

**The Story of the Ball-Tarbell-Benson House,
an exhibit in the Special Collections cases, Main Library**

When the house was dismantled in 2001, it had been home to just three Concord families over the course of its nearly three hundred year history. The house's deconstruction is a story in itself, told in photographs in the exhibit, which includes a selection of artifacts, remnants of the lives of those who called it home.



FAMILY BIOGRAPHY AND HISTORY: The property at 265 Ball's Hill Road in Concord, Massachusetts, was purchased around 1723 by Caleb Ball and his wife Experience Flagg Ball. Current research dates construction of the house and outbuildings between 1726 and 1740. The house was owned by the Ball family, their in-laws the Tarbells, and finally the Benson family before it was sold to the Town of Concord in 2001. Family histories and genealogy are available with the collection. The house and barn were dismantled by September of 2001. At the time of deconstruction, few structural changes had been made to the house, making it a strong example of first period New England architecture. The land where the house and barn were originally located is now privately owned. Half of the remaining land was marked for conservation. The other half is marked to be used for a new town well. According to the 2005 printed Concord town report, work on the Brewster well (situated on the former Benson property) was placed on hold due to new State Water Management Act policies. The deconstruction project was initiated and supported by Concord native Jeri Bemis.