New England Historical Society

SHOP JOIN FOR FREE -HOME SPECIAL FEATURES STATES -TOPICS -THINGS TO DO -

Flashback Photo: Pioneer Parachute Co., July 1942

Mac Home / Business and Labor / Flashback Photo: Pioneer Parachute Co., July 1942









Mary Saverick sews a parachute harness. Library of Congress.

Mary Saverick stitches a parachute harness as part of the war effort in July 1942. The photo, taken by William M. Rittase for the Office of War Information, refers only to the company as 'an Eastern plant.'

Saverick worked for the Pioneer Parachute Co. in Manchester, Conn., which had developed a nylon parachute material for use by the American military in World War II. A 24-year-old woman employee, Adeline Gray, had first tested the material -- successfully. On June 6, 1942, Gray made the first ever jump with a nylon parachute at Brainard Field in Hartford before a group of Army officials.

Gray was from Oxford, Conn., and worked as a licensed parachute rigger and packer when she wasn't jumping. At the time, she was the only licensed female parachute jumper in Connecticut. The photo below shows Gray folding a parachute, with the caption,

The importance of proper folding and rigging of parachutes is well known to Adeline Gray.

(With thanks to Connecticutt-listory.org.)



Adeline Gray, first person to jump with a nylon parachute

Share this:



















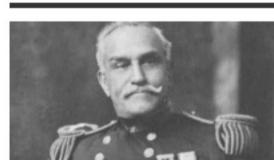
€ Submit





in Share

RELATED ARTICLES



Unsolved Mystery: The Bizarre Death of George Colvocoresses



6 Places That Used To Be Part of a Different State O 4 days ago



Pin it

How the Greek Immigrants Came to New England

O 8 days ago

LEAVE A REPLY

O 2 days ago



Name ★

Post Comment

Email ₩

Website

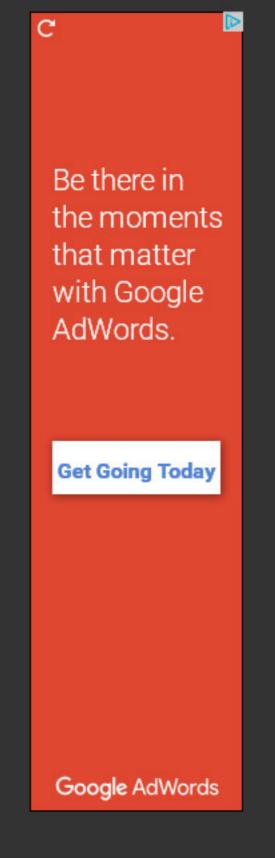


Hotchkis Sport Suspension TVS Stage... \$474.00











MEMBERSHIP LOGIN

signup now | forgot

Remember Me

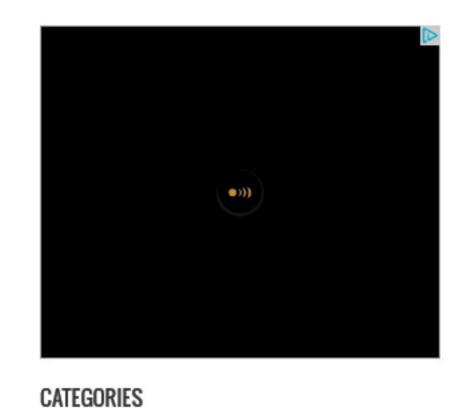
Log Me In

Username:

Password:

password?

Housekeeping Tips From A Shaker Village





Select Category