



BRICK STORE MUSEUM

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Randi Charland
207.985.4802

BRICK STORE MUSEUM OFFERS PORTSMOUTH TRIP

KENNEBUNK – The Brick Store Museum is offering an educational and cultural bus trip to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on Friday, May 21, to visit the Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion and the Rundlet-May House.

The Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion is run by the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation and was originally home to Benning Wentworth, New Hampshire's first royal governor appointed by King George II in 1741. Located on the Portsmouth-Rye border, the mansion was originally part of a 100-acre estate and has a stunning overlook of Little Harbor. A one-hour guided walking tour through the mansion will inform visitors about daily life in the 1700s and five distinct architectural periods. Guests may also stroll among the lilacs to the former carriage house, where the mansion's first exhibition of the summer will feature artwork depicting Maine and New Hampshire's salt marshes.

Lunch is at the Metro Restaurant in Portsmouth's charming downtown. Guests pay for their own meals and will have time to browse the surrounding boutiques and studios. The next stop is the Rundlet-May House. This well-appointed estate is one of 35 properties maintained by The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (SPNEA). The 1807 mansion belonged to one of Portsmouth's most illustrious citizens, merchant James Rundlet. The estate boasted among the finest imports, textiles and technologies of its time and is a favorite today of tourists and architecture students alike. Seventy-five percent of the furnishings are original to the home. Guests will be treated to a guided tour and an opportunity to view the formal gardens, orchard and outbuildings.

The cost of the trip includes transportation and admission fees to the two estates and is \$30 for museum members and \$40 for non-members. Reservations and full payment are required by May 7. Make checks payable to *The Brick Store Museum* and remit to The Brick Store Museum, 117 Main Street, Kennebunk, ME 04043, Attn: Portsmouth Trip. Slots are filling quickly, so please register soon. The trip will depart from The Brick Store Museum at 10:30 a.m. and return by 4:15 p.m. For questions, contact Randi Charland at the Museum: 207.985.4802.

The Brick Store Museum is located at 117 Main Street in Kennebunk's historic district. The museum is dedicated to preserving and exhibiting the region's rich cultural heritage. Its galleries and research archives are open to the public year-round: Tuesdays – Fridays, 10 – 4:30 and Saturdays, 10 – 1. Admission is by donation. Visit www.brickstoremuseum.org or call 207.985.4802 for further information.

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117 Main Street ♦ Kennebunk, Maine 04043

207.985.4802 ♦ 207.985.6887 Fax

www.brickstoremuseum.org