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NEWS FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Photographs Available

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Granite State Anniversaries Celebrated in New Magazine

CONCORD, NH—The new issue of *Historical New Hampshire* features articles on a number of Granite State anniversaries, including a celebration for *Historical New Hampshire's* own anniversary.

"Milestones like anniversaries provide us with opportunities to reflect and take stock of where we've been and how we got here," says editor Elizabeth Dubrulle. "People are naturally interested in marking the passage of time in this way,

whether it's 300 years or 30. Both ends of that spectrum are covered in this issue."

The seven articles in this issue cover a wide variety of anniversary-related topics. The Scots-Irish, who had such a significant cultural impact on New Hampshire, arrived here in 1719, just over 300 years ago, paving the way for the settlement of the Merrimack Valley and most of the state. Their distinctive culture and traditions contributed much to defining what it meant to be a "Yankee." Two anniversaries dating from 1819 are commemorated in the issue: the passage of the Toleration Act—an important step in establishing religious freedom in New Hampshire—and the forging of the Crawford Path, which has helped lure thousands of visitors to the White Mountains. Fifty years later, in 1869, another White Mountain institution, the Cog Railway, opened to the public and transformed the journey to the summit of Mount Washington from a death-defying venture to a pleasant day trip, as explored in an article by historian Robert W. Bermudes Jr. President Ulysses S. Grant visited the Cog that same year, the first sitting American president to journey so far north in the Granite State. The most current anniversary to be noted in this issue is the 1989 publication of the book *Forest and Crag: A History of Hiking, Trail Blazing, and Adventure in the Northeast Mountains* by Guy and Laura Waterman. *Historical New Hampshire* features an excerpt from the groundbreaking book, sometimes referred to as the Bible of northeast mountaineering, with a special introduction written for this issue by Laura Waterman.

Finally, this issue honors *Historical New Hampshire* itself, which began publication in 1944, just over 75 years ago. The article explores the Society's publishing efforts all the way back to 1824, when the Society was less than a year old. In 1944, while the nation was in the midst of fighting World War II, the Society's trustees undertook the effort to produce a magazine that would appeal to anyone who liked "a little history now and then." Over the years, the magazine has grown and evolved. It has offered special issues on specific topics, served as a complement to the Society's exhibits, acted as the journal of historical record for New Hampshire scholars, and entertained its readers with stories of those who shaped the Granite State. The issue includes a visual retrospective of many of the magazine's most dynamic and interesting covers that illustrate the many topics covered within the magazine's pages over the years.

Historical New Hampshire is a benefit of membership in the New Hampshire Historical Society. Copies are available for purchase for just \$5 through the Society's online store at nhhistory.org.

Founded in 1823, the New Hampshire Historical Society is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to saving, preserving, and sharing New Hampshire history. Nowhere will you find a more extensive collection of objects and archives related to New Hampshire's history. The Society shares these vast collections through its research library, museum, website, publications, exhibitions, and youth and adult educational programs. The Society is not a state-funded agency. All of its programs and services are made possible by membership dues and contributions. For more information about the Society and the benefits of membership, visit nhhistory.org or call 603-228-6688.