



A CENTURY OF SKIING on Moose Mountain

Part 1



Hanover Conservancy

Etna Library ~ Hanover Historical Society

Ledyard National Bank

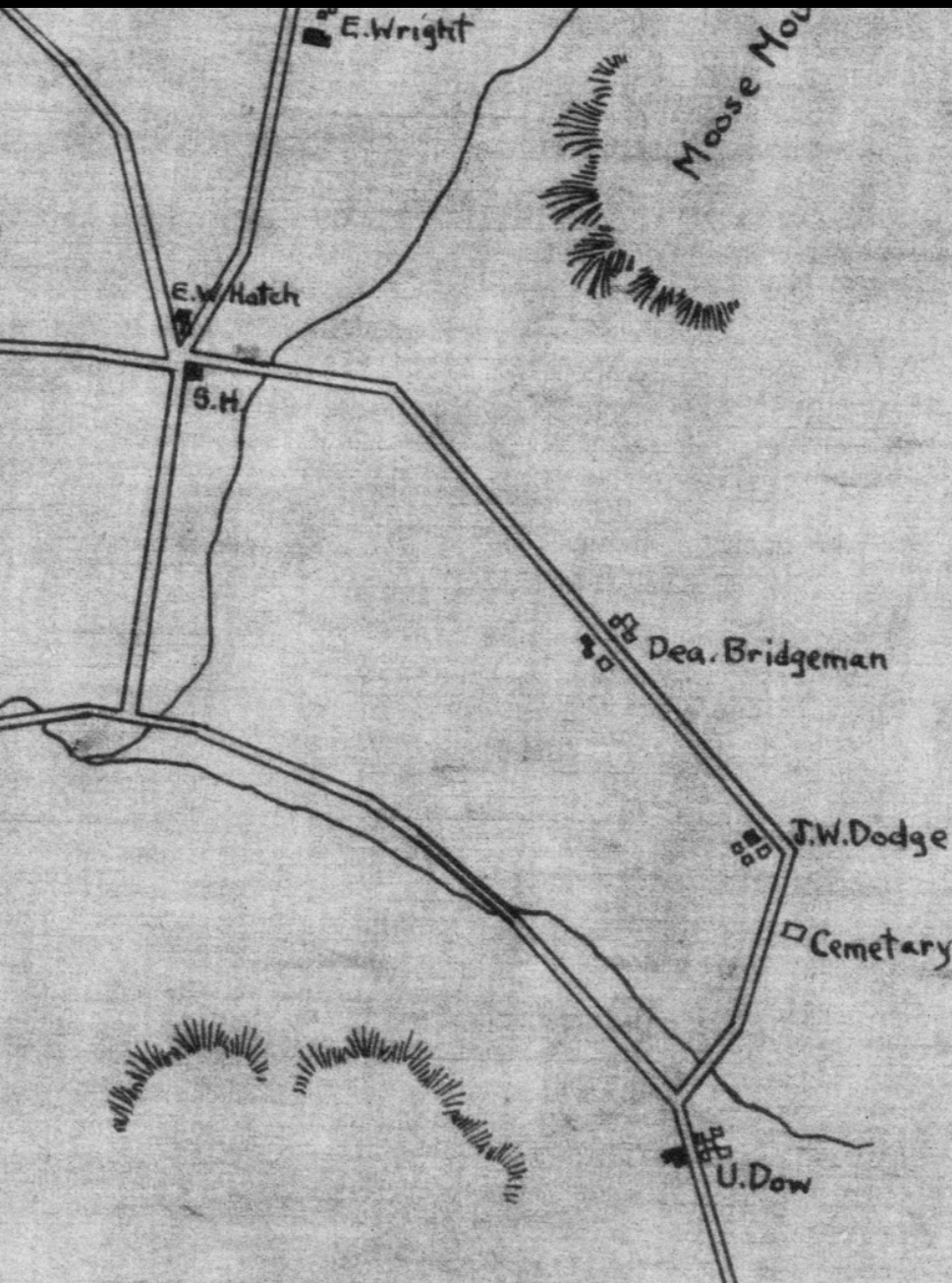
With thanks to Kay Shumway & Chris Crowley

Presented at Trumbull Hall, Etna on March 9, 2019

1855

In 1855, Moose Mountain was the backdrop to a sparsely settled neighborhood in the folds of the landscape. There were two houses on Old Dana Road but no buildings on the mountainside, which had been partly cleared for sheep

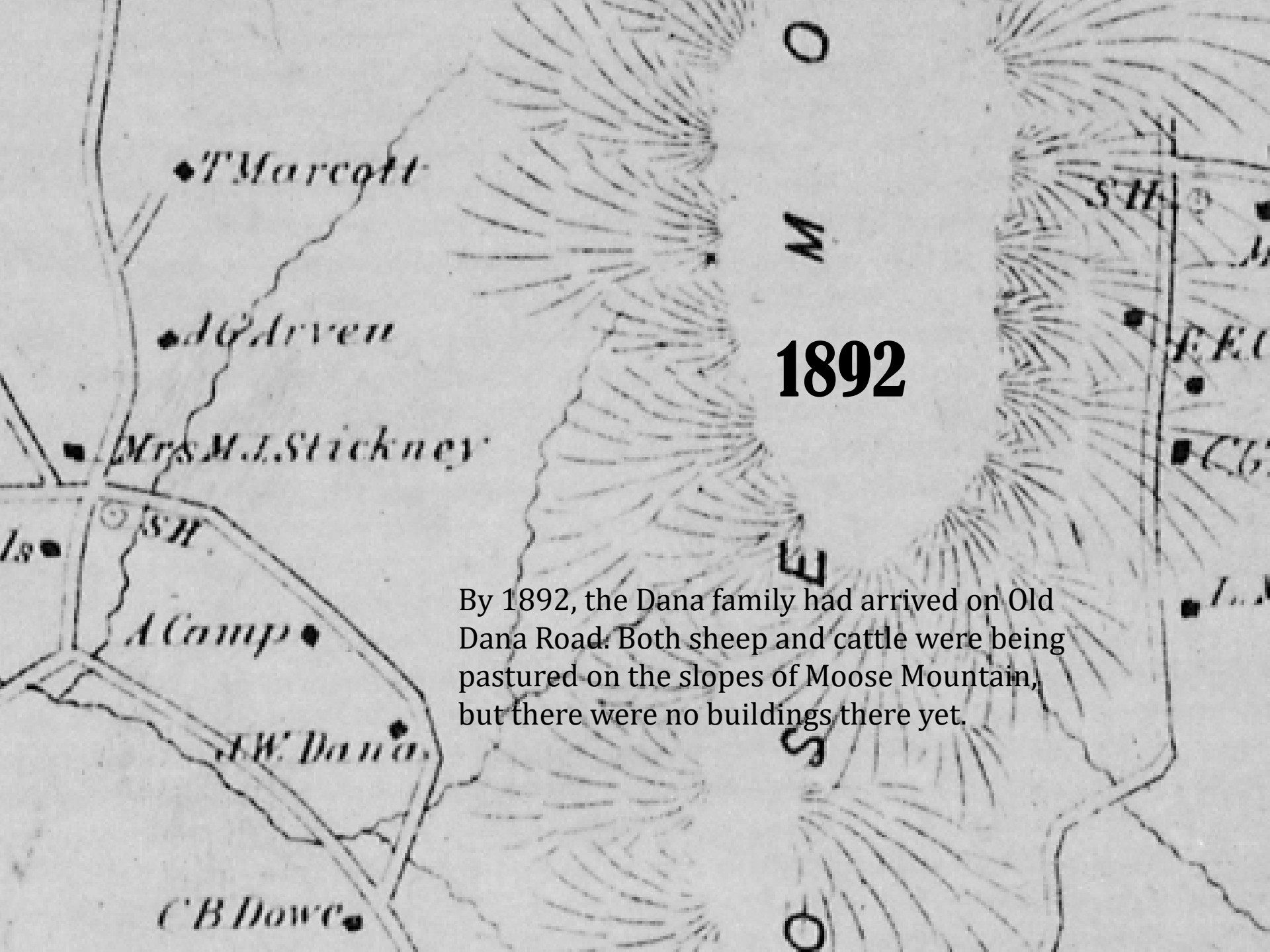
pasturage. At the time, there were 11,000 sheep in Hanover and 2,600 residents.



This image of the Trescott lands c. 1892 gives an idea of how the slopes of Moose Mountain may have looked at that time.

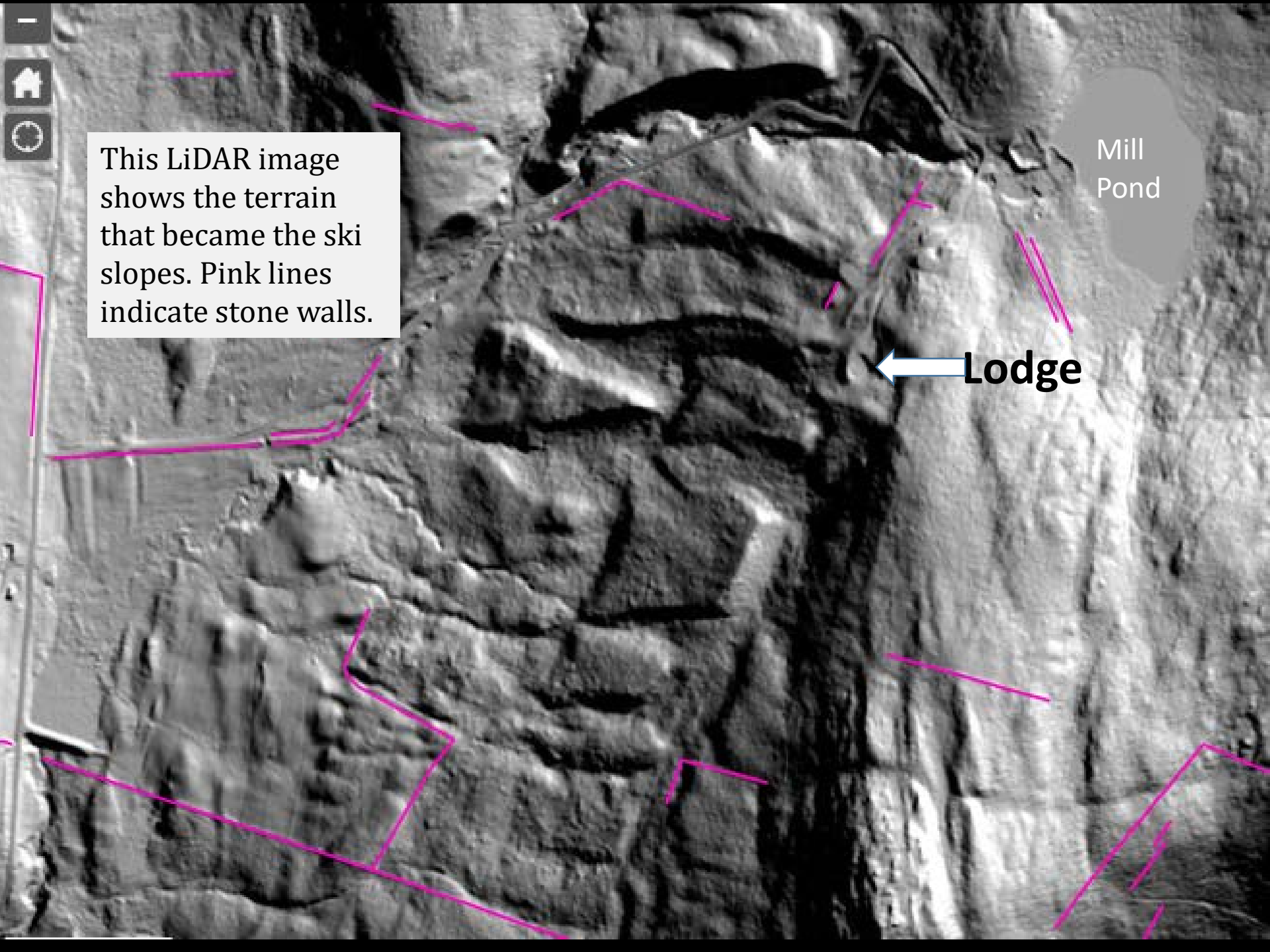






1892

By 1892, the Dana family had arrived on Old Dana Road. Both sheep and cattle were being pastured on the slopes of Moose Mountain, but there were no buildings there yet.



This LiDAR image shows the terrain that became the ski slopes. Pink lines indicate stone walls.

Mill Pond

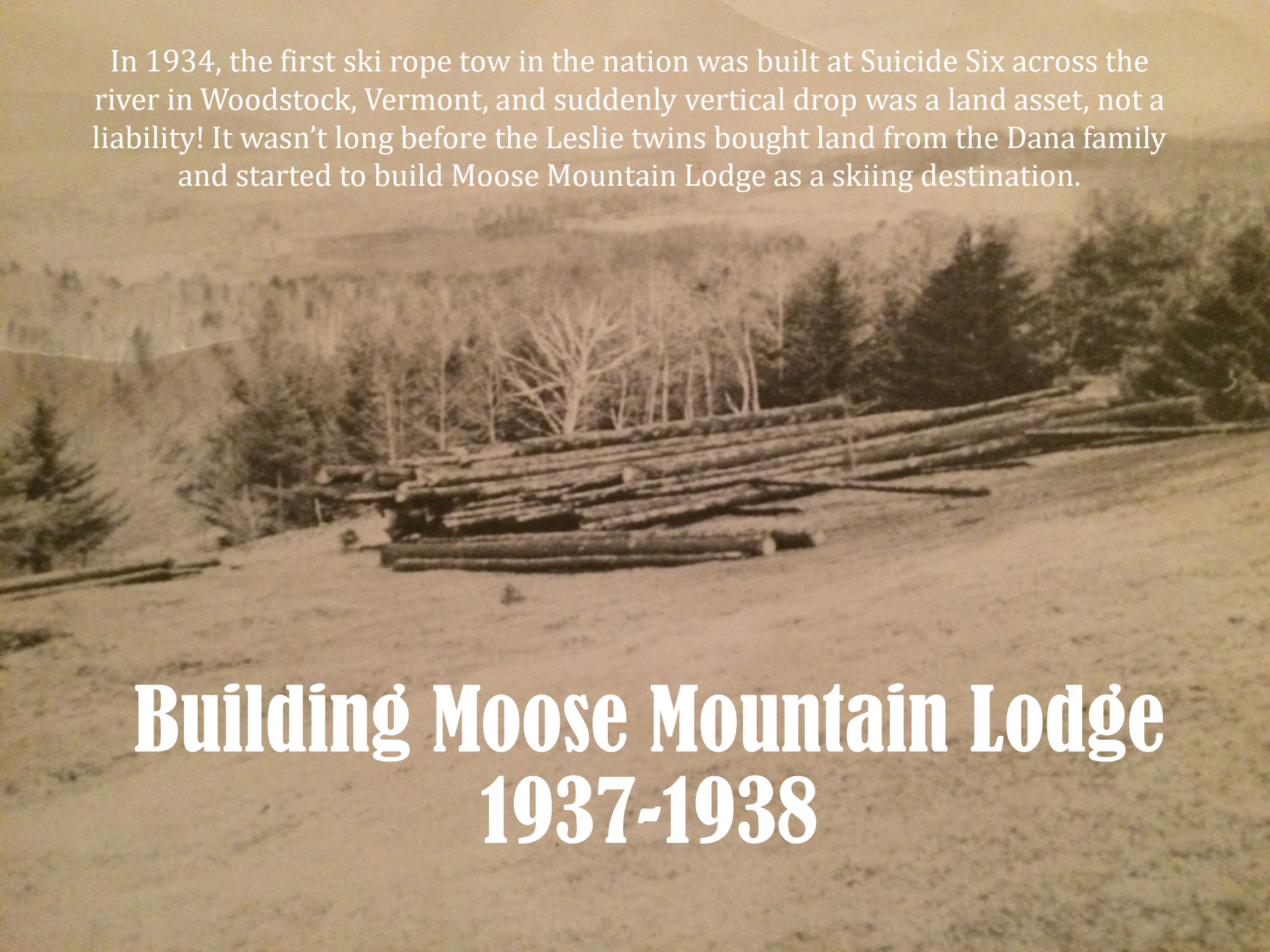
Lodge

Why is the Hanover Conservancy interested in history?
Because human history is inevitably reflects the natural environment
– the stage on which it unfolds. This came full circle on Moose Mountain.

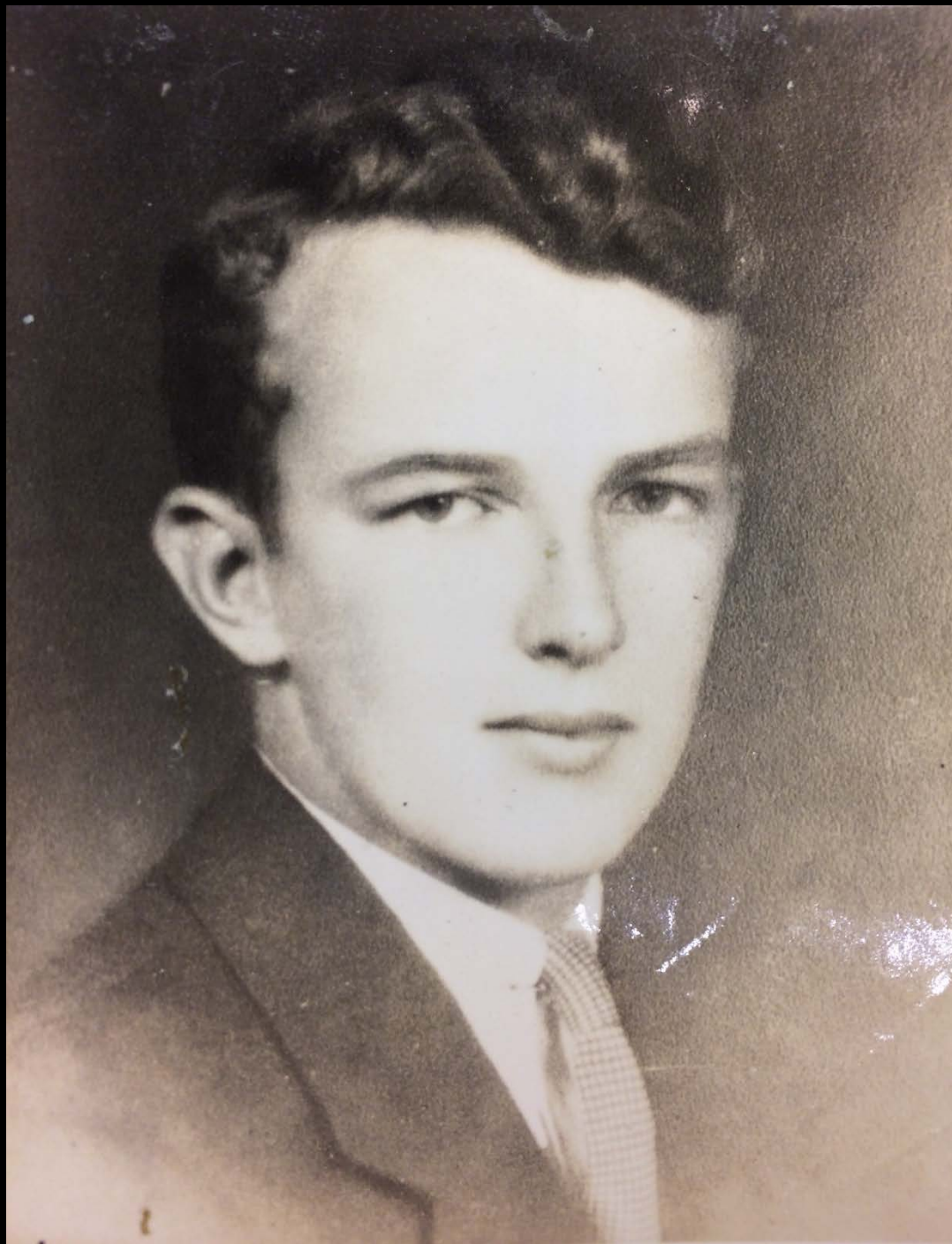


February 15, 2006 7:00 a.m.

In 1934, the first ski rope tow in the nation was built at Suicide Six across the river in Woodstock, Vermont, and suddenly vertical drop was a land asset, not a liability! It wasn't long before the Leslie twins bought land from the Dana family and started to build Moose Mountain Lodge as a skiing destination.

A sepia-toned photograph of a forest clearing. In the foreground, a large pile of logs is stacked on the ground. Behind the logs, a line of trees, including some bare deciduous trees and evergreens, stands against a backdrop of rolling hills. The overall scene is a natural, wooded area.

Building Moose Mountain Lodge 1937-1938



**Julian B. Leslie and
his twin brother
built the lodge. One
of them was a
Dartmouth student.**

Dartmouth College War Service Record

Name in full Julian Buckley Leslie Class 37
 Occupation on entering service Hotel owner
 Branch of armed forces Air Force Arm or service A.V.S.
 Date and place of induction or entry on active service enlisted 29 Oct. 1942, Boston
 Grade at time of entry on active service Private Serial number 0-562012

Record of service

Type of duty	Unit or organization	Station	From	To
Classification Personnel Adjutant	1242	Marianna, Fla. Calcutta, India	Nov. 42 Oct. 42	May 43 Oct. 45

Promotions (officer grades—please give dates)
Received Commission 21 Aug. 1943
Promotion to 1st Lt 1 March, 1944

Campaigns (list main campaigns, with approximate dates, for which you are authorized to wear battle stars)
China - Burma - India
India - Burma

Service medals (include dates covered by the awards; use back of sheet to give wording of citations or attach copy)
Asiatic Pacific Ribbon Distinguished Unit Badge
Victory Medal
American Theater Ribbon

Casualties (include dates and places)

Date and place of discharge or reverting to inactive service Wentover Field, 12 March, 1946
 Grade (enlisted or officer) held at time of discharge 1st Lt
 Signature Julian B. Leslie
 Present Occupation Sporting Goods Store (owner)
 Address Casco Bay Trading Post, Tropic, Me.
 Date of submitting this information 20 Feb. 1945

PLEASE USE BACK OF SHEET IF NECESSARY

**Bill Robes & one
of the Leslie twins**

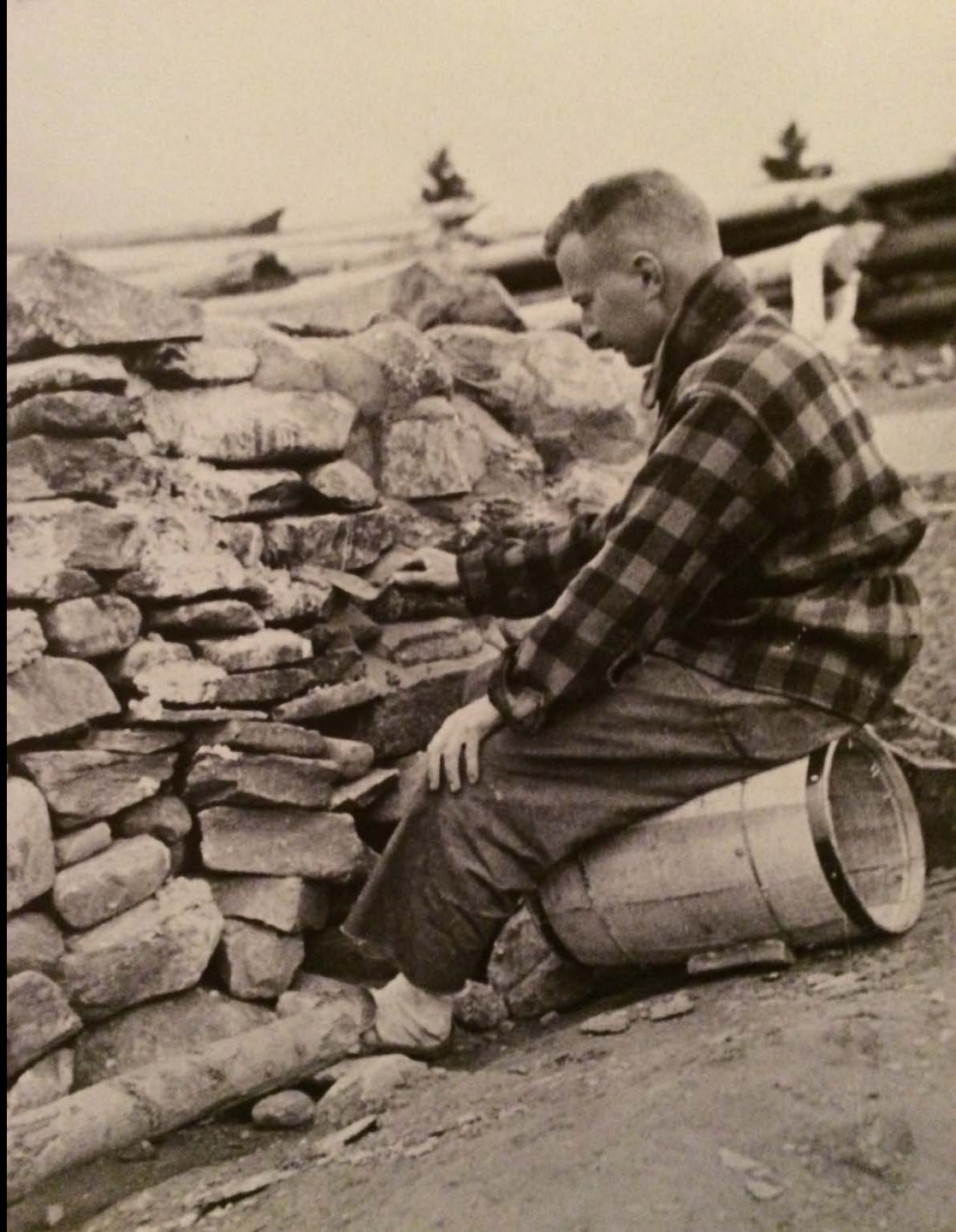




Elmer Dana

















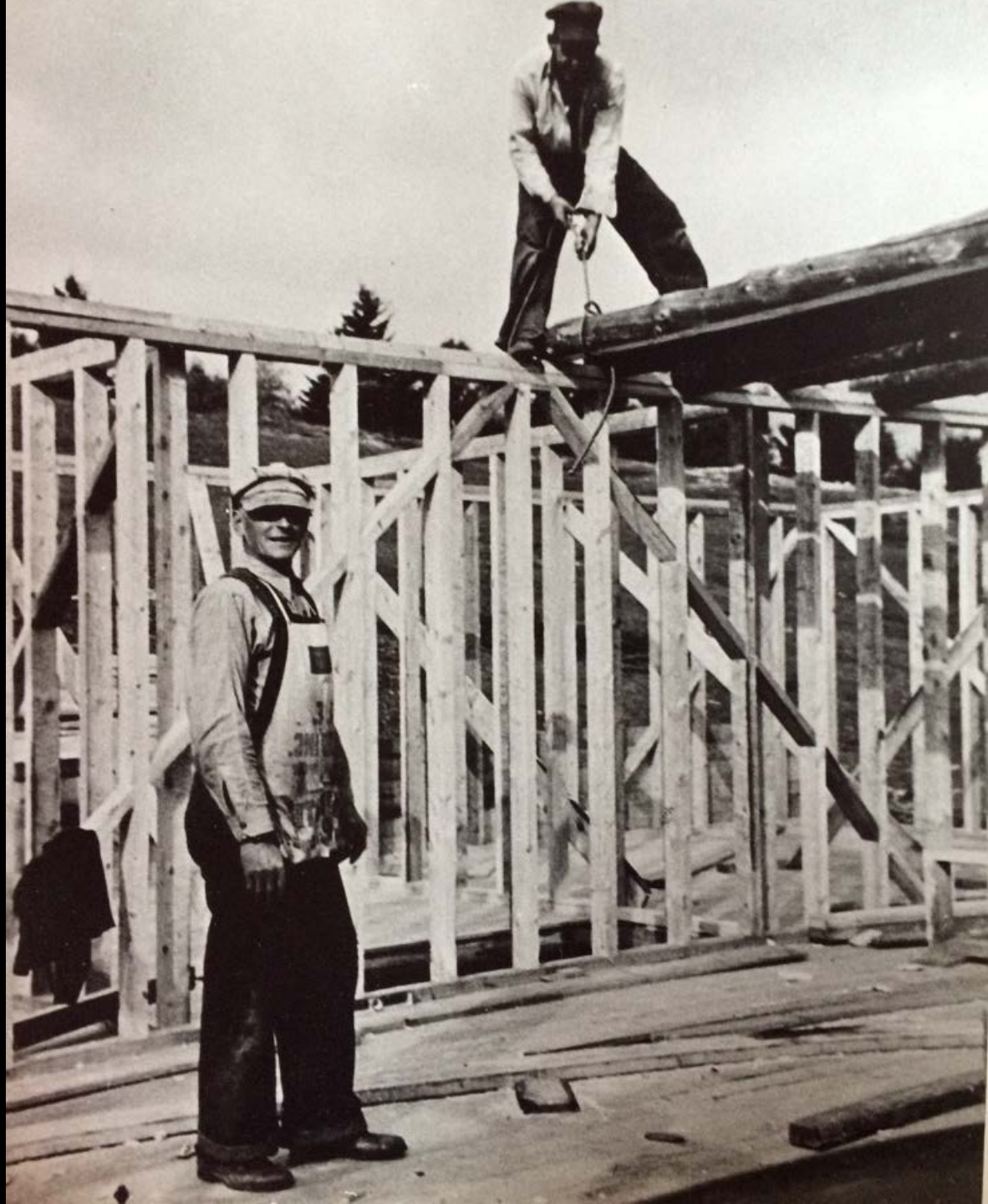




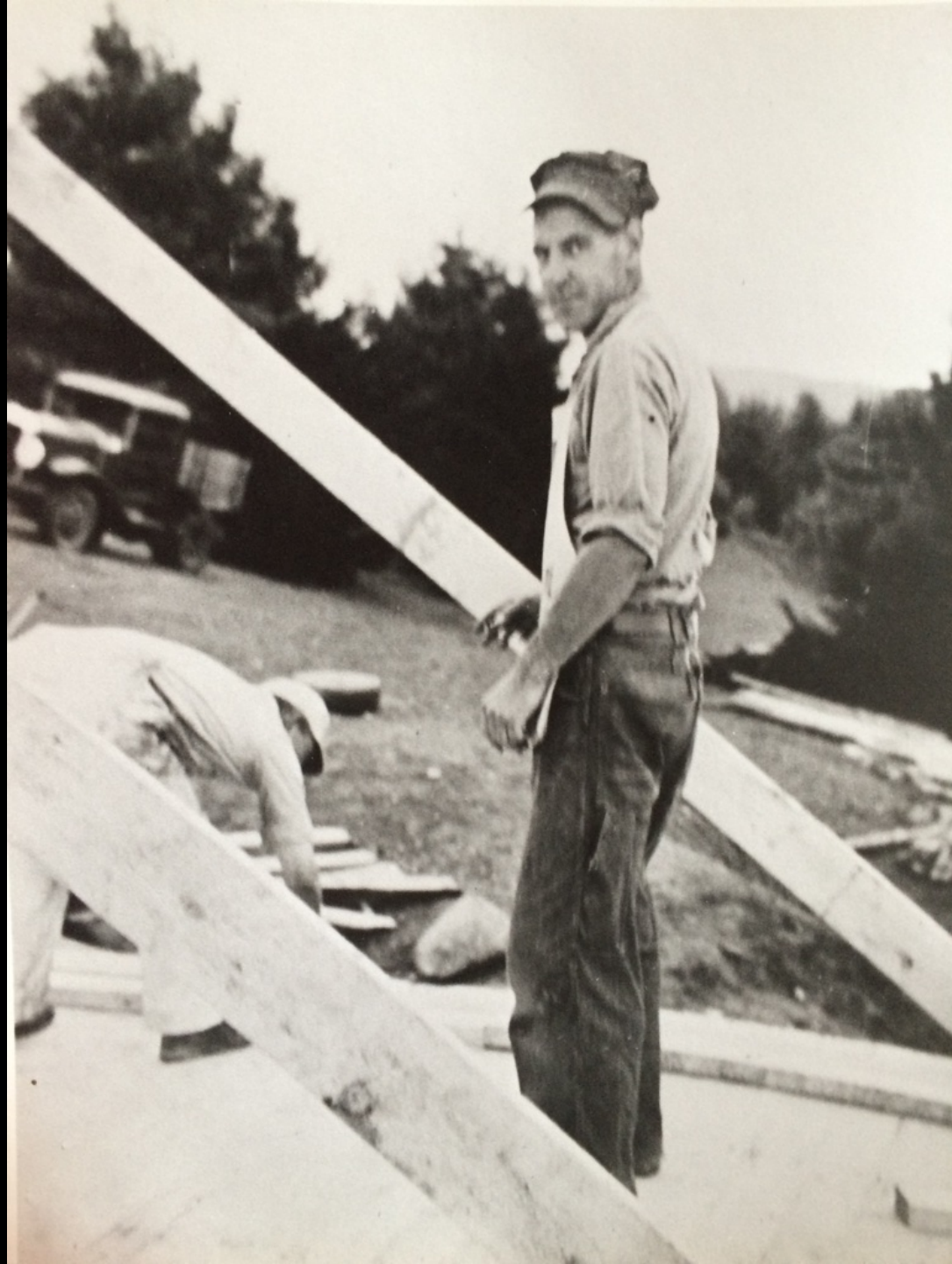


















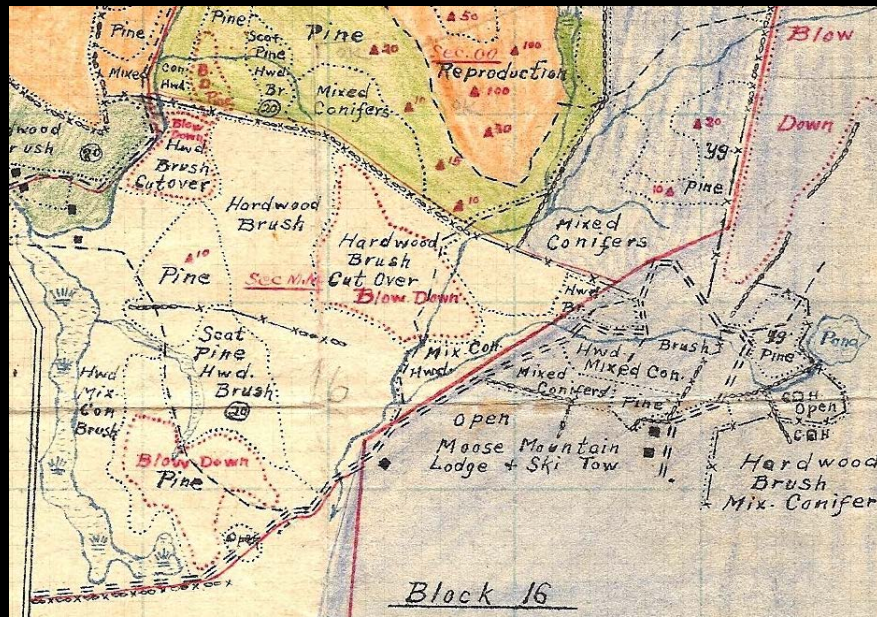












1938 Hurricane

While the lodge was under construction, a hurricane struck the region in September, 1938, ripping off the newly built porch. A map made 2 months later by foresters working for the State of NH shows areas where the forest had been blown down. Nevertheless, the lodge builders persisted!

