

Washington Historical Society

2021 Newsletter

Razorville Hall/ Museum

This summer we are continuing the residing of Razorville Hall. Our goal is to complete the replacing of the vinyl siding with wood clapboards, the original type of siding on the building. We appreciate the town's support with help funding this project as we complete the third side.

Old Town House

The cabling and sill work has been completed making the building stable once again. Now we are working on the inside with the goal of expanding our display space and to have space for meetings and programs. The original platform still exists in the building although it has been dismantled and moved many times. Members are working to return it to its original location.

Another goal is to add an ADA ramp leading into the building. The grant we applied for to fund this was denied last spring but we are continuing work towards this goal.

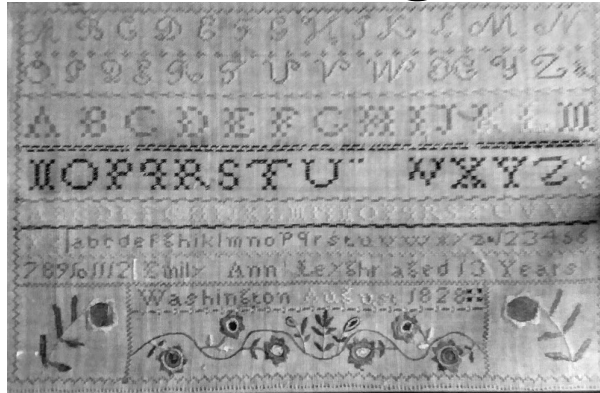
Prescott Visits

The WHS hosted the Prescott Memorial sixth grade in June at Razorville Hall and the Old Town House. WHS members shared the history of our two buildings. Storyboards about Washington's many one room schoolhouses, Clyde Sukeforth, our town's professional baseball player, and the many local stores in our town were shared. Students participated in small group tours of Razorville Hall and a "Where in Washington" photo activity. It was a busy morning visit!



Don Grinnell talks to Prescott sixth graders about the museum.

Back Home to Washington



Spring 2021 brought an unexpected donation to WHS. Martha Johnston-Nash and her cousin, Jean Carney Gallant, visited with Wendy, Hazel and Liz to share information and pictures of the Johnston family. During that visit, Jean donated a framed sampler by Emily Ann Leyghr* of Washington, ME, aged 13 years, dated August 1828.

Samplers were stitched by young girls so they could learn the alphabet and numbers. They also learned basic embroidery stitches and techniques that they would use in sewing and mending clothes for their families. Emily's sampler contains three alphabets in capital letters with each alphabet in a different script. There is one lower case alphabet and there is also a set of numbers from 1 to 12. All the letters and numbers are done in cross-stitch. Floral decorations are done in other embroidery stitches.

Emily Ann Leyghr was born August 24, 1815 in Washington to Henry and Mary (Bowes) Leyghr. She turned 13 years old in the month she completed the sampler. On August 25, 1838 she married Jeremiah Ward Mitchell (Nov. 6, 1814 – Dec. 4, 1899). They made their home on the Mitchell Hill Road in Washington. The site of their home is identified on the 1857 map of Lincoln County, Maine. "Jere" and Emily had at least six children. In the 1880 U.S. census the only child living at home was Ida May, age 25, occupation, teacher. Emily died December 3, 1893. She and Jere were laid to rest in the Maple Grove Cemetery here in Washington.

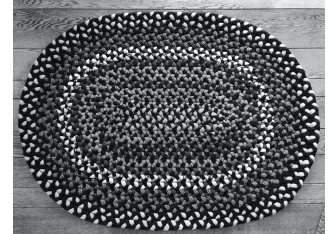
Emily's sampler stayed with family until we received it this spring. The family record on the back of the sampler frame tells us that the sampler went to her daughter Ida May who married Henry Dexter Macomber. Ida May and Henry lived and raised their family in Augusta. Several generations of the Macomber family were guardians of the sampler until Jean brought it home to Washington. Thank you to Jean and Martha for bringing Emily's sampler back to Washington!

*As with many family surnames, the spelling has changed through the years. Leigher is the common spelling used today, while Leyghr was the spelling recorded on the back of the sampler. It has also been spelled Lehr.

Road Documentation Project

Our road documentation project of recording present and as many former residents of all town roads is a work in progress. It was put on hold last winter but we plan to continue next January and February starting up where we left off with the Bill Luce Road. We meet at the Bryant Room and use google maps to virtually travel the town roads. Watch for more info and come join in on this walk back in time.

Multi Colored - Hand Braided Wool Rug Raffle



Size: 32 X 42 inches
Tickets: \$5 each

Winning ticket will be pulled once all 100 tickets have been sold or at the November WHS meeting.

Funds raised will benefit the ongoing maintenance projects of the Washington Historical Society. Tickets will be on sale at WHS Heritage Day.

Washington Community Sale

Thank you to all who supported the sale on July 31! Eight organizations participated earning funds to help their various projects. The passport stamping was a fun addition. Four winning passports won gift certificates from Washington General, Sweet Seasons, Camos, and Blueberry Fields and one a bottle of maple syrup from Blueberry Fields. Thank you to those businesses for donating the prizes. It was fun seeing everyone buzz around town!



Washington Historical Society's Annual:

Heritage Day

September 11th 9am - 1pm

Pie Contest:

Drop off at 9am with judging at 9:30. **\$50 prize for the winner!**
Slices will be available for purchase.

Razorville Hall and the **Old Town House**
will be open for visitors.



Photo taken by Kosti at the Old Town House

Kosti Comes Home: A Glimpse into the Black Star Collection - a Community Conversation with Kevin Johnson of the Penobscot Marine Museum. **Talk starts at 10:30am.**

Annual WHS Heritage Day!

This year will be special with a program featuring the photography works of Kosti Ruohomaa, a nationally known photographer. His photos of Washington's 1948 Town Meeting were published in national magazines and Maine books. He published many pictures from the mid-coast area. Kevin Johnson will share about his work now held by the Penobscot Marine Museum.

Bakers Needed

Bakers needed for our PIE BAKING CONTEST. Pies need to be dropped off between 9 and 9:30 at the Town House. Judging for the "Best Pie" will take place at 9:30. The winner will receive \$50! Slices will be for sale after the Kosti program as a fund raiser for the WHS.

Next year we are planning to have the return of the Washington Community Auction on the last Saturday in July!

Postal Patron

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Washington, ME
Permit # 12

Washington Historical Society
Post Office Box 333
Washington ME 04574-0333

WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Living Off the Land & Water



2022 Calendar

2022 Washington Historical Society Calendar

Our fund raising calendar is now available for a \$10 donation at Gibbs Library, Washington General, Linscott's, Blueberry Fields, Sweet Seasons, and at our events. The theme is "**Living off the Land and Water**". Pictures featured show hard working early residents of our town providing for their families and the town.