

The Garland Mill (1856 – 2025) – Timeline & Synopsis (*cit. local newspapers, Lancaster Historical Society*)

- 1856 Eben C. Garland (1817-1891) builds the Garland Mill in Lancaster, NH on Garland Brook channel
- c.1865 The Garland Mill converted from sash saw technology to Lane Mfg. circular saw and other equipment
- 1870 Concord & Montreal RR extended to Lancaster (vast increase in log and lumber exports from N. NH)
- c.1872 Garland's Chair Manufactory built on grounds, major value-adding aspect of operation
- c.1875 Eben Garland involves son George as partner in growing business named E.C. Garland & Son
- 1877 Furniture factory known locally as the "bedstead manufactory" destroyed by fire, not rebuilt
- c.1880 Peak production of the mill—over 450,000 board feet of sawn lumber, 100,000 shingles, furniture, etc.
- 1884/6 William B. Alden buys the mill from the Garlands; George and Charles Garland move to Tennessee
- 1887 Kilkenny RR logging line to the headwaters of the Garland Brook, by 1897 all timber had been logged off
- 1887 Wm. Alden buys two local farms (Truland and Connary), develops large scale agriculture (post timber era)
- 1891 Eben C. Garland (age 75) and his son George Garland (41) die, the latter after move to Chattanooga, TN
- 1926 Harold Alden buys the mill from his father William B. Alden, and runs operation by himself for 47 years
- 1944 William B. Alden (age 90) died and was buried in Summer St. cemetery in Lancaster
- 1974 Tom and Nancy Southworth buy the Garland Mill from Harold Alden, move north from Philadelphia
- 1977 Harry and Cid Southworth come to Lancaster, NH (from PA) – Harry joins brother Tom in business
- 1982 Southworths install an S. Morgan Smith turbine (c. 1934) with new penstock, wheelpit, and small hydro
- 1983 The Garland Mill listed in the National Register of Historic Places
- 1986 Garland Mill Timberframes (GMT) founded as in-house building company to augment sawing activity
- 1989 Tom and Harry join the Timber Framer's Guild, host numerous Guild projects at the mill over the years
- 1995 Harold B. Alden (age 94) died and was buried in Summer St. cemetery in Lancaster
- 2002 Ben Southworth returns to Lancaster (from Chiloe, Chile) and joins GMT operations
- 2004 Dana Southworth returns to Lancaster (from Sarajevo, Bosnia) and joins GMT operations
- 2006 Dana and Ben begin 5-year buyout of Garland Mill from fathers Harry and Tom
- 2007 Furniture making re-introduced on limited scale to mill's product offering (Garland Joinery by name)
- 2010 Harry Southworth dies (age 63); Dana and Ben complete purchase of Garland Mill from fathers
- 2017 D. Southworth and Seth and Luke Colby rebuild full sawmill carriage track (last done in 1880s)
- 2019 Tom Southworth dies peacefully at home (age 74), within a few stones throws of the mill
- 2020 3rd generation of Southworths, David and Robert actively involved in sawmilling and timber framing
- 2022 GMT builds its largest full timberframe structure to date (pine and cherry) for a 2nd gen. client
- 2023 Another Timber Framer's Guild *Rendezvous* hosted at The Garland Mill to work, learn and celebrate
- ~ *An estimated 32,500,000 board feet of timber and lumber sawn by water power over the past 169 years.* ~