

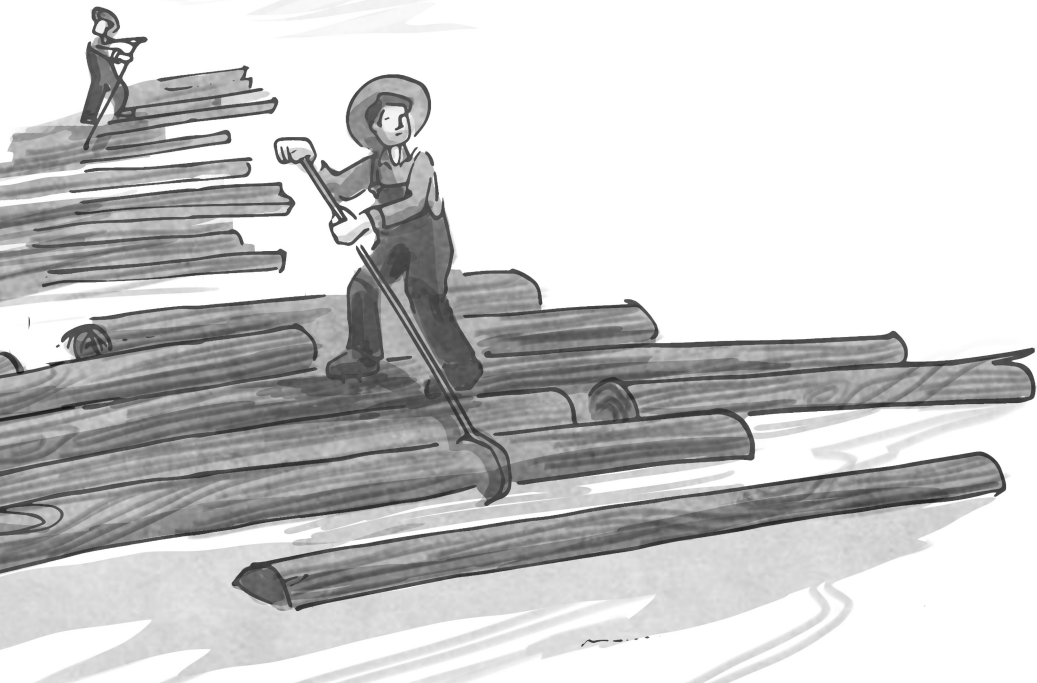
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PODCAST COMPANION

BECOMING NORWICH

RIVERS & MILLS

NHS



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THIS COMIC BOOK, A COMPANION TO THE NORWICH DRIVING
TOURS, WAS ILLUSTRATED AND DESIGNED BY EMILY ZEA AND
WRITTEN BY SARAH ROOKER AND WENDY THOMPSON. FIND
MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACCOMPANYING TOUR PODCAST
AT WWW.NORWICHHISTORY.ORG



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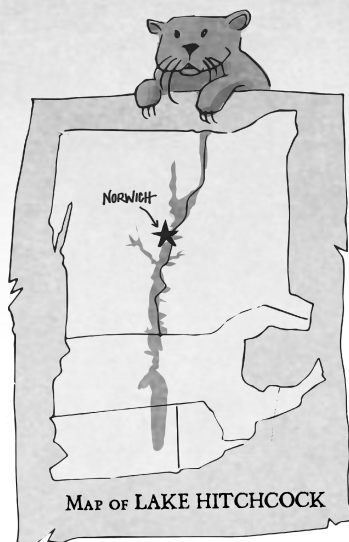
NORWICH
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GLACIAL NEW ENGLAND

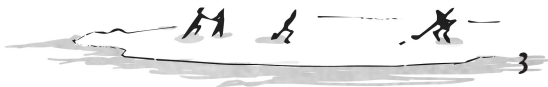
23,000 YEARS AGO, GLACIERS COVERED NEW ENGLAND IN ICE AND SNOW ONE AND A HALF MILES THICK. THAT'S TALLER THAN MOUNT WASHINGTON!

AS THE GLACIERS MELTED, WATERS FLOWED DOWN WHAT IS NOW THE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY AND FORMED A LONG, LONG LAKE, KNOWN AS LAKE HITCHCOCK.

NEXT TIME YOU ARE ON THE NORWICH GREEN, PRETEND YOU'RE AT THE BOTTOM OF A GIANT LAKE!



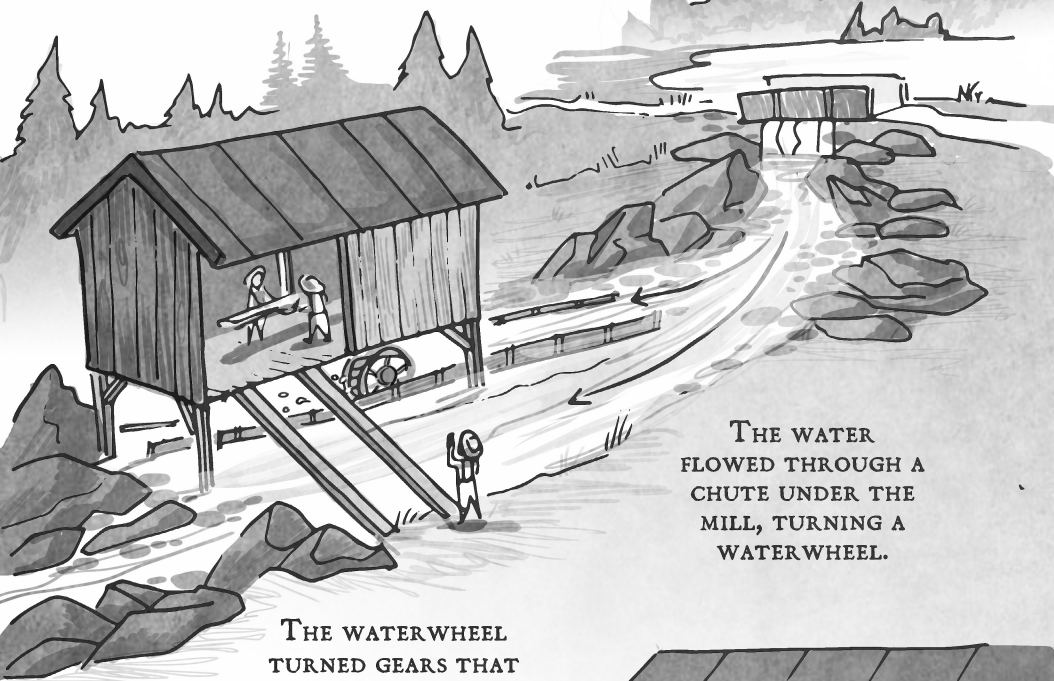
THE BOTTOM OF LAKE HITCHCOCK WAS WHERE THE MARION CROSS SCHOOL PLAYGROUND IS TODAY.



WATER POWER

THE DAM HELD
BACK THE WATER IN
THE MILL POND.

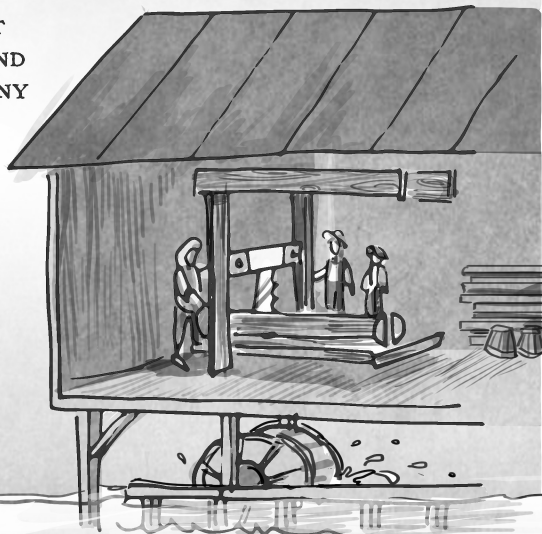
SETTLERS BUILT MILLS WITH
WATERWHEELS HERE. ONE OF THE MILLS
WAS A SAWMILL. WATERPOWER MADE
WORK FASTER AND MORE EFFICIENT.



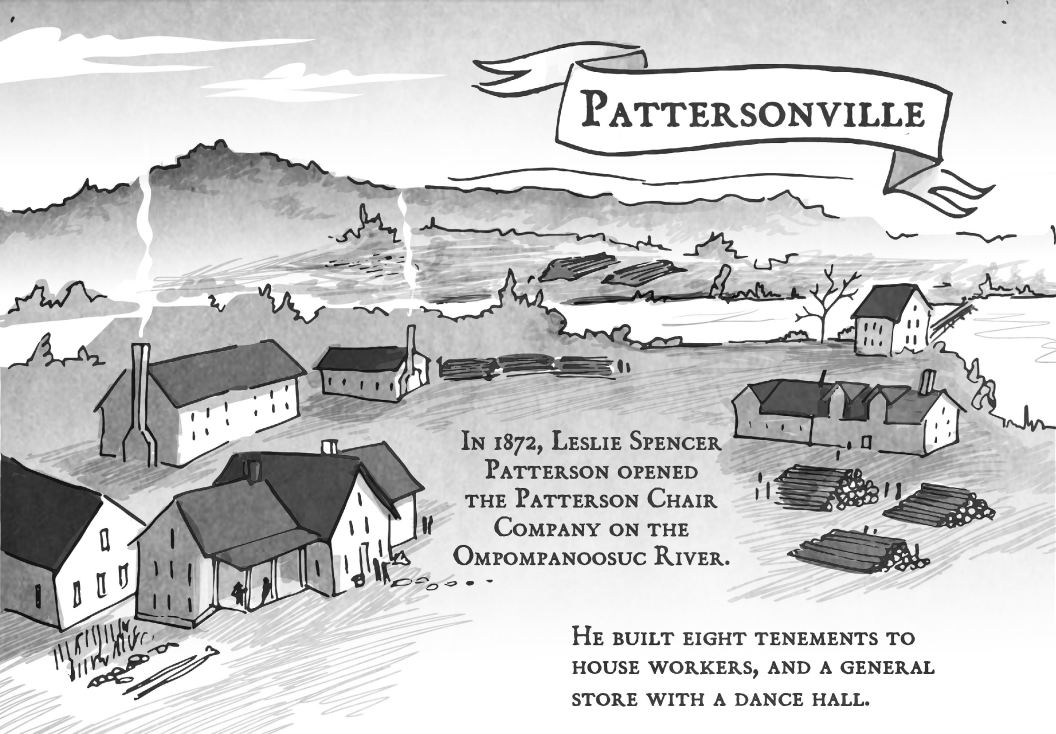
THE WATER
FLOWED THROUGH A
CHUTE UNDER THE
MILL, TURNING A
WATERWHEEL.

THE WATERWHEEL
TURNED GEARS THAT
MOVED THE SAW UP AND
DOWN FASTER THAN ANY
TWO MEN COULD.

THIS TUB WAS
MADE RIGHT
THERE AT THE
SAWMILL!



PATTERSONVILLE



IN 1872, LESLIE SPENCER
PATTERSON OPENED
THE PATTERSON CHAIR
COMPANY ON THE
OMPOMANOOSUC RIVER.

HE BUILT EIGHT TENEMENTS TO
HOUSE WORKERS, AND A GENERAL
STORE WITH A DANCE HALL.

THE FACTORY PRODUCED TEN TRAIN CARS LOADED WITH
CHAIRS AND ABOUT 800,000 FEET OF LUMBER YEARLY.
THAT'S 150 MILES OF LUMBER -IF IT WERE LAID END-TO-END,
IT WOULD REACH FROM NORWICH TO BOSTON!

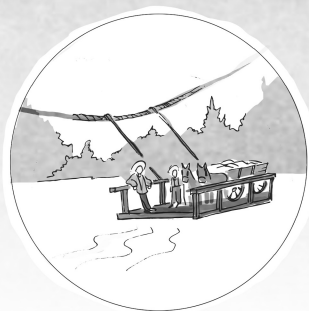
CHESTER TUCKER
WORKED AT THE FACTORY
AT THE TENDER AGE OF 14.
HE MAY ALSO HAVE HAD
THE JOB OF DRIVING THE
WAGONS OF CHAIRS DOWN
TO THE TRAIN STATION.



TRANSPORTATION



IN THE EARLY DAYS, NORWICH
SETTLERS TRAVELED BY CANOE, JUST
AS THE ABENAKI HAD.



A ROPE FERRY OPERATED AT THE FOOT OF LOVELAND
ROAD. A ROPE STRETCHED ACROSS THE RIVER HELPING
THE FERRYMASTER NAVIGATE A STRAIGHT COURSE.

IN 1848 THE CONNECTICUT &
PASSUMPSIC RIVERS RAILROAD
LAID THE FIRST TRACKS. THE
ELIZABETH COPPER MINE BUILT
THE STATION THAT STILL STANDS
TODAY AT KENDALL STATION
ROAD. TEAMS OF ANIMALS
HAULED THE COPPER ORE FROM
THE MINE TO THE RAILROAD.



WHEN AUTOMOBILES WERE
INVENTED, ROUTE 5 WAS
IMPROVED AND THEN PAVED.

LEWISTON



INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 91 WAS
BUILT IN THE 1960S AND WITH IT
CAME HIGH-SPEED TRAVEL!

FUN FACT!

ROUTE 5 IS A FEDERAL HIGHWAY WHICH USES ODD NUMBERS FOR NORTH-SOUTH ROUTES.

ROUTE 10 IS A NH STATE HIGHWAY WHICH USES EVEN NUMBERS FOR NORTH-SOUTH ROUTES.

EVEN/ODD; NH/VT—THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING MARKING THE DIFFERENCE!



IN 1967, FIVE HOMES AND OTHER BUILDINGS WERE DEMOLISHED TO CONNECT THE ROAD TO THE I-91 INTERCHANGE.

TODAY'S LEDYARD BRIDGE IS THE 3RD BRIDGE IN THIS SPOT, COMPLETED IN 2000.

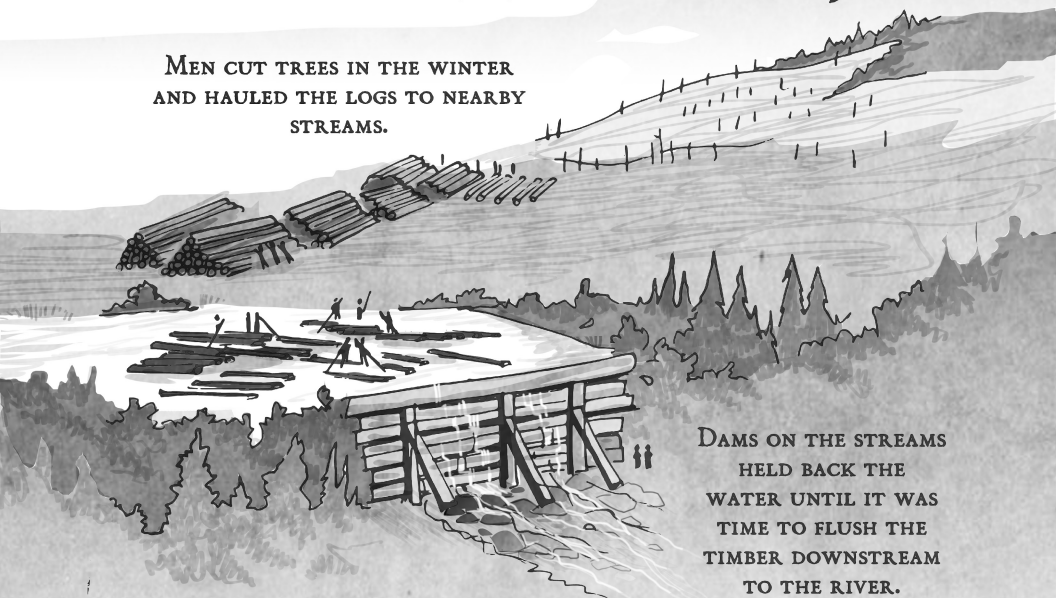


STROKE!

AFTER THE CIVIL WAR, MILLIONS OF LOGS FROM THE NORTHERN FORESTS WERE FLOATED DOWN THE CONNECTICUT RIVER.

LOG DRIVES

MEN CUT TREES IN THE WINTER
AND HAULED THE LOGS TO NEARBY
STREAMS.



DAMS ON THE STREAMS
HELD BACK THE
WATER UNTIL IT WAS
TIME TO FLUSH THE
TIMBER DOWNSTREAM
TO THE RIVER.



Wow! That looks
DANGEROUS! DON'T FORGET
YOUR SPIKED BOOTS!

WOMEN WHO KISSED
THEIR MEN GOOD-BYE
IN THE SPRING NEVER
KNEW WHETHER THEY'D
SEE THEM ALIVE AGAIN.



THE MEN RODE THE
LOGS IN FAST, ICY
WATER UP TO 16
HOURS A DAY!



LEWISTON WAS ALWAYS A
TRANSPORTATION CENTER
WITH FERRIES, BRIDGES,
ROADS, AND TRAINS.

LEWISTON

IN THE VILLAGE WAS A GRISTMILL, STORE, SHOE
SHOP, AND MANY HOMES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE
ROAD LEADING UP THE HILL.



THE MAIL ARRIVED BY
TRAIN TWICE A DAY. IN
1902 YOU COULD TAKE 5
TRAINS A DAY NORTH AND
4 SOUTH. DARTMOUTH
STUDENTS ARRIVE BY
TRAIN AND THEN RODE A
STAGECOACH UP THE HILL
TO HANOVER.

I'M GONNA TAKE THE PEANUT
TRAIN TO THE PICTURE SHOW
IN WHITE RIVER!



MANAGING WATER

A.

MUCH OF NORWICH'S DRINKING WATER COMES FROM A DEEP WELL THAT CAN PROVIDE A MILLION GALLONS IN A DAY.

B.

WATER IS PUMPED 5 MILES UP TO A 500,000-GALLON TANK ON DUTTON HILL.

C.

THAT WATER IS THEN PUMPED BACK DOWN TO THE VILLAGE.

B

C

DON'T WASTE
OUR WATER!

THE WILDER DAM RAISED THE LEVEL OF THE RIVER BY 16 FEET, ALTERING MUCH OF THE SHORELINE BUT SAVING DOWNSTREAM COMMUNITIES FROM FLOODING.

BEFORE DAMS WERE BUILT, SPRING THAWS AND
HEAVY STORMS CAUSED DESTRUCTION DOWNSTREAM.
THE UNION VILLAGE DAM WAS ONE OF 16 DAMS
BUILT TO CONTROL WATER.

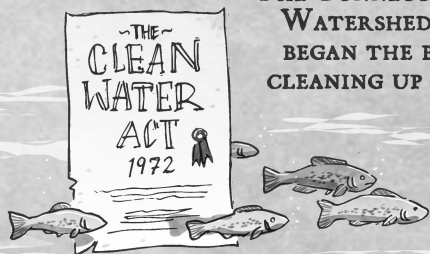
BY THE 1950S THE RIVER WAS CALLED
"NEW ENGLAND'S BEST LANDSCAPED
SEWER." IN THOSE DAYS NO ONE WANTED
TO SWIM IN THE CONNECTICUT!

DAMS DISRUPTED
FISH HABITATS. THE
ATLANTIC SALMON
DISAPPEARED.



SINKS, REFRIGERATORS, TIRES, AND TRASH LITTERED
THE RIVERBANKS. POLLUTANTS FROM MINES, FARMS,
AND FACTORIES CONTAMINATED THE WATER.

THE CONNECTICUT RIVER
WATERSHED COUNCIL
BEGAN THE BIG JOB OF
CLEANING UP THE RIVER.



FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS, THE
SALMON ARE BACK!

**MORE THINGS TO DO TO EXPLORE
NORWICH'S RIVERS:**

**GO CANOEING ON THE CONNECTICUT AND
IMAGINE WHAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN LIKE
WHEN IT WAS A WILDERNESS.**

**BUILD A DAM IN A NEARBY STREAM AND
WATCH WHAT HAPPENS TO THE WATER
UPSTREAM AND DOWN.**

**MAKE A WATERWHEEL AND TURN
POTENTIAL ENERGY INTO KINETIC ENERGY.**

**BUILD A BRIDGE OUT OF PAPER AND SEE
HOW MUCH WEIGHT IT CAN HOLD.**

**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL WATERSHED
COUNCIL AND GET INVOLVED IN WATER
MONITORING.**

