

SEPTEMBER 2019

Board of Directors
Term: 2019-2021

President
Wayne T. McCarthy

Vice-President
Sheila E. FitzPatrick

Treasurer
Marie Daly

Assistant Treasurer
Jack Cox

Recording Secretary
Janis Marchese

Corresponding Secretary
Jeremy Hagger

Curator
Vacant

Assistant Curator
Vacant

Membership
Gail Cormier

Board Members
Ruth M. Arena
Walter Beebe-Center
Thomas Casey
Joseph Connors
Marie Daly
Dr. Helene Day
James Grenier
Ron Guertin
Morton Isaacson
Rachel Malley
Lou Nocera
Chauncy Perry
Gary Rogers
Al Smith
David Smith

The Weatherwane is the official
publication of the
Waltham Historical Society
190 Moody Street
Waltham, Massachusetts 02453
781-891-5815
www.walthamhistoricalsociety.org

© Copyright 2019, all rights reserved
Membership in the Waltham Historical
Society includes subscription to this
newsletter among other rights and
privileges.

Articles and images submitted for publi-
cation, unless otherwise specified, become
the property of the Waltham Historical
Society. Authors submitting material
for publication are requested to sign
articles and include name, address, phone
number, e-mail if any, and release to print
images of any individuals depicted.

Waltham Mill Workers Walking Tour

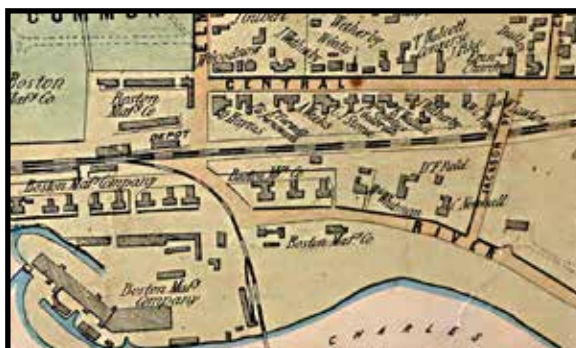
Led by Mort Isaacson and Elana Winkler



Saturday, SEPTEMBER 7, 2019 at 10:00 am

**TOURS BEGIN AT FRONT ENTRANCE TO THE MUSEUM
AND END IN LANDRY PARK**

The Waltham Historical Society and the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation are teaming up and combining their popular “*Mill Workers’ Housing Tour*” with the “*Bricks and Windows Tour*”. Join us as we walk around and explore the outside of the buildings that once housed the Boston Manufacturing Company (BMC), followed by a visit to the nearby early workers’ housing on River and Central Streets used by the individuals who worked there. *Free and open to the public.*



Development of River Street:

Around 1817-1818, shortly after the Boston Manufacturing Company’s (BMC) first textile mill was built in 1814, the company built a row of detached one and two story mill-girl boarding houses along the north side of a lane running east-west just north of the mill. This lane later became an extension of River Street. These were the first such mill-girl boarding houses in the country, and predated those in Lowell by at least four or five years.



The Longest Highway in America: Route 20

with Author Bryan Farr

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

**Lecture will begin immediately following the
Member Meeting at 7:00 pm
260 GROVE STREET IN WALTHAM**

“The road that would become US Highway 20 had its beginning as a Native American path leading the earliest settlers out of Boston. A century later, George Washington would follow the same path, now a postal road, to take command of the Continental Army in Cambridge. Following the Revolution, the route developed to accommodate westward expansion across New York establishing settlements along Lake Erie and beyond. The route would become home to three US Presidents; Grant, Garfield and Hayes, and was frequented by Lincoln on several of his campaigns stops. The advent of the automobile allowed people to travel longer distances in a shorter time and the need for good roadways increased. Auto groups began promoting a route between Boston, Chicago and Yellowstone Park as early as 1912, and by late 1925, would be given a designation of transcontinental US Route 20.

Author Bryan Farr would take his first cross country journey on US 20 in 2010, as an alternative to the famous Route 66. Along the way, he found many locations equal to or surpassing what one will find on 66. These discoveries led to a book and the formation of a



nonprofit organization to promote the small towns, sites and history of this great American highway. The organization is presently seeking to identify the original 1926 alignment of Route 20 across Massachusetts as a “State Historic Trail/Byway”.

Explore the history and take a journey on the longest highway in America, US Route 20. “



The lecture will begin immediately following the Society's September member meeting at 7:00 PM. Light refreshments will be available.

Upcoming Events of Interest

Here are a couple of events you may find of interest. The Puritan events are sponsored by Partnership of the Historic Bostons, Inc.

Puritan Primetime: Politics, Faith, Children, Money in 17th-century Boston

*2019 Boston Charter Day Events
September 8th – November 2nd*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The Matrix of life in 17th-century Boston and New England.

CHARTER DAY SERVICE

Sunday, Sept. 8th, 11:00 AM to Noon

MASS BAY PURITANS AND THE OTHER

*Rev. Stephen Kendrick, Senior Minister
First Church in Boston
66 Marlborough St. + stay for "Chowda
Sunday" lunch following the service.*

A sermon exploring the theme of Puritan kindness to strangers and simultaneous persecution of the "other": a complex picture that colors today's crisis.

FOUNDERS TRAIL: A Walking Tour

*Sunday, Sept. 8th, 1:30 to 3:00pm
Meet at the State House steps at 1:30.*

The Partnership's signature walking tour of the sites where Boston's founders lived, worked, loved and fought their struggle against British control.

THE PURITANS: Who they were, who they are.

*Wednesday, Sept. 11th, 6:00 to 7:30pm,
Rabb Auditorium, Boston Public Library
Lecturer: Lori Rogers-Stokes, PhD*

Who were the Puritans, who did they become, and what do they mean to us today?

GROWING UP PURITAN: The Family in 17th-century New England

*Tuesday, Sept. 17th, 6:00 to 7:30pm
New Old South Church, 645 Boylston St.,
(subway Copley T Station)
Lecturer: Judith Graham, PhD*

The Puritan experience of childhood, birth and death, education and discipline, courtship and marriage through the writings of merchant, judge, counselor and diarist Samuel Sewall.

THE WORLD IN A SHILLING: Money & Political Economy in early New England

*Wednesday, Sept. 25th, 6:00 to 7:30pm
Old State House, Boston
206 Washington St
Lecturer: Professor Mark Peterson*

The development of a viable money supply supported Boston merchants' overseas trading ventures, keeping New England colonists connected to the transatlantic network of English dissenting religion.

SURVIVAL 1630-1635:

A Walking Tour

*Saturday, Sept. 28th, 10:00 to 11:30am
Massachusetts State House Front Steps.*

Survival: Boston 1630 to 1635 explores the story of the first, dangerous year, when nearly half the original Puritans either died or fled back to England and how, by 1635, they combined their collective skills and religious beliefs to build Boston and create New England against daunting odds.

DEMOCRACY or OLIGARCHY: Revisiting the Practice of Politics in Early New England.

*Wednesday, Oct. 2nd, 6:00 to 7:30pm
Old North Church, 193 Salem St
Lecturer: Professor David D. Hall.*

What values did the people who arrived in New England in the 1630s bring to the forming of colony and town governments, the legal system, and rules about who could vote and participate in civic life?

ELIZABETH HOOTON'S JOURNEYS: Quakers and Toleration in Mass Bay

*Thursday, Oct. 10th, 6:00 to 7:30pm
Beacon Hill Friends Meeting House,
6 Chestnut Street
Lecturer: Adrian Chastain Weimer, PhD*

In the 17th-century, reconciling civil order and religious zeal was a daunting task. Quaker interventions, transatlantic pressures and local responses shaped the politics of toleration in Massachusetts Bay.

THE THIRD GENERATION: A Walking Tour

*Saturday, Oct. 19th, 10:00 to 11:30am
Meet at Park Street T Station*

Boston, its leadership, its diversity and its incendiaries after 1650. A Praying Indian who met the King, the confusion and evolution of Puritan society after King Philip's War, and free Black woman homeowner in Boston in 1670.

PURITANS IN PRINT: Historiography of the Puritans in Literature & Illustration

*Wednesday, Oct 23rd, 6:00 to 7:30pm
Suffolk Law School
1120 Tremont St
5th Floor Blue Sky Lounge and Commons
Lecturer: Peter Drummey, Stephen T.
Riley Librarian, Mass. Historical Society*

From the 1630's to the 1930's, the Puritans were stigmatized as dour, joyless and authoritarian. With the background of the Great War, Depression and Prohibition, a reevaluation became possible. Puritans in Print repaints the Puritans, portraying them in their changing hues from 1630 to the present.

EVENT OF INTEREST AT THE LIBRARY

Watch for details about an upcoming event at the Waltham Public Library at 6:30 on September 26, 2019. Retired History and Social Studies Director Stephen Goodwin will be presenting stories of murder and justice from the annals of Waltham's past.

More details may be found at the Waltham Public Library's website.



Special Presentation

Recognition of the efforts of Bradford W. and Mary Martha Bigham

At the Waltham Historical Society's July lecture closing out our exhibit on the 100th Anniversary of the First World War, special recognition was made of the contributions of both Bradford W., and Mary Martha Bigham.

Without the efforts of Brad Bigham in collecting the artifacts and stories of Company F, most would have been lost and the story left untold. When Brad passed away he bequeathed his collection to the Society with the hope we would tell the story. Mary Martha has been instrumental in helping see that the materials make it to the Society's collection to aid in that effort.

The July 10th lecture given by Jack Vallely describing the mustering-out of Company F in 1919 was well attended and well received. During the lecture Mary Martha contributed by recalling some of Brads' research and sharing memories of the songs and events of the days.

Mayor the Honorable Jeannette A. McCarthy presented Mary Martha with a well-deserved proclamation from the City recognizing her contribution to the preservation of our History.

The Historical Society is proud to have provided the venue for such an important recognition.



Jack Vallely looks on as Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy presents a Certificate of Recognition to Mary Martha Bigham at the July 10th, 2019 meeting of the Waltham Historical Society.

“Thank you” to the Waltham Historical Society for preserving the City's rich history.



As a proud member of the Waltham community for nearly 70 years, we look forward to serving the members of the Society.

Savings | Certificates
Free Checking | Free VISA® Debit Cards

Vehicle Loans | Personal Loans | VISA Credit Cards
Mortgages | Second Mortgages | Home Equity Loans

Free Online & Mobile Banking | Nationwide Branches

600 Main St. | Waltham
781-736-9900 | rtn.org



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
LENDER

Federally insured by NCUA



The Society Bright School location, 260 Grove Street will be staffed on most Saturdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 PM. This will afford the opportunity for the public to visit and view some of the artifacts and documents collected by the Society over the past 100 years. If you would like to join us as a guest or as a docent, please contact us at waltham.historical.society@gmail.com.