

RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND TOWN MUSEUM



Here's what's new at RHS
for February
Even though it's winter, we
are still busy exploring
history!

"Cabin Fever" Tea Saturday February 18th 3-5 pm

Please join us for tea, coffee,
refreshments and good old fashioned
company as we open the Museum
and talk about new donations and
research at the RHS.



February "House of the Month" 121 Garland Road



The Rye Historical Society has started a new program to highlight historically important homes and roads in Rye and Rye Beach. Called "The House/Road of the Month", a different home or road will be featured in our e newsletter and in Rye Magazine.

For our first house in the series, we are pleased to tell you about 121 Garland Road, the "Garland House". This historic Rye homestead was built in 1845 by Moses Garland and his brother Rufus. Moses Garland was married to Adeline

Jenness.

The Garland House was built in the Colonial Revival Style with a pediment and glass around front door and traditional wooden clapboards. It boasts a 12 foot center chimney with 4 fireplaces. Interior details include rosettes at the corners of the molding, a simple pine wood kitchen and a granite stone foundation which can be viewed from basement. Another interior treasure is an

oak banister and stairs in front entrance, completely preserved and still used till this day.

Like many of the homesteads in Rye, the house was a dairy farm and chicken farm. Today it sits on approximately 3.5 acres of land, but originally the farm was probably close to 8 acres in total. A huge fire destroyed the dairy barn around 1974. The barn has been rebuilt using same post and beam construction.

We chose the Garland House because it is the subject of the most recent donation to and exhibit at the RHS. Please visit the museum to see the Garland House heirloom donations exhibit. Included in the donation are heirloom china, silver spoons engraved with family names, baby shoes, a sampler from 1807, binoculars, old Rye postcards and much more.

Research Begins on Rye Beach History

In late 2016, the Toohey family generously donated \$5,000 to the RHS for the purpose of researching and promoting the history of the Rye Beach precinct. Jennifer King, UNH Museum Studies graduate is the research associate for the Rye Beach project.

The research will pave the way for highlighting these and other important aspects of the history of Rye Beach at the RHS and within the community. Among the topics that will be comprehensively researched are the hotels and boarding houses of Rye Beach (the Toohey home was one of the hotels).

- Jen has unearthed fascinating archival information relating to the history of the Toohey's home at 18 Sea Road, the former Rye Beach Inn.
- We are creating a large map of Rye Beach to locate all the pertinent buildings and sites related to the hotel and boarding house resort era (1840's - 1970's).
- Fred Clark has provided a wealth of information that his mother, Susan Sawyer Clark, passed on to him relating to Sawyer's Boarding House, which was located on Sea Road.
- When this project is completed, it will be available for public viewing in the form of exhibit panels and possibly a booklet and a film.

If you have anything about Rye Beach history you would like to share that can help with the research, please contact us.

Our 2017 Membership Drive Continues!

We need you! For 2017 our goal is to reach a milestone of 100 members who will commit to renewing annually. With this number of members we can sustain the work of the society and the museum, add to our programming, expand our research and database and keep our museum open and vital.



Become a RHS member today! Membership Benefits Include:

- **Invitations to members only appreciation events**
- **Discounts on special events, exhibition previews, and community programs**
- **Participation and voting privileges at annual board meeting**
- **10% discount on items from the [Museum's gift shop](#)**
- **A standing invitation to a personal tour of the museum's collection**

Membership Levels:

Individual	\$10.00
Family	\$15.00
Business	\$25.00
Sponsor	\$100.00
Lifetime	\$200.00

***Sponsor and Lifetime members will be acknowledged and thanked at a special spring event**

"In kind" - Volunteer with RHS for 6 hours for membership

Other \$_____ **(ALL levels of donations are gladly accepted!)**

[Click here to join online - it's EASY!](#)

Payment can be made via Pay Pal on our website or by check made out to "Rye Historical Society" and mailed to PO Box 583, Rye NH 03870, or placed in our new mailbox at the museum. Please include your name, mailing address and e-mail.

**A big thanks for joining or renewing your membership
in the Rye Historical Society for 2017:**

**Christine McGill
Peter Clarke
Brain Fitzgerald
Dottie Dack
Francine Holler
Connie Scully**

**Is Your House or Road
Special? Tell Us Why!**

**Share The
History of Your
Home with a**

We're starting a new program at RHS - the Rye "House/Road of the Month". Each month a different house or road will be **featured on our website as well as in Rye Magazine.**

Is your house or road historic and of special interest to the community?

If so, please contact us to enter this month's competition. Don't know much about your house but you know it's significant? **We can help you do the research!**

Email us TODAY at info@ryehistoricalociety.org

Historic House Plaque

Many Rye homes, business and public buildings are adorned with these handsome plaques. The cost of a plaque is \$85.

If you would like one for your home to add to the heritage of the town, house plaque applications may be picked up at the Rye library on the coffee table (behind the RHS brochures).

Check and application may be mailed to PO Box 583, Rye, NH 03870 or left in our mailbox by the front door of the museum.



The Summer Resort of Rye in 1917

The first car was registered in Rye in 1913, but for many years after, they had to share the road with all manner of horse and oxen drawn wagons and buggies. In 1917 most of the early cars appeared only occasionally at any of Rye's eight hotels and many more boarding houses.

The more affordable Model T (\$500 on credit) was not yet as prominent and the roads were still mostly dirt, although Ocean Boulevard was of the best quality, having been built 1902-04 as a major connecting coastal link between the New England states.

Frank Drake donated the hotel guest register (1915-1938) from Drake House to the museum and there one can read names from all over New England, eastern Canada and all the great American cities from as far away as St. Louis which had a strong connection to the resort community from the early days.

The country was about to go to war, and many wealthy former hotel patrons had started building homes in Rye Beach. The Victorian Hotel Resort era would go into slow decline and was replaced by a huge influx of middle class people driving vehicles and demanding cabins, camping areas and restaurants which Rye was only glad to provide.

Winter Hours in Effect for November - April

The Rye Historical Society's Museum will be open for Winter hours starting November 1, 2016



Wednesdays 3 pm to 5 pm
By request - please call for an
appointment 603-997-6742 or email us
at info@ryenhhistoricalsociety.org

Rye Historical Society | 603-997-6742 | info@ryenhhistoricalsociety.org

10 Olde Parish Road, Rye, NH 03870

[Click here to be added to our email list](#)

