

## **Town of UNDERHILL Important Dates**

- 1763** - Town of UNDERHILL charter deed -- Gov. Benning Wentworth of New Hampshire.  
~23,000 A. "Well set about by mountains." (New Hampshire Grants.)  
(65 original charter members, paid \$230.40 for 70 shares--one cent per acre) Map?
- 1777** - Declaration of Independence; 'Independent Commonwealth of Vermont' established.;  
Constitution adopted.
- 1785** - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of proprietors at home of Abraham Underhill in Dorset, Vt. Hired surveyors.
- 1786** - Subdivision maps: 1<sup>st</sup>: Area -- present Underhill Flats, Poker Hill, River Rd, Irish Settlement 100A lots; 2<sup>nd</sup> Area -- present English Settlement, far Irish Settlement, Pleasant Valley. 100A lots; 3<sup>rd</sup> 100A lots; 4<sup>th</sup> 22A woodlots on Mt Mansfield.  
(Each proprietor got a lot in each subdivision. Gov. Wentworth got 500 A in each township. "Governor's Rights" sold by Wentworth's wife, but history remains at Rawson Farm)  
- 1<sup>st</sup> settlers Elijah Benedict, Abner Eaton
- 1789** - 1<sup>st</sup> topographical map of VT -- shows townships. (cf. Mansfield)
- 1791** - Vermont becomes 14<sup>th</sup> State; pays New York \$30,000 to settle land grant dispute.  
- Hill Road (Poker Hill) laid out, surveyed
- 1795** - 1<sup>st</sup> Underhill Town Meeting; home of George Olds; population 65
- 1800** - Town population up to 212
- 1820** - Pleasant Valley Rd laid out to Cambridge and surveyed.
- 1827** - Underhill Center emerging as village with meeting house, cemetery.  
- Creek Rd (rte 15) surveyed.
- 1832** - Underhill Flatts growing; Town Meeting moved to Barney's Tavern.
- 1839** - VT legislature divides Town of Mansfield between Underhill and Stowe.  
Underhill gets 12 sq.miles -- western side Mt Mansfield, including 'chin', the highest point in VT at 4393'. Also mts later named Dewey, Mayo, Clark.
- 1839** - Subdivision lots officially surveyed
- 1840** - Creek Rd replaces Hill Rd as County Road.
- 1850** - Freewill Baptist/ ME Church, Underhill Center (1950 bought for Town Hall)
- 1855** - 1<sup>st</sup> Catholic Church in Center (later burned; present rebuilt in 1881)  
- Town map (hand drawn) names & location of property owners, schools, mills, businesses
- 1858** - Summit House Hotel; 1<sup>st</sup> Halfway House Hotel built on Mt Mansfield.
- 1859** - UVM acquires land on top of Mt Mansfield
- 1869** - Town map --Beer's Atlas Shows locations of residences and businesses, names of proprietors; mills, churches, cemeteries, schools and school districts, original subdivisions.
- 1870** - Underhill population peaks at 1655.
- 1877** - Burlington & Lamoille RR to Underhill (Last train 1938)
- 1890s** - Local telephone service.
- 1914** - Vermont starts land acquisition for State Forest on Mt Mansfield
- 1926** - Federal Gov. Purchases 1153 A of Underhill for Artillery Range.
- 1933** - 1<sup>st</sup> electrical service in Underhill
- 1933-1942** - CCC camp; Underhill State Park facilities; CCC road
- 1938** - REA sets up VELCO.
- 1945** - USGS topographical map of Vermont.

- 1946 - More acreage added to Range - Underhill total ~ 3,292.
- 1940-1967 - USDA SCCS 'Soil Survey of Chittenden County' pub. 1969.
- 1950 - New location for Town Hall ; former Baptist/ME Church renovated
- 1957 - IBM in Essex Junction.
- 1959- 'Geology of the Mt Mansfield Quadrangle' USGS
- 1961 - 1<sup>st</sup> Underhill Zoning Board authorized.
  - State of VT bedrock geology map published. (Charles Doll, State Geologist)
- 1963- 1<sup>st</sup> Underhill Zoning Ordinance adopted.
- 1964 - 1<sup>st</sup> Underhill Planning Commission appointed.
- 1966 - Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission established (CCRPC)
- 1968 - VT Act 250 -Municipal Planning & Development Act
- 1969 - Underhill Historical Society organized.
  - Underhill Land Use Study with Robert Towne of SCCS, VT Dept of Water Resources,
  - Town Hall renovation begun
- 1970 - 1<sup>st</sup> Underhill Comprehensive Town Plan, Subdivision Regulations, Transportation Plan.
  - Change in appraisal for land from use value to acreage.
  - VT State surficial geology map published. (Charles Doll, State Geologist)
  - Town voted to change from yearly to quarterly tax payments.
- 1971 - Town dump closed and covered. Land on New Road leased from Dr Shera for new landfill
- 1972 - Revised Underhill Comprehensive Town Plan, Land Use Map adopted.
- 1974 - Underhill Land Use Contract adopted. (tax relief for farmers, large land owners).
  - Revised Zoning Regulations adopted. ( 5 districts based on Land Use Map- 'Critical Area Zoning' )
  - Land next to old schoolhouse purchased for recreation area, pool and tennis courts
- 1975 - Recreation Committee organized.
- 1978 - Land on New Road purchased for Landfill
- 1979 -New flyover for orthophotomaps.
- 1983 - Town office accounting computerization started.
- 1984 - New landfill certified. Recycling established.
- 1984 - 1988 - Parcel maps on orthophoto base drawn by Jim Nassau.
- 1986 - Selectmen adopt Road Policy
- 1987 - Revised Land Use Plan - Zoning District Boundaries straightened and defined by road locations (CCRPC) Revised Zoning regulations adopted.
- 1988- MAPINFO computer mapping introduced for Underhill
  - Vermont ACT 200 planning legislation ; State GIS established.
  - FEMA Flood Plain maps.
  - Solid waste management plan; commission appointed
- 1989 - Revised Town Plan published with MAPINFO computer maps ; Act 200 approval.
  - Conservation Commission established.
- 1991 - GIS contracts for Town parcel data
- 1992 - Landfill closed ; Septic Regulations adopted.
- 1994 - Completely rewritten Town Plan; computer maps
- 1997 - Vermont Act 60 -change in school tax allocation .
  - Deborah Rawson Memorial Library opened.
  - New Firehouse built

- 1998** - Solid Waste Plan adopted by Selectboard., roadside collection
- 1999** - Property next to Town Hall purchased, house removed.
  - Mills Riverside Park established.
- 2000** - Town Hall addition built , offices renovated.
  - New Town Garage built, dedicated to George Bradford, former Selectboard Chair.
- 2001**- New Underhill Center Bridge built, dedicated to Margaret Hummel, former Selectboard Chair.
- 2002** - Volunteers create new park across from Town Hall.
- 2003** - Vermont ACT 69 - changes in school tax collection
- 2004** - New park named MOORE PARK, dedicated to Edwin T. Moore, former Selectboard Chair.
- 2006** - Development Review Board (DRB) replaces Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA)
- 2007** - State takes over septic system designs.
- 2008** - Constable duties redefined. .
- 2010** - Town Officer duties redefined.