

East Orford Schools Timeline/Selected News Items

Compiled by Art Pease, 2024

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Building on south side of 25-A, opposite East Cemetery Road
- 1833 – Mt. Cube School in operation. About opposite Mt. Cube House *[no known photos]*
- 1849 – 24 students in Mt. Cube School
- 1871 – 39 pupils in Davistown school *[most on record]*
- 1879 – Approximately 20 students; teachers paid \$17/month. Miss Emily Strong taught for three or four terms. She later taught at the Wisconsin Normal School in Milwaukee for years.
- 1884 – Mabel Sherburn *[Glenn Pease's mother]* had perfect attendance for summer and winter terms.
- 1887 – 23 pupils in Mt. Cube school *[most on record; often only 4-6 in 1880s.]*
- 1894 – Mt. Cube School no longer used, sold in 1896.
- 1903 – New building erected in 1903. At least part of the old building was moved across the road onto the Tibbett's/Nutter place. The 1904 Town Report notes that the "scholars at Davistown seem to have taken a greater interest in their work since entering the new schoolhouse."
- 1920 – Glenn Pease had perfect attendance during 1919-1921. *[If he had stayed home, Grampa would have put him to work on the farm!]*
- 1935 – East Orford school closed *[12 students in last few years]*, students bussed to Orfordville School
- 1937 – Lucy Worthington bought Davistown building.
- 1942 – Building used at Mt. Cube Medical Defense Station.
- 1951- Gerald and Doris Pease bought the building and converted it into their home. Later owned, in order, by Duane Belt, Frank Pushee, Michael Carter and _____.

From:

- "Exploring Orford's Early Schools" Schmidt 1911
- "Exploring Orford's Early Schools" Tour Handout, 2011
- "Orford School District #7 – Davistown", Harry Pease, 2011
- "East Orford Schools News Items, 1978-1971", Art Pease, 2024
- "Going to School in East Orford," Ruth Ladd Brown, 2009
- "East Orford Schools, Tchrs, Pupils, Weeks of School," Art Pease, 2024
- "Orford Elementary Schools Curriculum Notes," Art Pease, 2024

1878-1899

5/18/1878 Orford Plymouth, NH, *Grafton County Journal*

•Miss Metta Gault [*Suncook, PNS '78*], who recently graduated from the Normal school, begins her school in the east part of town this week. [*If Davistown, Grammy Mabel Sherburn Pease would have been one of her students.*]

9\12\90 East Orford Littleton, N.H., *White Mtn. Republic and Journal*

•The school house has been somewhat repaired the past week.

3\10\93 East Orford Littleton, N.H., *White Mtn. Republic and Journal*

•Mrs. J.H. Sargent has closed her 7th term of school in this district. We concluded by the appearance of the school at the close of the term, that both teacher and scholars had worked very hard, or such progress could not have been made; reading, which is often neglected, has been made a study. The number of scholars enrolled this term was 17. Absent 1-2 days, 1, and 12 names on the roll of honor as follows: Stella Randall, Nellie Randall, Ada Gilman, Cora Veazey, May Gray, Alfred Currier, Johnny Chase, Leslie Gray, Ralph Ramsey, Arthur Rollins, Alfred Rollins, and George Rollins.

1900-1919

5\18\1900, Atwell Hill Warren, N.H., *Warren News*

•There is to be a temperance meeting at East Orford, Saturday evening

Note: The meetings in East Orford, unless listed as at a person's home, took place in the school house]

7\13\1900, Atwell Hill Warren, N.H., *Warren News*

•East Orford school closed Tuesday by uniting with our hill picnic and entertainment. The large delegation, good order, prompt recitations, interspersed with excellent singing, showed the faithfulness of the teacher, Florence Carr, Orford.

5\10\1901, Atwell Hill Warren, N.H., *Warren News*

•Church held its yearly meeting with E. Orford brethren and sisters Wednesday evening at schoolhouse, re-electing old board of officers.

10\24\1902, Atwell Hill-Wentworth Warren, N.H., *Warren News*

•The Harvest Concert which was to have been held by the East Orford Sunday school and adjourned on account of the funeral of Mrs. Mary Simpson, was held last Sabbath at 2:20 p.m., and was largely attended. The house was beautifully decorated with bunting, evergreens, etc. Among the exhibits were a large variety of children to the number of about 30, a good variety of "Pease" for which the place is famous, sunflowers whose stalks measured over ten feet, bearing enormous heads, cow horn potatoes, four of which measured three feet in length. The exercises were fine, being rendered mostly by children. Remarks were made by Elder H.P. Adams and Henry Chase. [*The 'good variety of "Pease" for which the place is famous' would have been Della, 14, Edna, 11, Gladys, 8, and Vernie, 7, all daughters of Francis R. and Mabel Sherburn Pease. Perhaps also Eva, 4, daughter of Chase and Julia Pease.*]

3\20\03 Orfordville Bradford, Vermont, *United Opinion*

•School meeting voted to build a school house in Davis town and raised \$1,000 for the same.

Francis Pease diary:

8\5\03 Went to Warren and got a load of boards for the School house had 1200 ft at 3.00 a thousand for drawing

8\6\03 went to Warren got boards had 1500

3\18\1904, Atwell Hill-Wentworth Warren, N.H., *Warren News*

•The funeral services of Grace E., daughter of Harry and Nettie Saunders was held at East Orford new school-house Friday at 11 a.m. and was well attended. Elder H.E. Howard officiated. The little casket was decked with appropriate floral tributes and her remains deposited in the cemetery nearby.

11\17\1905, Atwell Hill-Wentworth Warren, N.H., *Warren News*

•W.T.U. meets at East Orford school-house this Saturday evening for a meeting.

3\1/1907 Orford Bradford, Vt. *United Opinion*

•Mertie Bedell closed her school at East Orford last week and has gone to work in the telephone office at Piermont.

6\5\13 Orford Hanover *Gazette*

•Miss Addie Bedell was at home from her school in Davistown over Sunday. She was accompanied by her pupil, Eva Pease [*Sister of Addie's future husband, Clarence.*]

8\12\27 East Orford Bradford, Vt., *United Opinion*

•The schoolhouse at East Orford is being painted.

6\5\31 East Orford Bradford, Vt., *United Opinion*

•Bertram Bean motored to Niagara Falls the last of the week with Carrie J. Bean, teacher of East Orford school, and Mr. Mack, to give her graduate a trip. Mrs. Glenn Pease went with them. [*Delbert Mack was the only 8th grade graduate from East Orford. I wouldn't be surprised if Carrie Bean boarded at the farm and would have gotten to know Ma.*]

3\15\35 Orfordville Bradford, Vt., *United Opinion*

•School meeting was in the afternoon. Mrs. Alice Bean was put back in on the school board. The children of East Orford and Mount Cube schools are to be brought to Orfordville. [*Howard just missed walking down the hill to school - he started first grade in September, 1935.*]

6\26\42 Orfordville [deferred] Bradford, Vt., *United Opinion*

•Two years ago, two ladies [*Alice Herrin and Lucy Worthington*], summer residents of East Orford, bought the schoolhouse which had not been used for several years. This year, they decided to make it a First Aid Station to be used in case of an air raid or for persons injured in farm or forest fire accidents. It has four beds, a complete kitchen, electric blankets and equipment for shock treatment. The house has been painted and has the service of a retired surgeon now, an all year resident of East Orford, Dr. Harold Baker, who for twenty years taught in the Harvard Medical School. Everyone is anxious to do all they can for this enterprise and are proud to have such a fully equipped station in our town. We extend our sincere thanks to the ladies who made in possible.

•Several ladies met at the first aid station in East Orford last Friday and rolled bandages. At an opening in the evening, the ladies who made all this possible served cake and ice cream to a good-sized crowd. [*As a little kid, I loved to go visit Alice and Lucy with Dad and Ma, when they would always give me some ice cream, served in heavy stone or ceramic bowls.*]

10\30\42 Orfordville Bradford, Vt., *United Opinion*

•A very interesting quilt exhibit was held at the Mt. Cube Medical Defense Center last Thursday afternoon. 29 quilts were exhibited. Prizes were given for three classes, the best in the oldest group, some of which were over one hundred years old, the best workmanship and the most delightful to the eye. The prize money was turned over to the churches. [*I wonder if Ma or Grammy exhibited any.*]

5\6\43 Orfordville Hanover *Gazette*

•The Field Exercise held Friday was termed successful. The warning was received at 2:20 and lasted approximately one hour. Incidents were taken either to the Mt. Cube Medical Center or Mrs. Warren's. The Orfordville School was completely demolished by "bombs," calling for the aid of the Fire Department and medical units. [*I wonder if the War Dept really thought the German's might have or develop a long-range bomber or if this was a generic type of exercise. Don't imagine Orford was on any list of priority targets!*]

5\20\43 Orfordville Hanover, N.H., *Gazette*

•A meeting of all First Aiders was held at the Mt. Cube Medical Defense Center in order that any mistakes made in the recent Field Exercises could be corrected.

11\18\43 Orfordville Hanover, N.H., *Gazette*

•The meeting held at the Mt. Cube Medical Defense Station last Friday was for the purpose of rolling and packing bandages into small bundles.

10\11\51 Orford Hanover, N.H., *Gazette*

•A bridal shower was given Miss Doris Quackenbush at the Town Hall in Orfordville Friday evening. Miss Quackenbush and Mr. Gerald Pease will be married early next month. [*After living with Doris' parents for a few months, they moved into the old schoolhouse which they had bought from Lucy Worthington.*]

6\24\71 Orford Granite State *Gazette*

•Mr. and Mrs. Duane Best and three children of Lexington, Mass., spent the weekend at their home here, which they recently purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Pease.

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