

The Dash

Published by Freeport Historical Society | *Keeping the past present since 1969.*



Pettengill Farm Day

Sunday, October 2
10:30 am to 2:30 pm

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Garden Volunteers

Q&A with Greta Waterman and Jan Peterson

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SUMMER 2022



We've Been Busy

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Eighteenth Century International Trade on the Harraseeket: CAPTAIN GREENFIELD POTE

BY KATHRYN SCHNEIDER SMITH

TRANSATLANTIC TRADE

IT WAS NOVEMBER 19, 1792, when Greenfield Pote's brig *Columbia* drew up to Staples Point at the mouth of the Harraseeket River to load lumber for a trading voyage to Liverpool, England. His friend John Cushing was farming the land at the point and noted in his diary, "Capt. Pote's Brigg came to the point in order today to load for Europe." Cushing, Greenfield Pote, and Joseph Staple were serving together as the town council of the tiny new town of Freeport, newly independent of North Yarmouth just a few years earlier in 1789. The transatlantic crossing would be captained by Greenfield's son William, age 28. Greenfield, a veteran of the sea at 56, now managed the mercantile business from the family's nearby farm.

The international trading mission captained by young William was starting just a short distance down the Harraseeket River from the Pote homestead, the saltbox-style house that still stands on Wolfe's Neck just past Burnett Road.

Pote House Today

The Pote house is on the National Register of Historic Places, standing today almost as it was built in the mid-1700s. First home to Greenfield and his son William and their families, the house was purchased by Samuel Banks in 1856 and was occupied by his descendants for almost 100 years, passing to his son Evans in 1872, and to his daughter Helen Banks and her husband Alfred Pettengill in 1916. Alfred was the uncle of Frank Pettengill who lived in the only other saltbox house in Freeport, at Pettengill Farm. The Pote house and 33 acres were purchased by L.M.C. and Eleanor Houston Smith in 1954 when it became part of the early farming operations now known as Wolfe's Neck Center.



It is part of the working farm of the Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture and the Environment. The house commands a ridge overlooking Casco Bay, its dramatic sea view and its character hardly changed since its construction in the mid-1700s. Across the fields, Greenfield could see his grist and sawmills, powered by the changing tide at the mouth of Little River. His wharf on the Harra-

seeket was just across the narrow neck from the house. The house is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This family and its saltbox house carry stories that link the sophisticated world of international seafaring with the dependence on nearby neighbors and family at the heart of daily life on a farm in the early Freeport of the late 1700s. However, the house has thus far

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SUMMER 2022

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www.freeporthistoricalsociety.org

OFFICE & EXHIBIT HOURS

Tuesday – Friday:
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
2nd and 4th Saturday:
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Check our events calendar for exciting upcoming events and programs.

Research and visits involving the collection require an appointment in advance. Please call 207-865-3170 or email info@freeporthistoricalsociety.org

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SUMMER IS HERE, and our garden is in full bloom, thanks to our indomitable garden volunteers (see page 8) who gather weekly and water almost daily. This canvas of color is enjoyed by countless folks who pass through our grounds each day and is an astounding feature of our Main Street location. Our garden clearly announces that Freeport Historical Society is alive and well and open for visitors.

As we roll out the engagement strategy set by our Vision Committee, we are actively inviting guests to learn more about Freeport's past and present through our new exhibit (see below) and helping direct visitors to other parts of Freeport beyond Main Street to make the most of their time in Freeport. We are also leading regular walking tours of downtown to highlight the many layers of Freeport's village, from trading crossroads to industrial center to tourist destination. We hope you will stop by yourself, perhaps with your visiting friends or family,

to see your historical society and connect with how this coastal town came to be.

This new vision of outreach and engagement also requires support from our community. We're excited to welcome back volunteers (see page 9) and in-person fundraisers as an opportunity for you to connect with friends and neighbors, as well as support our active work. We have been buoyed by your continued support over the last few tumultuous years, and we know we can continue to count on your generosity.

Summer on the coast of Maine is a season to be savored. As we work to help visitors make the most of their time, we hope we can help you make the most of yours as well. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events, or visiting with you at Harrington house, or waving across the field at Pettengill Farm.

Wishing you warm and pleasant summer days.

— ERIC C. SMITH,
Executive Director

FREEPORT BEGINNINGS



A sign from the original Freeport train depot hangs in the newest FHS exhibition at Harrington House highlighting early settlement and industry, from the age of sail and saltwater farming to the age of steam and shoe factories.

a standing exhibit for residents and visitors alike to understand how the Freeport of today came to be. The exhibit will continue to grow over the summer with more interactive features to engage visitors of all ages.

Our summer exhibition takes visitors back to the origins of the land and the people we now call Freeport, from the receding glaciers to the earliest seasonal inhabitants to the first villages and trades. This exhibit is a preview of what we hope will become

AN EVENTFUL ANNUAL MEETING

April's Annual Meeting was a great opportunity for members to finally meet in person at the gorgeous Meetinghouse Arts facility at First Parish Church and the beautifully renovated Harrington House

DURING THE MEETING we welcomed three new Trustees: Nadia Saliba, Nora Healy and Heather Zachau. We also thanked departing trustee Lonny Winrich who served three terms as a dedicated Trustee. The Board announced Eric C. Smith, formerly Interim, as the new Executive Director of Freeport Historical Society. Director Emeritus James Cram was awarded the newly created George Denney Award for Dedication and Generosity to the People of Freeport in recognition of years of work to carry out the creation of our new storage vault and upgrades to Harrington House. The Arts and Cultural Alliance



of Freeport and First Parish Church of Freeport were jointly presented the Preservation Award for their investment in restoring the 1895 meetinghouse of First Parish Church as Meetinghouse Arts.

Garden volunteers provided refreshments and decoration for the lovely reception following the meeting at Harrington House where members, friends, trustees, and staff caught up with each other and took in the significant changes to the building and the new storage vault.



Michael Hill and Patty Kennedy of FPC and David Webster and Scott Miller of ACAF receive the Preservation Award from FHS President Jim DeGrandpre.

New Trustees Elected at Annual Meeting

Nora Healy has spent the better part of her life enjoying Freeport. Raised by Bridget and Mike Healy, Nora grew up on Flying Point Road and

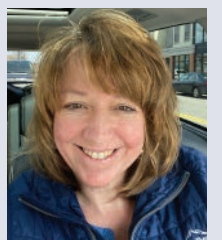


now lives in an historic cape on Pleasant Hill Road. A 1993 graduate of Oberlin College, Nora majored in history and anthropology. In her professional life, Nora works as a Staff Attorney for the Maine Public Utilities Commission. Having served on the Freeport Shellfish Commission, the Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment Board, and Freeport Community Services' White Nights Committee, Nora believes in giving back to the community that has given so much to her. In her free time, Nora enjoys dog walking, horseback riding, biking, boating, gardening, cooking, and trying to keep a dozen hens alive and laying eggs.

Nadia Saliba, born and raised in Freeport, she earned her B.A. in International Relations from Brown University in 1999 and then spent nearly twenty years working for a global investment bank in New York, and then London. In 2018, she returned to Freeport to live in the house she built on Lower Flying Point. Today she owns and operates a consulting business focused on real estate, finance, construction, and development. Nadia has served on the MaineHealth Investment Committee, the Maine Medical Center and Southern Maine Healthcare Finance Committee, as a Director of the Phillips Exeter Academy General Alumni Association, and as Alumni co-Head of The Exeter Fund. Nadia is an avid skier and road cyclist, and she never tires of showing off Freeport and Maine to visiting friends and family from away!



Heather Zachau wasn't born here, but she grew up in Maine, and never left. She majored in education and history at the University of Maine, and received her graduate degree in literacy at USM. Heather and her husband Jeff moved to Freeport 25 years ago where they raised our three children. Heather is a longtime volunteer with Junior League, Children's Museum, Freeport Community Services, South Freeport Church, and Wolfe's Neck Farm. Heather has always been passionate about history and how it connects to our future. She teaches fifth grade at Mast Landing School, as well as teaching yoga, including her newest passion of aerial yoga. In her spare time, you can find her skiing, mountain and road biking, traveling, doing all kinds of yoga, and reading.



Captain Greenfield Pote

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been known in print only for the engaging legend that surrounds it, which research reveals to be not entirely true.

WHY WOLFE’S NECK?

Greenfield did move to Wolfe’s Neck in Freeport in 1787. In April of that year, he purchased 100 acres including the ledge overlooking the sea on which his house now stands. New research suggests why then, and why Wolfe’s Neck?

In 1787, the year the new nation became a reality with the signing of the U.S. Constitution, Falmouth was still reeling from the devastation of war. In 1775 the British Navy under Capt. Henry Mowatt had burned all but a few buildings on today’s Portland peninsula, destroyed the vessels in the harbor, and left 2,000 homeless. (The peninsula was also called Falmouth until renamed Portland in 1786.) The town had not recovered. Merchant ships had turned to privateering and were no longer suitable to carry cargo, and there were no resources to build new vessels. Wartime tensions between patriots and loyalists still simmered. Greenfield’s older brother Jeremiah was a Tory, forced to flee the conflagration in 1775 never to return. He had been one of the most successful merchants in Portland with a major wharf and store at the foot of today’s India Street. Greenfield and Jeremiah had been in business together until 1770. Maritime merchants were leaving Falmouth for places to start anew, as did Greenfield.

Why did he choose Wolfe’s Neck? It seems likely related to the death of his first wife Jane, mother of his six children (some sources say eight), on August 17, 1786 at age 44. Sometime before his purchase on Wolfe’s Neck in April 1787 Greenfield married Mary Winslow Merrill, the recent widow of Joshua Merrill. Their families had been fellow church members and likely friends in New Casco. Mary had had 13 children with Joshua, giving birth from age 16 to 40, and the fourth of these children, Eleanor, had married none other than



Wolf Neck Road was a narrow dirt passage in the early 1900s when this photo of the Pote House was taken. PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN MANN

Freeport resident Seward Porter. He was building vessels with his brothers just up the Harraseeket River from Wolfe’s Neck, the site that bears the family name today. He and his brothers had left Falmouth early in the war in 1780. He had 100 acres on Wolfe’s Neck to sell to his new father-in-law. The Anderson family, of the Ulster-Scot community that came to the area in the mid-1700s, was also building vessels on Flying Point. It was a good place to start new, for his new family and his business.

But did he tow the house whole by sea, as some have recorded the story, or bring it in parts or disassembled? Which house did he move? The house he built as a newlywed on one-half acre in Falmouth in 1760 was still in his estate when he died. The house now on Wolfe’s Neck might have been among the buildings in New Casco on Lady Cove that he bought from

his successful older brother Jeremiah in 1770. Jeremiah had the means to build such a fine two-story house as early as 1760 or before.

In any case, Greenfield and Mary moved into the saltbox house in its current location in 1787 with seven children in their newly combined family. Step siblings William Pote and and Dorcas Merrill would marry the next year and remain in the house. Another stepbrother and stepsister, Hezekiah Merrill and Charlotte Pote, would shortly also marry and build the earliest portion of the house that still stands at the corner of Wolf Neck and Burnett Road.

LABORS AND LOSSES

Newly settled in Freeport, Greenfield continued the business he began in Falmouth, trading in his own vessels in the West Indies, Europe, and in cities

along the coast. But now his son William was the captain; Greenfield at 56 was staying home to manage the business and the farm. They had molasses, sugar, coffee, cotton, tea, salt, corn, and firewood to sell, most often to neighbors, as well as pollock and cod from William’s fishery.

William’s trip to Liverpool with lumber that began at Staples Point in 1792 is the most fully described in family records. William brought 100 tons of salt back to Boston; Greenfield wrote he could not meet him there but that their agents Parkman and Blake in that city would help William sell it for the best price. William was to make a return trip to Liverpool immediately. He would not return to Freeport until April 10, 1794, over 14 months as captain of the *Columbia*, for which he charged his father 120 pounds a month.

While loss of property and life was common on such voyages, European wars in the late 1700s added to the challenges of the maritime trade at the time.

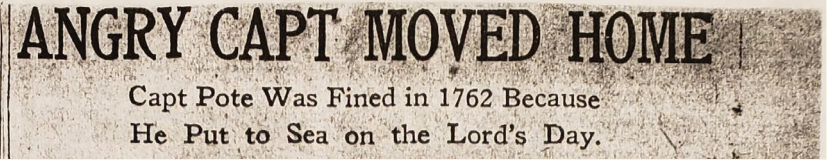


The narrow, steep staircase to the second floor remains exactly as built in the mid-1700s. The house, on the National Register of Historic Places, stands almost unchanged, as is its view of the fields and the sea.

PHOTO BY KATHRYN SMITH

Move of Anger or Opportunity?

THE STORY GOES THAT IN 1764 young Captain Greenfield Pote, at age 28 and living in today’s Falmouth Foreside, was frustrated waiting for a fair wind. It came on a Sunday when it was against the law to do work of any kind according to the Puritan ethic of the day. He decided to sail anyway, and when he returned, he was taken to court and fined. Angry, he immediately decided to get out of town, and take his house with him! He moved it by water to its present site on Wolfe’s Neck where it stands today. The earliest version of this story first appeared in print in the *Boston Globe* on December 29, 1912, and for some reason it went viral, appearing in as many as 50 newspapers across the country. Strangely, it did not appear in Maine until the *Portland Sunday Telegram* ran the identical story, “Angry Captain Moved Home,” on March 23, 1913. The story is today repeated, with various particulars, in most printed references to Greenfield Pote, and it continues in oral history in the Pote family and the Freeport community.



After the story of Pote’s move was first printed in Boston the article went viral in at least 50 newspapers nationwide, including the *Portland Sunday Telegram*, above.

Not entirely so, it turns out, but as with most legends, there is a kernel of truth. Records of the Commissioners of Cumberland County show that Captain Greenfield Pote was fined in October 1764 for sailing on the Sabbath, “against the peace in evil example to others.” However, abundant records reveal that Greenfield remained in Falmouth for another 23 years, a neighbor in a small community of maritime merchants with two of his brothers in the same trade and his sister who had married the major landowner William Bucknam. Greenfield and his first wife Jane Grant along with other members of the family are listed in the 1770s records of the Third Parish Church of New Casco, then the name for today’s Falmouth Foreside. He bought and sold land there 14 times between 1760 and 1787, living at least at two sites near Lady Cove at the southern end of today’s Route 88. In 1772 he was elected surveyor of highways in New Casco. And Revolutionary War records show him a patriot captaining a privateering vessel out of Falmouth in 1782.

While the move remains a bit of a mystery, it seems likely the story persisted as oral history until the 1912 newspaper story because it is true. Samuel Banks, who bought the house and land on the neck in 1856, is included in the news story and could have heard about the move from the descendants of William Pote. But why it did not appear in print until 1912, and why it was of such interest at that time, has yet to be discovered.

On February 1, 1793, France declared war on Great Britain. William Pote in his *Columbia* was delayed by the French in Bordeaux on one of his trips in 1793, and the family lost considerable cargo and income. After his father’s death, William would claim damages and be awarded 4,915 francs by France under an agreement with the United States government.

The family had less luck claiming damages under the same agreement from a much more costly event. In 1795

Greenfield built the 128-ton schooner *Freeport* in partnership with Samuel and Nathan Bucknam, the sons of his wealthy brother-in-law William Bucknam. On February 15, 1796, the *Freeport*, bound from Boston to Jamaica, was captured by the French Republican cutter the *Rights of Man*. Valued at \$5,000, costs were never recovered.

When not on long voyages, William was helping with work on the family’s 100-acre farm on Wolfe’s Neck, making short

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Debt Brought over
To Master of the Brig Columbia the Farm and
farms fishing in the Boat fly from July the 1st to
Nov the 1st 1792 until taking charge of Brig Columbia
4 Months at 12 1/2 per month 18 00 00
To my wages as Master of the Brig Columbia from
Nov the 1st until sold in New York in April 1
arrived at Freeport on the 10th May 1794 - While
Makes 14 months and 20 Days at 12 1/2 per month 89 12 00
To Cash advanced out of my postage money and
for wages on the freight from Providence to New York
Solomonham on 35 60 Dollars 25 20 00
To wages for work on the farm and salary for the two
years and Connecticut to Boston and lifting in the
Shark from April the 1st 1794 until January the
6th 1796 - 20 months and twenty six Days at 8 1/2 per month 83 9 4
\$ 15 10
\$ 18 00 00
\$ 89 12 00
\$ 51 16 8 1/2
\$ 26 14 2
\$ 83 9 4
\$ 87 7 00 1/2

William Pote recorded in his daybook what his father Greenfield owed him for more than 14 months as master of the family's Brig Columbia.

Captain Greenfield Pote

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

sailing trips to New York and Connecticut, and running a local fishing operation on the family's schooner *Shark*, in which neighbors owned shares. The daily life concerns that were a backdrop to the drama of a life at sea are revealed in the diary of the Potes' friend John Cushing. For their farms, the weather was a constant concern, including drought and grasshoppers. There were animals to tend and buy and sell and salt hay to be gathered from the marshes in fall. House and barn raisings, marriages and deaths brought people together, as did town affairs and always church services. There were roads to lay out and care for. Too often the deaths were of children at birth, drowned, lost in the woods, or frozen.

Greenfield died at age 61 on September 29, 1797, not long after the costly loss of the *Freeport*, perhaps suddenly as he died without making a will. He was buried in the Pote Cemetery between his house and his wharf on the Harraseeket River where he would be eventually joined by at least 34 family, friends, and neighbors. His son William would live in the saltbox house exactly 50 more years. He and his wife Dorcas had 11 children. Their only two sons would die at sea in what were surely

The author is indebted to the many people who helped with this research, most notably Jamie Kingman Rice, Nick Noyes, and Tiffany Link at the Maine Historical Society; David Farnham at the Yarmouth Historical Society; Louis Miller at the Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education; Audrey Wolfe, Holly Hurd, Jim Cram, and David Coffin at FHS; Didi Stockly, Wooly Hildreth and Jean Gulliver for help with Lady Cove research; John Mann for his deep knowledge of Freeport history and Ford Reiche for the same in Falmouth; Bud Warren for his tide mill expertise; and Elizabeth Miller, Jane Woodruff, Caroline Bliss and Sam Smith for helpful reads and suggestions. A research paper with the sources that support this article will be available at FHS.

Rich Historical Resources

The Cushing diary, daybooks with letters and business accounts kept by Greenfield and his son William Pote, and other sources of information on the Pote family are among the rich collections of the Freeport Historical Society, now housed in its new climate-controlled, state-of-the-art vault constructed as FHS restored its entire Main Street campus. These records, along with other unusually deep resources at the Maine Historical Society and the Clements Library at the University of Michigan, provide a window into the history of the family that made the Pote house home, and into the life and economy of the fledgling town of Freeport.



In October 2020, Bud Warren, an international expert on mills run by tidal power, came to Freeport to work with FHS to explore and successfully find remains of the Pote tide mill under the bridge at Little River at low tide. John Mann is far right, Warren is in red, Jim Cram and Audrey Wolfe to his right. PHOTO BY KATHRYN SMITH

EDGE OF TOWN, EDGE OF THE WORLD

Seven daughters remained, five married, and two unmarried at home, including Joanna who taught at the nearby one-room school that predated the current one still standing near the Pote House. Her diary kept from 1839 to 1941 opens

another window on a world that straddled daily life on a farm five miles from a crossroads community, yet in touch with the world by sea. She describes constant visits from neighbors and friends, while doing chores to keep the household. Yet, on the wintry evening of January 6, 1840, when brother B was visiting, one might have heard them, in Joanna's words, conversing "on various topics—aristocracy of Russia, arbitrary measures of Great Britain, contemplated marriage of Queen Victoria, etc."

WE'VE BEEN BUSY!



David Coffin lead a tour of the 18th-19th century mill and dam sites build by the Dennison family at Mast Landing.



The Freeport Oyster Bar hosted a preview fundraiser in June and received a warm welcome from the FHS community in our newly updated carriage house.



John Mann and volunteers from the Mann Cemetery Association lead a tour and lecture at the historic Ulster Scots burying ground on Flying Point.



A gray sky was no match for the colorful blooms and friendly faces found at our Plant Sale organized by garden volunteers.



With the addition of a seating area and railings for accessibility our new front porch entrance is a welcoming sight.

TWO GARDENERS reflect on why they come back season after season

Volunteers are the lifeblood of any nonprofit organization, and here at FHS we're lucky to have people who have given their time for years, sometimes even decades. Recently we sat down with two garden volunteers for a Q&A about their experiences.



Garden volunteers pause work to take a photo (left to right): Anne Cram, Greta Waterman, Julie Freund, Becky Hotelling, Connie Coffin, Susan Martens, Polly Brann, Jan Peterson.

What drew you to FHS?

Greta: The gardens and the people working here. I'm not a group-oriented person by nature but because of the people who are working here, I really like them a lot, and I'm able to be part of the group. I live in a historical house in one of the last buildings of the Cushing Briggs shipyard. History isn't a chief interest of mine, but I enjoy the gardens so much.

Jan: I enjoy meeting people, and as it relates to the historical society, there are so many good stories among this group because people have lived here a long time. And I've been telling people who walk through that joining the historical society is a great way to learn what's going on all around Freeport.

What advice would you give to anyone interested in volunteering at FHS?

Greta: You have to be enthusiastic about the part of the historical society you're volunteering for. It's a learning experience because most of us are just regular people from Freeport, so you have to be interested to learn and stick it out to benefit the society. I wouldn't have volunteered if I wasn't already passionate about the garden.

Jan: Ask questions about what interests you and what's needed. Communication is really important. **FHS**

The garden group is a fixture at the Historical Society, along with the other volunteers such as our volunteer Board of Trustees, committee members, and collections volunteers.

As the gardeners gathered to take the group photo shown here, one volunteer summed up why she gives her time: "We do it for the community. Not the whole wider community, I mean, that's great too, but to be a community here with each other."

What do you like about volunteering?

Greta: I like the flexibility and the fact that I can pick and choose when I'm comfortable volunteering. I'm a gardener at home and have been for 45 years so there was a natural affinity for gardening. The gardens here are vastly different from my gardens at home and I've learned a lot about different aspects of gardening. I love that it's a group of very different people that all get along doing what we're doing. When I feel that I can't take on what's going on here I step back for a while and come back later.

Jan: I'm in a situation where I don't have a yard of my own so I'm glad to be able to come here and play in the dirt. I'm not the most experienced gardener but I enjoy being able to come here and learn, and we all get along so it's great.

Greta Waterman was first introduced to FHS when she was asked by friends to help in the Pettengill Farm gardens in the 70s, shortly after the property was given to the newly formed Freeport Historical Society. Four years ago her friends asked for her help again, this time at Harrington House, and she's been coming nearly every Wednesday of the growing season.

Jan Peterson was also recruited by a friend to spend her Wednesdays in the garden. She's easy to spot as she works in her signature pink overalls and visor. Jan claims she's not the most seasoned gardener in the bunch but loves the social aspect of volunteering and learning from the other gardeners who have become her friends.

Won't you be our... Tour guide? Host? Gardener? You Decide!

WITH OUR FIRST SUMMER BEING OPEN IN TWO YEARS well underway, one thing is clear: we could use some help, and some company! FHS has always dreamed big, and that hasn't changed, but our volunteer list is looking a little small compared to what we have planned. Have you thought about volunteering in the past? Maybe you have volunteered, and don't know when to start up again. Now's your time! We are always eager to let volunteers lead with their interests, but to get you started, here are a few jobs we think you might be up to:

Harrington House Host

Greet visitors and introduce them to our exhibits and other resources at FHS such as the Heritage Trail and upcoming events. This is a great job for someone who likes people, local history, and knows the area well (or wants to learn)!

Walking Tour Guide

Lead groups of history lovers to sites on or around Main Street. This is a great opportunity for someone who likes to get outside and is suitable for folks who enjoy architecture, learning about Freeport, and meeting new people. No experience is required, we will be happy to train you!

Committee Member

For the group-oriented volunteer who likes to make things happen, consider joining a committee. These groups generally meet once a month and work with our staff and trustees to support the Historical Society. Committees oversee Education, Development, Collections, Finance and more.

Event Volunteer

If you've enjoyed one of our events and wondered how we pulled it off, the answer is with a lot of help from volunteers! Volunteering to help with an event is great for people who don't have year-round availability but would like to help when they can. Some examples of jobs for event volunteers include setting up tents and chairs, signing people in, directing cars to parking spots, setting up and serving refreshments, selling tickets, and giving people information about the event and FHS in general.

Research Assistant

Do you have a curious mind? Turns out a lot of people in Freeport and beyond do as well! As a research volunteer you will work closely with staff to locate information and images for members of the public. We'll teach you how to use resources at FHS and online to answer questions from our community.



Jane and Alicia serve hungry visitors at Pettengill Farm Day.



Kathy Smith shares her knowledge on a walking tour.



Garden volunteers don their best sunhats for the Annual Plant Sale.

Welcome Freeport Oyster Bar!

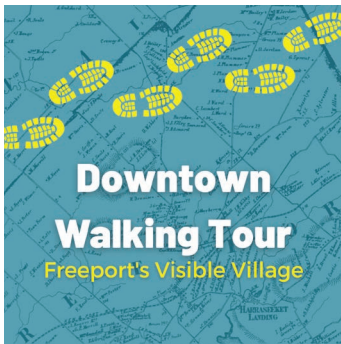


FREEPORT OYSTER BAR IS OPEN for business in our newly renovated carriage house. Owners Ken Sparta and Thomas Henninger have brought their personal insights as oyster farmers, months of conversations with restaurateurs, and careful consideration with their builders to craft a welcoming and engaging experience for their patrons. Since their doors opened in June, just days before Freeport hosted the first annual Maine Oyster Festival, the spot has proved extremely popular.

When you visit, you will have the opportunity to sit inside – at a bar made from the timbers of the former Buxton train depot, or on the patio overlooking the Harrington house gardens, or in their newly constructed traditional timber frame for additional outdoor seating.

As part of our active partnership, **1% of all sales at Freeport Oyster Bar benefit Freeport Historical Society and FHS members receive a 10% discount.** We are pleased to welcome them to our campus, and we look forward to growing together!

FREEPORT'S VISIBLE VILLAGE:



Downtown Walking Tours Resume for the Season

Our popular downtown walking tours are back in time for summer days just made for exploring Freeport. The tour focuses on buildings around Main Street, their architecture, the people who lived there, and how the downtown landscape changed with the town. Do you know which Main Street landmark's architecture was inspired

by shipbuilding techniques? Have you ever wondered how the home of a wealthy merchant differed from the home of a blacksmith? Do you know which is the oldest home on Main Street? Learn all this and more when you join us on a historic exploration of downtown Freeport! **Tours will be held regularly on Thursdays and Saturdays throughout the season. Visit our website or call to sign up today.**

Thursday, August 25



SALIBA GARDEN PARTY FUNDRAISER

Tom and Rita Saliba are inviting supporters of FHS to a gathering in their one-of-a-kind sculpture garden in Spar Cove on August 25 to benefit the Historical Society. Attendees can look forward to an afternoon of live music, hours d'oeuvres, and excellent company while enjoying the hosts' sculpture garden, including new acquisitions, overlooking the Harraseeket River. **Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased on our website or by phone.**

StoryWalk

A new attraction at the Harrington House this summer is our StoryWalk. Created in partnership with Sherman's Maine Coast Book Shop, this walk invites children and adults to travel through the front garden of Harrington House as they follow along with the pages of a storybook.

Our first featured story is *Miss Rumphius* by Maine author Barbara Cooney, with more stories to come. The StoryWalk concept was developed by Ann Ferguson of the Vermont Department of Health as a fun way to promote literacy, physical activity, and community engagement in children.

Stop by to enjoy this story in the shade of our garden and let us know if you have a pick for the next book to feature!

2022 Corporate Sponsors

The Freeport Historical Society relies on the generous support of these local businesses. Please support them whenever possible.

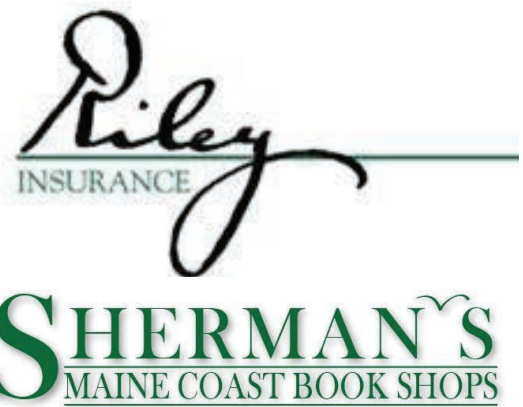
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NEWSLETTER DESIGN & LAYOUT : O'BRIEN DESIGN, FREEPORT

You're Invited to the 46th Annual Pettengill Farm Day!

Sunday, October 2 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm
Pettengill Farm, 31 Pettengill Road



Jada demonstrates the time-honored rural chore of feeding the chickens.



Jim Cram takes the wheel to provide tractor rides.



Herbalist Allie Armstrong displays a variety of plants used in traditional medicine.

FHS will continue our tradition of Pettengill Farm Day, a celebration of fall and nineteenth-century rural life in Freeport. This year's event promises family fun for all ages with wagon rides, crafts and games, historic demonstrations, farm animals, apple cider pressing, food and beverages, and more. Plus of course, there will be guided tours of the farmhouse itself, a rare peek into the salt-box home where the Lufkin and Pettengill families lived from the 1790s until the 1970s.

Save the Date: Gala in the Garden

On Saturday,
September 24, 2022



Join us for the return of the
Freeport Historical Society Gala,
this year in our own
Harrington House garden.

More details announced soon.

For more information: www.freeporthistoricalsociety.org or 207-865-3170