

Documenting Recreation and Tourism in New England

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Abstract: New England tourism is more than a century old, but historians have only recently begun to write about it, and about the related field of recreation. At first limited to the summer, tourism now flourishes in every season; once limited to the leisure class, it is now available to nearly everyone, and ethnic, racial, and religious exclusion has been reduced. Sources for tourism and recreation are either lacking or hard to find. This article describes some types of tourism, its history, and existing documentation of various kinds of resorts and recreational activities, and points to the possibilities for and difficulties of a documentation strategy.

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NEW ENGLAND—WITH ITS mountains, beaches, streams, and ponds, and with hundreds of places redolent of history—has become a year-round playground for both its own residents and many thousands of visitors annually. Tourism and recreation, although not considered subjects for serious study until recently, are worthy of scholarly and archival attention because, as the workweek continues to shrink and disposable time to increase, leisure-time activities will only grow in importance in this and other regions.¹

Tourism is travel for recreation, or the business of managing tourists. Recreation is activity in leisure time, which relaxes tensions and refreshes body and spirit. Tourism may involve travel only to and from the place of recreation, or travel and sight-seeing may be the principal activities. The division between tourism and recreation is not always sharp; both are considered here, as are combinations of leisure with work (such as artists' retreats) and of leisure with religion (camp meetings). A group undertaking a formal documentation strategy might choose a narrower focus, but this essay is intended as an overview, combining a discussion of some general characteristics of tourism and recreation, and of the history of tourism in the region, with descriptions of existing sources and the difficulties of finding them, and some suggestions for improved documentation and better description of sources.

Characteristics of Tourism

The impulse to visit places of special religious or historical significance appears to be universal; far-flung examples are Chaucer's pilgrims, the once-in-a-lifetime journey to Mecca, the climb up Fujiyama. In each case the visitor hopes to experience the sacred quality of the place, but there is

also an element of enjoyment, of recreation. More recently, the historical geography of important places to visit has often been artificial, deriving from the deliberate treatment of the landscape as a scarce commodity instead of as universally available to humanity. To historical and religious sites are added the wonders of nature; the latter-day pilgrim comes home with a new bumper sticker: "This car climbed Mount Washington."

The word "tourism" came into popular use recently. The *Oxford English Dictionary* shows a first use in 1811, with a century of increasing frequency, "usually deprecatory" because the leisure class decried the invasion of its grounds by Cockney tourism. This underscores the fact that the industrial revolution, one of the consequences of which was compartmentalized leisure, came one-half century earlier in England than in the United States. It also emphasizes the wish for exclusiveness, one of the hallmarks of a leisure class that has had its effect even on latter-day tourism.

The wealthy have always been able to pay for space in the places they chose as special; space is the one essential ingredient of the exclusive resort, with its attendant quiet and its business and social advantages of selective contacts. Some resorts monopolize all the private land of a valley or around a lake, as at St. Hubert's, the Adirondack League Club's large tract that includes several lakes, or Waterville Valley, New Hampshire; others have the sole concession in an area. Some space is won by paying for expensive transportation, and costly equipment and membership fees help assure an exclusive clientele.

Restrictive policies can also make a resort a scarce and desirable commodity. In the late nineteenth century, as wages began to rise above subsistence, the working

¹Among scholarly works on tourism and recreation are two masters' theses on tourism and two on skiing at the University of Vermont; Earl Pomeroy, *In Search of the Golden West: The Tourist in Western America* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1957); and portions of the author's Ph.D. dissertation, "Urban Penetration of Rural Vermont, 1840-80," Harvard University, 1952.

classes for the first time could afford to escape from the hot city in summer. Cheap and rapid transportation, then paid vacations, and finally the two-day weekend made pleasure travel increasingly open to working people. Resorts then raised three kinds of barriers against them and other “undesirables”: outright exclusion, monopoly of the resource, and inflated prices. As late as the early 1950s the word “exclusive” on resort signs and billboards was (correctly) understood to mean that Jews and Negroes were not welcome.²

The main elements in the economic framework of tourism are transportation and related technology, hotels and other structures, investment and development, advertising and marketing, and labor conditions. Since tourism always involves travel, transportation is most important in this framework. Beginning with the walking tour or raft trip, each technological change has expanded the variety of ways to tour: the sailing voyage and horseback trip; the stagecoach journey or carriage ride as soon as roads could serve wheels; substitution of railroads—eventually with Pullman cars, diners, and then vistadomes—for animal-drawn carriages, and luxury liners and chartered windjammers for sailing vessels; and finally the automobile and airplane. Most transportation serves business as well as pleasure, but the amenities—better brakes and springs, toilets and washrooms, air conditioning, clean air and clean windows, packaged foods, film and video to pass the time—were perhaps added sooner because of the tourist trade.

The economist will note the shift from individuals and partnerships among resort owners to corporations as more capital was needed for larger developments. The first

corporations raised money locally; gradually expanding needs attracted metropolitan and foreign wealth. Now the abandoned hotel, waiting for vandals to destroy it or preservationists to restore it, testifies to shifts in taste, as does the rise and decline of tourist cabins. Nineteenth century resort entrepreneurs chose sites featuring mineral waters and wild, romantic scenery, but later an idyllic landscape, tamed by human occupation, appealed to those escaping from hectic city life. Those who wrote and those who paid for resort advertising had to be sensitive to such changes in taste; or perhaps the record will show to what extent they caused the changes. As for resort labor, what today seems like exploitation of young, nonunion workers, housed in quarters innocent of any health or safety inspection, was at least as late as the 1960s—the era of the ski bum—a preferred kind of work, with acceptable wages in low-income areas and with access to the affluent.

In recent years especially, the competition of tourism and recreation for the same sites with other potential uses has become a significant aspect of their history. Urban attractions—historic sites, concerts in the park, and the like—interfere with normal traffic; boutiques in restored markets, museums, aquaria, or zoos may push out needed housing, supermarkets, or industries. The development of a waterfront park preempts industrial land. In the countryside, second homes conflict with agriculture not only by occupying arable land but also by raising the tax rate beyond the farmer’s ability to pay. Preserving wetlands and wilderness areas for the sake of recreation curtails competing uses. In some cases recreational and other uses overlap, however. The workplace itself may be on the tourist map:

²In *Poland Spring: An Informal History* ([Poland Spring, Me.], 1975) Melvin Robbins cites cases of discrimination against all non-WASPs and claims that Laura Robson’s novel, *Gentleman’s Agreement* (1947), was based on Poland Spring House in Maine. Members of a church, school, business corporation, or extended family can still choose which guests to invite to their private property, but categorical exclusion by sex, religion, race or ethnic group is increasingly difficult in the face of legislation and boycott.

a distillery, a mechanized dairy, the world's largest granite quarry (in Barre, Vermont), the ships in Boston harbor seen from a harbor cruise boat.

The history of tourism has been shaped by changes in people's sense of time, in work, and in transportation. Before the industrial revolution, as Lewis Mumford pointed out in *Technics and Civilization*, time was not exact in people's minds and behavior. When workplaces were in or near the home, leisure was an aspect of work, which was conducted at a "leisurely" pace. The introduction of machinery—as in the Lowell (Massachusetts) textile mills—increased precision, required that people speed up, and destroyed the mingling of pause and action that enriched the small-scale workplace. And travel by vehicles and vessels propelled by wind, human, or animal power allowed time to appreciate the details of the landscape, even as one traveled with a purpose.

Even today, as in the past, New England Yankees find it hard to travel merely for pleasure. The work ethic seems to require that they do business on the way, or improve themselves or their summer houses. Although the Puritans, according to the stereotype, had a hard time enjoying themselves, and many of their descendants follow suit, these same descendants, along with newcomers, have developed one of the nation's major playgrounds.

Why should tourism flourish particularly in New England? The region is geographically similar to the areas bordering it. Eastern New York north of the Appalachian Trail and the Delaware River, and east of Interstate 81, has the same Appalachian upland, the same mixed mesothermal forests of deciduous hardwoods and conifers, the same vistas maintained by

persistent farms, the same glaciated, ponded terrain, the same snowfall as New England. In writing a history of mountain climbing for the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), Guy and Laura Waterman of East Corinth, Vermont, include the Catskills and Adirondacks as well as New England. The constitution of the AMC, since the club's founding in 1876, has declared its purpose to be "to explore the mountains of New England and adjacent regions."³ Crossing New England's borders into Canada, one finds comparable conditions in the Eastern Townships of Quebec and in the Maritimes. Except for Lake Champlain there is no definite geographical boundary between Vermont/Massachusetts/Connecticut and New York State, and the beaches of the three southern states resemble those of Long Island and New Jersey. Nevertheless, New England's blend of history and culture, woods and farmland, mountains, and hundreds of miles of varied coastline seems to exert a special appeal.

Nineteenth Century Tourism

Taking a sea voyage for one's health was probably the first form of American tourism. Early in the nineteenth century the steamboat brought tourists to New England waters, first on Lake Champlain, and soon after along the seacoast. Europeans making the grand tour of America, for example, took steamers along the coast or on the Hudson River or Lake Champlain, or they followed the main stage routes inland from Boston and New York.⁴ Long before people camped on the shores of lakes and streams, Americans took excursions on the larger lakes or enjoyed the view while crossing on a ferry. Tourist activities at Lake Champlain and Lake George, where the Champlain Transportation Company and

³The Watermans' book is forthcoming; the constitution is available from the AMC, 5 Joy Street, Boston, MA 02108.

⁴T. D. Seymour Bassett, *Outsiders Inside Vermont* (Canaan, N.H.: Phoenix Publishing, 1976), Part III, "Stagecoach and Steamboat Days," samples the extensive travel literature.

successor corporations have monopolized the traffic since 1826, are well documented by materials at the University of Vermont.⁵ As the nation expanded to include obligatory sights in the West, the foreign tourist had less time for visiting the Northeast.

In the first tourist days, there was no competition in the use of land and water. Pleasure seekers and other travelers alike used inns. Then the hunters and fishermen made "camps," a word essentially meaning temporary lodging, often for only one night's stop. The term later came to include more durable facilities for families or for institutions, such as summer camps for children. In some parts of the country, the summer place—uninsulated, stove-heated, with no electricity or plumbing, with kerosene for cooking—was called a cottage or cabin. In northern New England, it may still be called a camp. Early camps were in the wild woods, on ledges, on poor soil, in places of no use for any other purpose. Scientists on tour, in search of New World species and various natural phenomena, were among the first to camp. They traveled to observe or collect, or to apply their scientific skills for the benefit of a business or a state: chemists might analyze medicinal spring water, naturalists worked for state and national surveys. Serious as their purposes were, their trips were also junkets. As early as the 1840s state geologists illustrated their reports in order to attract tourists to the areas surveyed.⁶

Among such scientific travelers, college professors and students particularly benefited from vacations. The calendar at most New England colleges allowed several weeks of summer for rambles after finals or commencement. Professors traveled to work on public surveys and also to buy books and equipment, consult with colleagues and friends, or restore their health. President Timothy Dwight of Yale started his travels through New England and New York after August commencement, or he took shorter trips between spring and summer terms. Francis Parkman was only the most famous of hundreds of students in the antebellum decades who supplemented their on-campus book learning with exploration of the remaining American wilderness.⁷ Toward the end of the nineteenth century, summer school teaching began to cut the length of the professors' vacations down to that of businessmen and other professionals, but summer field trips combined teaching with the pleasures of tourism. Some professors also moved with their families to summer cottages on New England lakes and seashores; other professionals and businessmen took weekends or their few weeks off with their families at camps interspersed among those of the professors.⁸

At the same time, the summer resort business was flourishing. In an attempt to measure its growth, Edward Hungerford in 1891 guessed that the hotels in seven principal northeastern resort areas had had

⁵The twenty-one processed feet of the company's archive include the diaries of Daniel Loomis, principal early twentieth century manager.

⁶See T. D. Seymour Bassett, *A History of the Vermont Geological Surveys and State Geologists* (Burlington: Vermont Geological Survey, 1976), 3–11.

⁷See William A. Koelsch, "Antebellum Harvard Students and the Recreational Exploration of the New England Landscape," *Journal of Historical Geography* 8 (October 1982): 362–72.

⁸It is known where many Harvard University professors vacationed; one can expect to find materials about their resorts among collections of faculty papers in the Harvard University Archives. Charles W. Eliot and Samuel E. Morison went to Mount Desert Island, Maine; Mason Hammond to Nahant, and Edward Waldo Forbes to Naushon and Nashawena Islands, both in Massachusetts; and many vacationed in New Hampshire: Harlow Shapley at Sharon, Raphael Pumpelly at Dublin, John Finley and William Chase Greene at Center Sandwich, Alfred Tozzer at Chocorua. More material is in Harvard's Houghton Library—e.g., William Dean Howells at Kittery Point, Maine, and William James in Peterborough, New Hampshire—and still more at the Massachusetts Historical Society (letter from Harley P. Holden, curator, Harvard University Archives, 16 July 1982).

440,000 guests in the two-month season, but confessed, "Figures on the [growth of the resort business since 1850]. . . are not easily accessible. . . .To sift them from the records of railroads, steamboats, hotels, boarding houses, cottages, and camps, would be an almost impossible task."⁹ At this time, New England tourism took place mainly in the summer; not until after World War II did it become virtually a year-round business.

As summer recreation increased, where did its labor come from? President Matthew H. Buckham, reporting to his University of Vermont trustees in 1872, explained that his shifting from a long winter to a long summer vacation allowed students to get better jobs at resorts as well as in industry.¹⁰ More evidence must be found before it is clear whether this shift was common throughout New England, for what reasons, and when it occurred. More evidence about resort labor in general is also needed. No doubt resorts employed many natives, as they do now. College students may have been preferred because they came from the same social background as the guests, but was the supply of students perhaps inadequate? With an agricultural population of more than one million in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont in the late nineteenth century, could resort employment compensate for repeated agricultural depressions? Did young people prefer resort work because it was easier than farm work, because it was away from parental control or because the wages (and the social life) were better? What were the preferred jobs and the preferred resorts?¹¹

Payroll records, recruitment correspondence and advertisements, and papers of farm families, if they can be found, might clarify these and other questions.

Seaside Recreation

Many of these summer resorts were on the shores of lakes or at the seashore. As shipping and whaling declined on Nantucket, at New Bedford, and along the rest of the coast, pleasure travel replaced them. By the summer of 1875, tourists, vacationers, and honeymooners, along with commercial travelers, enabled the Fall River (steamship) Line to gross more from passengers than from freight. In Maine, steamboats long outbid railroads for the traffic from Boston to Portland and ports beyond.¹²

At the seashore there was bathing—especially where sandy beaches and warmer waters prevailed from Cape Cod west—and sunbathing, clamming, fishing, and boating—whether cruising or racing, sail or motor. The related industry of recreational boatbuilding has concentrated near popular boating centers; marine builders, mainly small scale, have flourished from Greenwich, Connecticut, to Machias, Maine, along with yacht clubs for the comfort of crews and passengers, and marinas for the vessels. The seashore and the recreation it provides are probably the best documented aspects of the history of New England tourism. The G. W. Blunt White Library of Mystic Seaport Museum in Mystic, Connecticut, leads in manuscript drawings called boat lines (the marine architect's instructions to the builder on the shape of the hull),

⁹"Our Summer Migration: A Social Study," *Century* 42 (August 1891): 569–76.

¹⁰See "Change of Terms and Vacations," in Buckham's *Report to the Trustees* (1872), no. 132, University of Vermont Archives. Brooks M. Kelley, in *Yale: A History* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1974), 222, notes that the summer term was omitted beginning in 1870.

¹¹Herbert Tuttle, in "A Vacation in Vermont," *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* 67 (November 1883): 814, quotes an old man of Stowe, Vermont: "'Our girls've all gone to the White Mountins [sic]' [of New Hampshire] because the pay is better."

¹²Edward S. Kirkland, *Men, Cities, and Transportation: A Study in New England History, 1820–1900* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1948), vol. 2, 130, 146–47. Kirkland used records of the Old Colony Railroad at the Harvard Business School, as well as various published sources.

correspondence, and writings about pleasure craft. Other important collections are at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; the Herreshoff Marine Museum, Bristol, Rhode Island; the New York Yacht Club; and the Maine Maritime Museum at Bath.¹³ Most firms have given little thought to preserving their records, either privately or in libraries, and virtually no institution holds a manuscript collection of a family that owned and developed shore property for cottages, piers, hotels, or tourist transportation lines. Where are the sources for Bide-a-Wile, where tourists found rooms after they had "done" Newport, or After Ours, the Stonington colonial house restored and improved by the New York broker? Although such papers exist, they must be acquired, or, if already in repositories, described so as to bring out subjects relevant to tourism.

Among the most fashionable seaside resorts was Newport, Rhode Island. Its ladies and gentlemen proliferated an unusual variety of private clubs. Like many clubs founded in the late nineteenth century as bastions against the rising tide of plebeian pleasure-seeking and upward mobility, most have retained their records, among them the Newport Reading Room and Gentlemen's Club, the Clambake Club (fishing), the Ida Lewis Yacht Club, the Newport branch of the New York Yacht Club, the Eastern Yacht Club, and the Spouting Rock Beach Association. There are also Newport

club records in libraries, however. The minutes of the Town and Country Club, 1888–1905, are at the Newport Historical Society. The International Tennis Hall of Fame holds movies of leading players since the 1920s, a seven-hundred-volume library, and records of the Newport Casino and the Casino Lawn Tennis Club.¹⁴ Because naval officers from nearby Goat Island frequented Newport clubs, the holdings of the Naval War College and Naval Historical Collection are also relevant.¹⁵

Inland Activities

When tourists move inland, they go to towns, farms, lakeside cottages, or the mountains—the last bastion of wilderness in New England. The "White Hills," the highest peaks north of the Smokies, with the wild, craggy contrasts that mid-nineteenth century romantics sought, were the first northeastern mountains to attract tourists. One party had scaled Mount Washington as early as 1642. From the 1820s tourists came on the road that traders had cut through Crawford Notch (the present Route 302). Railroad lines soon tapped the mountain country north of Concord, New Hampshire; one of the purposes of the expansion of the Portland and Ogdensburg in the 1860s was to "make available the scenery of the White Mountains." By the mid 1880s, according to Edward C. Kirkland's history of New England transportation, it was nothing but a tourist line.¹⁶

¹³Among the notable collections at Mystic Seaport are the papers, 1912–67, of Alfred P. Loomis, editor of *Yachting*, and the archive of the Cruising Club of America (letter from Gerald E. Morris, librarian, 8 September 1982). MIT has the Russell Hart Collection (boat lines), and the plans of Nathanael G. Herreshoff. Herreshoff materials at the Herreshoff Museum and the New York Yacht Club are not yet open for research (letter from Halsey C. Herreshoff, 10 September 1982). The Maine Maritime Museum at Bath has an archives program for its Apprenticeship, a traditional boat-building project. Its former director, Lance Lee, has established a "Technology Bank" for his Rockport Apprenticeship School of Wooden Boatbuilding, including notes, articles, photographs, lines, and plans (letter from Melissa Hatch of the school, 3 February 1987).

¹⁴Letter from Mark L. Stenning, curator, 8 September 1982.

¹⁵Letter from Anthony S. Nicolosi, director, Naval War College Museum/Naval Historical Collection, 25 June 1982. See his "Foundation of the Naval Presence in Narragansett Bay: An Overview," *Newport History* 52 (Summer 1979): 60–82; and Nicolosi and Evelyn M. Cherpak, comps., *A Guide to Research Source Materials in the Naval Historical Collection* (Newport: Naval War College, 1981).

¹⁶Kirkland, *Men, Cities, and Transportation*, 1:480, quoting the *Portland Press*, 486. See also Edgar T. Mead, *The Up-Country Line: Boston, Concord & Montreal RR to the New Hampshire Lakes and White Mountains* (Brattleboro, Vt.: Stephen Greene Press, 1975).



Crew living room, Appalachian Mountain Club hut, White Mountains, New Hampshire. Photo by George Bellerose, courtesy of Appalachian Mountain Club Library.

The Appalachian Mountain Club, Adirondack Mountain Club, and Green Mountain Club were not record-oriented until very recently. Many logbooks kept at huts and lodges have disappeared. The best mountain club records are those of the Dartmouth Outing Club, in Dartmouth College's Special Collections Department. Some Green Mountain Club records are at the Vermont Historical Society and the University of Vermont. The headquarters of the Appalachian Mountain Club in Boston has a large library, including a file of *Appalachia*, published since 1876; the mimeographed *Resuscitator*, newsletter of its hutsmen since 1926; and other valuable serials, such as *Among the Clouds* and the *White Mountain Echo*.¹⁷

Seasonally more numerous than the hikers—and often in conflict with them—are

hunters and fishers, who seek out all kinds of waters and wilds. Hunting and fishing—once ways of earning all or part of a living, now mainly recreation—are popular throughout New England. There is some extant documentation at the American Museum of Fly Fishing, incorporated in 1968 at Manchester, Vermont, where the Orvis Company had long been manufacturing fishing tackle; the museum's library includes most American sporting periodicals since 1830.¹⁸ But neither private enthusiasts nor the fish and game departments of the six states have published much on the history of sport fishing, or paid much attention to the records.

Recreational hunting attracts many thousands during each hunting "season," especially for small game, black bear, and the white-tailed deer, stocked back into

¹⁷The Adirondack Mountain Club office at Glens Falls, New York, has noncurrent records accumulated since the club was chartered in 1922. Letter from Lynn Herrick, office manager, 24 September 1982.

¹⁸Letters from John Merwin, executive director, American Museum of Fly Fishing, 11 February and 24 March 1987.

harvestable numbers within the past century. There is also at least one private preserve, the Blue Mountain Association, developed and stocked in the 1880s by railroad tycoon Austin Corbin; the thirty members of the association continue to hunt elk, wild boar, lynx, bobcat, bear, and deer in Blue Mountain Park in Croyden, New Hampshire. The papers of the founder and the association are not yet available.¹⁹

Preparing to hunt or fish in the North Country required equipment from the local sporting goods store or from such large suppliers as Abercrombie and Fitch in New York City or L. L. Bean in Freeport, Maine. Starting in 1912 with the leather-topped, rubber-bottomed hunting boot that the firm still calls its “core product,” L. L. Bean developed a national mail order business in recreation equipment, based in his brother Ervin’s haberdashery store. The company has organized its printed materials and has recorded about three dozen oral history interviews, but so far has paid little attention to its business records.²⁰

Business records pertaining to tourism and recreation are generally hard to find. One record that owner/donors are sure curators want is the hotel register. Social historians can use the registers to determine the geographical and social range of the guests, business historians to gauge the scale of the operation, and biographers to track the movements of their subjects.²¹ In fact hotel registers are rarely used, but the adroit and lucky curator might parlay the gift into a donation of more useful business records. One of the few resort business collections in a repository are the records of the Barron

chain of resort hotels—Crawford House, Fabyans, the Summit House, and Twin Mountain House—in the New Hampshire Historical Society. They are excellent on personnel and purchasing, but lack the financial and tax documentation found in the records of the Waterville Valley Association, a major New Hampshire resort, at Dartmouth’s Special Collections.

Besides making and selling equipment for travel and recreation, towns have had their own forms of recreation. The circus, for instance, attracted thousands of country people to the railroad towns; the Barnum Institute in the Bridgeport Public Library is the outstanding circus collection in New England. Chautauqua, imitating the circus, took its blend of evangelical Protestantism, education, and cultural entertainment on the road in 1904, and became a household word throughout the nation before its demise in 1932.²²

Like the circus, cultural attractions in music, theater, and dance have changed. From black face minstrel shows with shuffles and tap dancing, Swiss bellringers, and singing families, all of which barnstormed the small towns, cultural “festivals” and performances have gravitated either to the civic centers of the cities or to such tourist centers as Provincetown. Many summer theaters, summer music camps, and such festivals as Tanglewood in the Berkshires and Vermont’s Marlboro, have, like most artists’ and writers’ colonies, kept their own records, usually unarranged and inaccessible. The Stockbridge (Massachusetts) Library, however, has the minute books of the century-old Stockbridge Casino and the

¹⁹See Tom McCarthy, “Corbin’s Park,” *New Hampshire Profiles* 23 (December 1974): 30–35.

²⁰Letter from D. Kilton Andrews, Jr., representative for public affairs, 11 June 1982. See also Leon J. Gorman, *L. L. Bean Inc. and Outdoor Specialties by Mail from Maine* (New York: Newcomen Society of North America, 1981).

²¹For example, Milton Bradley, the Springfield, Massachusetts, parlor game lithographer, and his wife Ellen were at Mount Mansfield’s Summit House on Wednesday, 30 June 1869. Mount Mansfield Corporation Papers, University of Vermont.

²²See Arthur E. Bestor, Jr., *Chautauqua Publications: An Historical and Bibliographical Guide* (Chautauqua, N.Y.: Chautauqua Publications, 1934); also Theodore Morrison, *Chautauqua: A Center for Education and the Arts in America* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1974), especially the essay on sources, 337–41.

records of the Berkshire Playhouse, founded in 1928. Papers of Camp Duncan, for choir boys who sang summers at the chapel at the Mount Washington Hotel in Bretton Woods, are at Dartmouth College.²³

Just as colleges encouraged rambles and resort work for students, so universities are now involved in tourism in several ways. Their schools and programs of hotel management, notably at Cornell University, Paul Smith's College, and the University of New Hampshire, have staffed regional as well as national resorts. Departments teaching natural resources, the environment, or recreation have provided public and private promoters of tourism with published surveys and reports. At Plymouth State College in New Hampshire, for example, Geographer Mark J. Okrant operates an independent Travel/Tourism Research and Intern Placement Service that has issued seasonal statewide travel surveys and studies of coastal zone tourism.²⁴ In addition, students go out on field trips to learn and to have fun, and many colleges have active outing clubs.

Other kinds of forays into the field, for students and nonstudents alike, have been carriage rides, visits to "century farms," maple sugaring, apple blossom and foliage tours. The day trip into the woods and fields, whether on foot or snowshoes, a motorbike, snowmobile or ATV (All Terrain Vehicle), or viewing the shores under sail or in a motorboat, is an urbanite's compensation for not living in the country. As for records, the refrain is the same: few are saved, fewer are in libraries or archives.

While mobile tourists stay in campers or RVs (recreation vehicles), vacation houses—now called second homes and less primitive than in the past—are scattered every-

where in rural areas, and the condominium has become common in resort areas as well as in cities. Many city dwellers and suburbanites have preferred to buy old farms and return to them each summer, fixing them up over the years to suburban standards. Some have become what Vermonters call "year-round summer people"; enough autobiographical accounts of how "we took to the hills"—two dozen and more about Vermont alone—have been published in the last half century to make manuscript materials on this subject nonessential. Likewise stationary are enclaves of writers and artists, whose creativity is nurtured by woody solitude and the social pleasures of associating with other artists and writers in their free time—for example, the former colony at Cornish, New Hampshire, where a few families owned substantial summer cottages, and the ongoing MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, New Hampshire, which chooses about thirty artists at a time to stay one to three months. MacDowell has most of its records in the Library of Congress, and there are private collections about the colony in the vicinity of Peterborough; the papers of many Cornish residents are conveniently in the Dartmouth College Library, twelve miles north. The colony has become a National Historic Site run by the National Park Service, and thus a tourist attraction.

Besides artists and writers, other groups have taken advantage of the country or seashore to pursue recreation and other interests simultaneously; some are perhaps unintentionally controversial. Two reformist projects that aimed to mix city with country children, or blacks with whites, were the long-lived Fresh Air Fund (1877) and the brief New York-Vermont Project of the

²³Letters from Susie Kaufman, formerly archivist, Stockbridge Library Association, 14 September 1982; and Kenneth C. Cramer, archivist, Dartmouth College, 16 July 1982; also Robert W. Lovett, comp., *List of Business Manuscripts in Baker Library*, 2d ed. (Boston: Baker Library, Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, 1951), entry nos. 289–91, 294, 297 (theater records), 303 (music hall).

²⁴Okrant letters of 12 December 1983 and 3 December 1986.

mid 1960s; the latter can be studied in the newspapers and in the Hoff and Collins papers at the University of Vermont. A New York hospital union subsidized vacations for children of members at the Farm and Wilderness Camps in Plymouth, Vermont. Willard Uphaus's camp at Freedom, New Hampshire, was attacked as "communist" in the 1950s.²⁵ There are nine nudist camps in New England, according to a recent American Sunbathing Association guide.²⁶ Apparently no repository has the photographic or other archives of these places, but recent controversies about "nude beaches" on Cape Cod are documented in the local and Boston press. Counterculture communes were started in the 1960s and some continue today; one student of communes keeps sensitive interview materials in Canada, to avoid subpoenas.

Outward Bound, brought to the United States as a training program for the Peace Corps in 1962, has expanded its "adventure education" rapidly; from its national headquarters in Greenwich, Connecticut, it operates five American branches of a worldwide program, one of them based on Hurricane Island, Maine. Efforts should be made to document these activities, perhaps by means of a partnership between the organization and a research institution.

Church Camping

The map of New England is sprinkled with names documenting religious-recreational places: for example, Merrymeeting Pond, New Durham, New Hampshire; Sabbathday Lake in Maine; Camp Grove,

Ferrisburg, Vermont; two places named Merrymeeting Bay, one in New Hampshire and one in Maine; and two named Camp Meeting Point, both in Vermont. Religious groups were among the first to congregate for conferences at the seashore. Probably the oldest of those summer colonies to survive is Wesleyan Grove in Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard. Started in 1835 and now dissolved into private ownership, this group of gingerbread cottages housed summering Methodist ministers who combined Bible study with assemblies.²⁷ In 1881 the Maine Free Will Baptists established a summer retreat focused on a wooden, octagonal temple at Ocean Park and held annual meetings there from 1898 until 1911. They attracted the General Conference of Christian Endeavor to the site in 1886. The Ocean Park Assembly continues to provide fundamental Protestant religion and summer recreation on its half mile of sandy beach along Saco Bay.²⁸

Evangelical churches originated the summer conference center, but the idea spread across the denominations in the late nineteenth century. The Universalist Grove Meeting, of inland origin, moved to Ferry Beach, Maine, in 1901. Records of the Ferry Beach Association, 1901–59, including financial and legal records, scrapbooks, and the denominational organ, *Christian Universalist Leader*, were at Tufts University until 1975, when they were moved to the Andover-Harvard Theological Library of Harvard Divinity School.

The weakening of Protestant denominational exclusiveness is reflected in the ev-

²⁵The records of the Farm and Wilderness Foundation and the Willard Uphaus Papers are still in private hands; the former are expected to go to Special Collections at the University of Vermont, the latter to Special Collections at Dartmouth College.

²⁶American Sunbathing Association, *Nudist Park Guide* (Orlando, Fla.: the Association, n.d.). The camps listed there are distributed as follows: four in Massachusetts, two in Vermont, and one each in Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

²⁷See Joseph Iarocci, "The Cottage City of America: Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard: Evolution of a Resort," unpublished honors thesis, Brown University, 1981, Brown University Archives. Iarocci found source material exceedingly scarce.

²⁸See Adelbert M. Jakeman, *Centennial History of Ocean Park, Maine* (Ocean Park: Ocean Park Association, 1981).

olution of Star Island in Maine. The Unitarians held their first annual conference there in July 1897; Universalists first came in 1905, and Congregationalists in 1914. Management functions are divided among the Star Island Corporation, which includes representatives of each denomination, the Isle of Shoals Association, and the groups running particular conferences. Records of the governing bodies are at the participants' Boston offices, with some non-current material at Andover-Harvard Library. Full reports of their activities are in the *Boston Transcript* and the *Unitarian Christian Register*.²⁹

The International Sunday School Association (ISSA) bought Geneva Point on Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire, in 1919, to match its Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, site as a coeducational camp for young adults. It is operated as a regional conference center available to diverse religious groups by the Division of Education and Ministry of the National Council of Churches, into which the ISSA merged.³⁰

New England Quakers, whose archives are deposited at the Rhode Island Historical Society, long alternated their yearly meetings between Newport or Providence, Rhode Island, and Portland, Maine, but used Maine's Ocean Park facilities in the even years, 1932–44. A smaller body of Friends took advantage of the seaside at Westerly, Rhode Island.

Camp meetings were serious business, so that recreational access to water was less important, though always desirable. Many could not afford even the half-fare trip to the shore, or they had only a short time to

spare. Consequently, camp meeting sites were sometimes near flag stops on a railroad. In the 1880s, for example, a little-known Holiness group from near Boston chose the economy and seclusion of Silver Lake in Leicester, Vermont. Records of the Universalist Grove Meeting at the Weirs, Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire, 1882–1900, are bound in one volume at Harvard University. When the automobile began to supersede the train, and religious styles changed after World War I, the “spring groves” were gradually abandoned to the farmers who had provided them, became public parks, or were used for short conferences.³¹

In denominations numerous enough to organize by state or metropolitan region, each jurisdiction developed one or more conference centers, such as the Bishop Booth Conference Center (Episcopal) at Rock Point, Burlington, Vermont. The records of denominational summer camps, conferences, and institutes—“church camping” is the current phrase—should be either incorporated into church archives or acquired by research institutions. Little of either has been done so far.

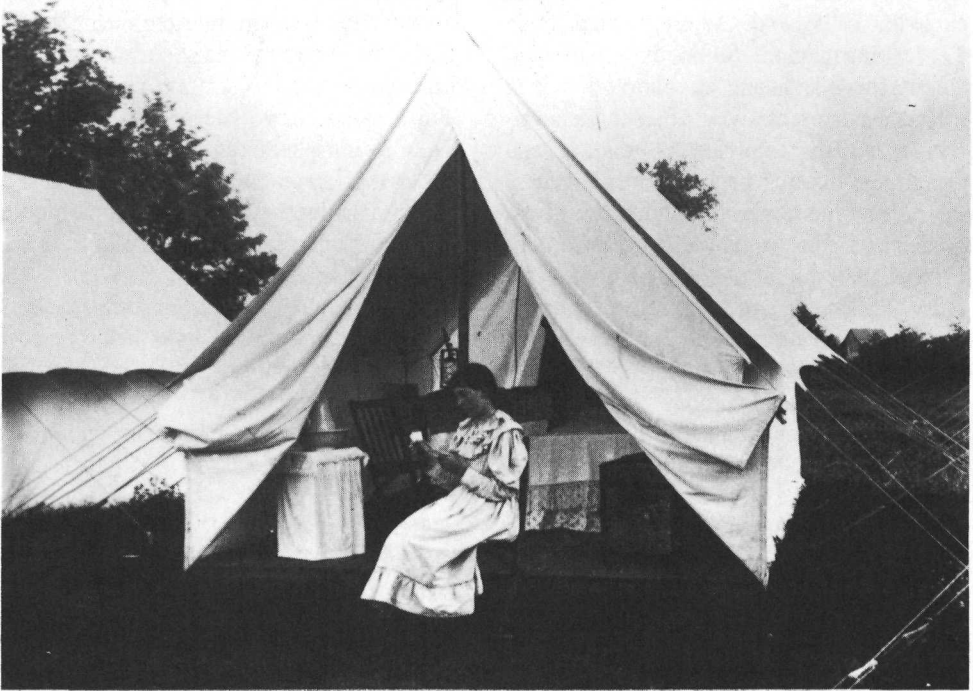
Summer Camps

Some of the summer camps for young people that dot the New England countryside have a quasi-religious focus; the state YMCAs and YWCAs, for instance, operate summer programs with attenuated religious content. Camp Dudley, run by the New York City YMCA since 1885, is the oldest surviving summer camp for boys. Typically for such organizations, it keeps

²⁹Letters from Professor C. Conrad Wright, Harvard Divinity School, 8 July 1982; Russell E. Miller, archivist, Tufts University, 23 July 1982; Alan Seaburg, curator of manuscripts, Harvard Divinity School, 27 July 1982; Melvin H. Gilbrandsen, of Star Island Corporation, 20 August 1982. See also Louis Craig Cornish, *The Story of the Isles of Shoals*, 2d ed. (Boston: Beacon Press, 1926) and Lyman V. Rutledge, *Ten Miles Out* (Boston: Isles of Shoals Association, 1972).

³⁰Letter from Harry Widman, director, Geneva Point Center, 28 July 1982.

³¹See Charles D. and Ouida D. Schwartz, *A Flame of Fire: The Story of the Troy Annual Conference* (Rutland, Vt.: Academy Books, 1982), 240, 243, 297, 305, on Camp Missisquoi; Edward Davis, *History of Silver Lake Camp Meeting near Brandon, Vt.* (Reading, Mass.: Holiness Book Concern, [ca. 1880]). See also note 29.



Nina Larkin in front of her tent at Eagle Camp, South Hero, Vermont, 1883. Photo courtesy of Vermont Historical Society.

its records at its Westport, New York, office.³² Boy Scout, Girl Scout, 4-H, and Campfire Girls also have their camps. Among private residential boys' camps, Keewaydin on Lake Dunmore, Vermont, considers its prime function to be education rather than recreation and claims that its 1890 founding makes it the oldest such camp in the United States. The next year, Vermont State Geologist George W. Perry opened Eagle Camp for boys on Lake Champlain. He added a two-week session for girls in 1892, with parents and teachers welcome, and gradually found his special

forte in catering to families. Perry's photograph collection, at the Vermont Historical Society, is supplemented by the Whittlesey family albums in the camp's library. The early manuscripts, 1891–1927, and the records of the last half century remain with the family.³³ The Schlesinger Library at Radcliffe College has typescript copies of letters of his wife, Mary Alice Rice Perry. The Aloah Foundation, on Lake Morey in Fairlee, Vermont, which runs three camps nearby, “has the historic records” of the Vermont Camping Association.³⁴ Summer tutoring camps and sports training

³²Letter from William J. Schmidt, director, Camp Dudley, 4 August 1982. See also Minot A. Osborn, ed., *Camp Dudley: The Story of the First Fifty Years* (New York: Huntington Press, 1934), and Thomas Hale et al., eds., *Camp Dudley: The First Hundred Years* (Westport, N.Y.: the Camp, 1984).

³³See Bassett, *History of Vermont Geological Surveys*, 18–19.

³⁴Letter from Jean S. (Mrs. Charles S.) Davies, director, Camp Betsey Cox, Pittsford, Vt., 10 November 1983.

camps continue to flourish in spite of competition from the family tour, vacation cottage, summer school, and summer job opportunities. The Schlesinger Library holds records and personal papers pertaining to girls' camps and settlement camps.³⁵ The latter introduced poor and immigrant city children and their mothers to woods, fields, ponds, and outdoor play; caddy camps enabled poor boys to meet their "betters"; and all these camps in the 1920s and 30s offered children a chance to gain weight. There are now camps that promise the opposite.

Winter Recreation

Recreation is a year-round business in New England, with skiing predominating in the winter months. Winter recreation began close to warm homes: iceboating on rivers, horse racing on ice or snowy streets, skating on the pond, and carnivals with all the sliding arts, imitating those of the Canadians. The few Scandinavians in New England used skis for practical, cross-country travel, but Alpine (downhill) skiing took the lead by the 1930s, as towing technology began to be imported from Europe. Skiing has been an outstanding growth industry in New England since World War II. Nordic or cross-country skiing, because

of its comparative safety and economy, has in the last fifteen years spread its devotees over a wide network of trails.

Important sources for skiing history will be the records and libraries of recently founded year-round ski academies, such as Burke Mountain Academy and the Stratton Mountain School in Vermont, which aim to produce educated ski racers; and those of schools—Green Mountain Valley School in Fayston, Vermont, and the White Mountain School in New Hampshire, for example—that simply have strong ski programs. Some of these have accumulated sizable bodies of records.³⁶ Related material is at the University of Vermont and the New England Ski Museum in Franconia, New Hampshire, opened in December 1982; its historian, E. John B. Allen, conducts interviews with skiers.³⁷

Documenting Tourism and Recreation

As indicated in this overview of New England tourism and recreation, numerous sources exist. Some are accessible in repositories, and a few have been reported to bibliographies or such national guides as the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections. In view of the importance of tourism and recreation to the environment and economy of New England and their

³⁵Holdings include records of the Massachusetts Girl Scouts; the papers of Bertha S. Gruenberg, codirector (1926–53) of Camp Waziyatah (Harrison, Maine), an attempt to apply John Dewey's philosophy of education to children on vacation; and portions of the records of North Bennet Street Industrial School in Boston's North End and Denison House in the South End.

³⁶In its first eleven years the Stratton Mountain School accumulated about one hundred cubic feet of records. Letter from Peter St. John, headmaster, 1 August 1982. See also Sumner Erbe et al., *The Stratton Mountain School Program* (Stratton, Vt.: the School, [ca. 1979], reprinted from the journal of the United States Ski Coaches Association; Holcomb B. Noble, "Schooling for the Olympics," *New York Times Magazine*, 22 February 1981; Annmarie Janenko Christensen, "Stratton Mountain's School for Skiers," *Burlington Free Press Vermonter*, 28 March 1982. For other schools, see *One School that Works: The Story of Burke Mountain Academy, 1970–1981* (Burke, Vt.: the Academy, 1980), and Andrew Nemethy, "For Future Skiers, the Green Mountain Valley School Stretches Minds and Muscles," *Vermont Life* 37 (Autumn 1982): 55–59.

³⁷Letters from Allen, 26, 30 August 1982, 4 November 1983, 1 March, 20 May 1987. See his "Development of Skiing in New Hampshire, 1870 to 1940," *Historical New Hampshire* 36 (Spring 1981): 1–37; "Values and Sport: The Development of New England Skiing, 1879–1940," *Oral History Review* 13 (1985): 55–76; "Winter Culture: The Origins of Skiing in the United States," *Journal of American Culture* 6 (Spring 1983): 65–68; and *Teaching and Technique: A History of American Ski Instruction* (Latham, N.Y.: E.P.S.I.A. Education Foundation, 1987).

significance in the lives of most residents and visitors, the subject area is an appropriate one for a systematic, cooperative effort to collect archival and manuscript materials, to make holdings better known, to decide what need not be collected, and to consider creating records that ought to, but do not, exist. Such an effort might involve archivists, librarians, and historians with an interest in the subject, and representative providers of recreational/tourist services: for instance, the executive directors of the AMC, hotel associations, or associations of summer camps.

Key to a successful strategy might be a fully persuaded resort manager who recognizes the advertising value of a well-run records program. The manager would need the steady encouragement of records professionals who specialize in tourism and recreation: the special collections curator at Dartmouth, the historian of the Ski Museum, a boat collection curator. A business person will "buy" documentation if it is shown to be profitable, if an admired business administrator is committed to it, or if an institution will provide professional advice and save the company space by acquiring its non-current records. There may be a problem with including records users, however. Records creators are often nervous about what independent writers (those not employed by the company) may disclose. Whoever is included in the group, these experts would need to know about existing sources.

Of printed sources, newspapers are the most valuable. Eighteenth century news-

papers reported travels and visitors,³⁸ and the late nineteenth century press in particular recorded every move of socialites at resorts: arrivals, departures, and amusements. It also chronicled hotel construction, repairs, fires, and changes of ownership, management, and services. Hotel grand openings often were covered in great detail, and occasional feature articles summarized developments in a region or colony.

Touring magazines, trade journals of hotels and motels, guidebooks, and scattered private publications promoting resorts—especially those issued by railroad and steamboat lines—are also useful, as are almanacs, yearbooks, and guides issued by automobile clubs and the 1930s Federal Writers Project. There seems, however, to be no systematic collection of such ephemera for any area, and even the best collections are incomplete; many are held by private collectors.³⁹ Another major source is publications of boards of trade, chambers of commerce, and other business booster organizations. Related archival sources, such as personal papers of officials, are sometimes available.⁴⁰

The resort historian can gain access to information from records no longer extant or hard to find in volumes of excerpts, mainly from printed material and especially serials, found in antiquarian collections. A good example is Lloyd Robson's four-volume typescript on Newport for the century after 1817, in the Newport Historical Society Library. Such sources must be used with care, but, like collections of clippings,

³⁸Carl Bridenbaugh was able to document 452 visitors from points south in the Newport (Rhode Island) *Mercury*, 1767–75. See his "Colonial Newport as a Summer Resort," *Rhode Island Historical Society Collections* 26 (January 1933): 1–23, and "Charlestonians at Newport, 1767–1775," *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 41 (1940): 43–47.

³⁹The Shelburne Museum and the University of Vermont between them have a great deal material on Lake Champlain. For guidebooks, see for example the various series of tourist guides edited by Seneca R. Stoddard, Moses Foster Sweetser, and Moses King.

⁴⁰The papers of James P. Taylor, Secretary of the Vermont State Chamber of Commerce and its predecessor organization from 1917 to 1949, are at the Vermont Historical Society; they are a good source for such subjects as roads, aviation, the Green Mountain Club, and historic sites. Taylor (1872–1949) inspired Fred H. Harris to found the Dartmouth Outing Club, and his life-long goal was "to make Vermont mountains play a larger part in the life of the people."

they provide a convenient shortcut to useful and perhaps obscure information.

Documents from every level of government, both published and unpublished, contain much relevant information on tourism. Federal reports on national forests and parks show their increasing use for recreation; records of the interstate highway system document the provision of speedy access to resorts; customs and immigration records report data about the flow of holiday travelers and day trippers crossing into Canada. There is a federal registry of pleasure boats, and census data about hotels and other resort businesses. U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey topographical maps show hiking trails and other recreational features.

At the state level, corporation charters record the establishment of mountain toll roads and cog railways in the 1860s, as well as of summit houses and hotels at mineral springs and other resorts. State reports document the establishment of launching ramps for pleasure boating, and access roads to lakes and mountains. Some nineteenth century geological surveys made a special effort to include "scenographical" information and descriptions of mineral springs and hotels.⁴¹

By the 1890s, public health departments were testing the water supply of resort hotels, railroad stations, and summer houses. At the same time states established publicity bureaus, which issued illustrated pamphlets.⁴² After World War II state development offices began to publish slick

magazines such as *Vermont Life* and *New Hampshire Profiles*, which replaced such more rural-oriented, privately published periodicals as *New England Magazine*, *Granite Monthly*, and *Vermonter*. Most early files of development agencies did not survive, but the Connecticut State Library has a small group of such records.⁴³ In recent decades, resort corporations have been required to report to the state increasing amounts of information justifying the development of endangered environments.

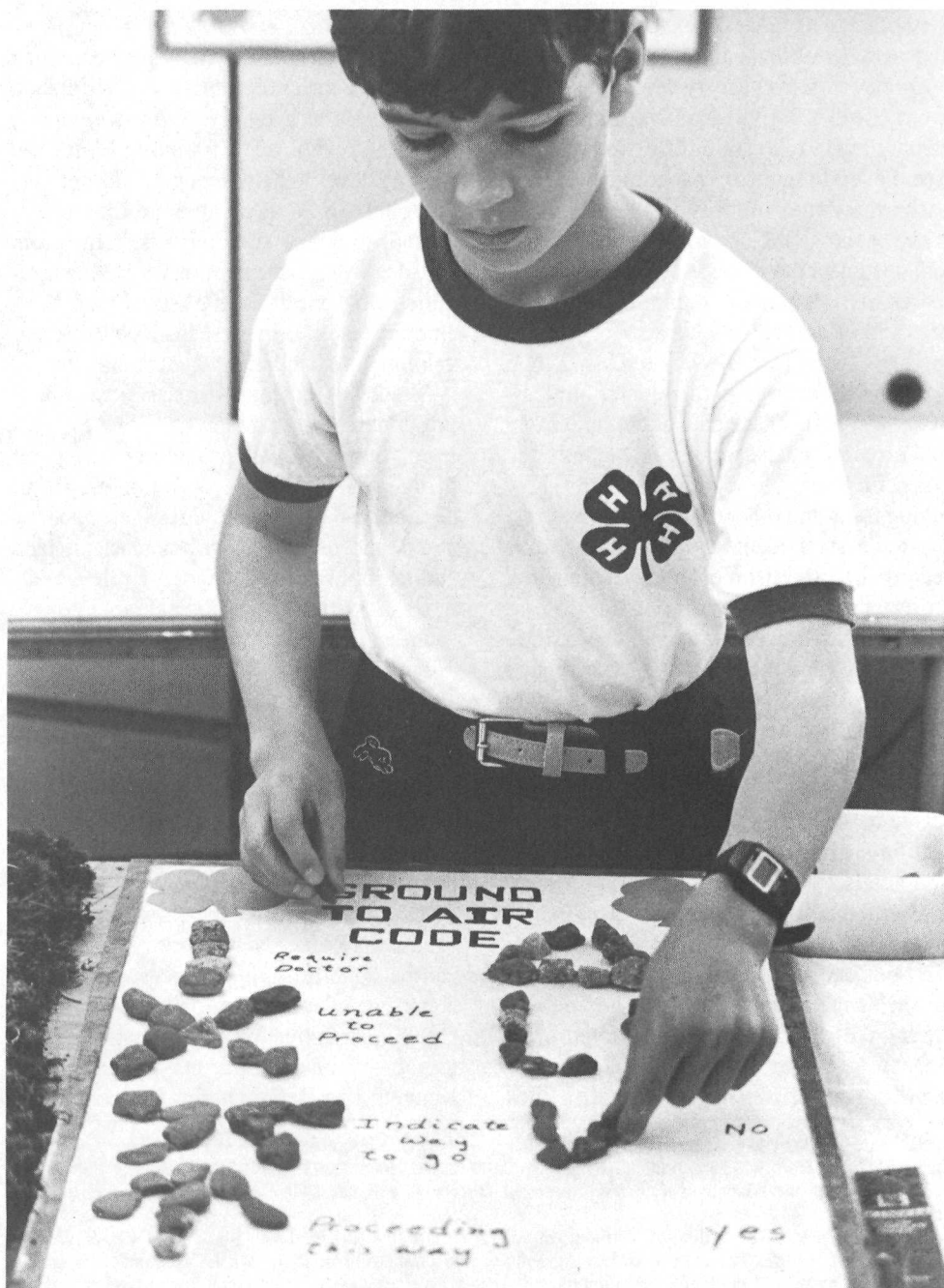
Municipal records, where they have been preserved, document parks, beaches, curfews, Sunday laws, prohibitions of gambling and drinking, ordinances about boating, wharves and dockage, appointments and reports of harbor masters, land and tax transactions. There are relevant articles in journals of municipal government, such as *The American City* and *American Municipalities*.

Among private repositories, Dartmouth has set an example in the collection of White Mountain skiing material, but many recreational activities—hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, canoeing, skating, snowshoeing, logging, and forging—are poorly documented for New England. By contrast, the Adirondack Museum at Blue Mountain Lake, New York, shows what can be done in saving sources, given dedicated people and adequate funding. Its preeminent collection of publications, photographs, and manuscripts (including the Kenneth and Helen Durant Collection, the

⁴¹Edward Hitchcock, et al., *Report on the Geology of Vermont: Descriptive, Theoretical, Economical and Scenographical*, 2 vols. (Claremont, N.H.: Claremont Manufacturing, 1861). Louise B. Roomet, "Vermont as a Resort Area in the Nineteenth Century," *Vermont History* 44 (Winter 1976): 1-13, however, does not use state documents.

⁴²Andrea Rebek, "The Selling of Vermont: From Agriculture to Tourism, 1860-1910," *Vermont History* 44 (Winter 1976): 14-27. The State Board of Agriculture was established in 1870 to help Vermont farmers. Far from supporting rugged individualism, farmers called vigorously for state aid to attract tourists; the latter would board with farmers and otherwise bring money into the state. For the delayed attention to water quality, see George H. Perkins, "The Drinking Waters of Vermont," in his *Report of the State Geologist* (1906), 254-344, relying partly on M. O. Leighton's 1903 report, published as U.S.G.S. Bulletin 121, *Water Supply and Irrigation Papers* (1905).

⁴³Letter and enclosures from Mark H. Jones, archivist, 29 November 1983, including Registration Sheet for Record Group 22, Commerce Department. Warren J. Belasco concluded his "Bibliographical Guide" in *Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910-1945* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1979), 195-205, with the terse statement: "There is virtually no archival material."



Learning what to do when lost in the mountains. Photo courtesy of Extension Service, University of Vermont.

Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad Papers, a very strong collection of resort hotel ephemera, and a large quantity of hunting and fishing manuscripts) would serve as a useful model for a New England repository devoted to outdoor recreation.⁴⁴

As it is, the manuscript and archival collections for New England are spotty and scattered, and for some records one must go outside the region. For instance, historians of New England canoeing—used for both hunting and fishing and now a popular sport in itself, with whitewater and flatwater varieties—should start at the New York State Historical Association at Coopers-town, New York, with the records of the American Canoe Association, 1879–1964, and its yearbooks, 1887–1980.⁴⁵ The Appalachian Trail Conference Archives in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, holds reports and correspondence, 1920s to date, donated by those concerned with locating and maintaining the trail; there is material for the four New England states through which the trail passes.⁴⁶ The Maine State Library holds some related collections of personal papers.⁴⁷

Some of the sources for the history of resort discrimination are in the files of the groups organized to fight it. The New England Regional Office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, for instance, has correspondence and clippings that show a rapid drop in discrimination in Vermont hotels after the passage of the Vermont Public Accommodations Act in 1957.⁴⁸ The files of the NAACP and the ACLU contain evidence for presentation to civil rights commissions and courts. The ACLU archive is at Princeton University; the Massachusetts Historical Society has the records of the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts.

In spite of many gaps in the sources, one is still surprised to find no parallel for New England to Earl S. Pomeroy's *In Search of the Golden West: The Tourist in Western America*.⁴⁹ Harold F. Wilson's chapter, "The Development of the Summer Recreation Industry," in *The Hill Country of Northern New England* (1936), remains a sound starting point, showing what can be written using only published sources.⁵⁰ There is no such summary for southern New

⁴⁴Letter from Nancy Berkowitz, Adirondack Museum Library, 27 July 1982. The museum has benefited from Harold Hochschild's devotion, Kenneth Durant's research on the Adirondack guide boat, more than thirty years' collecting by Warder H. Cadbury, and a succession of full-time librarians with generous budgets for acquisitions.

⁴⁵Letter from Wayne Wright of the NYSHA, 21 November 1983. One of the early canoe handbooks is John C. Phillips and Thomas D. Cabot, *Quick-Water and Smooth: A Canoeist's Guide to New England Rivers* (Brattleboro, Vt.: Stephen Daye Press, 1935); it includes articles from *Appalachia* and descriptions of rivers.

⁴⁶There are some two hundred cubic feet of records, including papers of Myron H. Avery on the location of the Appalachian Trail. Letter from Richard Russell, 5 December 1984, and telephone conversation of 13 December 1984; postcard, 5 June 1987.

⁴⁷These include the main body of Myron Avery papers and the Percival Proctor Baxter papers, both used by John W. Hakola to write *Legacy of a Lifetime: The Story of Baxter State Park* (Woolwich, Me.: TBW Books, 1981).

⁴⁸*Rights: ADL Reports on Social, Employment, Educational and Housing Discrimination* 1:1- (May 1956-) summarized the results in the July-August 1957 issue. See also the section, "Resort Discrimination," in *Barriers: Patterns of Discrimination against Jews*, ed. Nathan C. Belth (New York: Friendly House Publishers, 1958), 26–42, especially Harold Braverman, "Bigotry and Hotels," 26–31, and Albert Weiss, "Resorts: A National Survey," 36–39. For newspaper coverage see, e.g., the Portsmouth, N.H. *Herald* editorial, 1 September 1959, and Frank Sleeper, "Few Complaints about Discrimination by Tourists," Portland, Me., *Sunday Telegram*, 13 July 1975. This material was supplied by Assistant Director Leslie Weiss of the Boston Office, ADL.

⁴⁹New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1957.

⁵⁰New York: Columbia University Press, 1936, 277–300; also, Wilson, "Old Home Week," 270–76. See also Harold H. Chadwick, *Vermont's Tourist Business...1934–1940* (Montpelier: Publicity Service, Department of Natural Resources, 1944), and Barbara H. Look and Margaret C. Greene, *Wilmington Reunions, 1890–1970* (Bennington, Vt.: Broad Brook Press, 1970). And compare Harold F. Wilson, *The Story of the Jersey Shore* (Princeton, N.J.: Van Nostrand, 1964), and "The Discovery of the Outdoors," the last chapter of Ralph H. Gabriel, *History of Long Island* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1921).

England. Christopher and Bonnie Collier were aware of the importance of recreation in their recent topical bibliography, *The Literature of Connecticut History* (1983), but had little to list. The few lines in recent Connecticut state histories confirm this neglect. *Connecticut: A Bibliography of its History* (1986), in spite of the usual references to boating on rivers and Long Island Sound, shows little increase in attention to tourism on the local or state level.⁵¹

Collecting sources on tourism or any other subject is only part of what is needed for adequate documentation; adequate description, including cataloging or indexing, is also required. Many published sources are useful for those who know specifically what they are looking for, by name, date, and place. Periodicals usually have only indifferent indexes, if any, at the end of each volume. The state volumes of the *Bibliographies of New England History* (1976–86) show some increase over the decade in their indexed entries for Resorts, Tourist trade, Yachting, and the major sports. Although some headings, such as Amusements and Sailing (or their variants), are listed only for Rhode Island and Connecticut, the trend reflects more writing in these areas and more awareness of their importance.⁵² Older indexes do not feature subjects related to them. The Rhode Island Index (on cards in the Providence Public Library), for example, was started in 1902 and now includes various periodicals, books, pictures, and maps. It yields only a thin

harvest of references to Rhode Island recreation from subject headings; there is a better yield if one searches by the names of resort towns. Supreme among newspaper indexes in years, area, and breadth of coverage is the *New York Times Index* (since 1851); the paper itself includes an invaluable vacation and travel section each Sunday, with numerous articles and advertisements.

Besides collecting and describing sources, archivists may sometimes consider creating them. Tourists come from almost all social and income levels, but except for demographic records, the sources now available in repositories are predominantly elitist. A person with a notebook or tape recorder, like William Least Heat Moon preparing to write *Blue Highways*,⁵³ can talk with those who otherwise leave few records—in a bar, visitors' center, or restaurant—with summer boarders, fall hunters, winter skiers, spring fishermen; and with operators of tourist homes, motels, filling stations, country stores, and taxi services. Records of home demonstration and county agents in the U.S. Agricultural Extension Service will yield additional information about roadside stands and farm families taking in tourists,⁵⁴ but the personal account is the best source of lively details. Guy and Laura Waterman, for instance, have interviewed some two hundred mountain climbers for their book on mountain climbing in the Northeast.⁵⁵

⁵¹Christopher Collier with Bonnie B. Collier, *The Connecticut Scholar: The Literature of Connecticut History*, Occasional Papers of the Connecticut Humanities Council, no. 6 (Middletown: Connecticut Humanities Council, 1983); Committee for a New England Bibliography, *Connecticut: A Bibliography of its History*, ed. Roger Parks (Hanover, N.H.: the Committee, 1986). Albert E. Van Dusen, *Connecticut* (New York: Random House, 1961), 402, concludes with two paragraphs and twelve lines on recreation, and does not index tourists or recreation. See also David Roth, *Connecticut: A History* (New York: Norton, 1979), 206–07.

⁵²The Committee for a New England Bibliography has published bibliographies for the six states, each entitled [name of state]: *A Bibliography of its History*. The first four were published by G.K. Hall (Boston): Massachusetts (1976), Maine (1977), New Hampshire (1979), Vermont (1981); the others by University Press of New England (Hanover, N.H.): Rhode Island (1983), Connecticut (1986).

⁵³William Least Heat Moon, *Blue Highways: A Journey into America* (New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1983).

⁵⁴The University of Vermont Archives holds such records for Vermont.

⁵⁵See note 3.

Finding existing oral history sources on tourism is even more difficult than finding archival sources. There is no general guide to New England oral history collections; published lists of oral histories include little on resorts or recreation. Most programs emphasize politics or their own institutional history. The University of Vermont's Folklore and Oral History catalog, for example, has only one relevant interview, with a camp director.

Future documentation of state fairs, centennial and bicentennial celebrations, horse and dog racing, skating, ice-boating, skiing, rock and ice climbing, foliage tours, wind surfing, gliding, and hang gliding will be in many media. Tourism and recreation account for more photographs than do any other subjects. Camps for youth now recruit with motion pictures and video. The films, logs, and scripts of radio and television stations that are preserved will need further indexing to highlight resort material.

A 1982 survey of twenty-nine New England repositories by Connell Gallagher, archivist of the University of Vermont, found the past century's history represented primarily by a few large accumulations; very little had been assembled on tourism.⁵⁶ Some former factories now house restaurants and gift shops; others have been turned into museums. The value of second homes in New England is second only to that of primary residences. Clearly tourism, in our affluent and mobile society, is of major economic and social importance to New England. In 1981, for the first time, foreign visitors to the United States outnumbered Americans touring abroad, and almost one-half of those visitors came from Canada. If this trend continues, in addition to similar growth of American travel at home, the significance of tourism for New England will continue to grow. So too will the importance of its documents.

⁵⁶Connell Gallagher, "Textiles to Tourism: Documenting Change in New England: Who's Responsible?" paper presented at the Society of American Archivists Forty-sixth Annual Meeting, Boston, 19 October 1982.