the south part of Amherst. Monson's selectmen warned the family out of town on 21 July 1767, but they stayed. Josiah Jr. (b. 1745 in Tewksbury), also a cabinet-maker who made coffins, settled in Monson near his father. His children were born in Amherst. (Jr. & family are recorded in Secomb's Amherst genealogy section.)

1770: **John Dutton Jr.** (b. 1751 in Billerica) was warned out of town by Monson selectmen. He married Rachel Stearns (c.1755-1829) in May 1781 and settled north of Peacock village in Amherst. (This family too is in Secomb's *History of Amherst*.)

(Source: "An Account of Some of the Early Settlers of West Dunstable, Monson and Hollis, N.H." by Charles S. Spaulding, 1915. Note: I did not search the State Archives for Monson records.)

ABOUT THIS FILE: Most of this material was originally published in *The Amherst (N.H.) Citizen* newspaper, 24 April 2012, pages 4 and 6, in *Historic Amherst* column by Katrina Holman in article entitled "Warning Newcomers Out of Town in 1700s: Paupers in Amherst – Part One" which was the first in a five-part series on Paupers in Amherst. However, the 1789-1795 trove of warning out warrants was not included in that article, because it 'turned up' in a later research dive.

This version (rev. Nov. 2023) was submitted by Katrina Holman to the Historical Society of Amherst in Nov. 2023 to be made accessible to the public for the benefit of historical researchers.