

Timeline of New England Skiing
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Work Notes for 2002 Exhibit

1775 "Russian traders and trappers established a semi-permanent settlement on Unalaska Island by 1775. It is probable that skis were used here during winter fox hunting expeditions..."¹

early 1790s "Vasilii Ivanov, with a group of traders from the Lebedev-Lastochkin Company and several Tanaina Indians, explored the region from Lake Illiamna to the Yukon River...The expedition took place during three months of winter and was made possible by the use of skis. The record of this trip is the first written documentation of skiing in Alaska and possibly in North America."²

1851 "He (Frank Stewart) arrived in Rabbit Creek in 1851 as an 18-year old gold seeker out of Skowhegan, Maine...He was in Rabbit Creek for the legendary start of snow-shoe racing in 1857. He saw his community's name changed from Rabbit Creek to LaPorte".³

1853 (January) First mention of use of skis in California.⁴

1857 ("Eighteen year old Frank Stewart left Skowhegan, Maine in 1851 to find gold in California). In 1857 Stewart entered one of the first "longboard" races. Thereafter, Stewart won so often that he was referred to as the world champion".⁵

1861 (January) First ski clubs founded in California, in Onion Valley and LaPorte.⁶

1867 Alturas Snow-shoe Club of LaPorte formed in LaPorte, CA. 1st annual tournament was 2-11-1867.⁷

1870-1910 1.6 million Scandinavians (Norway, Sweden, Finland) immigrated to the US.⁸

1870 (July 23) "Widgery Thomas and his group of 22 men, 11 women and 18 children arrived at a site in the woods north of Caribou (ME). 'We called the spot New Sweden'". Swedes were offered 100 acres of land to settle in ME. "The Swedes knew how to build and use skidor, or skis...Many people made skis for their own use, but a few also sold skis. Ski-makers such as Lars Stadig and Anselm Carlstrom decorated their skis with their own distinctive markings. All the skis from New Sweden in the 1800s have a long carved tip that looks like the prow of a Viking sailing ship. The shape of the tip also made it easy to anchor a rope so a pair of skis could be bound together and towed with goods on them."⁹

1871 "People may have been on skis in New England before these immigrants in Maine (New Sweden), but Thomas's description stands as the earliest unequivocal record of the use of skis in the Northeast".¹⁰

1872(?) Ski club started in Berlin by Norwegian immigrants. There is confusion about the date; it may have been 1882. The club was named Berlin Mills Ski Club soon after it was started, then re-named the Nansen Ski Club in honor of the Norwegian explorer Fridtjof Nansen, who crossed Greenland on skis.¹¹

1880-1910 "In the thirty years from about 1880 to 1910 which coincide with the peak years of Scandinavian immigration, local clubs promoted the skisport and laid the foundation for modern skiing. There was only an occasional attempt to "pull off" ..a cross country race."¹²

1882 (January 15) "As I write this I have before me a letter from my friend Alf Halvorson of Berlin, NH and I am glad to record the organization date of the Nansen Ski Club. This club was formed by a group of Scandinavians on January 15, 1882, and was known as "The Ski Club'. Later it was known for many years as the Berlin Mills Ski Club. Later when Fridtjof Nansen crossed Greenland, the club became the Fridtjof Nansen's Ski Club, and is now known as the Nansen Ski Club."¹³

1896 Martin Strand begins manufacturing skis in Minneapolis, MN.¹⁴

1899 First recorded use of skis on Mt. Washington, by Dr. Wiskott of Breslau, Germany.¹⁵

ca. 1902 or 1905 "Around 1902 to 1905 a few (in Stowe) of us took hardwood boards and bent up one end, nailed on a toe strap and thought we were ready to ski....Our skiing consisted of straight running down a slope near the present Stowe public school...But the spills without the thrills was not really skiing, and all of us lost interest. The infection, however, was there."Craig O. Burt, Sr.¹⁶

1902 "Swedish immigrant Frederick Jorgensen arrived as game warden in the Wilson Mills (ME) area...no one had seen a pair of skis before, and Jorgensen was ridiculed while the merits of snowshoe and ski were debated. Inevitably there had to be a race. Jorgensen was home before the snowshoer had reached the halfway mark. Poachers particularly took notice."¹⁷

1904 "Theo. A Johnsen follows his passion and begins making high quality Tajco ski equipment."¹⁸

1904-05 Lake Placid Club first kept open in winter, "eight people stayed at the old Forest Clubhouse...that winter, someone brought a pair of skis."¹⁹

1905 Theodore A. Johnson "laid out and printed a ski booklet 54 pages long, entitled *The Winter Sport of Skeeing*. This booklet constitutes the first substantial work on skiing published in America."²⁰

1905 "Paris Manufacturing begins selling moderately priced skis".²¹

1905 National Ski Association formed in Ishpeming, Michigan "to regulate club activities and so produce equality in competitions."²²

1905 "the patrician Lake Placid Club remained open for the winter for the first time".²³

1906 Ski jump built by the Nansen Ski Club in Paine's Meadow, Berlin.²⁴

1907 Norman Libby and Algernon Chandler take 100 mile trip on skis from Bridgton to Gorham. They ascended Pleasant Mountain on skis, and Mt Washington to the halfway point before switching to ice creepers.²⁵

1907 (Feb 7) "First United States National Cross-Country Championship as run over a nine-mile course...But the race was not popular with runners".²⁶

1909 (Feb) ""James 'Pop' Taylor, an energetic master ...at Vermont Academy in Saxton's River" organized a winter carnival with ski and snowshoe races.²⁷

1909 (Nov 30) Fred Harris starts the Dartmouth Outing Club (DOC) in Hanover to get students involved in ski jumping, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and winter carnivals. Harris may have been influenced by a winter carnival already held in Montreal and by the Vermont Academy Outing Club.²⁸

1910-11 (date is unclear) John Apperson skis up Killington Peak, VT.²⁹

1911 First Dartmouth winter carnival.³⁰

1912 First ski ascent of Mt. Moosilauke in Warren, by Carl Shumway and Eric Foster of the DOC by the carriage road.³¹

1913 Fred Harris and other DOC skiers ski up Mt. Washington by its carriage road.³²

1914 (March 18) First recorded use of skis in Tuckerman Ravine on Mt. Washington by John S. Apperson of Schenectady, NY and Dartmouth Outing Club members.³³

1914 "Up to 1914 all of the land encompassing Mt. Mansfield was in private hands except for the summit ridge strip which WHH Bingham and John B. Wheeler had deeded to the University of Vermont. In that year the Vermont Forest Service purchased 3,155 acres of woodland on the west flank of the mountain. This was the start of the Mt. Mansfield State Forest".³⁴

1915 (Feb 12 & 13) First intercollegiate ski meet in US at Hanover, NH between Dartmouth and McGill, Williams, U Vermont, NH State.³⁵

1915 "In 1915 some 1,845 acres in Stowe were added (to the Mt Mansfield State Forest). This piece, which runs down the east slope of the mountain, encompasses about two-thirds of the present-day ski trail and lift complex".³⁶

1916 "Poland Spring Resort opens for skiers, offering lessons in cross country and jumping".³⁷

1917 "In 1917 Prof. Fridtjof Nansen and one of his daughters spent Christmas at the Lake Placid Club, and one day expressed a desire to go up to Whiteface. Skis must be used as a matter of course, and the ease with which they accomplished this trip opened the eyes of the other inhabitants to the possibilities of skiing uphill and across the country".³⁸

1920 "After 1920 the scene of skiing activity shifted from Saranac Lake to Lake Placid, where it continued to increase."³⁹

1920 "By 1920 the Lake Placid Club in the Adirondacks was well under way with recreational skiing. Partly responsible for this was a Norwegian, Ornulf Poulsen, who was given the title of Winter Sports Director. At the same time the Club had its first ski instructor, Hans Jacobsen, later followed by Michael Wettergren, also both from Norway."⁴⁰

1920s "Since the early 1920s there have been Dartmouth men bringing back the latest theories and practices of skiers from abroad. Dartmouth has also had the advice and help of skiers from overseas such as: Colonel Diettrich, a pupil of Zdarsky and Bilgeri; Gerry Raab from Munich; Guido Reuge from Zurich, inventor of the Kandahar binding; Harald Paumgarten of Austria, Otto Schniebs of Germany and Walter Prager of Switzerland. All these men visited the college either as coaches or guests for an extended stay."⁴¹

1921 65 foot ski jump built in Berlin.⁴²

1923 Col. Anton Diettrich, a Hungarian who had been in the World War I Austrian ski troops is hired by the DOC as a ski instructor and coach.⁴³

1925 First slalom race in US held at Dartmouth; the first in the world was set in Murren, Switzerland in 1922.⁴⁴

1924 "The National Championship was awarded to an eastern club for the first time in 1924. The Brattleboro Outing Club, started and developed by Fred Harris, founder of the Dartmouth Outing Club, had built the first sufficiently large Eastern jump to interest the Middle Westerners. ...The results at the 1924 National at Brattleboro might have been different if some of the best jumpers in the country had not been in France on the Olympic team attending the first winter Olympic games....Lars Haugen, Canton SD won this tournament, which was nothing new to him as he had already been National Champion in 1912, 15, 18 and 22".⁴⁵

1926 ? (March) Arthur Comey makes first ski descent of Katahdin. (In Appalachia he mentions March 1926 and March 1928 and does not say when first summited).⁴⁶

1927 (March 8) At the suggestion of Anton Diettrich, DOC organizes a down-mountain race on Mt. Moosilauke in Warren. This first downhill race in the US is won by Charles N. Proctor in 21:40.⁴⁷

1927-28 Erling Strom's first season teaching skiing at Lake Placid Club. Marquis Albizzi had been Winter Sports Director after Poulsen and recommended Strom.⁴⁸

1928 (March 9) First slalom race in world run under what would become the FIS rules (with time the only factor, unlike other slaloms in which racers were also judged on form). Set in Hanover by Charles N. Proctor and won by Robert Baumrucker of Dartmouth.⁴⁹

1928-29 season "The past skiing season has been chiefly notable for the authoritative introduction to AMC circles of the "Arlberg technique" which is at present the talk of Europe. ...it developed that an accredited teacher of this famous school. Mr. Otto Schneibs, had lately arrived here from Germany and taken up residence in Waltham! Mr. Schneibs most generously offered his services not only upon many weekend trips but for the whole period of the Littleton excursion".⁵⁰

1929-30 season Peckett's Inn in Sugar Hill employs 2 ski instructors, one of whom is Herman Glatfelder; this is the first resort ski school in the US (some instructors like Otto Schneibs were giving lessons to clubs like the Appalachian Mountain Club before this). Kate Peckett, daughter of the inn's owner, met Austrian skier Sig Buchmayr that year in New York, where he was working in a store. Buchmayr visited Peckett's as a friend and guest that year, then taught for the ski school the next season along with Duke Dimitri von Leuchtenburg.⁵¹

1930 A. John Holden of the AMC "one of the Harvard Square group...went to the Alps, on which he reported to the AMC meeting; and his account of snow trains out of Munich inspired Park Carpenter to pressure the B&M into starting them here".⁵²

1931 (Jan 11) First snow train run by the Boston and Maine RR takes 197 passengers to Warner.⁵³

1932 (Washington's Birthday) Roland Palmedo and "Jose A Machado Jr journeyed to Stowe to ski and survey the mountain and to talk with local residents and officials."⁵⁴

1933 "first trail of Mt. Mansfield specifically for skiing" cut--the Bruce Trail, by the CCC.⁵⁵

1933 Abner W. Coleman and Charles Lord laid out the trail's (Nose Dive) original route...Coleman became a traffic engineer for the Vermont Highway Department and was long a director of the Mt Mansfield Ski Club and for many years the editor of its publication, Mt Mansfield Skiing. Lord, a civil engineer and another avid skier, can be said to be the architect of the early Mansfield trail system. The layout of the Nose Dive in 1933 came when he was connected with the local CCC unit which rough-cleared the trail the summer of 1934 and finished the job the following year."⁵⁶

1933 (July 17) ""Inspected ski trail locations on Wildcat with Charlie Proctor. Started work on 1 1/2 mile ski trail climbing 2000 vertical feet to Summit E with Ed LeBlanc in charge"...Ed LeBlanc was an able foreman being paid all of \$45 per month to boss a crew of enrollees receiving depression wages of \$30 per month, plus food and medical care. During the summer of 1933 that unit, stationed at the Darby Field SubCamp of the Wild River CCC Camp, cleared the Wildcat Ski Trail, the first major ski run to be swamped out in the Northeast by the Conservation Corps."⁵⁷

1933-34 "Mt Mansfield Ski Club in conjunction with the Burt Co. took over management of Ranch Camp and this was the start of the notable landmark in the history of Mt Mansfield skiing".⁵⁸

1934 (January 16) "it (Mansfield patrol? MMSC?) started as a committee of the Mt Mansfield Ski Club, incorporated on January 16, 1934 with the State of Vermont...".⁵⁹

1934 (January 28) Woodstock VT rope tow: "Urged on by the discussion and advances of a New Yorker, Mr. Thomas Gammack, the Royces of the White Cupboard Inn, Woodstock, Vt., have installed on a fine slope in Woodstock the first motor ski tow to operate in the United States. This ski tow on its first day of operation last Sunday, Jan 28, continuously carried happy skiers uphill all day. The arrangement is novel and simple. A coil of 7/8 inch manilla rope knitted together with a long splice, passing over pulleys and around a tractor

wheel on the rear end of a Ford automobile, provides 300 yards of uphill transportation."⁶⁰
(Ski Bulletin, 2-2-1934, p. 8).

1934 (March 4) Gore Mt Ski Club of North Creek, NY ski patrol began to function. "...has patrolled all Gore Mt. Ski Trails at the close of each day of skiing whenever any considerable number of skiers were on the ski trails".⁶¹

1934-35 :The principal duties of a patrolman in this first season, the 1934-35 season, was to inform skiers on Mansfield which of its trails were right for the particular skier's individual ability"; Craig Burt quoted.⁶²

1935 "In Maine the CCC cut trails on Pleasant Mountain, Mt Blue, Mt Megunticook and on Bigelow Mtn."⁶³

1935 "famous Skimeister trains had begun their runs to Waterbury just south of Stowe, bringing hundreds of new enthusiasts up from Boston and New York City for weekend outings."⁶⁴

1935 (Feb 3) Snow train, from Portland to Fryeburg; 229 passengers; not the first.⁶⁵

1935 "Aurele Legere from Rumford wins the Eastern Amateur Jumping Championship in Brattleboro."⁶⁶

1935 "In 1935 he (Fred Pabst) put in Canada's first permanent rope tow at St. Sauveur in the Laurentians."⁶⁷

1935 "Incorporation of Ski Tows, Inc".⁶⁸

1935 "Ski Tows, Inc was organized to manage the various ski areas in the United States, and Ski Tows, Ltd. was set up the same way to handle the Canadian tows. Hill 70--named for a hill in Europe captured by the Canadians during WWI--became Pabst's first recreational ski area....There ended up being, in fact, four rope tows on four different hills. These other hills were Hill 69, Hill 69 1/2, Hill 60."⁶⁹

1935-36 "Pabst's fall and winter of 1935-36 must have been incredibly busy with the ongoing installation of tows at St Saveur, Quebec; Manchester, Vermont; Plymouth, New Hampshire; and Intervale, New Hampshire...at St. Sauveur he found a number of pluses. First, there was a large population center close at hand, Montreal. Second...rail transportation was available. Third, there was plenty of lodging."⁷⁰

Ca. 1936-38 "Fred Pabst, Jr. inspired by ideas obtained from an unsuccessful prototype lift installed in Hanover NH in the early 1930s, hired an engineer from American Steel & Wire Co to work with him, and together they designed a built the five J-bar lifts just mentioned. Although these lifts were an independently arrived at invention, Fred ran into a previous patent on the surface-lift idea, held by Constam, and rather than fight the thing out in a costly court battle, simply paid \$2,000 for rights, and let it go at that".⁷¹

1936 (January 1) Minnie Dole's accident at Stowe.⁷²

1936 First rope tow in Maine, on Jockey Cap in Fryeburg. Bridgton built one two weeks later.⁷³

1936 Jackson Ski and Outing Club formed in Jackson, NH. It maintained the Langlauf Trail, a cross-country trail from Jackson Village to Black Mtn and back.⁷⁴

1936 "In 1936 the old Citizen's (sic) Conservation Corps slashed a trail from the summit of the mountain (Pleasant) ...Then came a miracle: the Bridgton Chamber of Commerce decided to develop part of the mountain, and the present open slope was cut like a gash on the face of a giant, then furnished with two rope tows--and a ski area was born."⁷⁵

1936 Bromley's first year.⁷⁶

1936 (Dec 10) Sepp Ruschp arrived in US to teach at Stowe.⁷⁷

1937 (Feb 7) "commercial operation of a rope tow began on the Toll House slopes" (Stowe).⁷⁸

1937 (Thanksgiving Day) Pico opened with 1,200 foot rope tow.⁷⁹

1939 "...discovery of a video dating back to 1939 shows an elegantly dressed man by the name of Vern Wicklund riding a snowboard-type sled sideways down a Chicago hill. Wicklund family members have also uncovered patents for the board."⁸⁰

1940 (Dec 9) first day of operation for Stowe single chairlift. "Also constructed in 1940 at the top of the chairlift was the Octagon warming shelter. Sponsor of the chairlift was a new company, Mt Mansfield Lift Inc, whose president, Roland Palmedo, was the key mover of the project. He had gathered together a number of interested investors for the \$75,000 needed to build the lift. Among those was Lowell Thomas, Sr".⁸¹

1944 (April 30) Ski Tows, Inc "liquidated and whatever operations remained continued under the sole proprietorship of Fred A. Pabst, Jr."⁸²

1949 Mad River Glen opens.⁸³

1950s "Vermont was actively looking for ways to bring development into the state in the 1950s, and there were those in state government who saw the development of ski areas as beneficial and desirable. As noted, Perry Merrill was a major proponent of skiing as a natural and useful way to utilize the mountains and forests while at the same time augmenting state revenues. A policy of supporting the creation of ski areas by leasing state land was established during the 1930s when Mount Mansfield was developed, and was continued by Governor Ernest Gibson in the late 1940s. In the mid-1950s Governor Joseph B. Johnson supported the policy of the state building roads to access remote mountain areas where private ski developers would lease state forest lands. Mount Mansfield, Smuggler's Notch, Jay Peak, Okemo and Burke Mountain were all built on leased land with access roads and base shelters provided by the state. Additionally, the state approved the building of access roads for ski areas located on national forest land (Mount Snow and Sugarbush) and on privately owned land (Stratton)."⁸⁴

1951 (spring) Eastern Ski Area Operators Association formed in Vermont.⁸⁵

1953 (January) "...another Pabst first, the Bromley nursery...in January of 1953 it was noted that Bromley had an unusual advantage. Children aged 3 to 5 could be placed in the Bromley nursery; children over five could take advantage of the Kiddies Ski School..."⁸⁶

1954 Mt. Snow opens.⁸⁷

1955 Jay Peak opens.⁸⁸

1956 (Jan 29) Sugarloaf opens with Constam T-bar.⁸⁹

1956 Okemo opens.⁹⁰

1956-57 Sugarloaf adds another Constam T-bar "placed in tandem with the lower lift to carry skiers high into the snow fields--a distance of 6,240 feet from the base area".⁹¹

1957 (summer) "...the law which established the board (NH Passenger Tramway Safety Board), first of its kind in the country, went into effect in the summer of 1957, and the code which the board adopted has been in force since the autumn of that year....The board has received inquiries from all of the other states that have ski lifts, some of which are considering a measure similar to New Hampshire's."⁹²

1957 (Oct 29) ESAOA meets in North Conway (and probably visits the construction site at Wildcat). "Robertson reported on the work of the association's special committee in cooperation with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Standards Association. This committee and the others are working to develop standardization and

improvement of mechanical operation and future design of uphill devices...The retiring president, Philip Robertson, was unanimously requested to continue as chairman of the ASA Committee B-77".⁹³

1957-58 "Installation of snow-making equipment to serve the J-bar lift area on Whitney Hill ...The equipment, being installed by the William A. Walsh Company of Manchester, is designed to put down three inches of snow every 24 hours over the entire hill".⁹⁴

1958 (December 13) "Killington Basin Ski Area opens for business with two Pomas operating on Snowdon, a CCC hut for a base lodge, a renovated chicken coop for ticket booth and an 8-seat outhouse."⁹⁵

1958 Sugarbush opens.⁹⁶

1958-59 "Although Killington lost money that first season, it was to be the only year in which the ski area did not make a profit... Despite the original "shoestring start", Killington...had four lifts operating its first season, something of a record for those times. Some eight thousand skier visits were recorded during four months."⁹⁷

1958-59 "The first eastern outdoor all-weather hot water kidney shaped swimming pool has been installed, which will feature a tremendous sundeck" (at Mt. Snow).⁹⁸

1958-59 Mittersill advertises "recently completed privately owned chalets at Mittersill Alpine Village".⁹⁹

1958-59 "..instruction experiment utilizing short skis, conducted by Brattleboro Outing Club President Clifton Taylor in the club's weekly ski classes, is producing remarkable results. Taylor, a certified USEASA instructor and an advocate of short skis for the past seven years..."¹⁰⁰

Ca. 1958 "Maine's delayed entrance into the winter sports picture may be attributed to two factors which seemed unsurmountable a few years ago. For example, unlike New Hampshire, the Pine Tree State had no state-owned lands, suitable from all angles, that could be developed at public expense. And private capital seemed unwilling to finance the costly construction of areas of major caliber."¹⁰¹

1959-60 "Sunday River Skiways opened with one T-Bar and a total investment of just over \$100,000."¹⁰²

1960 Magic Mountain opens.¹⁰³

1960 (3rd week March) Killington's first chairlift in operation; 6,300 foot length.¹⁰⁴

1960-61 "For the budget-conscious also, Mittersill's unique chalet ownership plan permits the owners to reap a return on their investment by rental to guests of the inn in summer months or at any time when the owner is away."¹⁰⁵

1960-63 "Also important was the growing national awareness of the need for exercise which began in the Kennedy Administration. As bicycling, jogging and hiking became popular, the people who practiced these sports needed a winter activity.As Americans became increasingly concerned with the environment, many of them sought out wilderness experiences."¹⁰⁶

1960s ("turn of") "The present boom in vacation homes more or less actively dates from somewhere around the turn of the sixties, although the private chalet concept was underway at Franconia, NH as far back as the 1940s in the shape of the now lusty Mittersill Village...At Jackson, Nh A-frames began to jab the skyline in '59 and in 1961 chalets were rising at Hans Thorner's Magic Mountain."¹⁰⁷

1961 Stratton opens.¹⁰⁸

1962 (November) "he (Rudi Mattesich) called Roland Palmedo and discussed plans to foster

ski-touring. That month, they organized the Ski Touring Council with Rudi as president. They organized workshops and planned and scheduled events and tours all over the east."¹⁰⁹

1962 (Dec) Ski article by John Fry on ski touring. Stowe, VT, White Mountains, NH, Adirondacks NY mentioned as seeing some touring interest."John Wictorin, who handles most of the imported cross-country skis sold in this country, in the past has sold up to 150 pairs a year. Last season, he sold close to 400 pairs."¹¹⁰

1962-63 Walt Schoenknecht plans to use atomic blast to form a lake. "The atomically-created crater lake would eliminate a shoulder which blocks proper development of the ski slopes on the steep north face".¹¹¹

early 1960s "There the freestyle program (conceived by Mary Jo Eikler, Charles Beirschmidt, Bill Tilley with input from Stein Ericksen, Paul Valar, Roger Peabody) languished the rest of the early 1960s. Then, through the efforts of the USEASA's Littleton office the material landed in the hands of Bill Doig of Mt Attitash. Doig, a USEASA director, in early 1965 looked to Peter Pinkham for assistance. Pinkham reviewed the history of the proposed events, and utilizing the best features of Mary Jo's, Beirschmidt's and Tilley's original thoughts and ideas, set up the compete program as it is known today (Ski Masters)."¹¹²

1963 "The first Ski Touring Council tour was held at Mad River at Easter in 1963."¹¹³

1963 "Another focus of the revival was the annual Vermont Washington's Birthday Race begun in 1963 by Dr. Eric Barradale, a Brattleboro dentist."¹¹⁴

1963-64 Glen Ellen opens. "Has undertaken a three-year construction program which will produce an area with a 2700' vertical drop."¹¹⁵

mid-1960s "A turning point in the revival of cross-country skiing was the sudden availability of inexpensive skis. In the mid-1960s, the first fiberglass downhill skis came on the market. People quickly traded in their old wooden models, which were easily converted into cross-country skis with a little shaving and narrowing to lighten them up."¹¹⁶

1965 (Feb) *Skiing* article "The Lure of Touring" details venues in US for ski touring. No touring centers mentioned.¹¹⁷

1965 (Dec) Edward Hurley article in Appalachia details trends in NE skiing: creation of super-areas; continued development of the chalet village concept (cites Mittersill, Tyrol, Mt Snow, Killington, Sugarbush, Magic & Pico); breakthrough in lift capacities; and more snowmaking equipment, cross-country trails and bigger weekday crowds. Cites Bromley's snowmaking covering 71% of area for 65-66 season.¹¹⁸

1965 (Christmas) "It was Christmas morning, 1965 when Sherman Poppen walked outside his home in Michigan, looked at a snow-covered hill, and saw a wave..."My wife was pregnant and told me I had to get my two daughters out of the house or she was going to go crazy," said Poppen, who admitted he was fascinated by surfing but had never tried it. "When I looked at that hill, I thought why not?" Remembering the past attempts of his daughter Wendy standing on her sled, he hastily screwed two pairs of children's skis together with some doweling and fashioned a surfboard for the snow. Within a few days, all the neighborhood kids were begging Mr. Poppen for what Mrs. Poppen dubbed "the Snurfer" by mixing the word "snow" with "surfer". Six months later, Poppen licensed the idea to Brunswick Manufacturing, and over the next ten years, upwards of a million Snurfers were produced and sold through chain sporting goods stores and toy stores."¹¹⁹

1965-66 Bromley installs top-to-bottom snowmaking covering 71% of acreage.¹²⁰

1965-66 "Thus was born another Pabst innovation--installation of an unprecedented

snowmaking plant at a cost of nearly three quarters of a million dollars. "Nobody thought you could cover a whole damn mountain with snowmaking...Now they all want to come study how I do it."¹²¹

1966 (Jan 22-23) Ski Masters competition at Attitash, NH. "...a competition based on technique and style....'Figure skiing' was the name given to it by several eastern ski writers...The man behind the Ski Masters is Peter Pinkham, president of the Eastern Slope Inn in North Conway...And although another, Bill Tilley, once advanced the idea of a free-style skiing event to USEASA some years ago, Pinkham, who was unaware of Tilley's earlier plan, came on the idea while teaching junior skiers on Cranmore last winter...."I look to the day of its eventual recognition as an Olympic event and its inclusion in the Winter Olympic Games"¹²².

1966 (Jan 22-23) "The first running of the event (Ski Masters) was in 1966 at Mt Attitash, with Paul Valar, Herb Schneider and Barry Bryant judging. The second running was in 1967 with the North Slopes of Cranmore as the locale."¹²³

1968 "Cross-country skiing was seeing signs of revival in the winter sports arena. Jackson saw its first purely cross-country ski lessons given that winter through the Jack Frost Shop, owned by Peggy Frost. Peggy tried to import an instructor from Scandinavia but ran into immigration problems. She also contacted Johan Von Trapp in Stowe, Vermont to inquire about instructors. There were very few people at this time in the United States who were qualified to instruct ski touring."¹²⁴

1969 "In 1969, the Trapps pioneered the touring center concept to lure skiers to their mountaintop inn".¹²⁵

1970 (Fall) "Bradford Boynton, the proprietor of the Wildcat Tavern, received permission from various local landowners to hack out and mark several old trails leading from his back door around this loop...In December he went to a touring workshop at the AMC and accepted...the task of running a touring outing from Jackson Village." John Nutter and Colin Davidson assisted.¹²⁶

1970 (Jackson) "Jack Frost Shop rented their first cross-country skis and gave ski touring lessons both in the village and at Black Mountain. Avery Caldwell came to Jackson and worked as an instructor for the Frost Shop. Brad Boynton, owner of Wildcat Tavern had a trail system behind his inn".¹²⁷

1970 "Inspired by sliding on cafeteria trays in upstate New York, East Coast surfer Dimitrije Milovich starts developing snowboards based on surfboard design with a rudimentary idea of how skis work. The boards had metal edges."¹²⁸

1970 (Dec) *Ski* publishes section on "the new boom in US skiing: cross-country touring".¹²⁹

1971 (winter) At the urging of Avery Caldwell, Jackson Resort Association formed a steering committee to conduct a feasibility study of a cross-country ski area in Jackson.¹³⁰

1971 (Fall) "John Nutter and Brad Boynton laid out more trails covering most of the uplands of Jackson."¹³¹

1971 (Dec) "The Scandinavians, who have been touring a lot longer than we have, are fully cognizant of this problem: they cultivate their touring trails like hot-house flowers."¹³²

1972 (July 17) "Jackson Ski Touring Foundation was incorporated by local business people and the citizens of the village as a non-profit, voluntary corporation". Avery Caldwell was hired as Executive Director.¹³³

1975 "Dimitrije Milovich sets up Winterstick production in Utah."¹³⁴

1977 "Jake Burton Carpenter moves to Stratton Mountain, VT, working nights as a bartender

and designing the prototypes for what will later be Burton Snowboards during the day."¹³⁵

1977 "Milovich obtains a written confirmation from Petit-Morey and Kendall Insurance, the insurance brokers for America's ski resorts, that snowboards are in fact covered under regular ski liability. This proves that resort acceptance was based on the mountain manager's preference just as we suspected."¹³⁶

1979 "At the annual Snurfer contest held in Michigan...Jake Carpenter tries to enter on his own equipment. There are protests about his non-Snurfer snowboard design. Paul Graves and others stand up for Jake's right to race and an open division is created which only Jake enters and wins."¹³⁷

1981 "Modern competitive snowboarding begins with a small contest held in April at Ski Cooper in Leadville, CO."¹³⁸

1982 "Paul Graves organizes the National Snowsurfing Championships held at Suicide Six Ski Area in Woodstock, VT, featuring a slalom and downhill. The contest draws media coverage from the likes of Sports Illustrated, NBC Today and Good Morning America."¹³⁹

1983 Jack Burton Carpenter puts on the National Snowboarding Championships in the spring at Snow Valley, Vermont."¹⁴⁰

1983 Stratton Mountain VT allows snowboarders to use lifts.¹⁴¹

1996 Bode Miller wins JI & II Junior Olympics at Sugarloaf in GS and Super G while on K2 Fours. "Miller surprised people by switching to extreme sidecut skis for the Super G and GS...he won the super G by a remarkable 2.02 seconds and the GS by an even wider 2.11 seconds."¹⁴²

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