

The lecture will begin following a brief business meeting at 7:00 PM.

Light refreshments will be available.

The Official Newsletter of

The Waltham Historical Society

WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

MARCH 2019

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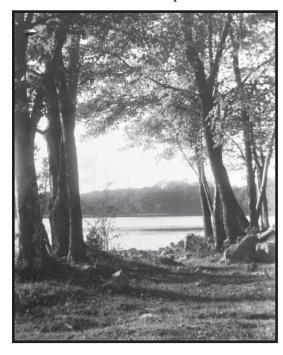
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From the archives

The image on the front of this issue of The Weathervane and others on these pages were taken by Edmund L. Sanderson at the turn of the 20th century. It is part of a series of prints from glass negatives shown here made by Sanderson in his exploration of early photography. The Society has been very fortunate in being the custodians of such important artifacts.



Sanderson was extremely important in the establishment and organization of the Waltham Historical Society from 1913-1961. He collected documents and clippings as well as creating images through the use of his camera.



Images of Hardy Pond, 1904

The Society is extremely grateful to John Morrison for his expertise in converting the glass slides to digital format. The task of converting images involves careful handling of the delicate glass negatives, and setting up the process for digitization.

John set up a light table providing the back-lighting necessary to view the images stored on the glass slides. To ensure scratches were not introduced to the delicate emulsion, John wore cotton gloves.



The emulsion of the slide had to be identified and photographed to capture the image at its sharpest. The slide was then placed on the light table, making certain that the surface of the image was clear of dust and dirt.

Once the camera was positioned another aspect for concern is reflection of any ambient light in the room. Oftentimes the lights would need to be shut off to provide sufficient contrast to capture as much detail as possible.



The raw image of the glass slide of the Reuben Wyman House, 1894, in the negative and inverted format.

John shot the images with a digital camera, noting the information on the sleeve holding the slide. Fortunately for us Mr. Sanderson recorded most of

the important information on the protective sleeve, identifying the location, the date, and other photographic notation.

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When Mr. Morrison finished shooting the

slide he also shot the sleeve so that the slide and its information can be reconciled for historic purposes.



This print of the Wyman House was made from the digital image.

This was a very time-consuming and detailed task, but critical to providing the necessary information allowing us today to understand what it is we are viewing.

Some of these images are difficult to recognize as places we've all been to and seen, but are different 100 years later.

Lake Street image.



The effort of converting our 100 year old glass slides to digital format still has a way to go as we've recently received more glass slides to sort and identify.

The Society wishes to extend our sincere appreciation to Mr. Morrison for his efforts in making these images accessible to us, and to Marilyn Raymond Gagnon for sending us a new batch of glass slides. Although we haven't yet had time to fully investigate the contents of these recent arrivals, they appear to be Sanderson family-related materials with portraits of many members of the Sanderson family along with some identifying documentation for each.

Mr. Sanderson was a very meticulous historian and documented everything he shot, even creating an index of the images allowing us today to make the material ready for the 21st century digital cataloging everyone is seeking. The Society is extremely fortunate to have the opportunity to share these images with the Community he documented.





Lecture Series Sponsor

A No-Cost Health Plan For Seniors

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The Waltham Historical Society is grateful for the sponsorship of six of this year's Edmund L. Sanderson lectures by Senior Whole Health, represented by Patrick O'Brien. Besides the November 2018 and January and March 2019 lectures, the full schedule is as follows:

- April 11, Jack Cox, *The Way We Played: Recreation in Waltham 1900-1999*
- May 14, Margaret Sullivan on the 1919 Boston Police Strike
- July 9, The Mustering out of Waltham's Company F
- September 10, TBD
- November 2019, Veterans' Day WWI.



"Thank you" to the Waltham Historical Society for preserving the City's rich history.



As a proud member of the Waltham community for nearly 70 years, we look forward to serving the members of the Society.

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The Society Bright School location, 260
Grove Street will be staffed on most
Saturdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 PM. This
will afford the opportunity for the public
to visit and view some of the artifacts and
documents collected by the Society over the
past 100 years. If you would like to join us as
a guest or as a docent, please contact us at
waltham.historical.society@gmail.com.