

# NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

Issue 149  
February 2023  
Editor  
Gail M Cramer

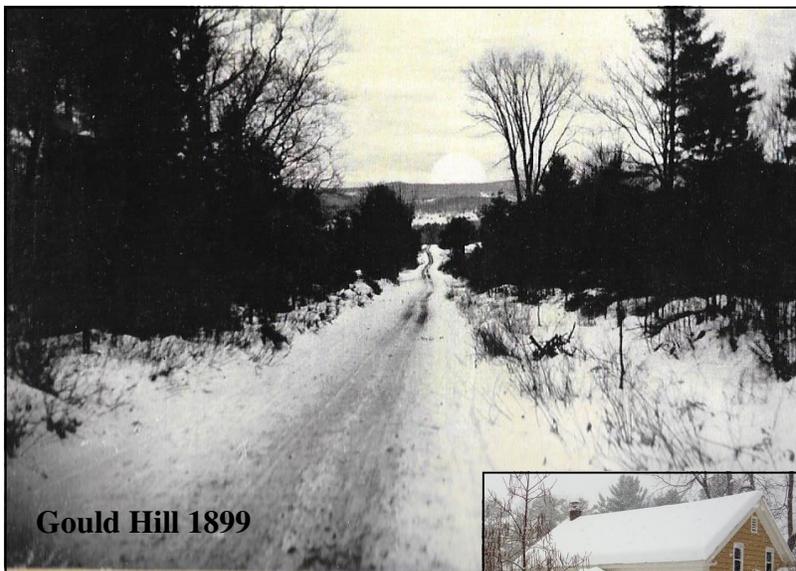


## GOULD HILL

Pronounced Goo-ell

Where did it get its name from?

Rev. Joseph S. Gould lived at the foot of the hill, He was ordained at the Northville Baptist Church in 1888. He and his wife Catherine had two children; Mary and David. His salary in 1891 was \$600. a year. Rev. Gould was born 1830 and died in 1907. The Gould's house is now **The Orendaga** on the Northville Little Lake.



Gould Hill 1899



Picture by permission from Orendaga



Gould Hill in 2023

## MUSEUM

Two new items for the museum. Last year Katie and Patrick Fitzgerald donated some theater chairs from the Star theater. There were 4 seats connected to each other but all in very bad shape. Larry was able to make one good one out of the group. He took them all apart, found one seat cushion in good shape but very faded and the leather was crazed. He painted the seat with fabric paint. The leather in the back of the seat needed to be replaced. He was able to get enough fabric from one of the other seat cushions to insert into the back of the better seat. He painted that also with fabric paint. Come into the museum this Spring and take a look at the seat, maybe it's the one you sat in years ago.



## MUSEUM CONTINUED

The benches that were on Main Street for many many years were replaced a few years ago. Remember the old ones? The old benches were disposed of except for one that was rescued and was given to the Historical Society. It was in very poor condition, unsafe to sit on.

We felt it was worth saving. After sitting in our garage for about a year, L. C. took it apart, sawed up some boards the size of the old boards, painted it, and it is now at the museum ready to be placed outside the museum this Spring.



*Another bench has been located*



Esther  
And  
Grant

Edgar  
Palmer  
husband of  
Esther and  
father of  
Grant



## THE PALMER HOUSE

221 South Main Street

Abt. 1898



Edgar and Esther Cole Palmer built this house circa 1898. They had one child, Andrew "Grant" Palmer, who always went by the name Grant. Esther and Edgar were very social people and of course very well known in the village. Newspaper articles often mention social events taking place at their home. I remember Esther, she was a very elegant, proper lady, and very fashionable. She was quite the amateur photographer and very active in the Baptist Church. I also remember Grant working in the hardware store.

## Interesting facts about the Palmers

Benjamin and Joseph Palmer journeyed to NYS in the year 1842 from Haverhill, Mass. They were identical twins. They settled in Parkville (AKA The Dam) which was a small settlement about 1/2 mile north of the village of Northville. They built houses next to each other along the banks of the Sacandaga River at Parkville. Benjamin was a tinsmith and mason.

Benjamin was married 3 times producing 1 child by his first and 1 by his second wife and 10 children by Sarah who moved with him to Parkville/Northville.

Andrew was one of Benjamin's children who with Edward Allen partnered to form the Allen and Palmer Hardware Store in 1870.

Andrew's son, Edgar married Esther Cole. Edgar became a partner with Allen after Andrew died in 1891.

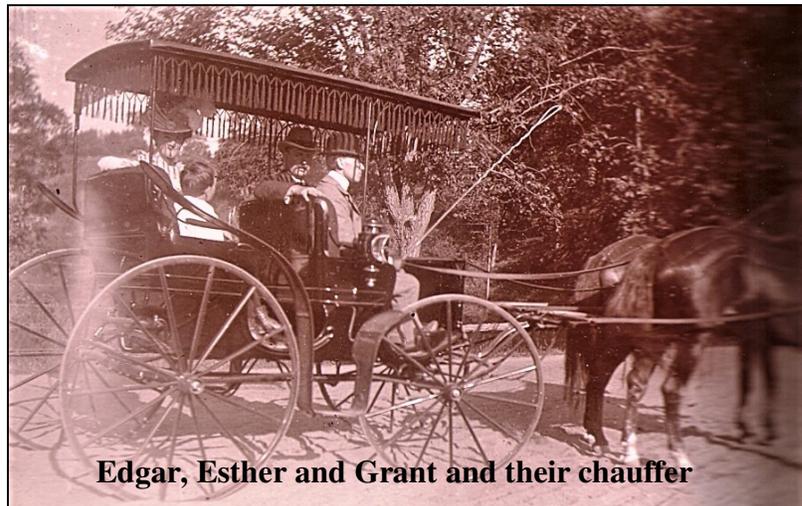
Edgar and Esther Cole (builder of the house at 221 South Main Street) had one son, Andrew "Grant" Palmer.

Grant contracted polio, which left him severely physically handicapped but never-the-less worked in the hardware store for 45 years until he retired in 1960.

Grant and his wife, Alice, didn't have any children. Grant was the last in the line of Palmers to be connected to the Hardware store.

Genealogy: Benjamin, Andrew, Edgar, then A. Grant

History about the Hardware store another time.

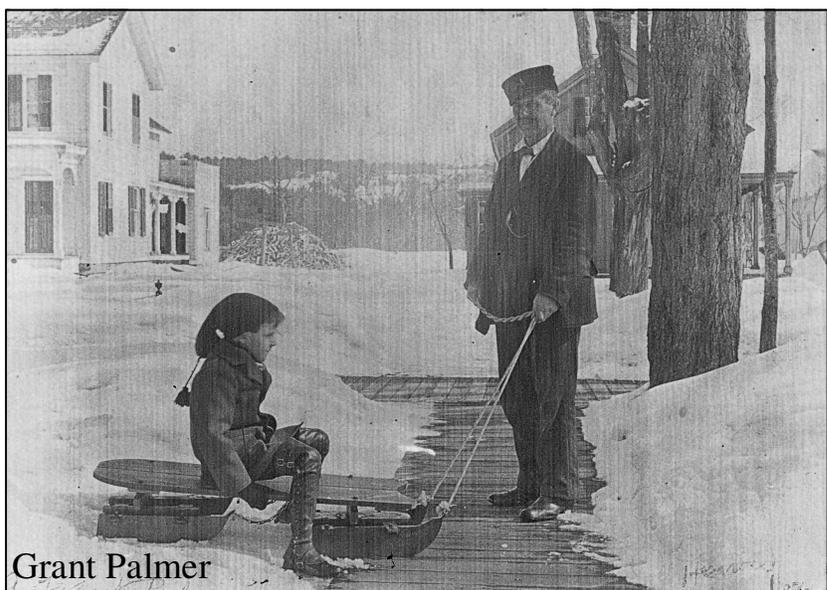


Edgar, Esther and Grant and their chauffer



Mary and Andrew Palmer  
Edgar's parents

Edgar with his son A. Grant



Grant Palmer

Charlotte Palmer, one of Benjamin and Sarah's daughters married Daniel S. Lawton. They had one daughter, Daisy. This is a letter from Daisy to her daughter.

*"This old stool came from Haverhill, Massachusetts near Boston with my grandmother, Sarah Parker when she was 16. She married Benjamin Palmer, a widower with two sons. He and his identical twin brother Joseph, (who when he was born had a small gold ring put in his ear to tell them apart) and they still looked exactly alike when they were old men. They came to a place called The Dam, about 1/2 mile above Northville and each bought a house for his wife on adjoining lots on the bank of the Sacandaga River. In summer she took her laundry to the river! My grandfather was a tin-smith and had a little shop where he made tin cooking dishes. They had 10 children. He taught his older son Andrew his trade who later became co-owner of our present Allen and Palmer Hardware Store.*

*Benjamin and Sarah's 10 children: Andrew, Addison, Duane, Sarah Elizabeth, Mary Jane, Amanda, Emma, Charlotte (my mom) Sarah, and Jane.*

*Grandma (Sarah) was a little brown-eyed lady, a good cook and housekeeper. Loved to piece quilts and make rugs and a good nurse or midwife on baby cases.*

*This stool isn't a real antique now. I gave it to a carpenter to repair one leg and he put new legs on it, darn him. Hope you like it." Mom (Daisy)*

# Defense Council Now Organized

1942  
Volunteers May Sign  
Up at Office Every  
Day Except Saturday

NORTHVILLE — The Defense Council held its organizational meeting Thursday night in the Central School. Officers were elected and plans for the full enrollment of all volunteers for defense were completed. The meeting was presided over by Elmer Cole, as acting chairman. The registration and information center will be located in the offices of the Hudson River Regulating District Board at North Main street. The office will be open daily from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M., except on Saturday.

The officers of the Defense Council are:

Chairman, Harry Drake; first vice chairman, William R. Smith; second vice chairman, Elmer Cole; Health and Sanitation, Dr. J. Edward Grant; chief air raid warden Robert Mahar; fire warden, Lorin Crannell; police, Clarence Davison; evacuation and evacuees, Graham Olmstead; transportation, John Houghtaling; secretary, Harry Brownell; publicity chairman, Mrs. E. M. Blackmer.

## Did you know?

\*In 1915/1920 There was a building on the east side of Sport Island (it wasn't called Sport Island at the time) where people with smallpox had to stay/be quarantined until they no longer had the disease.

\*Men that dug the graves before the flooding of the Sacandaga Valley were quarantined during the time they were working to remove the bodies because of possibility of contracting diseases from the graves. Contagious diseases/germs can be found in the ground/corpse for years.