



Warren Historical Society

Newsletter November 2023



225 Main Street Warren, ME 04864
1-207-273-2726

Veterans' supper will be held at the Masonic on Route 90 November 10th, 2023, from 5PM to 6:30 PM. Three kinds of Chili will be offered as well as cornbread, salad, dessert etc. We want all Veterans to know we deeply appreciate your service therefore there is no charge for the meal to the Vets, but we would not say no to a donation to help defray costs.

December 4, 2023, we will have our Christmas Special at the Warren Baptist Community Center, also known as the Brick School. The musical program will start at 7PM presenting the Wiley Family. Refreshments will be served as well as laughter and goodwill. A fun cookie exchange will be offered to all participants so please bring your delicious holiday cookies and swap with others. Bags will be provided to insure safe cookie travels.

Have you seen the new Warren Historical Society website?

Our journey with updating the website began in March of this year, and the site went live Labor Day weekend. The significant improvement is our walking tour of Warren Village which is now on Google Maps and can be accessed through the website. The big sign listing all the sites and showing a map of their locations is still in Woolen Mill Park. An updated version of each page of the walking tour is available on the website and includes old and unseen photos of each building. You can see many old photos of Warren and its residents on our new site. The genealogy page lists more than 20 Warren family names for which the society has information.

All the research pages, including Dr. Campbell and the Georges River Canal have been updated and expanded. The For Sale page has photos of each book, map, and other item. Even our past newsletters are available to you. Why not log on today! Web address is as follows warrenhistoricalsociety.org or search for Warren, Maine Historical Society.

PETERBOROUGH CEMETERY MONUMENT DEDICATION OCT. 28, 2023, AT 11 AM

The Town of Warren cordially invites our community members and descendants of the Peterborough Community to attend a Veterans memorial monument dedication ceremony to be held at the Peterborough Cemetery on Saturday, October 28th at 11:00 AM. This monument is dedicated to the Veterans from the Peterborough Community and those who served our country during the following conflicts: American Revolutionary War, Civil War, Spanish American War, World War I and the Korean War.

A reception will be held following the ceremony at the Knox Museum in Thomaston. The Town of Warren is indebted to John Meyn, for his commitment and dedication to recognize and honor the Veterans of the Peterborough Community.

The community of Peterborough started with the family of Amos and Sarah Peters, both born slaves outside of Maine. Amos served in the American Revolutionary War, had earned his freedom with his service and moved to Maine after its ending. Sarah had been brought to Maine as a slave by Captain Brown in Damariscotta in 1783, and then sold to Captain McIntyre of Warren. After about a year of servitude with Captain McIntyre, she

had learned that all slaves had been freed in Massachusetts as well as the District of Maine. Sarah won her freedom after paying \$1.00 to a representative, Mr. P. Pebbles, who helped sanction her rights to emancipation.

Amos Peters, was deeded 150 acres of land by South Pond in Warren by General Henry Knox around 1781, where he and Sarah settled for the remainder of their lives. Both Amos and Sarah are buried within Peterborough Cemetery in unmarked graves. Although the oldest stone dates to the 1850's, it is likely that the earliest use was in the 1820's. It is noted for its many fieldstone headstones and may have up to 100 unmarked graves. This has also been called the Peters, Petersburg and Peterboro Cemetery.

Through time, Peterborough grew and became one of Maine's largest African American communities. But by the 1950's the community had dwindled and the last of its residents left. This cemetery is all that remains as a testament to a once thriving and vibrant community.

The Peterborough Cemetery is located on Bunker Hill Road in Warren, about 1.3 miles west from Rt. 1.

FMI please contact Amanda Shelmerdine, Sexton at sexton@warrenmaine.org or 207-975-6566

Historian report by Karin Larson W.H.S. Historian Fall 2023

June visitors and requests for information:

Jennifer L. Mansfield who lives at 132 Western Road wanted house history.

Ruth White requested a copy of the Samuel Counce Diary 1763 transcription.

I received a question on where a submarine factory was located in Warren. It was at Lie Nielson Tool Co. According to Carolyn Wiley the main building which is now the show room was an ice storage shed before the submarine factory was there.

Laurie Murphy who bought Ed Grinnell's farm last year came to the Dr. Campbell house to take photos of Capt. Niven and Jane Crawford the original owners of the house. The house and barn have been converted to a wedding event center.

July visitors and requests for information:

Barbara Manson a descendant of James Overlock came to visit Warren with her siblings. She wanted to know where in Warren James Overlock's farm was located. I found he lived at 830 Beachwood St. His brother Ansel Overlock lived 751 Eastern Road.

Ken Gross of the Camden History Center wanted to know when the Warren village dam was taken down. I found the date in Alena Starrett's news article collection. The dam was taken down Oct 12, 1965.

Alison Kobierski, the collection manager at Mary Baker Eddy Library in Boston, MA contacted our historical society because she found a photo of Ann Mary Jarvis who was born in Warren in 1833 and lived in Warren until the late 1860s. She married Steven Holbrook in Boston in 1869. Alison wanted to know if we had a photo of Ann Mary Jarvis to confirm the providence of their photo the library found. I informed Alison we did not have a photo of Ann Mary. Looking at U.S. census records, I found her living in NY City in 1880. Alison attached to her email message the photograph of Ann Mary Jarvis.

Visitors we had in August: A descendant of Dr. Benjamin Buxton came to look at the Buxton family furniture we have at the Dr. Campbell House. One desk, one bookcase, a chair belonging to Dr. Edmund Buxton and a bedroom set.

Tom Zeigler, of Massachusetts, a descendant of Charlotte and Cyrus Peters family and a descendant of Amos Peters of Warren came to visit the Dr. Campbell House and Museum. His ancestors Charlotte and Cyrus Peters moved to Penobscot, Maine. On Tom's previous visit to Warren, he visited with Vella Smith. He wanted to

know where exactly the settlement of Peterborough was in South Warren. I gave him photocopied maps of South Warren.

The requests for information we had in August: Colin Malone who lives on Mt. Pleasant St. in Rockport has a barn built by George Leach on his property. He wanted to know more about the Leach family of Warren. I sent him photos of the Leach farmhouse and farm on Eastern Road. The last house before the Union town line.

In October, Don Ballantyne of Seattle, Washington visited inquiring about his Great Great Grandfather Benjamin Andrews and his wife Betsy. Benjamin Andrews farm was located on Anderson Road. Anderson Road is now a dead-end road, but at one time the road continued to connect with Patterson Mill Road. We took a trip down Anderson Road and to Newcomb Cemetery to find Benjamin and Betsy Andrews graves for Don to take photos.

Curator's Report

Donations to WHS since March 2023

Jeffrey Chapman of Topsham donated photos of Warren basketball team 1961, and Warren High School Alumni booklet 1884-1957 and a high school graduation program 1917.

Keith Smalley of Warren donated his father's photos of The Knox RR and Maine Central RR trains.

Bill Gilchrist of Cape Elizabeth donated two post cards of the Woolen Mill and a view of Riverside Drive

Carolyn Pease donated tweezers and finger guards Jenny Kenniston used while working as a weaver in the George's River Woolen Mill

Jennifer Carter of Standish donated two tee-shirts designed by June Burke, a Warren artist.

Becky White of Warren donated eighteen Warren Bicentennial 1936 post cards.

William Wilson of Massachusetts donated a 1940s handwritten cookbook that belonged to Flossie Smith Davis, an 1840s day book that belonged to Captain William B. Stetson, a small tintype photo album that belonged to Emma Boggs of Waldoboro, a glass paper weight with a photo of the Warren Baptist Church, bylaws of the Christian Endeavor Society of the Warren Baptist Church, an Army Roll of Maine Volunteers for the 24th Maine Regiment, photos of Howard Borneman, and Warren scenes, a Portland Press Herald on Warren's Town Hall destroyed by fire Feb. 1977

Diana Sewell of Warren donated a postcard of Ames Ice Cream business on Route 1 with the owners Edgar and Louise Ames standing by their mailbox. She also donated a color copy of Route 1 in South Warren looking towards the Marcus Spear house and Cornelius Overlock home. This circa 1921 photo was taken from the Oliver B. Libby homestead now the Tom Fence business.

Donna Dow of Waldoboro and Celia Waltz of Warren donated a photo taken in 1971 of the class reunion of the 1924 graduating class from Warren High School.

Carrie-Sue Stevenson of Jefferson donated a mahogany cane with a brass duck's head and a vintage desk clock from Vella and Casey Smith's estate.

Grace Amoroso of Buxton donated Grace N. Moody Starrett's red glass teacup and saucer. The cup is engraved with the name Grace 1897. She was a teacher at the Hinkley Corner School in 1897.

Barbara Larson of Warren donated a hand painted wooden shingle designed and painted by the Warren artist Deborah Beckwith's.

Cathie Pelletier of Allagash donated a signed copy of her book Northeaster A Story of Courage and Survival in the Blizzard of 1952. She researched and wrote about George Aspey of Riverside Drive. He worked at the George's River Woolen Mill and died during the blizzard.

2024 Programs

June 4th Tour at the River View Cemetery and a viewing of the Counce family tomb led by Amanda Shelmerdine, sexton for the town of Warren. Time to be announced.

July 2nd Warren's World War II Veterans Remembered - an illustrated talk by Karin Larson, historian @7:00

August 6th, Hank Lunn's presentation on German Prisoners of WWII in Maine @7:00

Sept. 3rd, Carolyn Wiley presents a Retrospective of WAVE from 2006@7:00

Oct. 1st, Warren Historical Society's Movies and Popcorn evening featuring films/ videos from our collection@ The Old Brick School Community Center @7:00

November- the Annual Veterans' Supper

December 2nd the Annual Wiley Family Music Program@ The Old Brick School Community Center @7:00

The goals of the Historical Society are to preserve records, documents, genealogies, artifacts and relics pertaining to the Town of Warren. This all happens only with the vision and help of the community and its existing groups and clubs. The Town of Warren has helped us out with a generous donation of monies which makes it possible to heat the Campbell House for the year. We try to be good stewards of these monies in managing on a very tight budget, but there are maintenance issues at all times.

Historically speaking Warren does go beyond Main Street and we all want to encourage everyone to explore their neighborhoods and document their findings. You can send your information to Warren Historical Society, PO Box 11, Warren, ME 04864 or drop it by the Campbell House. We usually have somebody available to open the House and give tours, just give us a call at 207-273-3154.

We are having a membership drive and renewal as of this date. Membership is \$10.00 per year for an individual, Couples are \$18.00 per year, Sustaining Member is \$25.00, Contributing Member is \$50.00, Benefactor Member is \$100.00, and a Business Member is \$50.00. Please fill in the enclosed envelope and send it back to the Warren Historical Society PO Box 11, Warren, Maine 04864. We are limited in resources, so memberships are particularly important to the survival of the Historical Society

Jan Macdonald, President
Carolyn Wiley, Vice-President
Nancy Blake, Treasurer
Bev Williamson, Secretary
Barb Larson, Curator
Diana Sewell, Genealogist
Karin Larson, Historian
Sandra Overlock, Board Member
Joan Winchenbach, Board Member
Sonja Wyllie, Board Member
Zach Wyllie, Board member

**Meetings are free and open to the public on the first Tuesday of
each month at 7:00
at the Dr. Campbell House & Museum at 225 Main Street in
Warren village.**

**For information call 273-2627 or
e-mail warrenhs@tds.net
Refreshments will be served at all programs**

**The Campbell House is open by appointment.
Call Jan at 207-273-3154**



WHS
225 Main Street
Warren, ME 04864