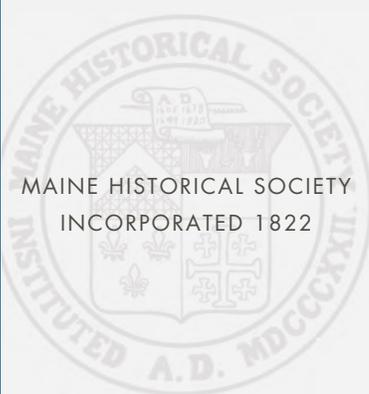


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A century ago, globalization, new technology, shifting economies, and extreme nationalism led to one of the most devastating wars ever fought. Do these issues sound familiar?

World War I affected numerous Maine lives and communities. It was fought over and perpetuated political and economic issues that dominate headlines and impact Maine today. WWI directly influenced the current political climate with its extensive role in the reshaping of Europe and the Middle East. Similarities such as the potential collapse of national economies, the threat of terrorism, fear of immigration, and demonization of ethnic and religious groups run parallel to the fears and anxieties felt by the current Western world.

And yet, the First World War is one of the least well-known and understood wars Americans have fought. On its centennial, why should WWI matter to contemporary Mainers?

MHS's WWI initiative re-imagines and demonstrates the contemporary relevance of a lesser-known and under-appreciated war—one that does, in fact, matter today. It provides a dynamic window into what Maine was like in the 1910's and 1920's: Portland, thriving and reaching a zenith, anchored by the Portland Company; a dominant and far-reaching paper industry; and a rise in nativism and the Klu Klux Klan in response to immigration. We will explore how communities around the state experienced, were devastated by, and memorialized the War.

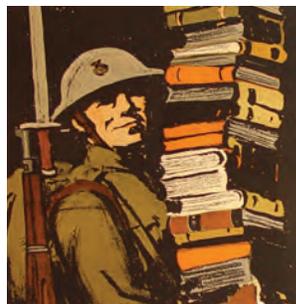
WWI was also a brutal experience for the soldiers who fought in it, and ultimately helped shape our modern understanding of PTSD. Through our *My Maine Stories* initiative, MHS is soliciting and encouraging the contribution of stories and materials from Maine veterans of all eras, with a particular emphasis on the Vietnam War.

Do you have a story or perspective to share? Please contact us if you do.

MHS has an important—and we think fascinating—series of programmatic initiatives planned for 2017, all of which focus on using history to help us better understand today's Maine.

Please stay in touch! We'd love to hear your thoughts about what MHS is doing.

Steve Bromage
Executive Director



ABOUT THE COVER: World War I poster, ca. 1918. Designed by Charles Buckles Falls.

Collections of Maine Historical Society.

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Peace without Victory



MHS MUSEUM

2017 marks the 100th anniversary of American involvement in World War I. Fanning shifts in politics and culture, the First World War played a significant role in the birth of the modern age. American involvement in “The War to End All Wars” set the tone for modern U.S. foreign policy, globalization, and the American role as the “defender of democracy.”

World War I & the Maine Experience places emphasis on Maine’s attitude towards the war, the cultural rhetoric of the period, and the service and sacrifice of Maine citizens on the front and at home. On view are uniforms, military documents, and weaponry including a ca. 1895 Colt-Browning machine gun on loan from the Bucksport Historical Society.

Through objects including posters, pamphlets, and political cartoons the exhibition depicts a nation rallying together to support its allies and “preserve liberty.” It explores the role the media plays in public opinion, and highlights how Maine’s economy, population, and development reflected and reacted to the global issues at hand. A rich collection of photographs and letters demonstrates the veteran experience, the complexities of reintegration, and the comradery of service.

World War I & the Maine Experience is on view at Maine Historical Society from February through June, 2017.

Top: Women at the Portland Company inspect eight-inch howitzer shells. The Portland Company made the shells, which were then packed in pairs in wooden boxes for shipment to a central depot to be filled with an explosive compound.

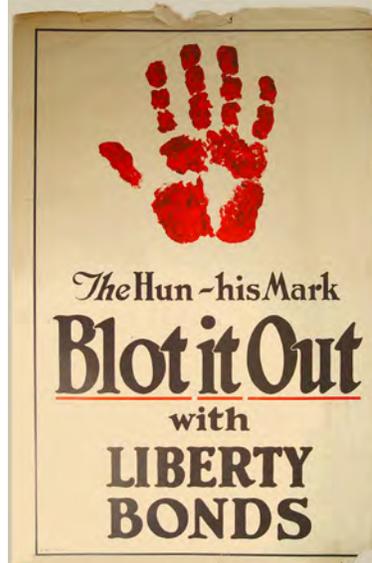
Middle: Poster from the United States Shipping Board promoting American manufacturing in support of the war effort.

Bottom Left: Poster promoting Liberty Bonds showing a bloody hand print.

Bottom Right: Poster suggesting the sacrifices American soldiers were making as it urges financial sacrifice of civilians.



ON THE JOB FOR VICTORY
UNITED STATES SHIPPING BOARD — EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION



**FIRST FRIDAY
ART WALK**

A CREATIVE PORTLAND ME PROJECT

Maine Historical Society is open for downtown Portland’s Art Walk festivities! From 5-8pm on the first Friday of each month, enjoy free admission to our Museum, special activities and snacks, and shopping in the MHS Museum Store. Check mainehistory.org/programs for more details.

Introducing: *My Maine Stories*



A project of Maine Historical Society

www.MaineMemory.net

Everyone has a story...

WHAT'S YOURS?



"One day, she decided she would make me a nun's habit... I recall feeling the material was "itchy" when my grandmother was fitting the outfit on me, and I recall her making me stand still on a stool while she pinned the pieces on me ... I remember that as the girls swarmed me the in main room, several of them asked me "will

My Maine Stories is an online storytelling forum hosted on Maine Memory Network. People can share experiences, family or town histories, and memories of their lives in Maine through writing, video, and photographs.

Share YOUR story and make history!

Launching in January at mainememory.net/mymainestories

Maine Memory Network is made possible in part by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Maine Historical Society has been awarded a \$149,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to digitize, catalog, and provide free online access through Maine Memory Network to 1,000 images in our early Maine photograph collection—including daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, and tintypes dating from ca. 1845 through the Civil War—as well as 25,000 glass plate negatives from *The Portland Press Herald*, ca. 1917-1940.

Follow @mainehistory on social media and sign up for our weekly e-Connection at mainehistory.org for information on related Maine Memory Network exhibits and an online guide to these incredible collections. The project is scheduled to be completed in July 2018, with images becoming available online at mainememory.net throughout the process.



Daguerreotype of unidentified family, ca. 1856-1859. Vickery-Shettleworth Collection of Early Maine Photographs.



SAVE THE DATE! Join Maine Historical Society for our biggest event of the year—The *Magical History Tour* on Saturday, May 13, 2017! The *Magical History Tour* is your ticket to 10 fascinating historical places in Portland that are not usually open to the public. Travel at your own speed on this self-guided, family-friendly event. The sites are top secret until we unveil them at Mr. Longfellow’s Cocktail Party on Friday, May 12, this year at the historic State Theatre!

4th Annual Maine History Maker Award

Celebrating 40 Years of LGBTQ Community Struggle, Empowerment, and Progress

Each year, MHS recognizes a contemporary citizen who is shaping life in Maine today through the Maine History Maker Award. On October 19, 2016 we honored Mary Bonauto, Civil Rights Attorney and Civil Rights Project Director at GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), who successfully argued for marriage equality in front of the Supreme Court.

The evening began at First Parish Church with an engaging presentation from Nancy Cott, Jonathan Trumbull Professor of American History at Harvard University, describing historians’ contributions and their effectiveness in the legal struggle for equal marriage rights from 1999 to 2015. Cott revealed that one of the many ways historians helped was providing evidence to contest the commonly perceived “fact” that the parameters of marriage have always been the same.

Pat Peard, chair of law firm Bernstein Shur’s Education Practice Group and a distinguished volunteer with the American Civil Liberties Union of Maine, followed Cott with a heartfelt tribute to Bonauto and a look at her manifold legal victories throughout New England. That unmarried couples can adopt children in Maine is because of Bonauto, Peard pointed out.

Before presenting the award, MHS Executive Director Steve Bromage remarked that Mary Bonauto is both an architect and a brick layer. “It is the greatest thing to work on the ground making a difference in people’s lives,” said Bonauto as she accepted the honor.

Bromage then led Bonauto; Peard; Gia Drew, president of MaineTransNet; and Matt Moonen, Maine State Representative and executive director of EqualityMaine in a panel discussion on the future of the LGBTQ fight for equal rights. A moving performance from the Maine Gay Men’s Chorus capped off the festivities at First Parish Church, before attendees strolled down Congress Street for an after-party in the MHS Brown Library.

Proceeds from the event are helping MHS launch an expanded effort to capture the history of Maine’s LGBTQ community on Maine Memory Network.



Mary Bonauto receives the Maine History Maker Award from Executive Director Steve Bromage.



Left to right: Steve Bromage, MHS Executive Director; Pat Peard, chair of Bernstein Shur’s Education Practice Group; Gia Drew, President of MaineTransNet; and Matt Moonen, Maine State Rep. and Executive Director of EqualityMaine.



> The Maine Gay Men’s Chorus.

In Memory

GAY MARKS, VOLUNTEER & COLLEAGUE

On September 17, 2016, MHS lost a dear friend, Gay Marks. Gay, an archivist, came to MHS in 2004 seeking volunteer work. What a blessing for us! For the next several years—even after being hired as the archivist at the New England Osteopathic Heritage Center at the University of New England—Gay continued to volunteer. She tackled some of our most difficult collections, many of which had been abandoned by others who found the task too daunting. The most complicated of these was the First Parish Church records (Coll. 1919). Gay diligently spent 18 months bringing order to the collection. Her finding aid allows researchers to make their way through this rich collection, which not only documents a history of the church, but also social history in Portland.

Other collections processed by Gay include The Maine Reader (Coll. 2132) and Growing up in Maine (Coll. 2117), which contain the research files created by Samuella and Charles Shain for their books by the same name. She also worked her magic on The Charles Bridges' Civil War records (Coll. 2114), the Janice Parkinson-Tucker research collection (Coll. 2259), and several

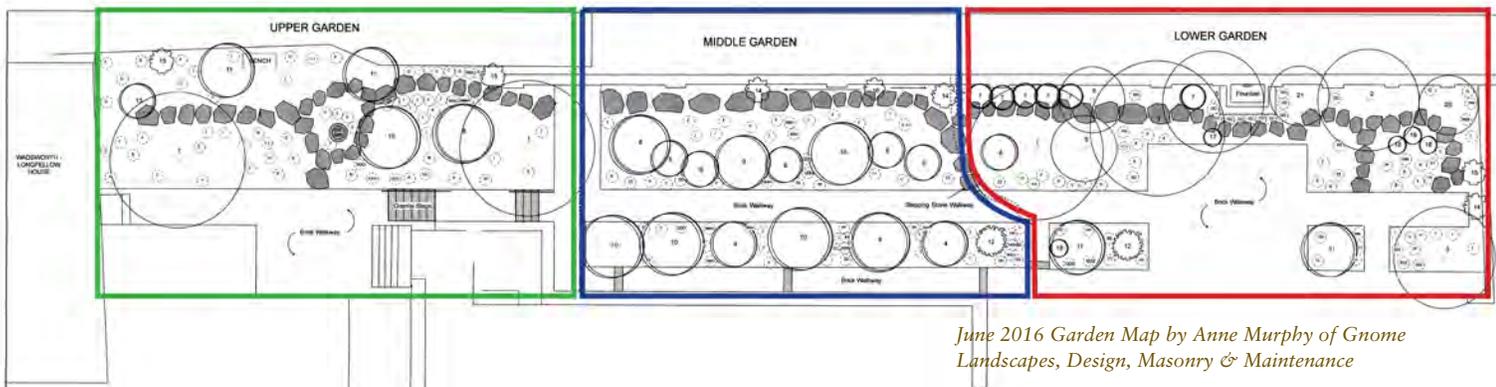


Nancy Noble and Gay Marks

others. Each of Gay's finding aids was a work of art, a "literary masterpiece" in the world of finding aids. She put care and thought into processing each collection, and pushed her way over each hurdle that arose in her quest for creating order out of chaos.

Eventually Gay left MHS to pursue other opportunities, and a few years ago moved with her husband, Bart, to North Carolina to be closer to family. She lost her long-time battle with cancer at the age of 71. She will be dearly missed by many of us in the archival community in Maine.

*Nancy Noble
Archivist/Cataloger*



June 2016 Garden Map by Anne Murphy of Gnome Landscapes, Design, Masonry & Maintenance

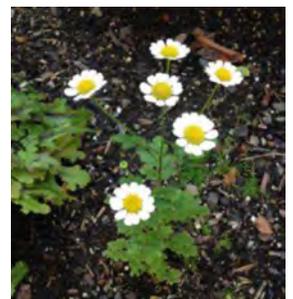
What & Where in the Garden

Introducing the Longfellow Garden Plant Identification guide! Organized and compiled by the Longfellow Garden Club, this digital document provides a comprehensive overview and map of the garden's inhabitants. Accompanying each listing is a common and botanical name, image, specific location, and

an indication whether the plant or flower would have been found in the garden in 1926. Since the late 18th century, three generations of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's family lived in the adjacent house and kept a garden. In 1901, Henry's sister, Anne Longfellow Pierce, bequeathed the house and grounds to Maine Historical Society. When Pearl Wing started the Longfellow Garden Club in 1924 the garden

had grown neglected. The club hired landscape architect Myron Lamb to design a Colonial Revival style garden, and started a fund for its upkeep. The Longfellow Garden Club has tended the grounds ever since. The Guide is available to view online at: hwl-longfellow.org/house_garden. The Longfellow Garden is free and open to the public May through October.

Images courtesy of the Longfellow Garden Club



SPOTLIGHT ON MAINE MEMORY
NETWORK CONTRIBUTING PARTNER,
NORCROSS HERITAGE TRUST

Rainbow on the Water

1903 was a promising year for the railroad village of Norcross. Founded just a decade earlier when the Bangor and Aroostook established a station beside North Twin Lake, Norcross provided unfettered access to the rich wilderness beyond. The Penobscot Log Driving Company had worked the West Branch since the 1840's, and the paper mill now needed vast quantities of pulp wood. Encouraged by regular railroad advertisements, sportsmen were disembarking at Norcross on their way to hunt, fish, and canoe at the guided camps that had sprung up along the lakes.

For brothers Frederick and Albert Fowler, business was robust. Norcross Transportation Company (NTCo) operated a hotel and supply store, plus a small fleet of steamboats. They couldn't keep up with demand.

A new steamboat was built for them, right on the shore of Norcross Cove. At 65 feet long and 18 wide—larger than the others—this one could handle everything: ferrying passengers, towing logs, and pulling large freight scows. They named her *Rainbow*.

By 1908, she had been joined by *Orra* and *Minnehaha*, built onsite to replace the first boats.

Rainbow and the others traversed the Lower Lakes on a schedule coordinated with the trains, which arrived several times daily. A full circuit took all day, from the Norcross wharf up North Twin to the head of Pemadumcook,

FOUNDED: The Norcross Heritage Trust was founded in 2006 to preserve, promote, and interpret the commercial, social, cultural, and family history of Norcross, Maine and the surrounding area.

COLLECTIONS: The Trust collects and preserves items related to the history of Norcross, many of which were originally saved by Kate Fowler and her husband Albert. Albert's varied work as cofounder of the NTCo, postmaster, and co-owner of Norcross House and the supply store enabled Kate to amass a great deal of documentation about the life of the village. He was also an avid photographer—she organized



↑ *Scow construction at Norcross Cove, ca. 1905. Approximately 50-55 feet long, 14-16 wide, and six deep, scows hauled cargo of immense size or weight.*

to the landing at Ambajejus, then home, a distance of 35 miles.

An October 1910 freight charge indicates the NTCo hauled a staggering 200,000 pounds in less than three weeks—and that was for just one customer, the Great Northern Paper Company. The rush was on to stock the logging camps before the lakes froze. One day, they transported two full boxcars of oats, brought down to the docks on a spur line. Weighing 80 pounds each, the 600 or more sacks had to be loaded on the scows by hand. Also shipped that day were 820 pounds of gasoline, 100 pounds of carrots, 900 of fish, 240 of tripe, and 3,030 of potatoes. In addition to similar staples and six horses, subsequent trips delivered construction materials for perhaps two buildings: 10,800 pounds of lumber, two doors and frames, and four stoves, plus tarpaper and boxes of glass and hardware.

As the vitality of area lumber operations diminished—and the paper company expanded its own fleet—*Rainbow* fell victim to the changing times. Too large to remain practical, she was hauled out of the water for the last time in the early 1920's. She had seen Norcross through its heyday.

Mindi Marlee
Newsletter Editor
Norcross Heritage Trust



↑ *Constructing Orra, Norcross Cove, 1905. Unidentified workers lay the keel and ribs.*



↑ *On their way to sporting camps, passengers board Rainbow at the new Norcross wharf, ca. 1910.*

ALL IMAGES FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF NORCROSS HERITAGE TRUST. TO SEE MORE, VISIT mainememory.net AND SEARCH FOR NORCROSS.

the images that he captured of everyday life in the area. Their son Frederick, an amateur historian and photographer, donated many of these materials to the Norcross Heritage Trust, including the guest books of Norcross House and the business ledgers of the NTCo and the supply store, as well as photographs, scrapbooks, oral histories, and other memorabilia and ephemera.

VISIT: With the invaluable assistance of Maine Memory Network, we are able to share some materials digitally at mainememory.net. There you will find an abundance of Maine history collections to browse, and a simple search for

"Norcross" will take you to ours. Further Norcross information can be found at norcrossheritagetrust.org, including our newsletter found at norcrossheritagetrust.org/newsletters.

RESEARCH: Other materials—still in the process of being preserved and organized—are available by special request, permission, and appointment.

CONTACT:

George Fowler, Chairman of the Norcross Heritage Trust;
gwfowler1@gmail.com.



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Garden open to the public during the season
from 10:00am-5:00pm

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