

Building Community

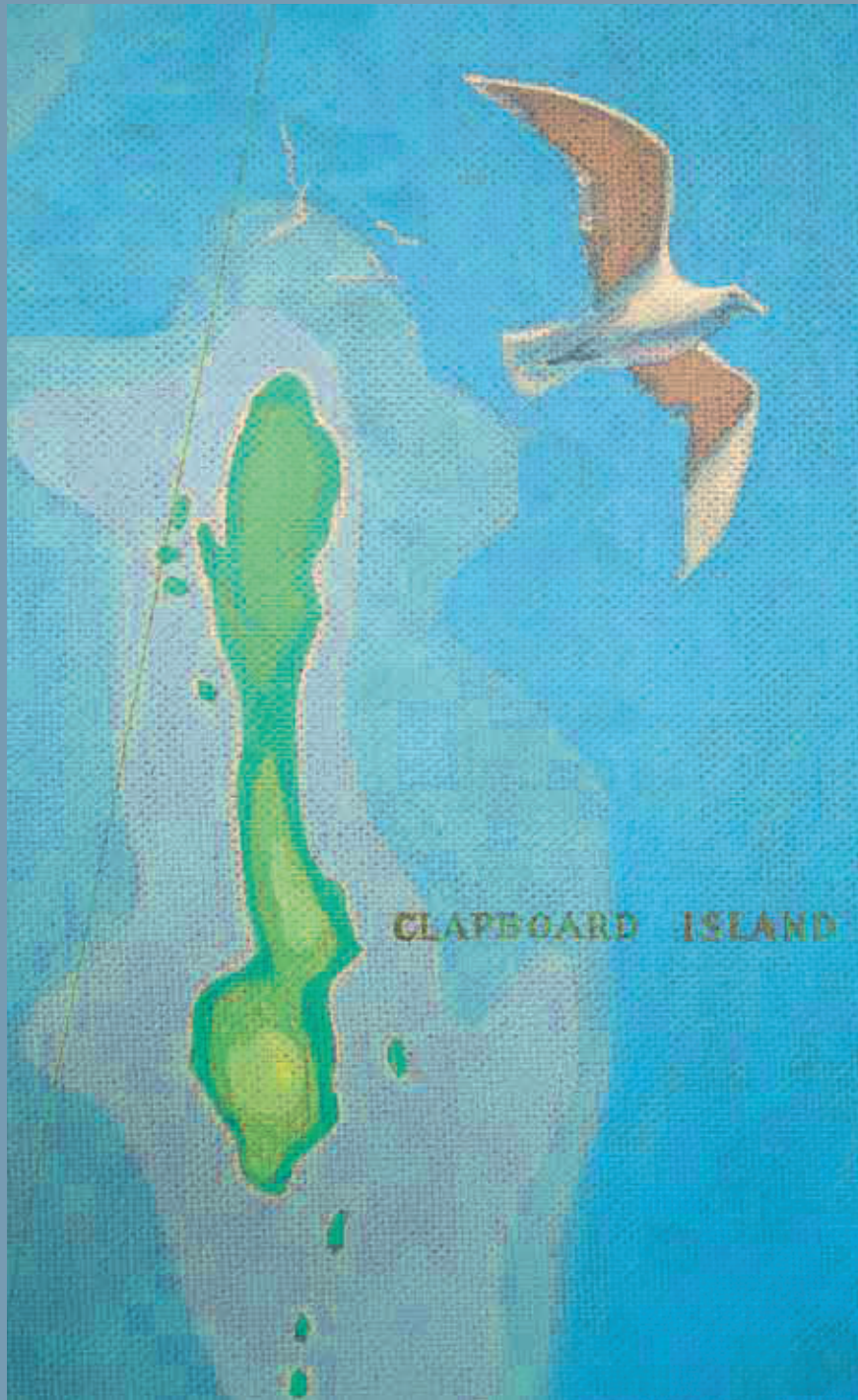


EDWARD LA SALLE'S 1940

ILLUSTRATED MAP

PAINTING OF FALMOUTH,

MAINE



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Sponsors

WE APPRECIATE THE MAJOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS THAT MADE THIS PROJECT POSSIBLE.



Southworth traces its origins to Reverend Francis Southworth, pastor of the Seamen's Bethel Church on Fore Street in Portland in the 1870s. Keen to provide his flock with a productive way of passing time while at sea, Southworth developed Bethel library cases—neat, inexpensive cases containing a Bible and an assortment of general reading materials. Since then, the company has engaged in a great variety of manufacturing activities and expanded its reach worldwide. Headquartered in Falmouth, Southworth is currently the number-one leader in the field of innovative, high-quality, ergonomic lifting, tilting, and positioning equipment for manufacturing.

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MORTON-KELLY CHARITABLE TRUST

The Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust was established in 1988 by Joan Morton Kelly and her mother, Mildred Duncan Morton, to facilitate their philanthropic activities. Joan was instrumental in the creation of the San Diego Children's Zoo and became its superintendent in 1958. After becoming a full-time Maine resident, Joan became deeply involved in the Greater Portland community and active on the boards of many nonprofits, including the Portland Museum of Art, the Children's Museum, the Maine College of Art, and the Maine Maritime Academy among others. As the years passed, her philanthropy and that of the Trust extended throughout Maine, funding many Maine-based projects in culture, education, the environment, and preservation.

WWW.MORTON-KELLY.ORG



The 300th anniversary of Falmouth's incorporation as a town took place in 2018. The Town of Falmouth and community partners organized a variety of events and activities to mark this once-in-a-lifetime milestone. This booklet is one of those activities.

The story of Falmouth is the story of people who, over time, demonstrated resourcefulness and ingenuity in difficult and constantly shifting circumstances to create the community we live and work in today. Rather than a story found far in the past, it is alive and well as Falmouth's residents continue along the path laid out by their predecessors centuries ago.

WWW.FALMOUTHME.ORG/FALMOUTH-300

Acknowledgements

Many people in the community contributed their interest, energy, knowledge, and insights to this project. We extend a huge thank you to all of them.

There were three distinct parts to this effort. First, trying to solve the mystery of who painted the painting (see Introduction, page 7). Second, preserving the painting for future generations. And, third, telling its multi-faceted story. All three aspects were pursued concurrently, weaving in and out as new information surfaced.

Three people most enthusiastically championed its cause from the start in 2014: Marge Merrill Devine, Betsy Jo Whitcomb, and Erin Bishop Cadigan. All three stepped up, taking on whatever tasks arose and giving encouragement along the way. They researched the locations, verified historic facts, provided contacts and clues, wrote multiple chapters, and helped with grant applications.

But many others participated in the quest to find out who painted the “mural.” At the Falmouth Memorial Library, Andi Jackson-Darling, Laura Bean, and Jeannie Madden provided historic references and contact suggestions. The Falmouth School Department went into its attic to dig up records. We thank the school department staff, including Barbara Powers, Geoff Bruno, Jessica Duplisea, Susan Smith, Peggy Becksvoort, Topper West, Gretchen McNulty, Thea Cerjanec, and Dan O’Shea. Members of the Falmouth Historical Society and Falmouth300 Committee were strong supporters from the start, several of whom contributed essays for this publication. We also reached out to former Town Manager Doug Harris, former librarian Lyn Sudlow, and former school librarian Dianne Barth, although none could shed light on the painting’s origins.

We consulted many community members in our quest to learn more about the map painting. These included Dave Merrill, Mary and Ellen Honan, Fred Chase, Hannah Russell, Ted Vail, David Snow, Beverly Knudsen, Howard Reiche, David Clough, Dorothy Bates, Betsy Jo Whitcomb, Faith Varney, June Andersen Beck, and Jeaneen Coleman. Despite their vast collective memories, little information emerged. Dave Merrill, remembering his high school years, mischievously noted, “I do not remember the painting at all. At that time, I had my eyes on the girls!”

In an effort to reach others in Falmouth who could potentially shed light on the painting, we worked with the staff of *The Forecaster*, which published an article on the painting in 2014. For that effort, we thank Colin Ellis, Ben McCanna, Kate Collins, Mo Mehlsak, and Karen Wood; yet, once again, we did not receive any new leads.



Photograph from the 1944 *Crest*. The map painting is above the bookcase in the rear of the Falmouth High School library.

We then cast an even wider net by contacting statewide experts in art and history, thinking that, surely, these experts had the expertise and the resources to recall or identify a similar large map painting that might exist elsewhere in Maine. This group included Carl Little of the Maine Community Foundation; Kate McBrien, Steve Bromage, and Jamie Rice of the Maine Historical Society; Ian Fowler and Matthew Edney of the Osher Map Library; Julie Richard at the Maine Arts Commission; Bob Keyes at the *Portland Press Herald*; Earle Shettleworth, former Maine State Historian; Maine State Librarian James Ritter; the staff at the Portland Room of the Portland Public Library; and Bernard Fishman of the Maine State Museum. While all appreciated the painting, none could provide a clue.

Architectural historian Scott Hanson of Sutherland Conservation and Consulting provided the breakthrough in solving the painting’s mystery. As part of Ocean-View’s renovation of the Plummer School, Scott thoroughly researched the history of the building. We suspected that the painting had originally hung in the Plummer building when it was the Falmouth High School; Scott confirmed it when he discovered its image in the 1944 *Crest*, the school’s yearbook. The painting appears in a photo of the high school library, hanging on a library wall. That photo was an exciting find!

Could more be learned? A hunch that the teacher in the 1944 photo, Maria Phillips, may have something to do with the painting could not be confirmed by Maria’s daughter, Giovanna Hurley from Cumberland. The painting appeared again in the 1960 *Crest* as the backdrop in the group photos of the four classes. By that time the painting had moved from the Plummer building to the high school on

Woodville Road, in what is now the Middle School. How it got to the Falmouth Memorial Library and subsequently to Town Hall in the 1990s remains to be discovered.

When the painting hung in Town Hall in the 1990s, conservator Nancy Lee Snow cleaned it, applying varnish and treating several stains. In 2016, conservator Nina Roth Wells conducted a conservation assessment of the painting and found it to be in good condition.

It was not until 2018, after the painting was transported by Bisson Moving to Fogg Art Restoration in Wiscasset for cleaning and reframing that we would learn more. When Peter Fogg removed the painting's frame, he discovered an artist's name and a date, along with additional, unseen parts of the painting. The name: "E La Salle 40." Peter immediately notified Town Hall!

Quick genealogical work by Betsy Whitcomb and Marge Devine pointed to a La Salle in Westbrook. We found a phone number, placed a call, and left a message. Soon, the 82-year-old son of E. La Salle, Aiden La Salle, returned our call. Aiden, an artist himself, had not known of the Falmouth painting, but corroborated facts about his father Edward. We had found our artist!

We were contacted another La Salle family member, Robert Kahler—whose wife is Julie La Salle, Edward's granddaughter; Robert knew Edward for seven years prior to the artist's passing in 1992. Robert generously provided biographical information on Edward La Salle for inclusion in this publication (see Biography, page 11).

PUBLICATION

Restoring the painting and identifying its artist has been only one part of this project. Each of the thirty vignettes on the painting depicts an image of a treasured part of Falmouth today or in the past—each has its own story.

We thank the following people for helping us discover these thirty stories by sharing their research and often their personal expertise and memories: Bonnie-kate Allen, Howard Babbidge, June Beck, Pete Bixby, Francelle Carapetyan, Lucky D'Ascanio, Marge Merrill Devine, Reverend Janet Dorman, Dave and Sue Farnham, Dave Gagnon, Mary Honan, Carol Iverson Kaufman, Gene Kucinkas, Jr., William Lunt III, Florence McCann, Alvin Morrison, Ted Noyes, Norm O'Brien, Deacon Dennis Popadak, Pastor Malcolm "Mac" Ray, Ford and Howard Reiche, Glenn Rudberg, Bob Shafto, Ted Vail, and Betsy and Charlie Whitcomb.

A special thanks goes to Erin Bishop Cadigan, Ph.D. She not only contributed several chapters, but also wrote a powerful introduction—placing the painting and the thirty stories in historical context as well as addressing the question: "What does this painting say about Falmouth and the people who have lived and now live here?"

Another team took these stories to their final form. Julie Dumont Rabinowitz provided professional editing of all of our writings, putting the final polish on the text for this publication. Photographer Jeff Scherr took high-resolution photos so that the artistry of La Salle and the beauty of our town would shine through in the final product. Designer Michael Mahan brought all of it together in an elegant presentation. Franklin Printing published the final product.

SPONSORS

It is not enough to have a good idea if you cannot afford to see it through. Much appreciation goes to James Cabot and Brian McNamara of Southworth, Michael Quinlan and Erik Jorgensen of the Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust, and the Falmouth Town Council for their generous financial support of this project. Each sponsor has its own story to tell (see page 5).

Others who have assisted along the way include Judy Colby-George, Brian Vanden Brink, Scott Mosher, Kristan Carroll, and Ashley Speckhart. At Falmouth Town Hall, Nathan Poore, Rick Mackie, Melissa Tryon, Ellen Planer, Amy Lamontagne, and Howard Rice provided additional support. Susie Westly Wren offered her extensive knowledge of art, professional connections, and insights into the importance of community.

THE LA SALLE FAMILY

This project has come full circle, reuniting the La Salle family with their father's, grandfather's, and great-grandfather's work. We especially thank Aiden La Salle and Robert Kahler for their participation and contributions. We are very glad that this project provides their family with another connection to Edward La Salle.

This has been a journey of discovery for the Town of Falmouth and its residents, and one that has led to many new connections.

Nobel Prize-winning British author William Golding wrote in his novel, *Free Fall*: "Art is partly communication, but only partly. The rest is discovery." In the case of Edward La Salle's 1940 painting of Falmouth, the art itself has been just the start of communication. Its story has truly been a discovery for all involved and has led to the discovery of many other stories shared here. We have also discovered connections between the artist, the places, and the people touched by this project. We hope that this project and this publication will lead to more discoveries for the people of Falmouth, the readers of this book, and all those who pause to discover and ponder La Salle's painting on display in Town Hall.

Theo Holtwijk
Director of Long-Range Planning and Economic Development
Town of Falmouth

Introduction: The Power of Place

On the first floor of Falmouth's Town Hall, in a long, narrow, and inauspicious hallway connecting the Town Council Chambers to the busy Clerk's Office, a nine-by-four-foot mystery hung on the wall for years. Often referred to as the "mural" because of its size and the fact that it was bolted to the wall, it is really a painting, executed in oils on a Masonite panel and framed in wood. Its muted colors depict thirty scenic vignettes of historic landmarks from Falmouth's history overlain on a map of the town.

A MYSTERY

As is often the case in our modern, rushed lives, we bustle along oblivious to our surroundings to such a degree that when one mentions the large "mural" in Town Hall to locals or even to the staff who work in the building, they are hard pressed to recall an image or memory of such a painting. Everyday exposure has rendered it almost invisible to passers-by.

This is not a recent phenomenon. For many years, no one recalled the story behind this large painting. No one remembered who commissioned it, the reasons behind its creation, or how it came to be in Town Hall. As late as fall 2018, no one knew who painted it or when. It seems truly remarkable that such a large piece of art, one that has hung for decades in public buildings throughout Falmouth, can be at once prominently on display and completely overlooked. The painting's origins and history had seemed lost to time.

However, for Theo Holtwijk, director of long-range planning and economic development for the Town of Falmouth—who himself passed by the painting every day, the "mural" was a mystery worth exploring. He began a five-year quest, and his quest turned into a project that has culminated in this book.

Determined to learn more, Holtwijk began his search with only a few leads. The field of the painting visible inside the frame was not signed or dated. By studying the painting's details, he deduced that the artist painted it after 1931—the year the Plummer School was built. Plummer is the most recent building depicted in the painting.

Through additional research, Holtwijk learned that, in the 1990s—after sitting in storage for many years in the basement of the Falmouth Memorial Library, the painting had been restored and moved to Town Hall. Yet the restoration records provided no further information on the artist or the painting's origins. A public call for information and article in *The Forecaster* yielded little insight. Town reports, school, and library records revealed nothing more. The trail ran cold.

Then, in 2017, a tantalizing clue surfaced. A photo, found within the pages of the 1944 Falmouth High School yearbook, shows the painting hanging in the library of what is now known as the Plummer School. A further search of



Theo Holtwijk and the Falmouth map painting, 2014, courtesy of *The Forecaster*.

school yearbooks found the painting appearing in photos in the newly constructed Falmouth High School (currently Falmouth Middle School). It seems the painting moved to the new high school in 1958 along with the students. Yet many questions remained unanswered: Who was the artist? When was it painted? Had it been commissioned specifically to hang in the high school? How did it end up in the library basement, eventually finding a home in Town Hall?

Holtwijk was not to be deterred, however. A generous grant from the Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust allowed for the painting to be restored once again as part of Falmouth's 300th anniversary commemoration. In 2018, conservators removed the old frame, making several discoveries.

First, the frame they removed was not original to the painting. Second, an additional four inches of the painting had been hidden by the frame. Third, and most critical, the frame had hidden the artist's name and date of the painting. It was a researcher's dream come true. The answer to the most pressing of questions had been hidden within the painting itself all along: Falmouth's "mystery mural" was the 1940 work of Edward Augustus La Salle, a thirty-three-year-old Portland-based illustrator, artist, and commercial painter. In addition to the Falmouth painting, he had also painted commissioned pieces for the Portland School Department (see page 11 for La Salle's biography).



This photograph from the 1960 *Crest* shows the Freshmen class officers and executive committee, with the map painting in the background. Each of the four classes posed in front of the painting.

While the mystery surrounding the La Salle painting is only partially solved, not knowing the full story of how it came to be in no way detracts from the value found in its artistic expression. It is an original work of art. Circular vignettes depicting historic places and structures dot a map of Falmouth as the real places dot the landscape of our community. La Salle's conceptualization of our history is not common in any other known public art in Maine. This alone makes his work original and significant. His painting is also a visually interesting and beautifully rendered work connecting artistic expression to historical context by underscoring the power of place in our lives and the life of a community over time.

THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS BOOK

It goes without saying that where we physically spend the majority of our time affects who we are and our sense of self. Through our memories and connections to the places of our past, we craft a narrative of our lives, a story of who we are as individuals and as a larger community. The 300th anniversary of Falmouth's incorporation in 2018 provides an opportunity to reflect on that story via consideration of the place we call home through the voices of those who lived here.

This desire, both to understand the mystery painting hanging in Town Hall and to explore our personal connection to the physical spaces of our hometown, led Theo Holtwijk to imagine a book that would not only document the historic work of art, but also explore the significance of its subject matter in the Town's collective history and its residents' individual lives.

Place—and our connection with it—is powerful. Through choice of subject matter, La Salle emphasizes the importance of this connection. Rather than rendering only important or powerful people or significant historic events, he focuses this painting on places. His having done so allows a much broader and inclusive look at Falmouth's history. Rather than a narrowly focused, traditional history depicting political, military, and economic events, La Salle's exploration of Falmouth allows the story of Native Americans, women, and children to be heard. Those stories blend together, revealing the history of an entire community rather than the story of a few community leaders or prominent benefactors.

Whether we are a life-long resident or a newcomer, an old-timer or a millennial, by living in Falmouth we have developed a relationship to these landmarks and their significance plays a role in our lives today.

THE AUTHORS

It is delightful and fitting, then, that Holtwijk called upon community members to write the essays accompanying each of these vignettes. Rather than rely on one voice of historic authority, these pages offer the reflections of our neighbors. These resident-authors explore the historical significance of the landmarks, their current functions, and their affect upon the authors' memories, sense of place, and understanding of their own roles in our community today.

Through Howard Reiche, Marge Merrill Devine, and Ford Reiche, this book explores the natural geography of Falmouth, which drew and sustained the first indigenous peoples to the region and provided the natural resources necessary for a successful colonial outpost. The landscape—and the fight over its resources—pitted these two groups against each other, resulting in long periods of violence and the eventual annihilation of Falmouth's native inhabitants, as described by Alvin Hamblen Morrison and Betsy Whitcomb.

The landscape is also important in the contributions of Bob Shafto and Lucky D’Ascanio. Shafto examines the plentiful wildlife living just out our back door and how changes to the town’s habitats have affected the birds and animals over time. Falmouth’s location by the sea, hilly terrain, and access to Highland Lake, D’Ascanio notes, have provided varied recreational opportunities not only enjoyed by residents but also attracting tourists to Falmouth.

The stories about Falmouth churches from Pastor Malcolm Ray and Deacon Dennis Popadak explore the power of women in the community, who came together and worked diligently to secure funds for church construction, scheduled guest ministers, organized Sunday schools, and ensured the spiritual lives of Falmouth residents were nourished within the walls of each parish. Sue Farnham notes the dual role churches played in the community, serving not only as venues for Sunday services but as social centers where the community gathered for musical entertainment, dances, or lectures. Churches also hosted fraternal organizations and club meetings, as well as celebrations of milestone anniversaries such as Maine’s centennial in 1920.

In the stories of our school buildings, Howard Babbidge, Gene Kucinkas, Jr., Betsy Whitcomb, Dave Gagnon, Mary Honan, and June Beck describe a community that placed a premium on education nearly from its inception—and still does today. We are able to relate to the stories of decades of students who studied in small neighborhood schools and then larger centralized schools, buildings that in some cases today’s residents attended. These authors share fond memories of recess games, long walks to and from school, and much-loved teachers.

For some of our authors, place provides a sense of importance and belonging within a community. Florence McCann’s essay describes her pride and personal connection to Falmouth, nurtured from a young age within the walls of Town Hall. She recalls annual meetings over which her grandfather presided, followed by community suppers cooked and served by townswomen, including her grandmother.

For others, place relates to a call to action. Ted Vail, Norm O’Brien, and Charlie Whitcomb share how concerned citizens gathered to organize fire protection for Falmouth residents, leading to the establishment of the Foreside, Central, and West Falmouth Fire Companies. William M. Lunt III describes how the efforts of fire company members were instrumental in the creation of a memorial dedicated to Falmouth firefighters. Ted Noyes and Glenn Rudberg present the story of the Portland Country Club, describing how a group of golf enthusiasts built a renowned club whose membership today is committed to environmental sensitivity. We also learn of Falmouth’s connection to Maine’s groundbreaking efforts in forest-fire prevention.



The Bisson Moving crew transported the map painting to Fogg Art Restoration.

Several of the buildings depicted in the painting have been meaningfully preserved yet repurposed as private residences, and we appreciate the owners’ sharing the stories of their home in this book. Bonnie-kate Allen describes her stewardship role and the sense of responsibility she and her husband share as the current residents of the former Barker School. They sense the energy of the students who came before and take pride in continuing the tradition of education within its walls where her husband counsels patients. Peter Bixby and Francelle Carapetyan share their solemn sense of stewardship as owners of the Pleasant Hill Chapel. The stories told them by those who attended events and services at the chapel inspire them, and they find a palpable spirituality present in a building that meant so much to the community—a building that they feel duty-bound to preserve.

Other authors also share how place can nurture a sense of purpose. Marge Merrill Devine, Reverend Janet Dorman, and Carol Iverson Kauffman write eloquently about the significant role of churches within the community historically, and the continued efforts of these institutions to carry out their mission at home and abroad. They describe how that mission has shifted over the years to meet the changing needs of the congregations and the communities served.



THE POWER OF PLACE

These are the stories of our friends and neighbors and a history of buildings and locations important to a community. They are gathered here in this book because an artist, Edward La Salle, selected them to paint on a large map of Falmouth more than seventy years ago.

Just as it was perhaps easy to overlook the painting in Town Hall and residents and staff went about their daily work, we often overlook the subjects of its vignettes—the natural landmarks and buildings of Falmouth. We drive past them, sometimes daily, barely noticing them in our effort to get where we need to go, with likely little reflection on their significance to our community both in the past and today. Yet, for the authors featured in this book and many of their fellow residents, these places hold great personal meaning and community significance. The places and structures represent and foster connections to our past and to each other.

Perhaps most striking about the places depicted in the painting is that they are nearly all gathering places where people met and still meet to govern, to work, to learn, to pray, to celebrate, to play, and to serve others. In their essays, our authors describe the coming together of neighbors, classmates, parishioners, co-workers, families, friends, and even foes within these spaces. The “mural” memorializes these gathering places on canvas and, in doing so, reveals the story of Falmouth—a story of growth, change, and community. It is a story that continues to this day.

Erin Bishop Cadigan

Edward La Salle

Edward Augustus La Salle (née Lassell) was born on May 11, 1908, in Boston. His father George, a machinist and woodworker, had to move to where the work was located. George could not afford to keep his family together, so Edward went to live with his aunt, Clara in Tamworth, New Hampshire, and his sister Dorothy went to live with other family members, including his older stepbrother Charles Lassell, in Wakefield, Massachusetts.

Ed idolized his stepbrother Charles, who went on to become one of the top illustrators in the country—working for the *Saturday Evening Post*, *Liberty*, and *Colliers* magazines. In addition to illustrations for national publications, Charles worked on advertising campaigns for such major corporations as General Electric, United Airlines, and Ford Motor Company.

Ed, like his stepbrother, also had artistic ability. In 1928, he attended a year of art school at the Portland School of Art, working as a short order cook on the Portland wharf to pay his way. Although he left school after one year to continue to pursue art on his own, Edward's teachers complimented his rare ability to identify and match color in both sunlight and shadow. While attending school, he met Vivian Elder, whom he would later marry. Vivian graduated from the Gorham Normal School and the Portland School of Art, becoming a fashion artist and dress designer for Palmers Department Store. She painted landscapes and portraits (of both people and animals) in pastels and oils throughout the rest of her life.

When he was only seventeen, Ed started selling illustrations to such national publications as *The Open Road* and *The Open Road for Boys*. In the early 1930s, Charles invited his stepbrother to come to Westport, Connecticut, to train with him. There, Ed met and modeled for many well-known illustrators, benefitting from their expertise. Around 1931–32, because so many people were mispronouncing and misspelling their last name, both Charles and Ed changed their professional last name to “La Salle.” Their respective artwork prior to that point was signed Lassell; after, their respective works were either unsigned or signed La Salle.

While Edward's career in illustration was on the rise, he was drawn back to Maine; his wife Vivian had remained in Maine with their young daughter, Elizabeth, and she was expecting their second child. They named that child—a son—Aiden, after Aiden Lassell Ripley, a cousin who was also a highly accomplished professional artist.



Edward La Salle, circa 1928

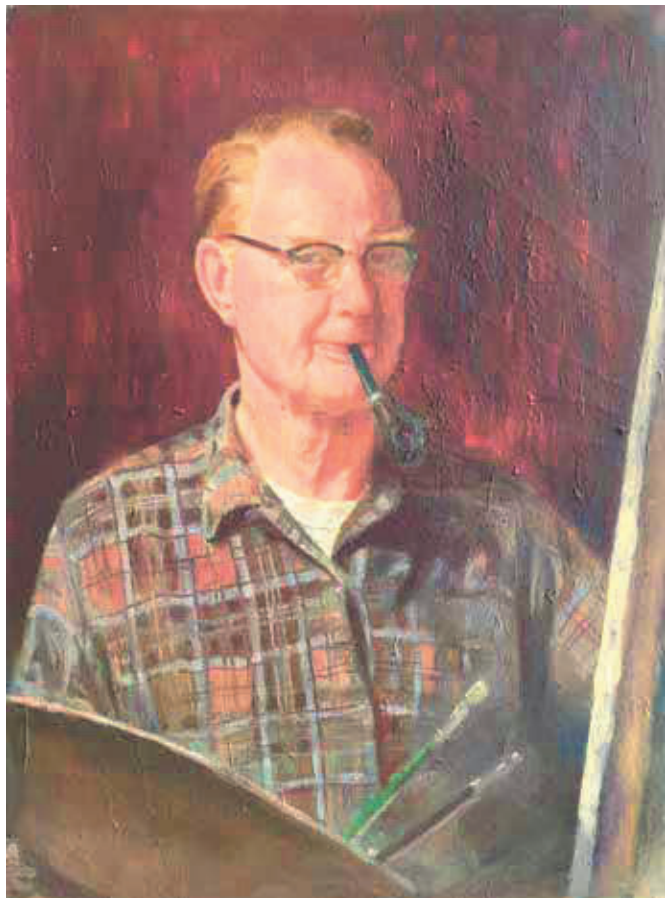
Neither Ed nor Vivian were keen on living in or in raising children in New York City. He did not enjoy the socializing and “entertaining” that was an important part of the illustration business at that time and was far more comfortable around a small circle of close friends and family. Ed preferred the wilderness to anything resembling a “big city.” Therefore, he left Connecticut and returned to Portland, Maine, where he continued to paint and tried to sell illustrations to the national magazines. During the Depression, this was far more challenging in Portland than in New York, which was the center of the illustration world at that time.

While he continued to work for national magazines and local advertisers and had private sales, Ed started his own business as a painting contractor and a sign painter. During this time, he completed a series of pastel murals for the Portland School Department as part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Just after that, when he was thirty-three years old, Ed painted the illustrated map of Falmouth.

Aiden remembers his father's small studio in Portland as a magical place, filled with props and illustrations for which he occasionally posed. It is difficult to tell how many La Salle paintings exist as any records Ed would have kept were destroyed or lost. Ed enjoyed exploring back country roads, stopping to paint scenes that inspired him. He would walk up to the houses he had painted to ask whether the owners wanted to buy the completed oil paintings—they often did.

Ed's paintings were displayed in local businesses in Portland, such as Sherwin-Williams and Day's Jewelry. An unknown number of La Salle paintings are scattered throughout Florida, where Ed and Vivian spent time with their grandchildren, during which time he sold his artwork and taught painting classes.

Ed did oil paintings, charcoal drawings, and watercolors that were often completed on location. He liked painting Western and wilderness themes, which may have been published or remained simply an expression of his imagination. His works included landscapes, seascapes, and river logging scenes. He also completed a remarkable series of children's illustrations with elves. A pair of those paintings were so well liked that they were stolen from the store where they were displayed. While the family was most upset at the theft, Ed stated simply, “I'll just paint another.” His family would go camping for weeks at a time, often in the Tumbledown Mountain area during the fall and winter. In one instance, Ed was so moved by the beauty of the morning scene in front of him, he tore off a piece of birch bark, grabbed charcoal from the fire, and sketched his great-grandson panning for gold in the swift river.



Edward La Salle, *Self Portrait*, circa 1950



Edward La Salle, *South Street Gorham, Maine*, undated

He was as modest as he was talented. Whenever his work was complimented, he was quick to deflect any praise with the puff of his signature pipe (which he also found useful in keeping bugs away when he was painting outdoors), a smile, and saying “Oh, anyone could do that. It’s nothing special.”

Ed would routinely paint over his canvases. For him, the process of creating the art was of interest, not the final product. Once he had captured what he was looking for in a painting, he was on to whatever was next.

Although Ed was quiet and introverted, he was engaging and a great story teller. He had a wonderful sense of humor and made cartoons of camping trips and work. When there were job delays while working as a painting contractor, he would

sketch cartoons on walls that were to be wall-papered. Some homeowners may still today be quite surprised when they remove wallpaper to find Ed’s cartoon depicting some of the antics that accompany any building project.

Ed continued to lead an active life—biking into Deering Oaks to sketch and painting—into his early eighties until a stroke robbed him of his artistic gifts. He died on November 30, 1992, leaving behind a rich artistic legacy carried on by his son, his grandchildren, and his great-grandchildren.

Robert M. Kahler



Edward La Salle, *Seascape at Two Lights, Cape Elizabeth, Maine*, 1965



Edward La Salle, *Runners*, drawing, 1930, published in *The Open Road*.

Blackstrap School

The Thirty Vignettes

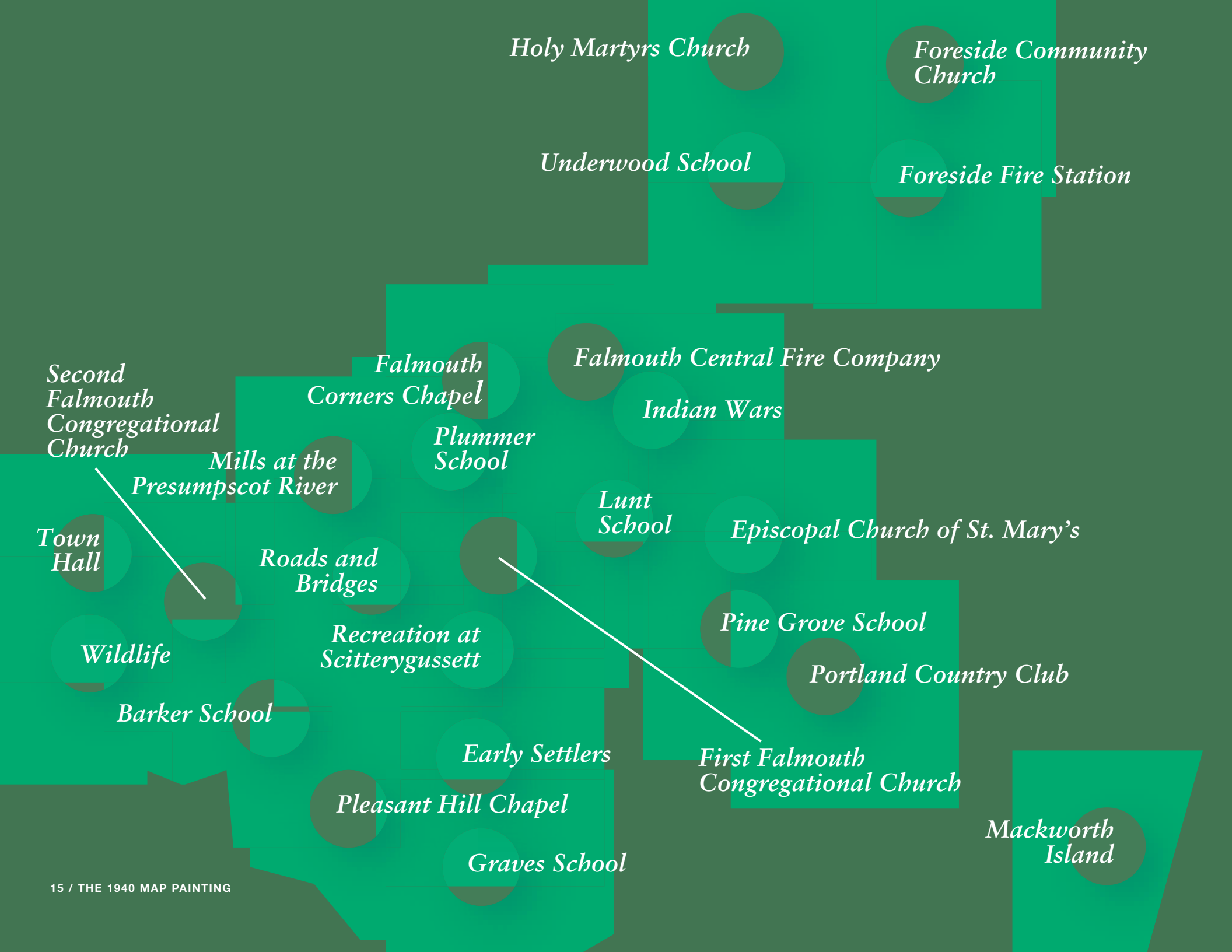
Huston School

Blackstrap Tower

*West Falmouth
Fire Company*

West Falmouth Baptist Church

Winslow School



Holy Martyrs Church

Foreside Community Church

Underwood School

Foreside Fire Station

Second Falmouth Congregational Church

Falmouth Corners Chapel

Falmouth Central Fire Company

Indian Wars

Plummer School

Mills at the Presumpscot River

Lunt School

Episcopal Church of St. Mary's

Town Hall

Roads and Bridges

Pine Grove School

Wildlife

Recreation at Scitterygussett

Portland Country Club

Barker School

Early Settlers

First Falmouth Congregational Church

Pleasant Hill Chapel

Graves School

Mackworth Island



Blackstrap School

NEAR 9 BABBIDGE ROAD

“School Days, School Days, good old Golden Rule days, Readin’, ‘riting & ‘rithmetic”¹

Blackstrap School (also known as the Babbidge School) was located on Windham Road, now called Babbidge Road. Built around 1920, the one-room schoolhouse stood on a small lot called the Congdon Lot. The town acquired the back school-yard in 1924 from Herbert Babbidge. Surrounded on three sides by a rail-and-wire fence, the schoolyard included a dug well in its southeast corner. The school’s entrance and cloakroom were located on the east side of the building. The classroom featured a blackboard across the northern wall and four large windows across the southern wall. The building included a full basement with two chemical toilets and a wood-burning, hot-air furnace.

Recreational activities included the Hilly-I-Over ball game, which consisted of throwing a rubber ball over the school house. Whoever caught it ran with the ball around the building without getting caught, playing tag around the yard. Baance-walking on the top rail of the fence around the whole yard was also great fun.

There were fifteen to twenty students and one teacher, with classes from first to sixth grades. Sometimes more than one class at a time would participate in the arithmetic or spelling lessons. East Windham children and Tuttle and Babbidge children walked about one mile along the Windham Road to the school. Hurricane and Durgin children walked about one mile down the old Gray Road to the school. Blackstrap and Hawkes children walked about one mile up the old Gray Road to the school.

The school closed in 1948. The building was later moved to West Cumberland behind the Allen store where it later deteriorated to the point that it was torn down.

Howard Babbidge

1. Edwards, Gus and Cobb, Will D., “School Days.” 1907.

Blackstrap Tower

NEAR 325 BLACKSTRAP ROAD

Built on Blackstrap Hill in 1853, Falmouth’s first observation tower soared 500 feet above sea level and afforded views of Casco Bay and the White Mountains. The tower, designed to draw visitors who paid a small fee to climb the stairs, fell into disrepair and closed in 1892. High winds destroyed it in 1909.

In 1931, the Maine Forest Service constructed a fire lookout station that also served as a tourist attraction. Visitors picnicked on the landscaped grounds and climbed a 47-foot steel tower to a glass-enclosed cabin. A 1938 *Portland Sunday Telegram* article described the tower as having “perhaps the only real 360-degree view in the vicinity of Portland, where the eye can trace uninterrupted the circle of the surrounding horizon.... There is a splendid vista of Casco Bay... Farther out are myriads of beautiful islands which stud its blue expanse.”

The tower was open from April to September, during which months a fire watcher stood guard daily. Each visitor received a fire-prevention pamphlet and map of campsites. The newspaper explained that fire hazards were “created by careless smokers, blueberry pickers, and so on.”

Due to the economic importance of the woods, Maine had long been a leader in fire prevention. In 1891, the state passed legislation creating a state forest commissioner and fire warden positions. A lumber company built the first fire-lookout tower in the United States in 1904 in Aroostook County. Devastating fires in 1903 and 1908 prompted the state not only to take over private towers but also to build more towers. In 1935, Maine state government built a record seventy-seven towers; by 1959, the state boasted 102 towers. However, the use of towers decreased thereafter as aircraft were more frequently used in fire spotting.

The Blackstrap Tower was moved to Atherton Hill in Windham in 1949 and dismantled in 1999.

Erin Bishop Cadigan



100 ST. PALMOUTH SCHOOL

Huston School

5 WINN ROAD

Built in 1924, the Huston School replaced the too-small Piscataqua School on the same site. The Piscataqua School (also known as School District #7 or West Falmouth School) had been built in 1864 on land owned by Edmund Merrill. Merrill and his neighbors believed their children needed an education.

The town voted in 1924 to sell the Piscataqua building and build a new school. The town moved the old school up Cumberland Center Road (now Winn Road) to a lot across from the Community Park entrance, where it still stands as a private residence. The new school continued as the Piscataqua School until 1949, when it was renamed the S.G. Huston School after Stephen Gould Huston, who had been both a school superintendent and a selectman and who also oversaw the construction of the new building.

The Huston School originally had two classrooms. The town added running water in 1929 and two more teaching rooms, a basement big enough for a furnace, and two bathrooms by 1948. In 1952, two more classrooms and more basement space were added.

In 1951, in the basement, Mrs. Sadie O'Brien started cooking a hot lunch for the students. To ring the bell to let the teachers know that lunch was ready, she pulled a string that had been strung through the floor up into the kindergarten classroom.

The school offered many activities, with a lending library, fairs, entertainment for the community, and after-school activities for students. In 1955, students planted two Swiss stone pines in front of the school on United Nations Day.

By 1980, after serving more than five thousand students, the town consolidated classes in the Plummer-Motz and Lunt Schools. After much study, the town decided to have the building torn down and used the land to build the West Falmouth Fire Station.

Betsy Whitcomb

West Falmouth Fire Company

158 GRAY ROAD

Concerned about having fire protection for their community, a group of men loosely organized the West Falmouth Fire Company in 1921 and banded together to buy their own Model T chemical truck.

By 1925, the town decided that West Falmouth needed more support. The town moved an unused school (located on Blackstrap Road near the Mast Road intersection) brick by brick to Gray Road, near West Falmouth Corner. The relocated building, built by Arthur and Peter Lawson, became the first official fire station for this section of town. The fire company was officially incorporated on June 30, 1925, with Ernest Lewis as its first fire chief.

That year the town paid \$3,000 for the town's first mechanical Reo Fire Truck. Former Fire Chief Norm O'Brien remembers that the fire station also housed an old Bear tractor with a V plow and two wings. The town owned the tractor, and Norm's father, former Fire Chief Arthur O'Brien, used to drive it.

By 1980, the building had become much too small to house necessary equipment, so the town started looking for an alternative site. At the same time, the Huston School (left, Stephen Gould Huston School), located around the corner on Winn Road, had become available. After much discussion, the town built a new fire station on that location. Upon completion in November 1985, the town dedicated the new station to Arthur B. Lawson, a founding member of the West Falmouth Fire Company and a former Falmouth road commissioner.

Today, this building is not only the fire station for the west end of town, but is also used as housing for students enrolled in Fire Science at Southern Maine Community College. In 2012, the town donated that first Reo Fire Truck to the Falmouth Historical Society for its permanent collection.

Norm O'Brien and Charlie Whitcomb



West Falmouth Baptist Church

18 MOUNTAIN ROAD

The West Falmouth Baptist Church began in 1829 when five people—led by three women—gathered at a schoolhouse on Popple Ridge with the intention of organizing a congregation.

These early members were “Free Will Baptists” affiliated with the United Church of Christ. One member, Captain Jedediah Leighton, was baptized in the Piscataqua River in 1838. Speaking of his Lord, he stated, “He had converted his soul, which caused much joy to be saith.”

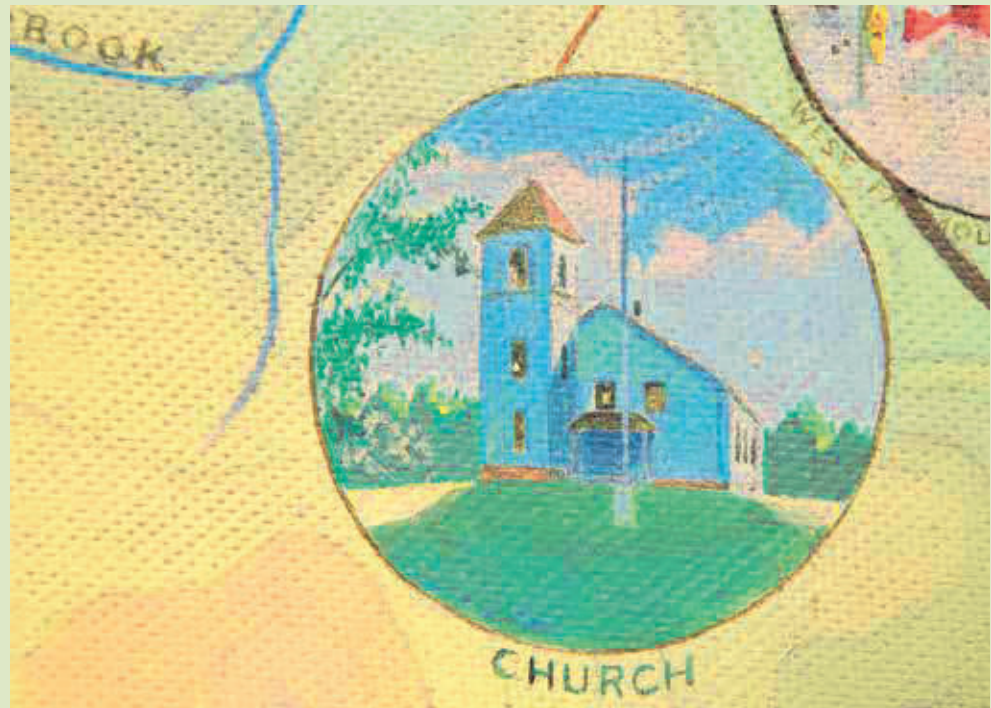
Like most churches, this one has had its seasons of feast and famine. Congregants built a church in 1839, and by 1846, they counted more than two hundred members. The 1870s saw hard times, however, with services held only occasionally. The decline was reversed by 1890 with the addition of a vestry, a balcony, and a new wood stove. Bitter Maine winters required a deacon to arrive around dawn to kindle a fire to warm the pews before services.

The church’s Helping Hand Society held lawn parties to raise money for mission work, books for bible studies, and church repairs. Parishioner Arthur Lawson recalled, “There’d be a line of colored Japanese lanterns hung around the edge of the lawn. They’d glow with a warm soft light...[T]he older folks would set [sic] and talk. The children would run around and play tag when they weren’t eating ice cream or cake. The ice cream was all homemade and the young folk took turns at cranking the handle.”

During the 1950s, the Sunday School swelled to 154 children, prompting the construction of a small addition. A larger addition followed in the early 1990s.

Today, the West Falmouth Baptist Church is affiliated with the American Baptists Churches USA denomination. This historical church is again on a path of growth as it continues to do what it has always done: reach out to serve others and to connect people to the love of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Malcolm “Mac” Ray



Winslow School

NEAR 87 BLACKSTRAP ROAD

In the 1750s, Benjamin Winslow gave 30 acres of land to William and Nathan Winslow, members of the Quaker community, to establish a school. During this time, several dozen Quaker families lived around the Presumpscot River near Blackstrap Hill. At its high point, Falmouth's early Quaker community numbered between three hundred and four hundred people.

The Winslow School, also known as School #9, was located at Brook and Blackstrap Roads and opened in 1807. Students paid their tuition in either cash or firewood.

Believed to have been a one-room structure with an outhouse, the Winslow School had a winter term of fourteen weeks and a spring term of ten weeks. In 1887, the school superintendent declared the building to be “utterly unfit” and stated he hoped to see it “displaced” by a new one. It seems that he meant it was not clean or properly equipped with a blackboard, map, or globe.

In 1897, a new school opened at the same site and a third, fall term was added. Indoor plumbing and electricity arrived in 1928. About the same time, the eighth-grade students transferred from Winslow School to the West Falmouth School.

Students who attended Winslow School recalled it as a fun place. Before 1928, it had a “two-holer” in the woodshed, a woodstove for heat, and no running water. The male students kept the woodshed stocked with wood. Ted Vail, who lived across the street from the school as a child, remembered taking over a container of water every morning for the school's use that day. He also started the woodstove each morning.

The Winslow School closed in 1946. The following year, the West Falmouth Parent Teacher Association took over the building.

Betsy Whitcomb



Town Hall

271 FALMOUTH ROAD

The first Town Hall building that I remember was a big red building that sat in the middle of George Whitney's field—now Ladyslipper Lane off Falmouth Road.

Most of my memories are of the second, and present, Town Hall, built in 1899 and completed in 1903. Falmouth residents conducted business on the first floor. A little corner on the second floor provided office space for town officials.

Town Hall served many purposes. The administrators gave the Falmouth Congregational Church permission to use some space for the annual fall apron sale sponsored by the Ladies Aid. At that time, I was more interested in the five- and ten-cent grab bags than those sales.

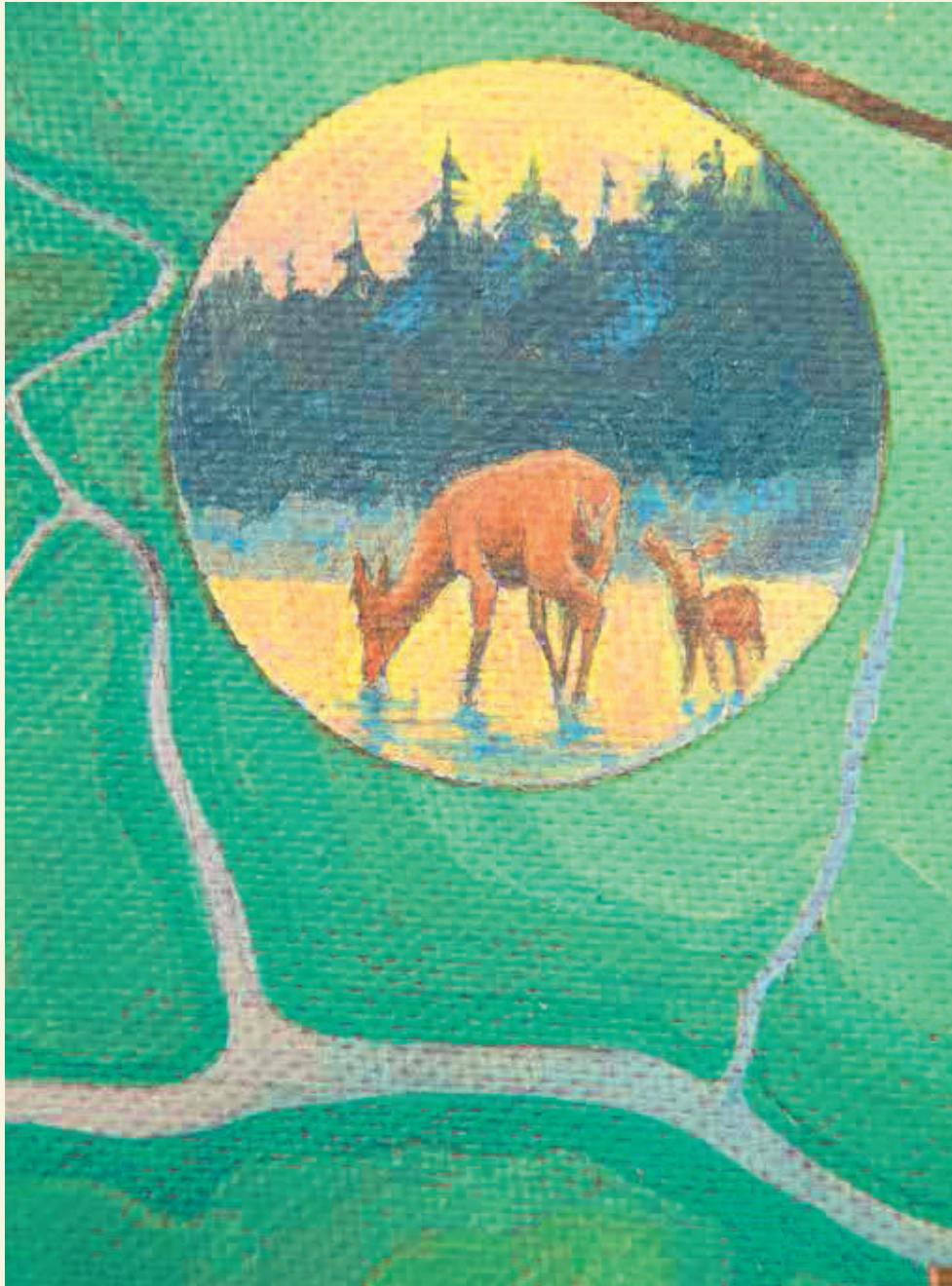
In March of each year, members of the town held their annual meeting on the first floor. My grandfather, Everett Winslow, presided as moderator, and we sat on the stairs as there was limited seating. After the meeting, the ladies of the church put on a dinner for the attendees. Because there was no hot water, we carried wood up the long flight of stairs to the second floor. The ladies used the wood to feed the large black stoves that held the big boilers. We used the hot water to wash the dishes and clean the tables. A small group provided the food; my grandmother, Dorcas Winslow, baked fifteen pies each year to support the cause.

Many years later, the church had permission to hold public bean suppers on the second floor. Everyone who came to the supper certainly got their exercise by climbing the long, steep stairs.

At the time, I thought I was quite important because my grandfather was moderator and my grandmother baked constantly for the town. I felt I was a big frog in the pond!

Florence McCann





Wildlife

White-tailed deer have long been an iconic wildlife species in Maine, but they were less common in Falmouth around 1940. In fact, our wildlife populations in general were much different then.

In 1940, Falmouth had 83 farms—a lot of land that is now forested or built upon was at that time open pasture or agricultural fields. Because of these habitat changes over time, such woodland creatures as fishers, owls, deer, spotted salamanders, porcupines, wood frogs, and a wide variety of songbirds are more abundant now. In turn, creatures that prefer to live in open fields, such as bobolinks, meadowlarks, certain hawks, various small rodents, and other grassland species have declined.

Rather than the mature forests Falmouth now has, much of the town's forestland in 1940 consisted of young trees growing in farmland abandoned earlier in the twentieth century. As a result, animals like New England cottontail rabbits were common; now, due to habitat change, they are an endangered species.

Coyotes, opossums, and turkeys, now familiar wildlife species in Falmouth, were not found here at all in 1940. Many bird species once limited to states to the south have also established populations here over time, including cardinals, tufted titmice, and turkey vultures. Species that adapt well to suburban environments have also increased in numbers, including skunks, raccoons, chipmunks, squirrels, blue jays, crows, and bluebirds.

Nature is constantly changing. The town's resident wildlife species also change in response to changing habitats. Over the past decade, Falmouth has been working to preserve large tracts of open space containing a range of habitat types to ensure the future health and variety of our wildlife species.

Bob Shafto

Second Falmouth Congregational Church

267 FALMOUTH ROAD

Congregationalism in Falmouth found expression in several separate congregations over the years. It began in 1754 as the Third Parish Church of Falmouth when the name “Falmouth” applied to present-day Portland as well as what is now Falmouth, Cape Elizabeth, South Portland, and Westbrook. Founded within this greater community, the First Parish was today’s First Parish Church (Unitarian) of Portland, and the Second Parish was organized in present-day Scarborough.

The Third Parish continued until 1830, when a new parish was formed. By that time the name “Falmouth” applied to the town within its present boundaries. Consequently, the Third Parish Church became the “First Congregational Society in Falmouth” (First Parish) (see page 33, *First Falmouth Congregational Church*), and the newly authorized parish became the “Second Parish Church of Falmouth” (Second Parish). This Second Parish met without a building until May 1833, when the congregation dedicated the present-day “Brick Church.” The parishioners in Reuben Merrill’s brickyard, located on the banks of the Presumpscot River near the iron bridge of that time, burned the bricks for this building.

From 1830 to 1935, the First and Second Parish churches of Falmouth ministered separately to their congregations; from 1935 to 1943, the two churches shared ministers. The First Congregational Society’s church at 65 Falmouth Road was razed in 1941. The merger of the two churches in 1945 resulted in the incorporation of the Falmouth Congregational Church, and in 1960, the Falmouth Congregational Church joined in covenant with the United Church of Christ.

The congregation built a parish hall adjacent to the church in 1955, completed renovations to the sanctuary in 1958, and added classrooms and office space in 1972. In 2004, the church renovated the chancel, connected the church and parish hall, and installed a pipe organ.

The church reaches out to the greater Falmouth community in numerous ways and continues to be a beacon as we share our faith and our love for all.

Carol Iverson Kauffman

Barker School

174 FALMOUTH ROAD

Built in 1830 and used as a school until 1916, the Barker School was named after Dorcas Merrill Barker, who donated the property to the town for just that purpose. The side of the school facing the road originally had two separate doors students used to enter the two separate classrooms—one for the boys and the other for the girls.

My husband and I have lived in this historic structure for the past eleven years. Our existing kitchen was the teachers’ room, which housed the stove for heating the school; that room also included a book storage closet, which is now our downstairs bathroom. According to our neighbor, David Merrill, the Merrill Brick Yard, located at the estuary of the Presumpscot River, made the bricks for the school.

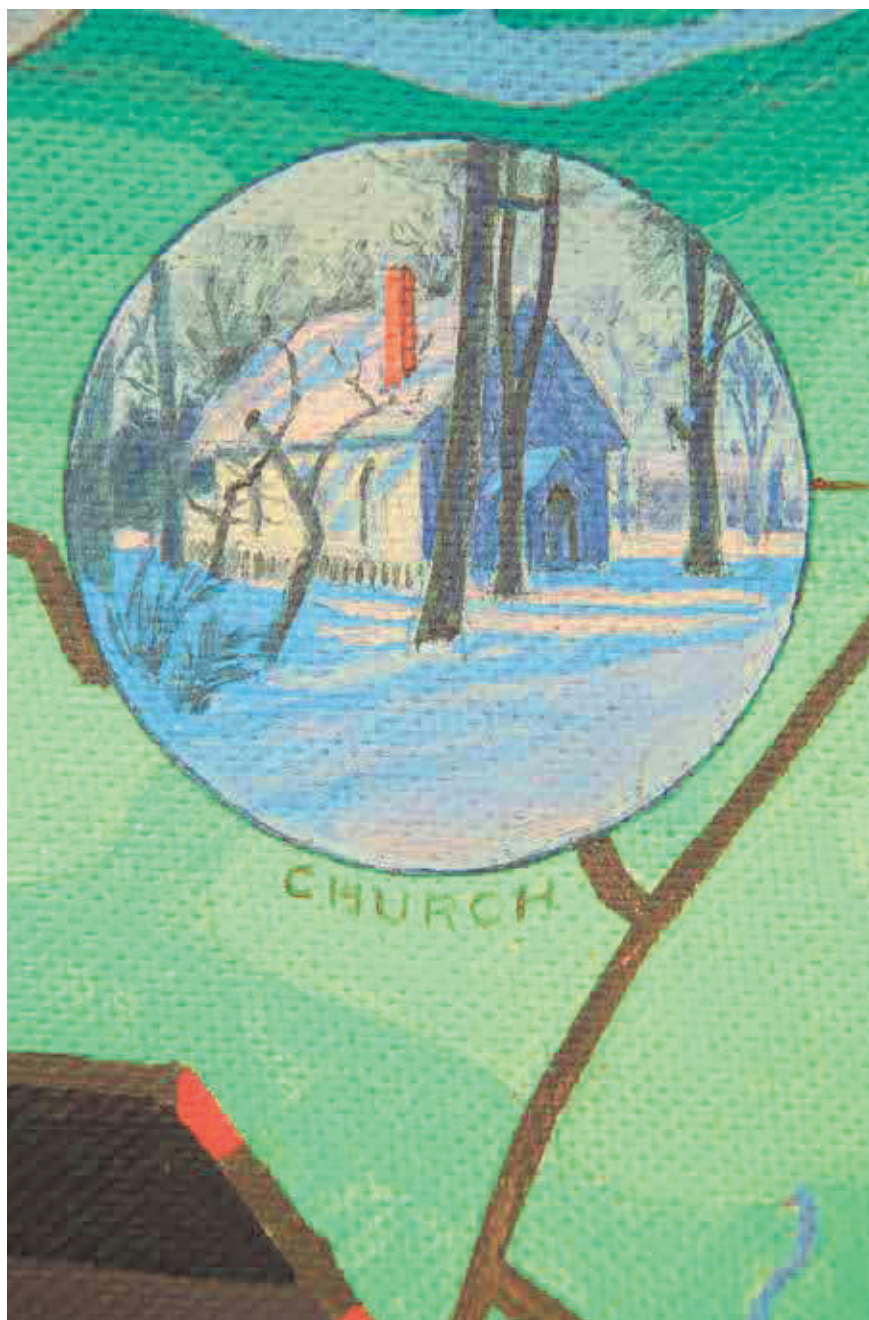
In 1916, after the school closed, retired U.S. Army Colonel Oerter Irvine purchased the property. He renovated the schoolhouse into a home, replacing one of the entry doors with a window. Prior to our purchase, the Zinn family owned the property and added a substantial addition and garage to the structure. The main character of the original schoolhouse has, however, been preserved.

There is something special about this structure. We often sense the energy of the old schoolhouse and the hundreds of children who spent their days here. We appreciate that we are not just living in an ordinary house, but in a house steeped in almost two hundred years of Falmouth history.

For the past seven years, my husband has used the schoolhouse as his office, teaching his patients both how to regain their health and how to stay healthy into old age; once again, the structure is a place of learning.

Bonnie-kate Allen





Pleasant Hill Chapel

70 PLEASANT HILL ROAD

We always dreamed of living in a hand-hewn timber barn. Instead, we happened upon a chapel. In 2013 and 2014, we rehabilitated, restored, and converted the Pleasant Hill Chapel into our home.

This undertaking included the responsibility of honoring the building's history and its place in the community. We were reminded of this connection each time a neighbor shouted an encouraging word or asked to peek inside, expressing relief that we were saving this once vital neighborhood gathering place.

One couple moved us profoundly. They told us of having met in the chapel in 1932, at a year-end program of the Graves School. He vividly remembered seeing a girl on stage, about five years old—a few years younger than he was. He knew then that she was special. As they stood in the doorway, now approaching their nineties, you could feel the couple reliving that moment as if it were yesterday.

The simple yet elegant chapel was built in 1880 with funds raised by the Pleasant Hill Community. The Portland YMCA eventually owned the building and turned it over to the First Baptist Church of Portland. By 1977, the building was no longer serving a religious purpose. Louise and Howard Reiche, living across the street, bought it; they were later honored for preserving the structure. The Reiches used it for family functions for several decades. By the time we bought it from them, the building had stood unused for some time. It is now our turn to be stewards of this building.

The restored sign prominently displayed near the front door reads:

PLEASANT HILL CHAPEL
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 to 10:15
EVERY SUNDAY—ALL WELCOME—ALL AGES

We are reminded daily that we are in a spiritual place and hope that we are keeping alive the tradition of welcoming our neighbors, family, and friends in this beautiful space we call home.

Peter Bixby and Francelle Carapetyan

Graves School

54 PLEASANT HILL ROAD

The Graves School has a rich history and still stands as a living landmark at the top of Pleasant Hill Road.

Legend has it that Crispus Graves drove his carriage by the original Falmouth Presumpscot School. When he stopped and chatted with the children, he found them to be “polite, with excellent behavior.” As a result, in 1879, Graves bequeathed land for the purpose of “educating the children in District (5)” to that district. An 1885 report details the four hundred dollar cost to build the schoolhouse, which was named after its benefactor. Trustees were elected to take care of the fund; to this day, a ten dollar gift is given to each high school graduate living in the old District 5.

In 1910, students collected funds for a school bell, later purchased from the Sears catalog. The school rang the bell for school purposes and to call people to help in the case of a fire. The bell still rings today.

The school closed in 1947, and the building was sold to a local family in 1952. For a short time, a store operated on the first floor; later the property was used for storage. In 1971, Mary and Dick Fortune bought the building and refurbished it as a residence; it has remained a residence to this day.

Over the years, couples have visited this home telling interesting stories of their time at the Graves School. One elderly man recalled climbing the trees outside the schoolhouse just to wave to his friends sitting in the classroom on the second floor.

Time has passed, but the school continues to stand as a reminder of the early days of Falmouth education.

Gene Kucinkas, Jr.





AN EARLY SETTLER

Early Settlers

The land that we know as Falmouth today was originally inhabited by Abenaki Indians (who were part of the Wabanaki nation). English explorers arrived as early as 1614, and settlements appeared in Casco Bay about ten years later. Early interactions between English and Native Americans were friendly, but by 1675, relations deteriorated as increasing numbers of European settlers sought Indian lands.

A mutli-decade cycle of war and peace ensued: war broke out, early settlements abandoned, peace reestablished, and settlers returned. Between 1675 and 1716, the British fought several wars against France and their Native American allies for control of colonial lands. These many conflicts led to the near decimation of Native Americans in Casco Bay.

By the late 1600s, the largest European settlement in Casco Bay was on Falmouth Neck, now Portland's East End. At the time of Falmouth's incorporation in 1718, it included present-day Portland, South Portland, Cape Elizabeth, Westbrook, and Falmouth.

Early settlers included farmers, ship builders, merchants, fishermen, loggers, millers, and tradesmen. They moved here with their families to start new lives or to find religious freedom. Most of the first settlers lived along the shoreline, the Presumpscot River, and the river's estuary, where they established several shipyards. Wagons brought trees from the interior to the shipyards to fuel a booming mast trade. The brickyards along the river produced clay that made excellent bricks used in many Falmouth buildings. Water-powered mills built along the Presumpscot and Piscataqua Rivers and at Mussel Cove ground corn and grain and sawed lumber.

As Falmouth grew, other neighborhoods sprang up at Falmouth Corners, West Falmouth, and North Falmouth. In the mid-1700s, Quakers established a meetinghouse near Blackstrap Hill. By the 1800s, Falmouth had become primarily an agricultural community. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, Danish settlers escaped German occupation, settling in Falmouth Corners and the Woodville neighborhood.

Betsy Whitcomb

Recreation at Scitterygusset

NEAR DEPOT, LUNT, AND MIDDLE ROADS

Before Interstate 295 was constructed, the wetlands between Depot and Middle Roads were known as Scitterygusset.¹ Scitterygusset was a local sachem (sagamore or chief) who befriended Christopher Levett, the first European settler in Casco Bay.

This tidal marsh became a key recreation site in Falmouth. In 1946, the town created a skating pond for children at Scitterygusset Pond off Lunt Road and maintained it for many years. The steep slopes surrounding the marsh were also ideal for sledding and skiing. However, one lifelong resident recalled “only climbing those hills once to sled down” as it was so much work.

Other recreation areas in days gone by include two ski slopes with rope tows in West Falmouth—Poplar Ridge Ski Area at Marston Hill (circa 1965) and Hurricane Mountain Ski Slope (1946–1976). As early as 1853, the Blackstrap Observation Tower drew tourists to enjoy bird's-eye ocean views, while others enjoyed boating, fishing, and swimming at Highland Lake.

In the early 1900s, steamboat rides from Town Landing, Underwood Casino, Portland Country Club, and Portland Yacht Club provided leisure activities. In 1957, the town constructed a pier at Town Landing with funds bequeathed by Clarence Sherman. In the mid-1960s, the town added a parking area and lighted boat ramp. Town Landing still offers the only public beach in the community.

In 1956, the Falmouth Playground Association was formed. The American Legion granted a ninety-nine-year lease on 27 acres off Depot Road, allowing the Association to build three baseball fields; two tennis courts; an area for badminton, volleyball or basketball; and a skating rink. In 1963, the town created the Parks and Recreation Department, merging a Recreation Committee and the Playground Association.

The 1963 Town Report stated, “wholesome and beneficial recreational opportunities [are provided for] for all the citizens of the Town,” and this tradition continues today.

Lucky D'Ascanio



1. This is also spelled Scittery Gussett, Skittery Gussett, or Squitterygusset.

Roads and Bridges over the Presumpscot River

There have been five different bridges over the Presumpscot River. Most of them were made of wood; one was covered. This scene shows a later bridge, probably the first concrete one, in use from 1911 to 1955.

The early settlers and Native Americans had a difficult time traveling along the Maine coast and coastal plain. The irregular terrain included many rivers, most of which had falls or sets of falls where the salt water met the fresh water. While the falls severely hindered upstream navigation, they provided an excellent source of waterpower for the many mills and aided in the collection of migrating fish.

Prior to 1759, there were no bridges, which forced travelers by foot or horseback to cross the Presumpscot River at low tide at the ford just below the falls.

Begun in 1653, the King's Highway, or Post Road, consisted of a series of path and trails, eventually connecting New York City to Bangor. It crossed the Presumpscot River just below the falls upstream of this bridge. Native Americans, settlers, post riders carrying mail, and English troops manning the forts and trucking or trading posts along the coast all used the highway.

In what is now Portland, the King's Highway followed Ocean Avenue. It connected with Middle Road in Falmouth, followed Pleasant Hill Road along the southern side of the river, and went down to the ford or the Rum House if the tide was high. After crossing and joining Falmouth Road, it proceeded on its way to Bangor with mile markers all the way.

Pleasant Hill Road is probably the last remnant of the King's Highway that has not been straightened and leveled.

Howard Reiche

Mills at the Presumpscot River

The Presumpscot River is the largest river feeding Casco Bay. It drops 270 feet over its 25-mile course from Sebago Lake, with its Lower Falls being the most significant drop on the journey to the sea.

In the earliest colonial days, the river's lower two miles were home to about 20 percent of the region's residents. Before then, about one thousand Native Americans had made their home there. This location offered convenient access to other settlements, protection from ocean storms, direct access to fresh water flowing from Sebago Lake, and the potential to generate power.

It is said that a fledgling settlement in New England was truly self-sufficient only after it had its own minister, blacksmith, and mill. In 1646, George Cleeve, a founder of what would become Portland, granted the region's first mill privilege to John Smith to operate a sawmill on the Presumpscot Estuary, along today's Interstate 295. It was likely a tide mill, using the flooding and ebbing tides at the narrow inlet to run a water wheel. Ten years later, John Phillips built a sawmill and gristmill at the Lower Falls. This was a "run of the river mill" powered by a water wheel spinning as water flowed by.

The first dam across the Lower Falls, the Great Dam, was built in 1735 and was the earliest river dam in Maine. It served the growing demand for sawn lumber, but also hosted other types of mills: gristmill to grind corn, fulling and combing mills to assist in turning wool into fabric, and the fourth paper mill in the New World. The dam blocked upstream passage of fish, reigniting a long running dispute with the Wabanaki Indians due to the depletion of this major food source.

A hydroelectric site, built at the Lower Falls in 1896 to power the S.D. Warren paper mill in Westbrook, operated until it was destroyed in 1946. In 1986 it was temporarily reactivated. To make way for recreation and upstream fish passage, the dam, by then called the Smelt Hill dam, was removed in 2002.

Ford Reiche





W. SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

Plummer School

192 MIDDLE ROAD

The old Falmouth High School served the town over many decades. Those who grew up in the 1940s and 1950s considered it the center of education. With the elementary schools located around town, the building later named Plummer School became the first school in town where all members of a graduating class attended together. High school students, also for the first time, changed classrooms for different subjects rather than taking all subjects in the same classroom.

Many students were familiar with Plummer years before attending class there, as older siblings were involved with such after-school activities as music, sports, or drama. It was a special treat to attend events at Plummer. Operettas, variety shows, plays, and dances drew a full house to match any athletic contest.

The gym was a special attraction as it was the only one in town and was heavily used. It also provided seating for lap dining with trays of food served from the kitchen in the north wing. For basketball players, Plummer's gym presented unique challenges—its floor was so short that the center and foul line circles intersected. The concrete walls behind each basket made driving a lay-up a test of courage.

Thanks to vocational programs for manual arts and commercial office training, many graduates got a head start in the working world. College preparation was also important. Most valuable were the life lessons taught by a dedicated faculty.

June Beck, who graduated in 1938 at age sixteen, recalled Sampson Plummer driving her to school on the bus. "I played cello in my last year of school, and Sampson would care for my cello during the ride back and forth to school. Sometimes, instead of taking that stuffy bus, I walked the three miles back to my home on Woodville Road," she remembered.

Dave Gagnon and June Beck

First Falmouth Congregational Church

65 FALMOUTH ROAD

As early as 1735, sixty-two families living in New Casco (now Falmouth) petitioned the First Parish (in present day Portland) for a "separate supply of preaching during the winter." The Third Parish Church organized in 1754, with its meetinghouse located near Lunt Road on Squitterygusset Creek. The parish's ninety-three members built a new meetinghouse in 1804.

In 1830, the Congregational Church Conference approved the formation of a new parish in present-day Falmouth. Thus, the Third Parish Church became the "First Congregational Society in Falmouth" (First Parish) and the new parish became the "Second Parish Church of Falmouth" (Second Parish) (see page 24, *Second Falmouth Congregational Church*).

First Parish was located at 65 Falmouth Road, near what is today the entrance to OceanView. The First Parish meetinghouse was rebuilt in 1841 as a "beautiful wood structure with belfry and bell." The pews had narrow doors. At that time, "pew holders" rented pews, and the congregation allotted a pew to the minister and his family without charge. The singers originally sat in the front of the church. With exception of remodeling the tall pulpit and relocating the choir to the belfry, the church interior saw little change over time.

After struggling for many years, in 1934, the First Parish members began attending services at the Second Parish with the two churches sharing ministers. The old First Parish church building fell into disuse and was razed in 1941. The former First Parish bell now graces a Lutheran church in Westbrook. The First and Second Parishes combined in 1945 as Falmouth Congregational Church. In 1953, the church sold the First Parish church lot, and a private residence was built upon it.

Carol Iverson Kauffman and David Farnham



Falmouth Corners Chapel

21 FALMOUTH ROAD

The Chapel at Falmouth Corners was built around 1859. In 1861, Josiah Richards deeded the 56-by-63-foot chapel lot, including the “building recently built,” for one dollar to the First Parish Church. An 1862 deed documents Richard’s sale of a second adjoining parcel to the church for twenty-five dollars; the chapel woodshed was later built on that lot. The First Parish Church purchased a third rectangular parcel, running across the back of the other two lots, in 1881.

This “Chapel in the Pines,” on what was then called Chapel Hill, served as the “seat of many social gatherings,” singing schools, the Independent Order of Good Templars, the Mount Independence Grange, and 4-H. In 1904, the First Parish Church held the supper for their 150th anniversary there. In the early 1900s, the ladies of the Corner met there every Wednesday for their “Mutual Improvement Club,” which included musical and literary programs. A History Club with Susie Skillin as chief historian met there. The congregation also used the chapel for religious services in the winter so that the larger church building would not have to be heated.

In the 1940s, the First Parish and Second Parish churches merged and reorganized as the Falmouth Congregational Church, meeting in the former Second Parish sanctuary, known as the Brick Church (see page 24, Second Falmouth Congregational Church). As the Falmouth Congregational Church renovated and added onto the Brick Church, the chapel fell out of use and into disrepair. It appears that the heirs of Josiah Richards relinquished their claim to the original chapel land, as the property was sold in 1962 to neighbors Herbert and Gladys Olesen at 25 Falmouth Road. The chapel building was later moved to Kingman, Maine, for use as a hunting lodge. The Olesens built a house on the property for their son, Herbert Jr.

Sue Farnham



Lunt School

14 FALMOUTH ROAD

Built in 1867 at Falmouth Corners, the two-room Schoolhouse #3 was later renamed for Daniel W. Lunt. A Falmouth native, Lunt had taught for ten years in Peru, Maine, before returning to Falmouth to teach and then serve as superintendent of schools from 1911 until his death in 1925.

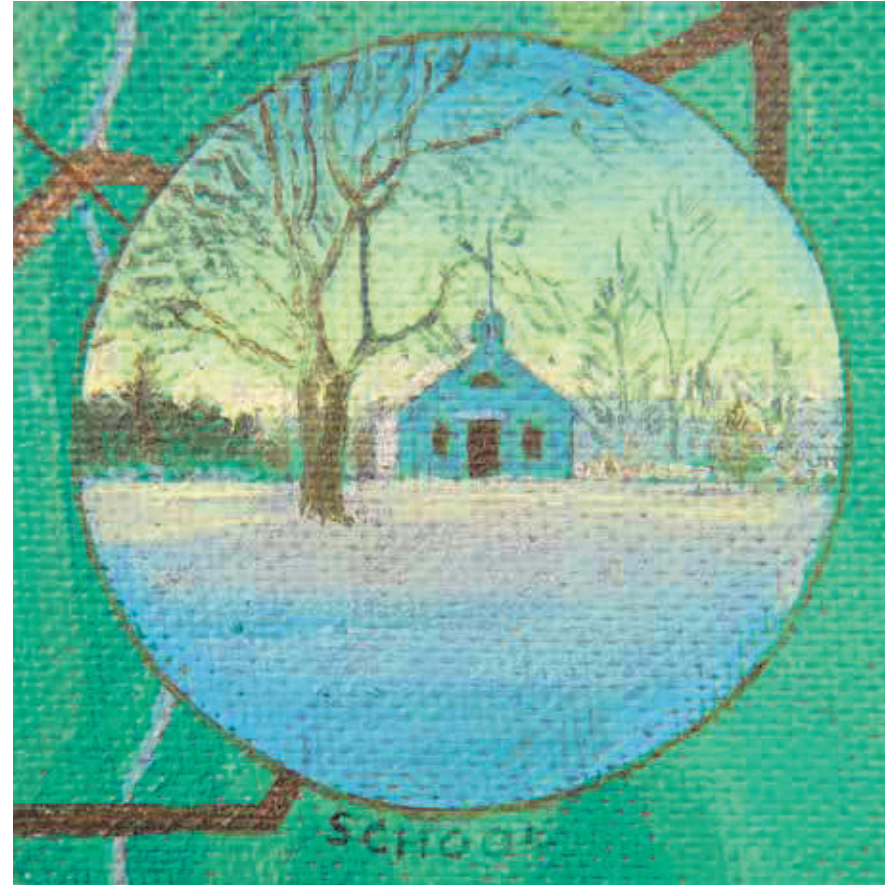
Today, Falmouth's school system is known for its strong academics. This legacy can perhaps be traced back to Superintendent Lunt. In his annual reports, Lunt laid out the importance of education, the need for well-paid, qualified teachers, and the necessity of clean, properly maintained, and functional school buildings.

"It goes without saying that we need good teachers and when we are convinced that we have them, let us make every effort to keep them. To do this we must ask for high appropriations for salaries," Lunt stated in the 1923 Annual Town Report. He added: "Our pupils in the public schools of today are to assume greater responsibilities than any preceding generation. In order to meet this they must be housed in sanitary, well-lighted, convenient school buildings."

The original Lunt School is now a private garage. The town built a new, four-room Lunt School on Lunt Road in 1941 to serve as the junior high school. The driveway and large yard extending to Middle Road were once a playground. The town later converted part of the basement into two more classrooms and, in 1961, converted a third area of the basement to classroom use. Lunt eventually became Falmouth's elementary school.

The town closed Lunt School in 2012 after building a new elementary school on the same campus as the Middle and High Schools on Woodville Road. The Lunt School building is now part of the OceanView campus.

Betsy Whitcomb





FIRE STATION

INDIAN WAR

Falmouth Central Fire Company

NEAR 229 MIDDLE ROAD

Built in the early 1920s with donated labor and five hundred dollars of town funding, the Falmouth Central Fire Company station was located at the intersection of Middle, Falmouth, and Depot Roads before Interstate 295 was constructed.

A group of volunteer fire fighters, who became the Falmouth Central Fire Company in 1926, initially occupied the station. The station and equipment replaced a large hose reel pulled by hand power—which had been housed in a shed on Middle Road between Lunt Road and Falmouth Corners near the old Odd Fellows Hall (now converted to a residence). For many years, the station also housed a snow plowing tractor owned by the town.

Over the years, the building served as the home of the following apparatus: a Model T Ford, a 1931 Chevrolet Hose Truck, a 1937 Seagrave / Chevrolet 500 gallon pumper, a 1954 Hews / Dodge 500 gallon Tanker, and a 1958 Maxim / Diamond T with 500 gallon pump and 500 gallon tank. Because of the building's small size, the equipment the company purchased had to be of a size to fit the structure. The station was later remodeled to fit changing needs.

In the mid-1970s, the equipment and the fire company moved into the present Central Fire Station on the east end of Bucknam Road near U.S. Route 1. Later sold and moved to Woodville Road, the original station became a garage at a private residence.

Several years later, a concerned group of fire company members approached the town with a plan to place a stone monument and a lighted flagpole on the site in memory of all Falmouth firefighters. The town agreed to care for it.

William M. Lunt III

Indian Wars

The Presumpscot River Indians were a part of the Wabanaki (Dawnlander) Peoples, whose roots in “our” region long preceded that of European settlers. They only became Freedom Fighters when their Dawnland became overrun by English settlers. They eventually allied with French colonial interests because the French presence was far smaller and ecologically far less disruptive than that of the English. “New France” worked with nature; “New England” worked against nature; Dawnlanders lived within nature.

In 1624, at the Presumpscot River's lowest falls, Wabanaki sachem Scitterygusset heartily welcomed an exploring Englishman, Christopher Levett. However, by 1675, far too many later-coming English settlers had taken over the landscape all over “New England,” spoiling the Indians' delicate seasonal balance with nature.

In Maine, the first Indian deadly attempt to drive out the English was the retaliatory September 1676 massacre at the Wakely family farm on Presumpscot River behind Merrill Road. Seven Wakelys were killed and young Elizabeth was carried away captive. Occurring at the beginning of the first Anglo-Wabanaki War, this set the pattern for six of these wars.

In 1703, during the third war, an unsuccessful Peace Conference and a massive Indian and French attack occurred at New Casco Fort near Waites Landing, discouraging Wabanaki attempts at diplomacy to redress any Indian complaints.

In the 1730s, the last Presumpscot sachem, known as Chief Polin, made a number of trips to the British colonial government in Boston to plead for fish passage-ways in the dams on the Presumpscot (see page 30, *Mills at the Presumpscot River*) to safeguard traditional migratory food. Chief Polin eventually won his plea, but it was not enforced. In despair, Chief Polin went on the warpath against British frontier settlements and was killed in 1756 near his people's beloved Presumpscot River.

Today, let us try to comprehend the natives' hostility to the newcomers who nullified the natives' traditional lifeways.

Alvin Hamblen Morrison, Ph.D.

Episcopal Church of St. Mary's

43 FORESIDE ROAD

The history of the Episcopal Church of Saint Mary the Virgin began in 1889. At that time sadness struck the family of General John Marshall Brown and his wife, Alida Carol Brown. Alida, their daughter, died suddenly while studying in Switzerland. To honor her memory, General Brown built a Memorial Chapel on a stony pasture overlooking Casco Bay.

Summer services began in 1890. Several years later, in 1902, the general added the Norman tower as a memorial to his parents—John Bundy and Matilda (Greely) Brown. The tower is inspired by the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin in Iffley, England, built in 1170.

Church membership quickly grew as Falmouth's population increased. Mrs. Brown perceived the need for a rectory and graciously provided for it in her will. The English-style home was ready for use in 1915. Over the next decade, the church flourished and began holding year-round worship services. In 1927, Saint Mary's was incorporated and entered into union with the Episcopal Diocese of Maine.

The church erected a parish house in 1937 and enlarged it three times: in 1952, 1964, and 2012. The nave, the large section between the narthex and chancel, was constructed in 1950. The most recent addition to the parish house provided offices and a chapel in memory of Father James Dalton-Thompson, a beloved rector who died suddenly in 2010. In his five-years' tenure, the parish experienced rapid growth that continues today.

Grateful for each blessing received, parishioners at Saint Mary's have a parish motto: "Celebrate, Honor and Serve." Anchored in faith, members strive to be a continuation of Christ's earthly ministry, being His hands, and doing the work He has prepared for us to do—within the community and far beyond, helping those in need and extending God's glory.

Marge Merrill Devine



Mackworth Island

For many centuries, Mackworth Island served as not only a haven for wildlife but also the summer home of Wabanaki Indians. The Wabanaki called the island “Menikoe,” meaning “place of pines and rolling mists.” Living within the thick, sheltering groves of pines on an island surrounded by tidal flats ideal for clamming, the Wabanaki flourished on shellfish, waterfowl, and game long before European settlers arrived.

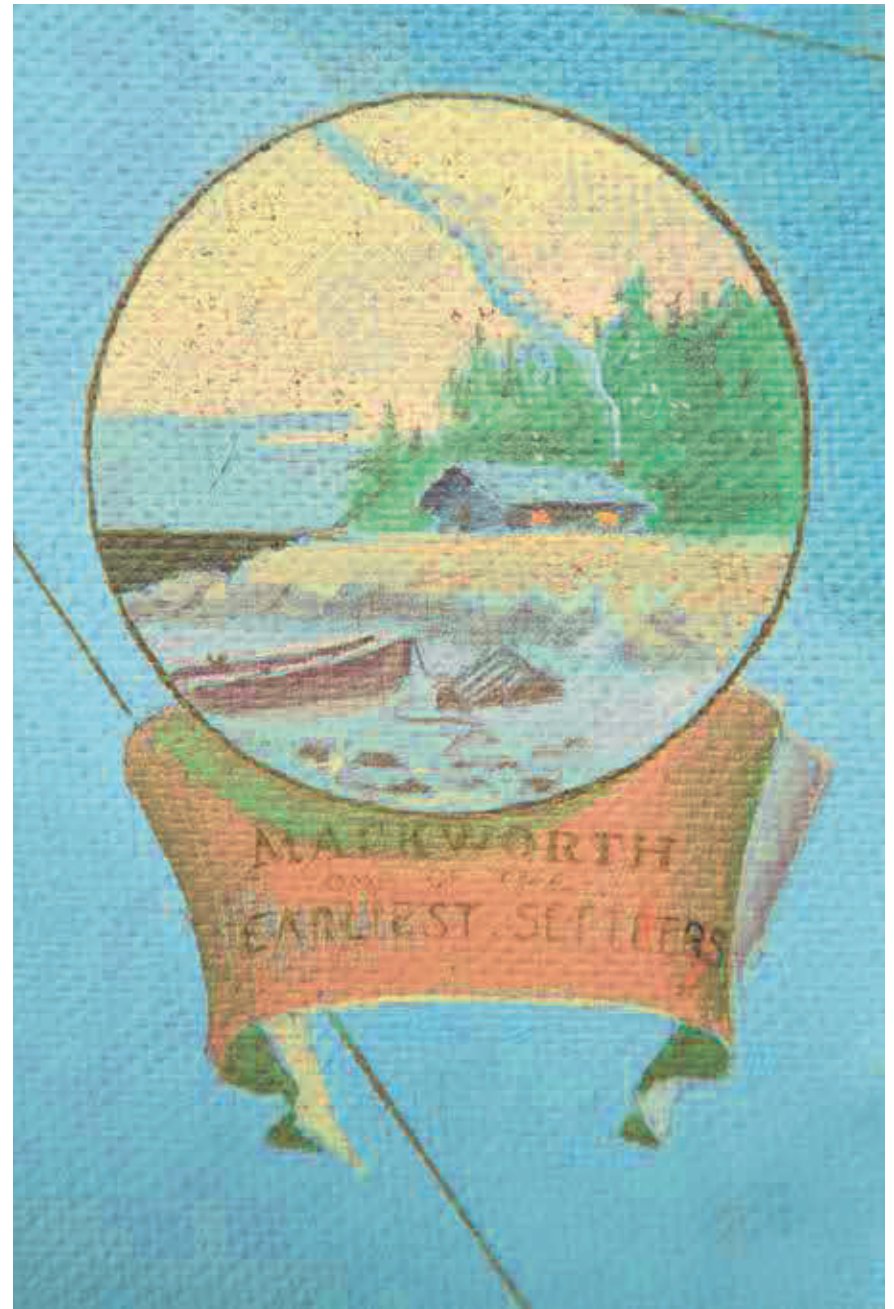
Explorers, fishermen, and traders eventually frequented the one hundred-acre island, located about a half mile from the mouth of the Presumpscot River. Around 1635, Arthur Mackworth received the island as part of a five hundred-acre deed presented to him by Richard Vines. Vines was an agent of Sir Ferdinando Gorges, who was a friend of Mackworth’s and the holder of the Royal Charter for the Province of Maine from King Charles I.

Mackworth first built his home on what is now called Mackworth Point, on the east bank of the Presumpscot River, around 1632. A widower, he married a widow, Jane Andrews, and together they moved to the island. In 1657, Jane died and was laid to rest on the island.

Neil Rolde, author of *The Baxters of Maine*, writes that James Phinney Baxter—six-time mayor of Portland, extraordinary researcher, historian, and writer—purchased Mackworth Island in 1888. He built an elegant two-and-one-half story, red-brick summer home there, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. James’s son, Maine Governor Percival Baxter, gave the island to the State of Maine in 1943 for public purposes and “as a sanctuary for wild beasts and birds.” Since 1957, the island has served as the home of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf, now a component of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Today, a causeway connects Mackworth Island to the mainland, and the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands maintains the walking trail that loops around the island’s perimeter.

Marge Merrill Devine



Pine Grove School

32 FORESIDE ROAD

A school, originally known as the Point School because of its location near Mackworth Point, is believed to have been built in 1809 on the site of today's Pine Grove School. Documents from the 1860s reference a brick school at the same location. Town reports state that, in 1916, fire destroyed a one-room, wooden schoolhouse at the site, known as Pine Grove School. The town quickly arranged with a local trolley company to transport the displaced students from Pine Grove to the new, but as-yet-unfinished Underwood School (see page 42, *Underwood School*).

In 1917, the town constructed a new wooden schoolhouse on the Pine Grove School lot; the building housed three classrooms for grades one through three. Pine Grove School was one of only four schools in Falmouth to have a piano.

In 1924, George Woodward deeded the land on which the school stood to the town for a park, but also provided for a quarter-acre school lot. The park, Pine Grove Preserve, had been donated with the intention to preserve it forever in its natural state. School renovations in 1941 added two more classrooms, a septic system, and an oil forced-air heating system. In 1962, a portion of the basement was converted to classroom use.

In 1977, the Falmouth School Board voted to close Pine Grove School in response to declining enrollment, increased desire for consolidation, and budget considerations. This closure followed that of Graves and Underwood Schools, leaving the lower Foreside without a school for the first time in more than 150 years.

The town sold the building in 1978. The new owner hoped to convert the school to a private home, but never did, perhaps due to the nature of George Woodward's original deed requiring a school be located on the property. The wood-shingled schoolhouse, restored to maintain its historic character, has operated under its original name as a Montessori preschool and kindergarten since 1985.

Betsy Whitcomb

Portland Country Club

11 FORESIDE ROAD

Established in 1895, the Portland Country Club was only the second golf club in Maine. Annual dues were one dollar. After a devastating fire in 1913, the club relocated from South Portland to Falmouth on land acquired from the Foreside estate of General John Marshall Brown. The club built the current clubhouse—its third within fifteen years—in 1914. Although renovated numerous times, it has remained one of Falmouth's landmark buildings.

Improvements over time resulted in not only facilities for golf, but also for tennis, swimming, platform tennis, pickle ball, and dining. Use of the facilities changed over time with the needs of the community. For example, in World War I, the club reduced the course from eighteen to nine holes and then grew ten acres of beans as a wartime crop, donating the proceeds to the American Red Cross War Fund.

A 1922 visit by the renowned, Scottish golf-course architect, Donald Ross, led to a new, eighteen-hole, par-71 course that superbly fit the seaside surroundings. Modified over the years, the most recent plan recognizes the “invaluable Donald Ross character and heritage” of the course. In 2017, seeking to return the course to Ross's original vision, the club implemented a bunker restoration, green shaping, and fairway expansion project. The resulting aesthetically enhanced golf experience offers interest and challenge to golfers of all abilities.

In 1997, the club became the first golf club in Maine to be designated as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by Audubon International. This designation of the club's 142 acres—one of the last developed large land parcels in Falmouth—incorporates proactive environmental planning, reduces chemical applications, conserves water, and promotes wildlife habitat management. On a round of golf today, one will likely be joined along the way by red tail hawks, ospreys, foxes, great blue herons, and other wildlife.

Ted Noyes and Glenn Rudberg



Underwood School

258 FORESIDE ROAD

Beginning in 1916, the Underwood School operated for nearly fifty years on the site of today's Underwood Park. The two-room building, also known as District #2 School, cost nearly \$6,300 and housed kindergarten through sixth grade. Primary-school teachers at this time earned \$9.50 to \$10 per week.

The unexpected destruction of Pine Grove School by fire (see page 40, *Pine Grove School*) forced the town to open the not-yet-completed Underwood School to accommodate the displaced pupils.

During the 1930s, Miss Colesworthy taught grades two, three, and four in one classroom; Mrs. Sampson taught grades five and six in another. In the smaller room between these larger classrooms, Miss Rose taught sub-primary children in the morning and first graders in the afternoon. During these years, students performed their school operettas on the beautiful wooden stage of Casco Hall, located next door.

By the 1950s, the school housed the kindergarten for all children living on the Foreside. The Underwood School closed in 1964 upon the opening of Falmouth's new junior high school. From 1969 to 1975, when student enrollment climbed, the town reopened the school to accommodate an overflow of students.

Once again closed, in lieu of tearing down the building, the Falmouth Fire Department burned the Underwood School down for practice. Some thirty to forty firefighters participated in the controlled burn, while onlookers, including former students, watched. The exercise did not go entirely as planned when wind gusts sent embers to adjoining homes, causing fire damage to those structures.

In a 1981 article for the *Portland Evening Express*, Kim Murphy recalled her first day of school at Underwood School: "I wore a red, white, and blue dress with a sailor collar and tie, and a low waist, the latest in subprimary fashion in 1952. . . When those huge, severe windows [sic] panes were decorated with our projects, it was the best school anywhere."

Betsy Whitcomb and Mary Honan



Holy Martyrs Church

266 FORESIDE ROAD

In 1922, Father Joseph Quinn, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Yarmouth, saw the need for a Roman Catholic church in Falmouth. He bought property on Falmouth Foreside and, around 1930, started a mission church. Until this time, Falmouth Catholics attended Mass in Yarmouth or Portland. The small wooden church, originally intended to serve as a summer chapel, served only eleven families in the winter months.

Parish women played a pivotal role in the development of Holy Martyrs Church. They held card parties and lobster suppers as fundraisers, relying on summer visitors for financial support. Through these efforts, in 1941, Bishop Joseph McCarthy of Portland dedicated Holy Martyrs Church to the Jesuit Martyrs of North America—the first church in the United States to be so dedicated. The women of the parish formally organized into a Women's Guild in the 1940s, and they continued to orchestrate card and lawn parties, food sales, and sewing clubs to raise funds for improvements to the church building. In 1968, Holy Martyrs was canonically erected as a full-fledged parish.

On May 3, 1970, the parish celebrated the last Mass in the little white church. Two days later, the parish demolished the church and began work on the current complex. During construction, the parish celebrated Mass at Falmouth Junior High School and occasionally at Falmouth Foreside Community Church. On October 10, 1970, the parish celebrated its first Mass at the new church on a cement floor with folding chairs.

Today, Holy Martyrs Church is an active Falmouth church working in partnership with Sacred Heart in Yarmouth, St. Gregory in Gray, and St. Jude in Freeport as the Parish of the Holy Eucharist to proclaim and celebrate our faith. Holy Martyrs participates in the Falmouth Ecumenical Clergy network, collaborating with our sisters and brothers of many faiths to build community and fellowship through shared projects throughout the year.

Deacon Dennis Popadak



Foreside Community Church

340 FORESIDE ROAD



In 1789, the Foreside Community Church held services in a log cabin built on the boundary between the towns of Cumberland and Falmouth. After that building and two successive church buildings burned, in 1810, the brothers Joseph, Ephriam, and Greely Sturdivant erected the present church on land donated by William King York. The church was incorporated in 1811 for the use of the “Methodist Society.”

For many years, residents of both towns sat on their respective sides of the church. Each side had its own stove, and the pastor was required to preach from both sides. Each town paid the minister separately. Calvinist, Presbyterian, Puritan, Congregationalist, and Methodist theologies were all preached in the church. One pastor, sent by founder of Methodism John Wesley, would finish the sermon walking down the aisle and gallop down the church lane with his cloak billowing behind.

In 1944, the dwindling church members voted to continue the church without a denominational designation and renamed it the Foreside Community Church. Under Dean Emeritus Everett Lord’s leadership, the church tripled its membership, added classrooms, and built a community hall. In 1968, the Foreside Community Church affiliated with the United Church of Christ.

Today, the Foreside Community Church is a true community church, drawing members and friends from Falmouth, Cumberland, and beyond. In keeping with our vision to “Connect with God, Nurture Community, and Discover How Our Lives Make a Difference,” we offer financial and hands-on support to the Falmouth Food Pantry, Habitat for Humanity, the Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project, and numerous local and global non-profits. We look forward to our continuing role in the town’s future.

Reverend Janet Dorman

Foreside Fire Station

287 FORESIDE ROAD



By the mid-1920s, Falmouth had four fire stations. The founding of each station coincided with the extension of water mains from Portland into Falmouth—on Foreside Road in 1912, Middle Road in 1922 (see page 37, Falmouth Central Fire Company), Allen Avenue Extension in 1923, and Gray Road in 1925 (see page 19, West Falmouth Fire Company).

The Foreside Fire Company held its initial meetings in Frank Moulton's garage in 1913. The company operated for more than three years without a building. The company originally covered territory from the Portland line to Wildwood in Cumberland Foreside. To do this, the company placed four reels, each with five hundred feet of fire hose, in various locations around town: Andrews Avenue, Skillins Corner, and Ramsdell Road and Wildwood in Cumberland. Company members would draw these reels by hand or hooked to vehicles, usually Model T Fords, to fire scenes. In 1922, a Model T Ford Chemical Truck, the town's first motorized fire truck, was purchased for \$602.

Fire-company members built the present building in 1916 and 1917 along what was then U.S. Route 1, a dirt road. The company raised funds for this first fire station from residents of Falmouth as well as Cumberland Foreside. The Foreside Fire Company served as the sole department responding to fires in Cumberland Foreside until the early 1950s.

Over time, the Foreside Fire Station provided a venue for a variety of civic events. For many years, the company hosted monthly Saturday night suppers. Both Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops held meetings there. For a few years, residents voted at the station on Election Day.

Between 1917 and 2010, the station was remodeled and enlarged several times. It grew from one, to two, and then three bays. Today, the Foreside Station houses two firefighters from Southern Maine Community College. For more than one hundred years, the Foreside Station has continued to serve the community well, with fire responses, meetings, and company drills.

Ted Vail



1. Blackstrap School
2. Blackstrap Tower
3. Huston School
4. West Falmouth Fire Company
5. West Falmouth Baptist Church
6. Winslow School
7. Town Hall
8. Wildlife
9. Second Falmouth Congregational Church
10. Barker School
11. Pleasant Hill Chapel
12. Graves School
13. Early Settlers
14. Recreation at Scitterygusset
15. Roads and Bridges over the Presumpscot River

16. Mills at the Presumpscot River
17. Plummer School
18. First Falmouth Congregational Church
19. Falmouth Corners Chapel
20. Falmouth Central Fire Company
21. Indian Wars
22. Lunt School
23. Episcopal Church of St. Mary's
24. Pine Grove School
25. Portland Country Club
26. Mackworth Island
27. Underwood School
28. Holy Martyrs Church
29. Foreside Community Church
30. Foreside Fire Station



Edward La Salle's 1940 illustrated map painting of Falmouth, Maine, is located on the ground floor of Falmouth Town Hall, 271 Falmouth Road, Falmouth, Maine. It can be viewed Monday through Thursday during office hours.

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