



# THE WYMAN JOURNAL

Issue 36 A Publication of the Francis Wyman Association 2021

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## Dear Family and Friends,

Year two of the Covid pandemic has kept us pretty quiet in terms of visitors but very active for preservation projects. We held two open houses in August and September but only had one family visit. We held a masked and distanced working party annual meeting in 2020 and a scaled back annual meeting this year. It was great to have family and friends on site to see our progress and hear our plans.



2020 Annual Meeting / Work Party - all masked up

Thanks in large part to a bequest from Norman Biggart in 2019; and your generous donations, we have embarked on planning and completing several projects. Last October we replaced the aging roof with a new pressure treated red cedar shingle roof which should last 30 years. At almost the same time we engaged preservation architect, Greg Colling, Merrimack Design to help us plan design and coordinate our near-term preservation projects. The list includes restoring the shed, the Association Room, and constructing a wellsweep.



View from the street highlights clearing along the wall and the new cedar shingle roof.

The Association Room is being improved to provide a proper home for Benjamin F. Wyman's desk and other items which were donated by his family in 2020.

The first work accomplished was the restoration of the hearths in the Association Room and the Kitchen. The rubble and broken bricks were removed, the base stabilized and to the extent possible, the old bricks from the hearth were reused as well as other bricks available around the house. The results speak for themselves.



Newly restored fireplace hearth in the kitchen

Next we hired a preservation carpenter to provide trim around the windows and two

corner posts in the Association Room. One benefit of covering the SW corner post was to provide a place to run the fire alarm wires out of sight from the basement up to the open space above the ceiling. With that complete a preservation plasterer, Peter Lord, repaired old wood lath, provided new metal lath and plastered the walls and ceiling. He provided a tinted limewash which should fade to a lighter pastel than the picture shows.



Association Room - Newly plastered walls and ceiling with new trim on windows and corner posts.

The shed restoration is scheduled to start next month. This project is the most expensive but will totally restore the shed from the ground up, making it structurally sound, watertight and available for storage, displays and events on the property.

The wellsweep project should start in the spring. It is the most challenging project since there aren't contractors and materials readily available for this lost art. We are working with our architect Greg Colling; the contractor, Matt Diana Housewright; and Marty Dudek an archeologist to bring this to fruition. Clearing away brush for this project exposed the need to repair the stone wall that supports the well. We currently do not have sufficient funds for the wall repair.

### **The Andersons Depart**

Our wonderful and supportive neighbors, Bob and Joan Anderson both passed away over the last two years. We will miss them and their concern for our house. Their children will not be able to keep the house and have entered into an agreement with a developer who plans

to divide their lot in two. Their house which sits on a stone foundation that may have supported a Wyman barn last century will be demolished.



View of the Francis Wyman House from the Anderson's upstairs window.

Their kids and grandkids used to mow our lawn in exchange for access to the back of their lot. Now we've had to hire M.E. Bass landscapers to mow twice per month at \$60 per mowing. It looks great but that will become about a \$1,000 per year expense that we didn't have last year.

### **CAPT Henry Lake Wyman**

This is the 100th year anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. The remains of an unknown soldier killed in WWI were transported from France to be interred and memorialized at Arlington in 1921. Henry Lake Wyman was the captain of the USS Olympia that returned the remains to Washington Navy Yard. The Atlantic crossing wasn't routine. The casket wouldn't fit through the hatches on the ship so they lashed it to the deck. The ship encountered very rough seas from a hurricane and the Marine Honor Guard lashed themselves to the rails at times to maintain their watch and ensure their honored charge was not washed overboard by the 20' waves. The cruiser USS Olympia is on display at the Independence Seaport Museum in Philadelphia.

Henry Lake Wyman is listed in Wyman.org genealogical website as having descended from our Lieutenant John Wyman. He is my 8x cousin and continued a heritage to be proud of.



**CAPT. HENRY L. WYMAN.**

*Evening star. [volume] (Washington, D.C.), 12 July 1937. Chronici*

CAPT Wyman earned the Navy Cross later in his career "as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. DENVER in Nicaraguan waters in the Fall of 1926 and the Spring of 1927, Nicaragua then being in a state of insurrection. Largely through his good judgment, tact, patience and ability, good order was maintained and disarmament accomplished in districts ashore assigned to his command without friction and without bloodshed. Captain Wyman's actions at all times were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

#### **Thank you for your Generous Donations!**

##### **\$500 and over**

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Kenneth Wyman  
Rose M. Wyman  
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Shirley Peverly

### **Volunteer Help Needed**

We have vacancies on the FWA Board for Vice President and directors and are looking for someone to replace Ginny as treasurer. We also need IT help with the webpage and communication, membership, fundraising and outreach opportunities.

### **Please keep us in mind for your annual charitable contributions and keep us in mind for your will.**

Please send donations to Ginny Mucciaccio, 14 Thompson St. Dedham, MA 02026-4911 in the enclosed envelope or via the Paypal link on [www.wymanassociation.org](http://www.wymanassociation.org)

### **Matching Grant Opportunity**

We have just learned of a matching grant opportunity from the 1772 Foundation. They will match up to \$10,000 for exterior repairs and maintenance. We will be submitting a proposal for a project to repair and paint the house exterior, which is next on our to-do list. Some of the quoins are rotting along with some windowsills and trim. We need to arrest the deterioration with some solid, preventive, preservation work soon.



We need your continued support!



2021 Annual meeting at the house in Burlington, MA

Hope to see you next year! Bring your kids and grandkids. Need to get the next generations involved!

## The Wyman Shoppe

Wyman Family Crest Lapel Pin      \$20

Wyman History Book or CD      \$15



Wyman Association Ornament      \$25

Francis Wyman Kitchen Towel      \$10

House Sketch or Coat of Arms      \$10



Francis Wyman House Tile (6" x 6")      \$25

Small House Tile      \$10

Francis Wyman Coloring Book      \$12

Francis Wyman Pot Holders      \$4 or 2/\$7

House Shelf Decoration (Cat's Meow)      \$25

### *Francis Wyman Association*

a 501( c)(3) nonprofit organization

#### Membership and Donation Form

**Here is my tax-deductible contribution to help preserve the Francis Wyman homestead and to meet yearly operating expenses of the Association.**

#### **Donation Categories:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 20 Settler  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 100 Minuteman   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35 Colonial | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 200 Patriot     |
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***Visit [WymanAssociation.org](http://WymanAssociation.org) to use PayPal for contributions or purchases from the FWA Shoppe (Due to international check fees, please Use PayPal from outside the US)***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Let us know if your company or organization provides a matching gift.

\_\_\_\_\_ (company, foundation, United Way, etc.).

Please make check payable to: **Francis Wyman Association.**

Mail to: **Treasurer Mrs. Virginia Mucciaccio, 14 Thompson St., Dedham MA 02026-4911**

Receive the newsletter *The Wyman Journal*, updates of the restoration projects, tours and events.



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SAVE THE DATE!

**SPECIAL** Open house **Saturday, May 14** at the Francis Wyman House

May is Preservation Month and we will be unveiling our preservation work in the Association Room, the shed reconstruction and hopefully the wellsweep installation.

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Open house and tours

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Group Picture and Lunch (Bring your own)

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM FWA Board Meeting

Francis Wyman Association  
14 Thompson Street  
Dedham, MA 02026-4911

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED