

1976

# Maine State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission 1972-1976 Final Report 1976

Maine State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission

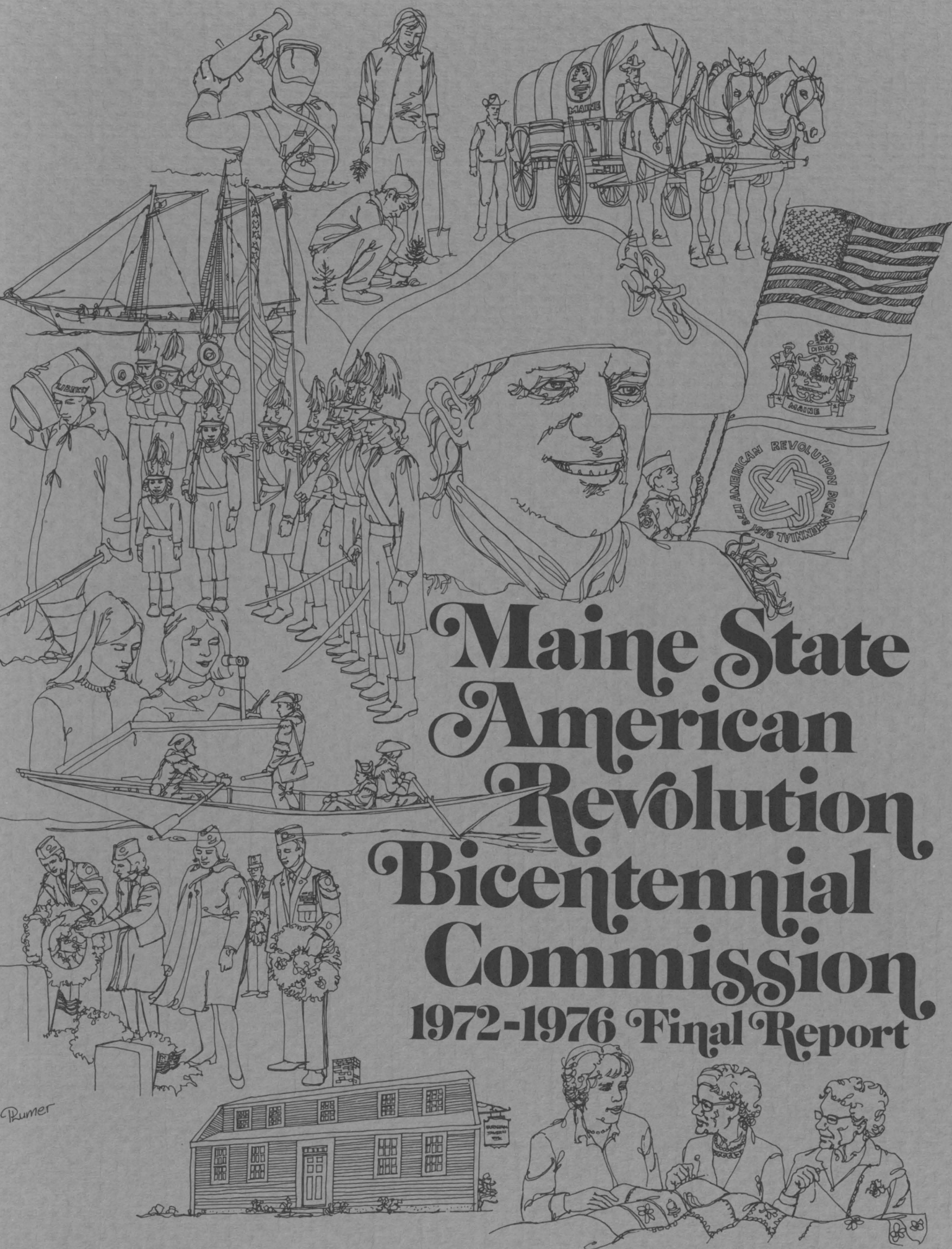
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America's 200th birthday, so long awaited and so thoroughly enjoyed, has now ended. All of us will likely long be gone before our nation celebrates three centuries of its history. Achievement, however, is an abiding thing, able to span the years with more durability than people can. It is to be hoped then, that the achievements of our Bicentennial will endure, yielding rewards and benefits to those who will follow us.

In Maine, our state's American Revolution Bicentennial Commission has devoted nearly five years of work to the planning and celebration of our two hundredth year, and has joined with hundreds of towns, schools, clubs and organizations in sponsoring special activities, events and programs. Scholarly studies, building restorations, educational activities, festivals, art works, parks and monuments, libraries, historical reenactments, and many more, all combined, constitute an impressive and lasting testament to Maine's pride in its national heritage.

Herein is included a review of Maine's numerous Bicentennial projects, as well as the history of the Commission's operation. We dedicate this report to the people of Maine, who with their enthusiasm have made our celebration memorable and successful.



**Maine State  
American  
Revolution  
Bicentennial  
Commission**

**1972-1976**

**Final Report**







Maine State  
American Revolution  
Bicentennial Commission

State House  
Augusta, Maine 04330  
(207) 289-2981

Donna Thibodeau  
Director



This final report is submitted to the Governor and the Legislature of the State of Maine, and through them to the people of Maine. It is, I hope, more than the usual final report. In these pages, you will recognize your friends, your neighbors, and, perhaps, even yourselves, for the Bicentennial effort was, above all, a people effort -- people joining together in community celebration and commemoration unprecedented in scope in our memories.

There were 205 Bicentennial Communities in Maine. This designation was granted only to those communities which formed official committees to plan and execute at least one project in each of three areas: Heritage, Festival and Horizons. The result was an extraordinarily satisfying display of patriotic fervor and re-dedication to our country's ideals.

Despite earlier difficulties, when it was over nearly every American and every Mainer felt good about what had happened. This is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of millions of Americans and thousands of Mainers who were the ones who made it successful. Much good came from the Bicentennial from the thousands of programs which were launched, many of which are of an enduring nature. A legacy was left, not always visible, which will be appreciated by future generations.

On a personal note, I wish to acknowledge with thanks the dedication and unselfish gift of time and of themselves of my fellow Commissioners over a period of four years we worked together. The Commission was blessed with an excellent staff which carried out its policies and directives in a thoroughly professional manner. No group of state employees ever gave more of themselves than Director Mundy and her associates.

A word of appreciation is also due to three Presidents, the Congress and the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration for providing a large share of the financial resources available to the Maine Commission. Also, Governors Curtis and Longley and the Legislature of Maine contributed valuable time in support of many events and made available scarce resources so that the State of Maine could proudly participate in a significant way in this historic commemoration.

Ronald F. Banks  
Chairman  
Maine State American Revolution Bicentennial  
Commission

American Revolution  
Bicentennial Administration  
2401 E Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20276



September 1, 1976

Dr. Ronald F. Banks  
Chairman, Maine State ARBC  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Dr. Banks:

With July 4, 1976 behind us, it is time to reflect upon the accomplishments of those who worked so hard to make the 200th anniversary of the United States of America a meaningful and enjoyable event. I, therefore, wish to express my feeling that the Maine State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission and the people of Maine are deserving of the highest praise for the enthusiasm and vision they offered to our Nation's Bicentennial celebrations.

Several of the projects undertaken by the Maine State ARBC are deserving of special praise. The Penobscot Bay project to recover and preserve the historical artifacts from 38 vessels that sunk in the Bay in 1779 is one of the most exciting Bicentennial projects in the country. The re-enactment of Benedict Arnold's march to and unsuccessful attack on Quebec was a superb project that brought to life some of the events and conditions of 200 years ago. You should also be commended on a fine publications program that focused on Maine's role in the Revolution and on the Statewide Youth Program, which led to the development of Bicentennial programs in over 75 schools. All these fine projects were, of course, developed upon a strong local base, in which over 200 Maine cities were designated Bicentennial Communities.

In light of your fine work, I would like to thank and congratulate you, Executive Director Donna Mundy, and all the Commissioners and staff of the Maine State ARBC. Needless to say, the people of Maine also deserve praise for their Bicentennial spirit and hard work. The success of the Bicentennial celebrations and commemorations in Maine is a tribute to the people of your State and is a reflection of the strength of our Nation.

Sincerely,

*John W. Warner*  
John W. Warner  
Administrator



JAMES B. LONGLEY  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04888

December 22, 1976

Ronald Banks, Chairman  
156 Washington Street  
Brewer, Maine 04412

Dear Chairman Banks and Members of the  
Maine State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission:

The Bicentennial occurred during a very difficult period of our nation's history -- a time of political, moral and economic crisis that has not been equalled in more than a hundred years.

However, in spite of the difficulties, the Bicentennial became the opportunity for the citizens of the State of Maine and these United States to pause and reflect with pride and dignity on their communities, their state and their country which have managed to weather these 200 years.

It was a time when individuals seized the initiative and helped rebuild some of the faith in our democratic institutions. It was a time when patriotism, once again, flourished.

In facing the problems and the difficult decisions ahead, we will need sincere dedication and deep patriotism which will enable us to envision life as it can be and the courage and sustained application that will enable the people who follow us 100 years from now to look back on the Bicentennial era as one of lasting achievement.

Sincerely,

  
James B. Longley  
Governor

JBL/mas



CURTIS THAXTER COREY LIPEZ & STEVENS

ONE CANAL PLAZA  
PORTLAND, MAINE 04112

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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SIDNEY W. THAXTER  
WALTER E. COREY III  
KERMIT V. LIPEZ  
ROBERT E. STEVENS

TELEPHONE  
207 778-2361

F. WOODMAN JONES  
SIDNEY ST. F. THAXTER II

January 24, 1977

Dr. Ronald F. Banks  
Chairman  
Maine State American Revolution Bicentennial  
Commission

State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Dr. Banks:

As you know, it was my privilege while Governor of Maine, to formally establish the Maine State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission in 1972 when a special session of the 105th Maine Legislature passed L.D. 1945.

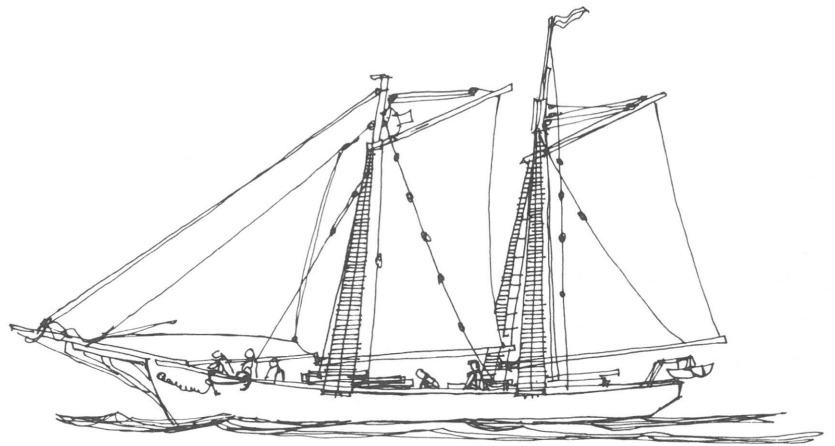
At that time, events were set in motion and early decisions were made which set the tone for a Bicentennial celebration in Maine that exceeded all expectations.

It would be difficult to choose a few outstanding events from among the many hundreds of events which took place in our state and which, clearly, will make the greatest impact on the area where they were developed. It may well be the hard work of the people in Van Buren in establishing a replica of an authentic Acadian village to be used by generations to come as a living, viable center of French cultural heritage. Or, it may be the initiative and imagination of the people in Dover-Foxcroft in constructing a replica of the "Ripling Wave" steamboat which once operated on Sebec Lake, and which now will continue to do so for many years to come. Who could assess the value received by 32 young boys and girls from Maine who participated in "Operation Sail '76?" The opportunity to sail aboard the Maine built schooner "Harvey Gamage" for two weeks with students and ships from forty-five other countries participating is an experience which will not soon be forgotten by these Maine young people.

However, in my estimation the greatest contribution and the one that will be of the most benefit to Maine, is the thousands and thousands of Maine people who met in their towns and cities, agreed upon their goal as their contribution to the Bicentennial year, and then went forward with these plans and, during the Summer of 1976, saw them come to fruition. Hundreds of Maine towns are richer because of the efforts of these people.

Sincerely,

  
Kenneth M. Curtis



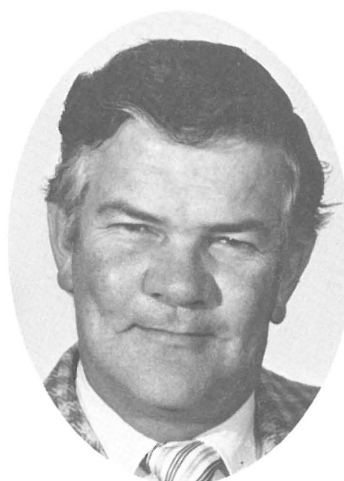
Commissioners



Dr. Ronald F. Banks  
Chairman  
Brewer, Maine



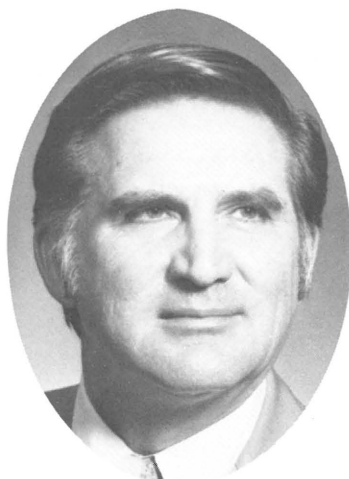
Robert L. Damm  
Vice-Chairman  
Manchester, Maine



Roy A. Whitcomb, Jr.  
Commissioner  
Sebago Lake, Maine



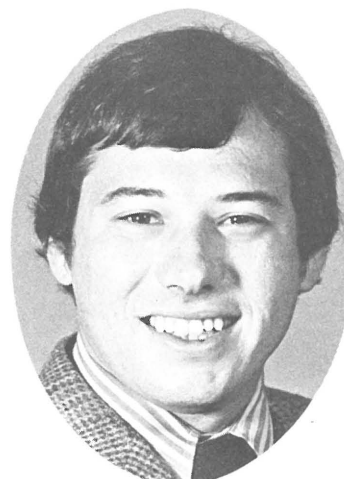
Dr. Robert York  
Commissioner  
Gorham, Maine



Dr. Richard Spath  
Commissioner  
Fort Kent, Maine



J. Gary Nichols  
Commissioner  
Palermo, Maine



Alden C. Wilson  
Commissioner  
Hallowell, Maine



Joanne LaPointe  
Commissioner  
Auburn, Maine



Dorothy Look  
Commissioner  
Jonesport, Maine



Hon. Robert Williamson  
Commissioner  
Augusta, Maine



Hon. Walter Birt  
Commissioner  
East Millinocket, Maine



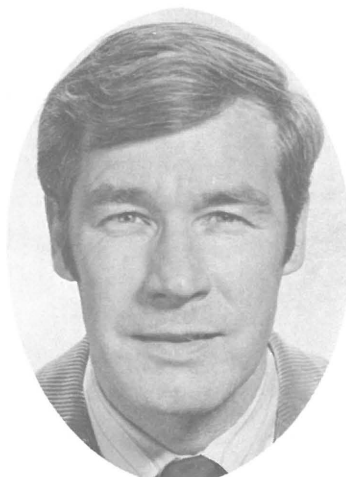
Hon. T. Tarpyn Schulten  
Commissioner  
Woolwich, Maine



William Elms  
Commissioner  
Brunswick, Maine



Rev. Raymond Wilbur  
Commissioner  
York, Maine



Ryan Fendler  
Commissioner  
Pittsfield, Maine



Hon. John D. Chapman  
Commissioner  
Woolwich, Maine



Vivian Massey  
Commissioner  
Old Town, Maine



Alan Harding  
Commissioner  
Portland, Maine

## Staff



Donna T. Mundy  
Director, MSARBC  
Augusta, Maine



Olive R. Ross  
Project Coordinator  
Readfield, Maine



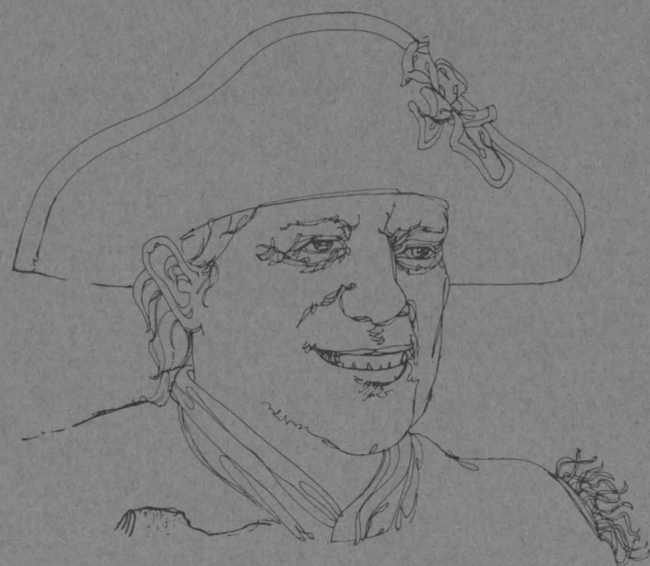
Jeannette Gallant  
Secretary  
Augusta, Maine



John Sidelinger  
Program Aide  
Wayne, Maine







Final Report



## FINAL REPORT

On June 10, 1971 Governor Kenneth M. Curtis issued an Executive Order (#11) which instituted the Planning Committee on the Observance of the American Revolution Bicentennial. This Committee met six times and issued a written report on September 20, 1971 with the recommended legislation to form the Maine State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission (MSARBC).

Legislation was passed in the Special Session of the 105th Maine State Legislature establishing the Commission, and signed by the Governor on February 7, 1972 and becoming law on June 9, 1972. An amendment was voted in January 1974, which replaced two seats on the Commission with public representatives.

Appointments to the MSARBC were made in the summer of 1972 and the Commission first met on August 9, 1972, filling the offices of Chairman — Dr. Ronald F. Banks; Vice-Chairman — Robert L. Damm; and Secretary were elected for a one year term. Additionally, by-laws and a budget for the operation of the Commission were adopted and the Commission established a committee structure modeled after the organization of the ARBA.

During the Spring of 1972, the Franklin Mint sponsored a design competition in each of the 50 states for a Bicentennial medal. As the State Commission had not as yet been formed, the Governor's office served as liaison and several members of the Planning Committee judged the competition. The winning design would be the obverse and the State Seal on the reverse. The winners and their designs were later announced to the Commission. The Franklin Mint proposed giving the MSARBC a commission on the Maine Medal sales and this proposal was accepted.

In September, 1972, the winning design from the Franklin Mint competition was adopted as the MSARBC logo.

On October 9, 1972, the Commission hired Ms. Mary Agnes Cornely as Executive Secretary to the MSARBC. The Commission had decided to meet on a monthly basis and the work load necessitated the formation of a staff.

In November, 1972, the MSARBC voted to initiate a Planning Grants program, guidelines for which were approved and notification of the program distributed to non-profit organizations.

In these initial months of the Commission, much time and effort was devoted to organizing effective committees to deal with Heritage, Festival and Horizon projects, in addition to determining the criteria for programs and guidelines.

In February, 1973, the MSARBC agreed to sponsor a Manuscript Contest with the W.W. Norton Co. of New York in which manuscripts would be solicited in the Heritage, Festival and Horizons themes and a cash prize would be offered by Norton to any works which were deemed publishable by the Norton board. The decision of the judges would, hopefully, be announced by July 4, 1975.

The Commission authorized the publication of a newsletter early in 1973 in order to inform the people of the State of Maine of Commission progress and planning. This newsletter was published in April, 1973.



lin Mint was offering; therefore, the MSARBC, through the Maine State Museum, would offer individual medals. These medals would be available in the Fall of 1974.

The month of July, 1974, was named "Awareness Month" in Maine. During this time, radio and T.V. spots were distributed to all the media in Maine, and tabloid newsletters were distributed. Restaurants, banks and other businesses were contacted and asked to wear '76 buttons and display Maine '76 stickers. This special promotion was intended to start people thinking about Bicentennial Programs and what they could do. It was the Summer of 1974 that the staff office noticed a drastic increase in the public's inquiries about the Bicentennial and the participation of many communities, civic groups and organizations which had not been involved before.

Also in July, 1974, the Chairman and Director attended a meeting in Boston with representatives from the eastern states' Bicentennial Commissions. Maine was, at this time, the only state that had a program specifically for youth.

In July, 1974, the MSARBC authorized phase I of a publications program. This was funded under the matching grants program but deserves special note because of the specific publications undertaken. This first step was to fund the research and writing of an adult level history of Maine in the American Revolution, children's level stories of the four major events that occurred in Maine during the Revolution, i.e. Battle of the Unity and Margareta, Arnold's March, Burning of Falmouth, and the Penobscot Expedition.

Also, a Maine Historical Atlas and Historical Symposium were part of this first phase.

Each of these publications would be unique in that very little Maine history has ever been written and, thus, it was felt that this would be a first step to help fill that void.

It was hoped that additional subjects could be authorized, however, funding was not available for this.

In September, 1974, the Commission contracted with the Maine State Museum to hire Richard de V. Seymour as program coordinator for the Youth Program. The Commission also agreed to designate the profits from the sale of license plates for matching with federal funds in order to set up a mini-grant program through which the youth of the state could get assistance with their projects.

In September, 1974, the MSARBC had successfully completed its awareness program and voted to undertake "Grassroots '76". This program involved four areas: Bicentennial Communities, Youth Program, Private Sector involvement, and public relations. It was agreed that most people were aware of the nature of the Bicentennial but much work needed to be done in getting people involved, organized and their projects funded. Therefore, the "Grassroots '76" program would specifically address the particular problems of the individual communities and organizations. National ARBA had initiated a program called the National Bicentennial Communities Program in 1973 whereby individual communities would be recognized for their programs if they met certain criteria. This type of organization was found to be extremely effective in developing programs at the local

level and, thus, it was taken as a goal of the MSARBC to encourage such local involvement in all the cities and towns in Maine.

During the Winter of 1974 and Spring of 1975, extensive travel, speaking engagements and organizational meetings were the order of business for the Director, Chairman and members of the Commission. Many towns planned on having activities in the Summer of 1975, so this was a time of concentrated groundwork.

The first Bicentennial Liquor Bottle went on sale January, 1975. This was only the first of several to come and all revenues would go to support Bicentennial programs in the State of Maine.

Ms. Laurie Fitts joined the staff as a student intern from the Colby College "Jan Plan" to work on the Business and Industry meeting scheduled for March.

A list of people in the private sector was compiled and a prospectus of various types of programs was also developed. The meeting was meant to inform business and industry people in the state what was happening during the Bicentennial and to interest them in supporting various state and local projects. The meeting was held on March 11 with over 80 representatives of Maine business and industry. Governor Longley addressed the meeting and the orientation was very well received.

On March 18, 1975, a separate meeting of representatives from the travel and tourism industry was held in Augusta. This meeting had over 30 people from various groups. The travel people exhibited an exceptional interest in the Bicentennial, as it was estimated that New England states would receive a substantial increase in tourists, especially in 1976. Due to the "energy crisis" and poor ski season, many people at the meeting expressed a desire to promote Maine's "historic resources" to help combat the slump in tourism.

On March 28, 1975, the MSARBC participated with a display and literature in the "Discover Maine Travel Show" in Portland.

In March, 1975, the MSARBC's tasks had increased to a point where an additional staff person was needed. Mrs. Nan Gray Everhart was hired as Program Coordinator, which put the total staff at 3-1/2 people.

On April 18, 1975, the Director of the MSARBC presented a Bicentennial Flag to the Maine House and Maine Senate in conjunction with the passage of a joint resolution declaring April 19, 1975, "Patriots Day," the official opening of the Bicentennial observances in Maine.

May 1, 1975 was the deadline for submission of manuscripts to the W.W. Norton Publication Program. 108 manuscripts were received and forwarded on to Norton for their judging.

On May 8 and 9, 1975, the second statewide Youth Conference was held at Evergreen Valley in Stoneham, Maine. All students and schools that attended the Spring 1974 Conference, and the regional meetings in the Fall of 1974, were invited together with additional schools and teachers.

On May 20, 1975 a statewide meeting was held in Augusta concerned with participation of church and religious groups in the Bicentennial. More than 30 people from various religious groups attended the day long meeting.

The Summer of 1975 saw many communities all over the State of Maine initiating

their Bicentennial Programs. Several of the major commemorations occurred. In June the Washington County Bicentennial Committee commemorated the Battle of the Unity and Margarett.

In September, the Arnold March to Quebec occurred and in October, Portland commemorated the Burning of Falmouth.

In September 1975, Mrs. Alice Fleury left the staff, and in October Mrs. Nan Everhart left. Mr. John Sidelinger was hired in September and Mrs. Olive Ross was hired in November, thus the staff level became 4 people full time.

The deadline for submission of matching grant proposals was December 1, 1975; therefore, the Fall and early Winter months of 1975 were consumed with preparations for the review of grant proposals.

In January 1976, the MSARBC contracted with the Public Relations firm of Foster & Associates to carry out the Celebration '76 program, which would entail publicity and technical assistance for communities and the Commission during the spring and summer.

On February 26, 1976, the Legislative leadership and the MSARBC conducted a Bicentennial Legislative Day Program. A joint session of the House and Senate was convened with the Governor, Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Court and members of the Executive Council.

Additionally, the legislature passed joint orders recognizing the four major revolutionary events that occurred in Maine and the groups that had commemorated these events.

An audio visual exhibit was set up in the State House in conjunction with the Legislative Day Program.

In March, "Maine Day" was held in Washington, D.C. as a part of the "Salute to the States" program, in which Maine's Governor and Bicentennial people conducted a program in Washington representing the State of Maine.

A comprehensive Calendar of Events was developed by the Maine Publicity Bureau and the MSARBC for the months May-December 1976. The calendars included listings of Community events, State Fairs, theater and Bicentennial activities. These were distributed through the Maine Publicity Bureau, the Kittery Information Center, and the MSARBC.

On May 8, 1976 the MSARBC conducted a day long Community Public Relations Workshop with newspaper, T.V., public relations and community people to discuss organization, scheduling and promoting Bicentennial activities in the localities.

On May 11, 1976 the Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage to Pennsylvania departed from Augusta. The "Maine Train" was the beginning of the Northeast contingent and was organized by the Trail Horse Council of Maine. The wagons were scheduled to reach Valley Forge, Pennsylvania on July 4, 1976.

On May 16-18, the final Youth Conference was held at Sebasco Estates. The 16th was devoted to the Committees of Correspondence conducted by the Portland students. The final meetings and presentations of high school projects took place on the 17th and 18th, thus concluding one of the major programs which the MSARBC had undertaken and carried on for two years.

The Maine Maritime Academy was recognized in May by both the National ARBA and the MSARBC for its Bicentennial program and its role in the "Operation Sail" program scheduled for July. The sailing ship "State of Maine" was used as the press ship for "Op Sail" in New York. On June 18, the NBC Today show featured Maine on its Bicentennial Series.

June 27, 1976 Administrator John Warner came to Castine, Maine to present the ARBA official recognition for the Penobscot Expedition. Underwater work was being conducted at that time and members of the Commission, ARBA, and invited guests were taken to the site to review the work.

It is extremely difficult to enumerate the many activities that occurred on and around July 4, 1976. Many, many communities in Maine held celebrations during this time and the level of participation on the local level was far beyond expectations.

Several statewide programs also took place. First, the sailing vessel Harvey Gamage took part in "Operation Sail '76." This was an opportunity for 32 Maine students (2 from each county) to participate in a national program.

The 76 Maine Artists show opened at the Maine State Museum. This show represented a cooperative effort of the MSARBC, Maine Commission on Arts and Humanities, and the Maine State Museum.

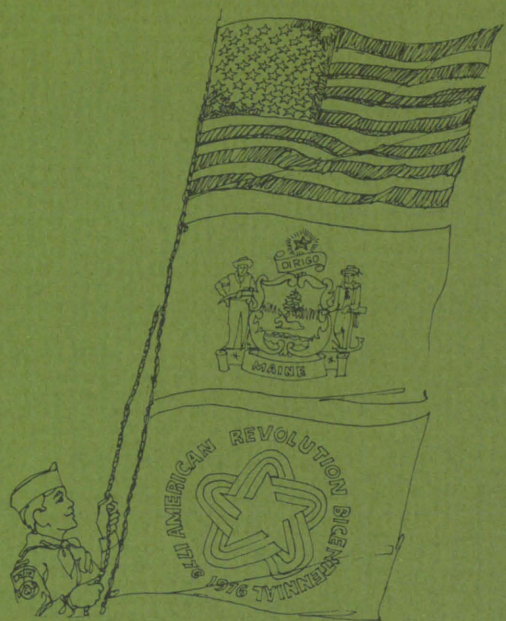
The Province of Quebec sent a runner from Quebec to Augusta to deliver greetings and good wishes. The Governor, state officials and many people greeted the runner upon his arrival on July 1, 1976 in this unusual international gesture of friendship during the Bicentennial.

In September, it was decided that newsclip books would be microfilmed and kept at State Archives as there is a wealth of information about activities all over the State in these clippings.

On November 13, 1976, an awards meeting was held to recognize the members of the MSARBC who had contributed time, expertise and a great deal of personal attention to making the Bicentennial Program in Maine successful.







# Legislative Day

February 26, 1976







# Speeches

## Opening remarks by President of the Senate Joseph Sewall

I certainly take great pride this morning in opening this session in honor of our Bicentennial. We are gathered here today in Joint Convention to commemorate 200 years of this great and free Republic. We are gathered here today to take notice of men and women who had the will and the courage to stand up to the established, who dared to be different, who dared to take the risk of public humiliation and even death for principles in which they believed.

During this year, as we celebrate the foundations of freedom which have so firmly supported the building of this Nation, we have much to reflect on with gratitude and pride. We have much to learn and much to ponder from the trials and tribulations of our forebearers who, with so much dedication and purpose, fought with unparalleled fervor for dignity and human rights. This dignity and these human rights were not merely for themselves but rather for all people from all walks of life and for all generations of Americans who would follow.

We, indeed, have been the beneficiaries of their acts. So as we enter our 200th year, let us see what we can learn from those proud times. Let us remember and rededicate ourselves to those strong human qualities and that undying spirit which spawned the ability to make a dream a reality. Let us take and keep from that Revolution the goodness and strength which allowed our forefathers to meet and conquer such difficult tasks.

All of us here today, as citizens of Maine, can and should take pride in the role our forebears played in contributing to the cause and spirit of the American Revolution. A number of events, highlighted by heroic and courageous acts by settlers in Maine, marked a significant devotion to the principles over which the colonies fought for separation from the Crown.

When we talk about taking and keeping from that Revolution the courage, dedication and strength which marked its spirit, we can look with honor to the Province of Maine in 1775.

We can remember with pride when the Boston Port Bill took effect and the port of Boston was closed by the British Parliament. Several Maine towns, most known to be Falmouth and Cape Elizabeth, rushed to the aid of Boston by sending wood, cash and other supplies to provide relief to their fellow colonists.

We can remember with pride when upon learning of the Battle of Lexington on the evening of April 19, 1775, the morning of April 20 saw over 60 men leave York to join the war. Many more from other areas in the Province of Maine were to follow shortly thereafter.

We can remember with pride during this year of Bicentennial celebration that in June 1775, Machias was the site of the first naval battle between the colonists and British. As a result of disagreements over the exchange of goods and supplies, the Unity, commanded by the American Patriots, overcame and conquered the British ship, Margaretta. It was a vicious battle, which demonstrated not only the colonists' dedication to the Revolutionary movement but also helped dispel the contention of the invincibility of the British naval forces.

We can remember with pride as well that in the fall of 1775, courageous American patriots, under the direction of Colonel Benedict Arnold, left Fort Western on a bitter and grueling expedition to the northern Maine wilderness in an attempt to capture Quebec. The mission, in the end, failed, but even in defeat, the thorough dedication to the Revolutionary cause remained clear.



We can also remember with pride that in October of 1775, the citizens of Falmouth stood up against the King, only to have their town burned and bombarded by the British. But rather than succumb, even after their town was destroyed, the event rekindled the spirit in the Falmouth people for the principles and purposes of the Revolution.

So, as citizens of Maine, we truly have much in which to take pride when we talk of commemorating our 200th birthday as a free Nation. The Province of Maine gave its share to the Revolutionary cause.

I suppose each and every one of us here today has a different perspective on the meaning of the Bicentennial, but I think the one common awareness which evolves from this celebration is the fact that as a nation we have come so far in so short a time. Two hundred years is not a very long time in the life of a nation. But only 200 years ago, America came from a novel birth. Thirteen separate colonies, populated by divergent men and women of an independent and adventurous nature, joined in a dream to establish a republic which would be governed by the will of the people. It would be a nation of equals, not of kings and subjects, not of rulers and those ruled, not of despots and the oppressed, but a nation whose government would represent the sentiments of their people. This belief was the pillar of strength which would support the building of the republic, and if this experiment in republicanism were to succeed, it was essential that the people's rights and freedoms at all times be protected and preserved.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be keep that right." Indeed, Jefferson's observations were correct. It was essential to lock in unpenetrable security the people's freedom of choice and opinions, as well as their inalienable rights as Americans of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," for these inherent rights provided the cement which would hold the republic together.

From these principles developed and adopted by our founding fathers two centuries past, America has grown and prospered. While other governments have failed, America has gained strength. While other nations have been destroyed by internal turmoil, the fiber of America has proven strong enough to hold, even during times of extreme adversity.

As we celebrate this Bicentennial, we have much to be thankful for, but we also have much to preserve, and by having much to preserve, we have great challenges ahead.

Let it be the commitment of this Bicentennial celebration for us to pledge to future generations of Americans that they will have the same freedoms as we have enjoyed as a result of similar pledges from those who came before us.

Let it be our commitment as we embark on our third century to preserve and maintain the principles which have allowed us to become the greatest of all free nations, and let it be our commitment to continue to battle for the rights of all people to control their own destiny.

We have many battles ahead which must be won. We have many challenges. But if during this Bicentennial we remember the challenges our forefathers confronted and conquered, challenges which were the toughest Americans have ever faced, we shall find the strength and courage to launch America into even a more golden and prosperous age.

#### **Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Court**

**Armand A. Dufresne, Jr.**

It is with the utmost pleasure that I have accepted the invitation to join you in this official opening in Maine of celebrations which take place throughout the country in recognition of our Nation's 200th birthday. As Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of Maine, I wish to extend to the citizens of Maine, on this memorable occasion, full and just acknowledgement of gratitude from the Judiciary for



the help and understanding which they have generally accorded the courts. Generally speaking, a great majority of our people have recognized the duty of our courts to uphold and defend the rights of persons to a full and just measure in the enjoyment of life and liberty, the possession of property and the pursuit of safety and happiness which our Constitution intended to secure to the American people.

It is with just pride that we bring to the world in this Bicentennial year a showcase of achievements greater than what any nation was ever able to put together in the short span of 200 years.

From the precarious times following our Declaration of Independence, we have as a nation promoted and succeeded in obtaining, for the benefit of ourselves and the world, unparalleled advancement in all spheres of endeavor, whether it be in the industrial or scientific arena, in the cultural or personal freedom area, or be it in terms of the individual's personal welfare. This has been accomplished through the guidance of able and fearless statesmen, dedicated servicemen who risked and gave their lives in defense of this country's rights and honor, hard working people whose primary purpose in life was the welfare of their compatriots, and last but not least, all those religious men and women who devoted themselves to the promotion of the nation's moral strength and to our people's religious needs.

Of course, each and every citizen, across the stage of time, has played a part in raising America to her rank as first in the world.

No matter how refreshing it is to contemplate our heroic achievements in these 200 years of nationhood, we cannot help but notice our immediate times of trouble and distress. America has had its crises from the time of her birth to the present day. We need only to think of our Civil War, of the great depression and of recent vintage, the Vietnam War and Watergate, to bring a cool sobriety to our chance of victory and grandeur.

Indeed, we are in the midst of a vigorous turbulence. It may be called a mini-depression or moderate recession, but such labels in no way reduce the heavy impact which the present economic strain has on the well being of many people, nor do they help to dissipate the serious concerns of many respecting an early recovery.

We should use this occasion to rededicate ourselves to seek a breakthrough in this storm of economic stress. Good men together can accomplish anything, even the most impossible dreams.

In the past, at times of crises, we had leaders when we needed them. George Washington, the father of our country, had his Valley Forge. The very Union of our United States we owe to Abraham Lincoln. Franklin D. Roosevelt saved us from bankruptcy of country, body and soul. Dwight D. Eisenhower kept the war machines away from our shores. I know that we have under this dome leaders who can bring our state out of her economic, chaotic status to a brighter tomorrow. It is the fare of leaders to dare mighty things to bring about the hour of triumph. Beware of the great twilight of lessor fare that knows neither victory nor defeat.

Every American has a stake in getting the Nation's state back on course. It is our hope that all Americans will exercise the franchise in this Bicentennial year and participate in the process of putting our Nation on the road to recovery by electing leaders of utmost integrity and of the greatest ability.

As a people, we must rededicate ourselves to a code of moral value which will arrest the ways of criminality and usurious erosion. The Judiciary will cooperate fully in its sphere of action, endeavoring as it dispenses criminal justice to bring about a great deterrent from criminal activity, provided the necessary correctional institutions are there to take care of the offenders.

This is a very unique occasion where each of us could ask ourselves what we individually can do to assure continued greatness to our State and Nation so that we can all walk together with cheerful courage toward the blue skies of tomorrow's prosperity.

May God bless America and its leaders on this her Bicentennial birthday.



**Governor of the State of Maine**  
**James B. Longley**

Mr. President, your message that we must dare to be different, that America did in fact dare to be different and dared to stand up, and Mr. Chief Justice, your message that in effect the words in the music "The Impossible Dream", did in fact become a reality in America and the challenges upon us to continue to make this impossible dream possible.

So, as Governor, I also commend the Bicentennial Commission and the Committee responsible for this very important and appropriate tribute today. I deeply appreciate the honor and privilege of being a part of this Maine observance of the Maine and American Bicentennial celebration. It is indeed a time when it is fitting and proper that we pause as a state and a nation to take a look at where we have been and where we are going. And, yes, we have much reason to have faith as we see youngsters such as in the Ashland High School Band and many other wonderful citizens who have joined us today.

On July 3, 1776, John Adams wrote a letter to his wife. In that letter he said, "I am well aware of the toil, and blood and treasure, that it will cost us to maintain this declaration and support and defend these states. Yet, through all the gloom, I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory. . ." That is appropriate with the serious problems we are now facing here in this State House.

He went on further and said to his wife, "I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the Great Anniversary Festival."

The very fact that we are pausing as a state and as a nation to celebrate our Nation's 200th Birthday is evidence that both Mr. Adams' prophesy and optimism in faith, in America, were well founded.

However, Mr. Adams himself was in a more pessimistic mood some eleven years later on October 9, 1787, when he wrote to his friend Thomas Jefferson and said, "In short, my dear friend, you and I have been indefatigable laborers through our whole lives for a cause which will be thrown away in the next generation, upon the vanity and foppery of persons of whom we do now know the names perhaps. The war that is now breaking out will render our country, whether she is forced into it or not, rich, great, and powerful in comparison to what she now is, and riches, grandeur and power will have the same effect upon America as it has upon European minds." He said this, obviously, with deep concern what was happening to America.

As we pause today to commemorate this nation's bicentennial, we must reflect equally on the optimism expressed in John Adams' letter to his wife and the pessimism displayed later in the letter to Thomas Jefferson.

Even as the republic was being formed, Mr. Adams had the vision to be aware of the toil, the blood and the treasure that it would cost future generations to maintain the Declaration of Independence and the freedom being penned by he and his friends. He rightfully suggested that the nation pause at a given time throughout its history, as we are doing today, to celebrate and reflect on the future.

In the eleven years which lapsed from the time Mr. Adams wrote his wife and when he wrote Thomas Jefferson, it was obvious that while he may not have become completely cynical, he had at least developed a concern for how future generations, such as we today, would deal with this new Democracy which he had so proudly helped found. It was clear in his letter to Thomas Jefferson that Mr. Adams suspected that the next generation might toss away that which has been so difficult to attain.

History has shown that Mr. Adams' optimism for the new Republic was more founded than was his pessimism, as difficult as the recent days have been, and suspicion of the generations to which he and Jefferson would hand the torch, the subject of challenge, and hopefully meet the challenge.



The history of this great nation is secure, having been made that way by men like Adams and Jefferson and the generations which came after them and which performed far above Mr. Adams' expectations.

As we celebrate our nation's 200th birthday, we must take a lesson from history and avoid repeating Mr. Adams's mistake of distrusting the generations that follow. By the same token, we must strive to deed to future generations even a fraction of that which was handed forward by people like John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Perhaps we cannot find gifts as priceless and eloquent as the Declaration of Independence, but we must make certain that the gifts which have been passed on to us are, in turn, entrusted to future hands unblemished and untarnished.

This nation is celebrating a grand birthday, a birthday deserving of a gift from each of its citizens. I submit that the greatest gift each of us could give would be a willingness in 1976 to place more into government than we expect or intend to receive in return. To paraphrase John F. Kennedy's great inaugural quote, "ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country", we here in the legislative and executive branches of government in Maine must come together and say to those who only seek benefits from government to please help us put back into government in Maine and America as much or more than we try to take out.

The people of Maine justifiably take great pride in the part they and their forefathers have played in the glorious history of this nation. Maine people as you so well know, have stepped forward to pay the price of democracy each time a price had to be paid. Maine has given its sons and daughters time and time again to defend that delicate and priceless thing called freedom.

Throughout our history, various cities and states of the Nation have been entrusted with the privilege and responsibility of preserving and protecting tangible symbols of our democracy.

Pennsylvania has the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall. Massachusetts proudly displays monuments at Lexington and Concord and Bunker Hill, while Washington as we well know, is the showcase for monuments to the greats like Lincoln, Jefferson and Washington, and they persevered despite an occasional challenge.

Maine, I feel, has been entrusted over the years with preserving and protecting an intangible, yet equally important, symbol of our democracy. That symbol is the independence of the people of this great Nation. Maine has done its job well for 200 years. The independent spirit, a necessary ingredient in democracy, still flourishes throughout this Nation and Maine and has never relinquished its claim as being the home of this priceless quality that has also made America great.

I believe that this generation of Maine people can proudly say to the generation that follows that the gifts of democracy that we are passing forward are in good shape after 200 years and that we must make the next 200 years as great for those who follow as it has been for those who preceded them. We here in Maine have much reason to have pride in the past and faith in the future. I say that not as your Governor but as a person who, while he was in the business community for over 300 months and Governor less than 14 months, I have seen some of the most dedicated and conscientious citizens in my life sit in these seats here today. Yes, I have faith that working together our children and future citizens hopefully will be proud and grateful for what we have tried to do, as we are proud and grateful of what had been done for us.



## **Chairman of the Maine State Revolution Bicentennial Commission**

**Dr. Ronald F. Banks**

It is a distinct personal privilege for me, on behalf of the Maine State Revolution Bicentennial Commission, to express our sincere appreciation for this opportunity to honor our Country's bicentennial heritage with you here today.

In case you may have forgotten, the Bicentennial Commission was created by this distinguished body in 1971. I would especially like to express our appreciation to this legislature for recognizing the significant work and contributions of the private groups and local communities throughout this great State that have given so much of their time, money and just plain hard work. These people have contributed an enormous amount of work to the State of Maine and its commemoration and through their efforts we are pleased and honored to believe that the bicentennial commemoration is going very well in the State.

A moment ago, three distinguished members of the Senate and the House introduced copies of Joint Resolutions to recognize three major bicentennial events that have already taken place in this State, mostly in the year 1975, and we felt that it was particularly appropriate, without the least intention of slighting the magnificent work done by hundreds of people in other communities, to single out these three projects and the individuals who are representing them today for special recognition.

First, to Mrs. Arlene Crane of Machias, representing the Washington County Bicentennial Committee, this Joint Resolution is presented to you, Mrs. Crane, on behalf of your fellow downeasterners in appreciation for your hard work in commemorating last June the first naval engagement of the Revolutionary War in all of the 13 Colonies, the famed battle between the *Unity* and the *Margaretta*.

Next, to Mr. Wight Nichols of Wiscasset and Colonel Thornton McGlamery, representing the Arnold Expedition Society, whose responsibility it was to organize and implement the great reenactment of Arnold's march to Quebec last October, not many people realize this, but this reenactment was the greatest single reenactment of an historical nature that has taken place in any state of the United States throughout this bicentennial era, and I can't think of two men who deserve the thanks, the genuine thanks of all of the people of the State of Maine for their extraordinary leadership efforts on behalf of this expedition than these two gentlemen right here.

Last, but certainly not least, to Dr. William McVane, Chairman of the Portland, Maine, Bicentennial Committee, this Joint Resolution is presented to your organization for its program of commemoration of the burning of Falmouth in October of 1775, a distressful and despicable act of retribution on the part of the British upon this town almost a year before the actual Declaration of Independence.

It isn't in the script, but I feel compelled to point out a little known event that occurred. Dr. McVane, I am sure you realize this, but I don't think too many people in Maine do, and there is no reason they should—in 1778, two years from now, we will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of one of the most important events associated with the American Revolution. As you know, the French came to our assistance at that time. Frankly, we were losing the war and most historians think we would have lost the war without the help of the French. We waited with baited breath for two years hoping that this assistance would come through, and when the French made their decision to come to our assistance, the news was brought from France to America and the first indication of it was brought into the Port of Falmouth, which is now Portland, Maine. That, I think, is an event that is often overlooked.

So, Dr. McVane, I am very pleased to present this Resolution to you on behalf of the Commission and in recognition of your committee's work.

Finally, I should like to thank each and every one of you for your support of the Bicentennial Era in Maine. It is through personal contributions such as many of you have made that the Bicentennial in Maine will leave many lasting effects, per-



petuation of many lasting values, for the people of this state. It is without doubt the single-most important, and in terms of scope, the greatest commemoration that this country has ever seen in all of its 200 years.

I have an announcement before closing. I have been asked to announce that the fourth event, we have recognized three here this morning, the 200th anniversary of which occurs in 1979, recognizing the Penobscot Expedition, perhaps I should say fiasco, that took to the bottom of the Penobscot River some 40 vessels in the greatest Naval disaster of the American Revolution, will be commemorated, if you can commemorate such an event, in 1979.

The State Museum has for several months, if not years, been attempting to develop exhibits to visualize what the essence of all of that meant, and on the first floor of the Capitol building today is a marvelous exhibit devoted to that event, and you certainly are all invited to stop by and look at it.

I thank the Legislature with all my heart and, as I say, with profound appreciation for this opportunity which I know comes at a critical time in your deliberations.

**Closing remarks**  
**Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives**  
**John L. Martin**

Today, we are gathered to honor our nation's two hundredth birthday. When the events which we are now celebrating took place, Maine made up a part of the back country of Massachusetts, a position which did not equate the interests of most of the individuals and inhabitants with those of the Boston merchant class.

These back country people occupied settlements that stretched in a wide arc from Maine to the Georgia frontier. The back country colonists were the heart and soul of a new American liberalism. Their interests were not tied economically to the imperial British system as were those of Boston merchants or southern tidewater planters.

By 1775, the year of crisis, these back country people allied with their city counterparts and under the skillful manipulation of Sam Adams and his fellow radicals had pushed the Colonial establishment toward revolution and eventual independence.

The Revolution destroyed the ruling Tory establishment, epitomized by men like Thomas Hutchinson, Royal Governor of Massachusetts. Hutchinson and his peers had prospered under the status quo and others would prosper as well if they were equally honest and diligent. So Hutchinson went his tactless, unintelligent way, attacking every liberal tendency of the times, and hating everyone who gave him trouble.

It was in opposition to this philosophy that radicals like Sam Adams and Tom Paine orchestrated the Revolution. Adams rebelled against every ambition of the ruling order and hated every sort of aristocratic privilege. Privilege had to be swept away and a new democratic order must emerge in its place.

In pursuit of his goal, Adams daily counseled treason and made rebellion his chief occupation. He was not frightened into conformity by the stigma attached to being a rebel but remained an outstanding example in his day of the militant idealist to whom causing unrest was a matter of principle.

No cause goes forward without its leaders, and democratic America owes Samuel Adams a debt which it has all too frequently failed to acknowledge.

The people were the mass of men, that multitude of homespun folk who had always before been mere pawns in the political game.

Adams once said, "Mankind has entered into political societies for the sake of restoring equality and I am apt to think that the government which admits equality to the greatest degree is the best government."

Tom Paine, took Adam's philosophy one step further. Paine developed a very



modern and provocative theory that was quite different from the sacred right of private property which history tells us the Founding Fathers cherished above all else.

"Personal property," said Paine, "is the effect of society and it is as impossible for an individual to acquire personal property without the aid of society as it is for him to create land originally.

"All accumulation of personal property beyond what a man's own hands produce, is derived to him by living in society and he owes on every principles of justice, of gratitude and of civilization a part of that accumulation back to the society from whence it came."

Doesn't it seem strange that two of the most influential political thinkers and leaders of the American Revolution are rarely mentioned among the Founding Fathers of our country? Not so strange when you realize, I suppose, that these men placed equality and freedom above the right to acquire unlimited wealth at the expense of society as a whole.

It wasn't until six years after the close of the Revolution that the men we now honor as the founding fathers redressed the balance in favor of property in the Constitutional Convention.

One of course, might logically conclude that Adams and Paine lost the battle for historical immortality to Washington and Jefferson, but the positions they stood for and the values they believed in are still very much with us and our Constitution.

Equality and freedom can not be separated from economics any more in our day than they could in 1775.

Today more than ever, the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of fewer people and larger corporations threatens that delicate balance that Democracy requires.

To me, the views of Sam Adams and Tom Paine are especially significant for these complex and somewhat confusing times in which we celebrate our nation's bicentennial.

With the belief in liberalism that is at the present time under attack by those who appeal to history and the founding fathers to justify the social, political, and economic imbalances in our society, I am comforted by the knowledge that I as well as others can trace the roots of my political beliefs to the founding fathers.

An appeal to history of course can be tailored by the writer, depending on the sources he chooses to quote and the person he chooses to believe in.

One thing, however, is certain. The ideas of Adams and Paine is as living and vital part of our national heritage as that of Alexander Hamilton and the economic views of Adam Smith.

Since the beginning of our republic government has constantly intervened in our lives to the benefit of some and the detriment of others.

We as the elected representatives of the people must always be aware that whatever we do in the people's name benefits some people more than others.

As long as man exists in civilized society, he must have a method of governing that society. Even no action on the part of government has the effect of benefitting one group more than another.

In making our decisions, we can, in my opinion, take no better advice than that offered by Sam Adams: "That the government which provides equality to the greatest degree is the best government." That, I believe, is what our role in today's society ought to be.





Grants









# BICENTENNIAL PLANNING GRANTS AWARDED    AMOUNT

U. of M. at Augusta	\$ 1,030.
Richmond Historical Society	500.
Portland Museum of Art	800.
Bangor Area NAACP	1,000.
Maine State Museum	2,350.
Maine Public Broadcasting Network	2,400.
Fort Richmond DAR	100.
Lincoln County Cultural & Historical Society	1,500.
Delta Kappa Gamma Society	825.
Town of Brunswick — Committee '76	250.
Town of Boothbay Harbor Bicentennial	250.
Israel Washburn Home	4,200.
Washington County Bicentennial Committee	1,000.
United Society of Shakers	1,200.
Portland Maine Symphony	3,750.
Appleton Historical Society	200.
Penobscot Heritage Museum	775.
Maine League of Historical Societies	2,000.
Maine Old Cemetery Association	1,200.
Manchester Bicentennial Commission	250.
U. of M. at Orono — NEAPQ Center	500.
Arnold Trail Society	7,000.
Centre d' Heritage Franco Americain	1,000.
Bangor Symphony Orchestra	2,860.
Bingham-Moscow Chamber of Commerce	250.
Historic Preservation Commission/Maine State Museum	600.
Poland (Town of Bicentennial Commission)	250.
Sagadahoc Preservation, Inc.	500.
Sagadahoc Survey Research Committee	100.
Wiscasset	1,475.
Bird Professor of History	275.
Fort Western Numsum	1,300.
Old Port Museum	500.

\$42,190.

## MATCHING GRANTS

Recipient	Purpose
1 Colby College	Exhibit of the Architecture of Maine from beginning to the present and preparation of an architectural catalogue. \$12,500.00
2 U. of Maine — Folger Library	Microfilming of census records from 1775-1820. \$500.00
3 Maine State Museum	Survey of historical and fine art collections held by museums and historical societies in Maine. \$3,000.00
4 Maine Federation of Women's Clubs	"Maine Since Statehood" exhibit to be developed in the Maine State Museum. \$2,000.00
5 Portland Museum of Art	Photographing approximately 540 primary materials relating to McLellan research project. \$1,000.00
7 MSARBC	Broad-range programs to create a statewide awareness of the bicentennial. \$24,000.00
8 Lincoln County Hist. & Cultural Society	Production of documentary television programs of Pownalborough Court House, Dresden, Maine and the Revolutionary Era. \$3,460.00
11 Treehouse Players	"Sounds of America" theatre production to tour State of Maine. \$1,500.00
13 Liberty Historical Society	Reproducing and copying maps—copying of excerpts from Liberty Local. \$250.00
17 Me. Dept. of Indian Affairs	A touring exhibit of Historic and Contemporary Native American Tribal Artifacts. \$3,500.00
18 Gray Public Library	To create 2 copies of historically accurate histories of Town of Gray, Maine for use in Library and schools. \$750.00
19 Bowdoin College Museum of Art	Bicentennial exhibition depicting life of James Bowdoin. \$5,000.00
23 Bristol Bicentennial Committee	Celebration of Bristol Heritage and festival day in Bristol, Maine. \$500.00
24 Stoneham, Town of	Funding request to develop and present performances of Ballads over the period of one year. \$1,000.00
29 Maine Bureau of Public Improvements	Creation of mini aboretum at the Maine Cultural Building for educational purposes. \$6,237.00
30 York Bicentennial Committee	Implementation of plans to make York the "Host Community and Gateway to historic Maine" \$3,500.00
36 Town of Frankfort	Movement of monument and landscape of park. \$500.00





41 Notre Heritage Vivant	Establishment of living center of Cultural heritage— an authentic Acadian village representative of Acadian architecture & culture. \$5,000.00
42 United Maine Craftsmen	Funds requested for a special crafts fair in August 1976 depicting Maine crafts of the Colonial Period. \$775.00
44 Dresden Bicentennial Community	Development of Historical Society & Museum in Old Schoolhouse, Historical Flora & Fauna Exhibit. \$2,000.00
45 Greater Portland Landmarks	Historic marker project for Greater Portland area. \$1,250.00
47 Brunswick, Town of	"Brunswick History Comes Alive" program and modification of new museum building at Brunswick. \$5,000.00
48 Kittery, Town of	Community improvement projects geared to Bi- centennial beautification. \$2,500.00
49 Maine Conservation Dept.	Planting of trees around Cultural Building and related nature tours. \$1,000.00
53 Biddeford Hist. & Arch. Society	Landscaping grounds of First Parish Meeting House to aid public accessibility. \$2,500.00
55 Project Balanced Growth	Funding request for TV time on MPBN to present information relating to key issues affecting Maine's future. \$560.00
56 Maine Teachers Association	Funding request to send Maine high school debate teams to the National Bicentennial Youth Debates in Williamsburg, Va. \$652.00
57 Heritage Restored	Efforts aimed at recovery, preservation and docu- mentation of artifacts from Revolutionary War shipwrecks in Maine's Penobscot River. \$15,000.00
61 Portland, City of	Funding request to write and produce a drama commemorating the burning of Falmouth, Maine. \$1,100.00
63 Franklin Bicentennial Comm.	Funding request for projects in celebration of towns sesquicentennial and nation bicentennial. \$1,000.00
64 Delta Kappa Gamma	Funding request to research and catalogue the contributions of ethnic groups to Maine's culture and development as a state. \$500.00
65 Arnold Historical Society	Funds to assist 600 people re-enact Arnold's March to Quebec. \$6,200.00
69 Readfield Bicentennial Committee	Funding for local Bicentennial programs. \$600.00
70 Bangor-Brewer YWCA	Funding to establish a living museum in the Issac Farrar Mansion. \$1,000.00





72 Owl's Head Bicentennial Committee	Funds requested for local Bicentennial projects. \$500.00
79 Bremen Bicentennial Committee	Funding to sponsor planting of liberty tree and the publication of a collection of old photographs. \$550.00
82 Bridgton Bicentennial Committee	Funds requested to sponsor production of a slide show to be shown weekly at community Historical Museum. \$1,500.00
83 Centre d'Heritage Franco-Americain	Funds requested to promote, foster and encourage the appreciation of the contributions of the Franco-Americans to Maine culture. \$2,390.00
85 Washington County Bicen. Committee	Funding request to produce and record radio play "Lexington of the Sea" and to erect a gravestone commemorating Hannah Weston, Patriot, aiding soldiers at the Sea Battle of Machias. \$500.00
87 Dixmont Bicentennial Committee	Funding request to sponsor 3 days of festivities commemorating National Bicentennial and Town's 175th Anniversary. \$500.00
88 Madawaska Bicentennial Committee	Funding request for creation of a Community Bicentennial Park. \$3,500.00
90 Bar Harbor Bicentennial Committee	Funds sought to produce and distribute a community Historic Film of the Bar Harbor Area. \$1,500.00
91 Bangor Bicentennial Committee	Funding request for Homecoming 4th of July 1976 program and other community projects. \$5,000.00
92 Litchfield Bicentennial Committee	Funding request to sponsor an "Old Settler's Day" community project in Litchfield, Me. \$950.00
93 Milford Bicentennial Committee	Funding request to produce photography and artifacts exhibits at community municipal bldg. \$700.00
94 Presque Isle Bicentennial Community	Funding sought to establish community Senior Citizens Park in Presque Isle, Me. \$3,000.00
97 Saco, City of	Funding request to microfilm 6000 historical documents in Dyer Library and York Institute to be made available to general public for research purposes. \$2,500.00
99 Lewiston Bicen. Committee	Funding request to sponsor various community bicentennial projects. \$2,500.00
102 Kennebunk Bicentennial Committee	Funding request to initiate a historical inventory of buildings within selected sections of Kennebunk & Kennebunkport, Me. \$525.00
103 Georgetown Bicentennial Committee	Funding request to sponsor museum's bicentennial projects. \$500.00





# MASONIC TEMPLE SEARSPORT

ANCHOR CHAPTER 132

MAHINER'S LODGE 68

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER



104 Old Town Bicentennial Committee	Funding request to create Historical Museum display depicting the prosperous period of Old Town, Me. \$3,200.00
105 South Portland Bicen. Committee	Funding request to assist S. Portland with various community projects including a Pledge Day presentation and Drum & Bugle Corps Contest. \$2,000.00
106 Howland Bicentennial Committee	Planning and erection of a memorial in Howland Community Town Park. \$500.00
107 Augusta Bicen. Committee	Creation of Historic outdoor mural depicting a panorama of Augusta in the early 1800's; the sponsorship of a community Library program; and an exhibition displaying 200 years of Maine arts & crafts. \$2,000.00
110 Trail Horse Council of Me.	Assistance for Maine Wagon Train to Valley Forge, Pa. \$3,000.00
111 Burlington-Lowell Bicen. Committee	Official marking of ten historic building sites in Burlington-Lowell area. \$500.00
112 Pittsfield Bicentennial Comm.	Refurbishing of Town Library grounds to expose existing Civil War Memorial Statue to passing motorists and Railroad Museum project. \$1,350.00
115 MPBN	Series of educational TV shows to document the heritage of the people of Maine. \$16,500.00
116 WCBB	Production of three nine-minute segments centered around the Revolutionary War Period Pownalborough Courthouse trials. \$6,000.00
117 Old Orchard Beach Bicen. Comm.	Creation of a permanent Avenue of Flags along the Main Street of Old Orchard Beach to provide a commemorative and festive appearance. \$1,000.00
120 City of Portland	Production of the play "Burning of Falmouth" commemorating Captain Mowatt's bombardment of Falmouth, Maine in 1775. \$1,000.00
121 Steuben Sidewalk Society	Erection of memorial honoring Jacob Townsley, a leading citizen of the Steuben area in Colonial times and member of George Washington's staff. \$150.00
122 Orono Bicen. Committee	The recruitment and training of a community Fife & Drum Corps to play at area events during 1976. \$800.00
123 Auburn Bicen. Committee	Sponsorship of two Bicentennial church services at the Penley Corner church of Auburn, Maine, which was built circa 1833 and is the oldest church building in the city. \$500.00







photo by  
Stephen Muskie



- 125 Skowhegan, Town of  
Creation of a downtown memorial park to honor all area patriots who lost their lives in protecting this country.  
\$2,500.00
- 126 Jefferson Bicen. Committee  
Veteran cairn monument to the veterans of all wars; design for town flag contest; and the cost of musical groups to play at various festival activities.  
\$800.00
- 127 Bath Bicentennial Committee  
The sponsorship of numerous Bicentennial activities in Bath, West Bath, Phippsburg, Arrowsic and Woolwich, the five communities making up the Bath Area Bicentennial Committee.  
\$7,000.00
- 128 Standish Bicentennial Committee  
Numerous projects to be centered around the three thematic areas of Heritage, Festival and Horizon and to be conducted in the community "Old Red Church", which has been placed on the National Historic Register.  
\$500.00
- 129 Brewer Bicen. Committee  
Placement of ten permanent bronze historic markers; an arts and crafts fair with band concert and fireworks; and a map for a walking tour of the city's historic interest sites.  
\$2,000.00
- 130 Alna Bicen. Committee  
Furnishing of equipment for a community Colonial Schoolhouse Project.  
\$800.00
- 131 Gov. Committee on the Handicapped  
Production and distribution of Maine Guide for the Handicapped and Elderly Travelers.  
\$1,000.00
- 132 Nat'l Fed. of Music Clubs  
Bicentennial Salute to the States Program Maine Day Concert at the J.F. Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.  
\$1,000.00
- 133 Moosehead Bicen. Committee  
Refurbishing of Village green in center of Town and placement of Historic markers at focal points of interest in the Greenville, Maine area.  
\$4,000.00
- 134 Dover-Foxcroft Bicen. Committee  
Construction and operation of replica of the steamboat "Rippling Wave" at the Sebec Lake in Dover-Foxcroft.  
\$2,000.00
- 135 Holden Bicen. Committee  
Holden community museum and park projects.  
\$1,000.00
- 137 Washington Bicen. Committee  
Sponsorship of Community Crafts Fair.  
\$500.00
- 139 Fayette Bicen. Committee  
Provision of security, publicity and landscaping for the recently renovated Town Meeting House in Fayette, Maine.  
\$900.00
- 140 Lee Bicen. Committee  
Sponsorship of community Historical exhibit and museum project.  
\$800.00



**BICENTENNIAL  
WAGON TRAIN  
MAINE WAGON**

**AUGUSTA, ME. - VALLEY FORGE  
MAY 11 TO JULY 4, 1976**

141 Southport Bicen. Committee	Erection of veterans' monument on the ground of the memorial library and staging of an historical exhibit at town hall with arts, crafts & hobby show. \$500.00
142 Carroll Bicen. Committee	Old home family reunion, "Old Home Sunday", at Carroll Plantation, Maine and restoration and upkeep of community graveyard grounds. \$150.00
143 Windham Bicen. Committee	Creation of a colonial community park and renovation of old town Quaker Cemetery in North Windham, Maine. \$800.00
144 Sedgwick Bicen. Committee	Production of community map, circa 1789, as historical and educational adjunct to town history and renovation of grounds of first community meeting house built in 1794. \$300.00
147 Whitefield Bicen. Committee	Presentation of three day heritage festival featuring artifacts, crafts, skills, games and prizes in Whitefield, Me. \$300.00
153 City of Portland	Historical research into Black involvement with the American Zion church and the cataloging of old paintings and photographs, previously stored in the attic of Portland City Hall. \$4,200.00
154 Veazie Bicen. Committee	Sponsorship of "Veazie in the Past" photography show; historical sites marking project; and display of historical photos and artifacts. \$500.00
155 Caribou Bicen. Committee	Renovation of town livery stable for use in conjunction with various community bicentennial exhibits throughout 1976. \$750.00
156 Jay Bicentennial Comm.	Maine Pulp & Paper Days 1976 festival; historical display at the Holmes-Crafts Homestead; and a second historical display at the local community library. \$1,000.00
157 St. Francis Bicen. Comm.	Production of a dramatic presentation of old time crafts and a play by local students with the help of senior citizens. \$800.00
158 E. Machias Historical Society	Sponsorship of community sesqui-centennial and bicentennial projects including a special town meeting and memorial park project. \$800.00
160 S. Berwick Bicentennial Comm.	Development of village community green. \$2,000.00
161 Otisfield, Town of	Microfilming of historical documents project; renovation of Spurr Family Monument; promotion of historical bicentennial exhibit; and July 25, 1976 bicentennial ceremonies. \$700.00

162 Freeport Bicentennial Comm.	Restoration of town park and cemetery; educational & school projects; marking of historical homes; and Bicentennial July 4 Bicentennial Ball & Parade. \$1,000.00
163 Farmington Bicen. Committee	Senior citizen Bicentennial Parade, dedication of new town Municipal Building and placement of flower beds near community recreational areas. \$800.00
164 Topsham Bicen. Committee	Sponsorship of Topsham, Maine local and County Bicentennial Ball and Beauty Pageant. \$1,500.00
167 Mt. Vernon Bicen. Committee	Sponsorship of numerous Bicentennial projects in Mt. Vernon, Maine including historical slide show, a cemetery restoration project, a tree planting project and a school creative writing project. \$800.00
168 Canton Bicen. Committee	Projects include the refurbishing of the old Canton Universalist Church for use as a community museum; the sponsorship of a Canton Festival Week; and a project to beautify the Town Village Square. \$500.00
170 Vassalboro Bicen. Committee	Project to photographically document all community buildings; mark all unmarked community veteran graves; and organize a ten day "Old Home Week." \$450.00
171 Naples Bicen. Committee	Community Bicentennial projects including cemeteries' beautification, July 4 fireworks display, showing of historic film, and Bicentennial flower garden and Historic Homes Open House. \$800.00
172 Rangeley Lakes Bicen. Committee	Sponsorship of "Bicentennial Summer Festival," an annual event for residents and tourists. \$650.00
173 Farmington Historical Society	Establishment of Historical display and community museum at the Farmington Falls Union Meeting House built in 1826. \$500.00
174 Wells-Ogunquit Bicen. Committee	Remodeling of Old Schoolhouse #9 for use as community museum and cultural center. \$900.00
175 Stockton Springs Bicen. Committee	Funding request for a community cemetery restoration project. \$200.00
176 Westbrook Bicen. Comm.	Funding to construct a monument in the community's Bicentennial Park, and a display case to house historical documents and books of the Revolutionary War era. \$1,500.00
177 Upper Kennebec Valley Bicen. Comm.	Project to commemorate the nation's last river log drive. \$1,200.00
178 Dexter Bicen. Committee	Funding "Three Days of Festival" celebrating the Bicentennial, the 175th anniversary of the town. \$500.00









179 Springvale-Sanford Bicen. Comm.	Funding for exhibit detailing community growth; production of traveling stage show for educational purposes; construction of honor roll; presentation of historical film; and July 4th community celebration. \$2,500.00
181 Warren Bicen. Comm.	Funding request for marking historical sites built between 1785-1824, and construction of a weather-vane honoring the alewife. \$200.00
182 Lincoln Bicen. Committee	Request to fund a Bicentennial Observance Week (July 11-17, 1976) \$800.00
183 Falmouth Bicen. Committee	Funding request for "Community Festivities Days". \$800.00
184 Waterville Bicen. Comm.	Funds to film historical re-enactment event:— and Arnold's March from Saratoga to Montreal; the acquiring of art reproductions from 1775-1975; and production of G.B. Shaw's "The Devil's Disciple." \$1,560.00
185 Somerville Bicen. Comm.	Renovating two community memorials honoring town War Veterans. \$100.00
188 Newport Bicen. Comm.	Funds requested for Bicentennial Community project. \$1,000.00
190 Bicen. Youth Debates	Sponsorship of local debater in national competition. \$750.00
191 New Gloucester Bicen. Comm.	Funds for 3 community projects:—recording of oral history of town; cataloguing historic documents; and beautification of bicentennial park. \$600.00
192 Corinna Bicen. Committee	Grant requested to fund "Old Home Day" (August 21, 1976) \$500.00
193 Thomaston Bicen. Committee	Funds requested to sponsor a weekend bicentennial celebration. \$500.00
194 Harvey Gamage "Op Sail '76"	Sponsorship of 32 Maine children to sail on the Harvey Gamage as part of Op. Sail '76. \$2,000.00
195 Maine Publicity Bureau	Funding of Bicen. exhibits at Kittery Information Center, Kittery, Maine. \$15,000.00
196 MPBN-Harvey Gamage Film	Sponsorship of public broadcasting film on ship-building and Maine sea life. \$12,500.00
197 Maine League of Hist. Societies	Guidebook to Historical Sites in Maine. \$2,100.00
198 Maine Old Cemeteries Assoc.	Computerization of information relating to burial sites of Rev. War veterans in Maine. \$1,000.00

199 Me. State Museum	Funding to aid Me. State Museum in implementation of project "Heritage Restored". \$5,300.00
200 Me. State Library	Implementation of travelling show of professional performers for grade school students to make stories and poems "come alive". \$3,900.00
201 Maine Library Association/ Maine State Library	Publication of bibliography of the State of Maine from 1960-1975. \$500.00
202 Bowdoin College Museum of Art	Production and sale of 8 panel display cubes denoting historical sites and cultural centers throughout Maine. \$2,700.00
203 Harvey Gamage Op Sail '76	Room and board for 32 delegates aboard Harvey Gamage \$1,000.00
204 Maine Bureau of Public Improvements	Phase II mini arboretum at Cultural building grounds in Augusta. \$1,000.00
205 MSARBC	Final Report—on Commission's activities. \$4,040.00
206 MTA Bicen. Youth Debates	Funding for 2 years of Me. State Youth Debates. \$2,350.00
207 Maine Commission on Women	Funding for booklet on Women. \$1,000.00

## COMMISSION PROJECTS

1080 Youth Project	Maine State ARBC Youth Program \$15,000.00
1030 Grassroots '76	Program to involve Maine towns in Bicen. community projects of ARBA, and to encourage industry and statewide labor organizations to sponsor Bicentennial events. \$7,000.00
1070 Publications Program '75	Publications program Phase I \$13,350.00
1070 Publications Program '76	Publications program Phase II \$8,500.00
2538 Celebration '76	Funds to retain Foster & Associates of Gardiner, Me. to represent the MSARBC in public relations for 1976. \$7,500.00
1070A Publications—Me. League of Historical Societies	Publications of Guide to Historic Sites in Maine. \$1,450.00



# Financial Report



**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**July 1972 — December 1976**

**Income:**

Federal Funds for Administration	\$180,584.62
Federal Funds for Grants	346,849.00
State Funds—Contingency Account, Governor and Council	19,500.00
License Plates	13,595.05
Commemorative Medals	36,041.06
Commemorative Bottles	68,339.90
Donation	50.00

**Total Income**

**\$664,959.63**

**Disbursements:**

Administrative Services:	
Salaries	98,837.58
Fringe Benefits	11,292.19
Postage	6,841.75
Office Supplies	2,368.85
Office Equipment	1,873.02
Travel & Commission Meeting Expenses	39,559.71
Miscellaneous Operating Expense	5,801.50
Telephone	7,043.33
Professional Fees	14,188.03
Printing	16,291.06
Contractual Services	39,965.15

**244,062.17**

Grants to Communities & Commissions:

State Funded Grants	12,600.00
Planning Grants	42,540.00
Federally Funded Grants	346,849.00

**401,989.00**

Purchase of Commemorative Coins	16,854.18
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**Total Disbursements:**

**\$662,905.35**

**Balance**

**2,054.28**



The Commission would like to thank  
the many people who contributed  
to this final report . . .

Designed by Everett Foster, Foster & Associates  
Illustrated by Paul Plumer, Jr.  
Staff photos by John Sidelinger  
Printed by J.S. McCarthy Co.



