

Amesbury Improvement Association

The Amesbury Improvement Association (AIA) was founded in 1851 with the goals of town beautification, tree planting and maintaining historical sites. These outdoor sites are openly accessible:



- 2 **Alliance Park:** "Alliance," one of the first frigates in the Continental Navy, was launched from this site in 1778.
- 6 **Golgotha Burial Ground:** The original burial ground of the first settlers of Amesbury, who date back to 1654.
- 7 **The Captain's Well:** Valentine Bagley, an Amesbury seaman who had been shipwrecked and expected to die of thirst, dug the well around 1802.
- 8 **Patten's Pond:** In 1927, Annie Horton and abutters donated land to the AIA for a bird sanctuary.
- 13 **The Powder House:** The Powder House on Brown's Hill was erected in 1810 to store weapons and ammunition.
- 14 **Training Field:** George Washington stopped by this area in 1789 to review the troops

With special thanks to *Karen Shea Design* for brochure design and to *Universal-Millennium* for printing.

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Amesbury Treasures is a partnership of sixteen unique historic sites. Together, they cover four centuries of Amesbury's rich history, and as individual sites offer a deeper look into specific eras and aspects of this town.

Amesbury Treasures' goal is to provide the public with more information, more choice, and more access to the historic treasures that Amesbury offers.

www.amesburytreasures.org

P.O. Box 499, Amesbury, Massachusetts 01913

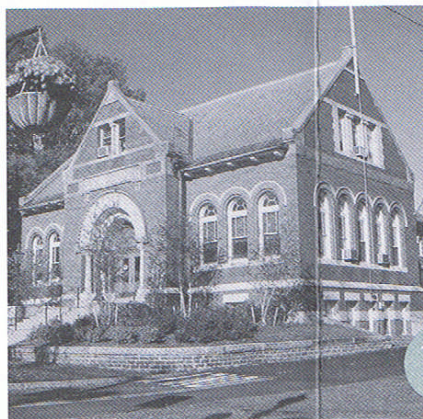
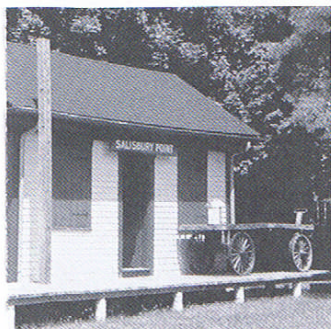


Amesbury Carriage Museum

From the 1830s to the early 1900s, Amesbury's carriage industry was the backbone of the local economy. During these boom years, new homes, huge factories, opera houses and hotels were built to accommodate the growing prosperity of Amesbury. Over 100 businesses were engaged in all aspects of the carriage trade. Names like Bailey, Biddle & Smart, Briggs, Dennett, Ellis, Felch, Folger & Drummond, Hassett & Hodge, Hume, Huntington, Lane, Miller, Osgood, Patten, Rowell, Walker and Wells dominated the trade. Amesbury was truly the carriage center of the world.

The Amesbury Carriage Museum Organization was formed in 1986 to promote the preservation of Amesbury's historic carriages and to educate the public about the carriage era. A building in the Lower Millyard has recently been purchased and is in the process of becoming a museum. Fundraising efforts continue with the goal of opening a museum worthy of these treasures.

Opening soon. For more information or to make a donation, please contact: Amesbury Carriage Museum, P.O. Box 252, Amesbury, MA 01913 Info: 978.388.6171



Rocky Hill Meeting House

The Rocky Hill Meeting House is the best-preserved example of an original 18th-century meeting house interior in New England. It was built in 1785, replacing a c.1715 meeting house for the West Parish of Salisbury. George Washington paused here to greet the townspeople in 1789.

Around 1800, a worsening economic situation, coupled with new ideas about religion and architecture and the construction of two new churches in the area, led the congregation to drift away. By the 1840s, regular religious services came to an end at Rocky Hill.

Rocky Hill has survived with its original fittings and finishes intact. The pews have never been painted, while the marbleized pulpit and pillars still boast their original paint. The original 18th-century hardware survives throughout the building.

Open by appointment

Available for weddings and special events

978.462.2634

Maintained by Historic New England since 1941

www.historicnewengland.org

Amesbury Public Library

The Amesbury Public Library was founded in 1856. The present Romanesque style building was built and dedicated in 1902. Inside there are oak columns, fireplaces and three floors of book stacks. There is a very busy children's room as well as the main floor for adults and young adults.

John Greenleaf Whittier was, for many years, chairman of the book committee and one of the original trustees.

The library has a sizeable collection of local history and genealogies of local families.

Library hours: (Saturday summer hours 10-1)

Monday 10-9; Tuesday 10-5; Wednesday 10-9;

Thursday, Friday & Saturday 10-5

978.388.8148, www.amesburylibrary.org

A one-hour "drive around" CD audio tour of Amesbury's Treasures is available at the library. Details can be found on the Treasures' web site.



The Amesbury Hat Museum

The Amesbury Hat Museum

Tucked away in a quiet corner of the Salisbury Point Railroad Historical Society Display, "The Hattery" consists of a sampling of high fashion ladies' hats, men's hats, novelties and memorabilia produced by the Merrimac Hat Corporation. The Merrimac Hat Factory rose from humble beginnings in 1856 to become the largest maker of hats and hat bodies in the U.S. in 1946. For over 100 years the Merrimac Hat Corporation was a vital part of Amesbury's economy. Follow the story of this great American Industry through pictures and explore the reasons that the Merrimac Hat Corporation finally closed its doors in 1971.

Open by appointment
978.388.5359

Salisbury Point Station

Salisbury Point Station was built by the Eastern Railroad in the 1870s. Despite its diminutive size (11 ft x 20 ft), it was once a busy little station. The station was originally sited at the Rocky Hill grade crossing. Passenger services ceased in 1936, and B&M sold the station in 1938. It was used then as a garage and later as an aviary. It was purchased for \$1 in 1980, and brought to the grounds of the Bartlett Museum, where it was totally restored. The station is now sited 50 yards down the road from the Salisbury Point Railroad Historical Archives in the basement of 9 Water Street.

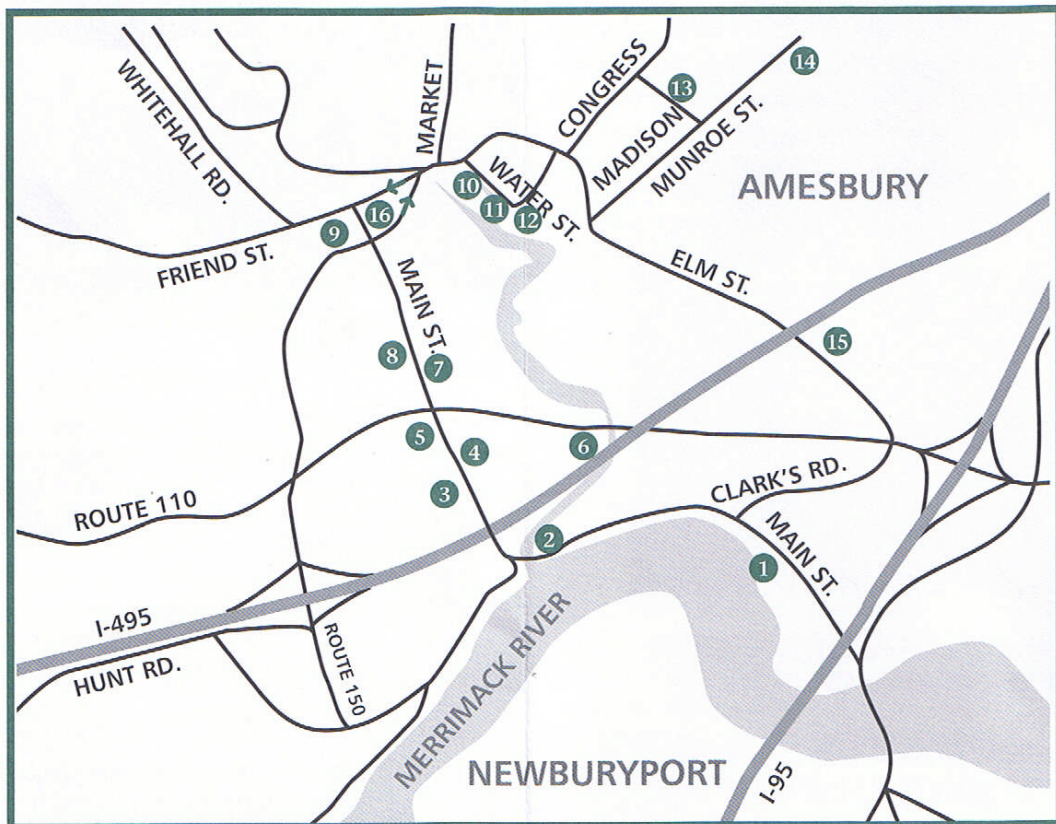
The Archives house many artifacts and much railroad memorabilia, as well as a large and unusual collection of historic photographs dating from the early 1800s to the present. The Society also maintains and runs several historic model railroad layouts.

The station is open May – August
Saturday 10am–1pm. Also open on civic
"open days" and by appointment.
Visitors welcome — Free Admission

The Archives are open Wednesdays 7–9 pm
(Boiler room entrance in loading bay)
Info: 978.884.1639

Mail: SPRRHS, PO Box 499, Amesbury, MA 01913
salisburypoint.tnsing.com





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459 Main Street | 6 Golgotha Burial Ground* | 11 Salisbury Point Station
9 Water Street |
| 2 Alliance Park* | 7 The Captain's Well* | 12 Amesbury Carriage
Museum
Future Site |
| 3 Mary Baker Eddy
Historic House
277 Main Street | 8 Patten's Pond* | 13 The Powder House* |
| 4 Bartlett Museum
P.O. Box 692, 270 Main Street | 9 Whittier Home
86 Friend Street | 14 Training Field* |
| 5 Macy-Colby House
259 Main Street | 10 The Amesbury Hat Museum
9 Water Street
(At the Salisbury Point Railroad) | 15 Rocky Hill Meeting House
4 Portsmouth Road |
| | | 16 Amesbury Public Library
149 Main Street |
- * Amesbury Improvement Association

Please check the website for any updates to opening times.

Lowell's Boat Shop

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Established in 1793 and cited as the birthplace of the legendary fishing dory, Lowell's Boat Shop is the oldest continually operating boat shop in the United States. As the sole survivor of the area's renowned dory manufacturing industry, Lowell's maintains its time-honored tradition as skilled craftsmen continue to build the dories and skiffs that were once the mainstay of the fishing industry in New England.



Located on the picturesque banks of the Merrimack River, this non-profit working museum and National Landmark is dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the art and craft of wooden boat building. Centuries of boat building tradition are brought to life at this remarkable site as the Boat Shop conveys its rich history through the boats it builds, its collections and the stories they tell, guided tours, workshops, and lectures. Innovative educational programs, exhibits, and events are offered to the public throughout the year, and rowing is available seasonally.

Open to visitors seasonally and by appointment
978.834.0050, www.lowellsboatshop.com

Mary Baker Eddy Historic House

Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, resided in Amesbury in the 1860s. While in Amesbury she studied the Bible and taught others about her recent discovery. Mary Baker Eddy became one of the most well-known women in America and founded a worldwide church and a daily newspaper, *The Christian Science Monitor*. Her major work on Christian Science is *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*.

Throughout this home you will observe life as it was for the Bagley family, with whom Mrs. Eddy stayed as a guest in 1868 and 1870. The Bagley story illustrates women's roles and activities in Amesbury in the 1800s and also tells the story of Squire Bagley, who was very active in the community. The home contains some original furnishings and artifacts.

Open May–October, first Saturday of the month, 10am–4pm or by appointment
Free admission
800.277.8943, www.longyear.org

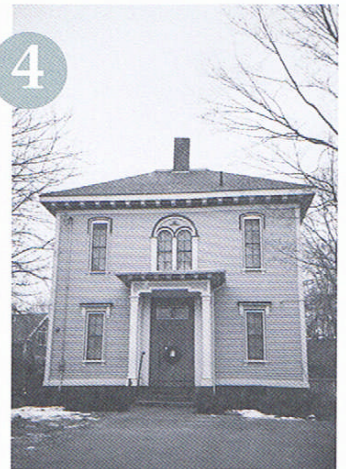


Bartlett Museum

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Come visit the Bartlett Museum, "Amesbury's Attic," the repository of Amesbury's artifacts. The two-room, Italianate style "Ferry School" was built in 1870. The name was later changed to "The Bartlett School" in honor of Josiah Bartlett. In 1922, the two rooms were divided to create four, and from that time until its closing in 1968, the school housed various combinations of grades one through five. The Museum's permanent collection includes: prehistoric and Native American artifacts spanning several thousand years; memorabilia from Colonial, Federal and Victorian periods; room settings of an early kitchen and a Victorian parlor with life-sized figures dressed in period costumes; a natural history room featuring a large collection of birds, some of which are extinct, and fossils, minerals and shells from the area; an original schoolroom with early desks gathered from local schools, children's games and toys.

Open Memorial Day to September 30, Fridays 1pm–4pm, Saturdays 10am–4pm and Sundays 1pm–4pm
978.388.4528 Adults \$3, Children and Seniors \$1



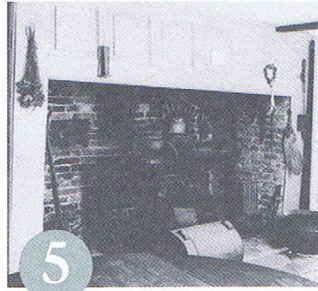
Macy-Colby House

Thomas Macy was Amesbury's first town clerk, and in 1659 became the first European settler on Nantucket. Anthony Colby was one of the first settlers of the new town of Amesbury and was active in town affairs. Both signed Amesbury's Articles of Agreement in 1658.

The Macy-Colby House is an excellent example of early American architecture. Built by Thomas Macy around 1652, it was sold to Anthony Colby in 1654 for 38 pounds. Obadiah Colby modified the structure extensively in the early 1740s. Eight generations of Colbys lived in the house, which Moses Colby donated to the Bartlett Cemetery Association in 1899.

In 1900, the care of the house was given to the Josiah Bartlett Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution, who opened the doors to the public on October 13, 1900. In the 1980s the Friends of the Macy-Colby House was formed, which welcomed new members who were not Revolutionary War descendants.

Open Memorial Day to September 30, 10am–4pm Saturdays or by appointment 978.388.1500 Adults \$3



Whittier Home

In 1836, the 19th-century Quaker poet and abolitionist John Greenleaf Whittier purchased a small four-room cottage with an attic in Amesbury.

It was near the Friends' Meeting House, which the family attended. Over the years the home expanded, but the original four downstairs rooms and furnishings remain nearly the same as when the family occupied them. Here Whittier wrote much of his literary legacy, including *Snowbound*, and led a crusade against slavery.

For more than 100 years, the Whittier Home Association has been steward of this historic house museum. The Association recently renovated the buildings and grounds for the 2007 town-wide celebration of the 200th anniversary of Whittier's birth. Visitors will rediscover his extraordinary life and legacy through new exhibits and programs at the home and other sites. Call for details.

**Open May 1 – October 31
Saturdays 10am–4pm
(last tour at 3:30pm).
Other times by appointment year round.
978.388.1337 978.465.5964**

