

Turn right on Pleasant Hill Road and stop at the top of the hill by the site of the Graves School Park. This is the neighborhood of Presumpscot Falls-now Pleasant Hill.

23. GRAVES SCHOOL (ABOUT 64 Pleasant Hill Rd.): The original brick school was constructed of bricks made along the Presumpscot river- and called the Presumpscot School. It was replaced with a wooden building named after Crispis Graves who was so impressed with the politeness of the children that he willed money to the school upon his death. This school was discontinued in 1947 and closed in 1975. It is now a private residence.



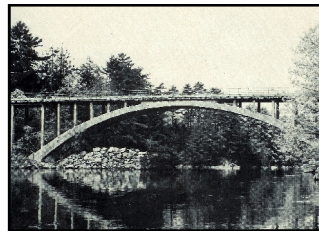
24. UNION CHAPEL (70 Pleasant Hill Rd.): Built in 1878, it was paid for by the community as a gathering place for the area. The chapel held services into the 1940's and in 1977 was sold as a private residence.

Turn left onto Allen Avenue Extension.

25. UNION HALL/PLEASANT HILL FIRE STATION (ALLEN AVE. EXT.): The hall was built in 1800 as a dance hall because the nearby Chapel did not allow alcohol at any social functions. It also served as a fire station from 1923-2009. Teenagers in the area used it as headquarters for their "hi-fi club" during the mid 1950's-1960's and held dances there monthly.

From the Fire Station Parking Lot, turn left onto Allen Avenue Extension

26. PRESUMPCOT RIVER BRIDGE (ABOUT 88-90 ALLEN AVE. EXT.): The first crossings of the river at this point were by ferry. The first bridge was built in 1728. Since then, six bridges have been built—four of them were covered and the last one, built in 1911, was built 20 feet higher than the others had been. It was the longest single-span concrete bridge in Maine.



27. SMELT HILL POWER STATION & DAM (SEEN TO THE WEST FROM THE BRIDGE):

In the 1600-1700's there was an Indian Village at the site of these falls, which afforded a great view up and down the river. The first dam built here was in 1735 and may have been the first built in Maine. The dam built in 1889 by SD Warren mill in Westbrook was to power their mill, but it had a problem with ice in the winter and was finally shut down. The station and dam were removed in 2001.



28. PRESUMPCOT RIVER PARK (ABOUT 92-97 ALLEN AVE. EXT.):

Stop and see the mill wheels used in the mills along the river.

29. JAMES MERRILL HOUSE (141 Falmouth Rd.): Located at the intersection of Falmouth Rd and Allen Ave. Ext. this is one of the houses built by James Merrill in 1760 for his children. **ACROSS THE STREET IN THE WOODS-ON THE RIGHT** there is a cemetery that we suspect holds the remains of many early settlers in the area, including James Merrill who died in 1805.

30. MCGREGOR CEMETERY (ABOUT 96 Falmouth Rd.): This cemetery is named for Rev. David McGregor. It was on the site of his farm. He also built the Oak Grove Academy which was across the street.



31. FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (65 Falmouth Rd.): This is the site where the church was built in about 1841. It was razed in the 1940's and the congregation joined the congregation at the Third Congregational Church on Falmouth Rd—next to the present Town Hall.

32. FALMOUTH CORNER CHAPEL (21 Falmouth Rd.): Built about 1804, it was used for plays, singing schools, dinners, fairs, and club meetings, as well as winter services so the larger church didn't have to be heated. Rev. Charles Dame was one of the most beloved ministers of the First Parish. The hill these two churches was on was called Chapel Hill. When they stopped using the church in the 1930-40's, it was sold and moved to Freeman Township, Maine for a camp.

SOURCES:

E Pluribus Unum – A story of Falmouth, Maine by Charlotte & Don Wallace
Images of America- Falmouth by The Falmouth Historical Society

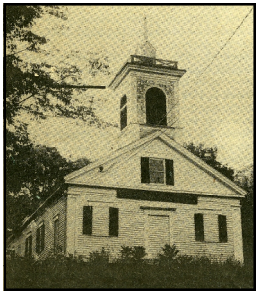


FALMOUTH HISTORIC SITES TOUR (EAST SIDE)

Courtesy of Falmouth Historical Society & Falmouth Parks and Community Programs

Beginning from the Mason-Motz Activity Center on Middle Road, head northeast on Middle Road/State Route 9.

1. OAK GROVE ACADEMY (ABOUT 216 Middle Rd.): This building was built in 1833 by Rev. David McGregor and originally located on his farm on Falmouth Rd. Children paid a tuition to attend school here. The building was moved to its present location by oxen. In the early 1900's it was abandoned and taken over by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. It is now private residence.



2. D W LUNT SCHOOL (ABOUT 224 Middle Rd.): This was the first D W Lunt School and was built in 1867.

3. BUCKNAM TAVERN (258 Middle Rd):

Built in 1776 by Samuel Bucknam, it was a tavern on the Kings Highway

between Portsmouth, NH and Bangor, ME. A member of the family living out of state still owns the property.



4. EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH (265 Middle Rd.): This church was organized in 1893 by Danish immigrants. It still is the religious home of many descendants of those immigrants.

Continue on Middle Rd to Johnson Rd and turn right. Stay on Johnson Rd until you reach Foreside Rd. Turn left on Foreside Road.



5. FORESIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH (340 Foreside Rd.): This church was built in 1811. One half the building is in Cumberland and the other half in Falmouth. Residents of each town sat on their own side of the building. It was

first a Methodist church and now a Congregational church. The cemetery holds many of the original settlers of this area including many sea captains.

Turn left out of the church lot.

6. UNDERWOOD SPRINGS CASINO & TROLLEY PARK (ABOUT 299 Foreside Rd): This was a destination for the trolley from Portland. It was

named for Captain Joseph Underwood who was in Falmouth in 1790. It was opened in July of 1899 as a casino and theater. Use declined after the casino burned down in August of 1907. There was also a water bottling plant at this location.

7. TOWN LANDING MARKET (269 Foreside Rd.): This was built about 1880 and still serves the community.

8. CASCO HALL (ABOUT 264 Foreside Rd.): This building was located at the head of Ramsdell Road. It was built about 1870 and was torn down in the 1960's. It was the headquarters for the Redmen's fraternal organization and also used for social events.

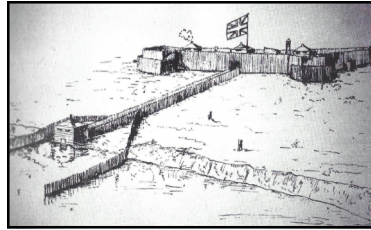
9. PORTLAND YACHT CLUB (217 Foreside Rd.): Organized in 1869, it is the third-oldest continuously operating yacht club in the US.

10. DOW & HODGDON STORE (205 Foreside Rd.): This store was a landmark neighborhood store for 75 years. Several years ago the building was moved to the back of the lot and used for storage.



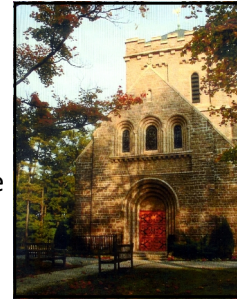
11. MILL CREEK (ABOUT 38-39 Foreside Rd.): This creek drains into Casco Bay at Mussel Cove and was a mill site as early as 1710.

12. SKILLINS CORNER (89 Foreside Rd.): Charles and Alexander Skillin started this greenhouse in 1885. It is still run by the Skillin family, making it one of the oldest businesses in Falmouth.



13. FORT NEW CASCO (ABOUT 41 Foreside Rd.): About 1700 a new fort was built after the destruction of Fort Loyal on Falmouth Neck (Portland) in 1690. This fort's exact location is not known, but thought to be somewhere between the current Portland Country Club and more likely Menekoe Point, off Waites Landing Road.

14. ST. MARY'S CHURCH (41 Foreside Rd.): Built in 1890 by Civil War General and Portland banker, John Marshall, as a memorial to his 19 year old daughter, Alida, who died on a visit to Switzerland. On part of his summer estate, Thornhurst Farm, he ran Thornhurst Dairy which delivered to the area.



15. PINE GROVE CEMETERY (33 Foreside Rd.): Some of Falmouth's founding residents lie here.



16. PINE GROVE SCHOOL (32 Foreside Rd.): The first school was built in 1809. That building burned in 1916 and the present structure was built. The public school closed in 1978 and now is a private school. There is a sign here about the first fort.

At the intersection of Route One, turn right and proceed to Lunt Rd.-turning left here.

17 CORNER OF LUNT/DEPOT ROADS: The current library building was purchased by the Town of Falmouth from the family of Laura (Jensen) Iverson in 1961. On Depot Rd, across from the library is the American Legion hall chartered in 1947 and, as of 2015, a new memorial dedicated to all Falmouth war veterans. Originally Depot Rd. continued through what is now Route 295 and curved right to come out at Bucknam Rd. At that end of the road was the train depot.



Turn left onto Farmgate Road

18. CORNER OF FARMGATE RD.-TO THE RIGHT (ABOUT 25 LUNT RD): This was the site of the first Meetinghouse built about 1754 so people didn't have to go to Portland by boat to worship. Also this whole area was sold by Silas Merrill to Daniel Lunt for his farm. The white house on the right corner of Farm Gate Rd was rebuilt after a fire to Daniel's farmhouse in the 1940's.



19. TIDEWATER FARM (ABOUT 32 Farm Gate Rd.) The farmhouse was built about 1750 by Silas Merrill. This whole area was the center of ship-building and other industry on Squiterygusset and it was a vantage point to watch for attacking parties by water. The waterway was a deep port at that time.

Return to Lunt Road, turn left to Middle Road and turn left.

20. PLUMMER SCHOOL (192 Middle Rd.): This is the town's first free high school and opened in 1931. It became an elementary school when a new high school was built in 1956. The 2nd D W Lunt School (74) Lunt Rd.), behind the Plummer School was opened in 1941 as a second elementary school and they were both closed in June, 2011 when a new elementary school was opened on Woodville Road.

21. WHIPPLE FARM HOUSE (ABOUT 180 Middle Rd.): This farmhouse was built in 1756 by Joshua Merrill, then owned by the Pettengill and Whipple families. It is now part of the OceanView complex with a physical address of 2 Homestead Lane.



22. STAPLES POINT BRIDGE (ABOUT 125 Middle Rd.): Originally built in 1821 as a wooden drawbridge, it was replaced in 1837 with no draw on it. In 1893 it was burned by sparks from the nearby train and rebuilt the next year with iron instead of wood and raised six feet above the old bridge.