



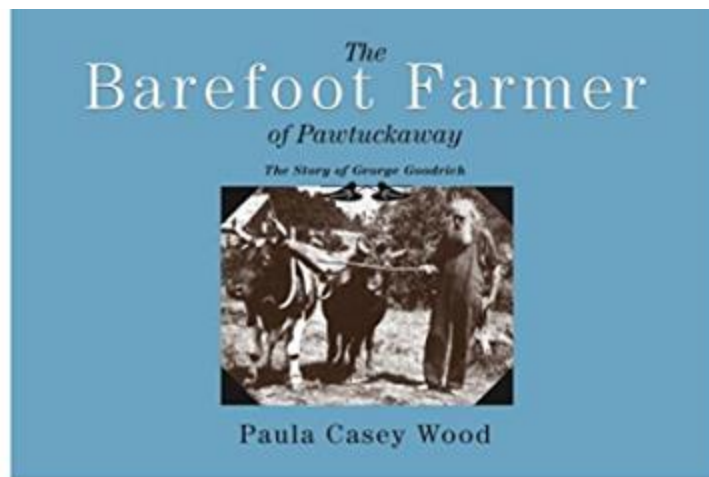
The opening ceremony left to right Dan Bunker, Kortney Dorow Duball, and Bill Garnett

The Barefoot Farmer of Pawtuckaway Story Walk Opened
Steve Soreff, MD

At 10:30 AM, Saturday, October 1, 2022 Dan Bunker-Head of Circulation, Blaisdell Memorial Library, Kortney Dorow Duball-Director, Nottingham Parks & Recreation Department, and Bill Garnett-member of the 300th Committee opened *The Barefoot Farmer of Pawtuckaway* Story Walk. The Story Walk is a trail, just behind the Bandstand near the Community Center, along the North River with at many stations in sequence of Paula Casey Wood's book, entitled [*The Barefoot Farmer of Pawtuckaway*](#). On the bandstand welcoming table were trails maps of Pawtuckaway State Park, a map of the three burial grounds within the Park and two copies of the book itself. The opening itself represents the collaboration between the Blaisdell Memorial Library and the Nottingham Parks & Recreation Department in conjunction and as part the 300th Committee's yearlong celebration.

There are many back stories for this event. These include the Story Walk history, the actual river tale trail, the author and her book. Let's start with creation of Story Walk. Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont developed in collaboration with Kellogg-Hubbard Library the first [StoryWalk®](#). Since then it "have been installed in 50 states and 13 countries including, Germany, Canada, England, Bermuda, Russia, Malaysia, Pakistan and South Korea!" It offers an innovative and wonderful way for families to enjoy the great outdoors and reading all at once.

The Nottingham edition of the story walk came about by the collaboration of the Blaisdell Memorial, Nottingham Parks & Recreation Department, and Nottingham's Boy Scout Troop 167. Specifically, the Boy Scout troop was represented by [Owen Silsby– Belknap](#)'s Eagle Project. The [Nottingham Story Walk](#) opened on July 12, 2022 in conjunction with Recreation Department Summer Concert Series.



The Barefoot Farmer of Pawtuckaway

Paula Casey Wood wrote this book after visits to Pawtuckaway State Park. There, she was inspired by seeing the Goodrich burial ground off Tower Road near one of the trails to South Pawtuckaway Mountain.



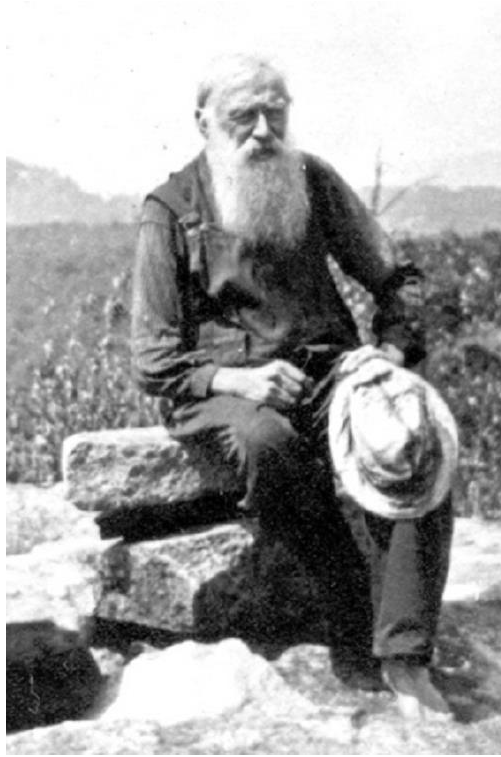
The Goodrich burial ground.

The book tells the story of George Goodrich life on Pawtuckaway. He was a farmer, married and photographer. The trail tells his life through the book.



A chapter in the trail tale book.

This reporter along with others walked the trail and read the entire *The Barefoot Farmer of Pawtuckaway* book. It was a neat experience. He was active and interesting and through the book emerged as a fascinating individual. The book has amazing pictures of old Nottingham, his one room school house and him in barefoot going to Raymond to sell fruits and vegetables.



Picture of George Goodrich for [NH State Park website](#)

The story walk was effective. I got exercise and read at the same time. *The Barefoot Farmer of Pawtuckaway* book story walk will be there for few months. The library will then introduce a new story for the walk then.

