



VWHH Guest Book and collection of books by visiting authors

# connecting to place

nature . history . arts

SPRING 2023

THE NEWSLETTER OF VAUGHAN WOODS & HISTORIC HOMESTEAD



THE ORNAMENT  
OF A HOUSE IS THE  
FRIENDS WHO  
FREQUENT IT.  
- RALPH WALDO  
EMERSON

## The Guest Book

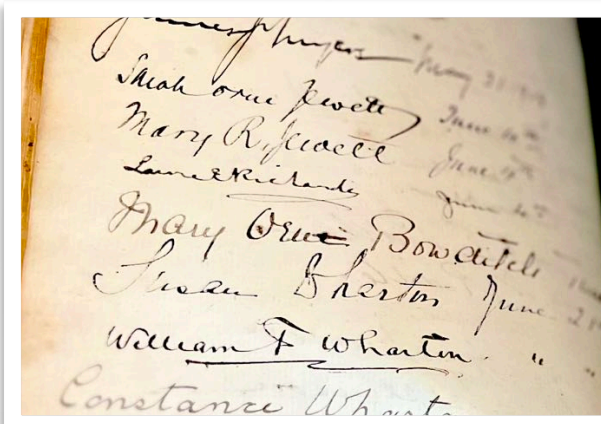
### *A Volunteer Project Highlight*

Throughout its 229 year history the Homestead has welcomed many distinguished guests. This spring volunteers Diane Maillet and Jeff Wainoris began transcribing the Homestead's guest book, which was used to record visitors between 1897 and 2011.

Some of the most notable guests were women. A few highlights include a 1908 visit by renowned Maine authors Sarah Orne Jewett and Laura Richards. Laura's husband was a distant cousin to William Warren Vaughan and visited frequently - the Homestead has a great number of her books in its collection. Laura's mother, Julia Ward Howe, another famed author and abolitionist who wrote "Battle Hymn of the Republic,

also visited the house and signed the book. Alice Longfellow, the daughter of poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and well-known in her own right as a suffragette and philanthropist, was the first person to sign the book in 1897 and appears frequently in the years following.

Won't you join the ranks of these illustrious guests and learn about other famous visitors by coming to the Homestead this summer? The newly renovated Music Room will be open during the June 17th Garden Party, and house tours will run on select Thursdays in July and August. Come sign our new guest book and be a part of Vaughan Homestead history!



# Sneak Peak - Favorite Nooks & Hidden Places

*Staff Pick, by Dan Mitchell, Property Manager*

The “attic” space above the second floor plaster ceiling of the Homestead’s attached carriage house (traditionally referred to as the “shed” by the family) certainly qualifies as a hidden space. It seems to have been a catch-all repository for all manner of extra building materials and stuff too good to throw away - and I think it hasn’t been explored for quite some time!

The barn-like “shed” house is one of the original structures on the property. The picture shows hewn framing members of the hipped roof system, and the upper back side of the lath and plaster ceiling of the finished space below. The room below might have been converted sometime in the mid-19th century. It looks like a pile of junk, but there are a lot of interesting architectural fragments and house parts that can tell us a lot about original features, renovations, and paint colors. In the back upper right of the photo can barely be seen a stack of painted yellow interior folding window shutters once part of the oldest section of the house.



There are early pieces of crown molding, early bed parts, packing boxes, early sections of hand railing, and (way back in the upper left of the photo) a hand-planed wooden toilet “chair” nailed together with cut nails.

Spaces like these are important because mundane items are often lost to history. Sometimes, important things can be lost through the acts of “fixing up” and “cleaning out.” It’s interesting to know that there are still places at Vaughan Homestead to discover “forgotten” things like these!

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## Eggs, Eggs, Eggs . . .

*The Girls Are Laying!*

What started out as a high school senior project back in 2018 has become a big part of our daily lives at the Homestead. When we agreed to house chicks raised by Grace Moulton for a school project, we had no idea we’d fall in love with raising chickens. And now they are producing enough eggs so that roughly two and a half dozen are given each week to the Hallowell Food Pantry!



## Welcome Sumer Interns and Fellow

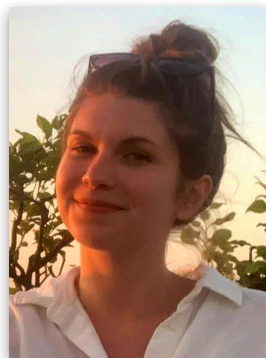
We are excited to introduce Lucas and Joey who will be joining us in June for our eight-week summer internship program.

Lucas Gillespie is a History major at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York. He spent the last semester studying abroad in Budapest, Hungary at Corvinus University.

Joey Wagner graduated with honors this Spring from Colorado State University with a BA in History and a certificate in Museum & Cultural Heritage Studies. She will also be staying on through the fall as our first ever Gerald T. Mahoney Research Fellow!



*Lucas Gillespie*



*Joey Wagner*



*Gerry speaking with students on the Homestead porch and his book "Ardent Spirits."*

The Mahoney Fellow will complete a research project on a topic of their choice that informs present-day societal movements or concerns related to the Homestead's mission and relevant to the history of Hallowell. A public presentation will be given upon completion of the project.

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## Word On The Woods

*A Great Time To Get Out On The Trail!*

Trail conditions are lovely this time of year! A few reminders during this busy time in the Woods:

- If parking at the Hallowell trailhead is full, parking at Hall-Dale High School during non-school hours is a great option! Find the trailhead between the water tower (you can't miss it!) and the tennis courts.
- The terms of our conservation easement stipulate "foot traffic only." So park those bicycles at the trailhead please.
- Keep those pups on a leash (its the law!) and clean up their waste!

Enjoy the spring Woods, and thank you for helping us to care for this special place.



*Duck box on Cascade Pond made by Diesel Marquis*

FOOD  
MUSIC  
BEAUTY  
HISTORY  
COMMUNITY



# Garden Party

SATURDAY, JUNE 17  
5-8 PM AT VAUGHAN HOMESTEAD

## YOU'RE INVITED

Celebrate the coming of summer on **June 17 from 5-8 pm**. Unwind with friends, stroll the gardens, take in a bit of history, play lawn games, view the newly restored Music Room and eat delicious food!

**Musical Performance:** Classical guitar stylings of Ken Labrecque

**Catering:** Pizza by Fire (wood-fired pizza truck) & cash bar offered by the Quarry Tap Room

**Tickets:** \$35/person in advance, \$40 at the gate. Reserve by phone at (207) 622-9831 or purchase online at [vaughanhomestead.org](http://vaughanhomestead.org)

**Host Committee:** George Gibson & Linda Johns, Jim & Karen Simpson, Phil Lindley & Dawn Gallagher, Lee & Diane Hammond Maillet

**Sponsors:** Longfellow's Greenhouses, Berry & Berry Floral, Quality Copy, Blue Marble Geographics, the Quarry Tap Room, & PRO Moving Service

## Upcoming Public Programs

June 17th: **Garden Party**

July 21st-23rd: **Gaslight Theatre** Old Hallowell Day Weekend Performances in the Garden Pavilion

July 25th - 28th: **Art Retreat** with Helen Farrar "Sketches and Sense As Map: Landscape Painting in Encaustic." Details at [helenefarrar.com](http://helenefarrar.com)

**House & Garden Tours**

Select Thursdays in July & August.

September 19th - 22nd: **Art Retreat** with Helen Farrar (Session 2)

October 14th: **Fall Gathering**

**Details at [vaughanhomestead.org](http://vaughanhomestead.org)**

2 Litchfield Road, Hallowell, ME  
[vaughanhomestead.org](http://vaughanhomestead.org)