

RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND TOWN MUSEUM



RHS Acquires 17th Century European Settle

Dr. Terry Bennett purchased this settle from an estate sale in Rye in the early 1980's through Paul McInnis auctioneers. He was told at the time that the provenance was with an early Rye settler family. Dr. Bennett donated it to the Rye Town Museum in 2019 from his antique store in Rochester because he wanted it to be "close to home."

The 6' x 5' settle is rare and might have been used in the home where religious services were held when a church was not nearby or it could have come from a small country church in England. Sandy Beach (Rye) did not have a church until 1726 so it was common for people to worship at home.

It is notable for its intricate carving of the four apostles and many abstract designs as well as much restoration over the years. It may have been fabricated from different pieces because the carved back section is quite distinct from the rest. RHS is doing research as to when and where and by whom it was made and to whom it belonged. One possibility is William Seavey (WS, 1682 is carved in the settle), who was in Rye at this time and may have brought it over with him. It may have been built in Belgium and brought to England. The wood is believed to be Flemish oak.

SAVE THE DATE!

**1623 SERIES
SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED**

July 10



MEMORIAL DAY FAMILY OPPORTUNITY!

Rye History Trolley Tour

Monday May 27, 10:30 - 12

\$20 adults, \$18 seniors and under 18

Reservations by e-mail only

- info@ryenhistoricalociety.org

*Confirmation by e-mail with further info. will
be prompt*

6:00 p.m.

Henry Burke

*Past and Present Flora
of Rye and the Seacoast*
Seacoast Science Center
570 Ocean Boulevard

August 7

6:00 p.m.

Katie Brodeur

*Past and Present Fauna
of Rye and the Seacoast*
Seacoast Science Center
570 Ocean Boulevard

August 22

6:30 p.m.

J. Dennis Robinson

*Treasure from the Isles of
Shoals: How New Archaeology
is Changing Old History*
Location TBD

PLAN NH: CALL TO PARTICIPATE IN TOWN CENTER CHARRETTE

There will be a charrette (a meeting in which all stakeholders in a project attempt to resolve conflicts and map solutions) about Rye Town Center that begins with sessions on Friday, May 31 at the Junior High at 3:30 and 6:30 to listen, discuss and give your input on the future of our town center. The charrette continues with a presentation of a compilation of the results of those conversations on Saturday, June 1 at 3:00 pm at the Junior High. For further info, see: www.ryecivicleague.org

There's a NEW EXHIBIT Coming to the Rye Town Museum

The newly formed Exhibit Committee has started planning for a new exhibit which will be unveiled in early June. The theme is the economic forces that have shaped Rye as a town: Fishing, Farming and Fun.

With new wall graphics, photos, artifacts and treasures from our extensive textiles collection, we will interpret these three important aspects of life in Rye from the first settlers to present day. Stay tuned for more information!

Are you on Instagram? Facebook? Twitter?

RHS is!

Follow RHS on Social Media

Click the Icons below



Share Your Talents and Skills with the RHS

Volunteers Needed For:

- Coordinator between RHS resources and Rye schools
- Archival work and genealogical research
- Exhibit updates and creation
- Textile organization and display
- Computer technology and website maintenance
- Administrative work
- Building care and maintenance

If any of these interest you, please email or phone us. We would love for you to be part of the RHS!

DID YOU KNOW.....

**The Museum is open by request at
(almost) ANY TIME?**

**We're here for you - please email
info@ryenhistoricalociety.org to
make an appointment**



Intimate Rye History Online - Access Rye History

Have you looked at all the new material recently posted on our web site? Under the tab: "Resources" click on **Access Rye History** and you will see over 1600's pages of a wide and diverse variety of primary source material from Rye 1850 - 1920. From diaries to letters to account books and much more you can open a window into the past and make Rye and American history come alive. Thanks to a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Fund and the work of Robin Silva from the Portsmouth Athenaeum, RHS is now able to share a rich body of the past from our extensive collection.

[Visit our website](#)

Share The History of Your Home with a Historic House Plaque

Many Rye homes, business and public buildings are adorned with these handsome plaques. The cost of a plaque is \$85.

If you would like one for your home to add to the heritage of the town, house plaque applications may be picked up at the Rye library on the

coffee table (behind the RHS brochures).

Check and application may be mailed to PO Box 583, Rye, NH 03870 or left in our mailbox by the front door of the museum.



RHS is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization

Rye Historical Society | 603-997-6742 | info@ryenhistoricalociety.org

10 Olde Parish Road, Rye, NH 03870

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[Click Here to Join Or Renew](#)