

The Charlotte Historical Society

From the 1947 Charlotte Town Report:

"In 1943 town meeting the town voted to make the old Colonial 'Town House' a war memorial for Charlotte Veterans of all wars back to the Revolutionary period, and in order to create a 'Living Memorial' it was designated as a Historical Repository for the housing of any suitable arts and crafts, historical documents, and records of the town.

"To carry out the purpose of the Memorial and give a wider scope to its possibilities, and affiliation with other historical associations, the Museum was incorporated on April 15, 1947 under the name of Charlotte Memorial Museum."

On June 16, a meeting was called and a temporary committee was chosen along with the following officers: President Mrs. A.D. [Hazel] Murray; Vice-President Mrs. John S. [Daisy] Williams; Secretary and Treasurer (resigned) Leo Irish; Acting Director and Recorder John T. Spear. Attorneys Ferdinand H. Pease of New York City and Frederick P. Smith of Burlington prepared the By-Laws.

Officers of Charlotte Memorial Museum, Inc. from the 1948 Charlotte Town Report:

President Hazel C. Murray; Vice-President Daisy B. Williams; Treasurer and Assistant Director Helen E. Harte; Director and Recorder John T. Spear.

Notes about the Charlotte Memorial Museum, Inc. from the 1949 Charlotte Town Report:

The Museum received an early six treadle loom that had been in the Carpenter homestead for 150 years. Also received were spinning wheels, flax combs, a winnowing tray and an early wooden pump log, a rare old "C" spring weighing device and a tethering stirrup. Alton Booska donated a large flag, scenery hangings, foreign money and an army insignia collection. The same officers from 1948 continued in service.

Officers of Charlotte Memorial Museum, Inc. from the 1950-52 Charlotte Town Reports:

President Daisy B. Williams; Trustees John T. Spear, Charles J. Wilcox, and Gwendolen Whalley; Treasurer Edith Johns; Clerk Pearl Spear; Director and Recorder John T. Spear; Chair of Ways & Means committee Hazel C. Murray. Patrons of the Museum are Attorneys Frederick P. Smith of Burlington and Ferdinand Pease of New York City, and Hon. John Skinner of Northampton, MA.

The group's primary fundraisers were an annual summer series of bake sales held at the Museum. As the years passed the original group became less active. After a period of relative inactivity during the 1970s, the current Historical Society met with many of the original founders in 1978 to see about starting back up, and, as Happy Patrick, our current Vice-President relates, they "were really kind of glad to pass it on, and so they passed it on to the current Historical Society."

The current Historical Society hosts two to three public presentations in the summer months, and opens its doors to guests every Sunday afternoon in July and August. In December, the annual Christmas Open House has become a tradition. The Historical Society continues to add to the collection and is working to catalog its artifacts.