

WESTPORT ISLAND

History Trail

~a driving tour
through the island's history.

1772 Map by George Sproule
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The Westport Island History Committee, with support from the Maine Bicentennial Commission, presents a self-guided tour of ten significant sites of historic and scenic interest.

Westport Island, formerly called Jeremisquam, was purchased from the Native American Abenaki tribe in the mid-17th century and permanently settled by Europeans starting in the mid-18th century. This was a land of farmers, fishermen, lumbermen, shipbuilders, and traders. Traces of these early occupations can readily be seen today.

Westport Island History Trail Interpretive Signs

To celebrate the Maine 200 Bicentennial, we invite you to learn about the island's history through interpretative signs located at each of these sites along an approximately 20-mile loop around the island, as indicated on the map on the back. The signs can be found at:

- 1 **Ferry Landing and Island Transportation.** 38 Ferry Road.
- 2 **Squire Tarbox Inn.** 1181 Main Road.
- 3 **Westport Community Church.** 1211 Main Road.
- 4 **Westport Town Hall.** 1217 Main Road.
- 5 **Hodgdon Mill.** On East Shore Road, west of Kehail Point Road and north of the bridge.
- 6 **Heal's Lower Mill.** Near Bonyon Preserve's Junction Trail crossing at Junction Road.
- 7 **Heal's Upper Mill.** On West Shore Road, west of Post Office Rd., just east of the causeway.
- 8 **Dunton Family Settlements.** West Shore Road at the Segerstrom Preserve trail head.
- 9 **North End Chapel.** Westport Baptist Church, 251 Main Road.
- 10 **Clough Point Settlements.** North End Road at the kiosk for Clough Point Preserve.

The Westport Island History Trail interpretive signs have been made possible by a grant from the Maine Bicentennial Commission, along with the volunteer efforts of the Westport Island History Committee.

The **Westport Island History Committee** and the non-profit **Friends of Westport Island History (Friends)** work together to pursue, preserve, and promote the island's proud history and rich cultural heritage. The town-appointed History Committee oversees, collects, preserves, and stores the Town's historical documents and artifacts. To further the collection and preservation of Westport Island's history, the *Friends* conducts fundraising events, acquires documents and artifacts, provides educational programs, supports research, and disseminates information about Westport Island history-related activities.



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Driving Directions to Interpretive Signs

- ▶ To begin the tour, take Route 144 South, cross the Westport Bridge onto Westport Island. Drive 1.3 miles to Ferry Road. Turn right and continue to end. **1 Ferry Landing** interpretive sign is to the right of the boat ramp.
- ▶ Return to Main Road. Turn right and continue for 4.2 miles. **2 Squire Tarbox Inn** interpretive sign is in front of the inn (1181 Main Road).
- ▶ Continue south on Main Road 0.1 miles to **3 Westport Community Church** (1211 Main Road) and **4 Westport Town Hall** (1217 Main Road). Interpretive signs are between the church and the Town Hall.
- ▶ Continue south on Main Road for 0.3 miles. Turn left onto East Shore Road. Drive for 1.5 miles. **5 Hodgdon Mill** interpretive sign is on the left, just after the bridge.
- ▶ Continue on East Shore Road for .5 miles. Turn left on Main Road and drive .4 mile. Turn right onto West Shore Road. Continue .4 miles and turn left into Bonyon Preserve parking area. Hike .5 miles to Mill Cove overlook on Junction Trail. **6 Heal's Lower Mill** interpretive sign is on the right.
- ▶ Continue on West Shore Road and drive 1.3 miles. **7 Heal's Upper Mill** interpretive sign is on the left just before the causeway.
- ▶ Continue on West Shore Road for 1.4 miles to the parking area of Carl and Barbara Segerstrom Preserve. **8 Dunton Family Settlements** interpretive sign is on your left at the trail entrance.
- ▶ Continue on West Shore Road for 0.5 miles. Turn left on Main Rd. Drive 4.3 miles to **9 North End Chapel** (Westport Baptist Church). The interpretive sign is to the right of the church (251 Main Road).
- ▶ Continue north on Main Road .9 miles. Turn right on North End Road. Continue 1.4 miles to Clough Point Preserve. **10 Clough Point Settlements** interpretive signs are to the left of the parking area next to the kiosk.
- ▶ To exit Westport Island, retrace your route on North End Road for .7 miles, and turn right at Lord Road. In .5 miles, turn right on Route 144.

Note: A QR code appears on each interpretive sign. Scan it with your cell phone to read more of the history of each site.

