

Nathan A. Smith & Mary Wilds

Respected residents of West Fairlee, Vermont



Dorene Hancock Smith

Preface

Nathan A. Smith was a long-time resident of West Fairlee, Vermont. He was born in Orford, New Hampshire in 1820, and came to West Fairlee with his family when he was four years old. His wife, Mary Wilds, was born in Topsham, Vermont in 1818. After their marriage in 1842, they settled in West Fairlee, living next to Nathan's parents.

This is the life story of the paternal great grandfather and grandmother of my husband. Their life story was prepared using actual birth, marriage, and death records, as well as town records, land records, old maps, newspapers and old photos of the church and town of West Fairlee. In addition, in 1981, 1988, 2007 and 2015, we visited West Fairlee, Vermont, and took pictures of the prior home and property, the church they attended, and their tombstone in the Post Mills Cemetery.

I have tried to present accurate information from the various sources, but recommend independent verification before accepting the material as fact. This PDF may be printed for family history purposes and non-commercial uses. I only request that you reference me as the writer.

I have been searching for photos of Nathan and Mary for many years, with no success. If anyone is aware of photos of them, I would appreciate if you would contact me.

*Written by Dorene Hancock Smith
Draft August 2014, Final June 2020*

Life Story of Nathan A. Smith & Mary Wilds

1820-1888 * 1818-1895

Nathan's birth and childhood

In Orford, New Hampshire, during the cold, wintery month of February 1820, Lucinda Tufts and her husband, Daniel B. Smith, were anxious for the arrival of another baby to their family. They were happy when a boy was born to them on February 12.¹ His birth undoubtedly was a concern as he was born in their home during the winter. Nathan was one of thirteen children that were born to Daniel and Lucinda.

In 1824, when Nathan was four years old, his family traveled on the long-uncovered bridge that crossed the Connecticut River, to move from Orford, New Hampshire, to the small township of West Fairlee, Vermont.² This bridge made it easier for Nathan's father, Daniel, to travel to the town of West Fairlee in search of a parcel of land for his family.



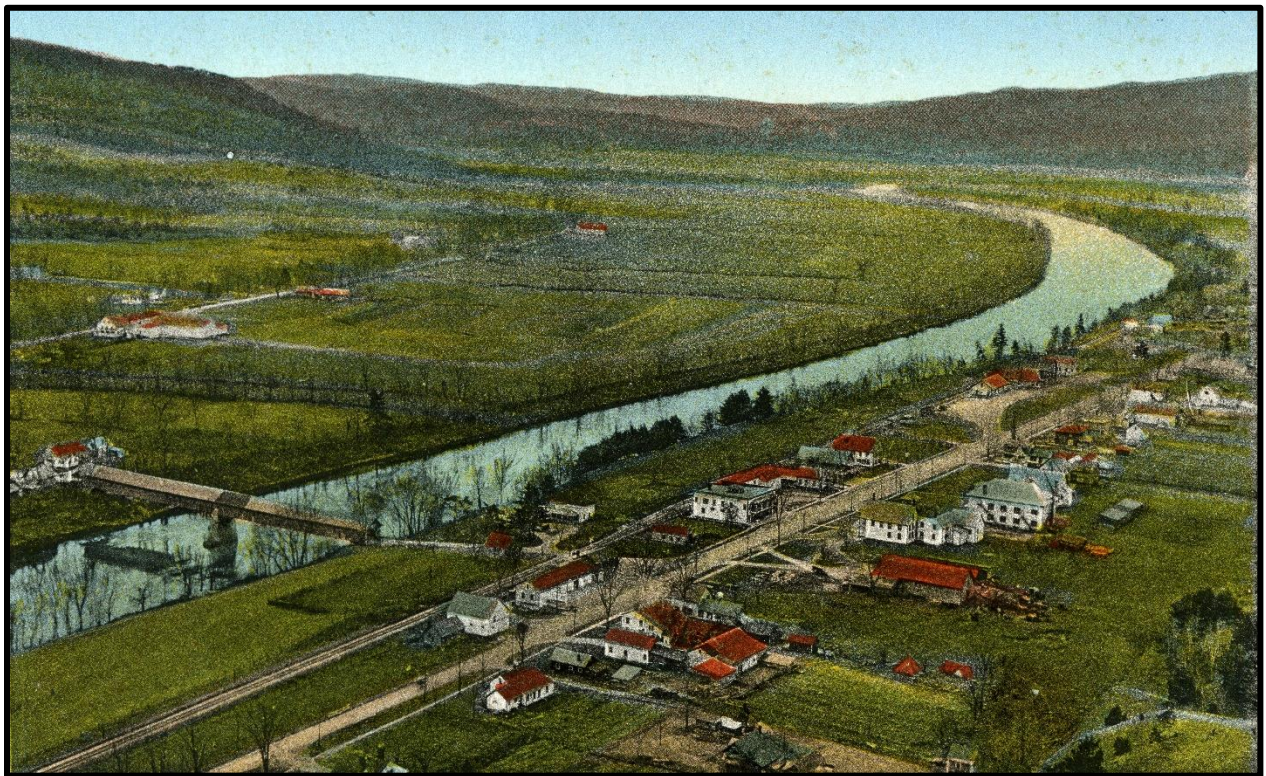
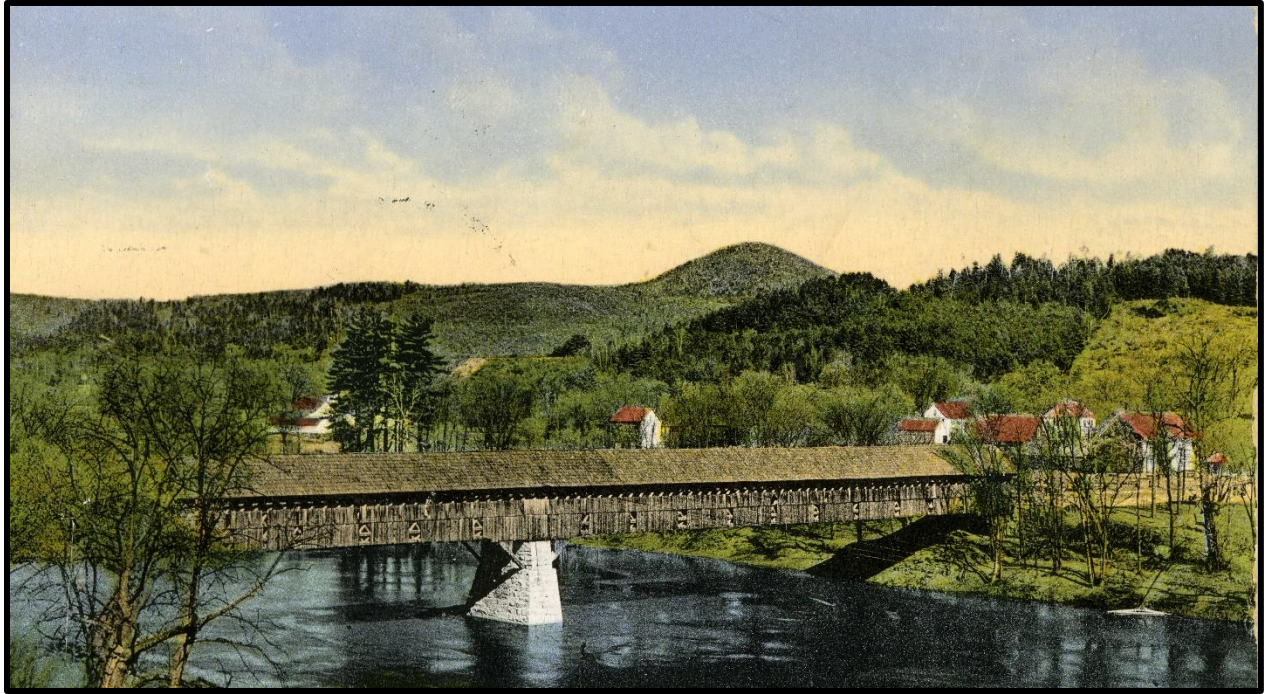
Nathan's father found land containing about thirty-seven acres, which was located in the beautiful woodlands, north of West Fairlee Village.³ The village of West Fairlee had a hotel, three general stores, a furniture store, jewelry store, two carriage shops, a blacksmith shop, saw mill, shingle mill, livery stable, millinery store, and an undertaking establishment.⁴

¹ Obituary of Nathan A. Smith: Vermont Chronicle (Bellows Falls, VT) 27 Apr 1888, p. 8.

² Ibid.

³ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont land records, FHL microfilm 29128, Vol. 4, p. 66.

⁴ <https://www.westfairleevt.com/>



The first bridge across the Connecticut River, from Orford to Fairlee, was built in 1802, but was destroyed by floods in 1809. A second bridge at this crossing was built and survived until 1856. The above bridge was constructed in 1857 on the same site as the two earlier uncovered bridges.⁵

⁵ Along the Connecticut River Fairlee/West Fairlee, Orford, Bradford, Piermont, Newbury, and Haverhill, Lavelle, Phyllis, 1999, p. 30.

As a young boy, Nathan learned the skills of farming from his father Daniel. Undoubtedly, Nathan worked side by side with his father and other brothers, to help with the daily chores on the farm, which probably included helping to build a rock fence around the property. The rock fence was created with large stones that were removed from the soil, as they cleared the land for crops and pastureland for their cows, sheep and lambs.



The rock fence was created with large stones that were removed from the soil, as they cleared the land for crops and pastureland. (2007 photo)

Mary's birth

Moses Wilds and his wife Abigail King were married when Abigail was only sixteen, and Moses was twenty-six. Less than a year later, at the age of seventeen, Abigail gave birth to their first baby girl. They named her Mary Wilds, undoubtedly after Moses' sister who was also named Mary. Mary was born in the small township of Topsham, Vermont, on February 14, 1818.⁶ She was the first of five daughters born to Moses and Abigail. Being the oldest daughter, Mary soon learned from her mother all the homemaking and motherly skills necessary to help her care for her younger siblings, and develop into a lovely young lady.

⁶ Topsham, Orange, Vermont vital records, FHL microfilm 27731.

Marriage

When Nathan was about twenty-two, he met and began courting the young, attractive Mary Wilds, from Topsham, which was about twenty-six miles northwest of West Fairlee. It is unknown how they actually met each other. Nathan and Mary were both born in February, just two days apart, though Nathan was two years younger than Mary. Mary must have been so joyful the morning of March 10, 1842, as it was her wedding day! There was excitement in her family as she prepared to take her marriage vows. Jonathan Jenness, the Justice of the Peace of Topsham, joined them in marriage.⁷

Nathan purchases his father's farm

Nathan and his new wife, Mary, settled in West Fairlee, Vermont. It is likely that they continued to live on the farm with his parents, where Nathan had been raised. On November 5, 1844, about two years after their marriage, Nathan purchased his father's thirty-seven-acre farm and house for \$200. For an additional \$60, his father also sold him two brindie cows, a yearling heifer, twenty sheep and lambs, an ox cart, and two chains.⁸ Daniel was seventy years old and it was becoming increasingly more difficult for him to maintain the farm. Nathan, who had been taught by his father, was now skilled at farming and would be able to take over the family homestead. Like his father, he would experience firsthand, the hard work, difficulties and trials that farmers face every day.



In 1844 Nathan purchased his father's house and farm for \$200. (2007 photo)

⁷ Topsham, Orange, Vermont Book of Records, January 14, 1836, Vol. 2, p. 137.

⁸ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont land records, FHL microfilm 29128, Vol. 5, p.18.

Three weeks later, on November 27, 1844, Nathan purchased an additional parcel of land, for \$50, from the Niles brothers, which contained about eight acres.⁹ The property was located southeasterly of, and adjoined the thirty-seven-acre homestead. Nathan and Mary likely moved into the home located on the eight acres, allowing his parents to stay in their own home.

The following year, on September 7, 1845, Nathan purchased thirty acres of pastureland for \$200, from Chester Chubb. The land was located next to the previous two parcels, identified as Lot 3 in Range 9.¹⁰ This totaled seventy-five acres of farmland.



Nathan purchased an additional parcel of land, for \$50, from the Niles brothers, which contained about eight acres. (2007 photo)

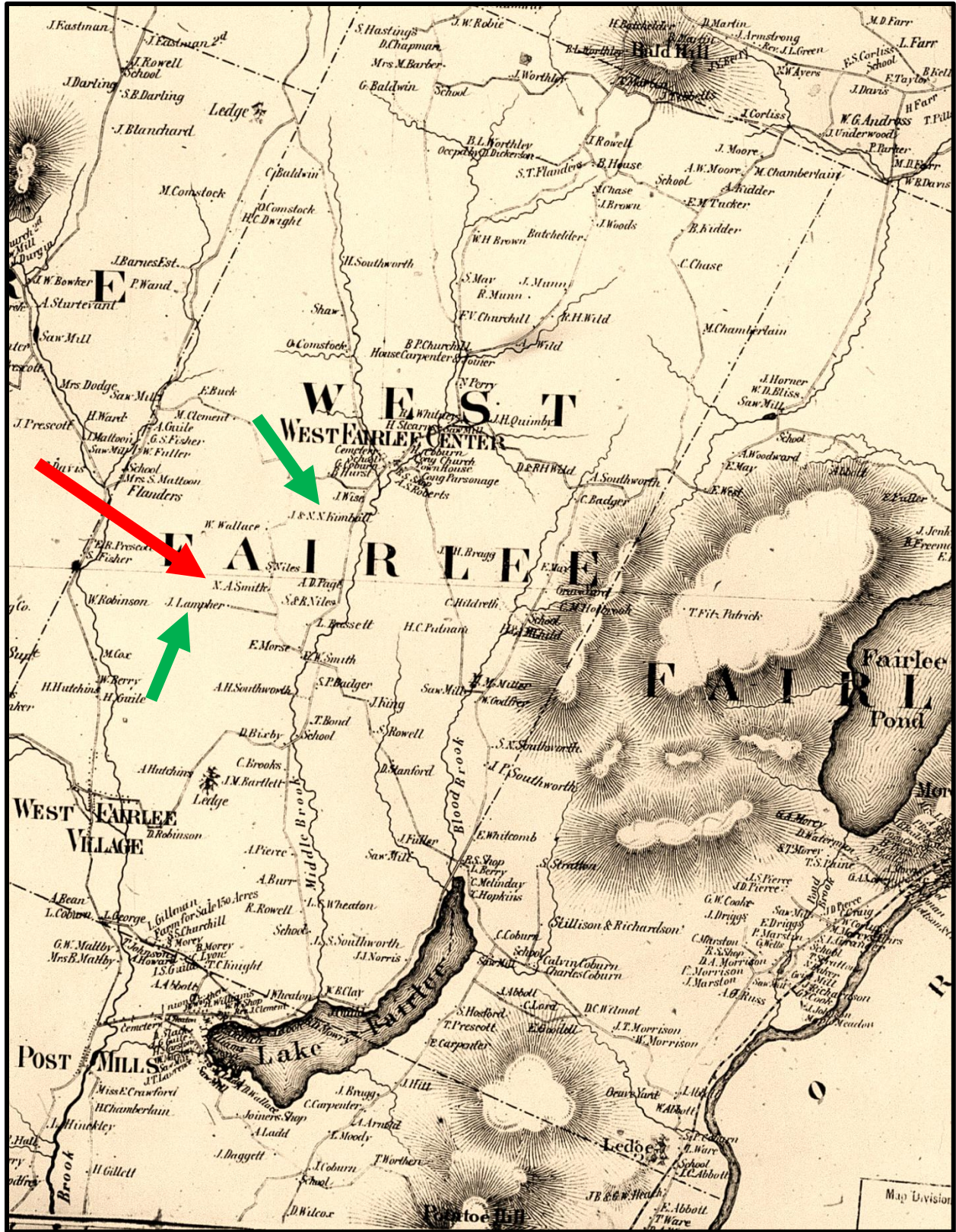
Nathan renews note from Jabez Lampher

When Nathan bought the family farm from his father, there remained a debt of \$119 that his father had borrowed from his neighbor Jabez Lampher. Nathan assumed the remaining debt of \$119 when he purchased the farm. When the note came due on October 11, 1847, it appears that Nathan was not able to pay the debt. His kind neighbor allowed him to renew the promissory note and extend it for another five years, until 1852.¹¹

⁹ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont land records, FHL microfilm 29128, Vol. 5, p. 27.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* p. 66.

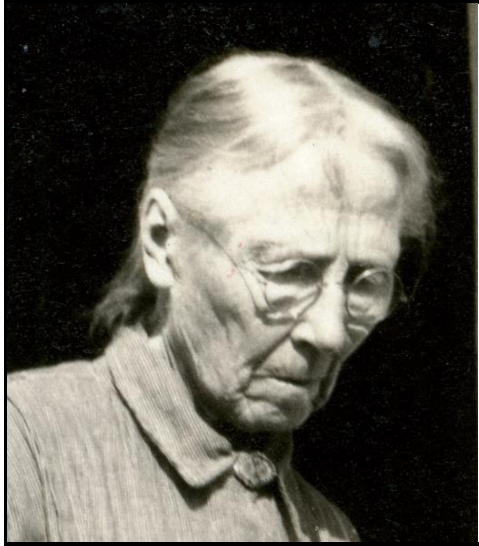
¹¹ *Ibid.* p.176.



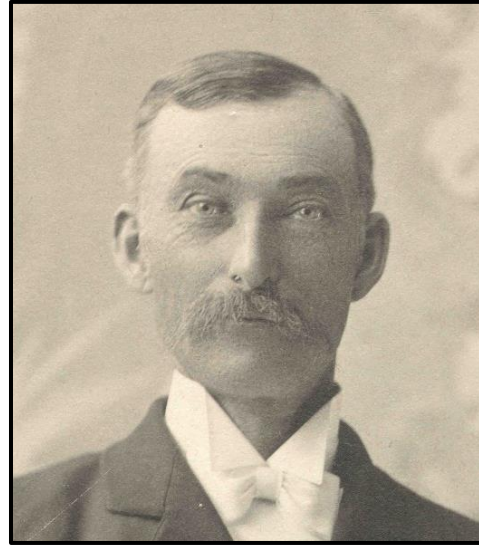
1858 West Fairlee Map showing residence of NA Smith, next to neighbors J Lampher and J Kimball.

Marriage brings two precious children

After waiting for five long years, Mary was finally able to bear a child when she was twenty-nine years old. She delivered her first baby daughter on August 4, 1847.¹² Nathan and Mary named their precious baby, Lydia, after Mary's grandmother, Lydia Smith Wilds. Lydia brought great joy to them. After another five years, on August 18, 1852, they were blessed with a boy, and he received the name of Carlos William.¹³



Lydia



Carl

Nathan's parents die

Less than two years after Lydia was born, Nathan's father died on March 19, 1849, at the age of seventy-five.¹⁴ Grandpa Daniel never lived to see the birth of his first grandson, who became known as Carl.

Nathan had been paying for the land deeded to him, as well as the livestock, but when his father died, he still owed an outstanding balance of \$193. His father's entire estate was valued at \$263.07, and included all his farm tools, furniture and other household items. After the valuation of the estate, a warranty deed was assigned to his mother, Lucinda, as her inventory, including the balance Nathan owed. His four siblings, Harriet Badger, Laura B. May, Monroe F. Smith and Elizabeth J. Smith, were heirs to the estate of Daniel B. Smith. They relinquished their four-fifths share to Nathan, provided he would make all the payments to their mother.¹⁵ He also allowed her to remain in her home until her death.

In 1850, Nathan's mother and his nineteen year old sister, Elizabeth, were living in the house located next to Nathan, also next to an older couple, Stephen Rowell and his wife Hannah.¹⁶ On December 4, 1856, Nathan's mother Lucinda, who had been a widow for six years, took her last breath and passed on to meet her husband in the next life.¹⁷

¹² West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont Vital Records, FHL microfilm 1,821,873.

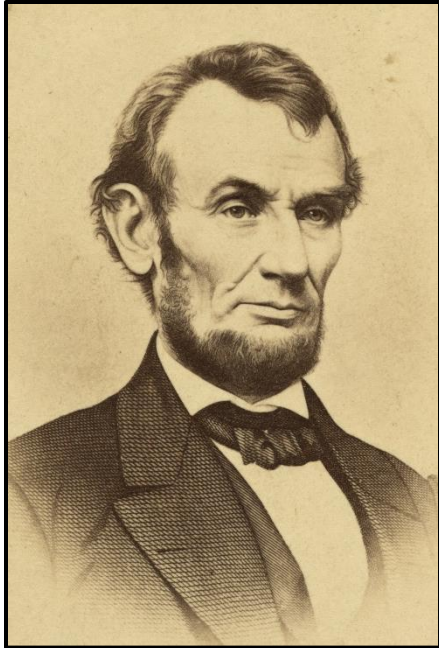
¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Tombstone in West Fairlee Center Cemetery, Orange, Vermont.

¹⁵ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont land records, FHL microfilm 29128, Vol 5, pp. 307, 333.

¹⁶ 1850 US Census, West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont.

¹⁷ Tombstone in West Fairlee Center Cemetery, Orange, Vermont.



Civil War 1861-1865

On November 6, 1860, Lincoln was elected the 16th President of the United States and was the first Republican president. Lincoln was against slavery. The seven Confederate states seceded before Lincoln took office, declaring themselves an entirely new nation, the Confederate States of America. Lincoln refused to recognize the Confederacy, which became the immediate cause of the war. By the time Lincoln took office, the Confederacy was an established fact, and no leaders of the insurrection proposed rejoining the Union on any terms. No compromise was found because no compromise was possible. But Lincoln refused to accept secession. Lincoln and nearly all Republican leaders adopted this nationalistic position by March 1861: The Union could not be broken! However, Lincoln, being a strict follower of the constitution, he would not take any action against the South unless the Unionists themselves were attacked first. It finally happened one month later, in April 1861.

At the outbreak of the Rebellion of the Northern and Southern states, President Lincoln issued a proclamation calling for seventy-five thousand men to serve for three months, to aid in enforcing the laws and suppressing the Rebellion. Governor Holbrook of Vermont ordered all uniformed militia to fill up their companies. The order was promptly obeyed and the quota was filled.

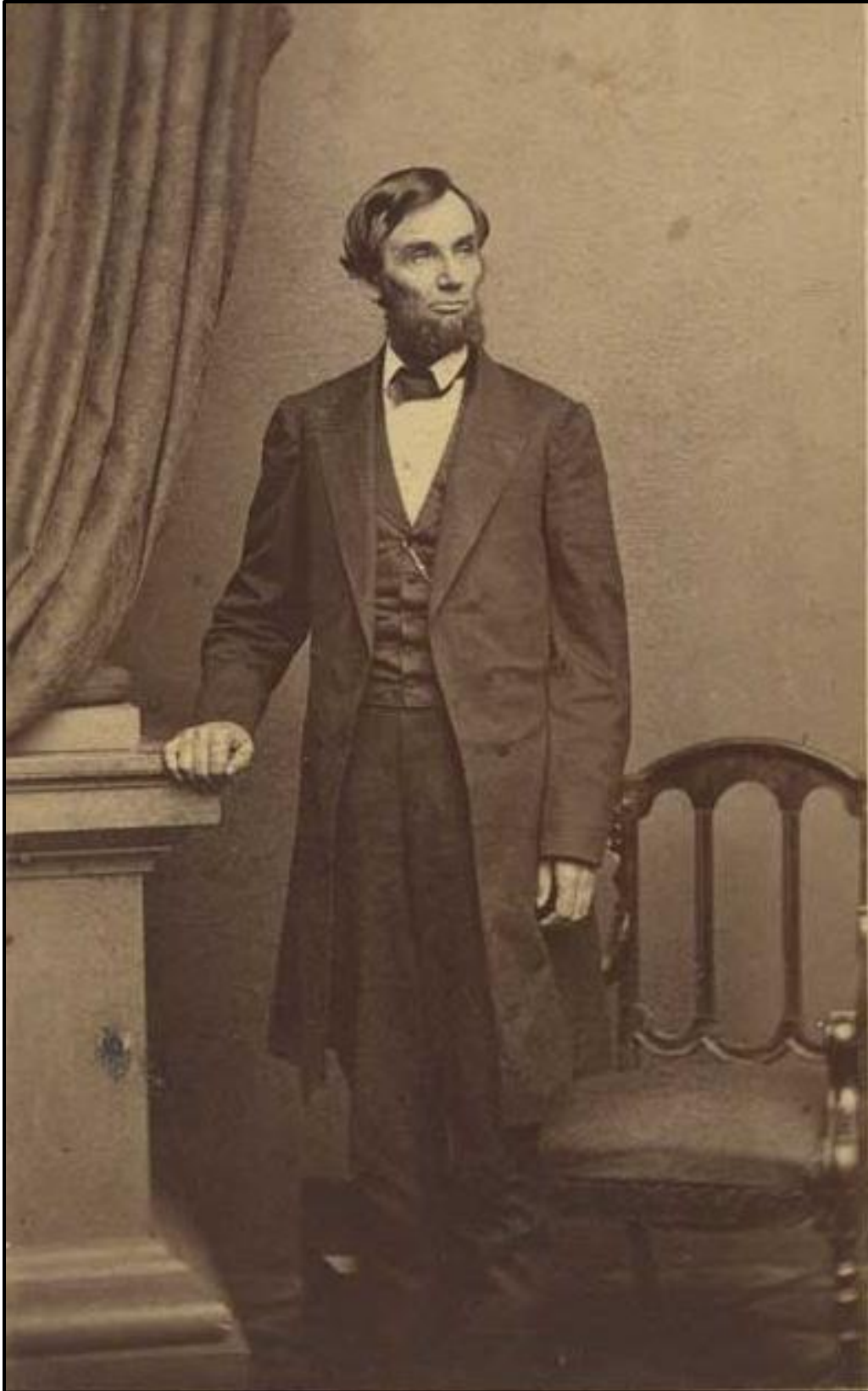
Ninety-two men from West Fairlee enlisted to serve under President Lincoln's orders. Alvah Bean, the honorable Town Clerk, wrote a history of the town of West Fairlee and commented about the men who enlisted and served; "Few towns in the state have furnished more men according to the number of inhabitants, or paid more money according to their wealth. She furnished 92 soldiers in all... These men left behind them near and dear friends, and all for which at the moment of the momentous call, they were toiling with the zest and strength of young manhood—to preserve and perpetuate, and transmit to posterity unimpaired, the principles upon which this great and glorious republic and union is founded."¹⁸

However, as the storm of the war continued, more and more troops were needed to fill the continued quotas ordered from the President. In addition, the ranks of the Regiments were becoming rapidly decimated because of the daily casualties. By August of 1862, it became necessary for the President to impose a draft if the new quotas were not filled.

By March 1863, Congress passed an Act for enrolling and calling out the National Forces. Under this enrollment, men between the ages of twenty and forty-five were called to military duty in two classes. The first class was made up of those between the ages of twenty and thirty-five, including those unmarried up to forty-five. The second class was composed of married men between ages thirty-five and forty-five. The second class was not to be drafted until the first class was exhausted. The law further provided that any person drafted under it, would be discharged by furnishing an acceptable substitute, or by paying a commutation of \$300. Men who owned property could also be exempted. But the draft yielded more money than men, and although money is one of the sinews of war, it was not the sinew most needed to put down the Rebellion.¹⁹

¹⁸ *The Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, Bean, Alvah, 1871: Vol. II, pp. 909-910.

¹⁹ <http://vermontcivilwar.org/units/>



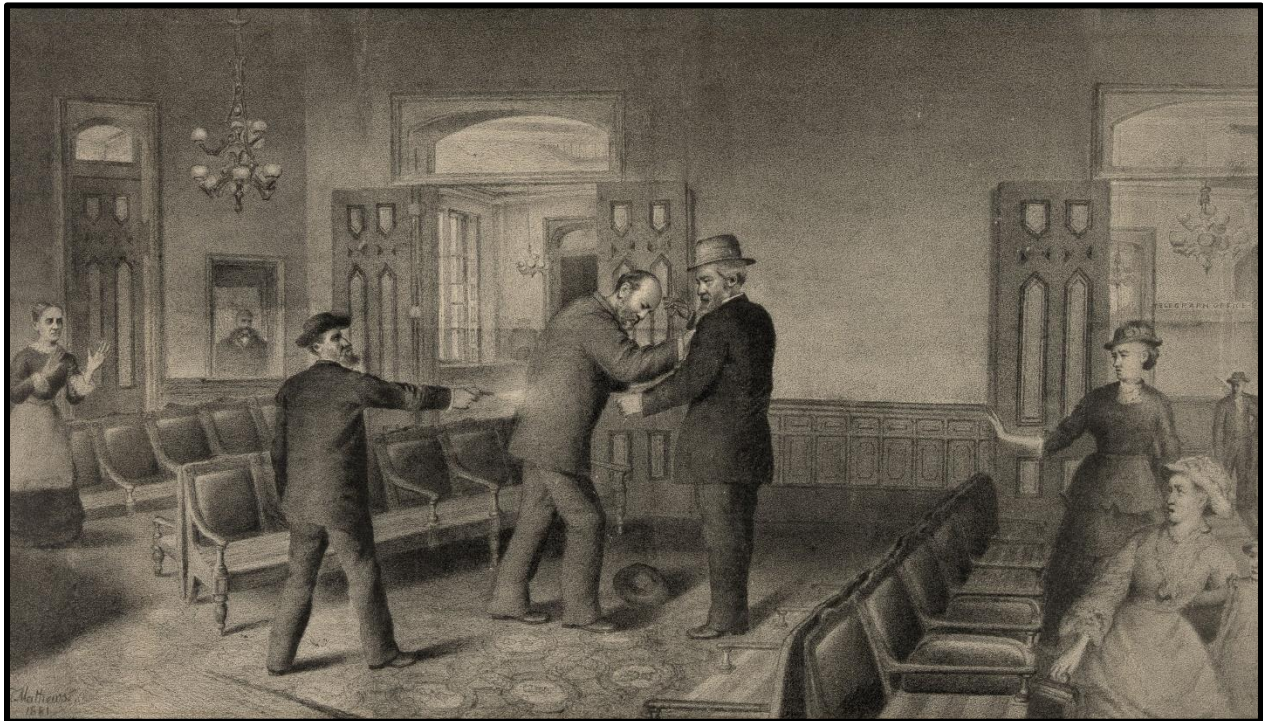
*President Abraham Lincoln 1963, age 53
(National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution)*

On May 12, 1864, the town of West Fairlee received a quota for the draft of eight men, and the names of eight men were submitted who fit into the first or second class. Nathan was forty-four years old and fell into the second class of married men between the ages of thirty-five and forty-five. Of the eight men drafted from West Fairlee, only one man served in the war, the other seven men paid the commutation and were discharged. Nathan was one of the seven who paid commutation and was discharged.²⁰ We can only imagine how difficult it was for Nathan to make the decision to serve or pay the commutation. Many brave men were faced with the same dilemma.

President Lincoln is assassinated

On April 15, 1865, the news traveled fast to the township of West Fairlee. President Abraham Lincoln had been assassinated the previous night at the Ford Theater. He lay in a coma for nine hours before he died.²¹ It was indeed a sad day for Nathan and Mary when they received word that he had died. The residents of the town of West Fairlee mourned for the President, as many at that time viewed him as the savior of the United States.

During the life of Nathan and Mary, they experienced another tragic assassination—that of President James A. Garfield, the second U.S. President to be assassinated. Less than four months after he was elected, President Garfield was shot on July 2, 1881. Almost three months later, he died of complications on September 19, 1881.²²



*Scene of the Assassination of President James A Garfield in 1881
(Library of Congress Prints & Photographs)*

²⁰ <http://vermontcivilwar.org>.

²¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham_Lincoln#Emancipation_Proclamation.

²² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assassination_of_James_A._Garfield.

Nathan's involvement in West Fairlee

The inhabitants of West Fairlee held regular town meetings to discuss the needs of the town and elect officials for the following year. Those who were legal voters in the town were warned to come to this meeting that was held annually in March. On March 9, 1852, Nathan was chosen as a Highway Surveyor, along with ten other men.

The town records also recorded matters concerning their inhabitants. Nathan's farm was bordered on one side by Joseph Kimball's farm. Without a proper fence, it was impossible to keep their livestock from invading each other's property. To help alleviate this problem they mutually agreed to divide, build and maintain a fence on the division line between their two properties. This agreement was recorded in the town records.

Two items of business needed attention at the annual March meeting of 1856: first, to raise money to defray expenses in the town, and second, to build and repair the highways. Again, Nathan was chosen as one of the eleven Highway Surveyors. They also cast their votes to try to prevent the traffic of intoxicating liquors. School districts were discussed and they voted to change the farm where Nathan lived to School District #2.²³

During the 1860's, Nathan was selected as a town lister, one who helped determine the value of real estate for tax purposes. He was also elected as a petit juror and a grand juror. At the freeman's meeting in 1870, Nathan was elected Justice of the Peace for West Fairlee, along with Stephen Thomas, John P. Southworth, F.V. Churchill and the town Clerk, Alvah Bean. Nathan served in this position for four years. As a long-time resident of West Fairlee, these few examples demonstrate that Nathan took part in the affairs of the town, and was a respected citizen.



The inhabitants of West Fairlee held regular town meetings to discuss the needs of the town and elect officials for the following year.

²³ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont Town Records, FHL microfilm 29125.

Carl buys land next to Nathan

In 1874, Nathan's son, Carl, purchased sixty-five acres of land from Benjamin and Nancy Niles, which was located adjacent to Nathan's farm. Benjamin carried the note of seven payments, with the first two payments undersigned by Nathan. At that time, Nathan was a justice of the peace, and verified and signed the deed that Nancy Niles personally appeared to acknowledge the deed.

Nathan A. Smith Jus of the Peace

Mary's father dies

In 1879, Mary's father, Moses Wilds was getting quite feeble, and Mary received word that he might not live much longer. On November 1, 1879, he died in Topsham, Vermont. He was an upright Christian man and lived a long life of eighty-nine years.

United with Congregational Church

Shortly after the death of Nathan's father in 1849, Nathan and Mary began to experience religion in their lives, under the labors of Rev. Charles Bosworth. At that time, they united with the West Fairlee Center Congregational Church, also known as Middlebrook. In 1854, Nathan contributed \$25 for the building of a new meeting house, which would be located near the place where the old church stood.²⁴

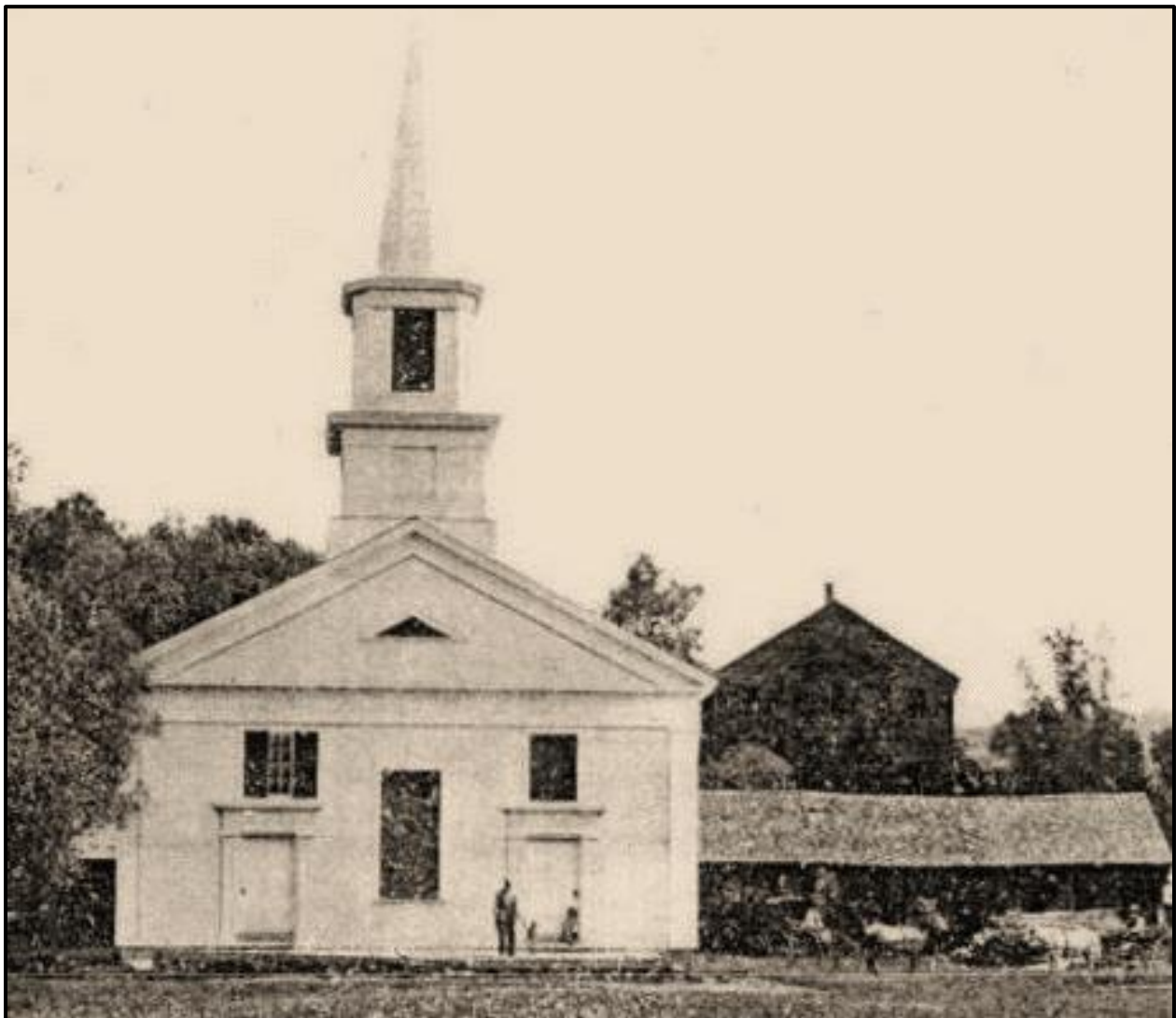


They united with the West Fairlee Center Congregational Church in 1849.

²⁴ <http://www.wfcenterchurch.org/1854%20Handwritten%20Constitution.pdf>.

Thirty years after uniting with the church, at the age of fifty-nine, Nathan was elected as a deacon in 1879. Deacon Smith was in many respects a remarkable man. He belonged to a generation that was fast disappearing at that time – a generation nourished on the theology of half a century before, and showing the effect of that theology in their lives and characters. Nathan had little sympathy with the so-called “new ideas” of the present day, but was strong in his allegiance to the truth that had been tried. He was strong in his convictions of duty and earnest in defense of what he considered “the faith once delivered to the saints.”

God’s house and the honor of His name were very dear to Nathan. These convictions and the Christian life formed his chief subject of conversation. In public Nathan was slow of speech, and while ever bearing his part in the social meeting, his readiest expression of feeling was in the hymns he loved, and with which his love of singing had made them familiar. Nathan remained a member of this congregation until his death.²⁵



God’s house and the honor of His name were very dear to Nathan.

²⁵ Vermont Chronicle (Bellows Falls, VT), Nathan A. Smith Obituary, 27 Apr 1888, p. 8.

Nathan sells farm

During the year of 1885, Nathan turned sixty-five years old and desired to downsize his farm. The perfect opportunity came when William G. Russ of West Fairlee wanted to sell his land that was located on the north side of the crossroad leading from West Fairlee Village to Fairlee Lake. William owned thirty-one and a half acres of flat, fertile, bottom land, between the lake and the hills. The Smith property was larger and would certainly be superior for more livestock.

On October 17, 1885, a deal was made and Nathan sold his farm homestead of forty-five acres to William G. Russ for \$800. Nathan bought the thirty-one- and one-half acres of bottom land from William Russ for \$1200, which included a house. The same day, his son Carl also sold his sixty-five-acre parcel of land to William G. Russ for \$600. Thus, William G. Russ purchased one hundred and ten acres from the Smiths on that day.²⁶



Nathan sold his farm homestead to William G. Russ for \$800.

²⁶ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont Land Records, FHL microfilm 847951, Vol. 8, p. 419-421.

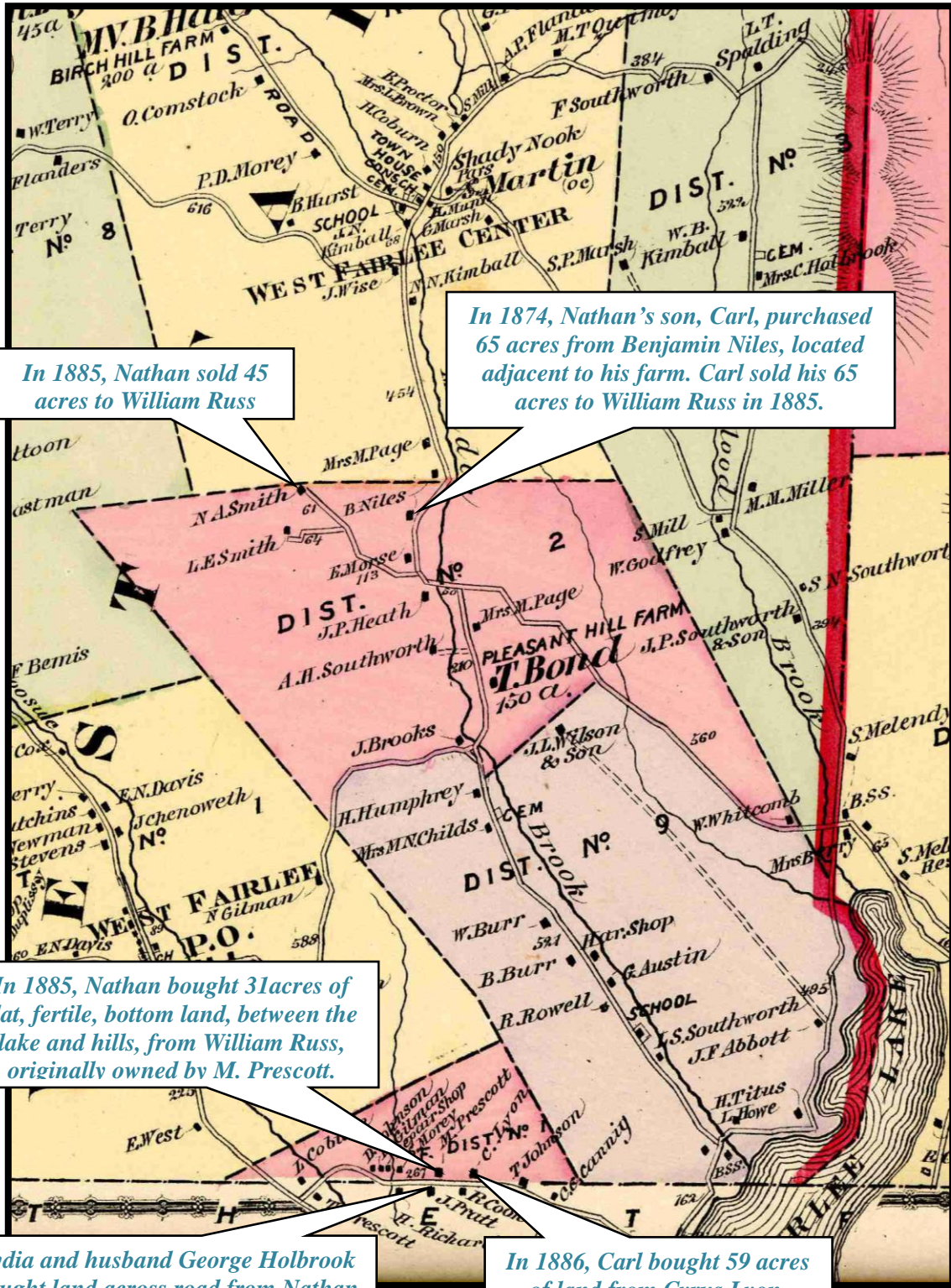


*1909 photo of William Russ family in front of prior home of Nathan & Mary Smith
(William Russ with black hat, in center of second row)*



Compare West Fairlee home in 1981, seventy-two years later. Dormers were added in roof.

1877 Map of West Fairlee



Not content with a homestead just for him and his wife, Nathan and Mary made the greatest exertions to settle their children around them. Before they died, that dream came true!

Nathan's and Mary's absorbing sentiment or passion during their life was the establishment of a homestead for their family. For this, Nathan and Mary planned and toiled all the days of their life. Nathan's labor and privations were sweetened by the thought that there on the homestead he was preparing a home, if not for himself, for those dearest to him. Not content with a homestead just for him and his wife, Nathan and Mary made the greatest exertions to settle their children around them. Before they died, that dream came true! Their two children, Lydia and Carl were everything to them. Carl moved into the new home with his parents, to help with the new farm and care for his aging parents. He did not purchase land of his own until the following year. Cyrus Lyon, the neighbor adjacent to Nathan, sold a total of fifty-nine acres to Carl on May 26, 1886.²⁷ Lydia and her husband George Holbrook also purchased land across the road from them.

Nathan's health begins to decline

While never of robust frame, for sixty-seven years Nathan had never known what it was like to be under a physician's care, until March of 1887. In one day, he became helpless from paralysis. From that time, he was not able to step or even to turn himself in bed. For weeks he was a daily expectation of death, and often in great misery, but this trial of his faith had its effect in working patience. Never a word of complaint escaped his lips. Always showing gratitude for the good he received, gratitude to God and to those who ministered to him in love, he waited for the revelation of the will of his Father.²⁸

Later in that same year, another trial came to Mary when she lost her dear mother, Abigail King Wilds, who died on August 25, 1887. She died in Topsham at the home of Mary's sister, Sally. She took care of their mother after the death of their father, Moses.²⁹

Nathan buys water share from Lydia

During a little time in the fall and early winter, Nathan was able to ride about and even visit his family and friends. At the end of September 1887, he visited his daughter Lydia, and she wanted to sell him a half share of the water from a spring that was located on her land, northerly of his farm. Nathan paid Lydia \$5 for the half share of water. He would have the right to dig and stone a well on her land. From the well he could dig a ditch across her land and lay a pipe that would carry water to his farm, and draw one half of the water from the pipe for the use of his family.

There was an express understanding and agreement between them that they were to share equally in the privileges of the water and the expenses of digging and paying for the main pipe and refrains, up to where any branch offs were added. In case of a shortage of water, they were to pay equally for the expense of procuring more water.³⁰

This purchase perhaps indicated that Nathan had a great deal of determination and faith that he might get better. Later land records showed that their children, Carl and Lydia, inherited the land after their mother died, and that the well was dug and used.³¹

²⁷ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont Land Records, FHL microfilm 847951, Vol. 8, p. 424.

²⁸ Vermont Chronicle (Bellows Falls, VT), Nathan A. Smith Obituary, 27 Apr 1888, p. 8.

²⁹ Vermont Vital Records, 1760-1954, FHL microfilm 540602.

³⁰ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont land records, FHL microfilm 847951, Vol. 8, p. 433.

³¹ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont land records, FHL microfilm 4156945, Vol. 10, p. 73, 80.

The Great Blizzard of 1888

During the winter of 1887 to 1888, Mary and her children, Lydia and Carl, were tireless in their efforts to care for Nathan. There were many days when Mary cried and grieved for her husband, but likely didn't want him to know the sadness she felt, knowing that she was losing him. During the last few months Nathan grew weaker and realized that the end had come. For the most part he was confined to his bed, but he still received his friends and conversed with them on all that interested them and him, being sure to bring the conversation around to the goodness of God.

In the beginning of the year of 1888, temperatures were unseasonably mild. Unforgiving natural forces often governed Vermont. Blizzards were a common occurrence. On January 25-26 a blizzard hit the plains and moved into the eastern states. Then on March 12 and 13, a huge blizzard hit Vermont. Snow fell for thirty-six hours without pause, and there was deep snowfall, extreme temperatures, and gale force winds that blew huge masses of drifting snow. Snowfall exceeded forty to fifty inches in many areas. There was no intermission in the fury of the wind or the fall of the snow, all day or during the night, until day-break. This storm became known as the Great Blizzard of 1888.³²



This severe weather fell with a crushing effect on the small town of West Fairlee. The blizzard and deep snowdrifts were undoubtedly brutal on the livestock of Nathan and Carl. Because of Nathan's condition, Carl likely had to dig through snowdrifts in freezing temperatures and struggle long hours to attempt to rescue the livestock, possibly losing some of their livestock. Because of Nathan's illness, it is certain that the blizzard and the aftermath had a debilitating effect on him. Twenty-nine days after the blizzard, he passed away quietly on April 11, 1888, seeming unconscious at the very last. At the age of sixty-eight, he had gone to the Christian's reward! Paralysis of the lower extremities was listed as the cause of death.

³² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Blizzard_of_1888.

Death of Mary

After the death of Nathan, Mary and her two children inherited the Chubb pastureland that Nathan had purchased for \$200 in 1845. They sold the land on October 25, 1892 for only \$75.³³ Apparently, the price of land in Vermont was going down, perhaps because of emigrations to the west.

Six years later, at age seventy-seven, Nathan's beloved wife Mary contracted pneumonia. After a long and tedious illness, which she bore with Christian fortitude and patience, she finished her earthly pilgrimage on April 21, 1894.³⁴ Both Nathan and Mary were born in February and both died in April. Mary left behind her two surviving children, Lydia and Carl, who had cared for her until the end. Her only two grandchildren were yet unborn. She was buried next to Nathan in the Post Mills Cemetery, near West Fairlee. On the tombstone, Lydia and Carl placed the epitaph:

Our Father and Mother
Nathan A. Smith, Feb 1820 – Apr 1888
Mary F. Wilds, Feb 1818 – Apr 1895



³³ West Fairlee, Orange, Vermont land records, FHL microfilm 847950, Vol. 10, p. 22.

³⁴ Vermont Vital Records, 1760-1954, FHL microfilm 540146.

Daughter: Lydia Smith

At the age of thirty-three, Lydia married George B. Holbrook in West Fairlee, on March 8, 1881.³⁵ They were never able to have children. Lydia was a school teacher. In 1926, when Lydia was seventy-nine, her husband George died, leaving her a widow for more than eleven years. Lydia lived until she was ninety years old.³⁶



Lydia sitting in front of her home in Post Mills



Lydia & George Holbrook lived across road from Nathan & Carl (2007 photo)

³⁵ Vermont, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1732-2005, FHL microfilm 5487644.

³⁶ Vermont Vital Records 1760-2008, FHL Film 1821873.



Lydia and George Holbrook are buried in Post Mills Cemetery in Vermont.

Son: Carl William Smith

Carl married Sarah Clark on January 24, 1884.³⁷ Sadly, Sarah died of typhoid fever, just seven months after they married.³⁸ For many years Carl was devastated and did not remarry!

After Carl's mother died in April 1895, he married his second wife, Mertie May Loomis, on December 18, 1895.³⁹ The Reverend L. Harlow officiated with quite an elaborate ceremony. One of the special gifts they received was a bible from his sister Lydia and her husband George.

Because of moving near Post Mills in 1885, Carl attended the Congregational church in Post Mills. Like his father, he loved to sing in the choir, attend Sunday school and prayer meetings. Shortly after their marriage, he sold all the land in West Fairlee and moved to their new home in Sunderland, Massachusetts. Carl and Mertie had two children, Winifred and Monroe. Both of these grandchildren were born after their grandparents, Nathan and Mary were gone. Monroe is the father of my dear husband.



Carl and Mertie had two children, Winifred and Monroe

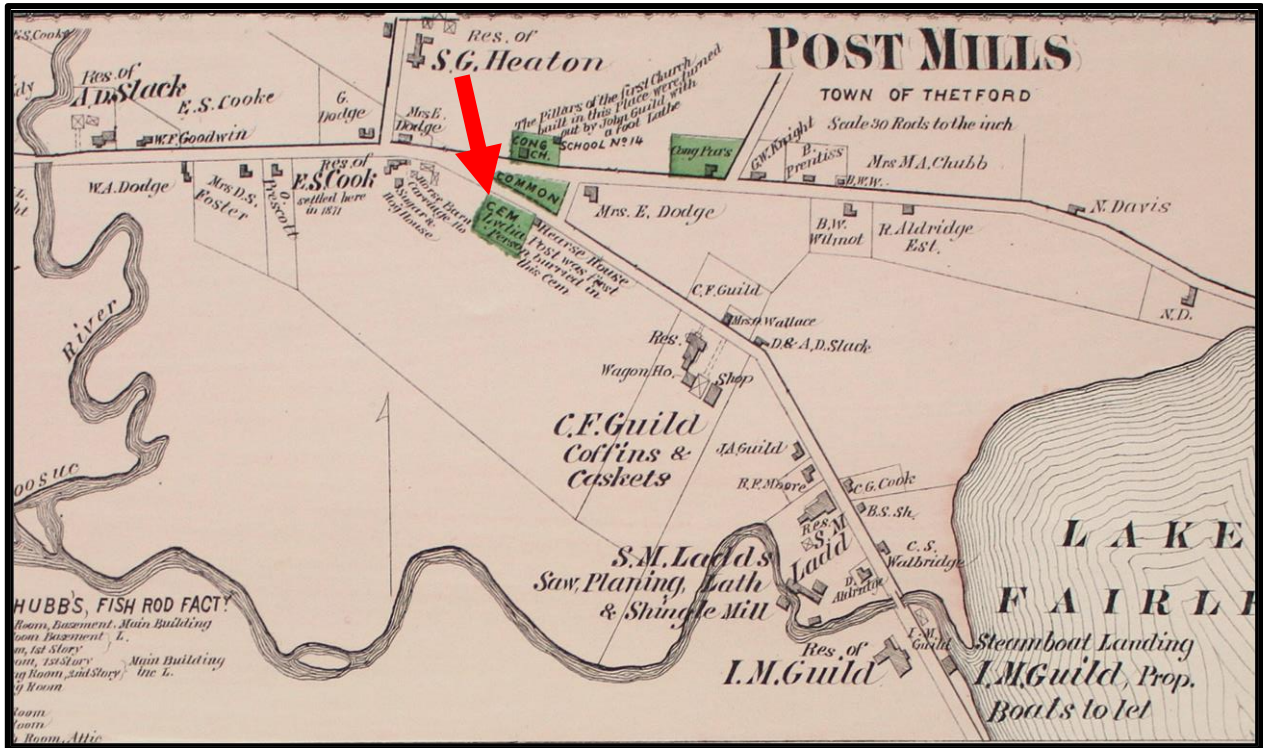
³⁷ Vermont Vital Records, 1760-1954, FHL microfilm 540146.

³⁸ Ibid, FHL microfilm 540147.

³⁹ Ibid, FHL microfilm 540599.



Carl and Mertie are buried in the Mettawee Cemetery in Pawlet, Vermont.



1877 Map of Post Mills Cemetery where Nathan, Mary, Lydia and George are buried.



Nathan remained a member of the West Fairlee Center Church until his death.