

### **Vietnam Veterans' Memorial**

Across from the State House, in Capitol Park, is the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial designed by Roger Richmond of Peaks Island. Of Maine's 16,000 Vietnam veterans, 322 died and 18 are listed missing in action.

Dedicated in October 1985, the memorial is two steel triangles with cutout silhouettes of two soldiers supporting a wounded third soldier between them on one of the triangles. The sign states, "For those who fought for it, freedom has a taste the protected will never know."

### **Terra Cotta Bas-Relief**

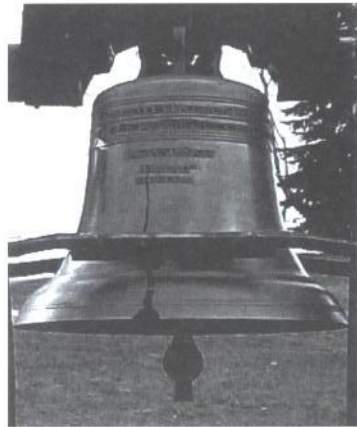


Over the fireplace, in the west wing hall of the 3rd floor, is a facsimile of a fragment of the frieze on the Pension Building in Washington D.C.

Modeled by Bubier, the bas-relief represents the return of volunteers from the Civil War.

# **While Visiting at the State House**

### **Items of Interest In and Around the State House Complex**



*Maine's Liberty Bell*

Produced and Distributed by  
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## Liberty Bell At the State House

In 1950, the U.S. Department of Treasury donated a Liberty Bell to each state to promote the Savings Bond Independence Drive, in the hope it would "serve forever as a symbol to the people...of the independence which is their priceless heritage."

If you have not had a chance to visit the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, you can look at an exact replica at the Maine State House (pictured on the cover). It has the same dimensions, same weight (2,080 pounds), aged-oak yoke, iron straps and hand-forged bolts. The identical inscription, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land and to all the inhabitants thereof. Lev. XXV:10" is inscribed. The famous crack is only indicated, allowing the bell to ring with the clarity its ancestor had.

Maine's bell sits on the State House lawn in Augusta, on the Capitol Street side of the building (facing the Blaine House).



### Bell Symbolizes Rural Schools of the Past

An old school bell, now quiet on the State House lawn, stands "...to remind us of the past, when school bells such as this were an important part of school and community life."

The bell faces the State Library at the south entrance to the State House. In 1964, the bell was taken from the Brookton Grammar School and given to the State when that school was demolished. The inscription reads, "it called students to rural school in Washington County for 124 years."

The bell was dedicated in 1964 as a testament to the State's seven schools in the unorganized territories. The foundation and inscription were paid for by the Maine Teachers Association.

The old school was a two-story building with sub-primary (now called kindergarten) to grade 4 downstairs and grades 5 through 8 upstairs. The school had 2 teachers.

## 1st Maine Casualty of World War I



While in the Hall of Flags on the second floor, you can find this memorial which reads: "1893 - 1917 Harold Taylor Adams - Corporal Company B 11th Engineers. Enlisted May 15, 1917. Killed in action November 30, 1917 at Gouzcaucourt France defending himself with pick and shovel. The first citizen of Maine in the

American Army killed in action during the World War."

## Samantha's Dream for Peace



Samantha Reed Smith was born on June 29, 1972, in Houlton, Maine. At age five, she wrote to Queen Elizabeth and received a reply from one of her Ladies in Waiting. In 1980, the family moved to Manchester.

In 1982, ten year old Samantha wrote to Soviet Premier, Yuri Andropov. Her letter was inspired by one of the preferred topics of that time, the Arms

Race. Along with others, Samantha's letter was published in the official Communist newspaper, Pravda.

*Dear Mr. Andropov,*

*My name is Samantha Smith. I am 10 years old. Congratulations on your new job. I have been worrying about Russia and the United States getting into a nuclear war. Are you going to vote to have a war or not? If you aren't, please tell me how you are going to help not have a war. This question you do not have to answer, but I would like to know why you want to conquer the world or at least our country. God made the world for us to live together in peace and not to fight.*

*Sincerely, Samantha Smith*

Her letter prompted a reply from the Soviet leader. He invited Samantha and her parents to visit the Soviet Union. This trip received worldwide attention and to many Samantha became the symbol for children's hope of a peaceful future.

After she returned from her trip, with her father's help, she wrote a book entitled Samantha Smith: A Journey to the Soviet Union. She also

traveled to Japan and spoke at an International Children's Symposium. She appeared on television interviewing the 1984 presidential candidates on the Disney Channel.

Samantha also visited children of Soviet diplomats in Washington. Two songs, both entitled "Samantha's Song" were inspired by her.

Samantha made her acting debut on the sitcom "Charles in Charge" and later became a cast member of "Lime St.," a Robert Wagner series.

On August 25, 1985, Samantha, aged 13, and her father, Arthur, died in a Bar Harbor Airlines crash. They were returning from London where an episode of "Lime St." had been filmed.

In memory of Samantha, the Soviet Union created a stamp in her likeness, and named a mountain, diamond, planet and schools after her.

In 1987, the Maine State Legislature established a commemorative day in her honor. Every first Monday of June, Samantha's message and mission are celebrated.

A statue of Samantha was erected in Augusta, next to the State Museum and Library. The life-sized bronze statue of Samantha is in a grove of birch trees, set against a wall of pink granite. A bear cub, symbolic of both the Soviet Union and Maine, rests at her feet. A white dove, a symbol of peace, is poised to fly from her hand. She wears blue jeans, Nike sneakers and an Izod shirt like the one she wore during her famous trip.

*Law Enforcement/Vietnam Veterans photos by  
Maine Audio Visual Services*

*Other photos taken by Senate Staff*

## Law Enforcement Memorial



Turning left from the Samantha Smith statue, one will find the Law Enforcement Memorial facing State Street. Dedicated in a Memorial Day ceremony in 1991, the monument honors the police officers who died in the line of duty. The Maine Police Chiefs

Association hope the memorial will remind the public of sacrifices law enforcement officers make daily.

## Firefighters Memorial

Down from the Law Enforcement Memorial, on



lower State Street, is the memorial recognizing Maine's volunteer and professional firefighters. About 90% of the state's firefighters are volunteers who risk their lives for little or no pay.

The memorial was dedicated in November, 1997.

The center panel of the memorial depicts firefighters in action, including one carrying an infant out of a fire. The flanking panels display the Federation Seal and the Firefighter's Prayer.

## Civilian Conservation Corps

The newest statue in the capitol complex is located outside the museum building to the right. Dedicated on April 24, 2001, the statue honors the young men of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) who, from 1933 to 1942, changed the face of Maine by building parks, roads, trails, forests and citizenship, leaving a lasting legacy to the conservation of natural resources for which all citizens of Maine owe a debt of gratitude.



In Maine, over 17,000 young men served in the Corps between 1933 and 1942. The persons eligible for employment were unemployed, between the ages of 17 and 25 and came from families on relief. Each person was paid \$30 a month, of which \$25 was sent to his family and the \$5 could be used for personal expenses. The government provided room, board, clothing and tools.

The Corps was responsible for many conservation projects. Although projects were carried out in every state, the CCC carried out many notable projects in Maine. Projects were conducted in state and national parks and Maine forests. In Maine, many of the roads, parks and other facilities that we all enjoy today were built or improved by the CCC during the 1930s and early 1940s. Some of the larger projects were constructing roads and trails in Baxter State Park, Mt. Blue State Park, Rangeley State Park and Camden Hills State Park; constructing roads and bridges in Acadia National Park; constructing many segments of 286 miles of the Appalachian Trail in Maine; building the Evans Notch Road from the town of Fryeburg to Gilead in the White Mountains National Forest; constructing the lower portion of Capitol Park; planting trees in Capitol Park and the Veterans Administration Facility at Togus.