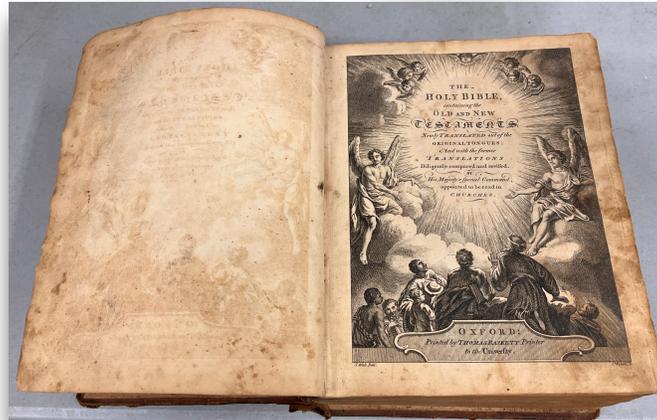




NORTH SMITHFIELD HERITAGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

VOLUME VII ISSUE III MARCH 2026



Adopt the Bible — Preserving a 1761 Treasure for America’s 250th

The North Smithfield Heritage Association is proud to announce the launch of Adopt the Bible, a community preservation campaign dedicated to safeguarding an extraordinary artifact: an original 1761 Baskett Bible, printed in Oxford during the reign of King George III and carried through more than two and a half centuries of New England history.

As the nation prepares to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, this rare colonial-era Bible stands as a powerful witness to the world our early citizens knew—an era of faith, literacy, and daily life that shaped the communities we now call home. Time has taken its toll, and the Bible now requires professional conservation to ensure it can be safely displayed and interpreted for generations to come.

The NSHA’s goal is to raise \$800 to complete this important restoration in time for upcoming semiquincentennial programming. Through Adopt the Bible, individuals, families, and organizations are invited to symbolically “adopt” the Bible as caretakers of its future. Every contribution supports the preservation of this remarkable volume and affirms our shared commitment to honoring local and national history.

All donors will be recognized as part of this community achievement when the restored Bible is unveiled during the 250th-anniversary observances.

Together, we can preserve this rare piece of early American history and present it proudly for the 250th anniversary.

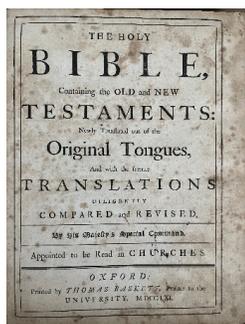
For more information see the related From The Archives story on page 7.

United States Semiquincentennial

AMERICA



Adopt The Bible



ADOPT THE BIBLE

Help Restore North Smithfield's 1761 Colonial Bible

A rare Oxford Bible—owned by local families before the American Revolution—is being prepared for conservation. With your support, it will be restored and displayed for the 250th anniversary.

Why it matters:

- A unique artifact of colonial New England
- A centerpiece for upcoming 250th exhibits
- A chance for our community to preserve its story

Support the restoration. Please indicate “Adopt the Bible” on your check or donation.

All donors will be acknowledged at the public unveiling.

North Smithfield Heritage Association

Heritage Hall, 1 Main Street

North Smithfield, RI 02896

www.nsheritageassn.org



Venmo



PayPal



Development



COMMUNITY ANNUAL APPEAL

We rely on you to help preserve North Smithfield's amazing heritage!

WAYS TO DONATE

- Scan QR codes for PayPal or Venmo
- Mail check payable to NSHA to P.O. Box 413, Slatersville, RI, 02876
- Drop off at the Memorial Town Building
- Call 401-447-6394 to arrange doorstep pickup



For any questions or inquiries please email:
nsha@nsheritageassn.com
or visit:

<https://www.nsheritageassn.org/>



Annual Appeal 2026

Please help fund our historic preservation efforts. **Make a tax-deductible 2026 donation!** Renovations are nearly complete on the second floor of the Memorial Town Building, one of Slatersville's most iconic historic buildings. We are now creating exhibits for the museum. We hope to hold an open house in the spring! Donations help significantly.

Donate via PayPal Giving Fund, or Venmo. Or you can mail your cash or check donation to NSHA, P.O. Box 413, Slatersville, RI 02876. Or pay with a credit card at our headquarters at the Memorial Town Building (1 Main St) from 10 – noon on Monday-Wednesday. Or we can pick up donations at your door. Any amount helps enormously!

The North Smithfield Heritage Association Fund (Endowment)

Estate planning? Need to make a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA? Make a tax-deductible donation legacy donation to the North Smithfield Heritage Fund to avoid paying higher taxes. The RI Foundation manages the endowment fund, helping it to grow every year.

Click on the link for more information:

<https://rifoundation.org/giving/funds?q=north+smithfield+heritage+&s=3>

Grants



March Grant Report

As of this writing we have received word that the Rhode Island 250 Commission has awarded two grants to help North Smithfield celebrate the country's semiquincentennial this year.

1. The first is from their Community Engagement Program which has granted \$5,000 to the Town. In turn the Town will work with NSHA as the designated 250th Town Committee. This will allow for the creation of 2 Wayfinder signs that describe significant parts of the town's history leading up to and including the Revolutionary War in the areas of Union Village and Primrose.
2. The second grant of \$4,000 has been awarded directly to NSHA from the Commission's Statewide Engagement Program. With these funds, working with NSHA member and renowned film maker Christian de Rezendes and National Park Ranger Alison Horrocks, we will develop a 10-15 minute documentary on the history of Union Village (which was part of Smithfield in 1776) and its citizens' participation in the Revolutionary War, and a series of walking tours, pop-up panels, lesson plan for local educators and a facilitated dialogue program highlighting the role of Union Village in this time period.

Other grants in the pipeline include:

1. NS Ambulance and Rescue Association Grant – 2026: Application due March 30. Applying for \$2,500 to replace deteriorating wooden sills on 3 first floor windows at Heritage Hall (the side facing Kendall Dean.)
2. FY 2027 North Smithfield Capital Budget request: On going request for \$20,000 in Capital appropriations to replace two more museum windows at Memorial Town Building.
3. North Smithfield Grant in FY 2027 Operating Budget: On going grant request for \$9,500 for our operating budget, supporting NSHA historic events and preservation efforts for the community throughout the year.

Thanks again to all who help gather information for each of these grants. It takes a team to coordinate the necessary information for each one and then to act upon the successful award of funds.

Beth Faricy, NSHA Grant Administrator/Coordinator.

HERITAGE HALL RENTAL

Host unforgettable events in our stylish, flexible Heritage Hall—perfect for showers, parties, and meetings. Heritage Hall has two great options, both mobility friendly and fully stocked kitchens! The Upper Hall seats 69 and the Lower Hall seats 62.



Jeanne
401-447-1801

www.nsheritageassn.org
nsha@nsheritageassn.com

Contact Us

Heritage Hall is located at 101 Green Street.

\$10

NORTH SMITHFIELD HERITAGE CALENDAR 2026

Wunnashowatuckquet Conservation Area, Junction of the Blackstone and Branch Rivers

This ancient landmark is also known locally as "Three Corners" lies downstream from High Rocks Gorge. Native Americans quarried soapstone nearby and dried fish in the meadows during spring fish runs. Before WWI, the meadow was a popular spot with mill workers for clambakes. Until the 1970's, a baseball field was located here.

-Image by Salolo Mankato

Still Available!!

2026 calendars are for sale at the Memorial Town Building and the Forestdale School. They are also available at the NS Town Hall, Village Point, and Wrights Dairy Farm. We can mail them for a cost of \$10 or deliver them locally free of charge!

From The Archives

Artifact of the Month by Al Menard

This month, our featured archive artifact is among the oldest records we possess: a Bible. The NSHA, and by extension our town, is privileged to have a “Thomas Baskett Bible.” This rare edition comprises both the Old and New Testaments and is distinguished as the first larger-sized Bible designed for churches, lecterns, or prominent family displays. These volumes are recognized for their legible typography, robust bindings, and refined page layout.

Our Bible was published by Thomas Baskett, son of the King's Printer, John Baskett, who began printing Bibles in London in 1711. Thomas succeeded his father as both the head of the printing house and as the King's Printer. The King's Printer was responsible for producing Bibles, prayer books, and official state documents in Oxford and London. The Baskett family maintained a prominent position in the Bible-printing industry for several decades, issuing numerous editions of the Authorized (King James) Version, which had served as the standard English Bible since 1611.

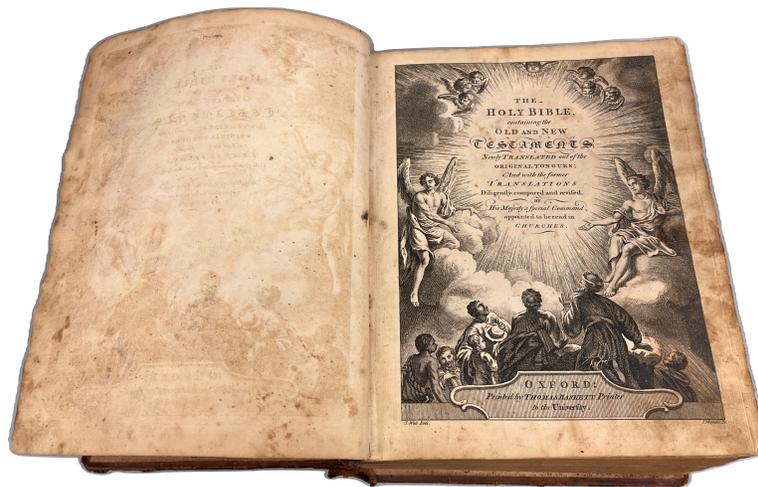
Baskett's Bibles were widely distributed in Britain and the American colonies, significantly impacting religion and literacy. Their editions are so notable that collectors have traced them for centuries.

Before independence, it was illegal to print English-language Bibles in the colonies because the Crown gave exclusive printing rights to the King's Printers, including the Basketts. Therefore, colonial families had to import their Bibles from London or Oxford in England.

Our 1761 edition is one of the final Bibles printed by Thomas Baskett, as he died that same year. It represents the culmination of the Baskett family's craftsmanship and the Oxford press's 18th-century standards. We see our 1761 Baskett Bible as a link to colonial times, especially its religious life. A household Bible printed by the King's Printer would have been a central devotional object in 18th-century New England. The book is also an example of trans-Atlantic trade of the time. Its presence in Rhode Island reflects the flow of books, ideas, and culture between Britain and the colonies. Owning a Bible printed under royal privilege—just 15 years before independence—captures the tension between British authority and emerging American identity.

Our 1761 Baskett Bible is therefore exactly the kind of imported, royal-authorized Bible that would have sat in New England homes on the eve of the Revolution. The provenance of our Bible is unknown. There is nothing written in the Bible but there was a piece of paper with the name “George Smith.” More research will be needed to identify Mr. Smith.

Over time, the Bible has deteriorated and now necessitates expert conservation. The Archives at the NSHA have launched a fundraising campaign to support its preservation. It is anticipated that, following restoration, the Bible will be on display during the 250th anniversary of the Revolution ceremonies.



Fifty Years Ago

This is the second part of a two-part story on Rock Cliff Farm by Helen Thayer Paxton which appeared in the June 1976 North Smithfield Heritage Association Newsletter. Part 1 appeared in the February 2026 edition if you missed it!

For your information...Rock Cliff Farm was originally located across the street from where Hanton Road terminates at Eddie Dowling Highway and where Old Louisquisset Pike branches to the Rock Cliff Condominiums.

In 1865, Hiram and Julie Ann Thayer, with their young son Walter, had moved to Mark Aldrich's "little red house on the hill" and named it Rock Cliff Farm.

Between 1865 and 1872, four more lively sons were added to the family: Lewis, Francis Smith, William Chester and Ernest Thayer. A sixth and last son, Herbert Paine Thayer, joined this group in 1884. There was no lack of manpower at Rock Cliff Farm.



**Julia Ann Paine Thayer,
undated.**



**Herbert, Harold and Walter
Thayer, 1895.**

Apparently the hard times following the Civil War did not touch the family there. Hiram worked ceaselessly to care for his many acres and his family of growing boys. Some years later Wilkinson wrote about Rock Cliff Farm: "This place has changed more than any other on this road (Great Road) - a new house, barns, windmill and all modern improvements for farming...and the land produces tenfold what it did formerly."

In 1875 Hiram and Julia Ann Thayer decided to tear down the old colonial house and building a "modern" one in its place. A splendid barn had already been erected, amply proportioned and constructed so that a huge load of hay could be driven through one end and out the other.... The old barn to which the windmill was attached, now had plenty of room for chopping blocks, large stock piles of wood, assorted chicken feeders, stored vegetables, cartons of new (glass) milk bottles and a large lumber wagon.

Some distance away, a fine new carriage shed was completed, large enough for Julia Thayer's shiny new buggy (a surprise from Hiram), her graceful small sleigh, plus the family's two-seated democrat wagon and a long, low pung, often loaned for neighborhood sleighing parties. There were plenty of buffalo robes to make winter travels as comfortable as possible.



an example of a "democrat wagon"



an example of a "pung" sleigh

Fifty Years Ago



The new house at Rock Cliff Farm, undated.

The New House Was Occupied in 1878

It lacked the colonial charm and picturesque fireplaces of the Mark Aldrich place, but it boasted splendid iron cook stoves for the two big kitchens, and small cast iron stoves aplenty for parlor, “sitting rooms” and bedrooms. Heated wooden blocks were used to warm the beds of the boys whose quarters were on the unheated third floor. The windmill was a great convenience. Although it squeaked and squawked as it turned, it brought plenty of water into that huge house. The long back entry was equipped with an extra sink where water could be pumped at any time. Across the passageway was a large ell washroom with an old iron stove, galvanized iron tubs on a stand, and an enormous sink, where two hired girls made short work of the family washing. Bottles for the growing Thayer milk route were washed there also, and left to dry on convenient racks, clean and sparkling. Hiram Thayer ran the farm but his wife was the heart and soul of the whole establishment, which moved smoothly under her direction.

Great Excitement Came To Rock Cliff Farm

Soon after the turn of the century, the proposed Providence and Burrillville “electrics” (streetcars) were to have the right of way through the cow pastures. It was a time of anticipation for the day when the Thayer’s could board one of the splendid Pullman-type express cars right at their own stop in the back pasture and be zoomed into Providence in the record time of thirty minutes. Getting to downtown Woonsocket, it was express all the way!

In 1914 The Old Barn Burned To The Ground

The blaze set fire to the “new” barn and forty head of cattle and four horses were led to safety. Bucket brigades were organized until the Automobile Hose Company No. 3 was sent out from Woonsocket.

As time went on, Thayer men became more and more interested in town and state politics. Hiram Thayer served on the Town Council and as Highway Surveyor. His busy time came during and after snow storms, when he rounded up men for duty at 17 cents an hour. (1910 figure)

In 1915 the first cow-testing association was started in Rhode Island. The brothers joined. In October of the same year, the first Farm Bureau was organized. Herbert Paine Thayer of Rock Cliff Farm was its first president. At one time, Chester Thayer served the community as Overseer of the Poor. He was also a member of the Town Council and later a State Senator.

As time went on, ownership of Rock Cliff Farm changed within the family. Walter E. Thayer (1st) and Lewis Thayer had died before the turn of the century. Julia Ann Thayer died in 1910 and her husband in 1925. Their four descendants owned the place for a while, until it was taken over by two of the four remaining sons, W. Chester Thayer and his much younger brother, Herbert Paine Thayer, who ran the farm in partnership in a thriving milk business.

Fifty Years Ago



Aldrich School circa 1901

It Was A Time Of Fine Community Spirit

Along that section of Great Road were good neighbors who liked and respected each other. To the north were the Oak Knoll Smiths. Across the road were the McKenzies, to the south the George Sayles family and beyond them past the one-room schoolhouse, Mr and Mrs George Hammond, a venerable couple occupying the beautiful Samuel Aldrich house, now (1976) called West acres. Not only did these landowners know each other well, but their young people enjoyed friendships fostered in the one-room schoolhouse, Aldrich District #8, and the later deepened at Woonsocket High School. This younger group boasted three fine amateur musicians- Vera Sayles, violin; Jennie Sayles, piano; Walter Thayer, flute and piccolo! These were halcyon days before World War I.

The War Years

The war years were times of both affluence and anxiety. The period brought great impetus to every phase of farm business in North Smithfield. At Rock Cliff Farm, more land was converted into corn fields for more silage, for more cows, for more milk. The milk business grew larger than Obed Paine could have ever imagined. Only the horse stall remained more or less empty as mechanization took over. Both Thayer brothers owned early automobiles. Gasoline engines or electric power were used for countless tasks. Electric bottle brushes and milking machines increase efficiency. But underlying the feverish expansion lay deep anxiety for two grandsons of Hiram, one at a camp in the deep South and another in Navy convoy service, on the submarine-ridden Atlantic.

Hiram Thayer lived to enjoy half of the post-war decade before the Crash of 1929. However, the milk route was already discontinued. The “younger generation” loved Rock Cliff Farm, but had no interest in farming. Chester Thayer and his wife moved away to nearby Massachusetts. In 1924, Herbert Thayer accepted a fine position as salesman for Swift and Company, although he continued to live at Rock Cliff, where he cultivates a large garden for his own family.

In 1938, he died very suddenly, and five years later his older brother also died. The property was thereafter owned by Walter E. Thayer and the Hebert P. Thayer Estate.

The whole barn establishment was rented to the Garelick brothers for the purpose of trading cattle. Later, after the Garelicks had departed, the barn was razed with dynamite.

A new thoroughfare was supplementing old Louisquisset Pike, which had, in turn, replaced Old Great Road in that area. Land for housing was in great demand. Subsequently, Rock Cliff Farm was sold and is no longer farmed.

By Helen Thayer Paxton

Historic Cemeteries

NS 59, The Colwell Lot
by Lynne Pelletier

Located between Indigo Farm Road and Leonard Drive, this small cemetery is the final resting place of at least 6 individuals. There is no gate or enclosure around this very overgrown lot. At last survey, there were five fieldstone markers and one inscribed headstone belonging to Winsor Colwell who was born and died on August 23, 1817. Winsor's headstone notes that he was the son of William and Lucy.

Researching this cemetery has proved challenging from the very start. Three different sources give this cemetery a different name. The North Smithfield Heritage Association Cemetery file notes this lot as the Colwell Lot while the Rhode Island Historical Cemetery Commission refers to it as the Windsor Caldwell Lot and finally, [FindAGrave.com](https://www.findagrave.com) names it the William Caldwell Lot.

By using the photograph of the headstone as a clue, it is easy to see that the last name of the individual buried here is Colwell and not Caldwell. While that doesn't mean that a Caldwell could not have owned the land that this cemetery is on, it leads one to believe that the true name of this cemetery may be the Colwell Lot. A search of land evidence records may hold the definitive answer to this question.

Determining the correct William and Lucy Colwell as the parents of Winsor has also proven difficult. Researching a man named William Colwell with a wife named Lucy has yielded two couples: William Colwell and Lucia Arnold or William Colwell and Lucy Wheelock. However, neither have proven definitively to be the parents of Winsor.

The first William Colwell was born in 1740 in Rhode Island and died in 1793 in Foster, RI well before Winsor was born. His wife Lucia Arnold who was born in 1748 and died in 1810, which rules her out as the mother of a child born in 1817.

The second William Colwell was born August 23, 1808 in Smithfield, RI and he died August 28, 1877 in Allegheny, New York. Lucy Wheelock was born May 3, 1805 in Warwick, RI. She died in Smithfield on April 15, 1879 in Smithfield, RI. If Winsor was born in 1817, it is unlikely that William and Lucy are his parents because of their young ages in 1817.

Old and worn gravestones can be very difficult to read which leads to one final idea: is it possible that the date on the headstone actually reads 1847 and not 1817 as transcribed? When the photo is enlarged, it appears that there may be a shadow of a number 4 rather than a number 1. A closer inspection of the headstone will be needed once the snow melts this spring.

Supporting this hypothesis is the fact that William and Lucy married in about 1835 and went on to have 5 children: Anne born in 1835, Charles born in 1838, Mary Elizabeth born in 1840, Henry Clay born in 1842, and William born in 1848.

While it certainly seems possible that Winsor might have been their child, more research will need to be done to confirm if this is the case.



The Rhode Island Historic Cemetery Awareness Months are observed in April and May 2026. Resident are encouraged to clean a local historic cemetery. Contact NSHA for further information.

The Board of Directors will meet at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, April 14th at Heritage Hall, 101 Green Street. NSHA members are welcome to attend in person or via Zoom. See the agenda for instructions.

Research Team

The Research Team continues to locate and document local colonial, indigenous and other historical stone features.

Ron Lapierre is the RI Coordinator for the New England Antiquities Research Assn. (NEARA)

The Research Team generally meets at 6:30 pm at Heritage Hall on the second Friday of each month.

Please contact NSHA or just show up if you'd like to participate!

Conservation

We are looking for people to help on the Conservation Committee. Members will work with NS DPW to clear and mark local hiking trails, plant native trees and plants, and preserve local natural resources. Can you help?

Contact
nsha@nsheritageassn.com



Four people helped preserve part of the town's history in February by participating in the Waterford driving tour. More information on next week's tour on page 14!

2026 Heritage Tours

Tours start at 9:30 am

March 21: Wesquidomsett (Driving): Old Sayles Hill Rd (upper), Rustic Drive-In, West Farm, NS 60, School, NS24, Tyler Mowry House, NS 32, Old Sayles Hill Rd (lower), Crookfall Brook, Trolley tracks, Mill site & dam, Milk Can. Meet at Aldi's parking lot at Dowling Village.

April 18: Lake Belair (Walking): Lake Belair, ice house, Field RR Station, Tarkiln Pond, NS21, Field Swinery. Meet at Overlea Rd

May 16: Union Village (Driving): Smithfield Friends Meeting, Peleg Arnold Tavern, Great Road, Pound Hill Rd, Union Cemetery. Meet at Union Cemetery, 152 Smithfield Road.

June 20: Wunnashowatuckqut (Hiking): Old Harkness Rd, High Rocks Gorge, Colony Rd, and Stone Features. Meet at the NS Fire Dept parking lot, 675 St. Paul Street.

July 18: Slatersville (Driving): Green Street, Slatersville Mills, Main Street, and Centennial Park. Meet at the Heritage Hall, 101 Green Street.

August 15: Upper Wesquidomsett (Driving): West Farm, NS 60, NS24, Tyler Mowry House, NS 32, Old Sayles Hill Rd, Rustic Drive-In, Milk Can; Paine Mill. Meet at Aldi's parking lot at Dowling Village.

September 12: Nipsachuck (Driving/Walking): The Blunders, Nipsachuck National Battlefield & Black Plain Hill Stone Landscape, Three Dog Site, NS57. Meet at the NS High School Parking lot, Grange Road.

2026 Heritage Tours

Tours start at 9:30 am

October 17: Upper Crook Fall Brook (Hiking): NS38 Oliver Smith Lot, Amasa Sweet Quarry, Obed Paine Homestead, Sheep Wall, Great Wall, William Mowry Homestead. Meet at NS High School Tennis Courts on Grange Road.

November 21: Lower Crookfall Brook and Old Smithfield Road (Walking): Reervoir #1, Pump House, Tadpole Pond, Wilkinson Mill, Meet at Aldi's parking lot at Dowling Village.

December 19: Pound Hill Road (Driving): Phoenix Rising Farm, Old Pound Hill Road, NS8, Greene Farm, NS5, Aldrich Farm, Staples Farm, Staples School, Nike Site, Philips Farm, The Pines, Old Oxford Road, Remington School, Lamoureux Farm, Lovell House, Mowry Tavern, LR&R Landfill, Ballou Farm. Meet at the Beef Barn parking lot, 200 Industrial Highway.

Notes:

- 1. Tour dates and times are subject to change. Check the NSHA Facebook page or website for last-minute changes.**
- 2. Tours are generally rain or shine unless there's a downpour or a blizzard when we start.**
- 3. Participants are encouraged to wear long pants, use insect repellent, and bring water.**
- 4. See NSHA Facebook Page Events or contact nsha@nsheritageassn.com for more information.**

Rhode Island's Old Growth Forests



Presentation by: Nathan Cornell

President- RI Old Growth Tree Society

7pm Friday March 20th at Heritage Hall

101 Greene Street, North Smithfield

Learn about these pockets of remaining old growth mature native forests in Rhode Island. These old growth areas have special characteristics, support wide biodiversity, as well as providing environmental benefits.

Hear about the efforts to protect these areas.

Hosted by: North Smithfield Land Trust

and

North Smithfield Heritage Association



MAMMOTH MILLS PARK

CLEANUP

April 25th
At 9am - 12pm
Mill Street in
Waterford Village
N Smithfield

Hosted by
NS Heritage Assn

*Volunteers from Southern MA and
Northern RI will pick up trash and
branches as well as clear deadfalls.
Rain date - Sunday April 26th*

For More Information Email nsha@nsheritageassn.org



We are looking for people to help on the **Arts and Culture Committee**. Members will schedule programs and exhibits throughout the year that inform the public about local art and cultures. Any help is welcome.
Contact nsha@nsheritageassn.com

Genealogy

Would you like help to conduct research on your family tree? Would you like to learn to use FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com?

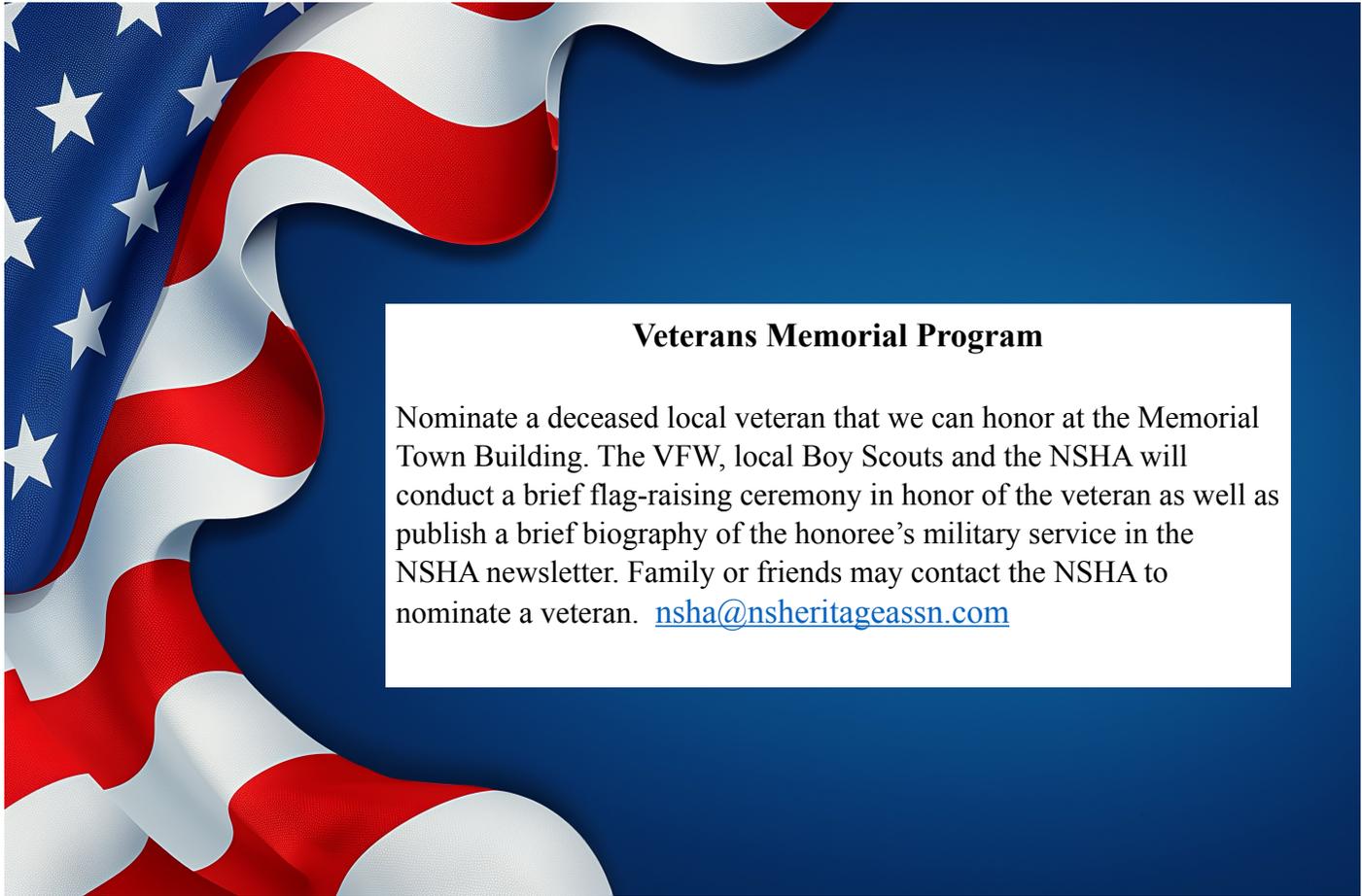
Lynne Pelletier has extensive experience and access to several databases. Please contact nsha@nsheritageassn.com to coordinate an appointment.

Ghosts and Paranormal Activity

Kara Pressia, a local spiritual medium continues to help with spiritual research. Have you heard about or seen paranormal activity in North Smithfield? We would like to document it.

Anyone interested in joining the Paranormal Research Team please contact us at nsha@nsheritageassn.com.





Veterans Memorial Program

Nominate a deceased local veteran that we can honor at the Memorial Town Building. The VFW, local Boy Scouts and the NSHA will conduct a brief flag-raising ceremony in honor of the veteran as well as publish a brief biography of the honoree's military service in the NSHA newsletter. Family or friends may contact the NSHA to nominate a veteran. nsha@nsheritageassn.com

Veteran's Memorial Museum

**One of the largest collections of veterans
Artifacts from the Revolutionary War to
our Current Military**

Visit the museum and our library Tuesdays
and Saturdays from 10am to 4pm
*Other days by appointment for group
visits*

78 Earle St. Woonsocket, RI
401-222-9025

www.VeteransMemorialMuseumRI.org

Maintenance



**Memorial Town Building,
1 Main Street.**



Renewal by Anderson replaced the two bottom windows in front of the Memorial Town Building recently. We thank the Champlin Foundation for its generous grant to fund the project.



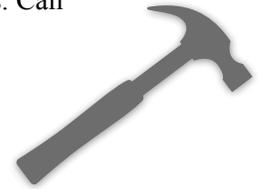
**Forestdale School,
190 School Street**

Rite Glass will install two new storm windows shortly!

We welcome Scott Monroe to the Maintenance Team! We also thank Chuck Doherty for snow blowing the sidewalks and driveway at the Forestdale School!

The team makes minor repairs to the three historic buildings and grounds. This year we plan to repair and paint the picket fences. Can you help too?

Please contact us at nsha@nsheritageassn.com.



**Heritage Hall,
101 Green Street**

Heritage Hall rentals are our biggest source of revenue. The Rental Team sweeps the floors after each weekend rental. Can you help?



March Mystery Photo



This month's mystery photo is interesting because while we know that the young lady is Clara Marsh Syms, we do not know the location of the photo. Clara was the granddaughter of Dr. Metcalf Marsh who lived on Mechanic Street. Does anyone recognize this house? If so please contact us!

The NSHA often receives photos without any type of identification which is why we post them here. Please help us to identify them for our archives!

The **February mystery photo** brought a guess from Dan DeDentro that gives us a good clue. Dan states "The house is located on a state highway because of the white stripe indicating the breakdown lane."

He remembers "a house that was moved to Uxbridge just beyond the NS DPW. It was cut in half and moved up RT 146 to make room for the 1-295/146 interchange where the Milk Can used to be."

More research will be needed to determine if this is the house in question, but we appreciate the help, Dan!



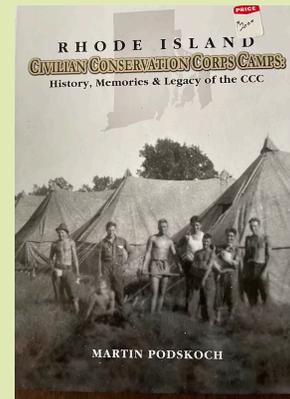
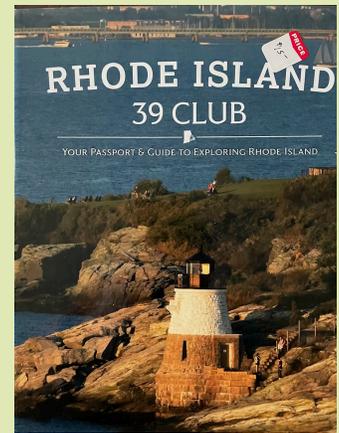
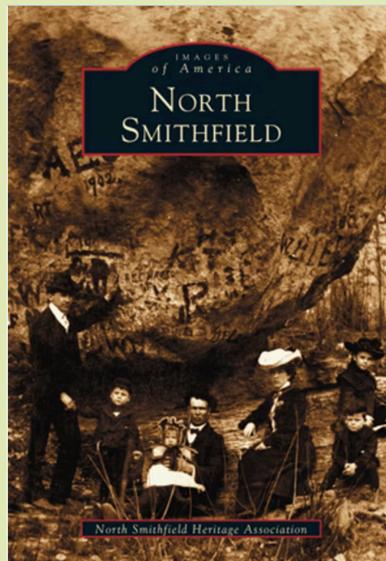
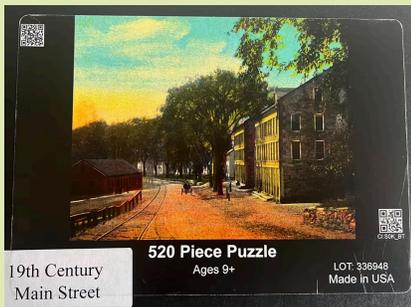
NSHA Merchandise

Visit the Forestdale School Gift Shop from 1 pm - 4 pm every first and third Friday each month and from 9 am -noon every first Saturday.

We offer a wide range of merchandise including 2026 calendars, books, maps, puzzles, ornaments, cozy NS throws and much more. Locally handmade birdhouses are still available! Get 2025 calendars at a 50% discount!

Also visit our online store at <https://www.nsheritageassn.org/shop>.

Shipping and handling fees are now \$10 minimum. We will deliver locally for free!



You Can Help!!

Join: Membership costs just \$20 each year! *No commitment required!*

Volunteer: Help with any of our ongoing activities and events. No need to make a steady commitment. We appreciate whatever time you can spend with us!

Donate: Our Annual Appeal runs all year long. We accept local artifacts. We appreciate whatever you give!

Share: Share this free newsletter with family and friends. Encourage them to subscribe. Only shared history can preserve our heritage!

Membership

We welcome new members! Our membership now stands at 215 including 62 life members and 6 students. Some members live as far away as NH, CA, WA and AR.

You can become a member by filling out the application found on our website: <https://www.nsheritageassn.org/membership> as well as paying \$20 dues.

Dues

\$20 Annual Dues were due on **January 1, 2026**. 68 members' dues are in arrears.

- Seniors over 75 and students pay no dues.
- Make a \$100 or more donation and get a complimentary one-year membership.
- Make a \$500 or more donation and get a complimentary Lifetime membership.
- Former members can renew their membership at any time. We value your support! Your dues help significantly to fund our local preservation activities.
- Pay via PayPal, Venmo, or check. Indicate 2026 Dues on the memo line.

Please contact us if your status has changed or if you are unsure of your status.

Please renew today. We thank our wonderful members for their vital support!

NSHA Payment Options

1. **PayPal Giving Fund:** search for nsha@nsheritageassn.com, select “**Donation**” and type the purpose for the payment on the memo line.
2. **Venmo: Open the Venmo app and search for North Smithfield Heritage Assn@NorthSmithfieldHeritageAssn.** Tap on Pay, enter the dollar amount to be paid, and fill in the field what’s it for (ie., dues, merchandise, donation etc). Tap on Pay and select your payment method you have established in the Venmo app. 
3. Give **cash or check**. Make checks payable to “NSHA”. Note “**Dues, Annual Appeal or Merchandise**” on the memo line.
4. **Mail Checks** to NS Heritage Assn, P.O. Box 413, Slatersville, RI 02876.
5. We will also pick up payments and deliver purchases at your door if you live locally. Contact nsha@nsheritageassn.com or call [401-376-2927](tel:401-376-2927).



Instagram (nsha1970)
Please follow us!

<https://www.instagram.com/nsha1970/>

Followers: 344

Visit our **Facebook Page** to learn about our events and activities. Get acquainted with some of our members and supporters. Like and share with friends and family!
www.facebook.com/northsmithfieldheritage



Followers: 1603

We thank Julie Tilley for making posts to all of our social media platforms. We continue to see steady follower growth!

Website: 380 site sessions in the last 30 days.
NSHA Newsletter Subscribers: 1718

Visit our website! Read past newsletters, learn about our organization as well as our many ongoing historic preservation activities. <https://www.nsheritageassn.org/>

To join our mailing list, simply contact us at nsha@nsheritageassn.com or [401-376-2927](tel:401-376-2927)

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This newsletter is published by Lynne Pelletier. The editorial team includes: Beth Faricy, Linda Rawlings, Al Menard, Beth Newberry and Rich Keene.

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