

On Display Until Early 2016

Dorset Schools

Today, hot political topics in Vermont have to do with school consolidation and school choice. These are not new debates to Dorset, and this exhibit explores the stories of the 16 one-room and two-room schoolhouses, their closings, and the building of Dorset's current educational system, which, in an area with no public high schools, has long experienced school choice.

Main Gallery



District 2 (Sykes District), c. 1910

Postcards from Dorset

Beginning in 1897, merchants and photographers created picture postcards of Dorset scenes. This exhibit explores the changing views and scenes which appeared on postcards from Dorset over the twentieth century. We also take a look at the merchants and innkeepers who commissioned postcards, who they commissioned them from, and who the

local photographers were.
Upstairs Hallway



Hand-Colored Postcard of Prentiss Pond, c.1930

Art Students League of New York in Dorset

Many of the creators who have made up the vibrant arts community in this small town came by way of the Art Students League of New York. What were their connections to each other? What drew them to Dorset? This exhibit features original works by Walter Shirlaw, Edwin Child, Wallace Fahnestock, Herbert Meyer, Reginald Marsh, Jay Connaway, Dean Fausett, and many others.

Venetian Red Room



Reginald Marsh, "Old Fashioneds at Marjorie's" (1935)

Local Artists

Dorset has been home to many artists over the years, and this exhibit samples the works of a handful. This year's rotation includes works from our collections by Lillian Edmonds, Janet Gilbert, Lorenzo Hatch, Arthur Jones, John Lillie, Carl Ramsey, Peter Salmon, Patricia Willcox,

and many others.
Library/Conference Room



George McBride, "Raffle — White's Garage, Dorset (1938)

Huntington Gilbert Photographs

Poultry farmer Hunt Gilbert would take his camera out a few days each year and photograph his neighbors at work and play. A few years ago, a large collection of his celluloid negatives, dating from 1905 to 1914, were donated to the Dorset Historical Society, and each year we digitize another segment of them. On display are twenty of the most recent digital prints from the collection.

Stairwell



Huntington Gilbert, "Hay September 6, 1909"