

BRIAN PLUMB, HOSTED BY THE WAYSIDE INN, AUGUST 12, 2016

The four generations of the How(e) family operating an evolving active inn through the colonial times (1702–1861, 159 years). These are <u>deed transfer dates</u>:

David (1702–1744, 41.7 years, a tavern from 1716 to 1744, 27.5 years)

Ezekiel (1744–1795, 51.2 years)

Adam (1795–1840, 45.8 years)

Lyman (1840–1861, 20.3 years)

A.Hew IV

Innkeeper License application August 28, 1716 - 300 years celebrated 1716-2016

cousins/ tenants A period of Howe aunt and cousin ownership and the Longfellow impact (auctioning some of the estate, subletting property, 1861–1893, 31.8 years) Tales of a Wayside Inn written by Longfellow in 1863

Howe/Rogers

A brief transition period of local ownership (Rogers & Howe) wanting to preserve the inn (1893–1897, 4.0 years)

Lemon

Edward R. and Cora Lemon's restoration as an inn (1897–1923, 26.6 years) "A mecca for literary pilgrims"

Ford

Henry Ford's ownership, further restoration and asset accumulation (1923-1945, 22.3 years)

Trust 71 yrs

The transition to a historic trust, part I: selling of assets and the 1955 fire/restoration period (1945–1959, 13.3 years)

The modern-day ownership period, part II: turning the inn into a sustainable business (1959–1989, the trust hired **Frank Koppeis** to run it for 30.8 years)

And the current modern-day ownership period, part III: including the long-term strategic plan, bringing in new innkeepers, renovations and improvements to the business (1989–present, ~27 years and counting).

Ford & the Inn/Longfellow Connection

A PSAIM OF LIFE
Wildleburf directions and the planted

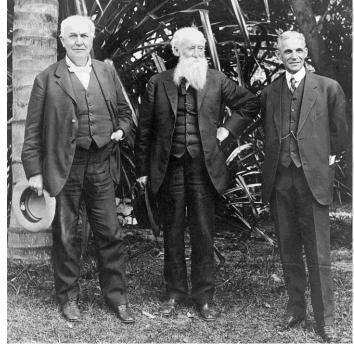
Wildleburg and the property of the prop

Longfellow poetry was contained in the "McGuffey Reader Series" Ford read in school.



"I liked to read anything by Longfellow because his psaim had sunk in so deep. I grew to know the Wayside Inn by reason of the "Tales of a Wayside Inn." And after Mr. Burroughs introduced me to the actual inn and I had been there a few times, it struck me the inn should be restored and cherished as an historic landmark so our school children of this day and future days might have it for a practical illustration of what our colonial New England institutions were like.





Edison, Burroughs, Ford, 1914

Detroit Sunday Times, 2/17/1924

- Ford read Longfellow as a child, he knew of the inn for a long time.
- His friend, naturalist John Burroughs, brought Henry to the inn (before 1921)

It all starts with success of the T in 1908



- 1911 Valley Farm, 80-acre home for orphans
- 1914 Begins collecting McGuffey Readers & Edisoniana
- 1915/6 Builds Fairlane home
- 1915 Builds Ford Hospital
- 1915 Peace Ship to Norway to stop WWI
- 1915 Ford Cooperative farms in MI
- 1916 Opens Boys Trade School
- 1916 Vagabond camping trips start
- 1916 Buys winter home in Ft. Myers, FL
- 1917 Starts selling Fordson tractors
- 1917 Buys yacht Sialia
- 1918 Starts village industries



- Huge success of Model T (at his age 45)
 - Within just over a decade, Ford had more than 50 factories on six continents. He employed 200,000 people, he produced half the world's cars, and by some accounts, he was worth more than \$2 billion. He begins to dabble.
- Appoints son Edsel President in 1918. Ford, though he should have been focusing on the car company (one car, fell to third place, 1923 was its last good year), yet continues to dabble further.

Jazz Prohibition Organized Crime speakeasies Women's Suffrage Lindbergh Babe Ruth Art Deco Penicillin F. Scott Fitzgerald Hemmingway Louis Armstrong Flappers Mass production

US/world finance

The 1920's

- A DYNAMIC ERA, coming out of the turn of the century and the end of first world war

In France it was known as the "années folles" ("Crazy Years")

- Technology advances led to unprecedented industrial growth
 - Electrifications of cities, towns, countryside
 - Telephones
 - Cars, trucks, aeroplanes
 - movies, Hollywood
 - medicine, science
 - Eugenics movement (sterilization of "stupid" people)
- Between 1890 and 1900, 9 million eastern and southern Europe arrived in the US.

But...

Rise of radical political movements

Communism spread

Racism in the US continues, KKK active

Success continued, Ford goes sideways



1920

Ford turned to what was bothering him, something he hoped to fight - the growing destruction of values and loss of ethnic purity Ford believed necessary to keep the country strong. He developed xenophobic views. Immigrants, he thought, were not becoming "Americanized" as cities grew and their ethnic enclaves thrived. He held a belief that a Jewish conspiracy was trying to take over the world (and were behind the war-for-profit machine). Ford actually believed that the modern age was stripping important customs and social structures from American life, ones that he saw as the foundations of his own success.

FORD IDEALS

Being a Selection from "Mr. Ford's Page"

THE DEARBORN INDEPENDENT

1922

In "Mr. Ford's Own Page: Change is Not Always Progress," he argued that the "trouble with us today is that we have been unfaithful to the White Man's traditions and privileges." He went on to blame immigrants for "sapping" American's courage and demoralizing our ideas."

Taken in context

- This all reads horribly today...but peeling back the directness and imbedded racism of the "1920's speak" and putting it into the language we use today, what he seemed to be saying is the values, principles, and culture of this country are what had, and what does, make it great. He firmly believed immigrants should assimilate into "our" culture and make a true ideological commitment. Not doing this, in his view, diluted down the very reason why people wanted to come here in the first place.
- This observation was not unique to Henry Ford. Most of the country believed this as well. Ford just happened to be more visible and outspoken about it (helped of course by the fact he owned several papers).
- This is an age-old "issue" which continues to be debated today. We refer to it now as Nationalism vs. Globalism.

An idealist inventor with flaws it seems

Some read him extremely acerbically:

Bryson: He was defiantly narrow-minded, barely educated, and at least close to functionally illiterate. His beliefs were powerful but consistently dubious, and made him seem, in the words of The New Yorker, "mildly unbalanced." He did not like bankers, doctors, liquor, tobacco, idleness or any sort, pasteurized milk, Wall Street, overweight people, war, cities, books or reading, JP Morgan, capital punishment, tall buildings, college graduates, experts of any kind, Roman Catholics, or Jews. His ignorance was a frequent source of wonder.

Then the "trial of the century" came along...







VOLUME LXXVIII .- NO. 195.

BY THE TRIBUNE COMPANY.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 1919.-32 PAGES.

TWO SEATERS CONSISTS ONE

* * PRICE TWO CENTS IN CHICAGO THREE CENTS

FORD GETS 6 CENTS IN SUIT FOR \$1,000,000

Ford is outspoken with his pacifist views during current Mexican border wars and lead up to WWI.

In 1916, the *Chicago Tribune* printed a series of three articles based on interviews with Henry Ford, calling Ford "an anarchist" and "an ignorant idealist." In one of the articles, the *Tribune* quoted Ford as saying, "history is more or less bunk."

Ford sued for libel.* His \$1 million suit came to trial in Mt. Clemens, Michigan, in 1919. During the trial, the defense attorneys, trying to prove Ford's "ignorance," quizzed him on this statement, and on his knowledge of history. Ford had but an 8th grade education, it was made very clear how ignorant he really was on most matters. Historian John Stadenmaier observed in the PBS documentary on Henry Ford: "...he was revealed to be pathetically inarticulate and ill-informed. The stuff he didn't know was amazing to people." "The man is a joke," blasted the New York Post in 1919.

Ford won, but was only awarded six cents. The jurors did not believe Ford was an anarchist and to call him one was wrong - but there was no real damage done to Ford. The juror also sided with the folksy, man-ofthe-people Ford, vs. the slick lawyers trying to bring him down.

FORD IS AN ANARCHIST.

Inquiry at the Henry Ford offices in Detroit dislobes the fact that emplo bers of or recruits in th their places. No provision dependent upon them. families may get along it positions will be filled, a and apply for their jobs same footing as any oti rule for Ford employes Information was ret

American soldiers up Henry Ford as an emp Detroit recruiting office seventy-five mos will pe to their country.

Mr. Ford thus prot service to the untion serve it. If his facto not the northern bore the same way. We would do if a Villa strong boxes were w be pleasant to see exident that it is po of the Canadian happens just nort If Ford allows will reveal himse

> protects him in A man so igno derstand the fund take Henry Ford hi

History "More or Less Bunk."

" Say, what do I care about Napoleon?" he rambled on. "What do we care what they did 500 or 1,000 years ago? I don't know whether Napoleon did or did not try to get across there and I don't care. It means nothing to me. History is more or less bunk. It's tradition. We don't want tradition. We want to live in the present and the only history that is worth a tinker's dam is the history we make today.

"That's the trouble with the world. We're living in books and history and tradition. We want to get away from that and take care of today. We'vedone too want to do much lo history and rig

*Ford viewed an anarchist akin to the person who threw a bomb into Haymarket Square during the labor riots on May 4, 1886. This was an insult.

Fallout from the trial

Ford is embarrassed and humiliated. Ford biographer's have noted that the *Tribune* trial scarred his personality; that it "tinged his mind with wariness, bitterness, and cynicisms." 1

Part of the problem was he wasn't able to clearly make the point that history, as taught in books, is made up of stories of rulers, wars, political controversies, and extensions of territories, with nothing of the ordinary life of the people or of agricultural or industrial progress. (What his "history is bunk" really meant.)

With the immigrant issues and Jewish conspiracy theories also circling around in his head, he's becoming increasing convinced the country has to get back on track.

So Ford was determined not to let it go!

He told his secretary, Ernest G. Liebold, on the way home from trial:1

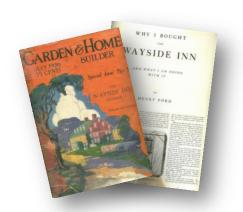
"We're going to start something. I'm going to start up a museum and give people a true picture of the development of the country. That's the only history that is worth observing, that you can preserve in itself. We're going to build a museum that's going to show industrial history, and it won't be bunk! We'll show the people what actually existed in years gone by and we'll show the actual development of American industry...from the earliest days that we can recollect up to the present day."

(Often attributed to why he started Greenfield Village, but it was The Wayside Inn that seems to have started it all.

In all, he built several living museums and "village industries.")

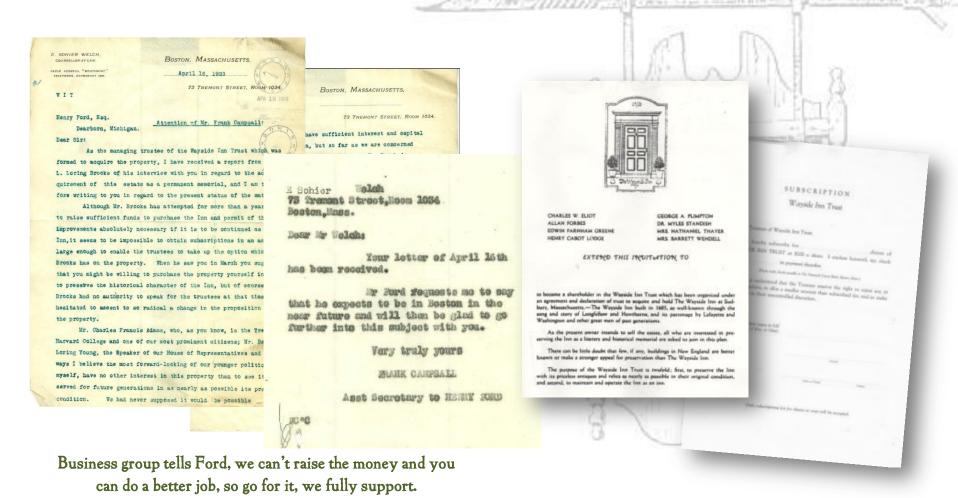
When speaking about why bought the inn:

I deeply admire the men who founded this country, and I think we ought to know more about them and how they lived and the force of courage they had. Of course, we can read about them, but even if the account we are reading happens to be true, and often it is not, it cannot be called upon for the full picture. The only way to show how our forefathers lived, and to bring to mind what kind of people they were, is to reconstruct, as nearly as possible, the exact conditions under which they lived.



Ford idealistically believes that solutions for the present could be found in the material culture and traditions of the past.

By 1922, inn's plight came to his attention



- The inn was facing an uncertain future, someone needed to step in and protect the inn before it was too late.
- Ford came to visit the Wayside Inn late October 1922 and met with Mrs. Lemon (ER passed away in 1919)
- Local group tried to raise the money (and reached out to Ford), but thought Ford a better owner for all.
- Timing, so it seemed, was perfect

So Henry Ford buys the inn in 1923

Motivations:

- 1. Ford fascinated with the WSI as part of his own idealization of his childhood and the upbringing of those he admired.
- 2. Appreciates
 Longfellow and
 historical significance of
 the inn and desperate
 need for help.
- 3. Sees the pioneering spirit and "living museum" potential. Wants to show country how to really appreciate history.
- 4. Love of NE objects and their usefulness.



Henry Ford, ER's sister Ella Lemon, Cora Lemon, Clara Ford. Ella was not happy Ford was only paying \$65,000 for the inn. She thought it was worth far more. Cora seems to be holding back Ella's left hook.

Press is filled with stories



Inn To Be An Object Lessen.

He spoke of his purpose in preserving the Wayside Inn, made famous by Longfellow.

"I intend," he said, "to make this get whole place an object lesson for the at future, of the times and suground- ha ings in which the American pioneers lived. People can visualize condi- ash tionsthere in a minute when they see on them, which they could not learn in re

He said he inteded to lease the inn on a self-perpetuating basis, remarking:

"Things that don't pay their way aren't generally worth much."

Incidentally he is going to replace a. proprietor prosta de death Colonia signical will his signical with the first and Horse and Horse Red Horse after C. losi his program

Henry Ford Will Oeprate It Both as Museum and Tavern.

SUDBURY, Mass., Sept. 26.—"I in it tend to restore the Wayside Inn as nearly to its original condition as possible and then to operate it both as a museum and as a tavern." Henry Fords said today. The manufacturer recently purchased the tayern made famous by Longfellow.

"I take a very deep interest in this building," he said, "and I bought it with the purpose of making a shrine for the people of the United States. It is richer in colonial, historic and literary interest than any similar structure that I know of."

Mr. Ford said that he contemplated One room, he said. few changes. would be named the Edison Room.

The old sign which announces an admission charge of 25 cents from all visitors will remain, Mr. Ford added, remarking:

"If people have interest enough to want to see the place, they will not object to paying. Anything free is not worth having.

The New Hork Times

Published: September 27, 1923 Copyright © The New York Times

CRD BUYS WAYSIDE INN AND FAMOUS ANTIQUES

PROVIDENCE, Sept. oric Wayside Inn at South Sud-12.- The y, Mass., and other property in bury, Framingham and Maricomprising about 700 acres h was recently acquired by Du-Flint, of this city, has been ferred to Henry Ford and Clara rd, Mr. Flint announces. The eration was \$175,000. Title to operty has been recorded in inn will continue to be operpurchase includes several waterfalls and small mills ! id with many specie

n Restoring Famous Tavern of Longlow's Time, Provides Shrine for Lovers of American Tradition.

RLES D. CAMERON. public the post Longfelnemorial to Longfellow woodlots by ox-teams. nous guests of the inn, efreshment for visitors s, and a park for the ys of their forefathers.

at a "Neighbor's Day" party the ed has completed a work evening of Feb. 9. On that evening n restoring and re-open- again, as in Longfellow's time,

The windows of the wayside inn Gleamed red with firelight. side Inn," the Red Horse for Mr. Ford in his restoration has South Sudbury, Massa- removed the brickwork which filled a has also acquired 700 16 gigantic hearts in the ancient is and wood along the building were all aglow with burnd will make the whole ing logs, drawn from the nearby

THE YEARS ROLL BACK.

The "chimneys huge and tiled and on of America, where tall" were thus seen as the post s for themselves the saw them. Everyone who has seen re-opening of the old- the restored inn speaks of these in America took place, great hearths, from which

More fancifully, he tells papers:

"It's a small payment to Longfellow for four stanzas he wrote."



A Psalm of Life

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

WHAT THE HEART OF THE YOUNG MAN SAID TO THE PSALMIST

Tell me not, in mournful numbers,
Life is but an empty dream!
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!

And the grave is not its goal;

Dust thou art, to dust returnest,

Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow, Is our destined end or way; But to act, that each to-morrow Find us farther than to-day.

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave.

In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife!

Trust no Future, howe'er pleasant!

Let the dead Past bury its dead!

Act,— act in the living Present!

Heart within, and God o'erhead!

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time;

Footprints, that perhaps another,
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us, then, be up and doing, With a heart for any fate; Still achieving, still pursuing, Learn to labor and to wait.

In another, he cites old time dancing:

"...there was no cleaner, more healthful diversion than good, old fashioned dance. Which led him to buy a couple of old inns..."



HENRY FORD told in yesterday's Sentinet how, in seeking the true balance in life—the balance between work and play—he was led to the conclusion that there was no cleaner, more healthful diversion than the good, old fashioned dances. Which led him to buy a couple of old inns, so that he could use their fine, spacious ballrooms in which to conduct a revival of "real dancing".

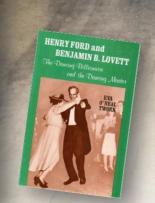
Today he tells how he saw another good object to be served in reconstructing these old inns in every detail and refurnishing them as they were in the days of their former glory. These inns, he said, expressed the pioneer spirit that built up America and made it great, and by restoring them to their original state he is furnishing an object lesson in how the pioneers lived and helping to revive the pioneer spirit of the land.

By HENRY FORD.

Written in Collaboration With Samuel Crowther.

PRIMARILY, we are having a good time out of the things of yesterday, and that is the reason for the Wayside inu and the Botsford inn.

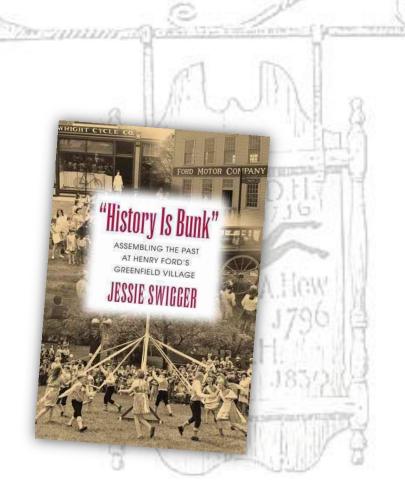
6/1/1926 Milwaukee Sentinel



Old Time Dancing...

Dr. Jessie Swigger, professor at SCU and author of *History is Bunk* points out what may seem a harmless hobby was in fact, according to some researchers cited, tied to his xenophobia:

"His colleagues remembered that during his anti-Semitic tirades, Ford often spoke of the importance of preserving colonial music as a tool for combating Jews in the entertainment industry who, he alleged, were using jazz and the film industry to subvert American cultural traditions."



He actually buys two inns:

"I find recreation...in hunting up objects which our fathers and our forefathers used, and reconstructing life as they lived it. They had much better taste; they knew more about beauty in the design of commonplace, everyday things...That is why we are taking over and reconstructing in their periods a couple of old inns, one in Massachusetts and one not far from Detroit. One can live in them, keeping the best of the old life with the best of the present."

Henry Ford, Garden & Home Builder, 1926



1923 Ford acquires c1716 Wayside Inn



1924 acquires c1836 Botsford Tavern (outside of Detroit) (found later to have a lack of water and sewer supply, so development never started)

The New Hork Times
Published: May 16, 1926

Ford found in New England objects (and building, and people) the perfect expression of his philosophy that life should be useful and that beauty consists of the adaptation of a thing for its use."

The Lewiston Daily Sun, Nov 16, 1923 (plans), colonial town 1925 unknown paper

At the Wayside Inn, the plan is:

"To become a live museum to demonstrate the advance of civilization in America"

WAYSIDE INN PLANS Ancient and Modern Side by Side To Show Progress from 1723 to 1923 Wayside Inn, it has been said Henry Ford's representa-

NASHUA TELEGRAPH THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1923.

Museum to Demonstrate Advances in America

South Sudbury, Mass., Nov. 15. Wayside Inn. made famous by Longfellow's poem, will become a live museum to demonstrate the advance of civilization in America. according to plans made by Henry Ford, as revealed by a representative yesterday in an address becolonial kitchen which will stand as it did 200 years ago when coach messes of parties were served from fireplace and brick oven, will be a modern modern garage, kitchen with electric heating grills cookers, and steamers.

Three stages of agriculture will be portrayed in three farms, one to be cultivated in Colonial with wooden and early iron plows among the equipment; with horse-drawn machinery and still another entirely equipped with motor driven machinery.

According to the speaker an old Igrist mill will stand contrasted with a modern tribune driven mill the old Wayside Inn coach house fore a local club. Beside the old and carriage stables will be filled: with the conveyances and har turnpike days across the way will be erected a

"Ancient and modern side by side to show progress..."

Ford believed "a piece of machinery or anything that is made is like a book, if you can read it. It is part of the record of man's spirit."

FORD TO BUILD **COLONIAL TOWN**

Village of 300 Persons Will Spring up Around Wayside Inn, Sudbury

EACH HOME TO BE RICH IN ANTIQUES

WORCESTER, Jan. 8 (A. P.)-A village of 300 persons, living much in the manner of the Pilgrim fathers, will spring up about the Wayside Inn at Sudbury, secluded from the Boston turnpike, in the loop between the present road in front of the inn and the new road which Henry Ford is to build, it was learned today from a member of Mr. Ford's staff.

Houses, grist mills, barns and furnishings will all be of colonial style, in keeping with the atmosphere of the inn; each home will be rich in antiques coveted by collectors. Mr. Ford has been reticent with information, but following the discovery of a saw mill already in action and ox teams drawing hand-hewn beams for the first of the dwellings, it was admitted yesterday that the automobile manufacturer was sponsoring this project to preserve the simplicity and beauty of early New England life.

A tremendous task is involved in one detail of the reconstruction. An old stone wool-carding mill is to be moved bodlly from Weare, N. H., and set up close to a grist mill already on the site. The machinery has been sent to Detroit for repairs before shipment to Sud-

an old pillared colonial house standing on the outskirts of the village will probably be the "squire's mansion." This building, along with the Wayside Inn, is in excellent condition, in spite of its age, and will require a minimum of alteration.





Martha-Mary Chapel, gristmill, Redstone School, Ford's Folly, Southwest School (Peakham Rd), Carding Mill (behind inn), Country store.



North wing, dance hall above (now guest rooms), Parmenter House (THF), cider mill, ice house, Adam Howe House (renovated), cooling plant.



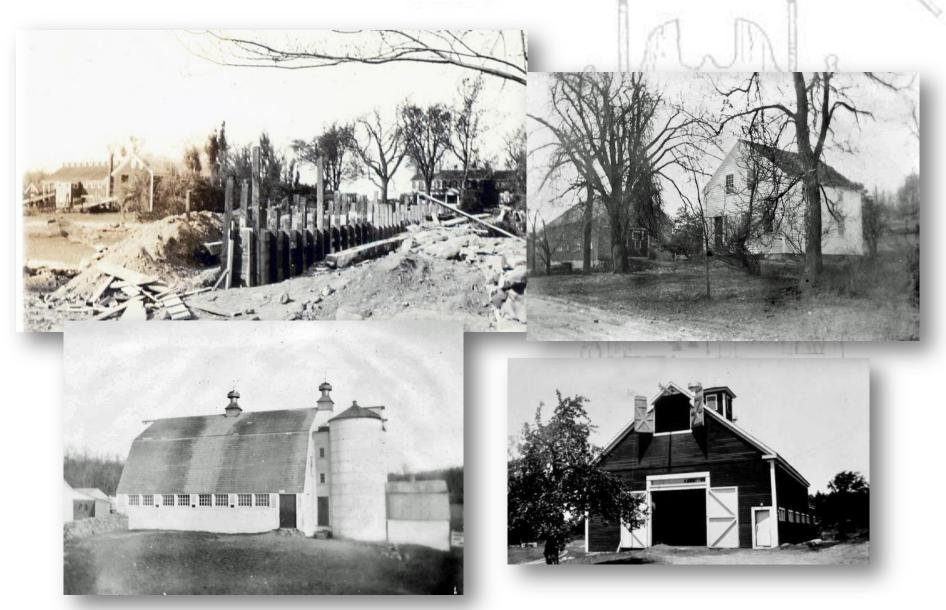




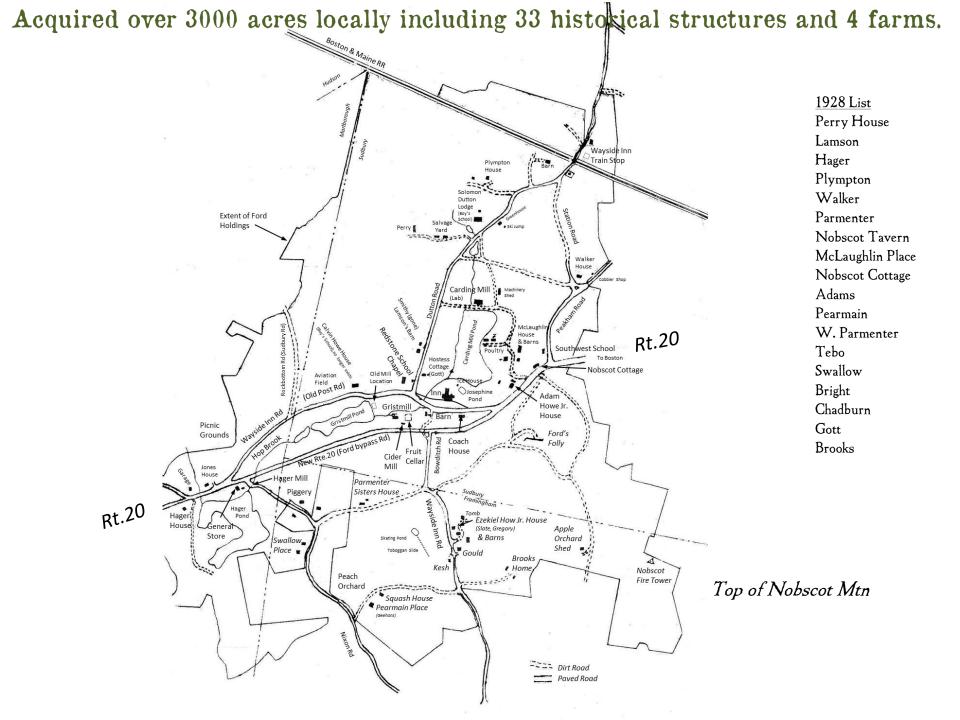


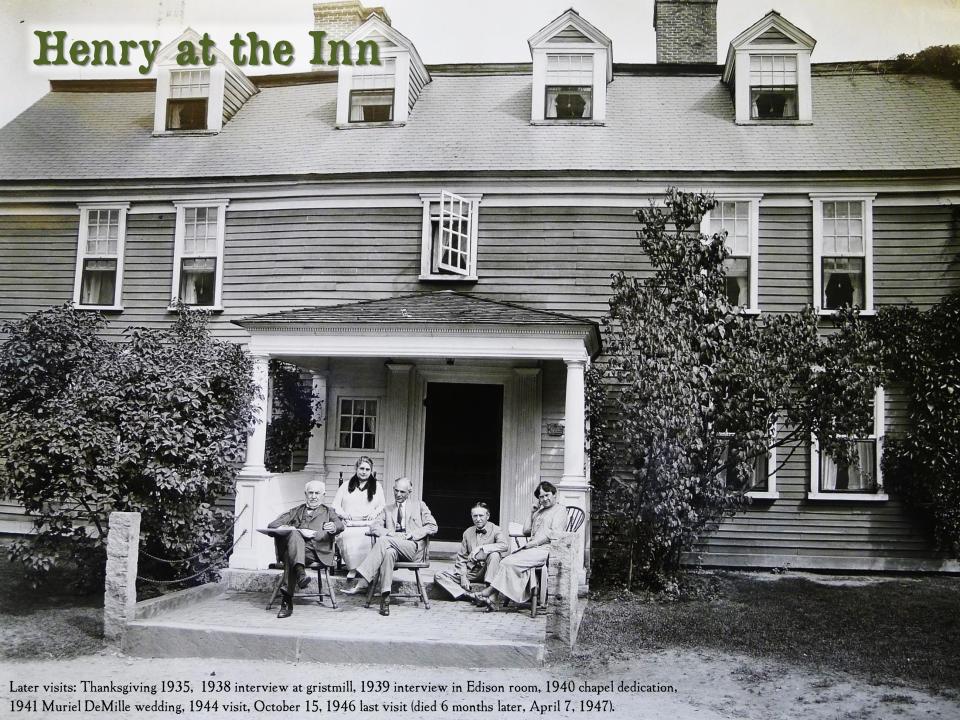
Hager House, Parmenter Sisters House, Calvin Howe House/Bright Mansion (Boys School, across from gristmill), Jones House

Henry Ford Farms 1923-1940



Old Calvin Howe barn by gristmill pond (burned), 1931 Lamson Barn, 1933 McLaughlin barn, 1931 Esk. How Jr Lot barn









FORD TALKS PIES AND HIGH FINANCE

The Spokesman Review Jan 10, 1926

Sits by Fire at Wayside Inn While Storm Rages and Airs His Views.

JEWS ARE NECESSARY

"Keep Business World Stirred Up, Otherwise We'd Sit Back and Take It Easy."

SUDBURY, Mass., Jan. 9. (A) Henry Ford sat by his fireside in Wayside inn today and talked of finance and pies.

Outside was a heavy snowstorm, the kind that has made New England famous, and the wealthy manufacturer, who dabbles in fiddles and antiques, came in from a before-breakfast walk to chat with newspaper men who had come to learn the details of his plans to restore the old-fashioned dance to America and to move a road out of his front yard at the inn.

Titting back in a high-backed chair, Ford told reporters he thought big business deals, manipulations of the market and the amassing of fortunes by individuals were good for the country.

"The Jews," he said, "are highly necessary in America. They keep the people stirred up with their business ability. Otherwise, we'd sit back and take it easy."

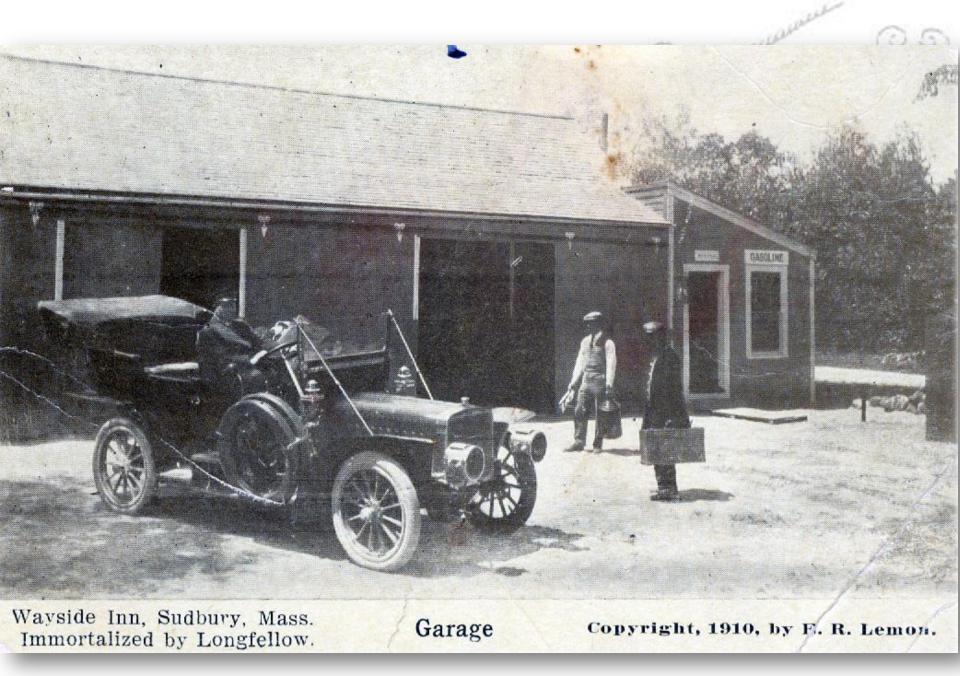
back and take it easy."

He was interrupted by a cook entering the room with a huge pan of Indian pudding and Mr. Ford jumped to his feet to open the door of an oven at the side of the fireplace.

"You should have seen the pies that came out of that oven this morning," he said.







First car garage, Henry took down in 1928





Old bar was reception desk and gift store. No alcohol was served (the Ford way). (1920-1933 was also prohibition)





Edison Bedroom

We went about getting the Inn back into its original condition - all except one bedroom. This we have named the "Edison Room" and have furnished it as of the time of Mr. Edison's birth. Garden & Home Builder, July 1926. (This is now the Drover's room above the old bar.)











WAYSIDE INN PLANS

Ancient and Modern Side by Side To Show Progress from 1723 to 1923

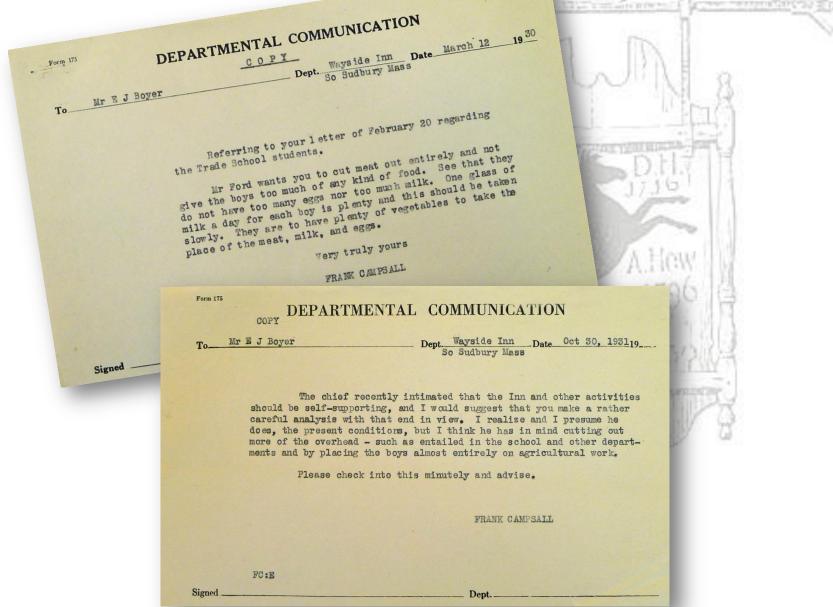


Weekly reports were sent to the chief and Clara (who took a special interest in reading):

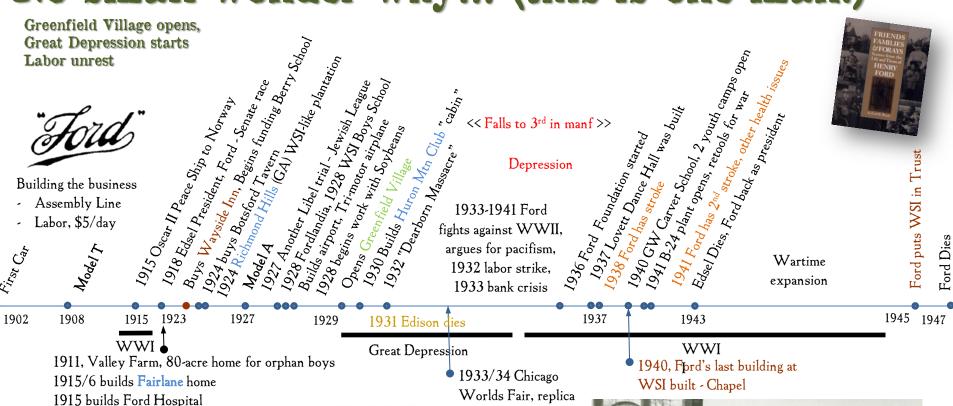


The Hostess Diaries

By 1930, Ford's pulled in many directions



No small wonder why... (this is one man!)



1915 Ford Cooperative farms in MI

1916 Opens Boys Trade School

1916 Vagabond camping trips start

1916 Buys winter home in Ft. Myers, FL

1917 starts selling Fordson tractors

1917 buys yacht Sialia

1918 buzz bombs for WWI

1918, begins launching 25 rural water-powered "village industries"

1919 Starts anti-Semitic articles in Dearborn Independent

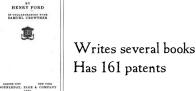
1920 starts buying railroad, steel miles, shipping fleets, ore mines, glass factories

1920 starts selling Fordson trucks

1920 builds Dearborn grain mill and massive elevator

1922 Florida rubber plantation, Botanical Research Corp

of WSI built

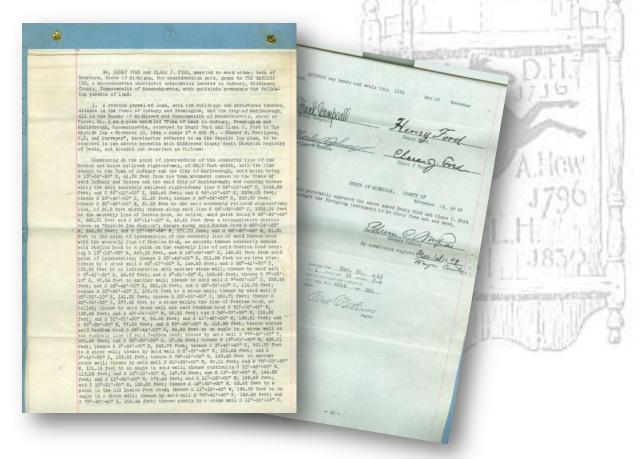


MY LIFE AND WORK



November 1940 Wayside Inn Martha-Mary Chapel Dedication

By 1945, Ford wants to make sure the inn is preserved for future generations, turns it into a trust



- Trust run by Ford Family for roughly first 10 years, slowly moved to local oversight
- Wayside Inn is a 501c3 tax-exempt MA corporation

In 22 ½ years, Ford accomplished what he set out to do here:

- Preserve, restore, and protect the inn
- Set about to have an active working farm & "living museum"
- Educate youth in a trade (and his values)
 - One of his earliest of many trade schools for underprivileged youths
- Have a retreat he could visit to dance and relive "the good old days."



