

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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2020

MAINE200

LEADING THE WAY

MAINE200.ORG

State of Maine
Bicentennial
Commemoration
FINAL REPORT

Autumn, 2022

A large, stylized orange banner with a slight 3D effect and a shadow, featuring the word "DIRIGO" in white, bold, serif, uppercase letters. The banner is positioned at the bottom of the page, partially overlapping the "FINAL REPORT" text.

A note from Maine Bicentennial Commission Chairman Sen. Bill Diamond:

To all citizens of Maine:

Few states capture the imagination of the public the way that Maine does.

In observance of our 200th year of statehood, we reflect upon our rich history, one that for some of our communities extends back thousands of years; and, yet, for our new Mainers, is as fresh as yesterday. Maine's story of struggle, perseverance, and triumph tells us as much about the character of our people as it describes our relationship to this place we call home.



Regardless of how long we have been here, the elements of Maine that challenge and comfort and inspire us remain the same. From the crisp air atop Katahdin, to the wind's whisper in Monhegan's Cathedral Pines, Maine is blessed with an abundance of natural beauty.

But it is Maine's other natural resource, our people, that makes this state so special. The spirit which prompted our ancestors and neighbors to come here at the very beginning, and the efforts of those who stayed to forge this extraordinary place, live within us. They are our past. They define our present. And they assure our future.

The Maine Bicentennial Commission was charged with guiding the State's bicentennial commemoration by providing a reflection on what has gone before, fostering appreciation of that which is with us today, and promoting a resolve to safeguard that which we hold so dear so that future generations can share this wonderful state, this place we know, this Maine.

Our commemoration was delayed and curtailed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, with precautionary closures and prohibitions on public gatherings going into effect just days before we planned to host our Statehood Day ceremony on March 15, 2020. Even so, we were able to accomplish many of our goals to mark this milestone in our State's history.

Planning for the bicentennial began in 2017, with the unveiling of the bicentennial license plate, and we had a successful kickoff day, with Gov. Janet T. Mills visiting Presque Isle, Augusta, Portland and Bangor in July of 2019 to raise the bicentennial flag and dedicate tricentennial pine groves. We envision that those trees will link the tricentennial commemoration in 2120 with our own.

We postponed many aspects of our bicentennial commemoration into 2021, hosting a historic State of Maine Bicentennial Parade presented by Poland Spring, in partnership with the cities of Lewiston and Auburn in August 2021, with more than 100 units and many happy families in attendance.

Also during the summer of 2021, Gov. Mills joined the commission in Rockland for a bicentennial concert featuring Bella Barnes, Schooner Fare, and the Dave Mallett Band along with a tall ships visit; and the U.S. Coast Guard brought its barque EAGLE to Portland Harbor for public tours.

The Bicentennial Community Grant program was also a success, as the commission granted more than \$667,000 to 170 successful applicants across every county for programs and events promoting public education about various aspects of Maine life and culture.

The fall of 2021 saw a surge in Covid cases and we could not host the Innovation Expo and the rest of the bicentennial concert series as planned, nor have a rescheduled in-person Statehood Day ceremony. However, Maine Public has agreed to create a video production reflecting on Maine statehood, which will be even more widely available and engaging.

All of our work was made possible by the corporate sponsors, partners and volunteers who supported Maine200 over the past five years, whose contributions helped make the commemoration a success and I'd like to thank them for their unwavering support during such uncertain times.

We closed out the commemoration with a dedication ceremony for the Bicentennial Time Capsule, on March 15, 2022 at the Maine State Library. Several "time capsule keepers" were in attendance and we look to them to maintain the capsule and ensure additional items are added on milestone statehood anniversaries leading up to the unsealing on Maine's tricentennial Statehood Day in 2120.

Although the impact of the pandemic caused our bicentennial commemoration to be curtailed, we are proud of the events and programs we were able to accomplish and feel that we have met the mission and vision to which we committed at the outset. It is our hope that those efforts have inspired Mainers of today and into the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Hammond". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "B".

Looking back on two centuries of Statehood:

Maine.

Where to begin?

Do we begin with the Ice Age that over-ran this land, pushing it southward into the Atlantic Ocean, then receding and leaving what we now call the Gulf of Maine to become one of the outstanding fisheries in the world?

Or do we accept the Gulf and the Ice Age and consider first the people who came overland from the north and west, or who traveled along the eastern seaboard of this continent to find food in the forests and waters here? After all, their time here is considerably longer than the mere 200 years of what we commemorate today as statehood.

Theirs was a time measured not in centuries, but in millennia. And they were the first to know and love this place for its abundant natural resources.

The first fishermen and explorers from Europe did not arrive here intent on staying until barely 400 years ago. And, for more than 150 years thereafter, their staying was not always welcome, not always peaceful, and not always plentiful.

Within those populations the struggle to survive and the struggle to dominate almost went hand in hand. Throughout, the fishery and the forest drove outside interest in the place identified as Maine. As order either evolved or was imposed, a government took hold in the villages and towns, overseen by a larger and distant force, the colony and then Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Even then, many of those who called Maine home chafed at the lack of political power and the inability for the Province of Maine to govern itself. Following the American Revolution and the formal granting of statehood to its New England neighbors, Maine civic and business leaders began agitating for Maine to become a state.

The support for statehood was not unanimous, but it was unshakable. Politicians took the measure of public will several times, trying to find a voting majority to favor separating Maine from Massachusetts.

Popular support in Maine was one element of the process.

Becoming a state needed federal approval, and that presented a challenge. Religious and political leaders, and the public, generally, opposed slavery.



Molly Molasses, Penobscot

More than rejecting slavery in Maine, the call from here – loud and clear – was to abolish slavery in the United States.

The opposition to slavery was so identified with Maine that the proposal



Postcard depicting slave sale. *Library of Congress*

to allow Maine to become a state – and with it the disruption of the balance of power in Congress – was more than the southern states could support.

To counter the addition of anti-slavery votes, a compromise was proposed for Maine to become a state, but to allow Missouri to become one, too, and for slavery to be allowed there.

The Maine-Missouri Compromise enabled Maine to become the 23rd state of the United States, but it did nothing to resolve the dispute about slavery.

As Maine embraced its new status and sought to identify itself, William King, the first Governor, asked for an expedition to travel the Penobscot and St. John rivers to define more clearly the state's eastern and northern dimensions and features.

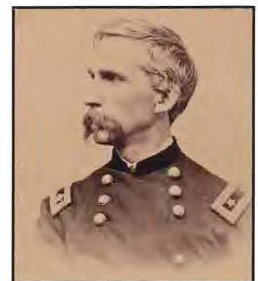
Even then, it would be more than 20 years before Maine's northern boundary with Canada would be resolved with the Webster-Ashburton Treaty.

A provision of that treaty stoked the anti-slavery feelings throughout the North by declining to call for the extradition from Canada of runaway slaves. The Underground Railway would flourish because of it, and Maine would be part of it.

The gubernatorial election of Republican Israel Washburn in September 1860 prompted South Carolina and then other states to prepare for secession from the United States. The southern states figured that if Washburn prevailed, so, too, would Abraham Lincoln in the national election, and that Lincoln would attempt to end slavery.

The Civil War soon ensued, and Maine played an out-sized role in its conduct and in its outcome.

Politicians, military leaders, social activists, and simple soldiers demonstrated the character for which Maine people became well known. Francis Fessenden, Rufus Ingalls, Joshua Chamberlain, Dorothea Dix, Sarah Sampson, John Hodsdon, Erasmus Keyes, Edward Kellerman Harding, Hannibal Hamlin, John Poor, Thomas Hyde – literally thousands of Maine people contributed at home and at the war front in what was



Gen. Joshua Chamberlain

the single most disruptive and transformative event in Maine's young history.

More than 70,000 Maine men served in the army or the navy during the war, and their efforts were boosted by a similar number of local and state government officials, families and volunteers whose efforts on the home front moved Maine forward.

The accomplishments and influence Maine and its people earned during the Civil War continued through the balance of the 19th Century. James G. Blaine and Thomas Brackett Reed rose to national and international prominence as skilled politicians and government leaders.

The 20th Century saw the rise of the entrepreneurs and industrialists in Maine. Hugh Chisholm designed and built Rumford Falls as he gathered the mills that would come to be known as International Paper Company.

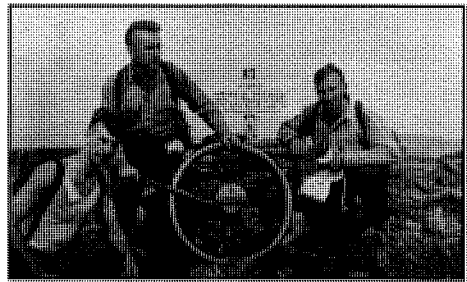
Similarly, people like George H. Bass and Leon Leonwood Bean began making their marks as businessmen in footwear, and Walter Wyman drew small electric companies together to form Central Maine Power.

People of vision, ambition and ingenuity thrived in Maine because they could take ideas and bring them into reality – whether it was Kingfield's Amos Winter carving out a ski trail that would grow to become Sugarloaf, Lubec's Myron Avery driving the construction of the Appalachian Trail, Portland's Percival Baxter assembling the properties that would become Baxter Park, Northeast Harbor's John Rockefeller leading the way to the formation of Acadia National Park, or Rachel Carson awakening the environmental movement from her Southport cottage.

Those are but a few of the people whose contributions resulted in a lasting impact and value – and there are countless other examples through to modern Maine of those for whom Maine was the landscape and seascape upon which they would work their life's masterpiece.

Painters, historians, novelists, poets, basketmakers, singers, actors, sculptors – artists of all kinds – found inspiration in Maine's creative environment. And their impact upon the world's cultural landscape has been enormous.

And when the world needed political and governmental leadership, Maine answered the call again in the 20th and 21st centuries. Margaret Chase Smith of Skowhegan, Edmund Muskie of Rumford, Bangor's William Cohen, and Waterville's George Mitchell proved to be people of



Myron Avery and friends, Appalachian Trail



Sen. Margaret Chase Smith

character in legislative and diplomatic accomplishments on national and global levels.

The attributes that so mark Maine as a place – the clean air, healthy forest, pristine lakes, and ocean – is only part of the story. Maine’s people, too, have become known by their shared traits, such as a strong work ethic, rugged individualism, and a sense of almost stubborn independence.

Those traits are easy to trace from our early inhabitants, long before Maine became a state, through to the present.

As Maine commemorates the 200th year of its statehood, it does so knowing that the future beckons, and that it will test the qualities that have long marked this special state.

If it is accepted that past is but prologue, the next 100 years for Maine begins with confidence that the challenges will be met and that the motto adopted by the state at the beginning will remain true: “Dirigo.”

~ *Maine Bicentennial Commission Vice Chairman and former State Archivist David R. Cheever*



Working at a textile mill

Happy 200TH Birthday Maine!

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The Act of Admission,

An Act for the Admission of the State of Maine into the Union.

Whereas, by an Act of the State of Massachusetts, passed on the Nineteenth day of June, in the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen, entitled "An Act relating to the Separation of the District of Maine from Massachusetts Proper, and forming the same into a separate and independent State; the People of that part of Massachusetts heretofore known as the District of Maine did, with the consent of the Legislature of said State of Massachusetts, form themselves into an independent State, and did establish a Constitution for the Government of the same, agreeably to the Provisions of said Act—Therefore—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, from and after the fifteenth day of March, in the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty, the State of Maine is hereby declared to be one of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatever.

H. Clay, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
John Gaillard, President of the Senate pro tempore.

Washington, March 3^d 1820.

Approved.

James Monroe.

I certify that the within is a true copy of—
"An Act for the Admission of the State of Maine into the Union," accurately transcribed from the original Roll deposited in the Office of the Department of State of the United States, according to laws for safe-keeping

In testimony whereof, I, John Quincy Adams, Secretary of the Department above said, have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the Seal of Office of said Department to be affixed, this third Day of March, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty, and of the Independence of the United States the forty-fourth.
John Quincy Adams

Courtesy of the Maine State Archives

An act for the Admission of the State of Maine into the Union.

Whereas, by an Act of the State of Massachusetts, passed on the nineteenth day of June, in the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen, entitled “An Act relating to the Separation of the District of Maine from Massachusetts Proper,” and forming the same into a separate and independent State; the People of that part of Massachusetts heretofore known as the District of Maine did, with the consent of the Legislature of said State of Massachusetts, form themselves into an independent State, and did establish a constitution for the government of the same, agreeably to the provisions of said Act—Therefore –

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H. Clay, Speaker of the House of Representatives

John Gaillard, President of the Senate pro tempore

Washington, March 3rd, 1820.

Approved, James Monroe.

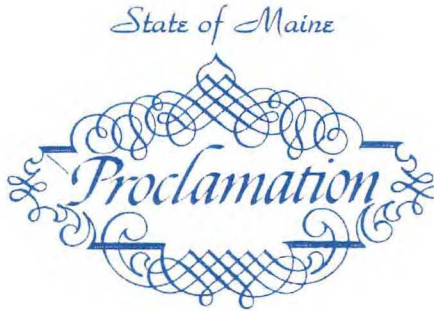
BACK (Inset):

I certify that the within is a true copy of “An Act for the Admission of the State of Maine into the Union,” accurately transcribed from the original Roll deposited in the Office of the Department of State of the United States, according to Law, for safe-keeping.

In testimony whereof I, John Quincy Adams, Secretary of the Department aforesaid, have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the Seal of Office of said Department to be affixed, this third day of March, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty; and of the Independence of the United States the Forty-Fourth.

John Quincy Adams

Bicentennial Statehood Day Proclamation



WHEREAS, the citizens of Maine on July 26, 1819, voted decisively in support of Maine separating from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and becoming an independent state; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress received Maine's petition for statehood and voted affirmatively to accept Maine as the 23rd State of the United States; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Secretary of State James Monroe notified Maine that it would be formally and legally an independent state beginning on March 15, 1820; and

WHEREAS, March 15, 2020, marks the 200th anniversary of the achievement of Maine statehood;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim March 15, 2020 as

Maine Statehood Day


throughout the State of Maine in honor of attaining 200 years of independence, and I encourage all Maine citizens to mark the occasion in reflection, appreciation, and resolve.



In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this thirteenth day of January Two Thousand Twenty



Janet T. Mills
Governor



Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State



Pictured from left at the Friday, Jan. 4, 2019 Maine Bicentennial Commission meeting in Gov. Janet Mills' cabinet room are, from left: Peter Merrill (Maine State Housing director), Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap, Steve Bromage (Maine Historical Society director), Julie Richard (Maine Arts Commission director), Sen. James Hamper, Rep. Jim Handy, Kristen Schulze Muszynski (communications director, Office of Secretary of State), Jamie Ritter (Maine State Librarian), Gov. Janet Mills, Sen. Bill Diamond, Hayden Anderson (Maine Humanities Council), Heather Perry (Gorham school district superintendent) Hon. Meredith Strang Burgess (Burgess Advertising and Marketing), Jason C. Libby (Maine Historic Preservation Commission), David Cheever (State Archivist), Sen. Roger Katz, Dana Connors (Maine Chamber of Commerce president) and Jim Mitchell.

Maine200 Vision & Mission:

VISION STATEMENT

Maine's bicentennial is a unique occasion to draw residents, visitors, public servants and private businesses together to commemorate 200 years of statehood, celebrate Maine's present, and inspire a healthy and prosperous future.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Maine Bicentennial Commission exists to plan, administer and coordinate programs and projects that commemorate Maine's 200th anniversary of statehood, with three major goals:

- To explore Maine's history from the many perspectives of its multiple past and current populations;
- To celebrate Maine's present people, places, institutions and economy; and
- To envision the public and private actions that will enhance Maine's future prosperity.



1820



2020

MAINE 200

LEADING THE WAY



Maine.

Where we began.

Where we'll always be.

Bangor Savings Bank began by serving the people working in the timber and lumber trade industry on the Bangor waterfront. Over 168 years later, we continue to grow and invest in our employees, our customers, and our communities.

Our continued success and growth has been built on our commitment to deliver our **You Matter More** promise to the people of Maine and beyond. We are proud to be a part of this great state – together we are creating something better.

Bangor
Savings Bank

You matter more.®

Member FDIC

The Maine Bicentennial Commission

The 128th Maine Legislature created the Bicentennial Commission via Legislative Resolve Chapter 25, charging the group to “prepare and administer a plan and program for the celebration of the State’s bicentennial.” The commission began meeting in January of 2018 through 2021 and is made up of both appointed members and volunteers who serve as committee members. Due to the extended commemoration period, not all members served concurrently.

BICENTENNIAL COMMISSIONERS

Gov. Janet Mills
Sen. Bill Diamond, Chairman
David Cheever, Vice Chairman
Dana Connors, Maine Chamber of Commerce
Peter Merrill, Maine State Housing Authority
James Ritter, Maine State Librarian
Hayden Anderson, Maine Humanities Council
Rep. Richard Campbell
Rep. Christopher W. Babbidge
Steve Bromage, Maine Historical Society
Joanne D’Arcangelo
Matthew Dunlap, Secretary of State
Bernard Fishman, Maine State Museum
Rep. Jim Handy
Jason C. Libby, Maine Historic Preservation Commission
Donna M. Loring

Samantha Warren, University of Maine System
Heather Perry, Gorham Superintendent of Schools
Julie Richard, Maine Arts Commission
Alison Sucey, Maine Tourism Association
Becky Smith, Maine Community College System
Sen. James Hamper
Julie Rabinowitz
Nina Fisher
Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State
David Greenham, Maine Arts Commission
Staff: Bradley Sawyer and Alyssa Wood

MAINE200 VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Hon. Meredith Strang Burgess, Burgess Advertising & Marketing
Lorna Hatch, Maine VA Togus, Ret.
Kristen Schulze Muszynski, Maine Secretary of State’s Office
Jim Mitchell, Mitchell, Tardy & Jackson
Tammy Knight, Dept. Economic & Community Development
Tandy Boynton, Maine Community College System
Rep. Mark Bryant
Rebecca Graham, Maine Municipal Association
The Hon. Roger Katz
The Hon. Charles Kruger
The State of Maine Bicentennial Parade Subcommittee of Lewiston and Auburn

With 60 years of service to the people of the great State of Maine, The DiMillo Family is so proud to be a sponsor of the Maine200 Celebration.



Happy Birthday, State of Maine

We are proud to support the bicentennial of our great state and the communities that call it home.



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A Shared History

Maine is a story of the land.
Of the mountains of ice that shaped it,
Of the forests above,
And the vast, hidden waters below.

Maine is also a story of its people,
Their fortitude, pioneering spirit,
And the communities they have built.

Mainers have been building Maine since 1820,
And Poland Spring has been here for them since 1845.

Happy anniversary, Maine.
We are proud to be a part of your history.



Poland Spring ^{ESTD} 1845 BORN IN MAINE 175th CELEBRATION 1845-2020

100% NATURAL SPRING WATER
FROM THE HEART OF MAINE.

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Maine200.org Website Launch - 2018



The commission launched the Maine200.org website in October 2018 with a press event at the Maine Historical Society in Portland. Pictured from left are the web design team from Burgess Advertising & Marketing: Christina Hill, Oliver Payne, John Spritz; Eric Tompkins, president of Aptuiv, which hosted the website; and members of the Maine Bicentennial Commission in attendance: State Archivist David Cheever, Steve Bromage (Maine Historical Society), Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap, Rep. Jim Handy, Alison Sucus (Maine Tourism Association), Heather Perry (superintendent of Gorham School Department), Rep. Mark Bryant, Commission Chairman Bill Diamond, Kristen Muszynski, commission staff support from the Maine Department of the Secretary of State, and Dana Connors (Maine State Chamber Of Commerce).

Created by Burgess Advertising in Falmouth, the Maine Bicentennial Commission website, www.Maine200.org, served as the hub for all bicentennial information. The calendar listed commission-hosted events as well as other entities' bicentennial efforts across the state, while our resources page offered curriculum guidance for educators, created by the Education Subcommittee, plus videos and links directing visitors to learn more about Maine. The website also included photographs and press releases about the bicentennial commission efforts; and a link to our webstore, including local items that used the Maine200 logo (from maple syrup to axes) and commission products sold via The Advertising Specialists of Maine. Maine200 was also active on social media as @OfficialME200.

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HERITAGE COMMUNITY GROWTH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAINE!



WOODLANDS
SINCE 1882

Kick-off Day: 2019

Governor Janet T. Mills visited four sites across the State of Maine on Bicentennial Kick-off Day, July 30, 2019 -- Presque Isle, Bangor, Augusta and Portland -- raising the bicentennial flag, building excitement for the upcoming commemoration and dedicating tricentennial pine groves in each community.



PRESQUE ISLE

From left: Resource Development Officer Kim Smith and City Councilman Craig Green are pictured at the kickoff ceremony; Gov. Mills and Assistant House Republican Leader Trey Stewart unveil the pine grove plaque; Miss Presque Isle Kacie Chapman sings the National Anthem.



AUGUSTA

The James Howard Company re-enactors, of Fort Western, shot off a small cannon to begin and end the pine grove dedication in Augusta; The Augusta Police Dept. colorguard presents the colors; Augusta Mayor David Rollins and Gov. Janet Mills raise the bicentennial flag.





PORTLAND

Youth in the Portland Parks and Recreation program celebrate the bicentennial kickoff in Portland; Sen. Diamond, Gov. Mills and Mayor Ethan Strimling install the first white pine of the Portland Tricentennial Pine Grove in Deering Oaks Park; Portland residents join Mayor Strimling and Gov. Mills in unveiling the bicentennial flag.



BANGOR

Below right: Maulian Dana, Sarah Nichols, Gov. Mills and Vice Chairman David Cheever are pictured with the Bangor bicentennial bench; above right: a barbershop quartet performs during the ceremony; below: Gov. Mills and Sarah Nichols unveil the bicentennial flag.



State of Maine Bicentennial Parade

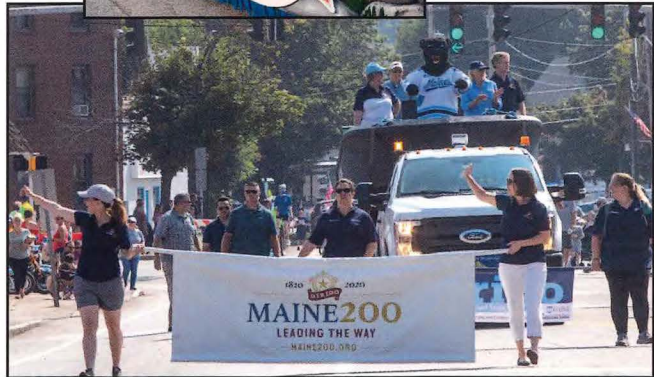
Gov. Mills and Senator Bill Diamond rode in the UMaine 3D-Dirigo 3-D printed boat, the first float of the nearly 100 units in the parade. Below, the combined Army and Air Force colorguard led the parade.



Left: Poland Spring showcased their springhouse on a float celebrating 175 years in business.

Top right: The MAINEiacs 101st Air Refueling Wing of the Maine Air National Guard provided a flyover for the parade, featuring a KC-135 refueling aircraft. *Photo courtesy of 3315 Aviation.*

At right: State Archivist Kate McBrien, left, and Secretary of State Shenna Bellows march in the bicentennial parade with the Maine200 banner.



Pictured at the Poland Spring historic spring house during the May 27, 2019 press event announcing the bicentennial parade are, from left: Bicentennial Band director John Neal, Auburn Mayor Jason Levesque, Auburn City Manager Peter Crichton, Bicentennial Commission Chairman Sen. Bill Diamond, Lewiston City Administrator Denis D'Auteuil and Lewiston Community Relations Coordinator Dottie Perham-Whittier. Poland Spring was the presenting sponsor of the parade, while the cities were co-hosts.

Bicentennial Marching Band



The Maine200 Bicentennial Marching Band, directed by John Neal, gathered musicians of all ages from across the State for the bicentennial parade. Members participated in three rehearsals to prepare for the parade during the summer of 2021 and performed two songs during the parade: "Stars and Stripes Forever" and "Military Escort." Jim Hager of Gorham directed the percussion line, while Jamie Cole directed the colorguard.

Members are: Taylor Udy, Kamber Udy, John Talbot, Robert Bennett (drum major), Katelyn Burgess, Heather Burgess, Chris Hall, Lora Laffan, Kate Beever, Stephanie Burke, Jane Brogan, Jim Brogan, Bailey Conant, Michael Hynes, Allison Neal, Lily Benn, Angela Dibiase, Robert C. Pantel, Patricia J. Owen, Erin Doyle, Dan Enterline, Sasha Fournier, Jocelyn French,

Clinton King, Sarah Mckee, Allessandra Vasquez, Anthony Vasquez, Ann Babbitt, Nicole Emery, Stephen Fleck, Hannah Hills, Keegan Holland, Shaelie Kiefer, Richard E. Marriner, Erin-Margaret

Libby, Dustin Harrison, Jen Desjardins, Ann (Sylvester) Colomy, Lillian Lakin, Cassandra Bonney, Sara Henderson, Josh Hyssong, Lori Mccarthy, Catherine Stieg, Gerrard Rudmin, Russell Dumond, April Littlefield, Cody Malpass, Glen Bolduc, Cari Hebert, Maryanne Kinney, Carolyn Elder, Katie Philbrick, Robert "Tom" Wagers, Claude Junkins, Justin Wid- en, John Monroe, Leslie Mersch, Sue Paradis, Kristen Muszynski, Gary Fuller, Ava Toole, Grace Murphy. Special thanks to all the directors as well as Bill Buzza, band director of Edward Little High School; USM Gorham, the parent volunteers and other supporters. Pictured above is John Neal directing the band during rehearsal. The commission has donated the drum major baton and banner to the Maine State Museum.



Visiting ships & Blaine House concert series



The U.S. Coast Guard Barque EAGLE visited Portland harbor at Ocean Gateway August 6-8, 2021, offering public tours to celebrate Maine's maritime heritage.



Above: The bicentennial flag flies on the barque, as seen Aug. 6, 2021; Below right, from left, EAGLE Capt. Amy Florentino, EAGLE Commanding Officer Captain Michael Turdo, Portland Mayor Kate Snyder and Maine200 Vice Chairman David Cheever are pictured after giving remarks about the EAGLE's visit to Portland, Friday morning, Aug. 6 at Ocean Gateway.



The Brunswick Downtown Association, a Bicentennial Community Grant recipient, hosted a Blaine House Bicentennial Concert featuring the music of Hello Newman, below left, on September 1, 2021. Those who attended received a bicentennial goodie bag and could take their photo as the Maine farmer or sailor with our "living state seal," below right, the creation of which was sponsored by Maine Scythe Supply.



The Dave Mallett Band, Schooner Fare (pictured, bottom) and Bella Barnes (pictured, middle) performed at Rockland's Harbor Park on July 2, 2021 as part of the Maine Bicentennial Blaine House Concert Series, highlighting the role played by the marine trades and mariners in the story of the State of Maine. Gov. Mills recognized two 150-year-old windjammers at the event: The Stephen Taber (out of Rockland, pictured below) and the Lewis R. French (out of Camden). Pictured at right are Captain Noah Barnes of the Taber and Captain Jenny Tobin of the French, accepting their proclamations. Below: Rockland Mayor Ed Glaser welcomes the concert attendees.



The celebration was organized by an ad-hoc team comprising volunteers from the City of Rockland, Pen Bay Regional Chamber of Commerce, Rockland Main Street, Inc., the windjammer fleet, the City of Rockland, Allen Insurance & Financial, and local residents including Dan Bookham, far right.



Time capsule dedication

The Maine Bicentennial Commission formally dedicated the Bicentennial Time Capsule with a ceremony on Statehood Day, March 15, 2022 at the Maine State Library. The capsule features the brass-tipped composite Dirigo Star created at the University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites center. The base is created with vintage wood from the Penobscot River, by Maine Heritage Timber, and the Dirigo furl by Mainely Handrails LLC, on a J.C. Stone granite base. The capsule has four drawers, with three to be filled upon future statehood anniversaries in 2045, 2070, and 2095. The commission selected more than 30 items for inclusion in the 2020 section of the capsule, capturing many aspects of life in Maine in 2020 and the bicentennial commemoration.



Above: Featured items sealed within the capsule, from left: Buttons found in an archaeological dig at Kennebunk's Free Black settlement that existed from the late 18th century into the mid-19th; the Abbott COVID-19 rapid test, developed in Maine; and a shoulder patch worn by Retired Brigadier General Diane Dunn of Newburgh during her time in service as the first female general in the Maine Army National Guard. Left: The University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites team was represented at the dedication event by Alex Cole, David Erb and Jonathan Roy, pictured here with Gov. Mills and recognized for their design work on the star.



The Time Capsule subcommittee members in attendance at the dedication event are pictured here. From left: Jonathan Roy, Sen. Bill Diamond, Maine State Librarian Jamie Ritter, Vice Chairman David Cheever, Kristen Muszynski, Lorna Hatch, subcommittee Chairman Jason C. Libby, and Alison Maxell, Maine State Library.

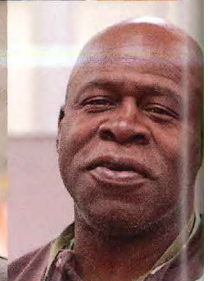
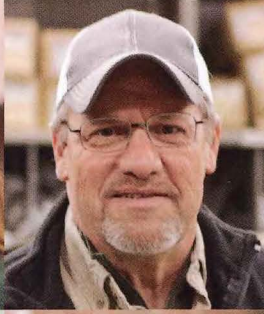
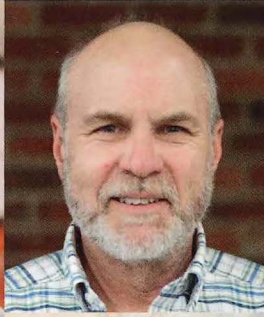




The Maine Bicentennial Time Capsule Keepers will be charged with filling the additional drawers of the capsule upon future statehood anniversaries, or appointing designees to do so through to 2120, when a grand unsealing is envisioned. Capsule keepers in attendance at the dedication ceremony are pictured with Gov. Mills and Sen. Diamond above (not in order): Jean Robinson, Carrie B. Begley, Elliott Hadlock, Karen Woodsum, Renee Morin, Mikaela F. Ziobro, Mattie Goodwin, Dorcas Miller, Matthew Scott Roy, Hailey Rollins, Violet Holbrook, Denise Cillely, Marcia Russo, Ethan Levesque and Claire Poirier. Capsule keepers not in attendance at the event are: John P. Hawkins, Thomas Darling, Avery G.R. Warren, Kirk D. Estes, Vaida Lafrance, Heather Printup, Stephen R. Leavitt, William Ezzard, Noah Andrew Russell, Renee Morin, Kelsey Snapp, Lisa Jones, Daniel Piltch, Leo J. Breton Jr., Nancy Brandt, Roger R. St. Amand, Jr., Peggy Kimball, Severin Beliveau, Piper Saunders, Heidi Brewer and Marc L. Cote.



Members of the Maine Bicentennial Commission visited the Advanced Structures and Composites lab at UMaine in Orono to celebrate the completion of the time capsule's Dirigo Star with a press event on Statehood Day, March 15, 2021. From left: Chairman Senator Bill Diamond; Vice Chairman David Cheever, Secretary of State Shenna Bellows, Time Capsule Subcommittee Chairman Jason C. Libby, Commissioner Samantha Warren (UMaine), Kristen Muszynski (Dept. of SOS staff) and Dana Connors, Maine State Chamber of Commerce president. That morning, prior to traveling to Orono, Sen. Diamond personally flew the bicentennial flag above the Statehouse in Augusta; it was later signed by Sen. Diamond and Gov. Mills and sealed in the time capsule.



For 120 years CMP has proudly served the communities of Maine.

Today we want to wish the place we've called home all these years a very Happy 200th.

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Acknowledgements

The Maine Bicentennial Commission would like to thank the businesses featured in this booklet, for their commitment to the State of Maine through their support of Maine200. The special commemorative events and programs throughout the bicentennial commemoration would not have been possible without them.

We would also like to thank: The Maine Office of Tourism (Visit Maine), our printing partner J.S. McCarthy Printers (Augusta), our merchandising partner The Advertising Specialists of Maine (Bangor), the Maine200 website team at Burgess Advertising (Falmouth), our web host Aptuitiv (Farmington), the Living State Seal sponsor Scythe Supply (Perry), Maine Public, and all the collaborators, commissioners, staff and volunteers who made the bicentennial commemoration a success despite the challenges of the pandemic.



Commissioners helped decorate a Maine200-themed Christmas tree outside of the Blaine House in November 2020, with Maine200 buttons, decorative lobsters and candy canes to commemorate the Mainers lost to Covid-19. Pictured are Chairman Sen. Diamond, Secretary of State Shenna Bellows, Maine State Librarian Jamie Ritter and Treasurer Peter Merrill.

MAINE200/ CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL PROGRAMS



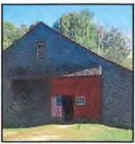
Bicentennial Speakers: Communities across the state gather in local libraries to engage with speakers on topics connected to Maine’s past, present, and future.



Poetry Express: These Maine Humanities Council workshops and public poetry readings bring libraries and local poets together to share Maine’s poetry with their community.



“Let’s Talk About It” Library Book Groups: Libraries across the state host these popular facilitated book groups exploring Maine’s history and culture.



“Present at Statehood” Revolving Exhibit: Contemporary color photographs and brief narratives spotlight Maine properties in the National Register of Historic Places that were existence in 1820, presented on the Maine Historic Preservation Commission’s website.

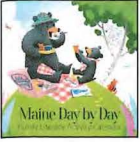


Virtual Maine: The Maine State Archives’ interactive traveling 360 virtual reality experience of notable places in the State of Maine, populated with historical information, fun facts, and audio-visual clips.



Students check out the Maine State Archives virtual reality experiences at Windsor Elementary in October 2019. Each 3-D experience featured pop-ups of Maine history at notable locations such as Old Orchard Beach and Fort Knox.

MAINE200/ CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL PROGRAMS



Family Literacy Activity Calendar: A perpetual calendar created by the Maine State Library, designed to assist parents, caregivers, teachers and librarians in creative activities that encourage emergent reading. Each month featured works from Maine authors and illustrators. Thirty-thousand calendars were printed with funding from the Maine Bicentennial Commission, the David Family Foundation and the Maine Community Foundation, for free distribution at Maine libraries.

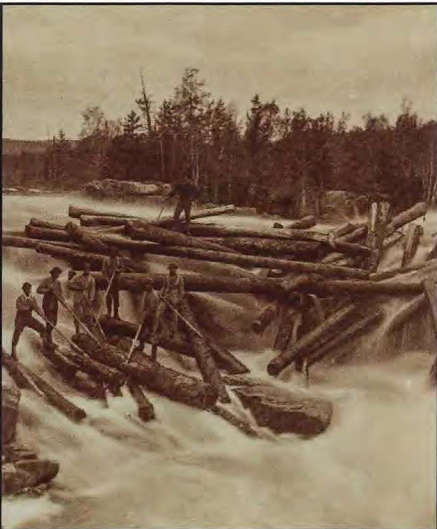


Mobile Tour of the Maine State House: An interactive smartphone application with augmented reality features and more, in multiple versions for various age groups. The tour will allow visitors to point their phone camera at a portrait, plaque or other feature in the State House to learn Maine history, courtesy of the Maine State Museum.



3-D Maine History Stereograph Showings: A Maine State Museum traveling public projection show of stereoview images of 19th and early 20th

century Maine, such as “Log jam on the west bank of the Penobscot, 1870s,” below.



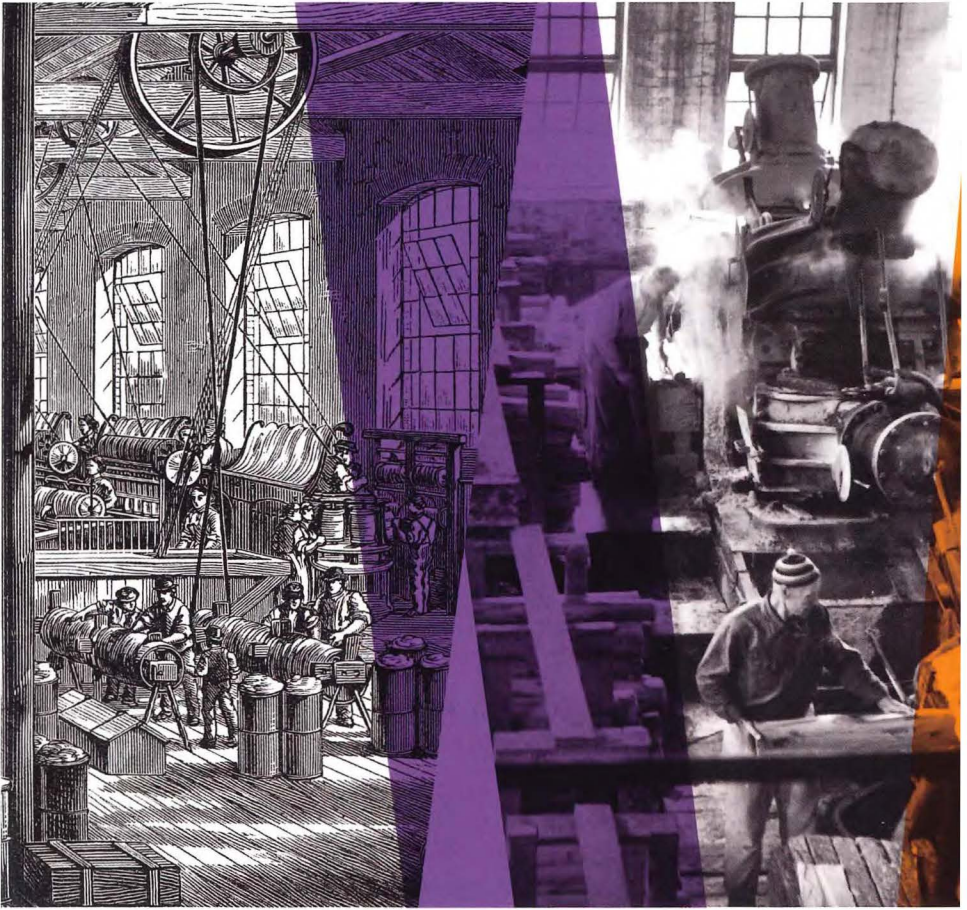
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Visit MaineTechnology.org to discover how MTI is helping shape Maine's future.



Bicentennial Community Grants

The Maine Bicentennial Commission awarded a total of \$667,429 assisting 170 successful applicants with their local bicentennial plans. Non-profit and municipal entities across every county in Maine received large and small grants for projects and programs that helped bring the bicentennial to people in their communities such as festivals, concerts, exhibits, historic preservation efforts, lectures and curriculum. While many of the projects were delayed by pandemic restrictions, most recipients executed or reimagined their efforts later during the commemoration. Recipients are listed below:

ROUND ONE LARGE GRANTS:

Penobscot Marine Museum
Maine Science Festival
Greater Portland Landmarks
Portland Stage
Mayo Street Arts
Center for Maine Contemporary Art
Hallowell Art & Cultural Committee
Thomaston Historical Society
The William A. Farnsworth Library and Art Museum
Gardiner Library Association
Art At Work (AAW) aka Terra Moto Inc. (TMI)
Osher Map Library
Rockland Historical Society
Deer Isle - Stonington High School
Portland Museum of Art
University of Maine at Augusta
Town of Falmouth
Bangor Public Library
Makers Guild of Maine
City of Caribou
Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance (MWPA)
The Center Theater for the Performing Arts

ROUND ONE SMALL GRANTS:

Friends of Lithgow Library
Boothbay Region Elementary School
Patten Free Library
Rotary Club of Belfast Maine Charitable Fund
Liberty Library
Friends of Craig Brook, Inc
Town of Limerick
Pine Tree State 4-H Club Foundation

ROUND TWO LARGE GRANTS:

Town of Lincoln
Kennebunk Free Library Association
Maine Audubon Society
High Peaks Creative Council
Friends of Windjammer Days
WERU Community Radio
Bay Chamber Concerts and Music School

The Iris Network
Penobscot Maritime Heritage Association
Boothbay Railway Village
Hiram Historical Society
Robbinston Historical Society
Opera Maine
Town of Westport Island History Committee
Owls Head Transportation Museum
Bangor School Department
Augusta Literacy For ME
Town of Kennebunkport
Presque Isle Historical Society
Lamoine150!
Lost Trotting Parks Heritage Center
317 Main Community Music Center
Ogunquit Museum of American Art
City of Gardiner
City of Belfast
Maine Pops Concert Band Inc
Ad-hoc town committee, "Surry Celebrates Maine 200"
Maine Maritime Museum
Fiddle-icious
Orrington Historical Society
Atlantic Challenge Foundation Inc.
Apogee Arts
Newport Public Library
Town of Gorham
Downeast Lakes Land Trust
Points North Institute
Brick Store Museum
Fiddlehead Center for the Arts - Scarborough
Portland Public Library
Bangor Symphony Orchestra
Main Street Bucksport
Old Berwick Historical Society
John B. Curtis Free Public Library
Quoddy Tides Foundation
Belgrade Historical Society
New England Music Camp
University of Maine System acting through the University of Maine
Maine Potato Blossom Festival

Representatives of the Makers Guild of Maine accept a grant award from Maine200 and the Maine Office of Tourism. A representative of L.L. Bean, sponsor of the community grant program, is also shown, with Maine Tourism Director Steve Lyons and Sen. Diamond.



Vaughan Woods &
 Historic Homestead
 Island Readers & Writers: An Initiative for
 Maine Children
 Maine School Administrative District 75
 Ellsworth Historical Society
 Waldo Theatre
 Lincoln County Government
 Timelines Community Inc.
 RSU#10
 Eliot's Maine Bicentennial Committee
 Town of Machiasport
 Augusta School Department
 Bagaduce Music Lending Library
 City of Rockland
 Kennebec Historical Society
 Town of Mount Vernon
 Rangeley Lakes Historical Society
 Pineland Farms, Inc
 Bowdoin College
 Abbe Museum
 Opera House Arts
 Town of Castine
 Town of Brunswick
 Merriconeag Grange #425
 Town of Bristol
 Moosehead Historical Society, Inc.
 Denmark Arts Center
 City of Old Town
 Waldoborough Historical Society
 Friends of the Maine State Museum
 LA Arts
 Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library
 City of Biddeford
 Word: a Blue Hill Literary Arts Festival
 School District 53
 Old Fort Western Fund
 RSU 18
 Hartland Bicentennial committee
 Creative Portland

Brunswick Public Library Association
 Agricultural Wild Blueberry Heritage Center
 and Virtual Museum
 Friends of DaPonte String Quartet

ROUND TWO SMALL GRANTS:

Age Friendly Saco
 Ancient Ones of Maine
 Bar Harbor Garden Club
 Bowdoinham Historical Society
 Bowdoinham Public Library
 Bremen Town Center Project
 Brewer Public Library
 Town of Brooklin
 Camp Ketcha
 Cushing Public Library
 Dennys River Historical Society
 Dr Shaw Memorial Library
 Engine, Inc.
 Fryeburg Public Library
 Good Will Home Association
 Gym Dandies Children's Circus
 Hawthorne Community Association
 Heart of Ellsworth
 Jackson Memorial Library
 Lincoln Memorial Public Library
 Main Street Bath
 Maine Grange Foundation Inc
 Monmouth Museum
 Monson Historical Society
 Newcastle Historical Society
 Newport Public Library Association
 Pineland Suzuki School
 Piscataqua Rangers Junior Fife and Drum Corps
 Portland Public Schools
 Readfield Historical Society
 Sebago Elementary School
 Stockton Springs Historical Society
 Swans Island Lobster and Marine Museum
 The Center for Painted Wall Preservation



Children in the Town of Dexter decorated ceramic Maine cutouts as a bicentennial project, for display in the council chamber windows.

The Maine Archaeological Society
 Topsham Public Library
 Town of Buckfield
 Town of Castine
 Town of Danforth
 Town of Dexter
 Town of Greenwood
 Town of Monmouth
 Town of Wells

Indigo Arts Alliance
 Washburn Norlands Foundation Inc.
 The Telling Room
 Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine
 Union Historical Society
 Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine
 Maine Preservation

ROUND THREE LARGE GRANTS:

Wesserunnett Arts Council
 Museum L-A
 Gateway Milbridge
 SoBo Central
 Baxter Memorial Library Association

ROUND THREE SMALL GRANTS:

Waterford Historical Society
 Maine Farmland Trust
 Sebago Historical Society
 Girl Scouts of Maine
 Fox Islands Outing Club
 Chebeague Island Historical Society, Inc.

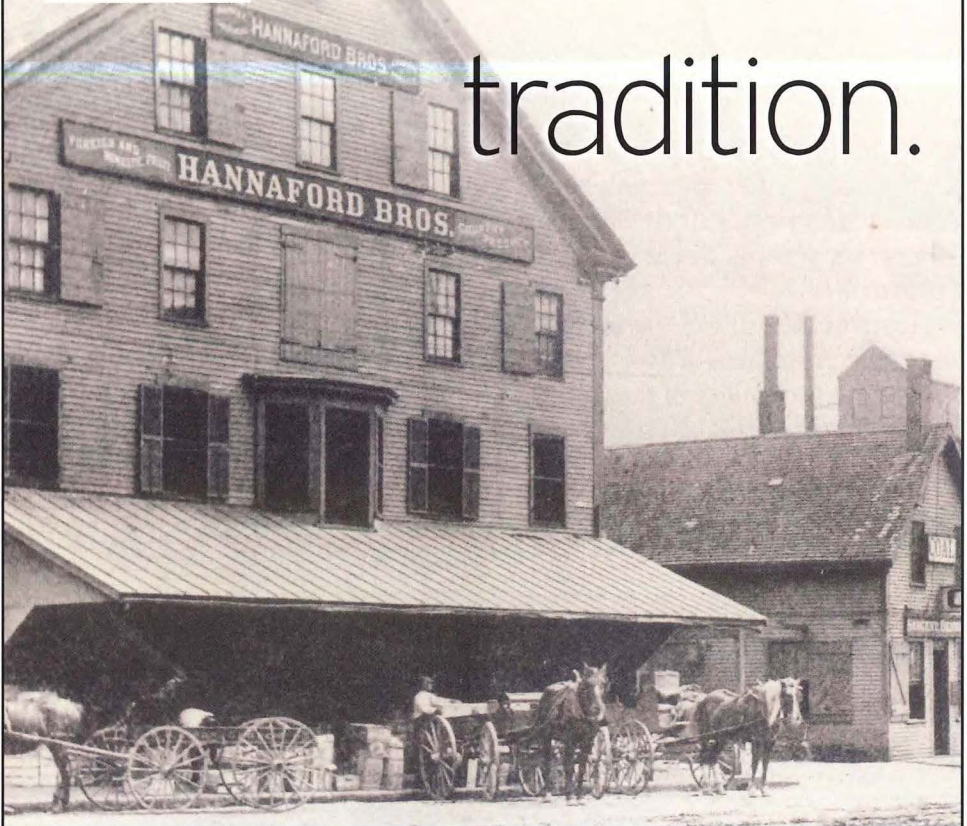


The Hallowell Granite Symposium took place at Stevens Commons September 11-19, 2021. Mark Herrington's finished sculpture "Flowing Through" stands in the foreground. Right: While stoneworking can be noisy and messy, there are also quiet times when the artist envisions the possibilities and contemplates next steps. Here, Mark Herrington takes time to reflect before continuing with his work in progress.
Photo credit: Nancy McGinnis





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Maine Bicentennial Commemorative Stamp

The United States Postal Service created the “Maine Statehood” postage stamp to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Maine becoming the 23rd state in the Union on March 15, 1820.

Maine USPS Art Director Derry Noyes designed the bicentennial commemorative stamp, which features American Painter Edward Hopper’s painting “Sea at Ogunquit” (1914).

Hopper (1882-1967) was among the many prominent artists who sought the tranquility of the state’s coastal towns during the summer, and “Sea at Ogunquit” captures the



rugged beauty that is characteristic of Maine.

Hopper’s work is highly regarded for the technique and he is known for his paintings of landmark buildings, images of solitude, lighthouses and the New England coast.

Bicentennial Commemorative Coin

Senator Bill Diamond is shown with other commissioners, presenting Gov. Janet Mills with the first bicentennial commemorative coin (1/200) during a ceremony Nov. 25, 2019 in the Hall of Flags.



The Bicentennial Commission marketing subcommittee partnered with The Advertising Specialists of Maine in Bangor to produce a variety of Maine200 products, including the bicentennial coin, which was created after receiving many requests from the public. With input from the marketing subcommittee, staffers Bradley Sawyer and Kristen Muszynski designed the coin, incorporating the Dirigo star, and representing both inland and coastal Maine.

The commission minted 200 coins in nickel, which are numbered on their edge, as collectibles. A run of bronze coins was also made available for purchase, unnumbered. A second run of numbered nickel coins was created later during the commemoration, to meet demand, beginning with #201/500.

Bicentennial Commemorative License Plate

Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap designed the State of Maine Bicentennial Commemorative License plate in 2017 at the direction of the Maine Legislature, Legislative Resolve Chapter 23: “To Create a License Plate to Recognize the Bicentennial of the State.”

The plate highlights the Dirigo star and banner from the State Seal, which became the unifying symbol of the bicentennial. The plate was sold for \$25; \$16 of each sale going to the Cultural Affairs Council for bicentennial programming throughout the State. Plates were marked for display on the front of Maine vehicles through Dec. 31, 2020, with an extension granted through 2021.

Pictured at the unveiling ceremony for the State of Maine Bicentennial Commemorative License plate at the Maine State Archives, Dec. 4, 2017 are, from left: Bicentennial Commission Treasurer Peter Merrill, Sen. Kim Rosen, Commission Chairman Sen. Bill Diamond, Miss Maine Katie Elliot and Secretary Dunlap.



Bicentennial Commemorative Flag

Per Legislative Resolve Chapter 22: “To Create a Flag To Recognize the Bicentennial of the State,” Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap unveiled the Maine Bicentennial Commemorative Flag on May 24, 2019, for use in the July 30, 2019 Bicentennial Kickoff Day ceremonies across the State.

The flag was intended for display throughout the bicentennial commemoration period. It is comprised of a field of blue representing the sky; lighter blue across the bottom representing water, be that river, pond or ocean; and a pine tree moved off center to make the viewer feel like they are inside the forest, looking out. The shape of the pine tree is based on the tree featured in the Maine Merchant and Marine flag in the 1930s.

Portland resident Jeff Van West submitted the design with a white star in the flag’s upper left field. In the final



design, Secretary Dunlap chose to use a white version of the radiant Dirigo star and banner.

The final design incorporates input from more than 6,500 people who participated in an online survey of three different designs. With 59 percent of the votes, survey respondents expressed preference for this design, which is a variation on Maine’s State flag of 1901.

A large bicentennial flag flew over the bicentennial parade and the U.S. Coast Guard Barque EAGLE.

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Bicentennial Cantata: 'So Also We Sing'

The Maine Arts Commission selected Colin Britt to commission a commemorative musical piece in honor of Maine's Bicentennial. "So Also We Sing: A Maine Trilogy," is a cantata in three movements for choir and orchestra:

I. Driving North in Winter (Poem by Wesley McNair)

II. Immigrant Dream (Poems by Joseph-Amedée Girouard - Song of the Drones; and Susann Pelletier - Immigrant Dream I)

III. The Life (Poem by Wesley McNair)

Originally from Lewiston-Auburn, Britt serves as Choir Director at Rutgers Preparatory School in New Jersey, as Artistic Director and Conductor of the West Village Chorale in New York City, and as Music Director for Grace Church Van Vorst in Jersey City.

When I was commissioned for this important occasion, I knew I wanted to write a piece that would speak to both the natural beauty of the State of Maine and the resilience of its people. For the former, I selected two poems by former poet laureate Wesley McNair, very much a poet of place, who captures the sense of isolation and feeling of family in his first poem, "Driving North in Winter," and the serenity of nature in his second, "The Life." I sought to portray these complex and often conflicting emotions by drawing on the full range of color in the orchestra, as well as the storytelling abilities of the human voice. These poems bookend the trilogy, providing symmetry and balance.

Having grown up in the shad-



ow of the textile mills in Lewiston-Auburn, surrounded by children and grandchildren of French-Canadian immigrants, I wanted to choose texts that would depict the hardship of life in the mills and the triumph of the human spirit against adversity. Two Maine poets, one contemporary (Susann Pelletier) and one from more than 100 years ago (Joseph-Amedée Girouard), describe the experience of child and adult laborers, and the toll their work takes on families and the community. At the same time, the pride for and dedication to one's work is apparent in these poems, and the movement ends with a sense of optimism and perseverance. To further capture that environment, I composed a brief fiddle tune evocative of the Quebecois folk music I used to hear (and dance to) in Lewiston."

-- Colin Britt, composer

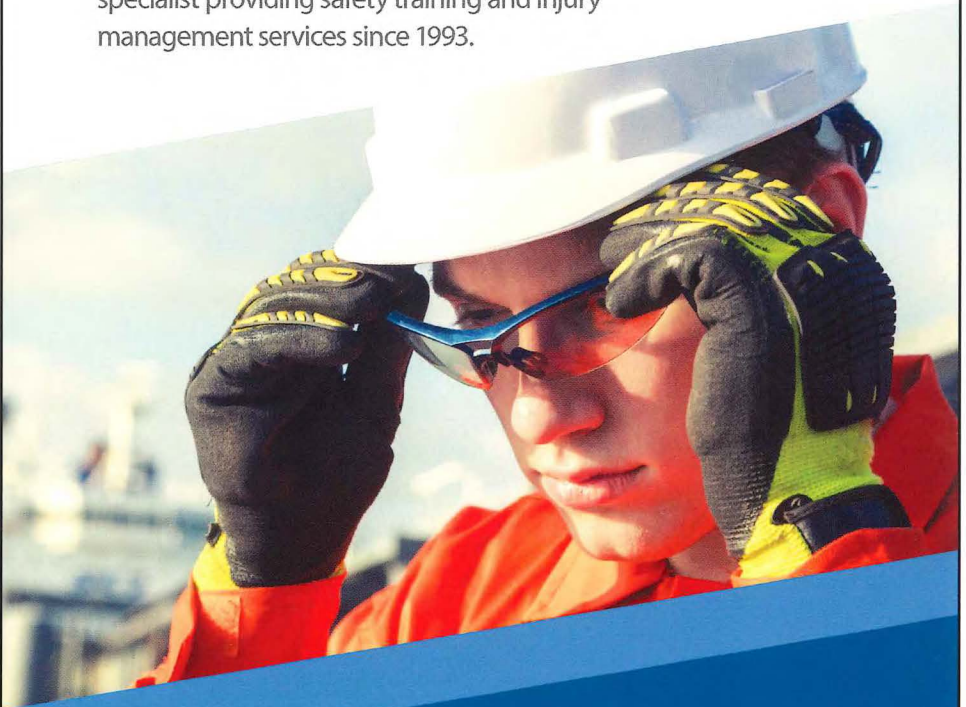
Maine Bicentennial Poem: *Kingdom of Beauty*

There are so many beauty salons in Maine,
you see them everywhere, in old brick buildings
of refurbished downtowns, in strip malls,
in trailers, in cities and villages.
Our beauticians must be doing more than cutting hair,
they must be making beauty itself.
How else to explain its abundance all around us:
The way the first light of morning touches
the tops of the spruce trees across the harbor,
or a mackerel sky blankets the heavens,
or the way the fog drifts over the barnacles
working quietly in the waves without us.
How else to account for the blue light
in the deep snow, the soft drift
of fallen apple blossoms in May's air,
or the crimson of the blueberry barrens
where the glacial boulders work their slow way
over the land. Even if our beauticians haven't
manufactured all of this, and we gratefully
acknowledge the touch of the divine hand
wherever we look, they remind us that our hands
can help make beauty too. We can see
the evidence everywhere: In the circles
of burned rubber made by the pick-ups
dancing over the black top, in the curve
of a canoe's bow rippling a silent lake,
in the space inside the split ash basket,
in the prayer of a white steeple,
in the patched quilt on the bed,
in the sure way an elegant knot is tied to hold
a load on a trailer, for aren't work and beauty
a partnership? Think of the hands that held
the chisels and wedges to build foundations
of granite block. Let us praise the ingenuity
it takes to cut and lift and place ancient stones
to bear the weight of the present and the future.
Two hundred years later, a house still standing,
faithfully greeting today's light.

-Stuart Kestenbaum, Maine Poet Laureate, 2016-2020

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