

DURHAM HISTORY TOUR



Presented by: The Durham Historical Society

Tour Guide: Tia Wilson

DURHAM HISTORY TOUR

Thank you for joining us on the first Durham Historical Bus Tour! All proceeds will be used to help restore the Durham West Methodist Church to its original beauty. We are all very proud of our little town and its rich history. We hope at the end of the tour, you will leave with a smile on your face, not only from the stories you will hear, but hopefully from your own memories of Durham that have been awoken. Please join us after the tour at the Durham Eureka Center to share your own stories and memories with other locals and refresh your bellies with donuts and fresh apple cider! Again, thank you all for joining us on this tour, we hope you enjoy every minute of it. -- Sincerely, *The Durham Historical Society & The Durham Historic District Commission*

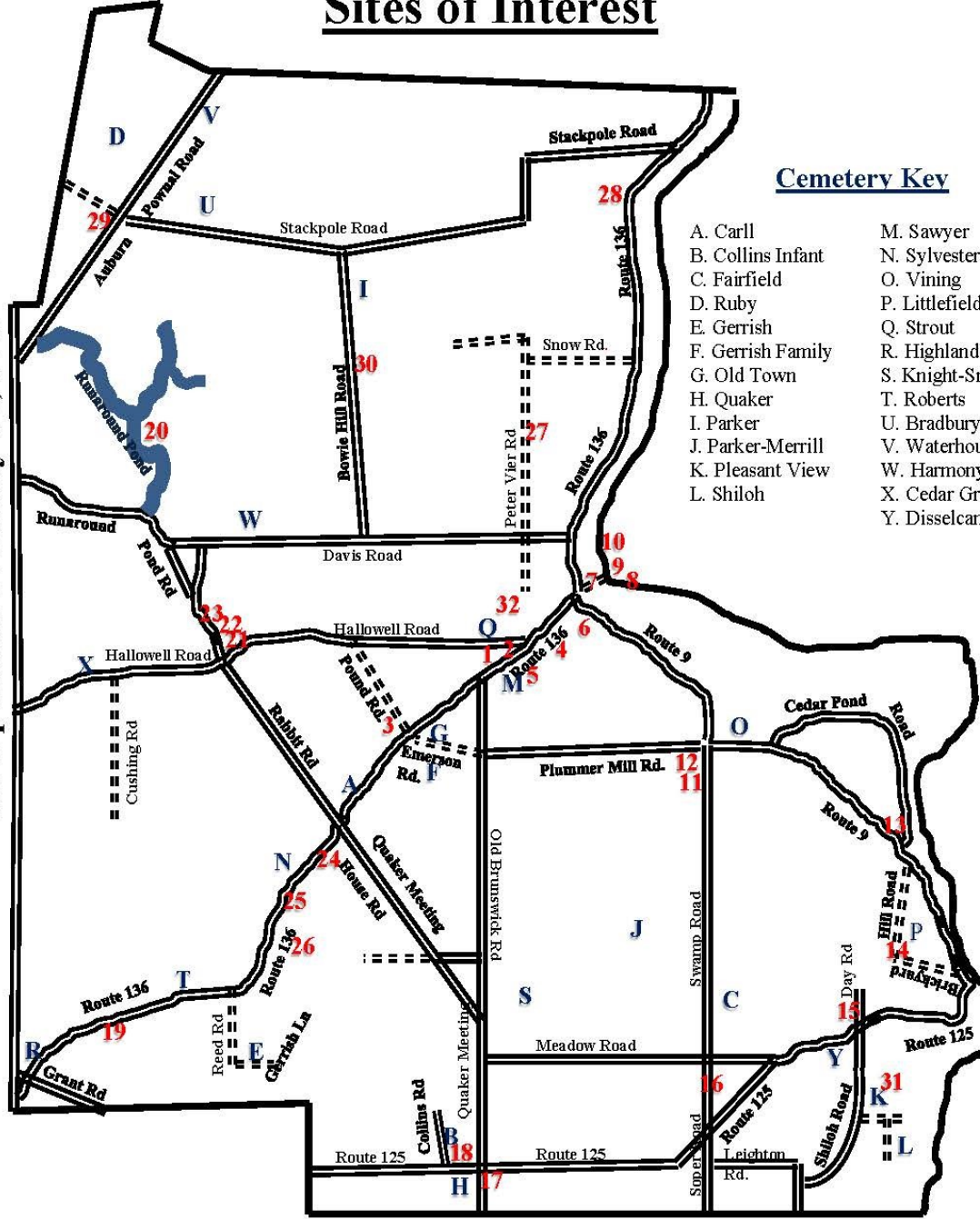
A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF WHAT WILL BE ON THE TOUR

Church Histories
Underground Railroad
Cemeteries
Old School Houses
Grist Mills
Shiloh
Bagley Inn
Stephen King
Confederate Soldier
Quaker Meeting
The Old Cattle Pound
Sylvester's Dance Hall

Durham, Maine

Incorporated February 17, 1789

Sites of Interest



Cemetery Key

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| A. Carll | M. Sawyer |
| B. Collins Infant | N. Sylvester |
| C. Fairfield | O. Vining |
| D. Ruby | P. Littlefield |
| E. Gerrish | Q. Strout |
| F. Gerrish Family | R. Highland |
| G. Old Town | S. Knight-Snow |
| H. Quaker | T. Roberts |
| I. Parker | U. Bradbury |
| J. Parker-Merrill | V. Waterhouse |
| K. Pleasant View | W. Harmony |
| L. Shiloh | X. Cedar Grove |
| | Y. Disselcamp |

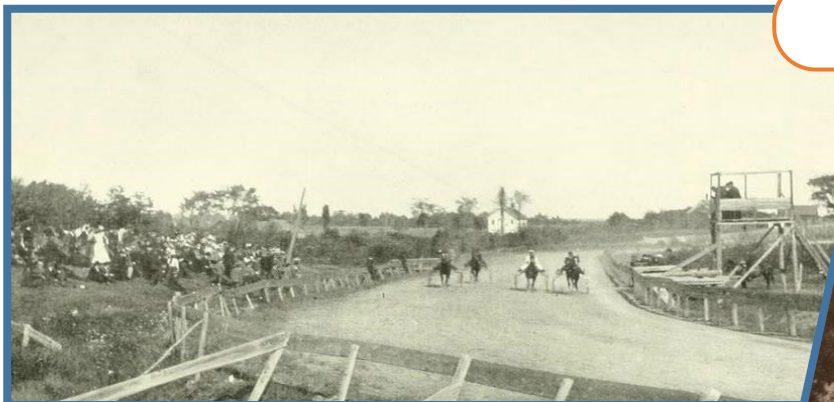
Historical Sites Key

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Durham Elementary | 11. Old Baptist Church (pvt home) | 22. Methodist Church |
| 2. Eureka Grange #7 | 12. Site of Old Plummer Mill | 23. Stephen King's Childhood Home |
| 3. Old Cattle Pound | 13. Cedar Pond School (pvt home) | 24. Bagley Inn (oldest house) |
| 4. Bend School (pvt home) | 14. Old Brickyard & school | 25. Site of Sylvester's Dance Hall |
| 5. Little Brown Church Memorial | 15. Crosman Corner School | 26. Bliss School |
| 6. Site of O.H. Lamb Store | 16. Soper School | 27. Old School #13 |
| 7. Bandstand - Site of A. Merrill hotel | 17. Quaker Meeting House | 28. River School |
| 8. Site of Old Ferry Crossing | 18. South Durham School | 29. Rice School |
| 9. Union Church/ Old Town Hall | 19. Osgood School | 30. Parker School |
| 10. Site of Old Masonic Hall | 20. Runaround Pond | 31. Shiloh |
| | 21. Methodist Corner School | 32. Site of Old Fair Grounds |

As you follow along in your booklet, please take note of the number and letter references. These will match up to the corresponding number or letter on the Durham Map included in this booklet. Please be sure to keep your booklet after the tour as a keepsake.

First Stop—Eureka Grange #7

The Eureka Grange #7 (organized in 1874 and the Grange Hall built in 1906), is no longer active as a Grange organization, the building has been restored for use as The Eureka Community Center. The building sits at the intersection of Routes 9 and 136 across the street from the Durham Fire Department. If you are interested in coordinating a particular event or would like to see an event held at the Eureka Community Center, please contact the Durham Town Office.



Durham's Old Race Track

In the mid 1800's, Durham had a fairground on the Hallowell Road opposite the Eureka Grange Hall. The grounds covered approximately thirty acres and boasted a fine racetrack. The last horse race was held in 1890's!



Old Fire House



In 1948, a group of volunteers formed the first fire department in the town of Durham. In 1950, the department became incorporated, making it the Durham Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. At the time, it was supported strictly by the fundraising efforts of the volunteers. They had minimal equipment and did not have a station until sometime in the 1950's. In November of 1974, the department became a municipal department when the property, building and equipment were all turned over to the town. At that time the town purchased its first new engine.

Durham's Very Own Unknown Confederate Soldier

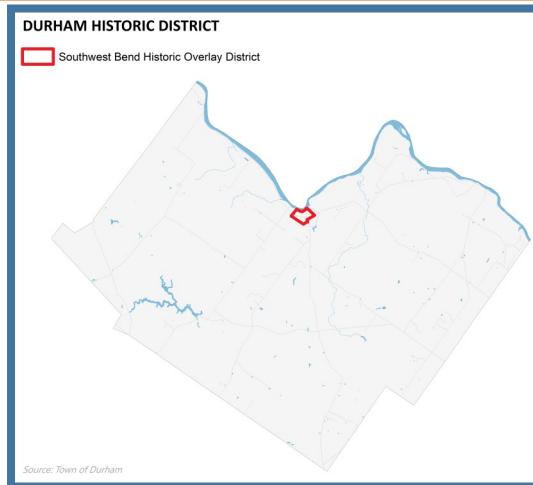
According to one account, "A Durham, Maine couple found a man in a confederate uniform in the casket that was supposed to contain the body of their son. Unsure of where they should send the casket, they buried the man in the corner of Strout Cemetery." In another tale, "the fallen confederate was mistakenly sent to Durham, Maine instead of Durham, North Carolina." A third version suggests that "the soldier died on his way to Canada after escaping from a New York prison."-- from the book *Maine Remembers Those Who Served*. 2001 Dept. of Sec. of State.



Durham's Historic District

Durham has a Historic District ordinance that was first adopted in 2002 to prevent inappropriate alterations to buildings of historic or architectural value.

Currently, the Southwest Bend Historical Overlay District is the only established historical district in Durham. The Southwest Bend District is located in the north central region of Durham adjacent to the southwest bend in the Androscoggin River. The Union Church is the most significant historic structure located in this district. The 1873 Atlas of Androscoggin County shows the Southwest Bend neighborhood was a major center for the surrounding community, featuring a cooper shop, a hotel, a grocery store, post office, and a shoe store.

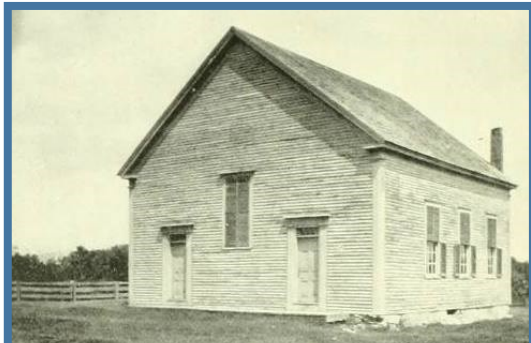


South West Bend School House



This photo is of the South West Bend school, which still stands and is now a private residence. It is located on route 136 right near the Route 9 intersection heading towards the Durham Community School. This photo was taken sometime near the year 1900. The school house had two openings. The one on the left was the boys entry, and the right was for the girls. If you look closely, you will see two little African American girls in this photo.

The Little Brown Church



"It happened on a very windy day, April 26th, 1935. That was the day the Wesley Day Barn caught fire from a grass fire. The wind was blowing fiercely and sparks were flying towards the Eureka Grange Hall and the small church. The Grange Hall was saved, but the church burned to the ground. Some of the contents were able to be saved, including the beautiful old horsehair sofa and two matching side chairs, the large altar Bible, the flip-top altar table, the twelve cane seated choir chairs and the old red bookcase. It was a very sad day when the town had to see a pile of black embers where the little church once stood. From that time on, occasional services were held at the Union Church. At the time of the fire, there were only five members of the church." -An excerpt from "The History of the First Congregational Church of Durham" - Written by Maxine Herling. This Congregational Church was built in approximately 1845. There is now a plaque and a small park located on Route 136 where the church used to stand.

One of Durham's Old Town Halls

The old town hall which used to be located at South West Bend, held its first meeting on March 14, 1842. The thirty-six by forty foot building housed highway equipment on the ground level, with the selectmen's office on the upper level. When the building fell into disrepair, it was torn down to make way for the construction of the First Congregational Church in 1951. The church was built on land given to them by the Eveleth family heirs.



Durham's Congregational Church History



On March 9, 1776 the Congregational Church was formally founded and the Reverend Jacob Herrick was ordained as the Minister of the church. This church once stood on the grounds of where the Old Town Cemetery is. The old North Church was built on these grounds in 1782, because the towns people felt it was important that Royalsborough had a public place to worship and a proper place for a burying ground. When Rev. Herrick died in December of 1832, he was buried in these burial grounds next to his wife. After his death, services at this church stopped. In 1850, the building was sold, taken down and carried to Porter's Landing in Freeport where it was used as a warehouse. The second Congregational church was built in 1845 on what is now called the Range Road off of Route 136. That church was

later relocated to its final resting place across from the Eureka Grange Hall, where it would burn down to ashes in April of 1935. From there, services were held at the Union Church until the new church could be built. From here a community of dedicated worshipers came together and signed a mortgage to have a new church built. These men signed willingly, knowing that if they defaulted on the loan, the bank could pick any one on more of their properties to cover the cost of the building. Those who put everything on the line to give the town a new church are: Louis Bowie, Harold Ward, Lyndon Sylvester, Edwin Herling, Ernest Grover, and Harold Herling. The dedication of the new church took place in September 1951.



The Town Bandstand

The bandstand at Southwest Bend, built in the mid 1840's, was located in the center of the junction of Routes 9 and 136. It remained there until the state paved the highway in the late 1940's. At that time, it was hauled off to the side of the roadway and left in the dirt to decay. In 1950, a group of interested neighbors received permission to move it to the town lot that was once occupied by the Merrill Hotel. Manpower and horsepower moved it to where it stands today. It was repaired, painted, and the plot of land was renamed Memorial Park.

Out in the front of the bandstand, a bronze plaque was placed on a granite slab as a memorial to veterans.



O. H. Lamb Store



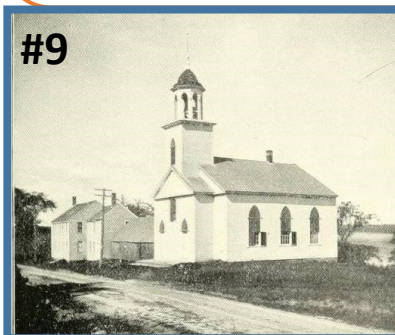
The O.H. Lamb served as a general store for over 75 years. Town records show that it changed hands several times through its history. First owned by Rovillo Strout as early as 1872, and then sold to William H. Ward shortly before the turn of the century. Later the property was acquired by Orland Lamb, who later sold it to Clifton McAllister. Clifton then sold it to a man from Auburn by the last name Black. In June of 1949, the store burned to the ground. During the two hour battle with flames, two mishaps occurred. One being the Deputy Fire Warden suffered a heart attack in the excitement of the fire, and another 18 year old Lisbon fire fighter suffered from a broken arm after falling over a culvert while handling the hose.

Durham has had several ferries through the years. Ferries were extremely important to the people of Durham/Royalsborough because at the time of the ferries, bridges did not exist between Durham and Lisbon, or Durham and Lewiston. Some of the names of past ferries are: Garcelon's, Dingley's, Dain's, Beal's Landing, Hildreth's, Josselyn's, Jones', Estes', and Dyer's. One of the last known ferries would be McGray's which operated at Southwest bend. Three bridges were built at Southwest Bend before the ferry was in operation. The first bridge at the bend was built in 1819 and fell in 1829, killing one man. The next two bridges would be built in 1833 and 1839, both falling and sweeping four more men down the river.

Durham's Ferries

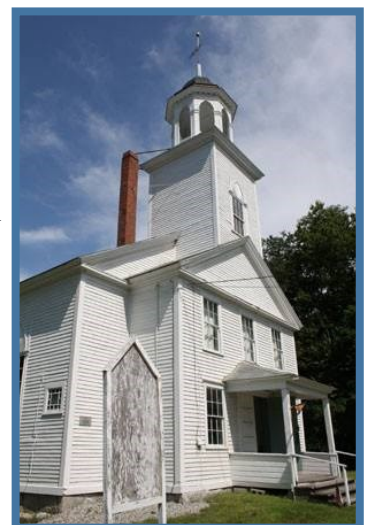


Union Church/Old Town Hall



In 1835, the Union Church at Southwest Bend was built. After being empty for years, it was remodeled in 1927. It was then used by the town selectmen as Town Offices, until the Town Hall was built in 1986. After the Congregational Church burned in the thirties, the building was occasionally used as their church. The Durham Historical Society became its caretaker and restored the steeple that houses a Revere Bell, cast in Boston by Paul Revere's son! The

building was turned into a museum with many local pictures, papers and artifacts. Occasionally an open house is held, school children take tours, fund raising sales take place and the Historical Society meetings are held there on the third Tuesday of the month. The building was placed on the National Register of Historical Places in August of 2002.

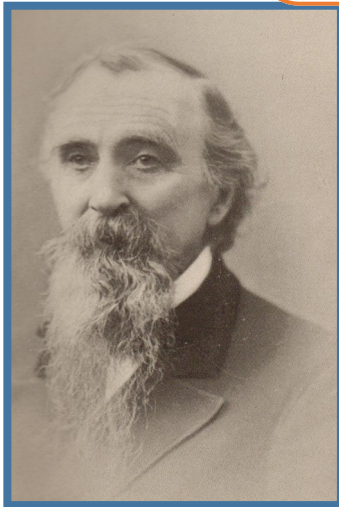




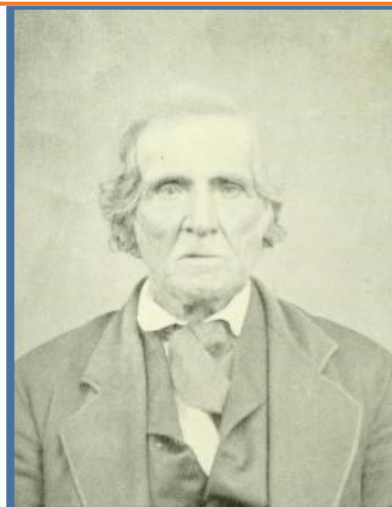
Acacia Lodge

The Acacia Lodge of Free Masons was established in 1845 and would be later torn down in the mid 1900's to make way for a new building just up the road. The new building was constructed in the 1970s. Before it was the Masonic Lodge, it was the home of George W. Strout.

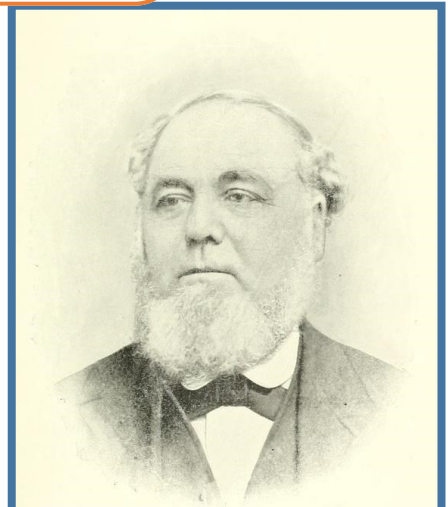
Well Known Durham Ancestors



David B. Strout was Durham's first Dentist



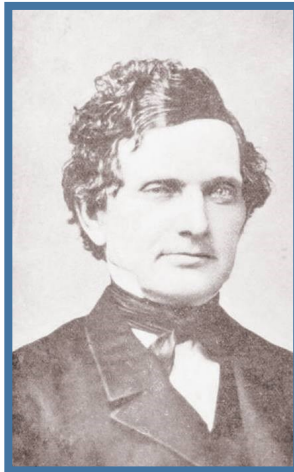
David Bowie was Durham's first Bakery Owner



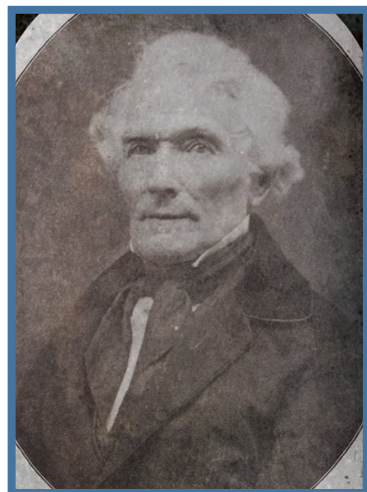
Dr. William Wright was one of Durham's first doctors



Joanna Roberts Turner was generous in feeding the hungry and helping the town orphans



Jacob Roak was a successful shoe maker in Durham



Jonathan Merrill owned a hotel and country store in town

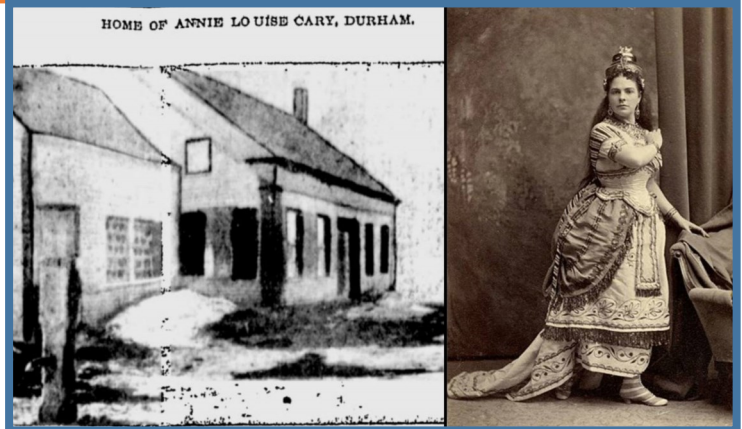
Abandoned Nudist Camp in Durham?



How many of you have heard of the nudist camp that used to exist in Durham? It is rumored that there was one off the Snow Road in the 60's and 70's and some of the kids that lived there actually attended school with other Durham students and will tell them stories about their life at the "camp". The building still stands deep in the woods.

Durham's Famous Opera Singer—Annie Louise Cary

One of the seven children born to Dr. and Mrs. Nelson Cary of Southwest Bend, Durham, Annie Louise took her first singing lesson from Joe Tyler, bandmaster of the Durham Tyler Band. It was very evident at an early age that she was musically talented. She gained recognition singing in school and church concerts, later training abroad. Miss Cary was world renowned for her beautiful contralto voice. She sang in public until her marriage to Charles Monson Raymond of New York, after which she retired from the professional life. Annie Louise Cary was a well known Durham personality.



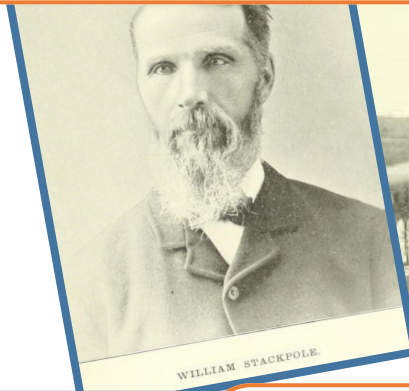
Early Durham and Its Historic Structures



Durham's Historic Settlements consisted of four districts. South West Bend, East Durham, West Durham and South Durham. Each settlement had their own shops, schools and churches. Today, Durham has 5 buildings listed with the National Register of Historic Places. Shiloh Chapel, Nathaniel Osgood Home, Bagley House (Royalsborough Inn), Methodist Church and the Union Church/Old Town Hall.

The William Stackpole Home

Located on Route 136 heading towards Auburn, this grand home once belonging to William Stackpole, was built in the 1790's by John Stackpole and still stands today overlooking the Androscoggin River.



The Samuel Robinson House

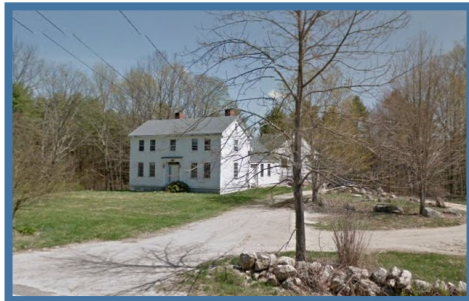


Samuel Robinson settled in Durham in 1794 on Lot 94. The house on Stackpole Road still stands and was once owned by Mae Parker. With the exception of the chimneys, it is mostly original. The Robinson family owned and lived in the home until 1873.

Slavery in Durham?

When you think of Durham Maine, slavery doesn't come to

mind. But back in the early 1800's, David Crossman married a woman by the name of Sarah Bounds of Maryland. A part of her inheritance from her Grandfather was three slaves. These were the only slaves ever owned in Durham. When Sarah arrived to Maine, she freed her slaves, and from there they moved on and started families in Brunswick. Jennie Deshelle married Tobias Hill of Brunswick in 1808, and another slave was John Meshack.



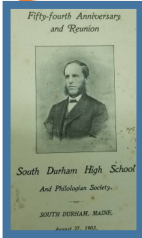
Another story of slavery is the Underground Railroad in Durham. Was it a rumor? Was it real? There are stories of a home on Route 125 (Pinkham Brook Road), having a room in the attic that would hide away slaves.

The Collins-Johnson House was built in 1777 on Lot 4. It has been in the same family since 1784. The current owners are the seventh and eighth generation of the family that has lived in this home.

And of course there is the Ruby Cemetery. Located on Auburn Pownal Road deep in the woods and enclosed by a rock wall, it is the final resting place of nine well known African American family members from Portland. Many graves are unmarked, but the three stones that remain are of Samuel and his two sons, Eli and George. Samuel Ruby's family was well known for its involvement in the Anti-Slavery movement.



Durham Once Had a High School



In the fall of 1849, Charles C. Cobb opened Durham's first High School in the "Little Red Schoolhouse", which at the time was the only building available, and was severely dilapidated. The students didn't let the buildings' condition stray them from their dedication to their education. Charles Stetson taught the students higher mathematics, Greek and Latin to prepare them for College. A 54th Anniversary of the first graduating class was held at the Friends Meeting House on August 27th, 1903.

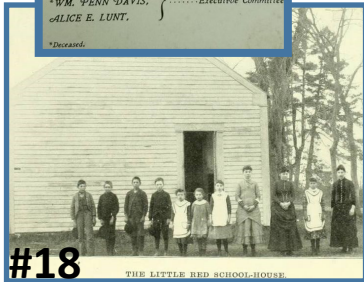
Officers.

ALONZO DAY President
 CLARA LUNT SYLVESTER Vice President
 FESSENDEN I. DAY Treasurer
 W.M. R. G. ESTES Secretary
 CHAS. W. WEBBER, } Executive Committee
 W.M. PENN DAVIS, }
 ALICE E. LUNT, }



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Many Durham residents remember attending this one room school house on Bowie Hill Road. The Parker School House is now privately owned, and is still standing (barely). Though it is in rough shape, it is still part of our beloved history. Tucked away, just off the road, this little school house is easily missed, but the childhood memories are not easily forgotten.



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THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL-HOUSE.

Education in Durham has come a long way! Back in 1937, the Town was educating 184 elementary students in eight, one-room schools houses, and in one, two-room school.

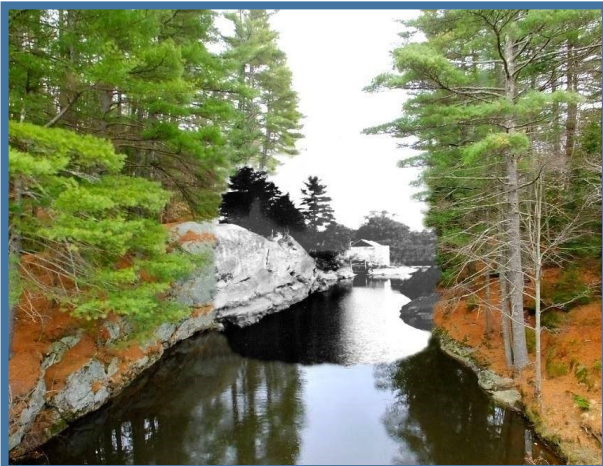
Another 50 secondary students were being educated in the High Schools of

neighboring towns. Students went to school on foot or road in relative comfort on one of several Town-supplied horse drawn wagons. The average teacher was paid \$14 a week or \$462 per year.

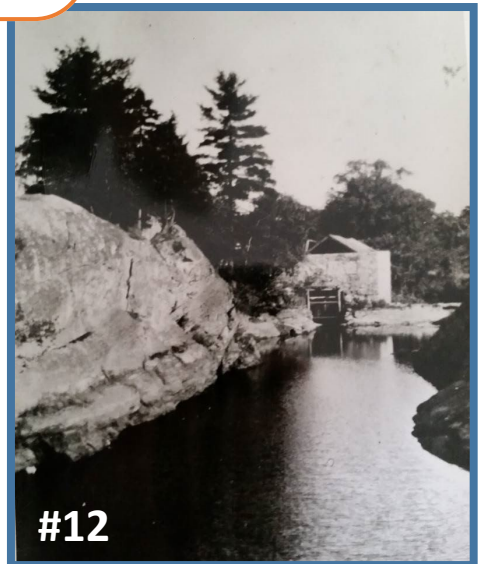


In the early 1960's, Durham residents found themselves touring the newest and proudest addition to their school system, a four-classroom complex (no longer standing). The new facility was a far cry from the old one-room schools that the town has closed and abandoned over the years.

The Old Chandler Mill Site at Runaround Pond



In 1777, the first sawmill was built at Runaround Pond by Judah Chandler. At the time, Runaround Pond was then named Chandler Stream after Judah Chandler and his Gristmill. A second sawmill was built in 1797. The



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present mill site was built by a "Richardson" of Brunswick and was called the Stone Mill. All that remains now are a few foundations from the old Mill. Beautiful hiking trails are available and highly recommended.

Stephen King's Stomping Grounds

In the next few pages of this booklet, you will read about places Stephen King explored as a child, and where the inspiration behind some of his most popular books came from. You are now entering West Durham Maine. It is where his mother brought him in 1958 at just 11 years old. It's not coincidental that scenes from IT and The Body (a film called Stand by Me) were about children that are 11 or 12 years old and take place in the time period of King's upbringing in Durham. After King's father left when he was only 2 years old, his mother Ruth brought King and his brother David back to Maine to care for her Elderly parents, landing them in a small house in West Durham, next to the old Methodist Church.

Harmony Hill Cemetery

Harmony Grove Cemetery, located on Davis Road, is one of Stephen King's childhood stomping grounds. It is here where King got the inspiration for "Harmony Hill Cemetery" where Mike Ryerson digs up undead Danny Glick in the novel 'Salem's Lot'. King and one of his childhood friends once spent the night camping among the stones. Spending the night in this small cemetery surely gave King many grand ideas for some of his most popular novels.



His Connection to Runaround Pond

Just beyond the graveyard is Runaround Pond, a swampy watering hole where King and a childhood friend supposedly saw a dead body for the first time. King's memory of this event may have inspired the novella "The Body," which was later turned into the film Stand By Me. King freely admits that "the leech incident" really happened here. Runaround Pond is also where Johnny Smith has his formative accident on the ice at the beginning of *The Dead Zone*, so obviously this real-life setting was important to King.

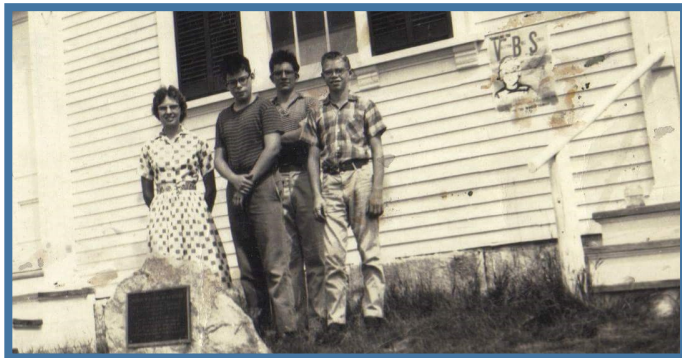


King's Childhood Home

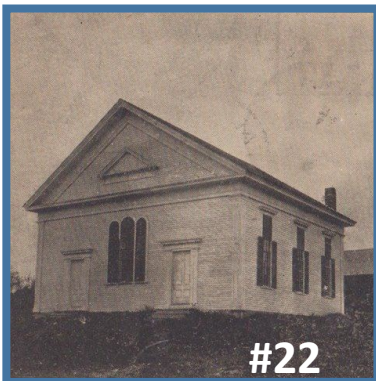
Located on Runaround Pond Road in West Methodist Corner, is the modest childhood home of Stephen King, his brother David and his Mother Ruth. Ruth brought King here when he was only 11 years old. From their home, King could see his Aunt Evelyn's large brick home and the West Methodist Church. And only a few doors down, was the small one room school house that he attended during grade school. King would later go on to graduate from Lisbon High School in 1966, where he would ride to school each day (in a converted hearse, no less!) with a girl that he claims was a lot like Carrie White.



West Methodist Church



The West Durham Methodist Church is the second oldest Methodist Church in New England. Built in the early 19th century and significantly restyled in 1867, it is a fine example of Greek Revival architecture with added Italianate features. The congregation for which it was built grew out of a

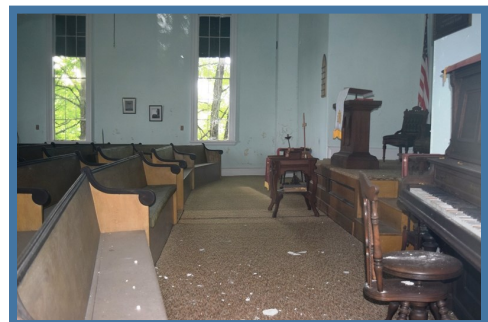


Methodist revival meeting held at the site in 1804, and was one of the first Methodist congregations in the state. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003.

As a child, King attended Vacation Bible School at the West Methodist Church. In this photo, Stephen King poses with his brother David and his friend Brian Hall in front of the West Methodist Church. In 1984, King gave a "not a sermon" titled "Huffy", during Durham Old Home Days. The Historical Society now keeps a copy of this sermon on file.



Today, the old church sits vacant and unvisited. It is in desperate need of repairs. The Durham Historical Society and Historic District Commission are on a mission to raise funds to help restore the church to its original beauty.



The One Room School House

The West Methodist School House, Located on Runaround Pond Road, and just a few doors down from King's childhood home, is where he met his first friends in Durham. Back then King wore old-fashioned, black-rimmed glasses. His hair was always appeared messy, and he was a little on the chunky side. At a young age, he really had the ability to talk and tell stories. His teacher at the one-room schoolhouse was Miss Heisler. She wasn't married and devoted her life to teaching. King was a very good student and received praise frequently for a job well done. At the time, 25 to 30 students attended grades one through eight. Many of the residents still live in town and remember King. The school had a wood stove in the back of the building and beyond that was a two-hole outhouse.



His Aunt & Uncle's House

His Aunt Ethelyn & Uncle Oren Flaws lived very close to King in Methodist Corner. In fact, they lived right across the field, and their home could be seen from his door step. It was in their attic where he first discovered his great interest of horror fiction, after discovering old and worn classic horror novels. His Aunt Ethel was also a classroom teacher in Durham and was loved by many students in town.

In 1984, Ruth Dwelley wrote a book called "The Brick House: My Memories of the Brick House in Durham, Maine". It is a wonderful memoir of her life in the Brick House. The Durham Historical Society has a copy in its records and it is well worth the read.



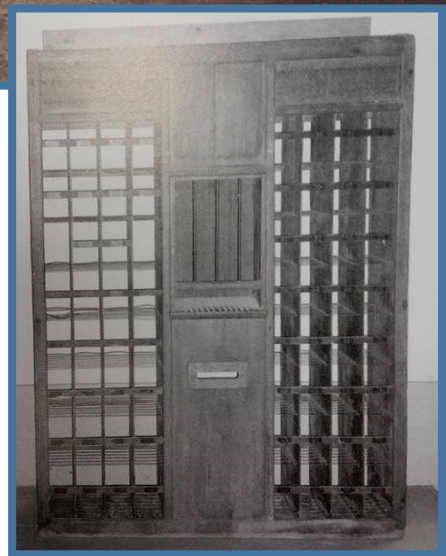
The Marsten House

The Marsten House, which is no longer standing, was an old abandoned and supposedly haunted house that King and his friends used to explore. It is where he got some of his inspiration for the book, "Salem's Lot". In the book, it was located on a road called Deep Cut Road, which is believed to be Rabbit Road. King and his friends once made a homemade horror movie there.



West Methodist Corner

This photo is what is now the intersection of Rabbit Road, Hallowell Road and Runaround Pond Road. It would be as if you were sitting on Runaround Pond Road and looking straight across to Rabbit Road. To the left in the photo is Merrill's store, which was located in what was referred to as West Durham at the time. The Merrill Store also served as West Durham's Post office. The Post office boxes are now located at the historical society. In 1950, the Merrill store was still standing. It has now been torn down.



William Merrill at his store in Durham, which was located at Methodist Corner. William had a twin brother named Joseph.

The Royalsborough Inn

Built in 1772, the Royalsborough Inn at the Bagley House has a colorful and interesting history. The house, the oldest in town, was built by Capt. O. Israel Bagley, one of the first settlers of “the town of Royalsborough” (now called Durham). The house was the site of many firsts – the first worship service in town took place in it on February 23, 1774 and the first public town meeting took place in the Ell. Children were taught here until a schoolhouse could be built. Capt. O. Israel Bagley, also opened the area's first store on the grounds of the Inn, and his "public house" served as the center of town in the days of the Revolutionary War. The



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house was also the home of the Bliss family for over 176 years and was operated as a dairy farm. In 1982, the Burns family bought the house at auction. The house was painstakingly restored, literally from the ground up. By preserving the history and heritage of the house, it once again became a place to welcome travelers, as Capt. Bagley had intended.—From the Royalsborough Inn Website

Sylvester's Dance Hall

In 1917 the Sylvester Family built a dance hall in Durham. It was located on Route 136 near the powerlines. In 1944, the dance hall collapsed due to the weight of the snow after a storm. At the time, the building was one of the largest pavilions of its kind in the state. Many of the town locals say, “If only those walls could talk, the stories would be endless”.



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Harold Sylvester dance hall being built on Route 136 in Durham, Maine

The Nathaniel Osgood Home

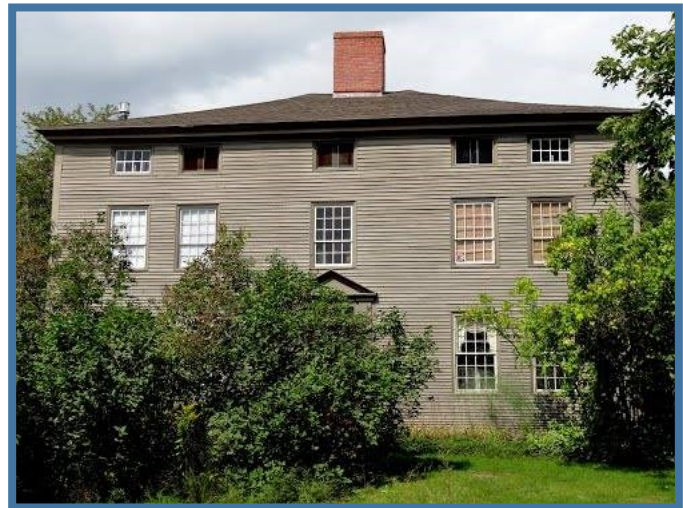


The Nathaniel Osgood House is a historic house on Maine State Route 136 in Durham, Maine. Built in 1785, early in the town's settlement history, it is a well-preserved example of Federal period architecture. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985.

The Nathaniel Osgood House is located in southern Durham, on the west side of Royalsborough Road (Maine State Route 136). It is a large, three story wood frame structure, with a hip roof, central chimney, clapboard siding, and granite foundation. It is oriented facing roughly south. Its main facade is five

bays wide, with a central entrance flanked by pilasters and topped by a transom and gabled pediment. Windows on the first two floors are 12-over-12 sash, while the third-floor windows are eight-pane fixed sash. On the east (street-facing) side, there is a secondary entrance near the northern corner; that elevation is otherwise two bays wide. A single-story ell extends to the rear (north) of the main block. The interior retains high quality Federal period workmanship.

The area that became Durham was owned in the 1760s by the Pejepscot Proprietors, among them Jonathan Bagley, who served in the American Revolutionary War. Nathaniel Osgood, who served in Bagley's regiment, is believed to have purchased the land where this house stands in 1779. Osgood built this house in 1785; it is one of Maine's best examples of the Federal period four-square hip-roofed central chimney plan.—*Information from Wikipedia*



Did you know.... That Durham was once called Royalsborough and was part of Cumberland County. Royalsborough was incorporated as Durham on February 17, 1789. At that time, 724 people lived here!

Quaker Meeting House

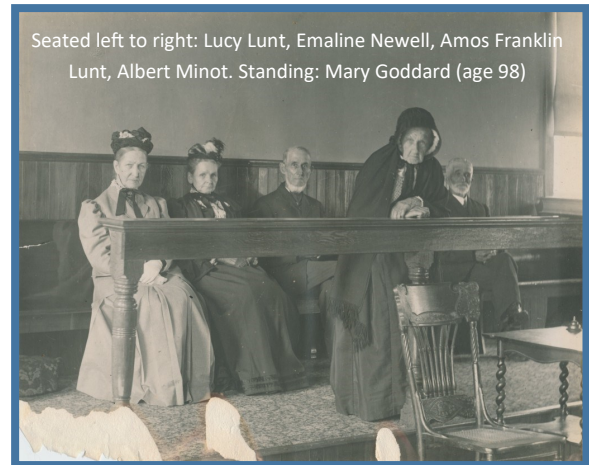


#17

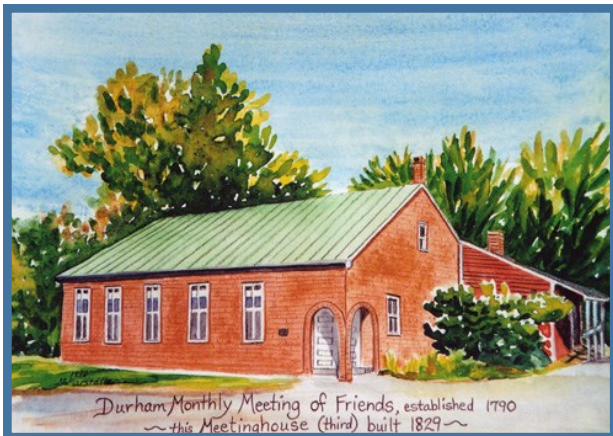
Members of the Society of Friends moved into what is now the town of Durham, then known as Royalsborough, in the last years of the eighteenth century, when Maine was a part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Friends came from Harpswell, Falmouth, and from Ware, New Hampshire. They held meetings for worship in the home of Joseph Estes, organizing as Durham Preparative Meeting in 1775 under Falmouth Quarterly Meeting. In 1790 Durham was set off as a separate monthly meeting in 1790, building a meetinghouse on property where the present meetinghouse stands. Over the years Durham supported Worship groups in Lewiston, Greene, Wales, Leeds, Wilton, Pownal and Litchfield.

By 1799 the meetinghouse was considered inadequate and a new house, 40 by 45 feet and two stories high, was built probably in 1800. This meetinghouse burned in 1829 and again with financial help from Quarterly Meeting a brick meetinghouse, 40 by 40 feet was built within that same year. This meetinghouse had two entrances and a wooden partition which could be lowered while men and women had separate business meetings. By 1900 a 20 by 40 foot room for after-meeting activities, known as the “vestry,” was created. Early meetinghouses were heated with two wood stoves. Around 1950 a gas stove arrived. To accommodate Sunday School, meals and fellowship activities, the vestry was extended and a classroom, restrooms and kitchen were added. In 1930 the white house across the road from the meetinghouse was acquired and has served as the parsonage. In 2010 a stage was removed adding more space for Sunday

School.



Seated left to right: Lucy Lunt, Emaline Newell, Amos Franklin Lunt, Albert Minot. Standing: Mary Goddard (age 98)



Durham Monthly Meeting of Friends, established 1790
~ this Meetinghouse (third) built 1829 ~

Durham members have served as unpaid ministers from 1790. Many Friends with Traveling Minutes both visited Durham and went forth from Durham. These included Nathan Douglas, who served from 1837 for seventy years, Emma Newell, Edward Hacker, Eli and Sibyl Jones, and Peace Jones. Durham Friends have been active in supporting and working in fields of service and mission. These fields include Kickapoo Native Americans, East Africa Yearly Meetings, Cuban Friends, Schools in Belize, Jamaica, and Ramallah in Palestine. Most recently individual members have contributed to and traveled to Kenya in support Kakamega Care Center. Individual Durham

Friends have served Yearly Meeting as Field Secretary, Office Secretary, Youth and Education Secretary, Directors of Friends Camp, and as resource leaders for Yearly Meeting. The Meeting is served by a pastor, youth minister, and a number of recorded ministers.

Shiloh "The Kingdom"



The history of Durham from 1894 until 1920 was greatly affected by the activities of a man born in nearby Bowdoinham on October 2, 1862. The story of Frank W. Sandford and his "Holy Ghost and Us Bible School" at Shiloh is just as fascinating today as it was at the turn of the century when worldwide attention was drawn toward this town.

On January 1, 1893, Mr. Sandford left a highly successful pastoral in Great Falls, New Hampshire and began traveling about in what was called "country evangelization", pledging never again to preach for a salary or to take up a collection, but to simply believe for the "Providence of God". This itinerant preaching brought him to the Christian Endeavor Society of Lisbon Falls. The Society advised him to hold meetings in Durham, and he began to do so at the Quaker

Meeting House. It was here that Mr. Sandford met local resident John Douglas, who later gave him the hilltop on which Shiloh was built.

A new gospel tent, given to the work by Mrs. Sandford's parents, was pitched in Durham on August 13, 1894. This tent, complete with chairs and organ, was placed in Sylvan Springs Grove, one of the finest stands of white pine timber in the State of Maine. Leonard Beal, the owner, freely offered the

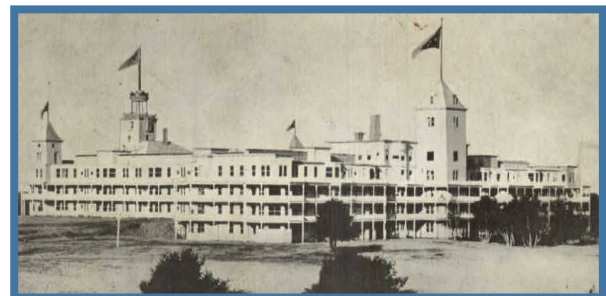
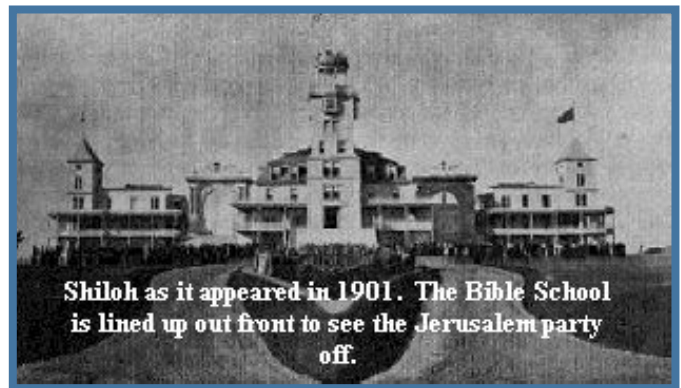
use of this beautiful site. The townspeople came in crowds, as well as many folk from neighboring towns who listened evening after evening and all day Sunday to the fiery, powerful preaching of Mr. Sandford. After some weeks, at Sylvan Springs the tent was moved to South Durham, then to West Durham, and probably to some other parts of the township. There were converts everywhere and the town buzzed with excitement.

Lisbon Falls caught the fervor and urged Mr. Sandford to pitch his tent over there. He did so on September 25 and announced the first annual convention of the World's Evangelization Crusade on Apostolic Principles. The convention was such a success that the Methodist minister in Lisbon Falls,

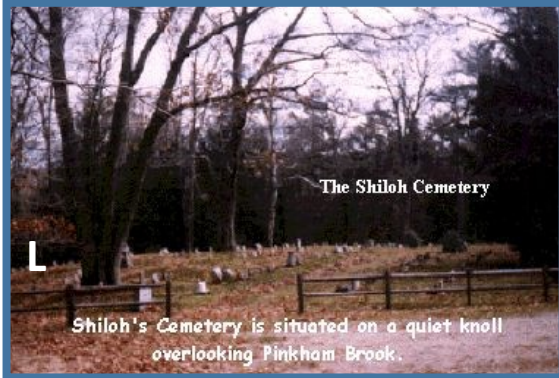
Rev. G.D. Holmes, asked Mr. Sandford to stay on.

That fall, Mr. Sandford announced that a Bible School was to commence October 3. After several moves, the new Bible School was located in Durham by February 1896. John Douglas had given Mr. Sandford a barren, useless sand hill on the back of his farm to use for a building site and on March 31 Mr. Sandford and six other men began digging for the foundation of the building now known as Shiloh. On July 4, the cornerstone was laid over an open Bible. Three ministers were ordained at the same time and the building of Shiloh and gospel work in the surrounding communities continued simultaneously in the coming weeks. Long labor to get the foundation ready for sills did not end until August 28, but before

September 30, a twenty-seven room structure, with a tower rising seven stories above the ground, was closed in and sheathed against winter weather. This amazing feat was accomplished with but one experienced builder, a convert from Richmond named Albert Pray. The rest of the workmen were nearly all students who had built nothing before larger than a chicken coop. In spite of this, on January 23, 1897 Mr. and Mrs. Sandford and Mr. and Mrs. Holland and about thirty-four students moved into the new building which remains standing to this day, and is designated as a National Historic Landmark.



Shiloh "The Kingdom" - Continued



Between 1898 and 1903 a large "extension" was also added to Shiloh proper. The final building was 260 feet long, forty feet wide, and three stories high, and this was the largest Bible School building in the world. The support given to Mr. Sandford in this project not only by his followers but by the general public can be seen from the following incident. When the extension was dedicated August 18, 1898 most of the building was done, but the interior was unfinished when Mr. Sandford preached his dedication sermon. He announced that the workmen had all been paid, the money to pay all bills was now on hand, but that \$10,000 was needed to complete the structure. Within ninety minutes after his sermon was over, \$10,000 was publicly given or pledged by the people present, much of it in tiny

amounts. Many reporters were on hand at the time and the Lewiston Journal declared: "It was such a scene as those there will not soon forget."

The industries and activities at Shiloh were similar to that of a colonial town. The print shop employed twelve people almost full time. A shoe shop turned out new shoes besides repairing used ones. Tin smiths, carpenters, coopers, and blacksmiths helped to keep things going while a post office, bakery, and a private school system containing 200 children helped to make Shiloh a self-contained community. A lot of farming was necessary to feed so many people, and most of the able-bodied men were kept busy either gardening or wood cutting. In 1905,



for example, there were 27 acres of potatoes alone to plant, hoe,

and harvest. Nothing was ever sold, but used to support the Bible School students and their families. This was the kind of busy community life that Mr. Sandford left on August 21, 1906, when two ships purchased by the Bible School for missionary voyages left for Jerusalem. The schooner yacht *Coronet* had been in use for about a year, but the barkentine *Kingdom* was on its maiden voyage for the movement. The *Kingdom* returned in a few months, but the *Coronet* left Beirut Harbor for Cyprus on December 4, 1906, beginning a voyage around the world. For that trip and others which followed, Mr. Sandford used the *Coronet* for missionary prayer for the needs of the whole world. During many months of sailing, the Shiloh community supported this missionary activity at a cost of about \$100 a month.



It was one of these trips that brought about the end of Shiloh as a Bible School. In 1911 the *Coronet* was battered by four successive hurricanes and blown far off course again and again. Food ran low and six crewmen died of scurvy. When the *Coronet* finally limped into Portland Harbor, several personal enemies led an attack by the press on Mr. Sandford. The resulting trial for manslaughter, in which Mr. Sandford refused to retain a lawyer, brought a guilty verdict. While Mr. Sandford was in the Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta (1911 – 1918) the Bible School continued to function, although smaller in size and scope; but when he returned to Durham in September of

1918, the school revived and its influence spread from coast to coast. In May of 1920, however, the students were dismissed and the Shiloh movement transferred its headquarters to Boston.

To this day Shiloh continues to function in Durham as a community church, and as a vigorous reminder of the days when it was the largest Bible School in the world and a bustling, energetic Christian community. Shiloh Chapel today is a non-denominational, Bible teaching, Christ-centered church, affiliated with the organization known as The Kingdom, headquartered in Dublin, NH. Shiloh Chapel's congregation of about 100 consists of families from Durham and surrounding communities, and has an active Sunday School program for 30 children.—*From Town of Durham Webpage*

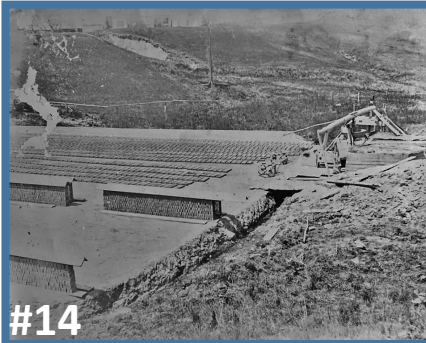
Worship services are at 10:00 a.m. Sundays, and prayer services and Bible studies are held through the week. Pastor Ron Parker invites all to come and worship, and will show visitors through the historic building by appointment.

The Old Brickyard & Tracy Homestead

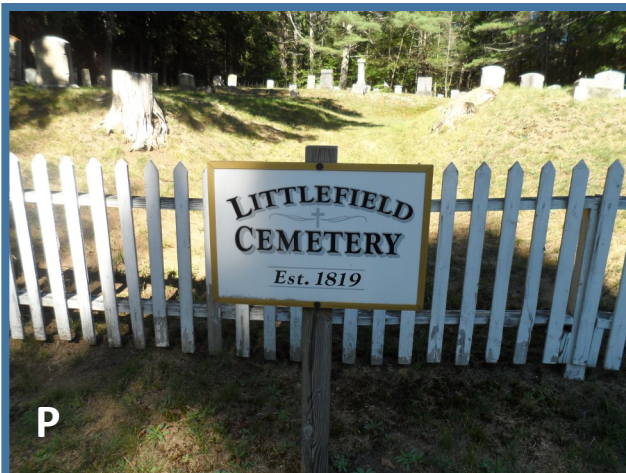


The Tracy Homestead which still stands on Brickyard Hill was built in 1826 and has had several residents over the past years. The first owners were Capt. Abel Tracy and his wife Rachel Orr Tracy. Later the house was split in two sections, and his son John Orr Tracy lived on the larger side with his family, and Abel and his wife lived on the smaller end. The Tracy families were both farmers and shoe makers and had a large farm on the hill. As years went on, John and his wife moved on and the larger side of the home was sold to Samuel Collis, who was a Railroad employee. He turned his

house into a place for out of town woolen mill workers to sleep. Every window you see on the left side of the house was a bedroom. Each bedroom included a small end table and bed. This old house was also located across



#14



P

from old Brickyard which operated in the early 1800's and supplied the bricks for most of the older buildings you see in town. The house is now a private residence of two separate families.

Brickyard hill was once home to an old school house, a car junk yard - which is rumored to have a car with a body buried in it that belonged to the Mafia, Littlefield

Cemetery—where several of the Tracy family members are buried, and an old shoe cobbler. In the woods, you can still see the soles of the old shoes that were dumped over an embankment many years ago.

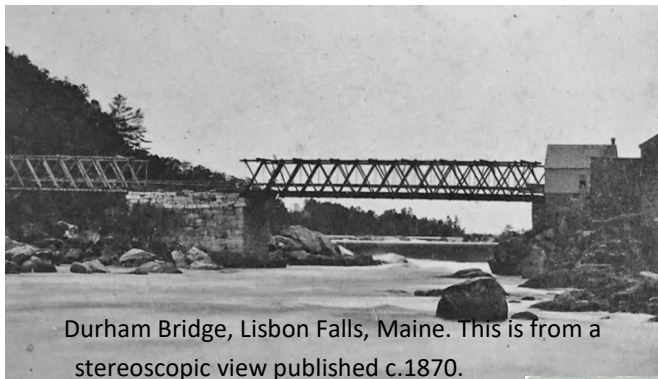


Durham—Lisbon Bridge History

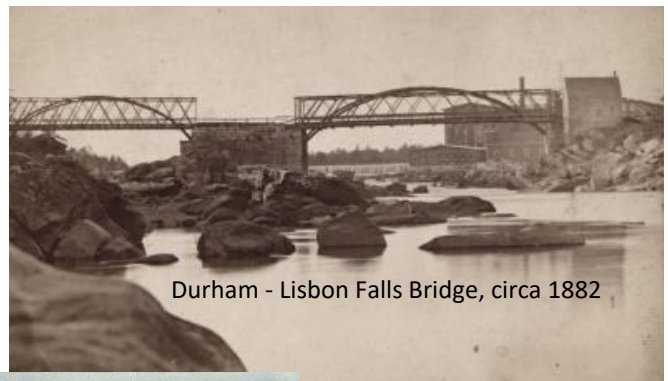
Over the years, Durham and Lisbon have seen the replacement of their bridge 3 times. Four bridges have stood in the same place since the late 1800's. The old Androscoggin has washed it away more times than we want to remember. In the late 1800's when the first bridge to span that section of the river was built, there was a toll booth and home on the Lisbon side. Jeremiah Getchell would become the first toll collector for the bridge and would reside in the home. Through the years, Durham has had several bridges spanning the Andro. All bridges would be washed down the river and would never stand the test of time. Durham found that Ferries were the way to go, until the Lisbon and Durham Bridge was built. Of course, this bridge would also wash down the river over and over again, until the bridge known as the "Green Bridge" would be built in 1936. This would be the first bridge to withstand flooding over the years, until it was replaced in 2016.

When the second bridge was built, in approximately the late 1890's, it would be washed away by March 20th of 1936. Before the next bridge could be constructed, a temporary walking bridge would be built in the fall, helping the people of the town cross the river so they could get to work and to school. The temporary bridge would cost the town \$2700.

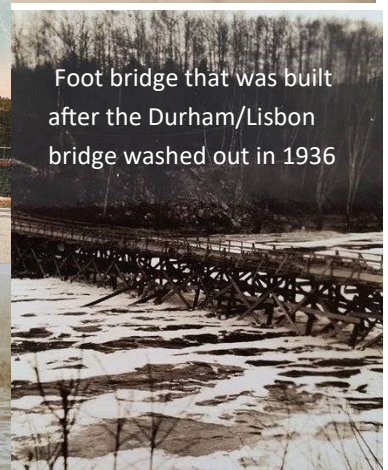
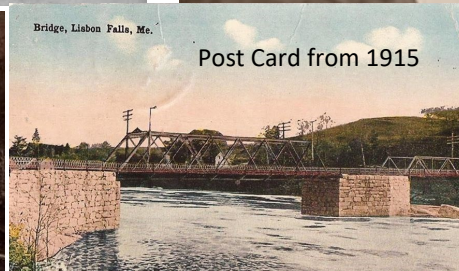
The following are a series of photos of the bridges and flooding through the years.



Durham Bridge, Lisbon Falls, Maine. This is from a stereoscopic view published c.1870.



Durham - Lisbon Falls Bridge, circa 1882



Foot bridge that was built after the Durham/Lisbon bridge washed out in 1936



Construction of the New 1936 Bridge



After the great flood of 1936, the community came together and helped transport families in need across the river!

Free Baptist Church



The Free Baptist church was built and dedicated on Nov. 20, 1845. The sermon at the dedication, was preached by Daniel Jackson. The

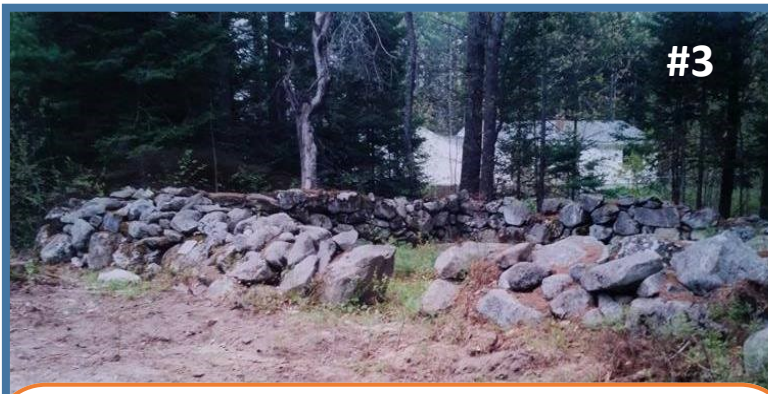
cost at the time of the Brick Church was about \$1000, of which Henry Plummer contributed \$550. The church prospered for several years, but grew weak by deaths and

removals, till in 1855 when it ceased to hold regular meetings. It is now a private residence which is located at the end of Swamp Road on the Route 9 side.



#11

Cattle Pound



#3

The Old Durham Cattle Pound was built by John Newell in 1821. Barnabus Strout gave it to the town in the year 1822. And it was restored and dedicated to the public by the Durham Historical Society in 1981. This is located on the Pound road right near the AMVETS.

Oldest Known Grave in Town

Old Town Cemetery is the oldest known cemetery in Durham. It is also where the Old North Meeting House once stood. This cemetery is located directly after American Kicks on Route 136, if heading towards Freeport. It would be on your left hand side and sits on a small hill. Most people blow right by this every day and don't even know it's there. Several people have been buried here, but only 11 stones remain. Those who are buried here are: Bestey Dyer Harmon and Susanna Harmon, Frances Herrick, Rev. Jacob Herrick, Frances Herrick and Sarah Webster Herrick, Martin Rourke, John Vining, Jonathan Vining, Mary Vining, and Elizabeth Martyn Cushing.

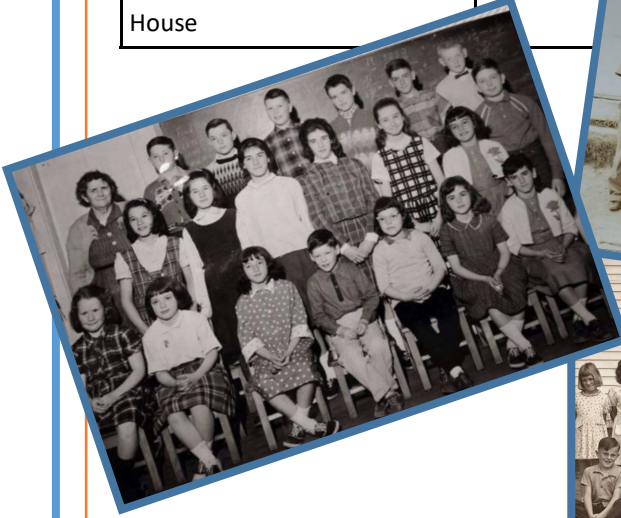
The oldest tombstone in this cemetery belongs to Elizabeth Cushing. The inscription reads, "Mrs. Elizabeth Cushing died Oct. 18, 1789, aged 76. My soul come mediate the day, and think how near it stands, When thou must quit this house of day, And fly to unknown lands". " She was born in Boston on May 16, 1714. She was the mother of Hon. John Cushing. She married the Rev. John Cushing on April 8, 1740. Elizabeth Cushing is spoken of in the highest terms as a woman of education, piety and noble character.



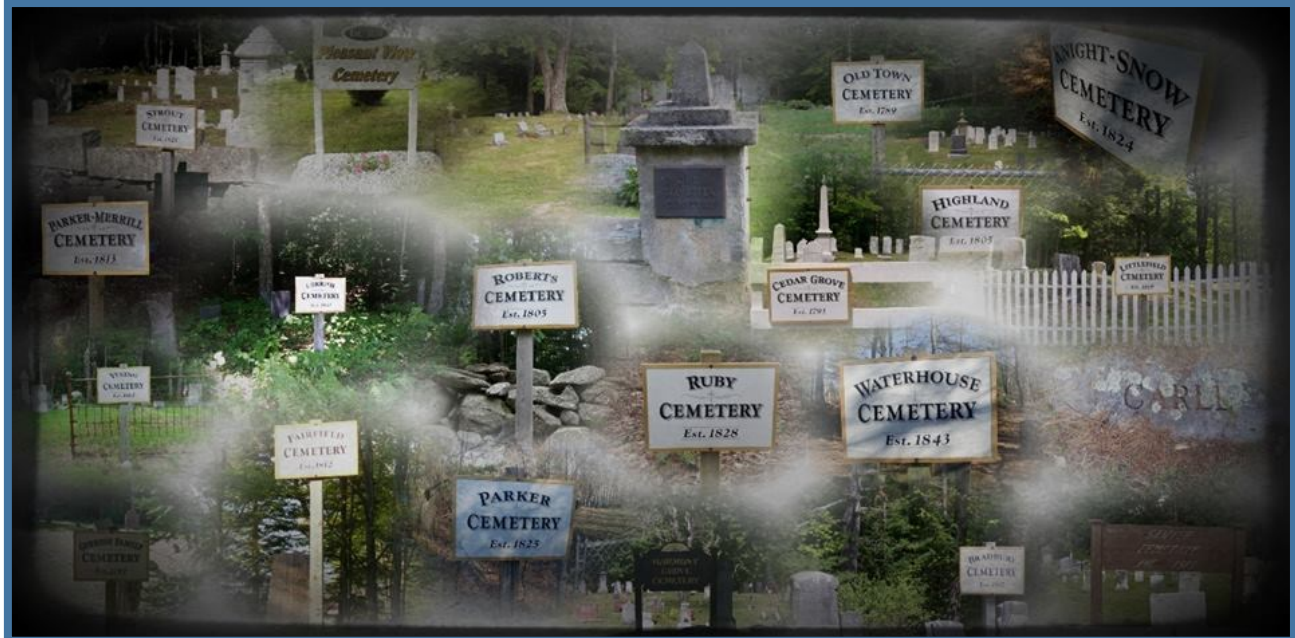
6

Durham's School House Index

School House Name	Location
Bliss School House	Route 136 (Freeport Side)
Brickyard Hill School House	Brickyard Hill Road
Cedar Pond School House	Cedar Pond Road
Crosman Corner School House	Day Road
Durham Community School	Route 9 on site of old school
Durham Elementary School	Route 9
Osgood School House	Route 136 (Freeport Side)
Parker School House	Bowie Hill Road
Plummer Mill School House	Plummer Mill Road
Rice School House	Auburn Pownal Road
River (Little Red School House)	Route 136 (Auburn Side)
Shiloh School Houses	Shiloh Chapel (5 schools)
Soper School House	Soper Road
South Durham School House	Route 125
South West Bend School House	Route 136



Durham's Cemetery Index



Cemetery Names	Burials (Approx)	Cemetery Names	Burials (Approx)
Bradbury	131	Littlefield	163
Carll	3	Old Town	11
Cedar Grove	301	Parker	105
Collins Infant	1	Parker Merrill	10
Disselkamp	3	Pleasant View	196
Fairfield	30	Roberts	9
Friends/Quaker	198	Ruby	9
Gerrish	3	Sawyer	467
Gerrish Family	5	Shiloh	443
Harmony Grove	208	Strout	133
Highland	185	Sylvester	134
Knight-Snow	10	Vining	95
		Waterhouse	8

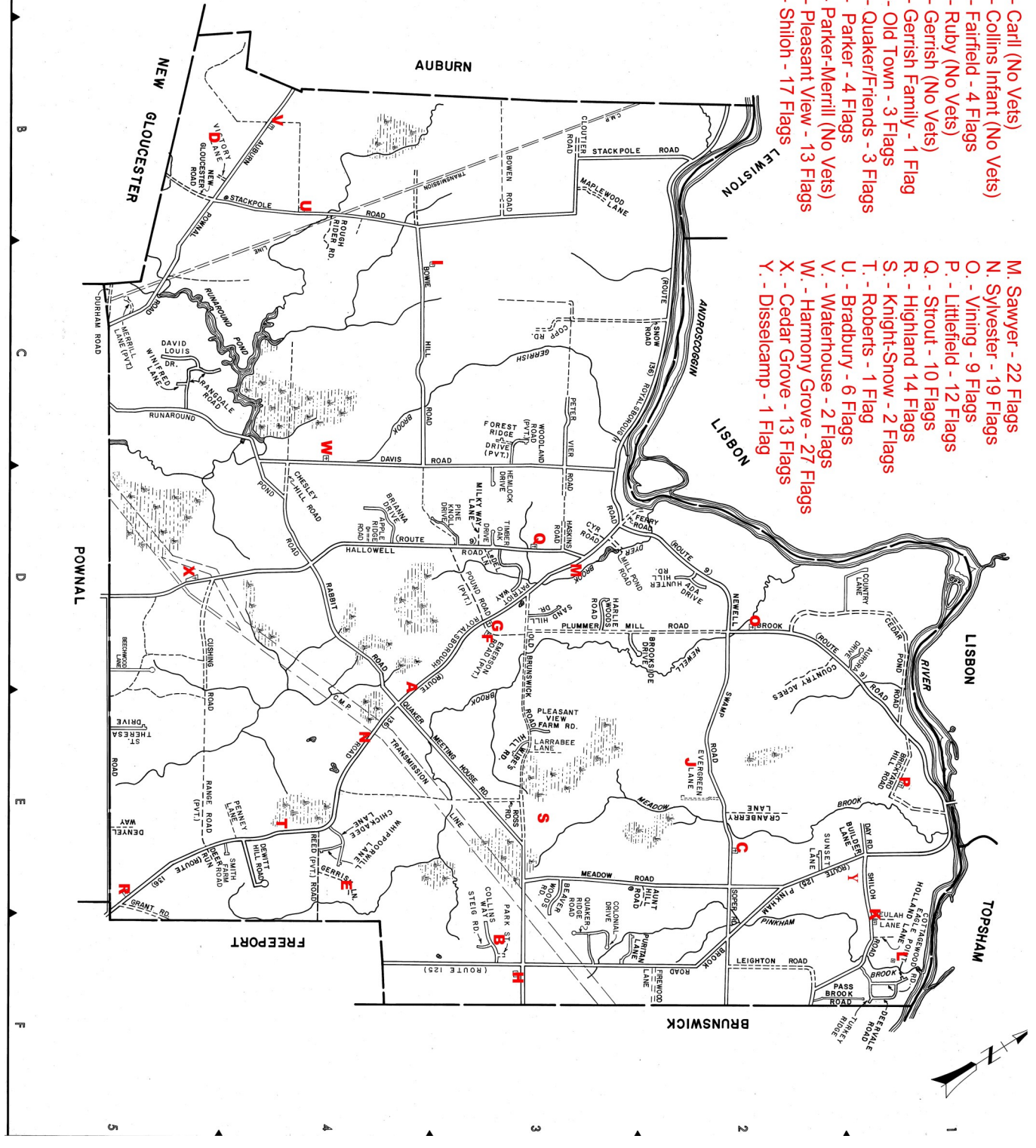
STREET INDEX

- 1 APRIL ROSE ROAD D-4
- 2 ANANDA HILL ROAD B-4, C-5
- 3 ANANDA DRIVE D-5
- 4 BEECHWOOD LANE D-5
- 5 BELLAH LANE F-1
- 6 BOWEN ROAD B-3
- 7 BRICKWOOD HILL ROAD E-1
- 8 BROOKSIDE DRIVE D-3
- 9 BROWN ROAD E-4
- 10 COLLINS WAY F-3
- 11 CEDAR POND ROAD D-1
- 12 CLOUTIER ROAD B-3, D-4
- 13 COUNTRY LANE D-1
- 14 CUSHING ROAD D-4
- 15 DAVIS ROAD C-3, 4
- 16 DAY ROAD E-1
- 17 DEWITT HILL ROAD E-4
- 18 DURHAM ROAD C-5
- 19 EASTON POINT F-1, 3 (PVT)
- 20 EVERGREEN LANE E-2
- 21 FERRY ROAD D-3, 2
- 22 GRANT ROAD E-3
- 23 HALLOWELL ROAD D-3, 5
- 24 HASKINS ROAD D-3
- 25 HEMLOCK DRIVE D-3
- 26 LARRABEE LANE E-3
- 27 LEIGHTON ROAD F-2
- 28 MEADOW ROAD E-2, 3
- 29 MERRILL LANE C-5 (PVT)
- 30 MILL POND ROAD D-3
- 31 NEW GLOUCESTER ROAD B-5
- 32 NEWELL BROOK ROAD D-3, E-1
- 33 OLD BRUNSWICK ROAD D-E-3
- 34 PARK STREET F-3
- 35 PENNEY LANE D-4
- 36 PETER VIER ROAD C-3, E-2, F-4
- 37 PINKHAM BROOK ROAD C-3, F-4
- 38 PINKHAM HILL ROAD D-2, 3
- 39 POND ROAD D-3
- 40 PINE KNOLL DRIVE D-4 (PVT)
- 41 QUAKER MEETING HOUSE ROAD E-3, 4
- 42 QUAKER RIDGE ROAD F-3
- 43 RANGLAND ROAD C-5
- 44 RANGE ROAD E-5 (PVT)
- 45 REED ROAD E-4 (PVT)
- 46 ROSS ROAD E-3
- 47 ROUTE 9 D-5, E-1
- 48 ROUTE 136 E-2, F-4
- 49 ROYALSBOURGH ROAD B-2, E-5
- 50 RUNAROUND POND ROAD C-5
- 51 STEIG ROAD F-3
- 52 SHILOH ROAD E-1
- 53 SOPER ROAD E-F-2
- 54 STACKPOLE ROAD B-2, 4
- 55 TIMBER OAK DRIVE D-3
- 56 WOODLAND ROAD D-3 (PVT)
- 57 WINIFRED LANE C-5

ADDITIONAL STREETS

- 1 BUNT HILL ROAD E-3
- 2 COTTAGE WOOD ROAD F-1
- 3 CRANBERRY LANE E-2
- 4 DEER RUN E-3, D-1
- 5 DENVER WAY E-5
- 6 HOLLAND LANE F-1
- 7 MABEL LANE D-3
- 8 MILKY WAY LANE D-3
- 9 ROYAL RIDER ROAD B-4
- 10 ANNE HILL ROAD E-3
- 11 BEAVER WOOD ROAD E-3
- 12 HUNTER HILL ROAD D-2
- 13 PATRICK WAY D-3
- 14 STURKEY RIDGE E-1
- 15 SAND HILL DRIVE D-3
- 16 WHIPPOWILL LANE E-4 (PVT)
- 17 HAZEL WOODS DRIVE D-3 (PVT)
- 18 ST. THERESA DRIVE E-3
- 19 PLEASANT VIEW FARM RD. E-3

- A - Caril (No Vets)
- B - Collins Infant (No Vets)
- C - Fairfield - 4 Flags
- D - Ruby (No Vets)
- E - Gerrish (No Vets)
- F - Gerrish Family - 1 Flag
- G - Old Town - 3 Flags
- H - Quaker/Friends - 3 Flags
- I - Parker - 4 Flags
- J - Parker-Merrill (No Vets)
- K - Pleasant View - 13 Flags
- L - Shioh - 17 Flags
- M - Sawyer - 22 Flags
- N - Sylvester - 19 Flags
- O - Vining - 9 Flags
- P - Littlefield - 12 Flags
- Q - Strout - 10 Flags
- R - Highland 14 Flags
- S - Knight-Snow - 2 Flags
- T - Roberts - 1 Flag
- U - Bradbury - 6 Flags
- V - Waterhouse - 2 Flags
- W - Harmony Grove - 27 Flags
- X - Cedar Grove - 13 Flags
- Y - Dissecamp - 1 Flag



Part of 3000 Acre

North 45 Degree East 4 Miles 4 1/2 Miles by Brunswick

J. Royall 135	J. Waterhouse 137	J. Waterhouse 136	J. Waterhouse 135	J. Waterhouse 114	J. Waterhouse 93	92	90
J. Waterhouse 157	J. Waterhouse 138	J. Waterhouse 135	J. Waterhouse 110	J. Waterhouse 113	J. Waterhouse 94	B. Noyes 89	J. Waterhouse 88
J. Waterhouse 156	J. Waterhouse 139	J. Waterhouse 134	J. Waterhouse 117	J. Waterhouse 112	J. Waterhouse 95	J. Waterhouse 87	J. Waterhouse 86
J. Waterhouse 155	J. Waterhouse 140	J. Waterhouse 133	J. Waterhouse 115	J. Waterhouse 111	J. Waterhouse 96	J. Waterhouse 85	J. Waterhouse 84
J. Waterhouse 154	J. Waterhouse 141	J. Waterhouse 132	J. Waterhouse 119	J. Waterhouse 110	J. Waterhouse 97	J. Waterhouse 85	J. Waterhouse 84
J. Waterhouse 153	J. Waterhouse 142	J. Waterhouse 131	J. Waterhouse 120	J. Waterhouse 107	J. Waterhouse 98	J. Waterhouse 83	J. Waterhouse 82
J. Waterhouse 152	J. Waterhouse 143	J. Waterhouse 130	J. Waterhouse 121	J. Waterhouse 106	J. Waterhouse 99	J. Waterhouse 83	J. Waterhouse 81
J. Waterhouse 151	J. Waterhouse 144	J. Waterhouse 129	J. Waterhouse 122	J. Waterhouse 107	J. Waterhouse 100	J. Waterhouse 82	J. Waterhouse 81
J. Waterhouse 150	J. Waterhouse 145	J. Waterhouse 128	J. Waterhouse 123	J. Waterhouse 108	J. Waterhouse 101	J. Waterhouse 81	J. Waterhouse 80
J. Waterhouse 149	J. Waterhouse 146	J. Waterhouse 127	J. Waterhouse 124	J. Waterhouse 108	J. Waterhouse 102	J. Waterhouse 80	J. Waterhouse 79
J. Waterhouse 148	J. Waterhouse 147	J. Waterhouse 126	J. Waterhouse 125	J. Waterhouse 104	J. Waterhouse 103	J. Waterhouse 79	J. Waterhouse 78



North 45 Degree East 4 Miles 4 1/2 Miles by Brunswick

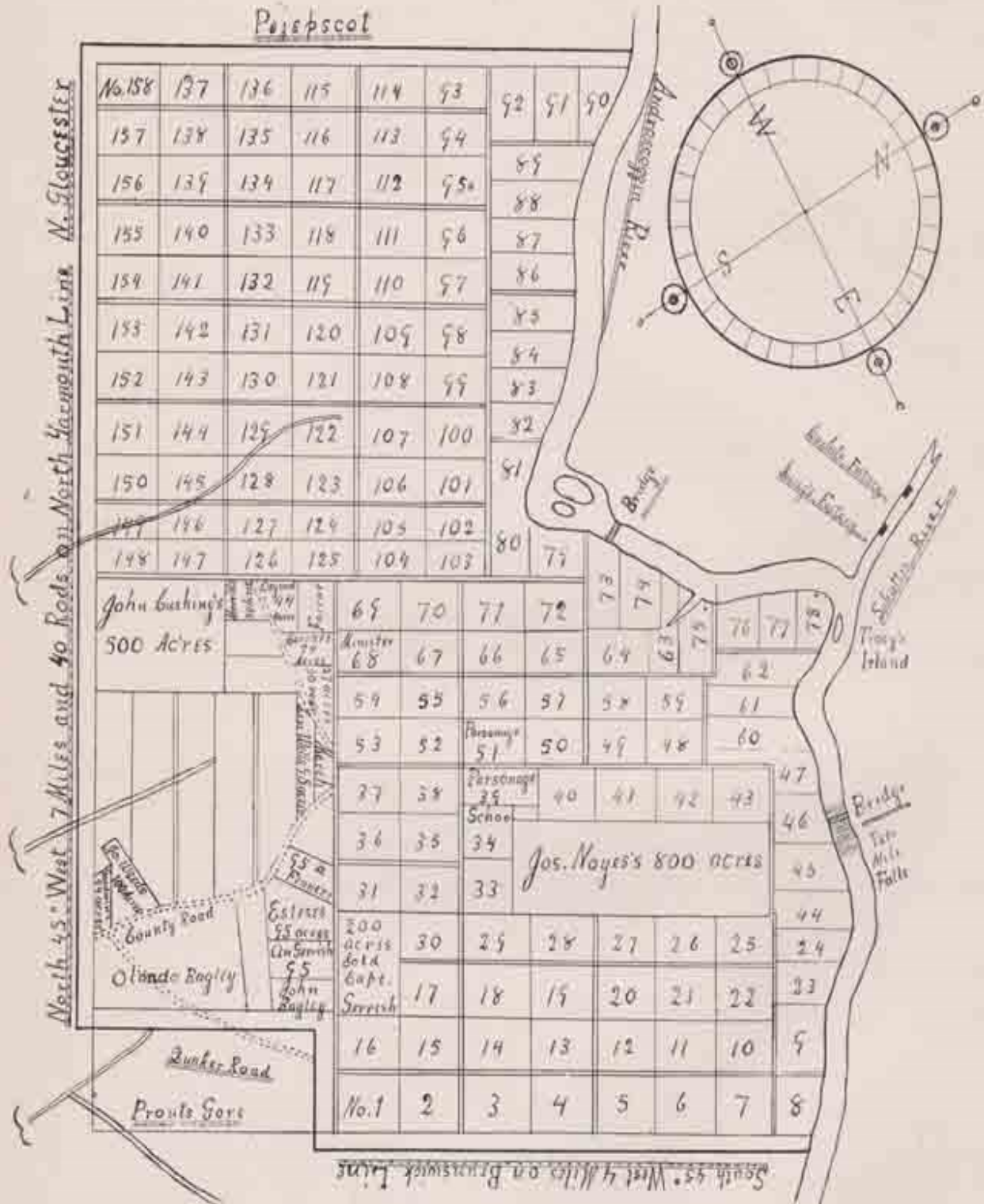
69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
65	67	66	64	63	62	61	60	59	58
54	55	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64
53	52	51	50	49	48	47	46	45	44
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46
36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
200 Acre	170 Acre	160 Acre	150 Acre	140 Acre	130 Acre	120 Acre	110 Acre	100 Acre	90 Acre
16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

North 45 Degree East 4 Miles 4 1/2 Miles by Brunswick

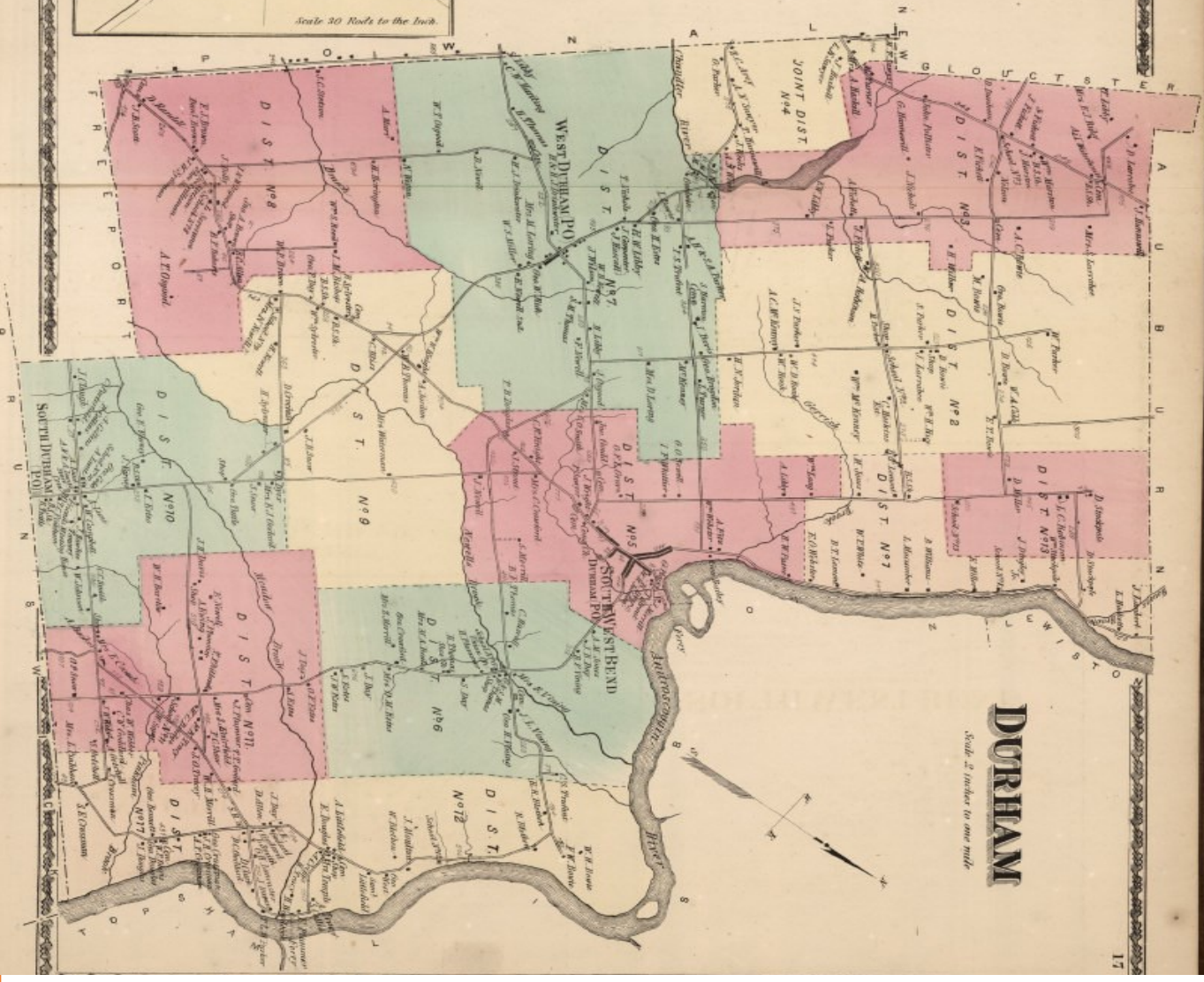
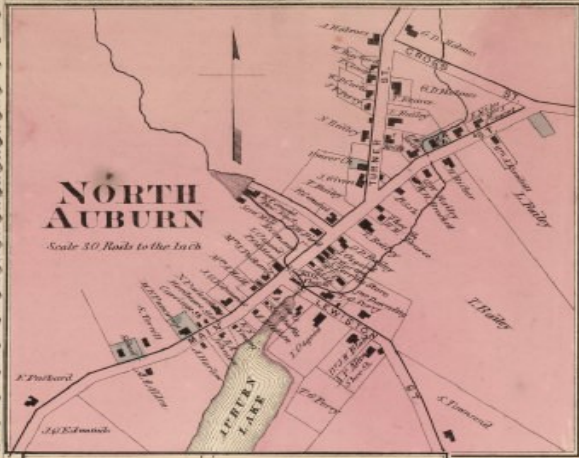
The above Plan is a Description of a New Township called
 Royalsborough in the County of Cumberland Bounded South
 Eastly on the third Line of Brunswick South Westly on
 the fourth Line of Brunswick North Westly on the first Line of Brunswick
 and North Eastly on the first Line of Brunswick
 and the first Line of Brunswick which has faithfully and
 impartially surveyed and laid out by order of the proprietors
 of the said Township of Royalsborough
 Done at the City of New York the 10th day of May 1734

John Hope
 Surveyor

www.history-map.com



NOYES'S PLAN OF ROYALSBOROUGH, 1766.





*Thank you from all of us at the Historical Society
& the Historic District Commission*