



# Historical Society *and* Museum

*The Rye Town Museum is open to visitors on Saturday mornings from 10 to 12 May through October, and at almost all other times by appointment.*

**Make your appointment online:** email us at [info@ryenhistoricalociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhistoricalociety.org), or call 603-436-9278



Schedule  
Visit



*Thomas Cole, Crawford Notch*

## Granite State Gallery

New Hampshire Art and Artists through the Years

Join Jane Oneail as she explores the rich artistic heritage of New Hampshire.  
**Thursday, April 11th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Rye Public Library**



## Memorial Day Trolley Tour

**Monday, May 27: Historical Trolley Tour, 10:30 am. - 12:30 p.m.**  
**Sit back & enjoy a glimpse into Rye's rich history and environment through farming, fishing, tourism and civic life.**

Please join us as we celebrate Memorial Day! This tour introduces riders to many important locations in Rye, featuring sites relevant from a historic and current viewpoint.

The tour, with ongoing historical narration, will leave the museum and proceed up Washington Road to Brown Lane Farm, work its way down to Rye Beach, then head up the coast on Ocean Boulevard to Odiorne Point and back to the museum via Sagamore, Wallis, Brackett and Washington Roads. There are many pullovers with narration including Rye Harbor and the old trolley barn, as well as opportunities to disembark at St. Andrew's Church, the Drake House, and Odiorne graveyard and salt marsh overlook. The tour will end at The Rye Town Museum.

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

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## Recent Donations





The Ocean Wave House, Rye North Beach, N. H.

This postcard of the “Ocean Wave House,” postmarked 1922, came to us all the way from Plainfield, Wisconsin, courtesy of Alvin Schaut. It had been sent to someone in Everett, Massachusetts. Who knows how it ended up in Wisconsin, but Alvin made sure it came home. Much appreciated, Alvin!

Thanks to Jim Macdonald of Rye, we have these wonderful studio photos of John L. and Corinne B. Parsons, dating between 1897 and ca. 1900. The one in 1897 was taken at the well-known Davis Brothers studio in Portsmouth. The one with the furry rug was taken in 1898 at “Foss’ Photograph Studios, Foss Beach, Rye, N.H.” Although the third one is not marked as to photographer or date, it does say the children are about five years old.





Who knows what else we'll find in our mailbox in the weeks and months to come. We will be sure to let you know!

*Lew Karabatsos*  
*Chair, Collections Committee*

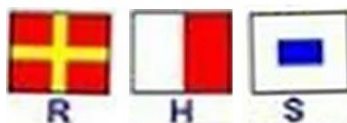
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## **Thank You, Cathie Hodson!**

It is with deep gratitude that the RHS board of directors says good-bye to Cathie Hodson as she leaves the board. Cathie joined the board 'pro-tem' in 2022 to oversee the finances of Rye400, for which the Rye Historical Society was the fiscal sponsor. She enabled us to sleep well knowing her eyes were on the accounting during this special year in Rye's History. Thank you Cathie!

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# COME ABOARD!

## Join the Rye Historical Society Board of Directors

The Rye Historical Society and Museum is seeking qualified, committed members of the community for several open positions on our Board of Directors. Our mission is to engage and educate a diverse population on Rye, New Hampshire's rich history, and to encourage them to make a personal connection with their community.

Our goal for the Board of Directors is to gather a group of energized volunteers who are passionate about our mission and represent diverse professions, backgrounds, ages and skills. Candidates with fundraising experience, technical skills, accounting/financial skills, publicity/social media, a background in education or HR, and general museum/non-profit experience are encouraged to reach out. A love of Rye history is a plus!

Our Board meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom, with quarterly in-person meetings in Rye. Interested? Drop us a note at [info@ryenhistoricalociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhistoricalociety.org), or use the online form at [Board & Mission | Rye Historical Society | Rye, NH\(scroll to the bottom\)](#).

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### THIS MONTH IN RYE HISTORY

April, 1754

## Rye Opens a Road Through Town

Pre-European inhabitants of the New Hampshire coast probably never thought of placing barriers across the trails they used. Early settlers of Sandy Beach and Rye Parish were less considerate. A number of their roads – often following the old trails – became “gate and bar.” Settlers were allowed to run fences across these roads but required to include gates for the traveler to open and close or bars to remove and replace.

As families divided their lands and new settlers arrived, the fences and the annoyance for travelers increased. In April, 1754, only a short stretch of Sandy Beach Road, from the ocean to near what's now Brackett Road, was fence free. Rye's selectmen decided to extend the open road through Rye Center, all the way inland to what's now the intersection of Washington and West Roads. Soon after, the open highway was further extended to Breakfast Hill and linked to the road to Portsmouth.

Gate-and-bar roads still may be found in rural areas. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation refers to them as “class 6 highways.”

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## Ongoing Free Programs



Free Self-Guided  
**Rye Beach Block Tour** **izi.TRAVEL**



**RYE**  
NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Historical Society and Museum

THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH 7:30 PM

**RYE ROOTS**

with the rye historical society  
on Zoom

## Get Involved



**Become a Member**



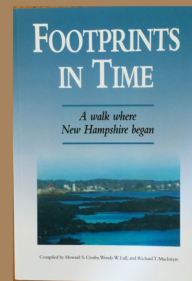
**Make A Donation**



**Volunteer**



**Visit Ye Olde Gift Shoppe**



**Vision:** To preserve and share Rye history by understanding the past, informing the present, and influencing the future.

**Mission:** To engage and educate a diverse population in Rye, New Hampshire's rich history through our programs, collections, and outreach, to encourage them to make a personal connection with their community.

603 436-9278

[info@ryenhistoricalociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhistoricalociety.org)

## Follow RHS on Social Media

Click the Icons below



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