



Modern Times

GENERAL INFORMATION

Museum opens for regular hours on May 4. Regular hours are Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Archives Open- Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Please use the Robinson Research Center entry on the west side of the building.

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Granville Builder Is Featured In Next Society Program

The craftsmen who built many of Granville's homes are long forgotten but Cynthia Cort will give us a glimpse into the work of one such builder, Watkin Thomas at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, in the Robinson Research Center. "Wat" was a carpenter and contractor who built a number of familiar buildings in Granville in the early part of the 20th century. In addition to private residences, he was the contractor for the Granville Public Library and the Village Hall. Cort will be exploring the career of this Granville native as well as discussing house materials and construction methods.

Cort is the only person to have earned a Bachelor of Arts in the field of Indian Textiles from the University of Wisconsin, a fact that is completely irrelevant to this talk. She is speaking as a resident of Granville with an interest in history. In researching the history of the ownership of her own house, she discovered that Wat Thomas was its builder (see *Historical Times*, Winter 2009, "The History of Your House"). As the volunteer collections manager of the Granville Historical Society she found tools marked WST in the collection of the Society. This led to her current research into the life and career of this local builder.

The Granville Historical Society also is hosting a Museum Open House for Turn Off Your Screen Week from 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday, May 2. Regular open hours begin on Wednesday, May 4.

Third grade students from Granville schools will be spending a half day at The Old Academy that served as a school for both boys and girls participating in lessons and activities that 19th century students would likely have experienced. The second half of the day will include a tour of the museum learning about the history of Granville and of the 1816 building that began as Granville's first bank.

Artifact of the Month



This spittoon most likely lived a discreet life in the parlor of a private Victorian home. Unlike its brethren in saloons and barber shops, it is decorated with now faded hand painted flowers on the rim and leaves on the lower bowl area. Tobacco chewing gentlemen were common in the late 19th century and the spittoon was a necessary accessory for the habit.



Chimney Repair & Redo

Workmen recently finished work on the museum chimney. The old masonry was repaired, repointed, and new stone facing applied. This work, which also solved a problem of water infiltration into the building, was paid for with funds from a Operation Roundup Foundation grant.

We're Looking for a Photo

The new barber shop exhibit at the Granville Historical Society is up and running, but we still need photos of Buss Roberts cutting hair in the shop that the museum once housed. If any of you has such photos, or know of someone else who does, we would love to scan them for the exhibit and for longer-term use in our archives. Contact Keith Boone, (boone@denison.edu) or at 740-587-4728.