

Dr. Robert G. Goodby

12,000 Years Ago in the Granite State

THE NATIVE Abenaki people played a central role in the history of the Monadnock region, defending it against English settlement and forcing the abandonment of Keene and other Monadnock area towns during the French and Indian Wars. Despite this, little is known about the Abenaki, and conventional histories often depict the first Europeans entering an untamed, uninhabited wilderness, rather than the homeland of people who had been there for hundreds of generations. Dr. Goodby discusses how the real depth of Native history was revealed when an archaeological study during the months of May and June 2010, prior to construction of the new Keene Middle School, discovered traces of four structures dating to the end of the Ice Age including stone tools, plant remains and burned animal bones. Undisturbed for 12,000 years, the site revealed information about the economy, gender roles, and household organization of the Granite State's very first inhabitants, as well as evidence of social networks that extended for hundreds of miles across northern New England. 🍷 🍷 🍷



With support from



Thursday, April 10, 2014. 7 p.m.
Jaffrey Civic Center. 40 Main Street



PROFESSOR GOODBY recently visited the Civic Center where he inspected and speculated upon the collection of native American tools and arrowheads that were brought over from the Jaffrey Library where they usually reside. These were collected by **George M. Stone** near Lake Contoocook. Some he believed date back 2,000 years or more. Exactly who Stone was is a mystery. His name doesn't appear in any of the usual Jaffrey sources and none of our 'old-timers' recognize the name. In the old typed card that accompanies the collection it states: "Presented to the Library by Mr. George M. Stone and found at the site of his studio." Could he have been an artist? There *was* an artist by that name active in Kansas (but with New England roots). Cynthia Hamilton, on the right, remembers seeing the artifacts when she was a young girl. 🍷 🍷 🍷

Dr. Robert G. Goodby is Associate Professor of Anthropology at Franklin Pierce University. He obtained his Ph.D. in Anthropology at Brown University in 1994. He has undertaken archaeological field research in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, and is the author of more than 100 technical reports on New England prehistoric archaeology. He is Past President, *New Hampshire Archeological Society*. He teaches a variety of courses in archaeology and anthropology, including *Introduction to Archaeology*, *Human Origins*, *Field Archaeology*, *North American Archaeology*, *World Archaeology*, *Museum Studies*, and *Archaeology of New England*. He directs the *Monadnock Archaeological Project*, a long-term program of archaeological field research focusing on the prehistory of the upper Contoocook and Connecticut River valleys of southwestern New Hampshire. To date, the project has conducted excavations at four Native American sites in the Monadnock region, including the Swanzey Fish Dam site and the Wantastiquet Mountain site.

News of your Society

GREETINGS TO ALL,

WE had a good turnout at the Society's February 13th **Potluck Supper** with lots of tasty food and drink. The **JAFFREY MEMORIES** program worked well with lots of participation from the audience. **Bill McGinnis** was the winner of the *Sunflowers* gift certificate in our contest. (He correctly identified the photo of the Bandstand which before its restoration and reinstallation on the common was a barely recognizable shed off Main Street.)

We are proceeding well on the **Hearse House** project. At its recent meeting the Directors were updated on progress by Bill Driscoll and Joe Manning and myself. The original Old Burying Ground hearse house now stands off Nutting Road and is used for storage. It was inspected inside and out. The present condition is such that new sills and portions of the posts would have to be replaced. A considerable amount of expensive work would be required to stabilize the structure for moving and to restore it at its old location. Other options were considered but in the end building a replica using the appropriate materials and employing the design and dimensions of the original seems the sensible approach to follow. The proposed location is just outside the stone wall at the south end of the Old Burying Ground to the west of the entrance gate. This will not be an inexpensive project. We have one estimate in hand and in the next two months will obtain at least a second one. We will also start looking at the financial feasibility of undertaking such an ambitious project and the prospects for successful fundraising. Stay tuned! (You will find some further information at <http://www.rs41.org/jhs/hearse.htm>)

The entire *Cold Case Unit* of the NH State Police traveled to Jaffrey to learn more about the **Dean Murder** (see photo). They're not taking it on, but they are offering advice as to what may become productive avenues of research.

In our last Newsletter we mentioned our newspaper scanning project. **Savron Graphics** is doing the work during its few slow moments so it will take awhile. But the first batch of scans is now up at <http://www.rs41.org/jhs/newspaperscans.htm> so have a look.

Another project that may take some time is the inventorying of the contents of the Town Vault on the second floor of the Clay Library. **Coburn Kidd** undertook an inventory back in 1979. **Emily Donnelly**, the Town's new librarian, and I are checking every item against Coburn's inventory, adding each to a computer database and keeping an eye open for new or missing material. We could use another volunteer or two to help out.

Your Society recently purchased a second-hand Canon camera and some accessories from Peterborough Camera, made possible through **Pride Award** we received several years ago from the Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce. Once we're up to speed with it we plan to photograph systematically our entire collection, another project with no foreseeable end!

Sadly for the Society, **Charlie Palmer** has decided to retire from his long-held post of Trustee of the Society's endowment fund. He'll be hard to replace. Many thanks, Charlie, for your guidance and loyal efforts over the years!

WE WELCOME AS A NEW SOCIETY MEMBER: **Tom Rothermel**.

Rob Stephenson, *President*

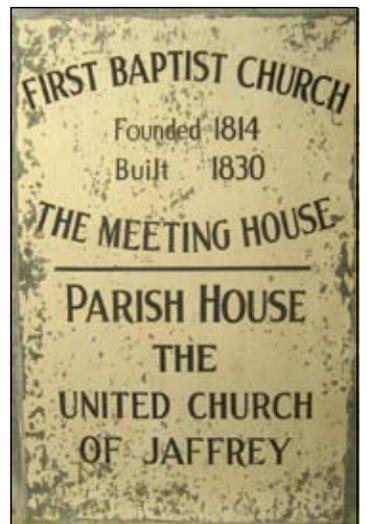
Upcoming Programs

FRIDAY MAR 8, 2014, 6:30 pm JAFFREY LIBRARY, 2ND FLOOR: **Marcia Schmidt Blaine, Susannah Johnson:** *An English Captive Among the Abenaki and French*. Co-sponsored with The Friends of the Jaffrey Library. **THURSDAY JUNE 12, 2014:** **Paul Wainwright,** *New England's Colonial Meetinghouses and their Impact on American Society* (at the Jaffrey Meetinghouse) • **THURSDAY AUGUST 14, 2014:** Annual Meeting with **Helen and Archie Coll**. • **A SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER: Annual Autumn Outing** (tentatively a visit to **Sam and Jason Hackler's** NEW HAMPSHIRE ANTIQUE CO-OP and the MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY). 🐾 🐾 🐾



DOWN IN THE ARCHIVES! Most Monday and Thursday mornings, a few members show up at the Archives in the basement of the Civic Center to work on the collection. Pictured here is **Marcie Manning, Ken Duquette** and **Dick Boutwell**. Drop by someday!

Walt Hautanen of *Walt's Signs* donated this sign that he made some years ago. It once was at the old Baptist Church on Turnpike Road just beside the present Post Office. The United Church on Main Street used the building for its Parish Hall before it built the one now beside the church. The Society also has in its collections a stained glass window from the church.



The New Hampshire State Police *Cold Case Unit* paid a recent visit to the Society to be briefed on the Dean Murder—a *really* cold case! **Mark Bean**, third from left, made a presentation on Jaffrey's famous murder mystery and showed off some of the evidence associated with the unsolved crime, the centenary of which is in 2018. Other members present (l to r): **Dick Boutwell, Jackie Johnson, Joe Manning, Bill Driscoll** and **Ken Duquette**.



A peek inside the Town Vault on the second floor of the Jaffrey Library. Sorting through the contents and checking them against the inventory Coburn Kidd did back in 1979 is another long-term project the Society's involved with. What treasures might turn up? One interesting item that caught our eye: *Registry of Dogs, 1891-1899*. The names of Jaffrey dogs are given. A comparison with today would be a fun project for some member! Any takers?