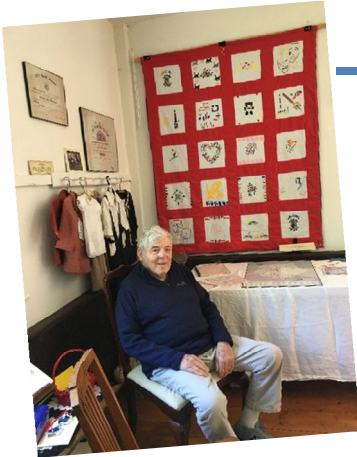


Next Meeting: August “cook-out” at the Eliot Boat Basin - 5:00pm. The grill will be going for those who would like to bring something. There will be no shared food at this event.



8 One Room School House Museum

*We are open the 1st and 3rd Saturdays
of the month*

thru the summer.

10am- 2pm.

Come stop by and visit.

Or volunteer with us!!



HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM RECORDINGS

We have been recording our meeting programs and making available the videos on our website at eliothistoricalsociety.org. In doing so, we've found that some are too large to be accommodated there and so Tracey Graffam-Dixon has created for us our own YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfsoMh6um0aDzVEOMWU3lvA>. Presently, the videos of January, February, April and June are on this site. Subscribe to our channel to easily find them as they are added!

EHS will be hosting the Spring meeting of the Maine Old Cemetery Association on July 23 at the Congregational Church. Remember, if you are planning to attend and/or have lunch, you will need to register by July 15, through the MOCA website <https://www.moca-me.org/event-4867909>

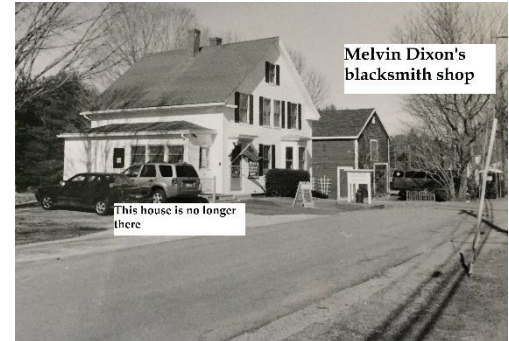
If you have trouble registering, Rosanne will be happy to help. Please contact her at rma249@yahoo.com

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Address: PO BOX 3, Eliot, ME 03903
Website: www.eliothistoricalsociety.org
Phone: 752-0174 (Rosanne)

ELIOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY DISPLAYS

School may be out for the summer but we continue to plan for the fall! The display greeting the students when they return in September will focus on “blacksmiths”. If you have some information on the location of blacksmith shops in Eliot and/or the blacksmith and if you have some items for the display that you could loan - we’d like to hear from you!



Our display will dovetail with the Eliot Maine Bicentennial Committee’s plan to mark the blacksmith shop of Melvin Dixon. The building is located next to the Eliot Police Department. Bill Widi, of Sandy Hill Farm, will be making the plaque. Monies for this project come from the Maine Humanities Council.

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CEMETERY WEBSITE -

Search for people in Eliot’s private family cemeteries, Mount Pleasant Cemetery and Brooks Memorial Cemetery. On this site, after locating the cemetery you want to look at, you can put in a name (last, first, or both) or the number of the private cemetery.

<https://mosersoft.com/cemv8/lotsearch.aspx>

A link to our website has also been put on the town website. It is accessible through the GIS map feature in the Accessor Database. <https://www.axisgis.com/eliotme/>



MOCA SUMMER 2022 PROGRAM DAY & MEMBER MEETING

**First Congregational Church of Eliot
(handicap-accessible)
1361 State Road, Eliot**

Hosted by Eliot Historical Society

Members and Non-Members Always Welcome!

Eliot Historical Society members Paul Johnson and Eric Christian will be the featured speakers. Kathy Runey is in charge of the food.

What is MOCA? The Maine Old Cemetery Association was founded in 1968 through the effort of Dr. Hilda M. Fife of Kittery, Maine, and several of her friends. Dr Fife's interest in caring for Maine's long neglected cemeteries evolved from her concern for a small cemetery near her house. She and her friends determined that the many small graveyards throughout the State must be protected from neglect and vandalism.

Dr. Fife died in 1990, but the organization she founded continues, with more than 1,000 members from forty-odd states and several Canadian provinces. Three meetings are held each year in various parts of the State where the public is invited to hear speakers, tour local cemeteries, and learn about MOCA's activities. In addition, MOCA sends a quarterly newsletter to its members and friends that provides solid information: reports of specific concerns and current legislation; instructions on care and restoration of gravestones; and updates from individuals and organizations who share in similar endeavors. MOCA awards certificates to acknowledge the work of individuals or groups who are working to preserve Maine's old cemeteries. MOCA volunteers have gathered burial information, directions, and other data on over 7,100 cemeteries. The result of MOCA's work to preserve and care for Maine's neglected cemeteries provides invaluable information to families in search of their roots. To the ardent genealogist, the transcriptions taken from the gravestones and entered into database are gems. MOCA holds extensive records, some of which have been published.

**Dedicated to the Preservation of Maine's Neglected Cemeteries since
1968.**

Maine Old Cemetery Association, PO Box 641, Augusta, ME 04332-0641

CEMETERY CLEANUP UPDATE

For those of you who have volunteered to help us with cemetery cleanup this year – Don't worry. There are plenty of cemeteries lined up. We've had to adjust the cleanup schedule because of the weather and new finds but will be contacting you soon! If you just can't wait and have one you want to tackle sooner, just let us know and we'll help get you started!

Speaking of Cemeteries

It was another day for an adventure! Brian Spinney had mentioned to Paul Johnson a cemetery adjoining his property on Main Street, wondering if we knew about it. It seems that the town had it marked, on the tax maps and it is actually ON town-owned land, but with no family name and we have no further information nothing about it. It does show up on a later (2020) recorded survey done by Dorothy Manson (Jeanette Paul's sister) and is mentioned in adjoining property deeds. Brian remembered when there were three stones standing in a line. Today there was only one and that was laying down. The thought is that, possibly the other two got broken and/or kids removed them. Brian remembered that his father filled in the land around the three stones because the graves had sunken, but later only one remained. At some point, the remaining stone was laid down, face up. Brian, moving the lawn, always remembered just where it lay and, when we arrived, had already probed the ground, looking for the other two stones or their bases. He had also dug out around the stone uncovering the footstone, that, presumably, his father had placed at the base. We did probe some more but only found many small stones. It was said that the land, at one time, was owned by the Brooks family, but taken by the town for non-payment of taxes.



Martin P. Remick was the son of Timothy and Sarah (Ripley) Remick. He married Olive, the daughter of Daniel and Polly (Spinney) Brooks. They had 11, several of whom are buried in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. One son, Henry M., born in 1843, was a fisherman, like his father. He died in 1864 in a rebel prison at Poplar Spring Church, Virginia. Martin was a fisherman and bought his house lot from John Tuttle, another fisherman.

Jan and I then followed Brian over to look at another cemetery, located over the wall of his property and in the right of way of the powerlines. Brian had taken several loads of brush out of it, revealing a single standing headstone – that of Joel Hanscom, who had died July 19, 1845 at the age of 37. Behind Joel’s headstone (under the dirt) we found the footstone and then another piece of slate that appeared to be part of another headstone. His wife



remembered there being two stones. She was right as he proceeded to cut back some more brush and we began probing the ground. A

large granite key-hole base was discovered, at a distance from the slate stone and at a perpendicular angle, so,



obviously it had been moved from its original location. We also uncovered the stone that sat in that base – Nellie Whitehouse (the wife of John Whitehouse, who died in 1886), which was even further away and at a strange angle, broken in two pieces. A mass of roots had to be removed before lifting the top of the stone, which was face up, but was still readable.

Often, if the stone is face up, it will wear so that the carving is intelligible. An interesting

piece of slate with weeping willow and urn lay at the base of



Nellie’s headstone. Off to the right, at the head of Nellie’s stone, further probing revealed other pieces of that slate



headstone – that of two children of Joel and Waite Hanscom ~ Margaret (died 1837 at the age of 2) and Thomas (died 1845 at the age of 9 days). The three stones found matched the listing of Dr. John E. Frost in his “Eliot Record Book”. Because John Frost generally would document what he saw at the time it might be worthwhile to probe for other stones, especially since the land was home to a few families.



Doing a little research, we found that.... **Joel Hanscom** received his property, in 1835, from Parker Foster, the father of his wife Waite. It was described as " a parcel of land bound on the southern side by Knights lane, so called; on the western side by the road leading from South Berwick to Portsmouth and on the northern side by land I lately



conveyed to my son John Foster; and on the eastern side by a line parallel with the said road, and to touch the western side of the well of water on my land, containing 1/4 of an acre and being the house lot lately the property of Capt. Joseph Fields, deceased.

In a division of the Hancom family lands (on what is now Bolt Hill Road, then Knight’s Lane, Jonathan Hanscom receives the eastern end of a 20A lot of mowing land and Joel shares the

other part with Betsy and Simon Hanscom Jr. Three years later Joel relinquishes the rights that he might have in the lands of Simon Hanscom and he has possession of the two-acre lot where “my dwelling house now stands” and another of about 9 or 10 acres.

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT **2021-2022**

Editor Note: Each year the Society submits a report to be included in the town’s Annual Town Report. Below is the report for this past year.

The Historical Society had quite a busy year even with the restrictions placed upon it, from time to time, by the pandemic. While weather was nice, we held our monthly meetings outdoors and then switched to online ZOOM meetings during the winter weather. Programs included - Punkintown, The Old Town Hall and Gym - The Rogers’ Cemetery restoration - Wreaths Across America.

Unable to utilize our usual ways of fundraising, we did receive a very generous donation from The Fabulous Find of Kittery that allowed us to hire Tom Ashline Builders, of Eliot, to replace the leaking roof on the #8 Schoolhouse Museum and Williams Painting of York to repaint the building.

The historical displays at the Elementary School were changed out several times, focusing on the history of Eliot Festival Day, the Railroads and Trolleys, Governor John F. Hill, and Eliot authors, Eliot’s Veterans, Wreaths Across America, State Road historic homes and places, and the old Town Hall and Gym.

Our website and communication abilities are in the process of being updated and expanded. Grants are being submitted to finish some projects at the # 8 Schoolhouse and expand our reach further into the community with hopes to engage the middle school students, much as we have been able to do with the elementary school, through displays, tours, and offering to find and/or provide speakers on various subjects.

The schoolhouse was open through the summer months and by appointment and will re-open June 2022 through September. We are always looking for volunteers who want to learn more about the history of our town and share it with others.

During Eliot’s Maine Bicentennial the Society was very active helping with displays, the open house day and giving tours at the elementary School.

Our Adopt a Cemetery Program continues to provide healthy exercise and community service, as we care for the many ancient, private cemeteries in our

town. The past summer/fall we had several groups of volunteers who worked at the Remick, Rogers, Neall, Spinney and Tetherly cemeteries. A good activity for groups of friends and families, we offer it also for high school students seeking community service credits.

The Society, with additional funding from the Mt. Pleasant and Brooks Memorial cemeteries is putting together a website where the public will be able to search all the burials in Eliot for location and information and should be of help to the town in keeping track of the status of its private cemeteries.

The Society also has a liaison to the “Clamshell” group. This group, made up of area historical Societies, on “both sides of the River”, looks for ways to collaborate as we get ready for the 400th anniversary of the Piscataqua Plantation and beyond.

We thank the citizens of Eliot for their support this past year and we invite you to join us in any of our activities.

More information can be found at our website at:

<https://eliothistoricalsociety.org>. You

can also find us on our Face book page:

<https://www.facebook.com/eliothistoricalsociety.org> or email us at: info@eliothistoricalsociety.org

Paul Johnson, President
Eliot Historical Society

PRESERVATION OPPORTUNITY!

Michele Duval is in the process of having a 100+ year-old English Hay barn moved from its present location on the former “Clover Farm” property on Main Street to her property on Brixham Road. It involves dismantling the structure, tagging it, and then re-constructing it. She is looking for people who might have the expertise to do the job, either parts of it or all and/or Recommendations! Please contact Michele at mduval105@yahoo.com

2020-2021 Annual ELIOT Town Report Now Available

Hard Copies of the 211th Annual Town Report are available to pick up at the Town Office or you can view the Report online - https://www.eliotmaine.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf4386/f/news/eliot_2020-2021_town_report.pdf






NEWS AND EVENTS

This fundraiser is being hosted by the **American Legion Post 188 of Eliot.**

There will be Sock-Hop Dance at the Eliot Elementary School gymnasium on Saturday July 9th from 7 to 9 pm. Tickets are sold at the door and there will be a live band playing the oldies and your ticket will get you to the Dessert Buffet. There will be prizes for the best dressed and best dancers. You can also vote on the best dessert. All funds raised that evening will go to the American Legion Post 188 to help support their local children's and veterans state run programs and scholarships. This is a great way to give back and support such a worthy cause and also have a lot of fun!!




The American Legion (Post 188) is hosting a Sock-Hop Dance with a Live Band and a Dessert Buffet. All are welcome and fun for the whole family! Put on your dancing shoes, wear your best dance outfit and bring a homemade dessert and try and win a prize for it. So come have some fun, perhaps win a prize and also help us celebrate a post-July 4th celebration and support our veterans

When: Saturday, July 9, 2022
Where: Eliot Elementary School Gymnasium
Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Ticket Prices: \$15.00 adult, \$10.00 65+, Children under 10 Free

Award/Prizes for Best Dancers, Best Outfit, and Best Homemade Dessert

HOSTED BY THE LOCAL AMERICAN LEGION POST 188 (Eliot/Kittery) 
 (All proceeds to support local children & veterans with state programs & scholarships)

We are encouraging those to attend to dress-up for a 50s sock-hop themed event but not required. Come show us how to jitterbug or twist again like they did last summer! Everyone from anywhere is invited. "The more the merrier!" - Megan Weeks-Zotara

JULY 17 - GREEN ACRE PICNIC –

11am-4pm. You are invited to spend the day at Green Acre. All are welcome. Optional activities include visiting the *Afrofuturism 2022* art show, historic Green Acre tours, lawn games, walking the grounds, including the labyrinth, relax on the porch, stroll the beach or just connect with old and new friends alike! Lunch served 12:30-2pm or bring your own. Lunch cost \$15 adults; \$10 ages 4-14 and seniors; free for under 4 years. Registration required and attendance is free. Tickets can be obtained at <https://portsmouthnhtickets.com/events/green-acre-picnic-7-17-2022>



Old Berwick Historical Society - The Counting House Museum Exhibits -



Material Culture: Domestic Cloth-Making in 18th Century New England

Explores early domestic textile arts and tools used to produce linen and woolen goods in rural colonial homesteads. Material goods provide a window into standards of living, self-sufficiency, economic diversification, and the transition from frontier life to settled communities.

Berwick Begins - a permanent exhibition, explores the founding of the Berwick almost 400 years ago. It Features artifacts from the Chadbourne Dig, led by Dr. Emerson (Tad) Baker, the Old Fields Dig, led by Dr. Neill DePaoli.



Ancestral Mathematics
 In order to be born, you needed:

- 2 parents
- 4 grandparents
- 8 great-grandparents
- 16 second great-grandparents
- 32 third great-grandparents
- 64 fourth great-grandparents
- 128 fifth great-grandparents
- 256 sixth great-grandparents
- 512 seventh great-grandparents
- 1,024 eighth great-grandparents
- 2,048 ninth great-grandparents

For you to be born today from 12 previous generations, you needed a total of 4,094 ancestors over the last 400 years.

Think for a moment – How many struggles? How many battles? How many difficulties? How much sadness? How much happiness? How many love stories? How many expressions of hope for the future? – did your ancestors have to undergo for you to exist in this present moment...

The Counting House Museum is open June-October, Saturdays & Sundays from 1pm-4pm and by Appointment. Admission is by donation. 2 Liberty Street • South Berwick, Maine 03908 Contact: E-mail: info@oldberwick.org Phone: 207-384-0000

If you would be interested in seeing the exhibits with other EHS members, we can arrange a private opening. Let Jan or Rosanne know if you are interested!