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**NEWS FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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Photographs Available

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Flags, Cartoons, and Lafayette on Tour!

CONCORD, NH--The New Hampshire Historical Society announces the publication of the latest issue of its flagship publication *Historical New Hampshire*. Richly illustrated in full color, this issue features three articles: one unpacks the complicated history of the Society's priceless Revolutionary War flags; another follows the story of the Marquis de Lafayette's celebrated tours of the Granite State and the lasting impact those tours made on New Hampshire; and the third is a graphic article showing how to create historically accurate graphic novels, which have been gaining popularity in recent years as an novel means by which to share traditional tales.



Flag expert **Dave Martucci** explores the findings of his 2016 report on the Society's two Revolutionary War flags, uncovering just how rare these objects are. They are the only set, or "stand," of national and regimental Revolutionary War flags in existence. The buff-colored flag, which is currently on display at the Society's 30 Park Street headquarters, is the only known national flag from the Revolutionary era to have survived to the present day. The history of the two flags—where they were made, how they ended up in British hands, and the remarkable story of how they were returned to New Hampshire—has long been a source of conjecture and controversy. Based on extensive research and the survival of 200-year-old documentation, Martucci establishes the most likely provenance of these objects.



French geographer and historian **Julien Icher** recounts the tale of the Marquis de Lafayette's triumphal tour in the Granite State in 1824 and 1825. Lafayette was the biggest celebrity of his day, and many communities around the state were still commemorating his visit decades afterward. His tour inspired the production of mass-marketed souvenirs and handmade mementos, while the items he actually touched became elevated to the status of relics--several such objects currently reside in the Society's collection. Lafayette left his mark on New Hampshire with plaques, buildings, trees, and even a mountain named in his honor. Icher shares the story of Lafayette's journey, the places he visited, and the people he met during a seven-day tour in which New Hampshire was dubbed the "Granite State" for the first time.

New Hampshire artist **Marek Bennett** offers a delightful primer on the art of creating historical graphic novels. Since its publication in 2016, *The Civil War Diary of Freeman Colby*, Bennett's innovative tale of a teacher-turned-soldier from Henniker, has been delighting audiences of all ages. Bennett himself has traveled throughout the state presenting workshops and seminars on the ways stick figures can change how we look at both history and comics. Bennett's article provides a glimpse into the process of transforming words into images with just a few deceptively simple strokes of a pen and

a great deal of research. In a surprising exploration of primary source texts, visual representations of the past, and the uses of an active imagination, graphic novels offer a creative approach to tell stories.

Historical New Hampshire is a benefit of membership in the New Hampshire Historical Society, and all members will receive a copy by mail in early July. Copies for purchase will be available in the Society's online store or by calling 603-228-6688.

Founded in 1823 the New Hampshire Historical Society is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to saving, preserving, and sharing New Hampshire history. Nowhere will you find a more extensive collection of objects and archives related to New Hampshire's history. The Society shares these vast collections through its research library, museum, website, publications, exhibitions, and youth and adult educational programs. The Society is not a state-funded agency. All of its programs and services are made possible by membership dues and contributions. For more information about the Society and the benefits of membership, visit nhhistory.org or call 603-228-6688.