



Town of Eddington · February 22, 1811

# EDDINGTON

## *Historical Society*

# NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2026

## CELEBRATING 215 YEARS

*The 215th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Eddington*

The Town of Eddington 1811 incorporation was celebrated on February 21, 2026 at the Eddington Town Office meeting room. In "Jerome's Kitchen", stories were told about the way it was in the 1850s to 1911. The skit included ice block cutting on the Penobscot River, the Airline Stagecoach mail delivery, Eddington's Centennial, Hunting and Fishing in the great Maine woods and children's games of yesteryear. Everyone celebrated with cake, ice cream and a time to view the historical displays. The following are pictures from the play and two photos showing display items.

In 1857 George Spratt of Calais, Maine got the mail contract to drive the mail stage. It would be a one day trip to Bangor, Maine. He left Calais about 5pm and was in Bangor the next day at about 9am. The Airline is a 90-mile stretch of road running through the forest between the Penobscot River in Bangor and the St. Croix River in Calais. The first trip of the Airline stagecoach carried one person and 15 pounds of mail.



Background information for the skit obtained from: *History of Eddington* by Oliver Harrison; notes from Elijah Comins; *The Airline Road* by John Dudley and *Bangor Daily Commercial* newspaper 1911.

In 1860 the *New York City News* carried this woodcut of the Airline stagecoach pulled by four horses with wolves attacking it. They were trying to discourage passengers from riding this dangerous stagecoach route. However, it encouraged people to take a more adventurous ride.



The skit "Welcome to Jerome's Kitchen" was presented by Eddington neighbors who represented the Comins Family. **Tyler Walker** as Jerome; **David Peppard** as Elijah; **Angie Stearns** as Ella; **Orion Ellsworth** as Grover; **Dave Johnson** as Frank; **Audrey Stearns** as Alma and **Arthur Stearns** as Ernest. Thank-you to everyone who participated in the skit. It was a great performance!

By 1887 the Airline Stagecoach ceased operation when faster and cheaper steamships operated to carry mail. In 1899 the Washington County Railroad got the mail contract with even faster and more reliable delivery service.

The Comins Farm ice saw and ice tongs used to cut blocks of ice that were delivered to area stores in a Pung drawn by horses.







**DECEMBER 15, 2025**

Through the Wreaths Across America program, we are ensuring that the lives of our men and women in uniform are remembered. It is our responsibility as Americans, to be their witness and to share their stories of service and sacrifice with the next generation.

The Eddington Wreaths Across America ceremony was held 12 noon on December 15, 2025 at the Eddington Veteran's Monument by the Eddington Town Office. The Worcester Wreath Co. provided the wreaths for the town. We honor all branches of service including POW/MIA, Police and Fire personnel. Veteran volunteers attached an American flag and

service flag to every wreath presented at the ceremony and displayed at Eddington's five cemeteries. The Marine Corps League Greater Bangor Area Detachment 1151 presented the colors at the ceremony. Master of Ceremony was Dave Johnson. Pastor Eric Mitchell offered prayer for Veterans and citizens in America. In the cold silence of the day, Angie Stearns sang our National Anthem and American Heritage Girls Troop #316 and Boy Scout Troop 1 recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The Veterans placing wreaths this year were Donald MacKenzie, Chris Gray, Michael Dougherty, Richard Tuck, Matt Morneault,

Louie Dougherty, Cari Page, Kristen Russell and Sam Maquillan. Thank you for your dedication and service. Jim Goodness played "Taps" to close the ceremony.

The Boy Scouts Troop#1 with guidance of Assistant Scout Master Tim Seymore placed the wreaths on stands at Jonathan Eddy and Riverside Cemeteries. Other volunteers placed the wreaths at Meadowbrook, Pine Tree and the old settler's cemetery.

Thank-you to Denise Knowles for making the arrangements for this event. Thank-you to the Veterans who participated in the ceremony.

*Veterans placing wreaths:*

*Donald MacKenzie, Chris Gray, Michael Dougherty, Richard Tuck, Matt Morneault, Louie Dougherty, Cari Page, Kristen Russell and Sam Maquillan.*



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## HISTORICAL DATE LINE OF EDDINGTON

Governor Pownal of Massachusetts took possession of this area for the Crown. He buried a lead plate proclaiming all eastern Maine as a part of the Providence of Massachusetts Bay. A flagstaff was erected and the king's colors hoisted and saluted.

Col. Jonathan Eddy, a native of Massachusetts, and nineteen of his associates were given 9000 acres of land for their outstanding service in the war. A stipulation accompanied the grant that it must be settled within two years.

Captain Samuel Davis and company from Charlton, Massachusetts came on horseback to settle near the eastern part of the Eddy grant. Their first shelter was a log hut built on the hill overlooking the beautiful lake that was later named for Mr. Davis.

The War with England broke out in 1812 and a company of militia was formed in Eddington and took part in the "Battle of Hampden." The Eddington men all arrived home safely after seeing eight vessels burned or taken by the British.

The settlement in Jarvis Gore was looking for a more efficient government. They petitioned the Legislature for annexation to Eddington, which was granted in 1823.

The Methodist church was built near the Brewer-Eddington town line. This church serves the Eddington and North Brewer communities.

The span of a century has seen a rise in many industries in the town of Eddington. Many businesses depended on the supply of timber and a source of water power. There were manufacturers of barrel heads, staves, clothespins, furniture, spools and shingles along with axes, scythes, flour and a brickyard.

The Farmer's Club formed in East Eddington disbanded and formed this new organization. The Public Hall is available for town meetings, elections and community group meetings. An addition was added to the hall and a bandstand built.

1758

1780

The first settlers of Eddington came to build their homes on the banks of the Penobscot at Eddington Bend.

1785

1787

Col. Eddy and his associates built homes and became very influential in civic affairs and public office. They constructed a road from the north line of Eddington to the old Morrison wharf at Penobscot.

1800

1811

Plantation #10 was incorporated as a town on February 22, 1811. It was given the name Eddy Town but was entered on official records of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as Eddington.

1812-1814

1816

The first school was built at Eddington Bend. The first school cost the total sum of \$150. This was known as the coldest year with snow or frost every month of the year. This resulted in severe hardship for all inhabitants and near starvation for many.

1823

1832

The first church was built in town at the top of the hill near the Penobscot River and beside the old burying ground where Col. Jonathan Eddy as laid to rest. The building was later called the Pine Tree Hall and used by the town for meetings and voting. The building burnt down and was never rebuilt.

1848

1820-1920

1857

The "Airline Route" for mail and passenger stage was opened, extending from Bangor to Calais. The route passes through the entire length of the town. It was a much shorter and quicker route for mail service. Eddington became a changing point for horses and drivers. The establishment of a well-used route of travel through town increased business and popularity at the Billington tavern and hotel, a well known eating place.

1900

1860-1865

One hundred and eight men from Eddington were in service on the battlefields of the Civil War. Nineteen men gave their lives while many others suffered wounds.

1911

Eddington's Centennial Celebration was held at the Public Hall.

# EDDINGTON

## *Historical Society*

Eddington Town Office  
906 Main Road • Eddington, ME 04428



*Town of Eddington · February 22, 1811*

### JOIN THE EDDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

Our members are the backbone of our town, preserving history and supporting events. We meet at the Town Office on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 1 p.m. – join us!

## *Eddington Historical Society* UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2026

### PIE SALES

\$20 per pie

Eddington Town Office  
Meeting Room

4:00 pm to 5:30 pm

- Friday, May 8
- Friday, June 5
- Friday, July 3
- Friday, August 7
- Friday, October 9
- Tuesday, November 24

### BAZAAR

September 12 • 10 am - 2 pm

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

September 26

Registration - 8:00 am

Tee-off - 9:00 am

Sawmill Woods Golf  
Course, Clifton

Lunch served and prizes  
awarded.

## \*(RECIPE)\*

### CREAM OF TARTAR BISCUITS

4 c. flour  
1 pinch salt  
1 tsp. baking soda  
3 tsp. cream of tartar

Sift together.

Work a scoop of lard (size of  
an egg) into flour mixture—  
use a little milk to mix.

Roll out and cut.

Bake at 450° for 10-15 minutes.

