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Contact: Tracy Baetz, 207-985-4802  
info@brickstoremuseum.org

### **VINTAGE POSTCARD EXHIBITION NOW ON VIEW AT BRICK STORE MUSEUM**

KENNEBUNK, MAINE – Greetings of “wish you were here” await each visitor to the Brick Store Museum’s new exhibition, *Mailed from Maine: Vintage Postcards of the Kennebunks*. Open through early 2010, the show invites visitors to step back in time and visit the Kennebunks as seen through more than one hundred postcards selected from the museum’s permanent collections.

Postcards can commemorate a holiday or event, memorialize a location, or capture a moment in history and always deliver the message of “wish you were here.” Postcards in the exhibition celebrate the towns of Kennebunk and Kennebunkport, representing all aspects of these communities, from their landmark hotels, to scenic views of the beach, to sights that have since disappeared.

To emulate the energy of the era, guests are surrounded by several large-format prints of vibrant postcards and the sounds of swing music. A colorful timeline illustrating the development of postcards welcomes guests to the exhibition, offering tips on dating postcards by the details. An interactive game challenges visitors to test their knowledge of postcard history. With the message on the back of a postcard often just as interesting as the picture on the front, guests are invited to look at dozens of hand-written postcard messages from the early 1900s and compare this historical form of “quick” communication with today’s Twitter community. Visitors even get an up-close look at several fascinating early twentieth-century cameras that produced the kinds of postcards on display.

Finally, exhibition-goers learn about postcard collecting as a hobby and appreciate how the tradition of sending a postcard while on vacation has lasted throughout the century, linking generations to this simple custom. As visitors depart the exhibition, they are encouraged to create and mail their own postcards to best describe the present community, thus carrying on the tradition of reflecting this area’s history through its postcards.

This exhibition is made possible by the Museum’s proud business partner, Ocean Bank.

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*The Brick Store Museum is located at 117 Main Street in Kennebunk’s historic district. For more than 70 years, the Museum has been dedicated to preserving and exhibiting the region’s rich cultural and artistic heritage. Its galleries and research archives are open to the public year-round: Tuesdays – Fridays, 10 – 4:30 and Saturdays, 10 – 1 (closed holidays). Admission is by donation, suggested \$5 per person. Visit [www.brickstoremuseum.org](http://www.brickstoremuseum.org) or call 207-985-4802 for further information.*

117 Main Street ♦ Kennebunk, Maine 04043  
207.985.4802 ♦ 207.985.6887 Fax  
[www.brickstoremuseum.org](http://www.brickstoremuseum.org)