

SOCIETY LAUNCHES THE THIRD CENTURY CAMPAIGN

The Society has launched a capital campaign—called the Third Century Campaign—with the goal of raising financial support for several critical investments. These investments will help sustain the progress we have made in the past three decades. The focus areas of the Third Century Campaign are:

First, technology: the Society has undergone a digital transformation. With our extensive collections we have always been content-rich, but in the old days someone had to visit us in person to have access to this content. Digital technology opened us up to the world, a transformation that has been truly revolutionary. Today our collections catalog is available online; a large number of our collections have been digitized

and thus accessible from anywhere on the planet; and the majority of our educational programs likewise are accessible from participants' own homes, including our award-winning curriculum, "Moose on the Loose: Social Studies for Granite State Kids." And, today, more new members join the Society through our website than any other source.

The thing about technology is that it's not static—it evolves and constantly changes. We must make some significant investments in our IT systems to keep our programs current and operating at a high level.

Second, we need to make an investment in a new HVAC system at the Hamel Center at Eagle Square,

(continued on page 4)

NEW HAMPSHIRE
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SOCIETY FOUNDED 1823

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nhhistory.org

Newsletter

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William H. Dunlap

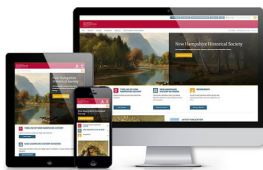
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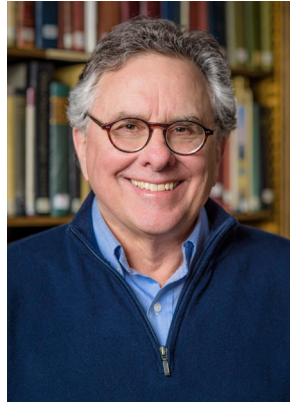
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Bill Dunlap

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the death of David Souter, not only did the nation lose an eminent jurist, the Society itself lost a member of the family. David served two separate eight-year terms as trustee, one term before he went to Washington to join the Supreme Court, and a second one after he returned to New Hampshire. And he was a Society member for many years before his trusteeships. His relationship with the Society began when he was a youngster, when he would visit and spend hours roaming the exhibits and library.

He delighted in telling the story, with a twinkle in his eye, of once being asked to leave due to his being too young. (Children below a certain age could not be in the building without an accompanying adult.)

One of the perks of my job here, and a great privilege, was spending time with David and getting to know him. Of course, he was an outstanding trustee—brilliant, funny, perceptive, and warmly collegial with his fellow board members and the staff. He was a spellbinding raconteur, with an extraordinary gift for remembering details about people and events from his fascinating life. His telling of these stories more often than not ended with laughter—his and his audience's. Along with the humor there was often great insight embedded in what he said. When he spoke you laughed, *and* you thought.

David Souter valued history for its ideas and for what it teaches us. We were lucky to have him.

In preparing to write this, I decided to watch some of the video recordings of David's U.S. Senate confirmation hearings from 1990. I was transported back to those whirlwind days following his nomination and reminded of the immense pride we in his home state all felt. The cadences and intonations of that wonderful Yankee voice were windows into a person embodying an extraordinary combination of intelligence and character. For greatness, one without the other is not sufficient, and he had both in the highest measure.

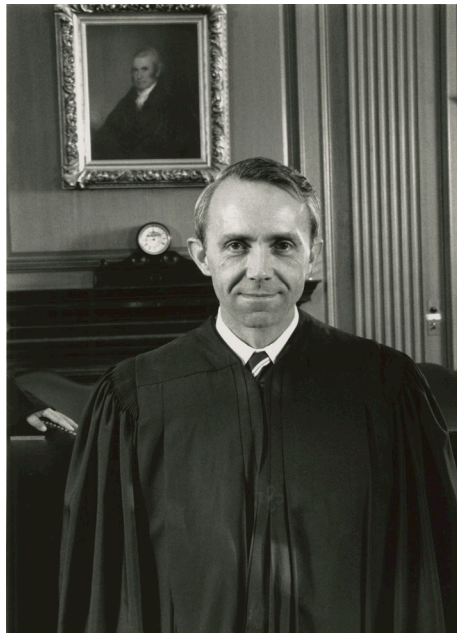
David was the perfect distillation of the understated New Hampshire and New England persona, with modesty, integrity, and empathy, backed up by a lightning-fast mind. Judicial temperament requires both judgment and empathy. As David stated in his Senate hearing: "Whatever court we are in, whatever we are doing, whether in a trial court or an appellate court, at the end of our task some human being is going to be affected. ... So we had better use every power of our minds and our hearts and our beings to get those rulings right."

David valued history for its ideas and for what it teaches us. And I think he esteemed—really, treasured—the New Hampshire Historical Society because we, as other institutions like us, are the safekeepers of our democracy’s ideals and values. In his years on the Society’s board of trustees he championed most of all our work in education. He told me more than once that the Democracy Project and its curriculum, “Moose on the Loose,” were the most significant initiatives of the Society during his many decades of involvement.

David was extremely concerned with the state of civic literacy in the nation, as exemplified by this famous quote from an appearance in Concord in 2012: “What I worry about is that when problems are not addressed, people will not know who is responsible.

And when the problems get bad enough, some one person will come forward and say, ‘Give me total power and I will solve this problem.’ That is how the Roman republic fell. ...That is the way that democracy dies. And if something is not done to improve the level of civic knowledge, that is what you should worry about at night.”

David Souter: the New Hampshire Historical Society—and our entire nation—were lucky to have him.



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THIRD CENTURY CAMPAIGN

(continued from page 1)

our collections management center. Our unique and irreplaceable collections must have a stable, climate-controlled environment for their long-term preservation. The current system is over 30 years old, about 10 years beyond its projected useful life. It requires more maintenance every year and is at risk of catastrophic failure. Installing a new state of the art system to continue to take the best possible care of the collections is a top priority.

Third, there are investments we need to make in our very successful Democracy Project and its nationally acclaimed educational curriculum, “Moose on the Loose.” This project has been an unalloyed success, with over 33,000 visitors to the website annually. Over 150 New Hampshire schools now use the “Moose,” reaching tens of thousands of school children every year. In addition to developing and distributing this curriculum, we have provided training to over 800 classroom educators. This project has filled a tremendous void in our state’s educational offerings.

The “Moose” curriculum was originally developed to serve grades 3-6. Recently our state’s educational community has asked us to expand it to the K-2, middle school, and high school grades. This will allow us to reach even more kids, educating them about our history, democratic system of government, geography, economic system, and the values and norms of our civil society. With this effort we are helping to create informed citizens of the future.

Other focus areas of the Third Century Campaign are to fund repointing of our National Register-listed building on Park Street and to add to the Society’s endowment.

The total fundraising goal for the Third Century Campaign is \$5.75 million. Over the past year we have been in the quiet phase of the campaign, and we are pleased to report we have raised just over \$4 million in gifts and pledges thus far, still leaving almost \$2 million to go. For more information or to make a gift, please contact Society President Bill Dunlap at bdunlap@nhhistory.org or at 603-494-4752.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

In-person programs will be held at the New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park Street, Concord, unless otherwise noted. For the most up-to-date information on programs and events, visit nhhistory.org and sign up to receive the Society’s e-newsletter.

Virtual Lecture: Staging Nostalgia in the Old Home Movement

Wednesday, January 14, 2026, 7 p.m.

The Old Home celebrations of the early 1900s sought to spark rural revitalization by appealing to nostalgia. Local festivities beckoned former New Hampshireites to return to the state for summer celebrations filled with performances of bucolic charm: parades, pageants, plays, and pie-eating contests. Join New Hampshire native **Andy Colpitts**, a theater artist and PhD candidate at Cornell University, as he explores how this invented tradition became an authentic expression of regional culture through the intersection of nostalgia and theater. This program, conducted via Zoom, is free for everyone. Advance registration is required through the Programs & Events Calendar on the Society’s website at nhhistory.org.



Curator’s Tour: The American Revolution at the New Hampshire Historical Society

Saturday, January 17, 2026, 2 p.m.

Join Director of Education **Elizabeth Dubrulle** on a tour of the Society’s new exhibition, *If You Had to Choose: Patriots and Loyalists in Revolutionary New Hampshire*. Follow the stories of nearly a dozen New Hampshireites as they decide which side to support in what became America’s first civil war. The tour will also include the Society’s rare Revolutionary War flags and other objects currently on display associated with the conflict. Admission is free for Society members, \$10 for nonmembers. No registration required.

Lecture & Book Signing: Listening to New England Saturday, January 24, 2026, 2 p.m.

Drawing from his nearly half century of reporting and writing about the unique people and places of New England for *Yankee* magazine, **Mel Allen** helps us see and feel the region in a unique way, much as he does in his new book, *Here in New England: Unforgettable Stories of People, Places and Memories That Connect Us All*. Allen talks about *Yankee's* past and how it has survived for 90 years since its founding in 1935. This program is free, and copies of Allen's book will be available for sale and signing at the event. No registration required.

Virtual Lecture: Turning Craft into Technology: Standardization in the U.S. Stone and Brick Industries, 1880–1940

Wednesday, January 28, 2026, 7 p.m.

Brick and stone have been used for thousands of years. However, in the early 20th century they were scientifically investigated, tested, and classified to create material standards: rules that could be inserted into building codes. These standards erased regional variations and craft traditions. Northeastern University doctoral candidate **Alicia Svenson** examines the social and economic forces involved with this process of standardization. This program, conducted via Zoom, is free for everyone. Advance registration is required through the Programs & Events Calendar on the Society's website at nhhistory.org.

Screening & Discussion: *The American Revolution: Spirit of Service*

Saturday, January 31, 2026, 10 a.m.

Location: Red River Theatres, Concord

Join **Red River Theatres**, the New Hampshire Historical Society, and **New Hampshire PBS** for a special screening of *Spirit of Service*, an excerpt from the Ken Burns documentary *The American Revolution* that explores the enduring ideal of service in American life and how the most diverse population of the 18th century came together to form a nation. Following the screening, guests are invited to stay to learn 10 things you may not know about New Hampshire's role in the American Revolution with the Society's Mary Adams, followed by a brief, moderated discussion. This event offers an opportunity to connect national events with our own history right here in the Granite State. The cost is \$5, and tickets can be purchased online at redrivertheatres.org.



Family Program: Family Fun Day Saturday, January 31, 2026, 2 to 4 p.m.

Bring the whole family to the New Hampshire Historical Society for an afternoon of games, crafts, and storytelling. Explore the historic building, tour the exhibits, test your knowledge of Granite State trivia, and make a New Hampshire-themed craft to take home. Introduce your kids or grandkids to the special things that make New Hampshire a wonderful place to live! Family Fun Day is geared for families with kids ages 6 to 10, but all are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required. Admission is free thanks to a generous contribution from **Concord Pediatric Dentistry**.

Concert: Dance Music of the Revolutionary Era in New England

Saturday, February 7, 2026, 2 p.m.

Music ensemble **Colonial Minstrels** will perform popular instrumental music of Revolutionary-era New England on flute, whistle, fife, and recorder. The performers will also discuss the background of the tunes selected and the instruments played. Admission is free for Society members, \$10 for nonmembers. No registration required.

Virtual Lecture: Letters from Home: Northern New England Women and the American Civil War Wednesday, February 11, 2026, 7 p.m.

Savannah Clark focuses on the wartime experiences of women from the states of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont in this virtual lecture. Northern New England women lived far from Civil War battlefields, but they were deeply impacted by the conflict. Clark, a doctoral candidate at the University of Maine, uses letters written by women to explore how they dealt with the political, economic, and emotional trials of the Civil War. This program, conducted via Zoom, is free for everyone. Advance registration is required through the Programs & Events Calendar on the Society's website at nhhistory.org.

Lecture: Why Democracy?**Saturday, February 21, 2026, 2 p.m.**

Democracy is taken to be an obvious good. It often seems like the one thing we can agree on in a political debate. After all, only dictators and fools question the value of democracy, right? And yet, the benefit of democracy has been challenged again and again throughout history. **Joshua Duclos** leads this program that seeks to analyze, articulate, and explore the arguments on which democracy is grounded. This lecture is offered through the **Humanities to Go** program of New Hampshire Humanities, and admission is free.

Virtual Lecture: The Civilian Conservation Corps in New Hampshire**Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 7 p.m.**

A flagship program of the New Deal, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was one of several federal programs that turned to the natural and built environment to help strengthen social and cultural unity throughout the Great Depression. **James Fortuna**, a visiting scholar at Columbia University, investigates the CCC's role as an agent of national transformation, with a focus on New England. This program, conducted via Zoom, is free for everyone. Advance registration is required through the Programs & Events Calendar on the Society's website at nhhistory.org.

Lecture: Maple Sugaring in New England**Saturday, February 28, 2026, 2 p.m.**

From steel buckets and oxen-drawn wagons to the advanced technology used today, maple syrup production has changed considerably over time. But one thing has remained constant—maple trees and their sweet sap. Join **Steven Roberge**, University of New Hampshire's State Extension Forester, to learn about the history, production, and biology of maple sugaring. Admission is free for Society members, \$10 for nonmembers. No registration required.

Family Program: Aspiring Artists: White Mountain Landscapes**Saturday, March 7, 2026, 10 a.m. to noon**

Shake off the winter doldrums by exploring New Hampshire's natural beauty. Kids will learn about White Mountain landscape art and its importance to the Granite State, then create their own landscapes with a variety of art materials. This program is geared for ages 5 to 9, but all are welcome. Children must be

accompanied by an adult. No registration required. Admission is free thanks to a generous contribution from **Concord Pediatric Dentistry**.

Lecture: Reviving 19th-Century Art in the 21st Century**Saturday, March 7, 2026, 2 p.m.**

Artist **Erik Koeppel** shares some of his original oil paintings and speaks about his work to revive 19th-century aesthetics in landscape art. Koeppel's lectures are noted for spontaneity and depth as the conversation between artist and audience gives rise to a variety of topics concerning art, history, philosophy, and life. A professional artist with degrees from the Rhode Island School of Design and the New York Academy of Art, Koeppel has paintings in both private and public collections around the world. Admission is free for Society members, \$10 for nonmembers. No registration required.

Virtual Lecture: Elizabeth Gurley Flynn: A Rebel for Our Time**Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 7 p.m.**

New Hampshire-born Elizabeth Gurley Flynn was nicknamed the Rebel Girl because she fought to free women and workers from exploitation and injustice, but her legacy became controversial when a state historical marker was raised in her honor a few years ago. Join **Mary Anne Trasciatti**, professor of rhetoric at Hofstra University, to learn about Flynn's story and her fight for a better world. This program, conducted via Zoom, is free for everyone. Advance registration is required through the Programs & Events Calendar on the Society's website at nhhistory.org.

Lecture & Book Signing: *Grappone Automotive: The Founding***Saturday, March 14, 2026, 2 p.m.**

In the hill country of southern Italy in the late 1800s, two families—the Grappones and the D'Orlandos—eked out an existence as their ancestors had for generations. Both looked to America for a better life. In New Hampshire, their families came together and purchased a small filling station, just as the automobile craze took off in the 1920s. From these seeds grew the Grappone Automotive Group, the largest collection of car dealerships in the state. Join **Amanda Grappone Osmer** as she shares this quintessential tale of the American dream. This program is free, and copies of Osmer's book will be available for sale and signing at the event. No registration required.

Genealogy Workshop: Using Revolutionary War Records

Saturday, March 21, 2026, 1 to 4 p.m.

Understand how to locate and best utilize Revolutionary War muster rolls and service records to learn about your ancestor. **David Allen Lambert** from American Ancestors presents an overview of local, state, and federal sources to find and track individual soldiers. The cost of this workshop is \$40 for members and \$55 for nonmembers. Space is limited, and registration is required. Register through the Programs & Events Calendar on the Society's website.



Mount Washington and North Conway, N.H., Frederic Edwin Church (1826–1900), circa 1856. New Hampshire Historical Society, gift of Catherine H. Campbell in memory of Crawford J. Campbell. A free virtual program on March 25 will explore how the New England landscape influenced Church, one of the most famous American artists of the 19th century.

Virtual Lecture: Frederic Church, New England Landscapes, and the Fate of a Nation

Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 7 p.m.

When the United States was still young, Frederic Church helped put American art on the map of world culture. Church, lauded internationally as the first great painter born in the so-called New World, forged an original visual language composed of sky, earth, water, and light. In this richly illustrated talk, biographer **Victoria Johnson** shows how Church drew on his New England heritage to convey both his passion for the earth's natural beauty and his love for his country. This program, conducted via Zoom, is free for everyone. Advance registration is required through the Programs & Events Calendar on the Society's website at nhhistory.org.

Family Program: Redcoats & Rebels: Pick Your Path

Saturday, March 28, 2026, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Reenact the American Revolution with a role-playing game at the New Hampshire Historical Society. Kids will immerse themselves in New Hampshire's fight for independence from Britain. Each child will create a character that will have to choose sides in the journey from colony to country. This program is geared for kids ages 8 to 13, and children must be accompanied by an adult. Advance registration is required through the Programs & Events Calendar on the Society's website at nhhistory.org. Admission is free thanks to a generous contribution from **Concord Pediatric Dentistry**.



Lecture: Portraits of a Revolution

Saturday, March 28, 2026, 2 p.m.

This program explores American portraits painted and sculpted in the years surrounding the Revolution. The ideals, values, and virtues expressly stated in our founding documents are easily identifiable in these portraits once we know how to "read" them. Guided by art historian **Inez McDermott**, audiences will be introduced to, and practice, some skills of art analysis and learn how art can reveal so much about a culture. This lecture is offered through the **Humanities to Go** program of New Hampshire Humanities, and admission is free.

Genealogy Workshop: Researching Women in the American Revolution

Saturday, April 11, 2026, 1 to 4 p.m.

Men were certainly not the only ones affected by—or involved in—the American Revolution. Women boycotted British goods, produced home-spun cloth and supplies for soldiers, and even took to the battlefield on occasion. This workshop, led by **Melanie McComb** from American Ancestors, looks at women's role in the fight for American Independence and how to research your female ancestors during this period. The cost of this workshop is \$40 for members and \$55 for nonmembers. Space is limited, and registration is required. Register through the Programs & Events Calendar on the Society's website.

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VISIT THE MCAULIFFE-SHEPARD DISCOVERY CENTER



The main entrance of the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center features a 92-foot-high replica of the Mercury-Redstone Rocket that launched Alan Shepard into space on May 5, 1961. Shepard, a native of Derry, was the first American in space.

The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center and the New Hampshire Historical Society are teaming up to offer a membership exchange. During the month of February 2026, Society members and up to three guests will receive free general admission to the Discovery Center. Members of the Discovery Center will be able to visit the Society at no cost as well. To take advantage of this special offer, present your valid Society membership card at the Discovery Center's admission desk.

The Discovery Center, located at 2 Institute Drive in Concord, is an air and space museum dedicated to New Hampshire space pioneers Christa McAuliffe and Alan Shepard. Visitors can engage with hands-on exhibits on space exploration, science, and technology, including a space shuttle replica, learn about planets, and discover astronaut training and life in space. For more information about hours, exhibitions, and programs, visit starhop.com or call 603-271-7827.