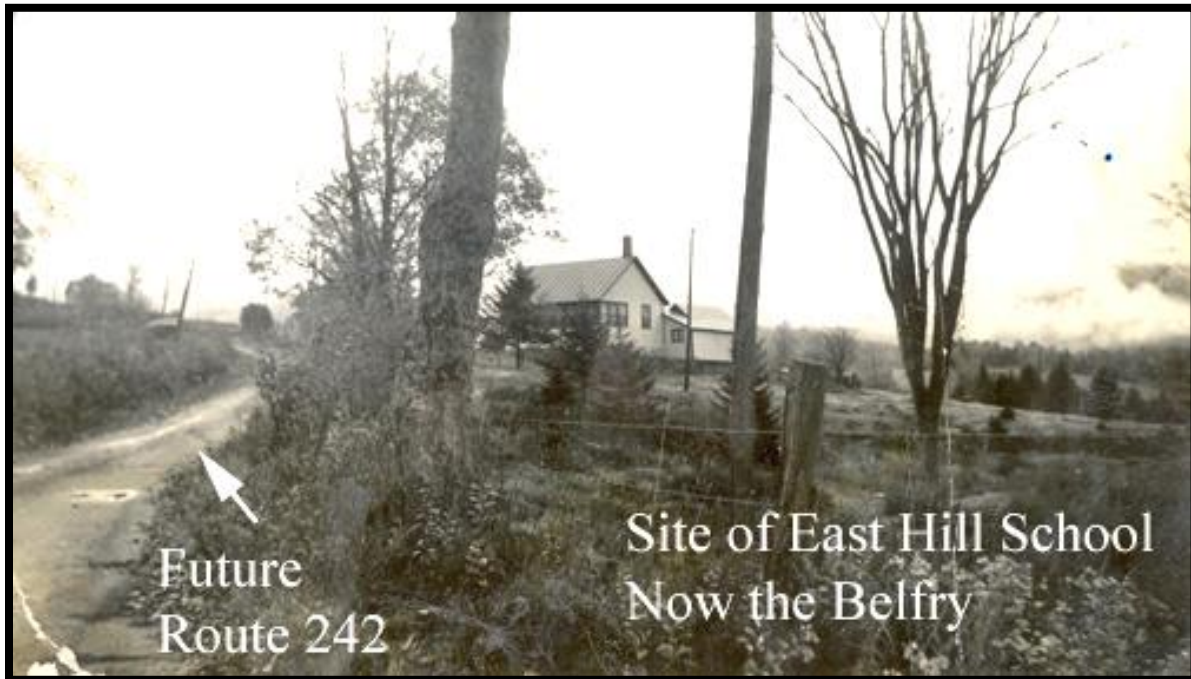




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60 years ago...



Estimated circa early 1950s. Photo donated by John and Mack Bolog.

June 1957: The Jay Road is opened and for the first time travelers can drive directly to the new ski area or State Park. Prior to that the only way to get there from Montgomery was using a footpath or driving around via other routes. The existing road was a single lane dirt affair with grass growing in the middle.

In 1955 a group led by Carl "Joe" Scott, a Montgomery Selectman and Road Commissioner won an appropriation from the State for improvements and a new segment of road to connect to the new ski area. A committee with members and equipment laid out and constructed seven miles of new road connecting Montgomery to Jay Peak.

It was paved in 1959 and the State accepted the road as Route 242 in 1964. The official opening guest of honor in 1957 was Senator George Aiken and Joe Scott was credited with the "initiative and vision" to bring the project to a successful conclusion. The St. Albans Messenger said: "It was almost strictly a one man show."

20 Years Ago...



Village Flood Damage

July 1997: Montgomery devastated by a historic flood. Estimated damages to public infrastructure estimated at 7.5 million predominantly in Montgomery. Selectmen report ;

- Over 100 (of 600) homes with substantial damage
- Over 50 homes with damaged/destroyed heating systems
- 2 homes completely destroyed, 14 uninhabitable due to structural damage
- 40 miles of roads (nearly the entire road system) rendered impassable
- 2 public buildings with damage
- 58 sites along the Trout River and its tributaries needing immediate remediation to prevent further damage.

Sources: Montgomery Vermont, The History of a Town, St. Albans Messenger, An Oral History of Alpine Haven.

The Historical Society thanks the community for its continued support. Donations of photos and other artifacts from Montgomery's past are always welcome. Copies of the Town history are available at the Town Office, Lutz's Automotive, and on line.