in Cumberland. The other **BLACKSTRAP SCHOOL**, located at 368 Blackstrap Rd, and was torn down and rebuilt as the West Falmouth Fire station on Gray Rd in Piscatagua Village.

**32.** WILSON TAVERN/NORTON FARM (613 Blackstrap): Thomas Wilson built this house in 1742. By 1808 it was a tavern and inn for stagecoach travelers. The Norton family bought the property around 1937. It remains in family hands today. Loring Norton built the Hurricane Ski Slope, across the street, which operated from about 1946-1973.

## Turn left on Hurricane Road

**33. HURRICANE VALLEY:** This area is named for a hurricane in 1767 that cut a ¾ mile path from Sebago Lake to Cumberland. The area is also said to be home for two witches—Old Kate and Sally Tripp.

# Turn right on Gray Road

- **34. HURRICANE SCHOOL (395 Gray Rd):** Built in 1897, this was the second school for the area, the first being somewhere on Hurricane Road. It was used as a school until the mid-late 1940's and has since been a private home.
- 35. COUNTY ROAD (About intersection of Gray & Hurricane Rds):

This road existed in the mid 1800's but is still partially visible today. It started here, went behind the Hurricane school and Quaker Tavern to the end of present Hadlock Rd, went east crossing Winn Rd, followed present Eureka Rd, continued east to cross Woodville Rd near Field Rd, across Falmouth Rd near the First Parish Congregational Church, passing near Blueberry Ln, crossing Middle Rd and ending near the present Lunt Rd. at Scitterygusset Creek where produce from farms in West Falmouth could be picked up by boats near Tidewater Farm.

- **36. OLD QUAKER TAVERN/FALMOUTH TAVERN (377 Gray Rd):** Nicholas Hall built this tavern about 1790. It was a Quaker gathering place, a tavern and inn for travelers, and now is a B&B.
- **37. MARSTON HOMESTEAD (272 Gray Rd):** This farm was built by Benjamin Marston in 1799 whose direct descendant still lives here.

Turn left at Falmouth Road and left onto Winn Road

- **38. HUSTON FARM/SAWMILL (4 Winn Rd):** This farmhouse was built in 1904. A sawmill was located to the right and in back of this building. The mill and dam were washed away in the flood of 1930. Currently a residence, it also once served as a boarding house.
- **39. PISCATAQUA SCHOOLHOUSE (18 Winn Rd):** This was the original school building at the corner of Winn and Falmouth Roads. It was sold, moved in 1924, and now is a private residence.
- **40. HUSTON/CASPARIUS FARM (86 Winn Rd):** Built in 1880, this Huston farm became the Casparius Egg Farm until about 1970 and now is an apartment complex.
- **41. JAMES BABBIDGE FARM (108 Winn Rd):** Built in 1800, it was purchased about 1950 by Merritt Roakes, who manufactured furniture in the barn. Now it is a private residence.
- **41. DUNHAM SCHOOLHOUSE (161 FIELD RD):** Built in 1876, the school was remodeled into a private residence in 1946. In 1987 it was again renovated into the Winfield Children's House Montessori School.

## Turn right onto Woodville Road

- **42. WINSLOW/ELWIN HANSON FARM (271 Woodville Rd):** This farm was built in 1850. It is one of the oldest still-active farms in Falmouth.
- **43. WOODVILLE SCHOOL:** Built on the westerly side of the bend in the road in the late 1870's, this school operated until the late 1940's. The building was moved to 140 Congress St., Portland (next to the Portland Observatory) and now serves as the Portland Free Methodist Church.

#### Turn left onto Woods Road

**44. FALMOUTH HERITAGE PARK (60 Woods Rd):** This farmhouse was built about 1815-1820 by Humphrey Merrill and was located at 18 Woods Rd. In 2005, the Andrews family donated the building to the Falmouth Historical Society and it was moved to its current location.

**SOURCES:** E Pluribus Unum-A story of Falmouth, Maine by Charlotte & Don Wallace; Images of Falmouth by Falmouth Historical Society; Other town documents.



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# FALMOUTH HISTORIC SITES TOUR (WEST SIDE)

# Courtesy of Falmouth Historical Society & Falmouth Parks and Community Programs

Beginning from the Mason-Motz Activity Center on Middle Road.

- **1. MASON-MOTZ SCHOOL (190 Middle Rd.):** Built in 1941, the school was named after the Principle, Ralf Motz. The gym was named after Harold Mason who was Superintendent of Falmouth schools for many years. It now serves as an Activity Center.
- **2. PLUMMER SCHOOL (192 Middle Rd):** The town's first free high school opened in 1931. Named after Sampson Plummer, a beloved bus driver, it became an elementary school when a new high school was built in 1956. It closed in 2011 and in 2012, OceanView converted it to senior apartments.
- **3. D.W. LUNT SCHOOL (74 Lunt Rd):** This was the second school named after Lunt. It was opened in 1941 and closed in 2011 when the new elementary school was built.
- **4. FIRST PARISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (65 Falmouth Rd):** This is the site where the church was first built about 1841. It was razed in the 1940s and the congregation joined with the Second Parish Congregational Church on Falmouth Road to become Falmouth Congregational Church.
- **5. MCGREGOR CEMETERY (about 96 Falmouth Rd):** This cemetery is named for Rev. David McGregor on whose farm it sits.
- **6. OAK GROVE ACADEMY (about 224 Middle Rd):** This building was built in 1833 by Rev. David McGregor and originally located on his farm on Falmouth Road. Children paid tuition to attend. The building was moved to its present location by oxen. In the early 1900's it was abandoned, then later taken over by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. It is now private residence.

- **7. JAMES MERRILL HOUSE (141 Falmouth Rd):** Located at the intersection of Falmouth Rd. and Allen Ave. Ext. this house was built by one of Falmouth's earliest settlers in 1760 for one of his children. **Across the street in the woods-on the left** there is a cemetery that we suspect holds the remains of many other early settlers, including James Merrill, who died in 1805.
- **8. JAMES MERRILL HOUSE (165 Falmouth Rd):** James Merrill purchased this land in 1738. This house, built about 1778 and overlooking the Presumpscot River, replaced a garrison house.
- **9. BARKER OR BRICK SCHOOL (174 Falmouth Rd):** This school was built about 1830 of brick from the nearby Merrill brickyard. Leonard Merrill gave this land to his daughter when she married. She gave the town a portion on which to build the school, which closed in 1916. The building is now a private residence.
- **10. CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (267 Falmouth Rd):** This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congregational Church, organized in 1830, and constructed in 1833. Its bricks came from local brick yards. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Congregational churches joined together in 1945.
- **11. FALMOUTH TOWN HALL (271 Falmouth Rd):** The first town hall was built in 1821. It was replaced 1903. The original building was sold for \$12 and moved by 2 yolk of oxen across the street to the Whitney farm. The Police Dept., now food pantry, was added in 1957.
- **12. GEORGE WHITNEY FARM (286 Falmouth Rd):** Also called Elmwood Dairy, this farm was built in 1857. They sold ice cream in the front yard as late as the 1940's. The milk wagon from this dairy is housed in the Falmouth Historical Society's barn.
- **13. CRABTREE SCHOOLHOUSE (300 Falmouth Rd):** This was built by 1870 and now a private residence.
- **14. W. FALMOUTH DEPOT @ CRABTREE CORNER:** The depot, located on the northwest corner Leighton and Falmouth Roads, was built in 1877 and discontinued in 1930.
- **15. W. FALMOUTH MANUFACTURING CO.(21 Mill Rd.):** Very active in the 1700-1800's, this complex included a gristmill, sawmill, hub & spoke mill, tannery, and brickyard all along the two

dams of the Piscataqua River. The land was sold in 1909. This building is the only one remaining and is now an apartment complex.

- **16. PISCATAQUA & HUSTON SCHOOLHOUSE SITE (Corner Falmouth/Winn Rds):** The Piscataqua School was built in 1830 and served as a school until 1922 when it was sold and moved. In 1923 the larger Huston School was built and added on to in 1948. It was torn down in 1980 and became the site of the West Falmouth Fire Station. The remaining land was used as Huston Park.
- **17. HALL BRICK YARD (404 Falmouth Rd):** On the left, next to the Piscatagua River, this brickyard operated from mid-1800's until 1909.
- **18. HUSTON SAWMILL (Behind 4 Winn Rd):** On the right, next to the Piscataqua River, this sawmill was built in the early 1800s and called the "100 year mill". The mill and dam were destroyed by ice during a flood in spring 1930.
- **19. WEST FALMOUTH GRANGE/KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS HALL (419 Falmouth Rd):** Built in 1898, it was used by the Grange and other civic organizations. Many plays, dances, and fairs were held here. It burned in about 1985 and was rebuilt as an apartment building.
- **20. WEST FALMOUTH/PISCATAQUA VILLAGE:** This was a very active village in from 1700's to 1950's. The 1732 map shows a mill on the river and, by 1871, 15 families lived here. The village consisted of a grocery store, barber, garage, blacksmith, post office, and the Piscataqua Public Library. A wooden sidewalk, built by the Village Improvement Society, extended from the river to the Baptist church on High Street, now Mountain Rd.
- **21. WEST FALMOUTH INTERURBAN RAILWAY DEPOT (2 Mountain Rd):** This brick building, built about 1850, served as a blacksmith shop for Henry Gallison, who lived next door. It later became the train depot for the Lewiston and Auburn Electric Light Company Interurban from 1914 until about 1933. Tracks ran just behind the building and carried people from Monument Square in Portland to Lewiston. It is now a private residence.
- **22. HENRY GALLISON HOUSE (4 Mountain Rd):** Built about 1830, Gallison was the village blacksmith.

- **23. DR. SAMUEL BRACKETT'S FARM (12 Mountain Rd):** Located next to Henry Gallison's home and built about 1827.
- **24. WEST FALMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH (18 Mountain Rd):** Established in 1829, this church was erected in 1839 with no steeple or bell. It continues to serve the community today.
- **25. VILLAGE POUND:** Across the street from the church, travelers could swap a horse for a fresh one to continue up the mountain.

### Turn left on Brook Road to Blackstrap

**26. WINSLOW SCHOOL (118-122 Brook Rd):** This building was built about 1882 and rebuilt by 1907. It was used until the early 1940's.

### Turn right on Blackstrap Road.

- **27. HARDY ROAD:** This road led into Westbrook. Legend holds that when people walked to church in Westbrook from here, the children carried their shoes and socks until they got to the church's stone wall where then put them on again before entering the church. They reversed the process to go home.
- **28. STAGECOACH ROAD:** This was the old stagecoach route between Westbrook and Blackstrap. The property below this point to the Presumpscot River was known as Leighton Hill and property above this point to North Falmouth was known as Blackstrap Hill.
- **29. BLACKSTRAP TOWER:** This wooden structure, built in 1852, stood 544 feet above sea level. It was a popular tourist spot for picnics and afforded excellent views of Casco Bay and the Islands on one side and Mt. Washington on the other.
- **30. ROCKWALL HOUSE (492 Blackstrap Rd):** This was built in 1790 at the intersection known as Morrell's Corner. Dr. Austin's home sat on the south corner. Luke Morrill's long farmhouse was behind this on Babbidge Rd and his blacksmith shop, now a garage, was across Blackstrap Rd. A store and post office were north of the blacksmith shop.
- 31. **NORTH FALMOUTH SCHOOL:** One of two schools in this area and located next door to the Rockwall House on Babbidge Rd, this building was erected in the mid 1800's and operated until about 1940. It was moved to the present location of Skillin's Greenhouse