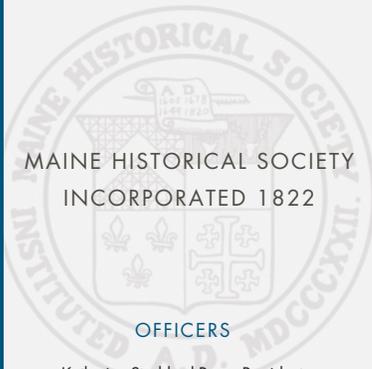




M
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MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INCORPORATED 1822

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- | | |
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About the Transition

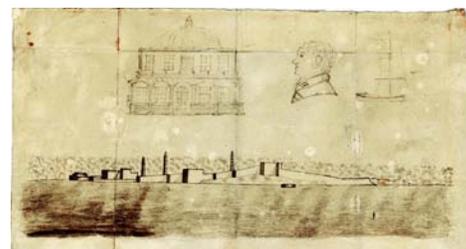
An important transition will soon be taking place. After sixteen years of leading MHS, Executive Director Richard D'Abate has decided to retire to pursue his many other interests. We will all miss Richard tremendously, but we are in an excellent position to move forward. MHS is a respected institution with loyal community and volunteer support, stable finances, a seasoned management team, and high-performing professional staff. There's sufficient time to make a careful, national search, and there's a good strategic plan in place that will help provide the initial roadmap for a new Executive Director. Richard is committed to helping ensure a smooth transition; the Search Committee, led by MHS vice presidents Jeff Miller and Lendall Smith, is already hard at work; and a fine pool of candidates is forming. We hope to keep all our friends and supporters informed as the process goes forward, but welcome your input: your thoughts about the future, your expectations of our organization, and your hopes for new leadership. Transitions are always challenging, but working together we can be confident of success. In the meantime we have much to celebrate at MHS that is a direct result of Richard's sixteen years of leadership and vision. I know you all join me in saying, "Thank you, Richard!"



*Best Wishes,
Katherine Pope
President*

CORRECTION:

In our summer issue, there was no caption in **The Libyan Connection: Preble and Wadsworth in Tripoli** for the sketch, at right. It should have read: *Henry Wadsworth (1785-1804), for whom the poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was named, sketched Tripoli, North Africa, in 1804 while serving in the U.S. Navy. There is no way to verify that the profile is a self portrait.*



ABOUT THE COVER:

A detail from the "crazy quilt" made by Mary Edwards Wadsworth of Hiram, around 1895. This type of quilting was popular in the late 19th century and features a colorful arrangement of silk fabrics and embroidery stitches. Mary Edwards was the second wife of Charles F. Wadsworth - a great-grandson of Peleg Wadsworth. This quilt is one of many important donations to the museum collection received during the year.

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Where To Begin



I'm not sure where to begin. There's the history of the last 16 years to think about, but there's also the future, the promising future of MHS. And if I start with history, will it be a chronology of progress, or a reminiscence about friendship, or a catalog of mistakes, or a tale of risks, or a gathering of minutiae, or a list of gifts as long as a city block? It would have to be all of these things and more. It would be a handicapped ramp in 1996; a new lecture hall in 1998; the Longfellow House restored in 2002, the Library rebuilt in 2009. It would be every trustee and board president—I can name them but there's hardly enough

room—all encouraging, committed and generous. It would be the staff, up to every challenge, looking to improve, proud of our accomplishments. It would be a bet on the Maine Memory Network in 2001, and million dollar gifts in 2007. And then the library went online, and publications got a new look, and exhibits began to glow, and partnerships were formed, and dancing and cigars, poetry and scholars, school kids from twenty countries, and trips to Europe, and the damn curators taking away my furniture.

Vitality. That's what it is. It's the vitality of the place—a lively unwillingness to stand still—that gives me so much hope for the future of MHS. Is that strange for an historical society? Maybe, if you believe history is the land of the dead, but not at all if you're convinced that history is alive, a dimension of our daily experience, a touchstone and a pleasure. If you believe that, then you best get moving, because there's lots of work to do. And that, of course, is what our board and staff are doing right now: making ambitious and thoughtful plans for the future, moving ahead with key projects, anticipating the energy that always comes from new leadership. But it isn't one director, or one board member, or one fancy idea that makes the difference. It's the whole enterprise, the whole Maine Historical Society, with its members and programs and its growing service to the citizens of Maine. I may not be sure where to begin, but I can't wait to see what's next.

*Richard D'Abate
Executive Director*



Behind the Lens

Maine Portrait Photography

What do a doctor, a sheriff, and a mayor have in common? In this case, in one of MHS's newest collections, these men from various walks of life share a common occupation, photography. The collection, *Maine Portrait Photographers*, includes roughly 500 portraits ranging from couples dressed in wedding attire to school portraits. In this case, however, the portraits themselves are not the focus; rather it is the photographers who took them.



The collection, compiled by collector William Watson of Boothbay Harbor, includes 500 examples of Maine photographers from A (Benjamin S. Abbott) to Z (Zocalli Studio), covering the years 1875 to 1950. Not only are there examples of photographers' work, but files include biographical information, obituaries, and newspaper articles.

Watson started with a list of known photographers gleaned from the *Maine Register* and business directories, trying to find an example of each photographer's work. One of the most interesting of the women photographers of this era was Minnie Libby, of Norway, Maine. She practiced for 65 years, until age 85.

Nicholas Noyes, Head of Library Services, states, "It's a remarkable collection and proof of the abundance of portrait photographers working in Maine through the 1950s."

Arden Jordan, MHS volunteer
Nancy Noble, MHS Archivist

↖ *Karekin Studio, Ellsworth*
↓ *B.F. Joy, Ellsworth*



Angley & Rideout,

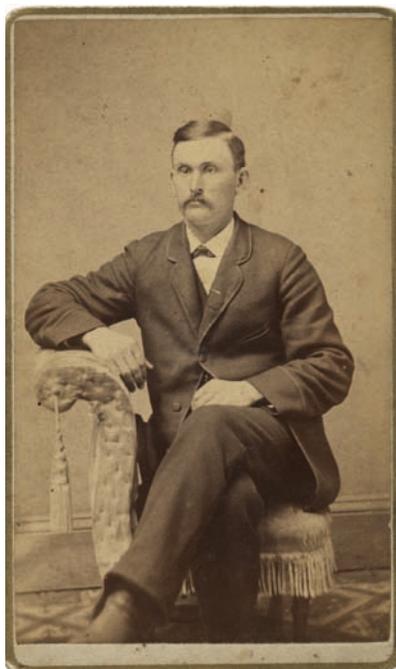
DEXTER, ME.

↑ *Angley and Rideout, Dexter*



↑ *Augusta Art Studio*

→ *Babbidge Studio, Rockland*



BENJ. F. JOY



Duplicates at any time.

Recent Museum Acquisitions

Each year staff accepts new materials for the museum and library collections from donors who are interested in preserving Maine history. Acquisitions can be single items – a family portrait or an item made in Maine – or they can be large collections with both archival material and museum objects.

Staff works closely with donors to make sure all gifts are appropriate for the collections. We ask: “How does the material relate to the history of Maine?,” “Can the MHS care for it?,” “How might we use it in our projects or programs?” These are just a few of the questions that must be answered before a decision to acquire materials is made.

We appreciate the generosity of the many families, individuals, and businesses who share an interest in preserving Maine history. If you would like to know more about the collections or our collecting interests and procedures, please contact John Mayer, Curator of Museum Collections or Nicholas Noyes, Director of Library Services.

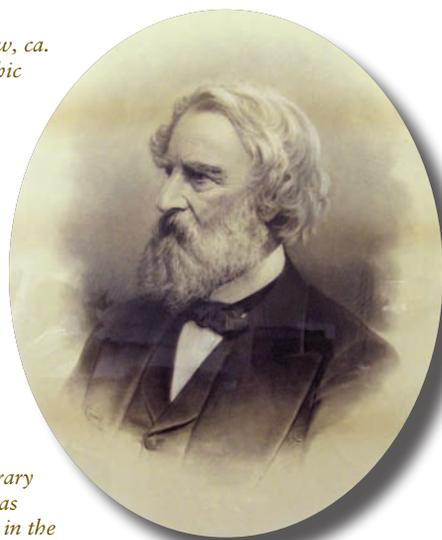
Perhaps you might like to join the Friends of Collections, a group that provides funding to help acquire and conserve collection objects. Please let us know of your interests.

John Mayer
Museum Curator



↑ A cast iron door for a bake oven, made by Nathan Winslow & Co., ca. 1830. This oven door was salvaged by Russell Dupree from an early 19th-century house on Brackett St. that was being demolished as part of Portland’s urban renewal program. It’s a wonderful artifact from Portland’s early industrial era and documents the nature of Nathan Winslow’s early manufacturing. By the 1840s, Winslow sold his stove foundry and focused on canning – a new and important industry for Maine.

→ Portrait of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, ca. 1876. This photographic portrait of Longfellow was made by Charles B. Conant, a Portland photographer active for a short period from about 1875 to 1884. Conant listed himself as an “artistic photographer,” perhaps to represent his interest in enhancing his images with crayon to give them a more painterly quality. This portrait hung in a Portland library for many years, and was collected by the donor in the 1970s.



← William Sheafe in his Masonic uniform and his wife Mary Etta, pose in a photographer’s studio ca. 1890. William (1861-1935) was a Portland grocery clerk and traveling salesman who was an active member in the St. Alban’s Commandery of Portland – a branch of the Masons. This tintype and William’s entire costume were donated by Gail Preble, a great-granddaughter.



↑ Oil on canvas portraits, Reverend Eaton and Mary Shaw, ca. 1830. This pair of portrait paintings documents an early moment in the life of Eaton Shaw (b. 1803, d. 1884) and his wife Mary Roberts (b. 1806, d. 1904). They were married in 1828 and lived their entire life in Portland. Eaton became the first minister of the Congress St. Methodist Episcopal Church in 1836. These paintings capture the grace and elegance of this young couple – but unfortunately the artist is unknown. The paintings are a gift from the estate of Virginia Edwards, a descendant of the Shaws.



Summer Learning Fun

What kind of information belongs on a neighborhood map? Major streets? Landmark or municipal buildings? A strong-smelling tree or forested trail? The Big Apple and the 7-11?

This summer, MHS partnered with the Learning-Works Summer Learning Program at East End School to explore and document the Eastern part of the Portland peninsula. Rising third, fourth, and fifth grade students in Mr. Kennie and Ms. Kalloch's classes discussed important components of cartography and the role of choice and perspective in map-making. They put on exploring hats and traversed Munjoy Hill, making note of sights, smells, and sounds and considering how the area has changed over time, before working collaboratively to create two giant maps of the East End of today, convenience stores and all.

*Rachel Miller
Education Assistant*

↑ When creating their group maps students worked together to choose natural features and resources--stores, municipal buildings, playgrounds--they felt were important aspects of the East End. The red circles correspond to illustrations of these features and resources placed around the map's border.

→ Docents and Guides give tours of the Wadsworth-Longfellow House.



Mercy and Raqia, students in Ms. Kalloch's class, are now resident experts on the East End of yesterday and today.

Get Involved!

The Portland History Docent Program is a collaborative effort between MHS, Victoria Mansion, the Tate House Museum, Greater Portland Landmarks, the Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad, the Fifth Maine Regiment Museum, Evergreen Cemetery, and Eastern Cemetery to provide thorough, hands-on training for individuals interested in volunteering at one of Portland's historic sites. The PHD program is a ten-week course; classes cover a variety of topics, from Portland and Maine history, to tour techniques and audience needs, to site-specific visits. Graduates of the course then commit volunteer time at a site of their choice.

This year's course will begin in February 2012. Classes are held Thursday mornings, 9:00 – 12 noon at Maine Historical Society. Please contact PHD Program Coordinator Marjorie Getz at 781-4502 or MHS Education Coordinator Bridget McCormick at 774-822 x212 for more information.

*Bridget McCormick
Education Coordinator*



Update:

IMLS National Leadership Grant

One year into our most recent National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum & Library Services, we are making great progress. The three-year project, a partnerships with the Maine State Library, provides training, support, and grants designed to help communities throughout Maine develop the local capacity needed to participate in Maine Memory Network.

Since the spring, we have awarded 20 grants to organizations or community teams across Maine to support the digitization of collections, creation of online exhibits, or building of local history websites, all of which will become part of Maine Memory. It is amazing to see the diversity of activity the project has stimulated, the far-ranging interests it represents, and the rich new collections and stories that will soon be accessible online and included more prominently in the telling of Maine history. Examples include:

- USM: Franco-American Collection to digitize collections that document the experience of Franco-American children
- Camden Public Library: to digitize collections related to Edna St. Vincent Millay
- Kennebec Valley Community College Archive: to digitize material related to Gilman Street School in Fairfield, just redeveloped with Coastal Enterprises
- Hartford-Sumner Elementary School with Buckfield Historical Society: for students to research and digitize materials related to the library's founder and namesake, Zadoc Long
- Sebago Historical Society: to develop an online exhibit that explores the town of Sebago's experience during the Civil War
- Maine Folklife Center/University of Maine: to develop an online exhibit about the Eastern Corporation of Brewer and dynamics that shaped rise and fall of paper industry

MHS staff have been busy providing training and professional development to the field. We have held eight "21st Century Skills Workshops" designed to help representatives from local historical societies, librarians, and teachers explore how participation in Maine Memory can help them achieve their own professional and institutional goals, develop skills, and build local capacity. We are also offering workshops and sessions at many professional conferences with partners including Maine Archives & Museums and the Maine Council for Social Studies.

Finally, we are about to embark on a statewide outreach campaign that will promote interest in state and local history through public libraries. Look for us in your local library!



To learn more about these activities, please visit: www.mainememory.org/share_history

Is your community part of Maine Memory?!?

*Steve Bromage
Assistant Director*

Every town has a history...

What happened in the streets of Bangor in 1937? Search for item #31827 on MaineMemory.net to find out!



Collections of Bangor Museum and Center for History

Discover yours

at your local library, historical society, and online at Maine Memory Network.

www.MaineMemory.net



Scan me to visit
Maine Memory Network



Maine Memory Network is a digital museum presented by Maine Historical Society in partnership with 250+ organizations across Maine.



Every town has a history...

Why does Theodora Dallinger have a jackhammer? Search for item #9982 on MaineMemory.net to find out!



Collections of Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library

Discover yours

at your local library, historical society, and online at Maine Memory Network.

www.MaineMemory.net



Scan me to visit
Maine Memory Network



Maine Memory Network is a digital museum presented by Maine Historical Society in partnership with 250+ organizations across Maine.



Posters and bookmarks are being sent to every public library in Maine as part of a toolkit that promotes the role that libraries can play in supporting local history.

Support for Soldiers & Families

On October 12, 1863, Louisa S. J. Mower of Temple wrote to Mrs. Sarah Sampson of the Maine Soldiers' Relief Association seeking information about her husband, Benjamin Franklin Mower of Co. I, 7th Maine Regiment. He was at the Battle of Gettysburg, then reportedly was left by his Company at Williamsport, Maryland, on July 15, 1863. His messmate reported that Mower "had been ill 5 days and was very weak and feverish."

Three months later, Louisa Mower still had heard no more about her husband. She described his ring and a small miniature he carried of Louisa and their son Nathaniel Lincoln Mower when he was an infant. They also had a daughter.

Mower's was one of hundreds of letters sent to the Maine Agency Sanitary Commission or the Maine Soldiers' Relief Association by soldiers or members of their families. The letters asked for help with furloughs to see sick relatives, furloughs to recover from injuries, back pay, forwarding of packages, supplies for imprisoned soldiers, or, like Mower's, sought information about soldiers. Other letters accompanied donations.

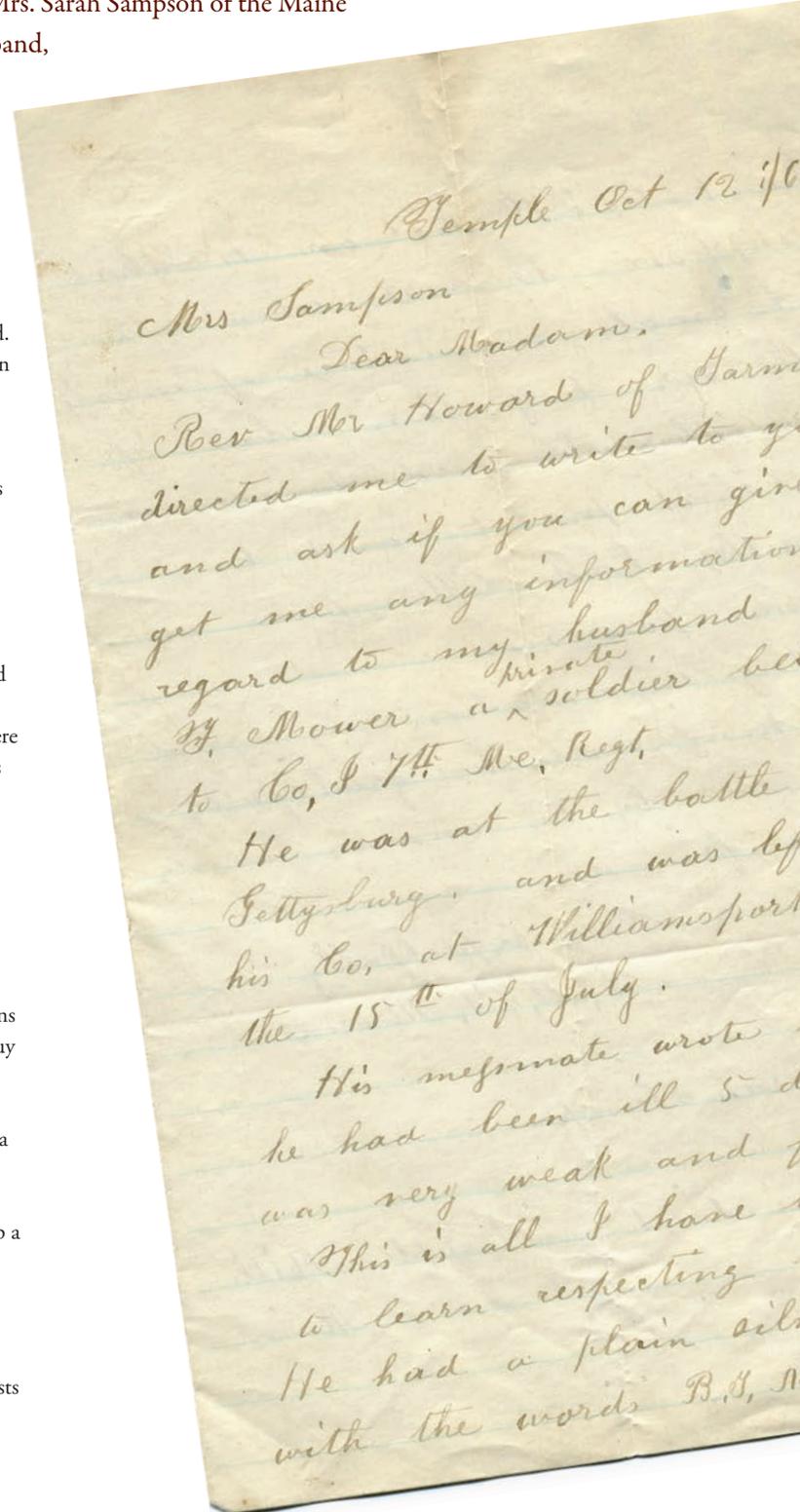
As one history of the U.S. Sanitary Commission noted, "As the men mustered for the battlefield, so the women mustered in churches, school-houses, and parlors, working before they well knew at what to work, and calling everywhere for instruction." The Sanitary Commission helped channel home front efforts as well as the work of volunteer nurses. Maine organized a state agency of the commission with offices in Portland and Washington, D.C. Several groups including Maine Soldiers' Relief, shared the offices and the work.

A number of Maine women were prominently involved in nursing and other relief work at the battlefield. For instance, Isabella Fogg of Calais went to Annapolis, Maryland, as a nurse in 1861 and soon signed on with the Sanitary Commission, working with hospital transports and organizing hospital stations near Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. She also helped secure state funds to buy supplies for the hospital work.

A Sanitary Commission history about Maine nurses notes that, "Miss Rebecca R. Usher was among the first to enter upon the work of humanity." Usher, of Hollis, was assigned to the General Hospital at Chester, Pennsylvania, in 1862-1863, then went to the front near Petersburg, Virginia, where she set up a soldiers' home. She remained there until the end of the war.

Sarah Sampson of Bath followed her husband, Capt. Charles Sampson of the 3d Maine Infantry, to action in Virginia, nursing wounded soldiers. She later joined the relief organization in Washington, helping to respond to the requests for assistance.

Many of the letters contain emotional pleas. One soldier wrote from Libby Prison, the Confederate prison in Richmond, Virginia, asking the Maine Agency to send supplies such as a ham, bologna sausages, canned salmon, milk,



† Louisa Mower letter on missing husband, Temple, 1863
Collections of Maine Historical Society

Grant Co & 79 Me on it which
 I suppose he wore when left
 A small miniature of myself
 with our boy then a bale of
 3 months he used to carry in
 his shirt-pocket and he
 doubtless had letters from me
 in his possession
 Any information in regard
 him will be gratefully
 received by his anxious family
 and friends
 Very respectfully
 S. H. Mower
 Sarah Sampson
 Kingston direct Temple Mills
 Maine



↗ *Rebecca Usher, Hollis, ca. 1900*
Collections of Maine Historical Society

Shaker applesauce, sardines, butter, pickles, cranberry sauce, a coffee pot, and “2 Boxes good Cigars.” He said he knew of nowhere else to ask for help and noted that he had money to pay for the items.

Ill or injured soldiers – or their relatives – often asked for furloughs or discharges so they could return to Maine – either for a short time or permanently. Most expressed the conviction they would regain their health and strength if they were at home and cared for by loved ones.

One especially poignant letter came from J.S. Herrick, who was at a hospital in Annapolis, tending to her ill son-in-law, Isaac J. Monk, a private in Co. E of the 16th Maine Infantry.

Addressing her letter to Sarah Sampson, Herrick wrote that she needed to return to Maine to care for her parents. She reported that her daughter had been ill and having mental problems since the illness. She feared that her daughter would become “entirely insane” if Isaac Monk, her husband, did not return home.

In the fall of 1864, numerous soldiers or groups of soldiers wrote to the Maine Agent in Washington, asking for furloughs to go home in order to vote in the Presidential election. Cyrus McBride, 1st sergeant, Co. K., 13th Maine, wrote from Harewood Hospital in Washington, D.C., “I want to vote in some place for I think it is the duty of every man to vote on this coming Election to maintain the Principles that we have

been struggling for & for the Officers that will carry them through.”

The Maine Agency responded to all the letters it received, although Maine Historical Society’s collection of letters does not include the responses. From other sources, it seems that the agency often was successful in securing furloughs, back pay, and answering other questions.



↑ *Isabella Fogg, Calais, ca. 1860*
Collections of Maine State Archives

As for Benjamin Franklin Mower of the 7th Maine, who was 31 when he enlisted, the Maine Adjutant General’s report for 1863 lists him as ill in a hospital in Washington and as mustered out on Aug. 21, 1864. However, a history of Greene lists his death date as July 3, 1863. Other sources list his death date as July 15, 1863, or as “reported missing after the battle of Gettysburg, and by the hard fortune of war, left to die on the Battlefield.” There is no indication of when Louisa Mower found out her husband had died.

Candace Kanes
 Maine Memory Network Historian



← *Sarah Sampson, Bath, ca. 1860*
Contributed by Maine State Archives

The Civil War on MMN

A NEW PAGE ON MAINE MEMORY NETWORK – CIVILWAR.MAINEMEMORY.NET – BRINGS TOGETHER THE SITE’S NUMEROUS DOCUMENTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, LETTERS, AND ONLINE EXHIBITS ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR. THE PAGE IS A PORTAL THAT WILL DIRECT YOU TO THE RICH RESOURCES OFFERED BY MMN CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS, INCLUDING MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. WE HAVE ORGANIZED MANY OF THE RESOURCES BY THEME – SUCH AS WEAPONS, ITEMS THAT SOLDIERS WORE OR CARRIED, PARTICULAR REGIMENTS, AND LETTERS OR DOCUMENTS FROM INDIVIDUAL SOLDIERS. WE WILL BUILD ONTO THIS PAGE AS MORE MATERIAL IS ADDED TO MAINE MEMORY NETWORK. YOU WILL FIND A LINK TO THE PAGE ON MAINE MEMORY’S HOMEPAGE – OR TYPE CIVILWAR.MAINEMEMORY.NET INTO YOUR BROWSER.

The Ties That Bind...

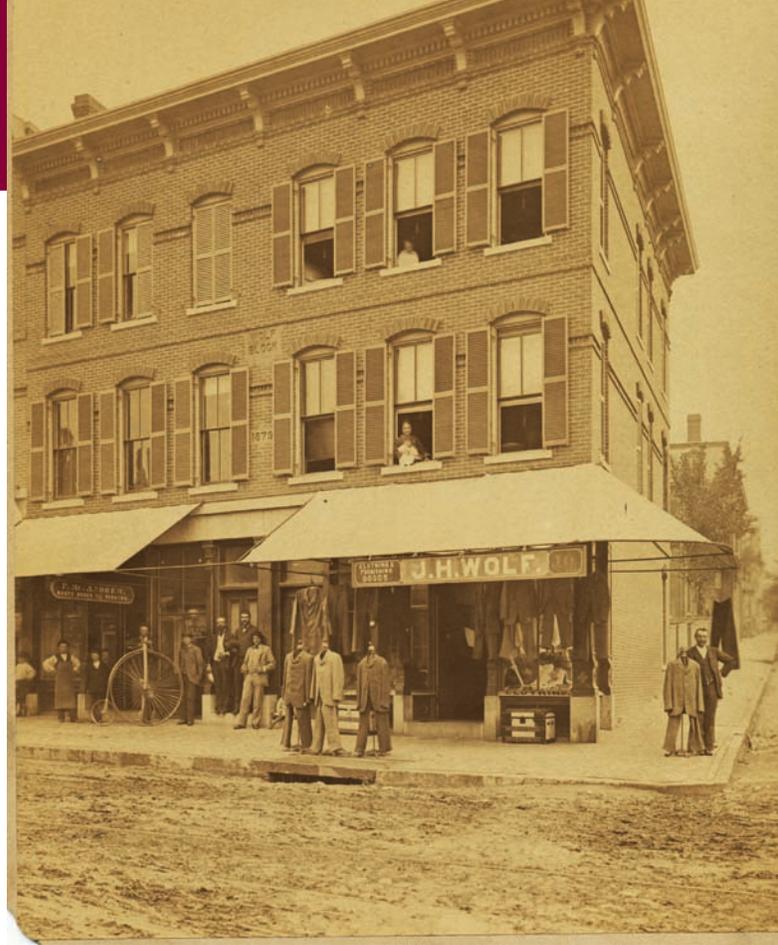
Family, Friends *and* School



The Waterman and Wolf Family Collection (Coll. 2526) is now available for research. It includes an array of old family photographs, mementos, and treasures depicting the lives of two prominent Jewish families, the Wolfs and the Watermans, who lived in the Portland area from the 1870s until the 1990s.

← *Arthur Waterman*

Arthur Martin “Marty” Waterman graduated from Portland High School in 1923. Marty was undoubtedly a popular student who also achieved academic prominence by receiving the James Olcott Brown academic award that same year. The only son of Ellis and Belle (Wolf) Waterman, Marty had two sisters, Sayde and Harriet, who graduated from Portland High in 1929 and 1933 respectively. A glimpse into the lives of these Waterman teens during the 1920s shows just how important school and the friends made during those years were to the adults they would become. There are scrapbooks, theater production programs, and horse back riding club pamphlets. The photographs are numerous, including senior portraits of over 50 of Marty’s classmates and large intact photographs of the classes of 1923, 1929, and 1933. Marty went on to attend Harvard and then Harvard Law School, graduating in 1930. A Portland businessman, like his father and grandfather before him, Waterman ran State Motors and Maine Motors which included a Nash dealership and a Marine Division. Marty went on to serve his country during World War II as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army’s Dependent Benefits Division from 1942-1945.



↑ *Joseph Wolf Men's Clothing Store, Middle Street, Portland, ca. 1900*

Sister Sayde married after high school and had one child, Marsh Joel Tellan, who is the only direct heir of these three Waterman siblings. Sister Harriet never married, cared for her parents as they aged, and went on to become the family’s keeper of the “ties that bind” this generation to the next. On Harriet’s death in 2005, a number of treasured family items she had collected over her 88+ years were donated to Maine Historical.

*Jane Cullen
Volunteer*



Longfellow Garden

THE LONGFELLOW GARDEN IS ENJOYING ITS SEASONAL REST, BUT NOT THE CARETAKERS OF THE GARDEN.

JOIN THE LONGFELLOW GARDEN CLUB FOR YEAR-ROUND FESTIVITIES.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

BARBARA TOLMAN
7 BAYBERRY LANE
SCARBOROUGH, ME 04074
207-883-5530
BBTOLMAN@JUNO.COM

Maine Historical Society

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS 2010-2011

Your generous support and participation raised more than \$247,000 in unrestricted gifts for our Annual Fund. Your involvement enables MHS to offer museum education programs to local elementary schools throughout Greater Portland, create engaging public programs and museum exhibitions, provide online access to historical documents and vintage Maine images and maintain the MHS collections of artifacts and documents of Maine's history and heritage. Your generosity supports our daily operations and strengthens every area of MHS—today and into the future. Thank you.

The following giving levels and listed contributions represent cumulative unrestricted gifts to the Annual Fund from 10/1/2010 through 9/30/2011.

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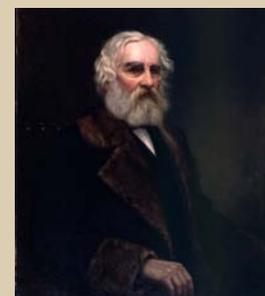
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We appreciate your wonderful loyalty as part of the MHS family.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS

Maine Historical Society values the generosity and support of all our members; unfortunately (or fortunately) our membership base is too large to list each individual in this publication.

If you are not a current member of MHS, please consider joining us in our effort to collect, preserve and interpret Maine's history. We value our members always and their ongoing commitment to the MHS mission—thank you.

*deceased

These lists are meant to be comprehensive and accurate. If you are aware of an omission or other error, please accept our apologies and contact the MHS Development Office at (207) 774-1822. Thank you.



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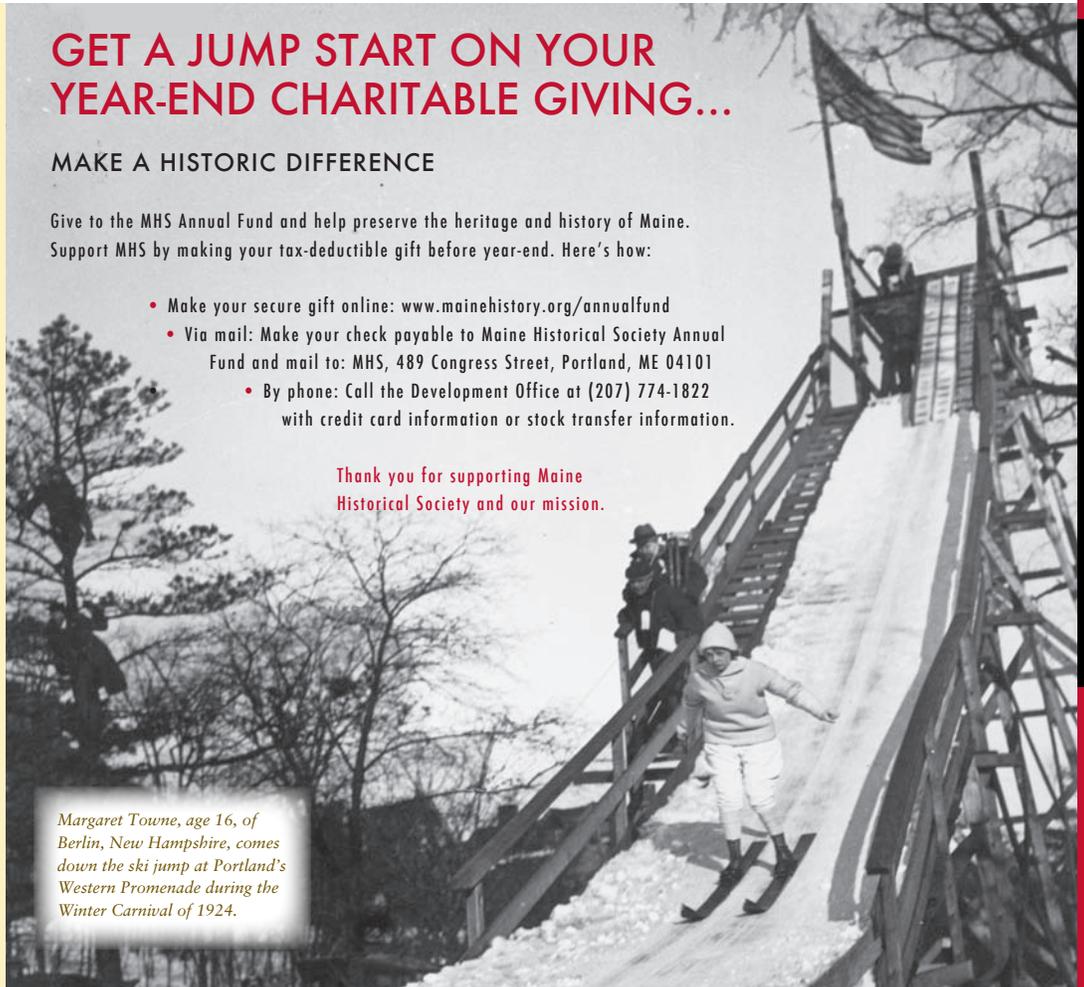
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Thank you for supporting Maine Historical Society and our mission.



Margaret Towne, age 16, of Berlin, New Hampshire, comes down the ski jump at Portland's Western Promenade during the Winter Carnival of 1924.

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While visiting Portland this holiday season, be sure to visit the Museum Store at the Maine Historical Society. Our annual Holiday Bazaar begins Friday, November 25 and continues through Saturday, December 31. We have expanded our store for the holidays and filled it with a wide variety of seasonal items and the Maine related books, DVDs and gifts that you have come to expect. We hope you enjoy this unique selection created with you in mind!

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