

U.S. CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY OF ITS INDEPENDENCE

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On one Independence Day, about 100 years ago, a group of townsfolk of Walpole, New Hampshire, in northeastern United States, conducted a holiday celebration in the spirit of mixed gaiety and reverence marking Fourth of July observances. Alfred Cornelius Howland, a hometown artist, watched the parade across the village green, and then painted the picture reproduced in this photograph. In earlier days of the Republic, Independence Day celebrations were marked by generally noisy and unrestrained festivities, with each part of the country observing the holiday in its own way. Today, Independence Day celebrations are quieter and more temperate. The mixture of reverence and gaiety remains, however, and oratory, fireworks, parades, pageants, athletic contests and outings are still the order of the day. (SD-60476)

(No. 3 of 5-photo FPS Picture Story #134. See accompanying text.)