Dartmouth College
Second College Grant
200 Years of Stewardship (1807 - 2007)
Introduction

The following pictures of Dartmouth’s Second College Grant were compiled for the Bicentennial Celebration. We thought it would be fun to put together a collection of old pictures of the Grant showing different aspects of the two hundred years of Dartmouth College’s stewardship of this 27,000 acre township in northern New Hampshire. The pictures come in large part from Dartmouth College’s archives in the Rauner Special Collections Library and are meant to represent a sampling of (mostly) historic images of the various ways people have used and enjoyed the Grant. It is by no means comprehensive, and we hope to add to this album as more historic, interesting, and unusual pictures are discovered. If you have pictures, comments, suggestions, corrections, names, places, or dates, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will incorporate them into the next edition.

Throughout the album, captions in ‘single quotes’ were taken directly from the back of the photographs, and may contain non-standard spellings (e.g. Peeks Camp, Hell’s Gate). Photographic credits are indicated in the lower right of the caption pages.

We would like to thank Jack Noon for many helpful comments and clarifications, and Rauner Library’s Sarah Hartwell and photographic records specialist Patricia Cope for helping us gather together these memories from the past.

- Earl Jette and F. Jon Kull ‘88, June 2007

Students enjoy a view of the Diamond Valley from the Diamond Peaks, Dartmouth College Library.
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Forest Management

Logging operations have been active at Dartmouth’s Second College Grant since the 1800’s. In more recent times, proper management of its timber resources has been a priority for the College and its foresters. The result is today’s vibrant forest ecosystem that supports a wide variety of wildlife.
Concord, N. H., May 1, 1888.

The Trustees of Dartmouth College own a tract of land in Coös County, known as the Second Dartmouth College Grant. It contains 24,000 acres. It is situated between Wentworth's Location on the south and Gilmanton and Atkinson Academy Grant on the north. It is one of the best watered townships in the northern part of the state. The Magalloway river touches it for quite a distance on the east, and is near it the entire length from south to north, for about eight miles. The Diamond river runs diagonally through it from south-east to north-west. The Swift Diamond runs through the southern end, and empties into the Diamond about one mile from the Magalloway. Abbott brook is on the north and the "Four-mile" brook in the western part. These streams are all capable of driving lumber. It is considered a favorable tract to operate. The Trustees propose to sell the soft timber upon this tract. It is mostly spruce, though there are small amounts of cedar, poplar, fir, and old growth pine. The Trustees cannot, by the conditions of the gift, sell the land. They can only lease it, and sell from time to time the growth. They will give a lease, not to exceed in any event twenty years, for the clearing of this Grant. The timber must be carefully cut, and none cut less than eight inches in diameter, thirty feet from the ground. As this is to be kept as a perpetual income to the college, great care must be taken in preserving the small growth. The outlet for this timber is through the Androscoggin river. A glance at a map of New Hampshire will give the situation of the tract. The first mills for manufacturing this timber are at Berlin, N. H., about forty miles distant; there are also extensive pulp mills at this point. Other mills are upon this stream. The Grand Trunk Railway is at Berlin, which carries vast amounts of manufactured lumber to Portland, Me.; this is the only railroad near it. Proposals will be received for the soft timber per thousand feet upon the stump, the parties making such propositions as they deem best. If propositions are accepted, the operations are to be carried on under a lease, as is usual in such transactions. The proposals must be forwarded by the 15th of June, 1888, to Alvin Burliegh, Plymouth, N. H.

It is difficult to estimate the amount of timber on this tract, but it is variously estimated at 75,000,000 to 100,000,000 feet. The timber is of excellent quality, and many millions of it old growth. This is a rare opportunity to secure one of the most desirable tracts of timber now remaining in the state.

F. D. Currier,
Alvin Burliegh,
A. S. Batchelor,
Edward Spalding,
B. F. Prescott,

Committee.

Dartmouth College Library
A map of the Grant from the March 1922 issue of the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine.
A map of the Grant from September 1948 showing ongoing logging operations in Loomis and Lamb Valleys.
A map of the Grant from October 1950 showing ongoing logging operations in Loomis and Lamb Valleys.
Loggers clean up pulpwood scattered along the banks of the Swift Diamond River following the release of a dam upstream. The exact location and year of the picture are unknown.
Sawmill in the College Grant.
‘Sled load of yellow birch sawlogs en route from landings to the truck loading area in the Dartmouth College Grant’, January 1948.
Unloading a horse-drawn logging sled, January 1948.
Loading a log truck in the College Grant, January 1948.
A fully loaded logging truck leaves the College Grant carrying hardwood logs to the mill, 1948.

Rearranging and securing a full load of logs on the main road outside of the Grant, March, 1975.

A fully loaded logging truck crossing the Perley-Churchill Bridge over the Diamond River as it leaves the College Grant, March 1969.
President John Sloan Dickey, Randolph, Pack, Sid Hayward, and others on a tour of the Grant logging operations.
The ‘Diamond D’ log brand was stamped with a hammer into all logs leaving the College Grant so they could be identified upon reaching the sawmill.
Dartmouth College President John Sloan Dickey (left) presents a key to the newly constructed College Grant Management Center to Randolph Pack, President of the Pack Forestry Foundation, September 23rd, 1951.
‘The restoration of the old dam at Hell’s Gate will produce a sizable lake good for fishing, boating and swimming.’
Dedication of the Tree Farm at the College Grant, June 1957.
Left to right, Robert Monahan, Sam Hall, Henry Waldo, Fred Cowan, John Dickey, Jr.

Left to right, Willard Ruch, Emmett Buckley, Fred Cowan.

Left to right, Robert Monahan, Fred Cowan, President John Sloan Dickey.
Sawlogs lined up by the river with a logging camp in the background, April 1959.
Constructing a log skidder bridge in the Grant, 1975.
Plaque commemorating the John Sloan Dickey Natural Area.
JOHN SLOAN DICYEY AREA

NAMED IN HONOR OF
JOHN S. Dickey '29
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE PRESIDENT 1945-1970

IN RECOGNITION OF HIS LOVE FOR AND
DEDICATION TO THE OUT OF DOORS.
THE AREA INCLUDES THE DIAMOND PEAKS,
DIAMOND BASIN AND THE GORGE

DEDICATED SEPTEMBER 17, 1976
Recognition of the College Grant as a Stewardship Forest is given by the State of New Hampshire in 1995. Left to right, Jack Sargent, N.H. Director of Forest Lands, Lynn Hutton, College Vice President, Kevin Evans, College Forester, Earl Jette, Director of Outdoor Programs, and Ed Witt, former College Forester.
Education

The educational opportunities offered by Dartmouth’s ‘classroom without walls’ are exceptional. Whether studying biology, geology, geography, or environmental studies as part of a class, tagging trout with New Hampshire Fish & Game, building a log cabin, or thinking about the nature of the universe in a warm cabin, students take away lasting lessons from the wilderness.
Students look at boards cut at a sawmill in the College Grant.
'Students planting trees on College Grant', October 1949.
Students from an environmental studies class testing homemade counting equipment designed for a research project on snowmobile impact on the deer population in the College Grant, February 1972.

Environmental studies class in the College Grant, January 1971. Left to right: Donald Nichol ’72, Robert Rooke Jr., ’74, Thomas Ruhle ’74, Ronald Harris ’71, Steven Ruhle ’72, Karen Polinger (Mt. Holyoke).
Russel Hughes from Seven Island Co. talks with students about logging in the Grant in 1976. Professor Bob Huke is on the right.
Stoddard Cabin II construction, Summer 1987
Dartmouth College students employed for the summer to assist with research on woodcock, etc. Pictured here with N.H. Fish & Game officer John Frank electro fishing a section of the Dead Diamond River to determine the fish population prior to the stream bank stabilization project in 1997. Left to right: John Frank, Cheryl Shannon, Daniel Hogan.
Professor Laura Conkey’s Geography 40 students on the Swift Diamond River with Peaks Camp in the background, 1990.
Helping out New Hampshire Fish & Game with a fall mortality woodcock survey.
Left to right: Will Staats, Julie Wiles, Kevin Evans.
Recreation

Whether one enjoys hunting, fishing, hiking, biking, canoeing, skiing, or porch-sitting, the Grant is a great place to relax and enjoy the outdoors.
Alder Brook cabin, ‘one of the two DOC cabins in the Dartmouth Grant equipped as bases for hunting, fishing, and wilderness travel. Built in 1947 by a DOC work crew under the direction of Ross McKenney’, March 1948.
‘Across the Dead Diamond after a bridge washed out,’ May 1954
Left to right: Bernie Martin, Bob Bassett, Bob Copeland.
Student hunting trip at one of the College Grant cabins. Ross McKenney is on the right.

Student hunters dragging a deer back to camp along the Swift Diamond Road with the Diamond Peaks in the background.

A successful student hunting trip at the College Grant. Ross McKenney is kneeling with the dog.
‘Wildcat trapped on Loomis Brook in April 1950.’
‘Where the Management Center now stands, photo supplied by Ross McKenney, September 1953.’

‘Shack across the road from the Management Center, photo supplied by Ross McKenney, September 1953.’
Dick Birnie '66 (second from left) poses at Peaks Cabin with a bear shot by one of his friends in November of 1963. Dick was a member of the Earth Sciences Department faculty from 1974 to 2007, and he served for many years on the Second College Grant Management Committee.
Clifford Finnson, the only trapper permitted in the Grant for over forty years, displays a fur from a beaver, February 1980. He was also the Fire Warden after Sam Brungot retired in 1961.
Deer feeding in a log landing on the Dead Diamond Road above the College Grant Management Center, July 1987.
People and Places

The history of the Grant is in large part of history of the people who have lived, worked, and played there. But without the rivers, hills, cabins, trees, and rocks, the stories would not be half as interesting.
‘Bunk houses left from the days of logging operations now serve as ice houses, a cow barn, and buildings to house campers at Hell’s Gate.’ This camptown dates back to 1906 and saw heavy use by generations of loggers.
The Hand on the Rock, one of the Grant’s eternal mysteries.
Harry Lancaster, July 1956.
Sid Hayward and Randolph Pack, July 1946.
‘A 1925 Chevy bounces guests into Hell’s Gate from Peeks Camp & carries out the surplus milk from a single lone-cow, who spends each summer at Hell’s Gate. In the background you see the main camp building of Hell’s Gate.’
‘Upper College farm from the South.’ Note: the Upper College farm was at the current site of Merrill Brook Cabin.

‘Upper College farm from the North.’
College Forester Robert Monahan leads a public relations meeting in front of Sam’s Cabin, September 1954. Sam Brungot is in the background wearing his trademark peaked felt hat.
A car crosses the new Perley-Churchill bridge over the Diamond River constructed at the request of the Secret Service in preparation for the visit by United States President Dwight Eisenhower, June 1955.
In June 1955, Dartmouth President John Sloan Dickey invited United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower to lunch in the College Grant.

Ross McKenney cooked and students from the Dartmouth Outing Club served lunch.

President Eisenhower receives an Honorary Life Membership in the DOC from Club Vice-President Stewart Sanders ’56 and Executive Director John Rand ’38.
Dartmouth College President John Sloan Dickey, Sam Brungot, Former Dartmouth College President Ernest Martin Hopkins, and College Forester Robert Monahan, June 1955.
Merrill Brook cabin, 1961.
Sam Brungot, custodian, fire warden, and log scaler at the College Grant from 1951 to 1961.