Historic Deerfield Summer Fellowship Program Celebrates 60th Anniversary in 2016

The summer of 2016 marked the 60th anniversary of the Summer Fellowship Program. Begun in 1956, the program was initiated to encourage the interest of bright students in careers in the museum field. The first summer of the program brought one undergraduate from Amherst College. In the following year six students were admitted to the program and since then 474 students have participated. Many of the program's alumni hold professional positions in a variety of museums throughout the United States, while others are active in related fields like historic preservation, architecture, teaching, and the arts and antiques markets.

This unique program gives college juniors and seniors the opportunity to live in the historic village of Deerfield; explore history and material culture studies in hands-on classroom seminars, walking tours and room studies with Historic Deerfield staff and visiting lecturers. They also learn to guide and interpret in Historic Deerfield's furnished museum houses; conduct original research on New England history and material culture using museum and library collections and go on behind-the-scenes visits to historic sites. The program is fully funded, allowing students to pay no tuition or program fees.

This year's class of fellows arrived from across the country – and the world! – ready to explore the world of material culture and decorative arts. The students represented Pennsylvania, Delaware, Illinois, New York, New Hampshire, and Japan. In addition to attending seminars with Historic Deerfield staff, they also had the opportunity to participate in workshops on studying stoneware pottery, 18th-century etiquette, and letterpress printing, a new addition to the program this year, where they learned to set type and strike it on the museum's reproduction printing press at the Wilson Printing Office. Following the presentation of their research papers, the fellows embarked on their southern road trip, taking them to the Library of Congress, Mount Vernon, Colonial Williamsburg, the Winterthur Museum, and Philipsburg Manor in Sleepy Hollow, NY.
Warm greetings to all friends of Historic Deerfield! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new chair of the Board of Trustees. Immediate past board chair Anne Groves and I have worked together as a team for many years, and now we will continue to work together as we swap our positions as chair and vice-chair of the board. In assuming the role of board chair, I would like to thank Anne for her many years of service and congratulate her on the extraordinary things she accomplished for Historic Deerfield during her tenure as chair. I look forward to working closely with Anne, and my other fellow trustees, as we move forward with our mission.

On behalf of our entire board, I want you to know how much we appreciate all that you do to support our beloved museum in the beautiful Connecticut River Valley! Thank you! As you know, Historic Deerfield is a rich museum of history, art and architecture, located along a mile-long street that was first laid out in 1671. The quintessential New England village of Old Deerfield may well be the best preserved small town in America and has much to offer!

I would like to update you on some developments over the past year:

**Balanced Budget and Increased Giving.** We take seriously our role of managing the operations of the museum in a financially responsible manner. Once again, the Museum’s operating budget is positive, this time by roughly $12,000.

I also am pleased to report that unrestricted gifts and grants to Historic Deerfield increased by about 23% during the past year to $452,000.

**Outstanding Programs.** Each year, the museum runs over 75 engaging programs for tourists, members, scholars, collectors and students. These include historic trade demonstrations, family programs, forums, symposia, classes, fellowships and internships and a major Revolutionary War reenactment on opening day. Last September, the museum organized a members’ trip to Charleston, South Carolina, where Historic Deerfield’s connections gave the participants fabulous access to premier collections, museums and properties, both private and public. In the fall of 2016, our members’ trip will be to New Orleans.

**Increased Revenue at the Deerfield Inn.** As you may know, we own and operate the historic Deerfield Inn, where many of our visitors stay while visiting the museum. Since the devastating flood of 2011, we have
worked diligently to restore and enhance the physical plant of the Inn. Our hard work in this regard is paying off. During the past fiscal year, Inn revenue increased by 11.6% or $265,000, and the Inn had positive cash flow of about $55,000.

Historically, we have benchmarked the Deerfield Inn against other “four star” inns within the hospitality industry and found it to be consistently at the top of customer satisfaction ratings. During the past year, we raised the bar and compared the Inn to “five star” inns. In doing so, we found that the Inn consistently ranks equal to or higher than this elevated class of “five star” competitors.

We encourage you to come and experience a stay at the Inn. Champney’s Restaurant and Tavern at the Inn features seasonally driven menus that are a reflection of the local New England landscape.

**Enhanced Collections.** Historic Deerfield features one of the best public collections of art and decorative arts in America, including a world-class grouping of period American furniture, paintings, silver, ceramics, textiles and metal wares, as well as an extraordinary collection of colonial powder horns.

FY2016 was a uniquely strong year for museum acquisitions. The Recent Acquisitions section on pages 13-19 of this report highlights the year’s additions and is a testament to both the quality and breadth of Historic Deerfield’s museum collection as a whole. My personal favorite new acquisition from the past year is the wonderful late 17th-century desk of Puritan minister, Rev. Nehemiah Bull of Westfield. In addition, we thank the members of the Deerfield Collectors Guild for their critical support in helping us to acquire important objects made or owned in Deerfield during the 17th to 19th centuries. These key additions to the collection materially advance our mission on the museum front.

**Focus on Historic Preservation.** Historic preservation is central to our mission at Historic Deerfield. We believe that by preserving the important edifices, monuments and landscapes of our past, we can learn more about who we are – about our heritage, our values and our culture.

Readers should look forward to the next issue of the *Historic Deerfield* magazine, which will focus on the theme of historic preservation in the context of Old Deerfield. This issue represents a recommitment to the Museum’s core mission and highlights major efforts by the museum to preserve The Street.

Additionally, we are pleased to report that Kinder Morgan Inc. has dropped its proposal to run a controversial natural gas pipeline through the meadows immediately north of Old Deerfield. Along with many of our neighbors, we voiced our opposition to the project based on the historic importance of Old Deerfield and the surrounding landscape. The withdrawal of the pipeline proposal represents a major victory for the cause of historic preservation in our area.

**Continued Progress on Strategic Plan.** We continue to make excellent progress on our strategic plan – *The 2020 Vision for Historic Deerfield*, which focuses on (1) preserving Old Deerfield, (2) educating the museum’s audience, (3) increasing attendance and caring for our audience, and (4) raising the funds necessary to accomplish many goals. It is exciting to see the museum make important strides forward towards achieving our goals!

I wish to thank all of you, as well as the staff, volunteers and trustees of Historic Deerfield, for your contributions to our success over the past year! Thank you!

Respectfully yours,

**Joseph P. Gromacki**
Chair, Board of Trustees
Preservation Not Replication

Historic preservation is an expensive proposition. Authenticity and continuity join it for an added surcharge. Even more costly to us in the long run is the loss of detail about the past and its parameters. Discarded evidence reminds us of missing books on a library shelf. Where are we? More importantly, what and why are we? These questions are unanswerable in symbolic places like Deerfield if eroded by the high grit of negligence and expedience.

Nevertheless Deerfield remains “the best documented small town in America” through the efforts of private individuals across the country as well as the trustees and staffs of Historic Deerfield and the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association (PVMA). The powerful coincidence of the natural landscape in Deerfield sometimes threatens but has eternally shaped and preserved the scale of the village since Native times and the arrival of the Anglo-Europeans. Genteel poverty has also played a role in forcing the old families to “make do” and to preserve by benign neglect. Today 26 18th-century houses along with another 14 that predate 1850 still define an historic site of national significance—and the educational process that rests in knowing the lessons of the past.

But saying and doing are two different matters. We say at Historic Deerfield that the museums preserve this great American place and that we need your help to do so. And indeed we do. In fiscal year 2016, Historic Deerfield spent over $450,000 directly on preservation, excluding salaries which is 45% of the overall operation. We are currently exploring with PVMA, which operates the Memorial Hall Museum, ways of working more closely together in order to make our case louder, and to ‘save our powder’ for the threats ahead to Old Deerfield. Recently, the Chipstone Foundation of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, funded a two-day ‘Think Tank’ precisely focused on how our respective messages are louder as one and on how important saving Old Deerfield is to the nation at large. We also joined thousands of our neighbors in the Bay State over the last four years to defeat for now the plans of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline to lay their hardware yards away from “The Street” in the North Meadows despite the establishment of the Old Deerfield National Historic Landmark in 1962 by the Department of the Interior. We think that saying is only made more effective by doing.
The fact remains that the “devil is in the details.” You cannot pitch the significance of something if no pith remains in the plant. Old Deerfield is a kind of cultural cup filled with millions of details about the Natives, Anglo-Europeans, and Africans who have lived, worked, and fought here on a continuum for over 12,000 years. Each physical detail—whether it is the inaccurate design of a porch or modern windows with the wrong-sized glass for the age of the building—is like a grain of sand blown away and lost forever. Here the ‘real thing’ and its relationships to the myriad of other real things around it tell much about the whole story. Deerfield is like a huge jigsaw puzzle. Even though thousands of pieces are lost, thousands more survive to provide surprising evidence and stories about the big picture. These grains of sand, or pieces of the puzzle, demand stewardship and cannot be replaced with facsimile bits that are cloudy assumptions which weaken authenticity.

For example, and this stands only as personal opinion, we travel the middle of “The Street” in the shadow of Deerfield’s important 1867 Civil War monument. Public sculpture is rare in early New England, and this monument is among the first of its sort in the country, and perhaps the first with the sculptural figure of a soldier. Four years ago concerned citizens and the Town’s Select Board became worried that the monument of soft sandstone was at risk after nearly 150 years besieged by wind and rain. Sure enough, close inspection by a professional conservator revealed what all could see. The soldier was badly cracked and had to come in out of the rain. At substantial expense paid with taxpayer dollars and private money, the sculpture’s conservation is now complete (the obelisk awaits), and the soldier will reside indoors in the Town Offices at South Deerfield. That is a fine solution, but what about the soldier-less obelisk on the Common? Should some sort of replica be made out of polymer or bronze and mounted on the obelisk, or should the classical base be capped for preservation with some sort of photographic interpretation of the story below?

My sense is that a copy is a copy with its own expense and conservation issues, and that any variation in color or in rendering the new soldier makes it an artifact of this time and not of the Civil War. We should do it right or not at all. Replication done badly forfeits authenticity along with the confidence and inspiration of seeing ‘the real thing.’ Historic preservation nationwide and certainly in Deerfield is about ‘the real thing’ and keeping it safe in the aggregate. That is why preservation remains the taproot of Historic Deerfield’s educational mission.

Philip Zea
President
No matter what the season when you drive along Deerfield’s main thoroughfare, simply known as The Street, you quickly sense that this is a special place. The surrounding landscapes and historic buildings together convey a deep sense of place. Caring for the natural resources, the historic properties, and museum collections entrusted to us is central to Historic Deerfield’s mission. Finding ways to engage our audiences with compelling programs and experiences is also at the core of who we are as an organization. Let’s take a look at highlights from FY2016.

**Historic House Restoration**
Barnard Tavern, a public house in operation from 1796 through 1805, is the focus of the museum’s restoration efforts. Restoration carpenters are busy repairing plasterwork throughout the building and repairing the front door surround and installing the new front door. The roof was replaced as well as sections of siding. Work continues on creating an accessible entry through a section of the building that will feature a panel exhibition that will explore themes illustrative of the family and times.

Historic Deerfield acquired important mid-18th-century interiors from the Abel Chapin house in Chicopee, Massachusetts. The house, built in the 1730s and later expanded in the 1750s to “mansion house” proportions, was derelict and slated for demolition, when a member of the Historic Deerfield staff alerted the museum about the possibility of saving woodwork from three rooms. The acquisition includes woodwork from the principal parlor signed by the joiner: “Martin Smith 1759 August ye 3d.” The rarity of finding the signature of the house joiner is extraordinary.

**Programs and Exhibitions**
The Museum Education Department was busy last year developing a range of exciting programs. Last spring families learned about the role of cabinets of curiosities in a program at the History Workshop called *Curiosity and Wonder: Exploring Collections*. As part of the program visitors made their own “Wonder Jar” of curiosities and memories. Silk clothing in the Helen Geier Flynt Textile Gallery served as the inspiration for developing a new program, *Silken Threads and Shimmering Cloth*. Visitors at the History Workshop explored the history of silk from ancient China to its presence in Deerfield and the steps involved with transforming silk threads into cloth. The program featured a live silkworm exhibition, demonstrations of reeling silk strands from cocoons, and painting on silk fabric.
The Curatorial Department installed a new exhibition in the Flynt Center lobby. *Natural Selections: Flora and the Arts* features 20 objects and through three themes — botanical studies, art in nature, and domesticating the outdoors — explores how the subject of flora inspired the decorative arts.

Historic Deerfield’s second symposium on the building trades focused on architectural paints in early New England. The one-day program attracted 100 participants interested in learning about the current state of architectural paint analysis and how paints were used from the late 17th century to the mid-19th century to decorate both interiors and exteriors. The program included demonstrations on paint grinding and faux finishes. Participants also had an opportunity to see examples of early architectural finishes in Historic Deerfield’s architectural fragments collection.

The 41st annual *Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife* conference focused on *New England at Sea: Maritime Memory and Material Culture*. The three-day Seminar featured 19 lectures on the maritime history of New England and adjacent areas of New York and Canada from the mid-18th to the early 20th century. The program included optional workshops offered by Mystic Seaport staff that examined the history of celestial navigation including a detailed exploration of the sextant, and Mystic Seaport’s digital resources used in genealogical and maritime-related research.

During the fiscal year, the museum acquired 170 objects for the permanent collection: 74 were gifts, 25 were purchases; and 71 were bequests. We thank our donors for their generosity. (See *Recent Acquisitions* for more details.)

The Henry N. Flynt Library acquired a trove of papers created by Epaphras Hoyt (1765-1850) and his son Arthur (1811-1899). The 12 volumes of journals and notebooks, purchased at auction in December, join three others added to the collection in the summer of 2015. These writings, principally by Epaphras Hoyt, record a wide range of local and national events, literary and scientific commentaries, and expressions of deeply held political positions. In all, they establish
Epaphras Hoyt as an astute observer of the times and a major figure in Deerfield’s intellectual history.

From the estate of long-time Deerfield Trustee Henry Flynt, Jr., the library was given a four-page manuscript, “Articles of Truce.” The undated document appears to be the work of — though not in the hand of — Massachusetts Governor Joseph Dudley. During Queen Anne’s War, Dudley’s son, William, and Samuel Vetch delivered a proposed treaty to Governor Vaudreuil of New France in 1705 which was never signed, but which contained all of the articles found in our document. The donated “Articles” may represent an early draft of the truce that focused on North America.

**Marketing and Promotion**

U.S. Representative James McGovern visited Historic Deerfield in the fall as part of a bus tour of his district. The tour was organized to highlight local businesses, farms, and cultural attractions and promote area tourism. Historic Deerfield’s online marketing efforts continue to be an effective promotional tool. We launched a new Groupon offer in the spring that featured discounts on admission tickets and family memberships. Our hope is to convert these first time visitors into loyal supporters.

2016 was a busy year for Historic Deerfield’s staff. The program calendar was filled with many opportunities to explore a varied menu of programs and demonstrations. We added significant additions to the library and object collections that will help us in our work as well as scholars who travel to Deerfield to study the collections.

We are thankful to so many people and businesses for supporting Historic Deerfield. It takes time, expertise, and money to maintain 12 museum houses, the Flynt Center of Early New England Life, the Henry N. Flynt Memorial Libraries, the Deerfield Inn, the Museum Store, and 37 other buildings on 104 acres in the original village.

**Anne Lanning**

Vice President for Museum Affairs
Historic Deerfield Program Offerings, 2015-2016

Exhibitions

• Greek Gods, Roman Ideals: Neoclassicism and Style in Early America (July-February)
• Celebrating the Fiber Arts: The Helen Geier Flynt Textile Gallery
• Engraved Powder Horns from the French and Indian War and the American Revolution: The William H. Guthman Collection
• Into the Woods: Crafting Early American Furniture
• Furniture Masterworks: Tradition and Innovation in Western Massachusetts
• Natural Selections: Flora and the Arts (February 27, 2016-April 2, 2017)

Public Programs

Silken Threads and Shimmering Cloth (July-August)
Open Hearth Cooking Demonstrations (July; September-December; April-June)
Drop-in Tour: “Highlights of the Cooks’ Garden” (July)
Summer Lecture Series: Utopian Dreams in 19th-Century New England (July)
  • Shakers, Anti-Shakers and the Utopian Dream
  • Walden as Utopia
  • The Northampton Community and New England Utopianism in the 1840s

Free Fun Friday (August)
Archaeology Lab (September – November)
Friends of Historic Deerfield Trip (September)
Archaeology Day (October)
2015 ADA/Historic Deerfield Antiques Show (October)
Day of Giving (November)
17th-Century Life (November)
Wreath Making (December)

Historic Trade Demonstrations

• Dressmaking (October)
• Shoemaking (October)
• Silversmithing (October)
• Early-19th c. Medical Practice (October)
• White Pine Bark and Ash Bark Basketmaking (October)
• Tinsmithing (November)
• Architectural Woodworking (October)
• 18th-Century Cabinetmaking (October)
• Gunsmithing (October)
• Tailoring (October)
• Stoneware (October)
• Dressing and Spinning Flax (October)
• Blacksmithing (September)
• Coopering (October)
• Redware Pottery (October/November)
• Gravestone Carving (October)
• Paper Marbling (November)
• Letterpress Printing (December)

Focus Fridays (October)
• Old Burying Ground
• Desk and Bookcase/Secretary attributed to Cotton White
• Deerfield Society of Blue and White Needlework
• Two-handled covered Silver Cup by Gerritt Onckelbag
Historic Deerfield Program Offerings, 2015-2016

Heritage Holiday (December)
- Heritage Baking Day/Heritage Recipe Contest
- Open Hearth Cooking
- Gift Making
- Tavern Games
- Make Your Own Hot Chocolate Mix
- Horse-drawn Wagon Rides

Winter Lecture Series: In Harm’s Way: Conflict and Captivity
Before the French and Indian War
- Rethinking King Philip’s War in the Connecticut River Valley: Pushing Beyond Old Assumptions (January)
- Raiding and Captive Taking along the New England and New York Borders 1688-1748 (February)
- Colonization and Captivity in Native Space (March)
- The Line of Forts: An Eighteenth Century DEW Line (April)

Open Hearth Cooking Classes (February-March)
- Basics: From Hearth to Table
- Supper at the Hall Tavern: Special Evening Class
- Cooking with Gervase Markham: Exploring 17th-Century English Cooking
- Baking in the Beehive Oven
- Cooking with Hannah Glasse: The Quintessential English Cookbook of the 18th Century
- Cooking with Amelia Simmons: The First American Cookbook

Girl Scout Badge Days
- Pottery Badge for Brownies (November)
- Hearth Cooking for Scouts (January)
- Woodworker Badge (February)
- Gardener Badge (May)

Friends of Historic Deerfield Annual Meeting (April)
Patriot’s Day Revolutionary Muster and Parade (April)
Curiosity and Wonder: Exploring Collections (April-June)
Sweet as Sin: The Unwrapped Story of How Candy Became America’s Favorite Pleasure (Booksigning and Tasting) (May)

The Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife: New England at Sea: Maritime Memory and Material Culture (June)

**Academic/Educational Programs**

*Architectural Paints in Early New England Symposium (July)*

Road Scholar Program at Historic Deerfield: 600 Million Years of Natural History from Pangea to the Connecticut River Valley (July)

Road Scholar Program at Historic Deerfield: Stimulating Beverages: The History of Tea, Coffee, and Chocolate in Early America (September, March)

Historic Deerfield Decorative Arts Forum: Yankee Ingenuity and New England Decorative Arts, 1790-1840 (November)

Deerfield-Wellesley Symposium: Modernism in New England (March)

Museum Course: Early American Furniture: More than Meets the Eye (March)

Historic Deerfield Forum: Company’s Coming!: Artifacts and Rituals of Early New England Parlors (April)

**School Programs**

- 18th-Century Deerfield
- Colonial Life Long Ago
- Tea and Revolution
- A Day in a One-Room Schoolhouse
- The Apprentice’s Workshop
- Homeschool Harvest Day
Bartlett Powder Horn

Inscribed “NATHANIEL BARTLETT/HIS HORN/MADE BY HIM/IN/ALBANY/OCTOBER/THE 16 1755”

Cow horn
Museum Purchase with Funds Generously Donated by Elizabeth Stillinger in Memory of William H. Guthman, 2015.37.

This powder horn, which was made and engraved by its owner, Nathaniel Bartlett of Plymouth, Massachusetts, in the second year of the French and Indian War, depicts a lion wearing a crown, two soldiers dueling above a horse, and a fantastic mask with rosette terminal. Aside from documenting the work of a carver, the horn is important because it is accompanied by a rare woven military sash inscribed “NATHANIEL BARTLETT/OCTOBER 19 1771,” which was sold separately at the Guthman auction in 2006. The two are now reunited at Historic Deerfield.
Introduced into the American colonies around 1730, Freemasonry achieved great popularity after the American Revolution. Enthusiasm for this fraternal society grew alongside interest in the intellectual movement known as the Enlightenment and new theories on equality. Jewelry as well as other regalia played an important role in Masonic rituals and ceremonies. The symbols engraved on this medal are primarily drawn from the manual tools of stonemasons, such as the square and compass, the level and plumb rule, and the trowel. This medal also makes use of the pigpen or Masonic cipher, a simple geometric substitution code, which replaces each letter of the alphabet with a different symbol. The inscriptions translate as “I AM WHAT I AM” (1 Corinthians 15:10), and “LET THERE BE LIGHT AND THERE WAS LIGHT” (Genesis 1:3). This silver medal descended in the Putnam family of Connecticut and may have been owned by General Israel Putnam (1718-1790) of Pomfret.
Notebooks and Journals
Epaphras Hoyt (1765-1850)
Deerfield, Massachusetts, 1820-1849
Wove paper, ink
Partial funding provided by Margaret E.C. Howland, Ann Lord, and Deborah Dearborn.

The acquisition of a group of notebooks and journals kept by Epaphras Hoyt (1765-1850) during the period 1820-1849, has greatly expanded our knowledge of his many activities. Born in the Old Indian House, he became a leader in town and county affairs. Beyond holding numerous offices such as Postmaster, Justice of the Peace, and Sheriff of Franklin County, he represented Deerfield in the Massachusetts Assembly, taught at Deerfield Academy, worked as a surveyor, served as a general in the Massachusetts militia, and published on military theory and New England history. Hoyt was an avid reader and commented on a remarkable range of mathematical, scientific, and historical matters. A keen observer of regional and national events, he held strong political views and frequently wrote at length on the important issues of the day, including the Mexican War, education, Freemasonry, and the antislavery movement. His writings display an impressive vocabulary and vigorous intellect that set him apart from many of his peers and made him, in the words of Deerfield’s town historian George Sheldon, “a man of affairs.”

Glazed Sconce
Probably Salem, Massachusetts
1720-1740
Walnut, glass, brass
Hall and Kate Peterson Fund for Minor Antiques, 2016.2

This glazed sconce is inscribed on the reverse in ink: “Samuel Barnard/Born 1684/Died at Salem, Mass/1762.” It is walnut-veneered with its original glass and brass socket. Samuel Barnard (1684-1762) lived in Deerfield and survived the 1704 raid. In 1718 he married Sarah Williams (1695-1720). After his wife’s death, he moved to Salem where he became a successful merchant. After his death in 1762, Samuel Barnard left money in his will for the purchase of a silver tankard to be given to the First Church of Deerfield in his memory. His nephew Joseph Barnard of Deerfield purchased the tankard for the Church. The tankard was made by Paul Revere and it and its bill of sale are owned by Historic Deerfield (respectively 97.60.5 and 77.051).
Table-desk
Probably Springfield, Massachusetts, ca. 1690
Sugar maple, yellow pine, white pine, iron
Museum Purchase with partial funds given in memory of Lawrence L. Wagenseil, 2016.16

This unique form, a table-desk, retains its original iron hardware and wooden pulls, and traces of its original surface. It is a particularly important acquisition for Historic Deerfield because it was once owned by Reverend Jonathan Ashley’s (1712-1780) contemporary, Puritan minister Reverend Nehemiah Bull (1701-1740), who also lived in Westfield. In fact, Ashley may well have known the table-desk 300-plus years ago that now sits in his Deerfield house! One of the drawers bears the signature of Nehemiah Bull, which is verified through comparison with those on Bull’s day book in the collection of the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association. Reverend Bull was the father of Deerfield blacksmith and gunsmith John Partridge Bull (1731-1813).

Message Horn (cap missing)
Northeastern United States or Canada, 1750-1800
Cow horn

While most horns engraved like this example with fish and scrolls were used to store gunpowder, this one—only a little over 5” long—was made watertight and carried in a pocket or bag with the purpose of conveying messages. Its brass nails might otherwise have been used in 18th-century upholstery. The owner, “WV,” is now anonymous but we might imagine him carrying an important dispatch to Wolfe or Washington during the French and Indian War or the American Revolution!
**Dressing Table**
Probably painted by “Mrs. Annie Johnson”
Probably Middletown, Connecticut, about 1810.
Eastern white pine, paint and glass
Gift of the Hascoe Charitable Foundation, 2015.20

This elegant dressing table, complete with an adjustable looking glass and storage box mortised into the top, was signed in graphite “Mrs. Annie Johnson,” who was apparently the skilled ornamental painter. The artwork, far from naïve, depicts molded panels and trophies of musical instruments. The dressing table is related to similar furniture from Middletown owned by the Winterthur Museum. The furniture was inspired by English examples that remind us that white was also a popular choice for neoclassical furniture.
Chest of Drawers
George Belden (1770-1838)
Hartford, Connecticut, 1790
Cherry, white pine, brass
Gift of Stephen and Wendy Gaal, 2016.20.1

The interior of this chest of drawers is extensively inscribed in graphite by George Belden, who was probably born in East Hartford in 1770. It is speculated that he apprenticed in the Aaron Chapin shop in Hartford and then served as a journeyman there before setting up his own shop in East Windsor in 1793. Christina Vida, former curator at Windsor Historical Society, has established that Belden had a long career in East Windsor from 1793 until the mid-1830s, and that he was most likely the town’s preeminent cabinetmaker during this period. In addition to being a cabinetmaker, Belden served in the Connecticut militia, rising to the rank of Captain. The ogee bracket feet are attached to the case with a so-called quadrant base, each attached to its own large, quarter-round pad with a tongue and groove joint. This large foot structure is representative of case pieces made in the Hartford area around this time.
When two or more colors of clay are combined to make a variegated or marbled body, it is often called agateware. This example is a piece of “thrown” agateware: an object formed on a wheel using a prepared mixture of various colored clays. While the earliest documented agateware is found among the products of John Dwight of Fulham, commercial production of English agateware does not begin until the second quarter of the 18th century. In 1729, Samuel Bell, owner of the Lower Street Potworks in Newcastle-under-Lyme, was granted a patent to produce “red marbled stoneware with mineral earth found within this kingdom which being firmly united by fire will make it capable of receiving a gloss so beautiful as to imitate if not compare with ruby.” Thrown agate reached its height of popularity in the 1750s and continued in production into the early 1770s.

Eighteenth-century tea drinkers typically stored their leaves in covered tea canisters to keep them dry and free from unwanted odors. Most tea canisters were left undecorated or enhanced with simple painted floral designs; this unusual creamware tea canister depicts a scene from an illustration in John Gay’s *Fables*, “The Gardener and the Hog” (1727). This fable tells the story of a gardener who treated a hog like a pet. The natural instincts of the beast emerged; the animal got drunk, ruined the flower beds, and attacked his master. The moral was “He who cherishes a brutal mate shall mourn the folly soon or late.” These “Gardener and Hog” tea canisters are extremely rare forms in English pottery, and were made exclusively in creamware.

In 2013, Historic Deerfield was awarded $71,722 from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to conduct a General Conservation Survey of 18 buildings and their collections. The physical process of surveying was an opportunity for staff working with a team of outside consultants to re-evaluate the environments where we display, store, and preserve our rich collections of New England decorative arts and the historic structures that often house them. The consultants made prioritized recommendations for the care of collections and the improvement of climatic conditions. They also provided training in preservation and conservation issues to staff and the public.

The resulting General Conservation Survey report included a 40-page summary with a review of Historic Deerfield’s current policies and individual reports for each house or museum building visited. The Survey pointed out several areas of concern, such as improving the environmental conditions (such as light, temperature, and humidity) in the historic houses, making better use of our current storage and work spaces, achieving environmental and intellectual control of collections in barns, and increasing Curatorial and Maintenance Department staffing levels.

The results of the report were used by a staff committee to create a new Long-Range Conservation Plan for Collections and Historic Structures, which was completed in 2016. The purpose of this Long Range Conservation Plan is to guide the Curatorial and Maintenance Departments in carrying
out the museum’s preservation mission. The goal is to make the best use of the museum’s resources by following a clear plan based on an integration of all collections’ needs and on institutional priorities. The plan serves as a road map in carrying out preservation actions and in keeping the museum’s preservation activities on track. Also, it serves as a tool in fundraising, illustrating that resources are being used in a responsible way to meet the highest priority needs. The plan will be updated regularly to keep it current and to document progress. The Long Range Plan also contains a section to document work completed and our successes – no matter how minor.

Recent conservation successes include the museum’s receipt of two NEH Preservation Assistance for Small Museum Grants: one for additional environmental monitoring equipment (2014) and the other for emergency preparedness planning for collections and a training workshop for staff in salvage techniques (2015). As of May 2016, the IMLS grant was completed, but the work goes on.

Amanda Lange
Curatorial Department Director and Curator of Historic Interiors
**Ongoing Funding Priorities**

**Preservation Projects—$100,000.** We seek preservationists to help fund ongoing historic preservation of the museum’s houses and structures. With Barnard Tavern scheduled for completion in 2017, the museum looks forward to its next major restoration project: the Stebbins House. Named endowment funds of $100,000 or more will help assure the preservation of specific historic properties in perpetuity.

**Public Historian/Director of Academic Programs—$2.4 million.** We seek to endow the museum’s resident academic leader position—Historic Deerfield’s Public Historian—who serves as an Adjunct Professor of History at the Five Colleges and oversees the Summer Fellowship Program in Early American History and Material Culture, the Historic Deerfield-Wellesley College Symposium in Early American History and Material Culture, the summer lecture series, staff research, and college field visits.

**Conservation Initiative.** We seek donors to help launch our largest collection preservation initiative in nearly three decades. A recent study of the museum’s collection and historic buildings, while giving us high marks in many areas, also identified problems and risks that we are eager to address. With 28,000 objects, 55 structures, and 12 historic houses in need of ongoing care, this is no small task. We ask that you help us launch this initiative with a generous gift.

**Methods**

Historic Deerfield is fortunate to have many benefactors committed to the preservation of the cultural heritage of Deerfield and western New England. Their generous support takes the form of:

- Outright contributions of cash or appreciated stock, including multi-year pledges of support
- Bequests and in-kind gifts to the collection
- Gifts providing lifetime income to donors or others the donor names called life-income vehicles, including Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts

For more information on giving priorities, methods of giving, and recommended language for testamentary gifts, please be in touch with:

**David H. Barclay**  
Director of Development  
413-775-7177  
dbarclay@historic-deerfield.org
The maintenance department continues to do a wonderful job maintaining our historic buildings with limited resources. Under the direction of George Holmes, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, and Bill Flynt, Architectural Conservator, a number of projects are well underway and new initiatives always arise. Most of these activities are behind the scenes where our visitors never see them but indirectly enjoy the benefits. The mild winter provided an opportunity to mark a number of projects off the list—attics were cleaned, sashes and storm windows repaired, and much needed painting was completed. Progress was made in replacing light bulbs and fixtures with LED lighting, thus providing better quality lighting while saving energy and reducing disposal costs. Air conditioning was installed in the Deerfield Community Center and ongoing work continues on many of our historic buildings, including the Barnard Tavern, Stebbins House, the Wilson Print Shop, and the Wells-Thorn House.

The Museum Gift Shop and Bookstore, under the direction of Tina Harding, experienced a four percent increase in sales over the prior year. Wholesale sales of hurdy gurdies increased 20% over last year. Nostalgic and patriotic tunes remain the largest sellers with “You Are My Sunshine” topping the list, followed by “The Star Spangled Banner.” The gift shop also added a glass-topped wooden display box made in India to the store’s offerings. This add-on item enables customers to turn their hurdy gurdy into an attractive desk accessory. Food and books continue to remain strong components of the shop’s sales. The new featured book table, where books sell at 30-70% off retail prices, generated sales of 685 books at a gross profit margin of 71%.

Revenues at the Deerfield Inn and Champney’s Restaurant & Tavern increased ten percent over the prior year, with significant growth seen in the food and beverage department. Under the direction of Innkeepers Jane Howard and Karl Sabo, house guests and restaurant patrons enjoyed excellent rooms, food, service and amenities. Chef Ameer Whitmyer continues to offer seasonal menus with locally sourced ingredients and Champney’s has enjoyed excellent food reviews. The inn remains a popular destination for small weddings and other special events.

Susan Martinelli
Vice President for Business Affairs
## Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition

### At June 30, 2016

### Assets

#### Current Assets
- Cash and equivalents: $248,462
- Accounts receivable: $31,366
- Gifts and grants receivable: $22,533
- Inventories: $429,288
- Prepaid expenses: $60,066

**Total Current Assets**: $791,715

- Investments, net of loan of $2,909,201: $50,550,872
- Property and equipment, net: $1,083,235
- Other assets: $28,316

**Total Assets**: $62,454,138

### Liabilities

#### Current Liabilities
- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities: $410,130
- Deferred revenue: $236,733
- Current portion of debt: $104,500

**Total Current Liabilities**: $751,363

- Long term debt: $579,045

**Total Liabilities**: $1,330,408

### Net Assets

- Unrestricted: $32,484,962
- Unrestricted - board designated: $618,093
- Temporarily restricted: $24,496,502
- Permanently restricted: $3,524,173

**Total net assets (deficit)**: $61,123,730

**Total liabilities and net assets (deficit)**: $62,454,138

## Operating Statement

### July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

### Revenue, Gains and Other Support

- Museum admissions: $117,918
- Other museum related income: $178,338
- Academic program income: $8,945
- Museum store sales: $333,751
- Deerfield Inn: $2,574,013
- Rent: $142,139
- Gifts and grants: $3,043,874
- Net investment income: $1,112,585
- Net realized gain (loss) on investments: $(1,950,243)
- Increase (Decrease) in unrealized appreciation on investments: $(1,934,629)
- Miscellaneous income: $23,947
- Change in value of trusts: $(957,462)

**Total Revenue, Gains and Other Support**: $2,693,176

### Expenses and Losses

- Museum operations: $867,182
- Museum education: $501,289
- Academic programs: $120,995
- Library: $191,568
- Special events: $34,773
- Rental operations: $127,046
- Properties maintenance: $655,803
- Administrative and general: $1,013,670
- Inn administrative support services: $110,795
- Development: $320,847
- Marketing: $337,590
- Visitor services: $36,963
- Museum store cost of sales and expense: $360,443
- Deerfield Inn: $2,698,871

**Total Expenses and Losses**: $7,377,835

**Revenue (under) over expenditures and changes in net assets**: $(4,684,659)

### Net assets at beginning of year: $65,999,855

**Net assets before changes related to collection items not capitalized**: $61,315,195

### Changes in net assets related to collection items not capitalized:

- **Net assets, end of year**: $61,123,730
# Summary Operating Statements

## July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Museum Operations</td>
<td>$3,244,450</td>
<td>$3,559,087</td>
<td>$3,666,700</td>
<td>$4,393,290</td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum Gift Shop</td>
<td>246,702</td>
<td>294,250</td>
<td>321,980</td>
<td>333,751</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deerfield Inn</td>
<td>806,236</td>
<td>2,205,467</td>
<td>2,284,353</td>
<td>2,549,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,297,388</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,058,804</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,273,033</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,276,255</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Museum Operations</td>
<td>$3,359,325</td>
<td>$3,611,894</td>
<td>$4,477,848</td>
<td>3,841,459</td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum Gift Shop</td>
<td>275,363</td>
<td>282,049</td>
<td>349,306</td>
<td>349,181</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deerfield Inn</td>
<td>1,079,508</td>
<td>2,105,253</td>
<td>2,286,575</td>
<td>2,493,983</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,714,196</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,999,196</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,113,729</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,684,623</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(416,808)</td>
<td>59,608</td>
<td>(840,696)</td>
<td>591,632</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Depreciation Expense                  | 532,357     | 584,369     | 584,889     | 579,467     |

| Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)         | $ (949,165) | $ (524,761) | $ (1,425,585) | $12,165     |
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Mary-Ellen O’Connor, Server
Emily E. Olczewski, Special Events Asst/Server
Polane V. Paniago, Server
Anthony M. Pascoe, Line Cook
Tyrell C. Plumb, Dishwasher
Scott A. Porter, Line Cook
Carrie A. Purcell, Front Desk
Kristopher N. Quiles, Line Cook
Alexis M. Reynolds, Housekeeping
Joshua D. Rock, Sous Chef
David E. Rose, Dishwasher
Andrew W. Seguin, Line Cook
Jasmine Serrano, Busser
Joseph J. Shatta, Maintenance
Nicole R Stafford, Hostess
Ciara N. Staiger, Hostess
Donald J. Sullivan, Prep Cook
Lisa M. Taylor, Housekeeping
Angelina D. Tenney, Server
Christopher J. Thomas, Dishwasher
Savannah M. Thornton, Busser
Nanci Ann M. Trott, Hostess/Front Desk
Deanne E. Ursia, Events Server
Jonathan M. Viens, Server
Aidan M. Waldron, Dishwasher
Casey M. Wallner, Line Cook
Daniel J. Walsh, Dishwasher
Hope Watroba, Server
Marcie L. White, Front Desk

Photos from left: Deerfield Inn Staff. Peter Schelfhaudt, Jane Howard, Barbara James, Mary Dangremond.
Trustees and Museum Staff

Emily L. Wholey, Dining Room Manager
Jane Wholey, Housekeeping/Groundskeeper
Errin J. Woessner, Line Cook
Alan J. Yebemetsky, Maintenance
Naomi K. Zeitz, Hostess

Museum Store
Tina Harding, Manager
Catherine A. Gamble
Barbara J. Goodhind
Martha J. Hemenway
Mary Ruddock
Barbara Sackman
Nancy A. Wood
Justin N. McDonald, Food Cart Cook
Jonathan M. Ventura, Food Cart Cook

Bartels Interns
Paithan C. Campbell
Milada C. Cook
Ezra J. Orlnsky
Emily P. Wells

2016 Summer Fellows
Kaitlin N. Costley, Assistant Tutor
Daniel Center
Bryn Cooley
Pheobe Cos
Midori Kawaue
Allyson Laforge
Samuel Schiffer

Credits: Images that appear in the Annual Report by Penny Leveritt, David Barclay, Laurie Nivison.

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On Friday, May 13, 2016, Historic Deerfield honored Massachusetts Cultural Council Executive Director Anita Walker with the museum’s President’s Award. This award is presented to the individual whose outstanding support and consistent collaboration has helped Historic Deerfield fulfill its mission. In addition, the museum chose Walker to recognize her statewide advocacy for arts and cultural organizations. The award was presented at the museum’s annual awards dinner.

“Anita Walker has been an aggressive and effective advocate for arts and cultural organizations in the Commonwealth for nearly a decade,” said Philip Zea, Historic Deerfield’s President. “She has worked closely with legislative leaders to increase funding and publicize the major impact that these organizations hold on tourism and the state’s economy at large. Her contribution has been profound.”

Ms. Walker has served as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) since April 2007. She is the Commonwealth’s highest ranking cultural official, overseeing a range of grant programs, services, and advocacy for the arts, humanities, and sciences in communities across Massachusetts.

Walker has raised the visibility of the nonprofit creative sector as a driving force for growth and prosperity in Massachusetts. She led advocacy for the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund (CFF), which has invested $82 million in arts and cultural building projects statewide over eight years. CFF grants leverage more than $1.9 billion in spending on cultural building projects, providing more than 19,000 jobs, restoring many important historic structures, and attracting more than 18 million cultural tourists to Massachusetts annually. Walker also launched MCC’s Cultural Districts Initiative to help cities and towns attract new visitors and commerce through new arts and cultural activity. And she led the creation of a new Cultural Investment Portfolio for more than 400 outstanding nonprofit arts, humanities, and science organizations.
Mission Statement

Historic Deerfield, Inc., is dedicated to the heritage and preservation of Deerfield, Massachusetts and the Connecticut River Valley. Its museums and programs provide today’s audiences with experiences that create an understanding and appreciation of New England’s historic villages and countryside.