

## THE FAIR CONTINUES TO GROW AND THRIVE 1901-1939

The early 1900s continued to add more buildings to the grounds. In 1902 a ticket office was built as well as a poultry house that was located behind the Snow and Hayes building. In 1911 they voted to add an addition to the cattle barn. The Merry-Go-Round “Pony Swings” were purchased from J. R. McCulloch of Adams for \$800. A concrete track was built in 1922, and the building that housed the “Pony Swings” was built in 1926.



**EDWIN GLOYD**

Edwin Gloyd was gatekeeper for 48 years for the Hillside Agricultural Society. When he passed in 1941, the treasurer took on the role and hired their own help “You know, the fair has changed a lot. There used to be teams hitched to the fence all the way around the grounds, with more hitched to railings on the hill. The road in front of the grounds used to be a great place for swappin’ horses. I remember the first automobile to come to the fair was driven by Willis Ford of Springfield. Folks asked me what I ever let that contraption in for.”<sup>5</sup>

*(photo courtesy of The Berkshire Eagle)*

The dining hall was run by J.A. Shaw in 1901. He was to give 100 free dinners to officers, committee members, workers that had to stay overnight and dignitaries that would visit the fair. After that he could charge 40 cents per dinner. In 1902 all games of questionable character were to be prohibited from leasing ground during the fair. If there were

any questions, they were to consult the society president. In 1904 the fair board asked selectmen to appoint three persons to act with fair officials to prohibit sale of intoxicating drink at or near fairgrounds during the fair. 1912 brought the exclusive right to sell whips, harnesses, robes and all horse clothing to E.N. Pardy of Westfield.

With more vehicles being driven to the fair, C.W. Drake of Chesterfield was appointed as the Superintendent of Auto Parking in 1919. With the popularity of the automobile, they added in 1920 a Ford Auto Race Contest. The drivers had to drive their cars in high gear. The winner was the driver who could drive the slowest without stalling. The premiums that were offered in the slow auto race were \$7 for first place, \$5 for second place, and \$3 for third place.

The Society joined the State Fair Association in 1920 (which was recently formed). All the buildings were painted in 1926. They tried hard to maintain the buildings and property. A wood chopping contest was started in 1934; they appointed a committee to work in cooperation with four other Hilltown fairs. In 1937 the Ox and Steer parade officially started with each yoke being paid \$1 to participate and then proceeded around the track. It was voted in 1938 to change the number of Vice Presidents from four to six, and two to be women. The first women on the board of the Hillside Agricultural Society were Mrs. Inex (Frank) Davis and Mrs. Abby (Howard) Stanton.



Vendors set up under tents to sell their wares and treats. In the distance you can see horse and buggies parked while their owners visit the fair.

*(Albert Wilcutt glass slide circa 1907)*



In 1931 the Carver family moved into the Cummington Fair exhibit hall after they had a house fire at their home on the Phinney/Warner farm. Ralph Rice was president of the fairgrounds and allowed them to stay until their house could be rebuilt. Ernie (at the time was 6 years old) remembers getting picked up by the gate entrance by a horse drawn sleigh; the sleigh then brought him to school in the center of Cummington.

Top row L to R Helen, Ernest Jr.; middle row L to R Ruth, Lillian; bottom row baby Dorothy and Ernest Carver Sr.  
(photo courtesy of Ernest Carver Jr. 1931)



Looking west over the fairgrounds circa 1907, from what would now be the upper parking lot.

*(Albert Wilcutt glass slide circa 1907)*



This photo shows the many oyster tents that housed vendors.

*(Albert Wilcutt glass slide circa 1907)*



### Hillside Society Fair Opens at Cummington, Sept. 24

When good fellows get together there are tales to be told, and the gathering pictured above is no exception to the rule. In the group are officials of the Hillside Agricultural Society, both past and present. In back are Charles Bisbee of Chesterfield past president, Leon Stevens, present secretary, M.S. Howes, a former president and Dr. A.H. Streeter, also a former president, left to right. In the same order in front are: F.C. Davis, treasurer, the president, M.C. Phinney, A.D. Howes Jr., a former president, H.A. Johnson, president of the Agricultural Society at Middlefield.

*(photo courtesy of  
THE REPUBLICAN/SPRINGFIELD, MA  
Wednesday, September 25, 1935)*

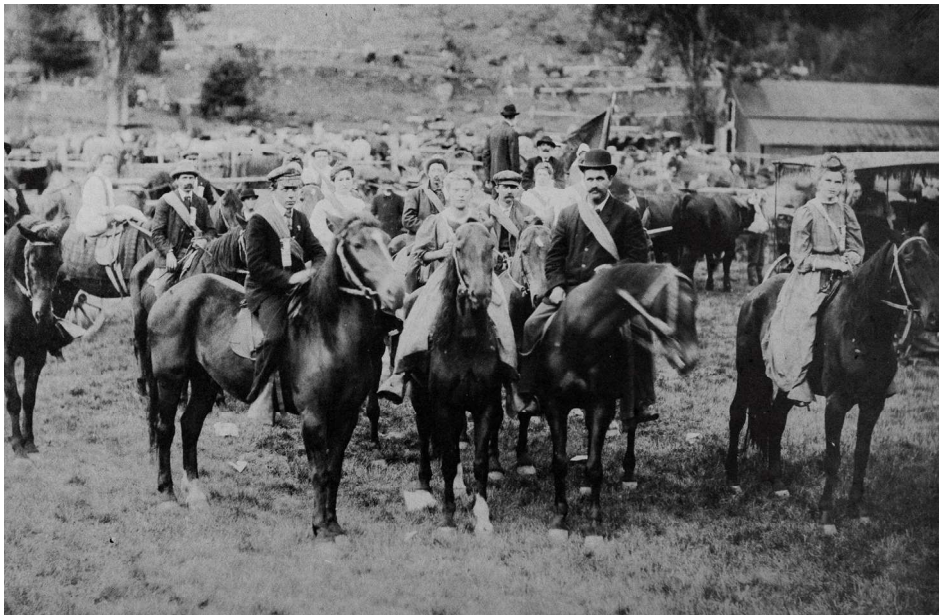


Elmer Snow is the driver. Oscar D. Jacobs is holding one horse. Snow and Jacobs each owned one of the two teams. (You can only see the back end of the front team.)

*(photo courtesy of Windsor Historical Commission)*







**Officers of the Windsor Grange #77, on black horses.**  
**Front row:** Tommy Day, his wife Bella Cleveland Day, Charles Hathaway, daughter Ruth Hathaway Parks.  
**Second row:** Tom Day Sr., Lizzie Hull, a teacher; unknown; Bella Jacobs Miner; her father Oscar Jacobs, her husband, Gardner Miner, unknown.  
**In background:** Florial V. Tournier, Lila Jacobs Tournier, Ada Pierce Lane.

*(photo courtesy of Windsor Historical Commission)*



**Fannie Ford and her husband Harry Ford in wagon; behind them are Mr. and Mrs. Dawes, Fannie's parents.**  
**The little boy standing by oxen is Fannie and Harry's son Albert Ford.**

*(photo courtesy of Windsor Historical Commission)*



**Middleton R. Jacobs, driver; Lida Hathaway Beauman, Drusilla Miner Estes, Mildred Hathaway Whalen, Elizabeth Miner Estes Morrison (the littlest one by the wheel).**

*(photo courtesy of Windsor Historical Commission)*



This brilliant photo taken in 1908 by James Adams of West Chesterfield shows a view from the balcony of the exhibit hall. On the right is the Snow and Hayes building. The small building in the center back is where they would detain disorderly people.  
*(photo courtesy of Chesterfield Historical Society)*



Photo taken in 1908 by James Adams of West Chesterfield show the Healy Family visiting the fair. Going to the fair was an event, that in the early days warranted dressing up to attend.  
*(photo courtesy of Chesterfield Historical Society)*



This 1908 photo by James Adams of West Chesterfield shows the band getting ready to perform. Music from Local Cornet/Brass Bands were very popular events at the fair.  
*(photo courtesy of Chesterfield Historical Society)*

