



People of all ages explored sites across New Hampshire as part of the Society's 603 History Hunt, a statewide scavenger hunt. Iconic and historic sites included (clockwise from top left) the Pollyanna sculpture in Littleton, the South Meeting House in Portsmouth, the Pine Tree Riot monument in Weare, the town pound in Gilmanston, the Robert Frost statue in Hanover, and the Weirs Beach arrow sign.

603 HISTORY HUNT INSPIRES EXPLORATION

Hundreds of people fanned out over New Hampshire during the month of July, looking for clues in the 603 History Hunt, a statewide scavenger hunt organized by the New Hampshire Historical Society in celebration of its 200th anniversary.

The 603 History Hunt offered a variety of challenges, some of which could be completed in almost any town while others required people to travel to different regions of the state. Challenges ran the gamut from dancing the moonwalk in front of the Redstone Rocket in Warren to singing the state song or posing for a photo in a town pound.

Competition amongst contestants was fierce but friendly, with more than 2,000 people registering for the hunt. Some players started tackling challenges the moment the hunt launched at midnight on July 1, with one group visiting sites in Portsmouth in the middle of the night! Another participant wrote, "We had such a great first day of hunting in Concord, Hopkinton/Contoocook, Hillsboro, and Keene. We are mapping out some more day trips to other areas of the state."

Many players reported a real spirit of camaraderie among the participants, with new friendships forming

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NEW HAMPSHIRE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY FOUNDED 1823

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nhhistory.org

Newsletter

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William H. Dunlap

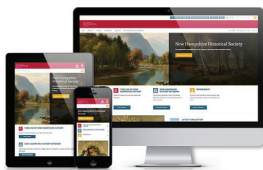
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Society launched the Timeline of New Hampshire History, a powerful feature of our website, in 2015. Underwritten by the Hayes family in honor of former Society trustee James H. Hayes, the Timeline was conceived to be a look at the history of our state through the centuries. Each of the more than 200 entries on the Timeline describes in detail a noteworthy New Hampshire event—the who, what, when, where, and why—as well as the event's immediate and/or long-term impact.

The first entry details a 1603 expedition up the Piscataqua River, and the final entry (for now) marks the nation's first all-female congressional delegation in 2012. The entries are arranged chronologically but can be sorted by any of 18 subject categories, such as "Art and Architecture," "Tourism," "Native Americans," or by region of the state, such as "Great North Woods" and "Seacoast." Each entry has accompanying illustrations, including documents, paintings, maps, and photographs, primarily from the Society's collections. Taken in its entirety, the Timeline is a valuable overview of New Hampshire history.

And because it resides on our website, the Timeline is dynamic, not static. It will be enhanced and added to in the years ahead, since history does not stop and information keeps surfacing.

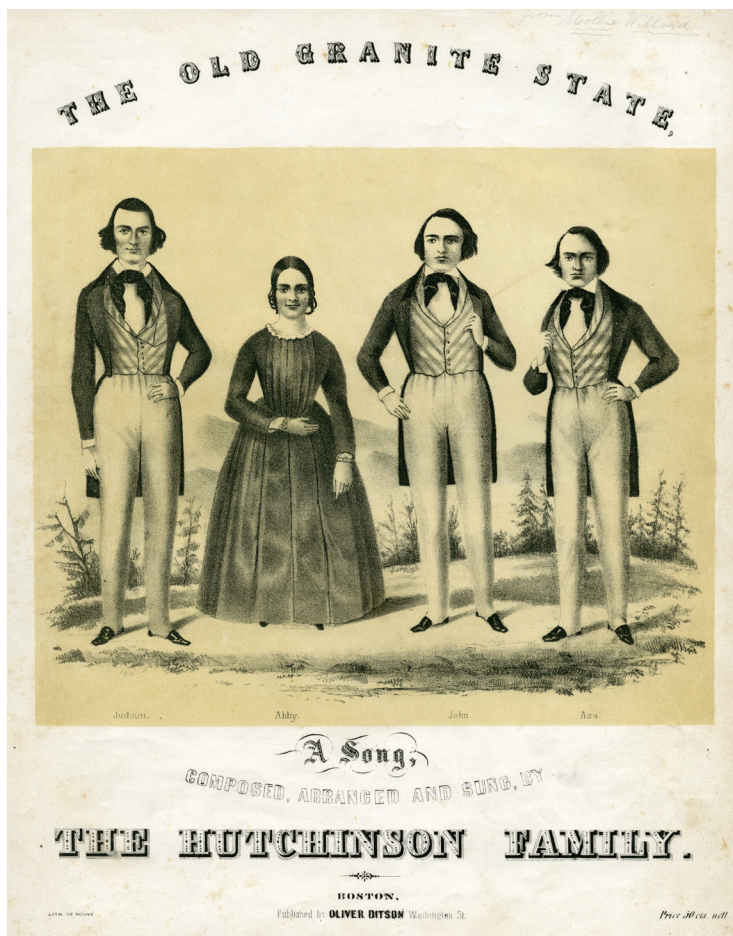
Building the Timeline has been a major undertaking. It has required in-depth research about each event, the actual writing of the entry, and finding the right illustrations. As this work began, it became apparent that finishing the Timeline would be a multi-year process. Since some entries had already been completed with lots of great information, the decision was made to launch and then add more content as time permitted to the not-yet-completed entries. So, the Timeline was launched. I like to think of it as being akin to the ancient cathedrals of Europe, which took years to complete but were in daily use even as some sections were still under construction.

Our former director of publications (and now volunteer extraordinaire) Donna-Belle Garvin oversaw the initial work on the Timeline, writing dozens of entries and editing the majority of others. Many other staff members and volunteers contributed as well. Progress was steady but we wanted it to move more quickly. Then this past year we received a generous gift from trustee emeritus and past board chair John Robinson and his family to underwrite completion of the remaining entries. Thanks to this donation, we were able to secure the services of writer, historian,

and Society member Mark Travis, to help finish the remaining Timeline text, and earlier this year the job was complete.

The Timeline was great when launched and kept getting better as time went by. If you have not yet done so, I urge you to take a look. To do so, simply go to the homepage of the Society's website at nhhistory.org and click on the Timeline of New Hampshire History.

The Society's staff is proud of the Timeline of New Hampshire History. It is further evidence of the value of the digitization of our collections, as without digitization the Timeline would not have been nearly as good as it is. And because it resides on our website, the Timeline is dynamic, not static. It will be enhanced and added to in the years ahead, since history does not stop and information keeps surfacing.



The Society's online Timeline of New Hampshire History features hundreds of illustrations, including this sheet music cover for the entry on the 1843 publication of "The Old Granite State," a signature song composed and sung by the Hutchinson Family Singers of Milford. The family group became famous for stirring music promoting such social reforms as abolition, women's suffrage, and temperance. Towering contemporary figures of the time, including Frederick Douglass, Susan B. Anthony, Charles Dickens, and Abraham Lincoln were among the group's many admirers. Walt Whitman called them heralds of a "new and true" American music that was "simple, fresh, and beautiful." They can be considered forerunners of the protest folk groups of the 1950s and 1960s.

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as groups kept running into familiar faces while completing challenges. “Love running into other hunters along the way,” wrote Nancy Keane, “and then seeing their photos posted” to the 603 History Hunt’s social media site.

Even July’s rainy weather didn’t slow people down, although at one point the road to the challenge at the Madison boulder was temporarily washed out. By the end of the month, 30 people had completed all 110 challenges and more than 600 people had finished enough of them to earn 603 History Hunt participation prizes. The top point earners also won prizes donated by Waterville Valley Resort, Mount Washington Cog Railway, Canobie Lake Park, M/S Mount Washington Cruises, and the New Hampshire Heritage Museum Trail. The Society wrapped up the hunt with an ice cream social in Concord on August 5, where participants reconnected with each other, picked up their prizes, and enjoyed a concert by *Fiddlers Three*.

Everyone was welcome to participate in the 603 History Hunt, which was offered free of charge, thanks to the generosity of the event sponsor, Merrimack County Savings Bank. Patricia MacNeil enjoyed the hunt so much that she composed a poem in its honor:

*The hunt is sublime,
But we have run out of time.*

*We met other Hunters along the way.
We shared our tasks and lives that day.*

*Thanks to the Society,
For the history variety.*

*To Merrimack County Savings Bank,
We give you our tired and joyful
Thanks!*

Another participant wrote, “The history hunt exceeded my expectations in every way. I loved seeing so many new places, and I loved that the tasks had varying degrees of difficulty. This has really been a fun experience, and I’m so happy I participated and finished. I am also sad it’s going to be over, but now I have a whole list of places I want to go back to and really explore. Thank you!”

“It may be the Society’s birthday this year,” said Society Director of Education and Public Programs Elizabeth Dubrulle, “but the 603 History Hunt was the Society’s gift to Granite Staters, and we’re so pleased that everyone enjoyed it.”



The Society’s 603 History Hunt offered participants more than 100 challenges related to every region of the state, including (from left to right) a mural in downtown Nashua commemorating the early integration of baseball in New Hampshire, the anchor sculpture in Portsmouth’s Prescott Park, and the Harriet E. Wilson statue in Milford. The statewide scavenger hunt was primarily the work of Society staffers Mary Adams, Jenn Walton, Katie Corbett, Kirsten Hildonen, and Elizabeth Dubrulle.

NEW PUBLICATIONS AID RESEARCHERS

Society reference librarian and professional genealogist Paul Friday has compiled and published two new reference works: *Diaries at the State Historical Societies in New England* and *Account Books at the State Historical Societies in New England*. In completing these detailed inventories, Paul has greatly expanded access to the resources held by all of New England's state historical societies.



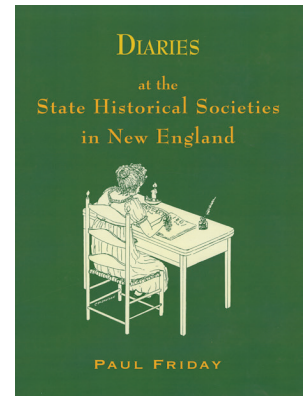
To produce these guides, Paul examined not only the online catalogs of the six historical societies but also traveled around the region to study firsthand each organization's finding aids, card catalogs, and other in-house reference tools. Both publications contain indexes and glossaries to help users better find and understand the contents of the account books and diaries. Paul has previously produced comparable guides to military and vital records manuscripts in the collections of the same six institutions.

Account Books at the State Historical Societies in New England contains data for more than 14,100 account books dating from the 1500s through 2006. When

research for this volume was underway, fewer than 4,000 account books were found in the online catalogs of the six organizations. Using this new reference, a researcher can learn the occupation of the owner of each account book, the geographic location and date range it covers, the collection in which it is located within the repository, and its call number. A series of indexes provide access to the account books by collection name, date, location, and occupation. This new guide will help provide a better understanding of the economic lives of New Englanders.

In *Diaries at the State Historical Societies in New England*, Paul provides an inventory of manuscript diaries dating from 1599 through 2017. Of the 8,900 diaries listed in the book, only 2,700 appear in online catalogs. The diaries are classified by collection or diarist name, call number, date range, geographic location, gender, and age group.

These new reference books are available to on-site researchers at the Society's library. For those interested in purchasing the publications, sample pages from each and ordering information are available on Paul's website at search-ne.com.



LIBRARY RESOURCES AND RESEARCH SERVICES

The Society offers on-site researchers access to digital databases via the library's public access computers. Through EBSCO's database "America: History and Life™ with Full Text," researchers can search thousands of articles and entire journals related to the history of the United States and Canada. For patrons focused on genealogy, Ancestry.com can be used to access millions of genealogical resources, and American Ancestors, produced by the New England Historic Genealogical Society, contains a wealth of records with a focus on New England. The Society is open Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. To maximize your research time while at the Society's library, appointments are encouraged.

If time or distance are preventing you from doing your own research, you can hire us to research sources at the New Hampshire Historical Society. Staff will assist you in framing the research proposal and in estimating the time required to research the topic. A fee is charged on an hourly basis (\$25 for New Hampshire Historical Society members; \$40 for nonmembers), plus the cost of document copies. For more information or to submit a research services request form, visit the Society's website at nhhistory.org/research or contact library staff at research@nhhistory.org or 603-856-0641.

FALL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

In-person programs will be held at the New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park Street, Concord, unless otherwise noted. For the most up-to-date information on programs and events, visit nhhistory.org and sign up to receive the Society's e-newsletter.

Granite State Stories

Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Smyth Public Library, 55 High Street, Candia

For such a small state, New Hampshire has a remarkable history, full of interesting people, creative inventions, daring adventures, and astounding beauty. In honor of the New Hampshire Historical Society's 200th anniversary, Society staffers are touring the state and sharing a collection of stories that capture the iconic spirit of New Hampshire, paired with images from the Society's collections. The stories told at this event will feature the Concord coach and the Society's two Revolutionary War flags. This program is presented through the Humanities to Go program of New Hampshire Humanities, and admission is free.



Collections Highlight Talk: “Live Free Then Die: Death and Mourning in the Granite State”

Saturday, October 28, 2023, 2 p.m.

As exemplified in our state motto, death has helped to shape New Hampshire's history and culture for centuries. Join the Society's Director of Museum Collections Jonathan Olly to hear some of the stories and see some of the objects that shed light on how Granite Staters have experienced death and mourning from the colonial period into the 20th century. Admission is free for New Hampshire Historical Society members; \$7 for nonmembers. No registration is required.

Virtual Workshop: Identifying and Caring for Photographs

Wednesdays, November 1 and 8, 2023, 7 to 9 p.m.

Designed for small museums and historical societies, this two-night webinar introduces participants to the most common types of photographs found in the paper-based collections of historical societies, as well as providing an overview of the history of photography and an introduction to photographic methods and production. The webinar will also cover best practices for cataloging, care and handling, and preservation and storage of photographic materials. No prior knowledge is required; beginners are welcome. This virtual workshop is offered in two parts, with the first part held on November 1 and the second part held on November 8. The presenter is Elena Cordova, an archivist and preservation specialist who was formerly with the Northeast Document Conservation Center. This event is being co-sponsored by the Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire (AHSNH). The cost is \$50 for members of either the New Hampshire Historical Society or the AHSNH; \$75 for nonmembers. Advanced registration is required via Eventbrite.com.

Mourning picture by Laura S. Bartlett (1799–1872), 1815. New Hampshire Historical Society. While a student at Mrs. Rowson's Academy in Boston, Laura Bartlett painted this mourning picture in memory of her grandfather Josiah Bartlett (1728–95) of Kingston, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. The inscription on the monument reads: “SACRED / to the memory of / His Excellency / JOSIAH BARTLETT / Obit 19th May 1795 AE 65 years” and “MARY / consort of / J. Bartlett / Ob 14th July 1789 / AE 58 yrs.” A talk at the Society on October 28 will explore some of the ways Granite Staters have dealt with death and mourning.



Edith Maude Winchester (1875–1925), carte-de-visite photograph by J. A. French of Keene, circa 1879. New Hampshire Historical Society, gift of Vincent Formisano. In November the Society will offer a two-part virtual workshop on identifying and caring for photographs.

**Music: Songs of New Hampshire
Saturday, November 4, 2023, 2 p.m.**

Folk musician Tom Curren presents a collection of New Hampshire songs that spring from our landscapes of farms, seacoast, and forests. These tunes span more than 300 years of cultural expression and seek to remind us of the reasons we believe in this place we've come to call home. In addition to charting a career as a conservationist, farmer, historian, town official, and writer, Curren has been singing and archiving regional folk songs for decades. Admission is free for New Hampshire Historical Society members; \$7 for nonmembers. No registration is required.

Genealogy Workshop: Tracing Ancestors on the Move

Saturday, November 18, 2023, 1 to 4 p.m.

Our ancestors moved near and far, seeking economic opportunities, religious freedom, and connections with friends and family. These mobile forebears, however, are notoriously difficult to track. We might have ancestors in our sights and then—poof!—they're gone. Or we may have ancestors for whom we have no idea where they came from. Genealogist Ann Lawther of the New England Historic Genealogical Society offers context and motivations for migrations across America in the 17th through 20th centuries, provides strategies for discovering ancestral origins and movements, and recommends tools, including go-to sources, to help track your family on the move. The cost of this workshop is \$35 for members of the New Hampshire Historical Society; \$50 for nonmembers. Space is limited and registration is required. Register online through [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

Granite State Stories

Tuesday, November 28, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Smyth Public Library, 55 High Street, Candia

For such a small state, New Hampshire has a remarkable history, full of interesting people, creative inventions, daring adventures, and astounding beauty. In honor of the New Hampshire Historical Society's 200th anniversary, Society staffers are touring the state and sharing a collection of stories that capture the iconic spirit of New Hampshire, paired with images from the Society's collections. The stories told at this event feature Benjamin Champney and Mount Washington. This program is presented through the Humanities to Go program of New Hampshire Humanities, and admission is free.



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Participants in the Society's 603 History Hunt were invited to an ice cream social at the Society in Concord. More than 200 people turned out to celebrate the conclusion of the statewide scavenger hunt, enjoy music and ice cream on the lawn, and tour the Society's building and exhibitions. See story on page 1.