

The Dash

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



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On Their Shoulders

A tribute to three women who helped shape the Freeport Historical Society.

BY GUY BLANCHARD WITH JIM CRAM

HISTORIC PRESERVATION in the United States can trace its beginnings to 1853, when Ann Pamela Cunningham founded the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association and led the preservation of George Washington's estate. Their efforts saved Mount Vernon from demolition and spurred a movement based on the concept that we should preserve places important in our past which contribute to the quality and meaning of American life.

Following in the footsteps of those earliest preservation pioneers, another group of women undertook the largest historic preservation, documentation, and architectural inventory effort in Freeport history in 1973. The massive architectural survey completed by Sally Rand, Mary Eliza Wengren, and Vicki Lowe

included hundreds of buildings from South Freeport to Wolfes Neck and Freeport Village to Wardtown Road. In the years since the survey's completion, its impact on our community remains.

By the mid-twentieth century, the need for a strong historic preservation program in America had become apparent. Jane Jacobs' *Death and Life of Great American Cities* (1961) decried the state of America's cities and the wholesale destruction occurring under the auspices of urban renewal. The interstate highway system crisscrossed the landscape and entire communities were upended during this period. In towns throughout Maine and the United States, architectural masterpieces and irreplaceable residences were being torn down; in Freeport, our own Main Street succumbed to these forces to make way for gas stations,

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SPRING 2018

The Dash is published four times annually by Freeport Historical Society for its members.

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OFFICE & EXHIBIT HOURS

May to October 12
Monday to Friday, 9 am – 5 pm

October 13 to May
Tuesday to Friday, 10 am – 4 pm

Appointments may also be made for a weekend visit.

We encourage a phone call prior to any visit, to verify that the office is open.

Research and visits involving the collections require an appointment in advance. Call 207-865-3170 to speak with Holly Hurd or email library@freeporthistoricalsociety.org

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LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Joy of Appreciating Your Surroundings

WHILE DOING RESEARCH for our feature article on some of the most influential early leaders of our historical society I reached out to seven different individuals (see inset) who I knew had worked with or in the same circles with Sally, Mary Eliza and Vicki. Each individual I spoke with had been impressed and impacted by the work that had been done by this trio for the benefit of the greater Freeport community.

But something equally striking came from those discussions. Three of them clearly stated that becoming engaged with the process of architectural preservation “changed their lives” in a meaningful way. Let me share those quotes.

Pamela Plumb, former ED of Greater Portland Landmarks: “It was suggested that I apply for the part time job as the first ever ED of Greater Portland Landmarks. Why not? I was young, believed that anything was possible, and was not concerned that my degree was a Master in Art History focused on the Middle Ages. But, I applied and in a fit of madness they hired me. I loved it and became completely hooked on historic preservation and the architectural history of Portland.” Pam went on to become the chairman of the Portland City Council among other achievements.

Anne Niles, Maine Preservation: “As a senior at Bowdoin College in the late 1970s, I was very lucky to have Sally as my mentor. We worked together on an architectural survey of Cundy’s Harbor and she helped spur my interest in historic preservation, which became the focus of my early career. Later, when I moved back to Maine and Freeport, I reconnected with Sally and we served together on the board of Maine Preservation. Sally’s energy was infectious and irreplaceable!” Anne lives in Freeport and is an officer of Maine Preservation.

Vicki Lowe, Freeport Historical Society: “Working on the 1973 survey opened up a whole new life for me. I was put forward to work with Sally and Mary Eliza as they were both new to town and it was thought my deep roots would help with communication with some of the older residents. Each neighborhood we went to I would locate the older residents and take them out in my car for a ride. They would



Mary Eliza Wengren with Jim Cram

share local stories, historic and otherwise. They would introduce me to other older residents and we would have fascinating conversations. I learned from them details about old Freeport. They were pleased that I was interested, wanted to listen and knew people that they also knew and respected.”

SO HOW DID I GET HERE MYSELF? In the 1970’s I had a small construction company. While working on some historic houses in Portland I encountered experts from Greater Portland Landmarks (Franny Peabody, Ursula Baier, Pam Plumb, Sally Rand & others) who began to teach me the importance of respecting original design details the use of the proper materials would assure a longer lasting job. AND, that when you engage in how buildings were built you start to understand the purpose of the structure. Pretty soon you develop an interest in what life was like in that period, and how commerce, technology and politics were impacting people’s lives.

Next thing you know, you care about that community’s past. The people, the buildings and the lessons they learned, that we ought not to forget. You actually feel a special sense of richness when you are surrounded by an old house, an old neighborhood or other historic setting where ten or more generations have come and gone. What once was their community, is now ours. These women gave me a new appreciation for the historic properties we see and take for granted every day. Whether it be standing alone on the front steps of the Pettengill Farmhouse or in the offices at the Harrington House, I am always in awe of the legacy that has been given to us and conscious of new ways to share these gifts with the public.

— JIM CRAM

Freeport Village Revisited Series Well Received

BY BRAD SNOW

TWICE, DURING THE PAST two months, FHS members Polly Brann, Jane Grant, and Brad Snow, presented programs at the Harrington House featuring opportunities for people to recall fond memories of living in Freeport about a half century ago. The idea came one day while working in the gardens and the three Freeport natives remarked about how much things had changed in the past 50 years, particularly in the Main Street areas.

The first event took place on Saturday, February 24, 2018. With more than 50 people attending, the afternoon was deemed a success. Brad Snow shared a profile of his family home that was located at 5 Nathan Nye Street. The house was eventually moved to Pittston and set on a

new foundation. Jane Grant then shared the history of her house at 25 Main Street. She and her husband, Alden Grant, operate a B&B there. While growing up, Jane’s grandmother also ran a guest house at that site. Next, Polly Brann pointed out the more than 40 photos of the town showing many buildings that have been torn down or moved. These were all taken by local photographer Mel Collins. Also on display were aerial maps of the town taken in 1953 and some town tax maps from 1973. This was followed by a solid hour and a half of fond recollections by those in attendance.

The second event was held on Saturday, March 17, 2018. The format was changed to a round table set up so that each attendee could have a chance to share stories that could be heard by all. After a warmup exercise where people recalled

their favorite teachers, there were three areas of great interest: Devil’s Drinking Cup; attending the Nordica Theater; and the vibrant Friday nights when the bank and all the stores were open until 9:00PM. These lively discussions were all tape recorded and will be available on a transcript in the future. People were also encouraged to fill out a card detailing where they lived in the past and to relate favorite anecdotes to be placed in permanent files in the archives.

Both of these events were open to the public at no charge. Based on such feedback as “I think every town should hold events like this”, as well as “It seemed that half the town turned out for Friday night shopping and visiting”, it was felt these programs were very worthwhile. There are tentative plans for other parts of town to be featured in similar programs next winter. **FHS**

Announcing a New History Publication from Freeport Historical Society and Arcadia Publishing!

Freeport Through the Years

IN 1996, the Freeport Historical Society teamed up with Arcadia Publishing to produce one of their first institutional publications: *Images of America—Freeport*. This book, researched by staff, contained ~200 historic photographs and has sold thousands of copies in the past 20+ years.

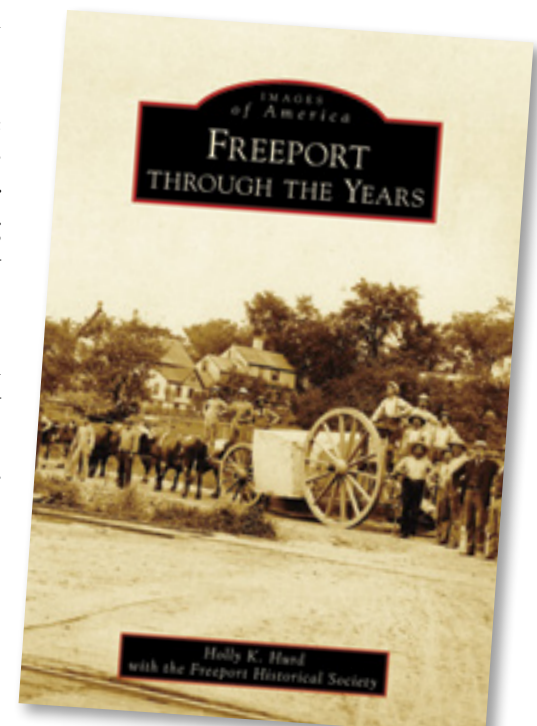
Since that time FHS has received hundreds of new (old) photographs, and

our burgeoning collection of more than 2,000 images begged for another *Images of America* publication.

COMING FALL OF 2018, a new historic photograph book: *Freeport Through the Years* by Curator & Collections Manager Holly Hurd. FHS will host a book signing event following publication. The society will order copies in advance for those wishing to have their book(s) available the day it is released. Proceeds will benefit FHS so please reserve your copy today! **FHS**

To order your advance copy, which includes a 10% discount for members, email info@freeporthistoricalsociety.org or by calling 207-865-3170.

Book release date and signing event will be announced this summer.





Means/Bliss Tavern, established ca. 1807 by Major Thomas Means at the current site of Linda Bean's Topside Tavern.

Store built in 1847 by James and Harris Weeman who made and sold tin hardware and stoves.



Store of William A. Davis on Main Street at the northeast corner of Mechanic Street in 1899.



Blacksmiths & Storekeepers

Freeport Village, Crossroads of Change, 1770-1920



Jameson/Codman Tavern established ca. 1807 by Samuel Jameson.



Blacksmith shop of Samuel Andrews and Hebert Noyes on Middle Street.



Samuel Holbrook and William Gore opened a store on this site in 1831 that burned ~1844 and was rebuilt. Gore took William Davis as partner in 1875 and they ran this store together until 1889.

BY HOLLY HURD, CURATOR & COLLECTIONS MANAGER

FREEPORT VILLAGE grew up at a crossroads of travel between Yarmouth and Brunswick (and points southwest and northeast), and between Porter's Landing and Southwest Bend in Durham.

While the waterfront villages of Mast Landing, Porter's Landing, and Strout's Point developed around area-specific industries that provided livelihoods for its inhabitants, Freeport Village developed around a locus of multi-directional travel. Inland villages typically emerged at the intersections of the most-traveled roads, laid where people and goods needed to move—between homes and places of work, from sites of raw material harvest to places of production or loading for further transport, and from shipping

areas to commercial centers. In Freeport, roads connected the coastal villages with the main arteries of travel—the earliest “thru” road (est. 1739) that approximated current Route One and another county road between Freeport and Durham (est. ~1770) that followed South Street, Bow Street, Main Street, Kendall Lane, and Route 136. Where these busy roads met a village grew up that catered to the needs of outlying residents and travelers—stores, blacksmiths shops, inns, and liveries. Later, stagecoach routes and the railroad transformed Freeport Village into a travel center, a kind of “Rome” where all roads lead.

Although small villages formed at crossroads in North Freeport, these were short-lived and later became “ghost” villages with no visible evidence of their

earlier bustling activity, as Mast Landing is today. Of the four villages in Freeport that were sustained through generations, Freeport Village became, and remains, the epicenter of a perfect storm of activity that has led to major changes over time, particularly near Freeport Corner (later called Freeport Square). **FHS**

Freeport Historical Society's next major exhibit: **Blacksmiths & Storekeepers: Freeport Village, Crossroads of Change, 1770-1920** will highlight and interpret these changes in the village over a century-and-a-half. Much of the change has been dramatic, hurried along by fires and the moving and razing of buildings. The exhibit runs May 24 through December of 2018, and FHS will host an opening reception on May 23 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. All are welcome, please join us!

Their Shoulders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

discount drug stores, fast food restaurants, post offices and branch banks. “Progress” was often defined by “New” without regard for historical context, compatible building size, materials, finishes, or neighborhood impact.

Completed in 1965, a historic preservation study called *With Heritage So Rich* laid out the rationale for historic preservation’s role in modern America:

It must attempt to give a sense of orientation to our society, using structures and objects of the past to establish values of time and place... [P]reservation must look beyond the individual building and individual landmark and concern itself with the historic and architecturally valued areas and districts which contain a special meaning for the community.

The National Historic Preservation Act followed in 1966 and established the National Register of Historic Places, the nation’s inventory of significant historic places worthy of preservation. Three years later in 1969, our Freeport



Bow Street home featured in 1973 survey.

Historical Society was founded. Planning began almost immediately to produce an inventory Freeport’s most important properties, and thankfully, Freeport’s own modern-day version of the Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association—Mary Eliza Wengren, Sally Rand, and Vicki Lowe—led that charge.

Each woman brought her own skills and strengths to the effort. Mary Eliza had trained in architecture and at the time was working with Ursula Baier on

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SURVEY
13-36 *torn down 1977*

Cumberland Freeport Bow Street
County City/Town Street Address and Number

Name of Building/site: _____ Common and/or Historic: _____
1820 House - Federal?
Approximate Date: 1790 Style: Ell - Colonial

Type of Structure: ☒ Residential ☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: _____

Condition: ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Poor

Endangered: ☒ No ☐ Yes

Surveyor: VL Organization: Freeport Historical Society Date: 8-14-73

Rating: _____

Historic Significance to the Community: Ell may be the older house.
Barn torn down - 1930s?

Maps: 1857 S.A. Litchfield
1871 S.A. Litchfield
1909 S. Soule

(For Additional Information - Use Reverse Side)

Historic Preservation Survey, surveyor Vicki Lowe, 1973.

a book for Greater Portland Landmarks titled, *Living with Old Houses* which included a primer on architectural styles. Sally W. Rand had been working at the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard and was already an accomplished preservationist. Vicki Lowe had been teaching English in Yarmouth and Freeport high schools but was headed for a career in the Freeport Library as an expert on “all things Freeport.” The culmination of their efforts was Freeport’s first architectural survey in 1973 which included historical documentation and photography of hun-

dreds of buildings in Freeport. These surveys not only created a recorded history and “snapshot” of Freeport at that time but proved invaluable to efforts listing the Harraseeket Historic District and Freeport Main Street Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places. Their survey played an important role in town planning as well, leading to establishment of a Design Review District that acknowledges the existing historic and architecturally significant

buildings in downtown Freeport that collectively promote the “educational, cultural, economic, and general welfare of the Town of Freeport.”

Following their survey efforts, Sally W. Rand, Mary Eliza Wengren & Vicki Lowe continued decades of service in all aspects of Freeport Historical Society activities.

The 1973 architectural survey has since been updated twice and remains in the Historical Society archives. These records still serve as the baseline of information for not only the buildings themselves, but also the owners over the years. The Freeport Historical Society is pleased to announce that starting this April, we are implementing a historic house marker program that will help make this information more accessible to our members and visitors and continue to highlight the efforts undertaken by Vicki Lowe, Mary Eliza Wengren, and Sally Rand for years to come.

Freeport is fortunate to have one of the most active and established historical societies in the region. From the very beginning, we have benefited from a number of genuinely skilled and devoted volunteers and staff that saw what needed to be done and made it happen. Sally Rand, Mary Eliza Wengren, and Vicki Lowe provided the foundation for decades of continued success. FHS

The Freeport Historical Society reached out to local historians and was covered in a cascade of superlatives.

“Vicki was the local, fiercely guarding the town’s history when few cared.”
— Elizabeth Maule Esty

“Overall, I can just tell you they were and are such strong women—their passion for history, their belief in the process to preserve and protect the history and their ability to get the job done. They definitely laid the ground work for FHS and what it is today.”
— Anne Ball

“Mary Eliza had vision and knowledge and married into town families which gave her credibility with the locals.”
— Elizabeth Maule Esty

“Sally was a force, a delightful force. There was no mistaking where she stood on an issue. She was a leader in historic preservation in Maine and was a tireless and articulate advocate for our historic buildings and landscapes.”
— Anne Niles

Words for Mary Eliza:
“I worked with her on the second Freeport Survey- an update to the original survey and the historic districts in particular. It was great to get to know her and tackle a large number of buildings with her. She was very organized which kept the project on task.”
— Anne Ball

“Sally had lived in town off and on for decades – even when her boys were young. She was cheery and oh so knowledgeable and willing to share or correct, especially if you correctly identified her as Sally W. Rand! My favorite piece is that buildings are listed in rather than on the National Register of Historic Places. A losing battle, but when you think of it, you do write in a journal and not on (the cover).”
— Elizabeth Maule Esty

“There are librarians and then there are librarians. As one who has spent time in dozens of libraries in the last decade, I can tell you that Vicki Lowe has no equal, not only in her official capacity in the Freeport Public Library but in her overall devotion to the book, suggesting other people to speak with and sharing her vast knowledge of all things Freeport. She has my unending appreciation.”
— Joshua M. Sklare, author of ‘If The Shoe Fits’, The life and lessons of George Denney

“It was a great privilege to meet and with some regularity, receive guidance and get feedback from these great women. Not only were they the foundation of FHS, they continually and generously brought their expertise, considered opinions and support for all segments of the Freeport community. Each loves and loved Freeport.
Not surprisingly, their concerns focused on the care and utilization of the FHS Collections, including it’s two historic properties. Concern for Freeport’s architectural heritage was also on their radar, encouraging appropriate growth while retaining the Town’s rich past.”
— Christina White

WINTER EVENTS RECAP



Alan Hall Lecture: Freeport's Maritime History in the Age of Pirates, Porters and Paddlewheels
Jan 31, 2018

Alan's talk focused on the importance of Porter's Landing and its vital link to New England's maritime economy. We were thrilled to have a full house.



Historic Freeport Artwork Exhibit Opening
February 15, 2018

The exhibit showcased paintings and photographs related to historic Freeport, both modern and older works that depicted people, places, or things that evoked historic meaning. We were pleased to have shared the evening with some of Freeport's local artists. Depicted: Donna Coffin with her Pettengill Farmhouse pieces.



John Butman Lecture: Maine Before the Pilgrims
March 29, 2018

John gave a riveting lecture on early voyages and settlements in this area. He also referenced excerpts from his new book *New World, Inc.* Depicted: John Butman and Director Jim Cram.



Freeport Revisited & Freeport Revisited Part 2
February 24 & March 17, 2018

We spent afternoon revisiting Main Street from Kendall's Corner to Summer Street and surrounding East and West neighborhoods. The turnout was such a success that we spent a second session reminiscing about growing up in Freeport. Depicted: Planning Committee - Brad Snow, Jane Grant, and Polly Brann.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

BY ARIELLE KELLERMAN

THE PORTRAITS of the Honorable Rufus Soule and his first wife Susan Mitchell Soule have come home to Freeport. The portraits along with 19th century photographs of the portraits were purchased at Skinner Auctioneers in early March. These two oils are attributed to famed 19th century Maine folk artist William Matthew Prior and date to around 1840. These stylistically academic pieces are synonymous with his early work. The portraits have been in a private Maine collection since the late 1960's. We are indebted to our nine generous donors for making this acquisition possible— including the Soule Mates, a local group of Soule family descendants.

Rufus Soule (1785-1867) was one the most eminent shipbuilders in Maine having constructed at least 85 vessels at Porter's Landing during his career. His son Rufus C. Soule continued in the business and together they built 100 vessels, around the same number known to have been built by the Porters, Soules, Blissess and Talbot of South Freeport, and at Cushing-Briggs and Mast Landing. Another son Robert ran a packet from Porter's Landing and owned stores in Freeport Village. Rufus Soule's first wife Susan Mitchell was eldest of 9 children of Benjamin Mitchell of Spurwink (Cape Elizabeth) and Sarah Fogg of New Gloucester. Susan's family later moved to Chebeague Island where she was would be raised.



The Honorable Rufus Soule and Susan Mitchell Soule.

Rufus and Susan shared 11 children together. Susan died in 1853 leaving Rufus to marry Philomena Talbot, and later Hannah B. Small. He was a first cousin to South Freeport shipbuilders Enos, Henchman, and Clement Soule. A man of wealth and social standing, Rufus was a lifelong Democrat who served as a Representative in the Maine Legislature from 1832-1838. He was a Justice of the Peace and known in the community as "Honorable Rufus," a title that referred not only to his official life, but also to the integrity of his character.

Rufus and Susan Soule are buried in the Porter's Landing cemetery. The two portraits are currently on view at Freeport Historical Society. FHS

In Remembrance of Two Freeport Historians

John Warner Skillin

NOVEMBER 5, 2017



Freeport's John Warner Skillin Sr. passed at the age of 70. John was a middle school teacher for 36 years. John dedicated his life to the study of history and his love of ancestry. As a teacher, John was able to spend his summers lobstering and working at Winslow Park. He and his wife Brenda travelled to all 50 states, Canada, Mexico and Europe. John was a prolific storyteller

and often shared his personal photographs with FHS. His memory for dates and details was unmatched. Our community is indebted to his research and teachings.

Sally Rand

JANUARY 9, 2018



Freeport's Sally Rand passed at the age of 91. Sally committed her life to historic preservation. She was the architectural historian for the Freeport Historic Survey for decades, as well as volunteer historian for the Freeport Historical Society from 1972 to 1974. Sally was also a member of our Collections Committee for many years. Sally served as a trustee for Greater

Portland Land marks, Portland Museum of Art, Pejepscot Historical Society, Historic New England and numerous other institutions. We are deeply saddened by her passing and eternally grateful for her tireless efforts in preservation. Please see the associated article.



Who We Are: David Coffin, Trustee

DAVID COFFIN WAS born at Freeport Hospital on March 19, 1943. David's family has some of the earliest roots in Freeport. The Coffins were one of Freeport's first families, coming up from Newburyport, Massachusetts and ultimately from England around 1640. David, who grew up surrounded by historic homes in Mast Landing has always had an appreciation for history. As a young boy he spent time at the river landing near Wolfe's Neck. He and his friends played baseball at Pleasant Hill, and fished in the Mill Stream and at Carter's Brook. David says he was always exploring Freeport's wealth of natural landscapes. David, a carpenter, learned the trade from his father and uncle Ned Coffin. He would work weekends with his family until he graduated and took a job with Maine Central Railroad. Soon after, he went into business for himself. David married his high school sweetheart in May of 1963. The two raised three children that also share the appreciation for history and historic preservation. David first became involved with the Freeport Historical Society in the early 1960's. Today he is the last living member to have signed the petition of incorporation officially forming our institution in 1969. He recalled the fifteen collectors who set out to organize

the historical society mainly to exchange and preserve archival material. Not yet having a property of our own, these local historians met in the Town Hall. Still, even in the historical society's early days, exhibits and events were shared with the community.

David has played as many roles in this town as one could count, including sitting on the board of selectmen, the fire department and rescue, the planning board, and serving as Town Council chairman. He and his wife along with his brother John Coffin and his then wife Regis Coffin founded Harraseeket Lunch and Lobster. The business started with a small lobster pound in 1970 and grew to be the quintessential Freeport lunch spot that it is today. While David officially retired in 2005, that hasn't stopped him from plowing out his fifty clients as he has done each snow fall for the last thirty-five years. David and Connie also continue to host a Christmas fair.

David's work at FHS was reenergized when he jumped on a Soule genealogy project Alan Hall started years ago. Staff has come and gone but David has remained a constant. Today he sits as a Trustee, a member of the Collections Committee, and serves as a consultant as we ready for our expansion. David knows the bones of Freeport, and he enjoyed a career of truly holding history in his hands. At the core of David's mission is the acquisition of a fireproof vault, and the preservation of Pettengill Farm. Not a day goes by where you won't find David deep in our records. Having been close with the farm's last resident Millie Pettengill, David remains her advocate. For him, Pettengill Farm serves as rare time capsule of what Freeport and Maine life was like. His current research evolves around local tide mills, Mast Landing, and the Curtis and Coffin genealogies.

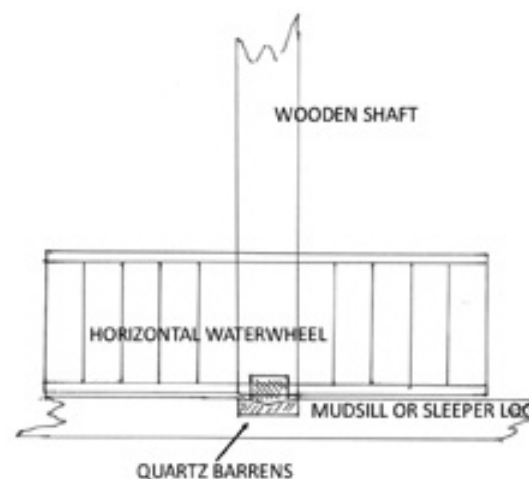
When asked to share a fond Freeport memory David recalled, "I remember the Friday nights. Everyone would come up to the village. The banks were open late and people would come to cash their checks. The clothing stores, the jewelry stores, and soda fountains were all open. Crowds of people would stand chatting with each other and I would listen to their stories. Everyone knew each other, and everyone took care of each other. The Freeport of my childhood was truly a tight-knit family." **FHS**

Tide Mills

BY DAVID COFFIN

On October 27-28 Jim Cram, Holly Hurd, and I attended a tide mill conference at Stroudwater in Portland and to our delight learned a great deal about tide mills.

TIDE MILLS date to the 2nd century AD in Southern France and Strangford Lough, Ireland. The horizontal wheel came to Ireland from Scandinavia and changed very little over the centuries. Mill construction was of stone and wood, and that system lasted as long as they were used. An interesting detail of their construction was how they created bearings to take the wear of the shaft. A quartz stone set in a mudsill as a bottom bearing and a piece of the quartz set in the bottom end of the vertical shaft creating the bearing. A wooded gate set in a stone dam or wooden



(bulkhead/dam) opened on an incoming tide to fill a retention area and closed on the ebb tide. Water then released through a sluice gate turning the wheel to drive a saw or grind stone.

One of the best tides sites and longest running in the area was Casco Bay Mills, at the mouth of Basin Cove in Harpswell. In later years tidal power was not considered for manufacturing purposes in which large numbers of people were employed. Because it was considered good for sawing timber, grinding grain and plaster of paris where few men were used in labor with suitable wheels they could be operated sixteen hours out of twenty four, with time of operation moving ahead one hour per day with the tide change.

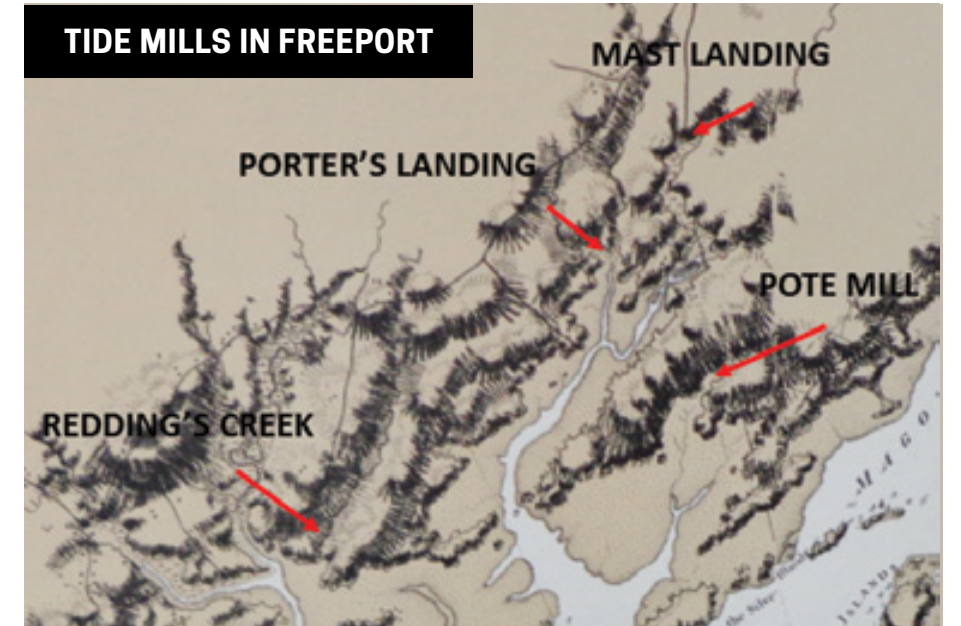
There were four tide mills in Freeport at Reddings

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Creek between Lambert Point and Foggs Point at Porter's landing (Harraseeket Tide Mill Company,) Little River (owned by Greenfield Pote) and Mast Landing. All of the sites need more research, especially Mast Landing to determine who built and operated the mills and their years of operation.

I have discovered what I believe to be a possible tide mill site which has been covered by a 1959-1960 road reconstruction. This problem does not allow us to do an archaeological dig and only leaves us a possible paper trail.

A location here would be an excellent site because it would not block the main river, and would back water up over a half mile. In this site would also include fresh water run off that could be considerable at times. We continue to search for a definite answer to where the tide mill was located at Mast Landing. **FHS**



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The Dash

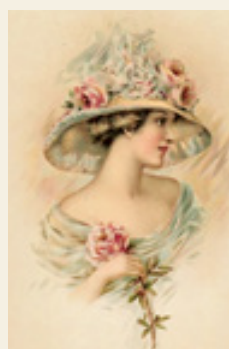
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SPRING 2018 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

FHS Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 29, 5-7 pm
South Freeport Church



3rd Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, May 19, 9 am-3 pm
Harrington House

Get a head start on your spring gardening! Purchase annuals and perennials from our own plant sale. This is a fundraiser for our gardens. Please consider donating a few of your perennials to our sale. Drop off on the porch May 17th and 18th. Thank you for your support for our downtown oasis! Baked goods to be sold by the Freeport Womans Club.

Exhibit Opening: *Blacksmiths & Storekeepers: Freeport Village Crossroads of Change, 1770-1920*

Opening Reception Wednesday, May 23, from 5-7 pm
Exhibit runs May 24 through December of 2018



This new exhibit will highlight and interpret changes in Freeport Village over a century-and-a-half beginning with the earliest landowners and developers, a blacksmith and store owners, and ending with the multi-store

blocks and smithies that dominated the village at the turn of the 20th century. The exhibit runs May 24 through December of 2018, and FHS will host an Opening Reception on May 23 from 5-7 pm. All are welcome, please join us!



Historic Plant Medicine Workshop and Picnic

Saturday, June 9, 12 pm
Pettengill Farm

Come join us for a workshop and picnic featuring guest

lecturer Hannah Peterson at our Pettengill Farmhouse property. We will be discussing the use of local medicinal plants in the Colonial period and how they can be used in our lives today. Her workshop will cover the variety of ways plants were used here in Maine—as food, as medicine, as dye, for personal hygiene, and how they were prepared. She will provide hands-on examples of plants, dyed fabrics, and tools. We will also prepare a small historical meal over an open fire, and our c. 1800 National Register Pettengill Farmhouse will be open for viewing. Guests are welcomed to bring picnic essentials such as blankets and bug spray and are encouraged to explore the 140 acres of fields, woods, apple orchards, and salt marsh. All ages. Sign up required.
\$15 nonmembers \$12 members, \$5 for children.

7th annual Harraseeket Harborside Gala at Strouts Point

Saturday, June 23, 6 pm
Strouts Point Wharf



This spirited celebration of Freeport History will include live music, live and silent auctions, the now famous "wheel of chance," local seafood, and local beer and spirits! Tickets are on sale now at Eventbrite and freeporthistoricalsociety.org. Buy your tickets before May 15

for \$45 per ticket. After May 15, tickets will be sold at \$55 a ticket.

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