



CUMBERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P O Box 82

4A Blanchard Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Phone: 207-489-9582

Board of Directors: Chairman: Linda Fulda

Vice Chair: Brian Jensen

Secretary: Margery Gruber

Treasurer: Peter Wilson

Curator: Carolyn Small

Directors: Elizabeth (Betsy) Huston

Nancy Latham

Sandy Nickerson

Trustee Emeritus: Herbert S. Foster, Jr.

Hours: Monday mornings 9:00 to noon

Open House on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 9:00 to 1:00

Programs are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM, unless otherwise noted.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of the Society shall be to collect and preserve artifacts pertaining to the Town of Cumberland and its history, making it available to groups, schools, and individuals.

MAY 2018 VOLUME 149

MAY THOUGHTS

Spring has sprung,
The grass has riz,
I wondah where da flowers is.
Lookie yonder,o'er da hill,
What is dat?
A daffodil!
Anonymous



MAY STUMPER: What is a trunnel?

Riding Through

The 1915
Morrison Hill Station &
the Portland-Lewiston
Interurban in
West Cumberland

Tuesday, May 15
6:30 – 8 p.m.

West Cumberland Recreation Hall
115 Blackstrap Rd., Cumberland

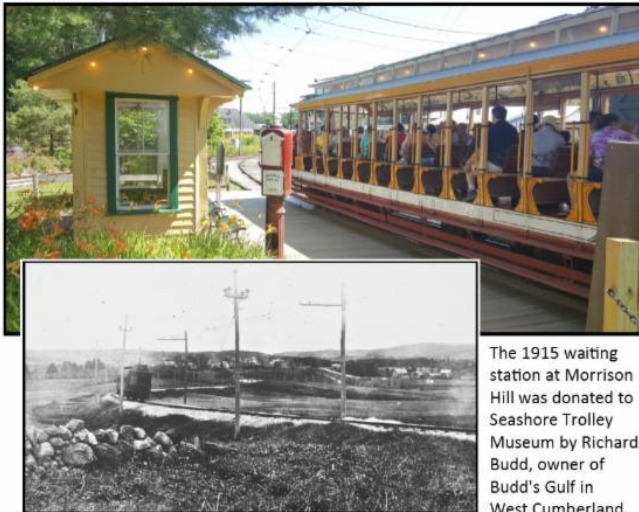
Presenters:

Phil Morse, Narcissus Project Manager
Donald Curry, Seashore Trolley Museum

The Portland-Lewiston Interurban (PLI) operated in West Cumberland and carried 7.3 million passengers between 1914 and 1933.

Learn about:

- The construction (1910-1914) of the PLI.
- Operations between Portland & Lewiston.
- Theodore Roosevelt's 1914 ride from Lewiston to Portland on the high-speed luxury interurban, Narcissus, the only surviving high-speed interurban from the line that exists today.



Currently, under restoration at Seashore Trolley Museum in Kennebunkport, the PLI's No. 14, Narcissus, has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

A number of PLI/ Narcissus artifacts will be on display during the event.

The 1915 waiting station at Morrison Hill was donated to Seashore Trolley Museum by Richard Budd, owner of Budd's Gulf in West Cumberland.

In collaboration with _____

Prince Memorial Library



The former Morrison Hill station of the [Portland-Lewiston Interurban](#), which served Cumberland from 1915 to 1933. The station is now located at [Seashore Trolley Museum](#).

PROGRAMS:

Our program night has changed a little from last year. Programs will now be held on the 4th Wednesday evening of each month and will start at 6:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. The location will be listed in the monthly newsletter and on the Cumberland Town's website before the event as the location is subject to change. So far, we have been able to book the new Central Station Meeting Room for most of our meetings.

Our hope is that Wednesday evenings will be more accommodating and that more of you will be able to attend. We will be presenting you with various topics and interests each month which will be listed in the monthly newsletter and on the Cumberland Town's website. So, reserve the 4th Wednesday evening of the month for the Cumberland Historical Society's Programs and come join us!

APRIL MEETING: This was Kathy Kenny's first program as our new program director, and it was a huge hit, in spite of the pouring rain! She had peanuts, Crackerjacks, and Eli's Root Beer for treats, and a very interesting program on vintage baseball. Most of the crowd of 38 hardy souls who attended were, of course Red Sox fans, but a couple of (ahem) *others* wore (1) a Phillies hat, and (2) a Yankees shirt. We accepted this with all the grace that we could muster.

Cumberland Historical Society Scavenger Hunt

Cumberland/North Yarmouth and surrounding area friends: Sign ups have begun for our 2nd Annual Cumberland Historical Society Town Scavenger Hunt!

Friday, May 18th 6:30 - 9:30 pm



The Cumberland Historical Society is excited to sponsor another local scavenger hunt on Friday evening, May 18th. Teams in cars will be taken on a fun and very interactive adventure

throughout the town. The cost is \$10.00 per person and all proceeds benefit the Historical Society's GHS Scholarship Fund. If you like riddles, like to laugh, and think you know a little bit about our town, then you won't want to miss out on the night. This is a perfect family event for older children or a great way to have fun with a group of friends. Space is limited, so pull your team together and get ready for a night of fun. To register your team or for additional details, contact Judy Gagnon at djgagnon@maine.rr.com or 400-9334. The form is at the end of the newsletter. Fill it out and send it in.

Price: \$10.00 per person

Ages: Adult/Teens

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

TO ALL: Linda Putnam would like to partner up with someone to go on the scavenger hunt with her. If you would like to be her scavenger hunt partner, contact Carolyn Small at 415-4589.

23 MAY PROGRAM

"Penelope Martin Fundraiser Day" (Suggested Donation: \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members)

Featured program – "Plum Crazy" Vintage Antique Crazy Quilts, Cumberland Town Hall Council Chambers, 290 Tuttle Road, Cumberland, at 6:00 pm.



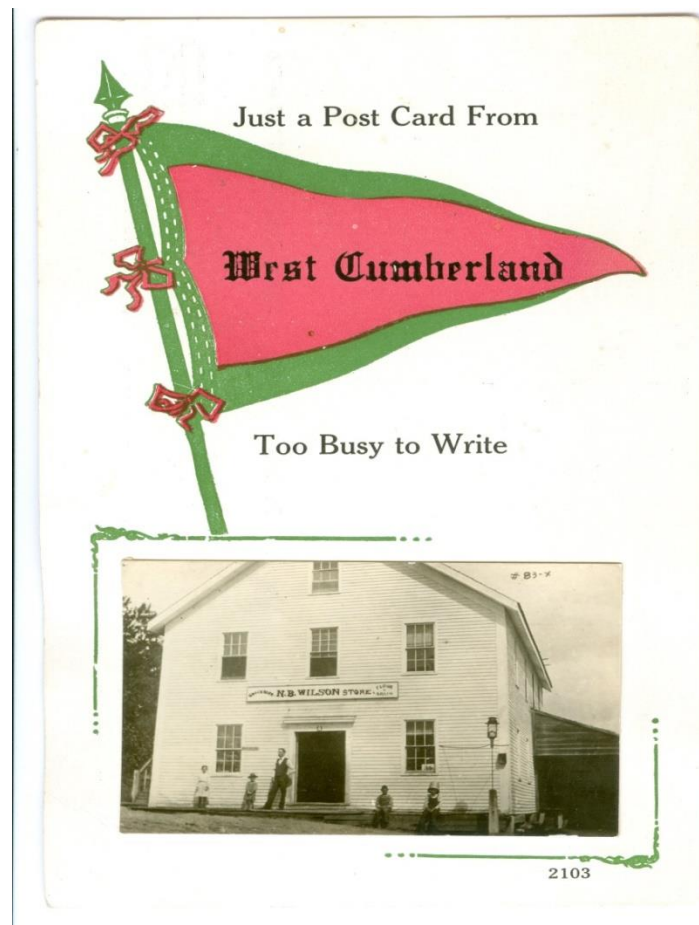
NOTE: THE DOORS WILL OPEN AT 6 PM FOR COFFEE AND CAKE BEFORE THE START OF THE PRESENTATION AT 6:30 PM. Your donation is your fundraiser contribution. You will be introduced to Penelope Martin, one of Cumberland's earliest residents and learn about Cumberland's 1st School Girl Academy this evening. This School Girl Academy was one of New England's longest running and most prestigious schools, lasting for 30 YEARS! Learn more about the Martins and their academy by viewing our CHS display table at the meeting. Enjoy a piece of Penelope's Birthday Cake while waiting for the evening's program which will reflect one of the classes taught at Martin's Academy.

This year's "Penelope Martin Fundraiser Day" program will expose you to the art of quilting. The presentation will be "Plum Crazy" by Kathy Kenny of Historical Quilt Lectures. During the presentation, you'll view 25 vintage antique crazy quilts, made from 1880 to 1910, along with learning about the history of crazy quilts. Two of these quilts are seldom seen outside of museums, due to their rarity.

You'll even learn what importance smoking had to do with crazy quilts!

We hope you'll come to this very enjoyable meeting on Wednesday, 23 May, to learn about Penelope and her academy, have some cake, visit with friends and neighbors, and enjoy the presentation, knowing that your contribution, this evening, will help support the Cumberland Historical Society.

ACQUISITIONS: From Lynda Wilson Jensen, Nancy Latham, and others of the Wilson family we received three interesting items from the N. B. Wilson Store and home. These two places, across the road from each other on Morrison's Hill, were an important late 1800's part of the busy West Cumberland area. The items donated were a 6" square headed rafter nail, an 8" trunnel, and a 2 quart cream can that has a brass plate attached to the neck with N.B. Wilson engraved in it. With the way station of the Interurban Trolley being just at the top of the hill, in the area across from what is now Caddy's Ice Cream Shack, beside what many of remember a B. J. Stratton's Hardware Store, one wonders if this was a can that might have been a delivery can that would be transported by the Interurban Trolley to a dairy to be bottled. It's very likely that it was, since the name is on it, ensuring that it would be delivered back to the store. Below is a postcard of the N. B. Wilson Store from the collections at the Cumberland Historical Society. The building still stands and is now a private residence.



OPEN HOUSE before and after the Memorial Day Parade.



JUNE 27, 2018 PROGRAM:

"The History and Identification of 1800's Photography"

Do you have an old photograph you can't date? Have you a collection of Daguerreotypes? Are tin types and cabinet cards something that interest you? Would you like to know more about ambrotypes and "Carte de viste" photographs? Then plan to attend the June 27 meeting of the Cumberland Historical Society. The presentation will begin at 6:30 PM, Wednesday evening, in the Town Hall Council Chambers at 290 Tuttle Road, Cumberland, ME 04021. Each of the types of photography mentioned will be discussed and actual vintage examples will be displayed. You will learn about the development of photography from the 1800's through the early 1900's. This fascinating talk will be presented by Herb Aldrich, a very knowledgeable collector and dealer of this type of photography for many years. We encourage you to bring any early photos you would like to have identified.

Historical Bus Tour of Cumberland

Leader: Carolyn Small, Curator, Cumberland Historical Society

Join us for a historical tour of approximately 68 points of interest in the Town of Cumberland. We will board a bus and take a tour of many historical sites throughout the Town. This narrated tour will cover historical homes, businesses, churches, monuments and cemeteries to name a few. You will discover our rich history and learn some of the interesting stories of whom and what made Cumberland what it is today. We will have a short break in the middle of the tour at the Cumberland Historical Society where we will have the opportunity to see the exhibits and enjoy some light refreshments.

Please select a day:

Bus Tour 1 - Thursday, June 21

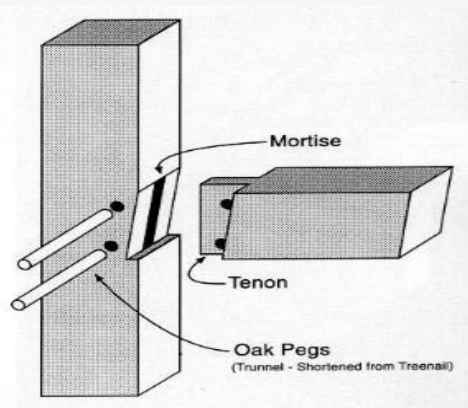
Bus Tour 2 - Saturday, July 14

Time: 1 – 4 pm

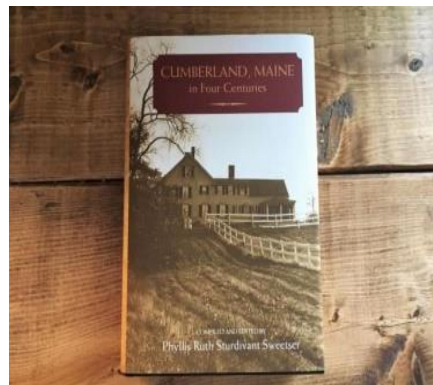
Location: Depart from Town Office Parking Lot

CHECK US OUT AND LIKE US ON FACEBOOK: Go to **Cumberland Maine Historical Society Facebook**, and see what interesting items are there to see. Steve Helphand makes a concerted effort to post new and interesting items for viewing. Another connection is through the Town of Cumberland. Click on to COMMUNITY NEWS, then to CUMBERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY. This site shows all sorts of information about us. One thing of interest would be the book assembled by Margie Gruber displaying the historic tours with the Mabel I. Wilson School second graders. It's a fun little book to view, and Margie did a great job with it!

ANSWER TO THE MAY STUMPER: A trunnel, originally "tree nail", is a wooden dowel used to prevent a wooden mortise and tenon joint from slipping apart. Trunnels were usually made of a hardwood such as oak or hickory.



Cumberland, Maine in Four Centuries



There are still copies of this history of Cumberland available for sale at Cumberland Historical Society, the Town Office and the Prince Memorial Library. **Call the Historical Society at 207-489-9582** and leave an order on the message machine. You can also visit us on Monday mornings from 9:00 to noon, or the second or fourth Saturday between 9:00 and 1:00 to pick one up.

You might consider this as a gift for a Greeley graduate going off to college.

SPONSORED BY SEVEE & MAHER, ENGINEERS

4 Blanchard Road, Cumberland, ME 04021



THANKS ALSO FOR THE GARDENING SUPPORT FROM SKILLINS
GREENHOUSES, WEST CUMBERLAND, MAINE





P O Box 82
Cumberland, ME 04021
207-489-9582

Cumberland Historical Society (CHS) was founded in 1939 through the dedicated efforts of Herman and Phyllis Sweetser. The meetings were first held in the Prince Memorial Library; in 1989 the CHS moved into a home of its own. That building was built in 1853 as a one--room schoolhouse; the bricks of which were fired right in the town. The CHS is a group of 100 or so members; a totally volunteer group. Open Houses are held on the second and fourth Saturdays of most months, and on Memorial Day after the parade. In May, a two-hour walking historical tour of the center of town is given to the second grades at the Mabel I. Wilson Elementary School as a part of their community curriculum. Individual tours are offered to anyone else who contacts the CHS. Historic bus tours are usually scheduled through the Cumberland Recreation Department. There are over 200 homes in the town that are over 100 years old; 50 from that inventory are over 200 years old. The museum is the repository of an interesting collection of artifacts that connect with the town. They range from home deeds from the 1700's to pieces of dinnerware brought back from England by one of the town's sea captains to his wife. Indian artifacts, Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI and WWII, and Korean War items are available to view. A number of family genealogies and histories of businesses of the town are in development.

The Cumberland Historical Society is located at 4A Blanchard Road, in the center of Cumberland.

Cumberland Historical Society



Friday, May 18, 2018 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone No.: _____

Email: _____

Car Make/License Plate #: _____

Car Passengers/Team Members:

(Who will be joining you) _____

Cost is \$10.00 per person. Please mail your registration form, along with your check made out to the Cumberland Historical Society to:

Judy Gagnon, P.O. Box 530, Cumberland Ctr., ME 04021

Space is limited and entry will be on a first come, first serve basis. We will email you with more specific details as the date gets closer. On the night of the hunt, either you or one member of your team will need a cell phone that can take photos and has texting capability. If you have any questions, feel free to call Judy at 400-9334.

