



BANGOR
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY SINCE
1864



Thomas A. Hill House Sponsorship Opportunities

Thomas A. Hill House Room Sponsorship Opportunities

An opportunity for your business to support the Bangor Historical Society and receive corporate recognition.

The Bangor Historical Society was founded in 1864 by 22 Bangor businessmen. BHS is the second oldest historical society in the state with the state society being the oldest. For over 150 years the BHS has been supported and sustained by local business and member support. Our sustainability needs are ongoing. By sponsoring a room your business can support and help sustain the BHS and receive recognition.

All room sponsorships are for a one-year period with first right of refusal for renewal. The Hill House is open to the public from May through October, and December. Visitation during other months is by appointment or chance. There are 4-5 events held at Hill House every year increasing the number of people going through the rooms. The sponsorship rates have been determined based on the public hours.

Sponsorship includes:

- ♦ An information board placed at the entry with your logo and a spot for promotional/informational literature in the BHS gift shop.
- ♦ A private walking tour to be selected from our offerings and scheduled according to tour guide availability: up to 20 people.
- ♦ Recognition on the BHS website and social media throughout the year.

G.A.R. Room

The G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) room of the Thomas A. Hill House would have originally been used as a less formal family sitting room. While the parlors across the hall were more used to entertain guests, this room is where the family would have spent more time reading, writing, and sewing. It also would have functioned as a library in the time of Samuel Dale, his personal library consisted of over 500 volumes. After Matilda passed in 1894, the house was occupied by the Walker family. This room saw significant renovations in the

1890's, the large bookcases and the wooden mantel were made at the local Morse's Mill on the Kenduskeag Stream and installed, transforming the room into a more formal library or study for Mr. Walker.

The Daniel Chaplin Camp No. 3 of the SUVCW were giving funding from the G.A.R. to create a G.A.R. memorial, the Chaplin Camp bought the Hill House from the Cox family in 1942. The building was used as a G.A.R. Memorial home for many years. In 1974, after years of sharing the Hill House with the BHS, the Chaplin Camp deeded Hill House to the BHS along with their artifacts from the Civil War.



GAR Item of Interest:

One of the crown jewels of the BHS collection is the **Field Officer's Sword carried by Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain at the Battle of Gettysburg**. Chamberlain was born in Brewer in 1828, volunteered for the union army in 1862 as a Lieutenant Colonel in the 20th Maine Infantry Regiment. He took part at the Battle of Gettysburg, where he received the Medal of Honor, the Siege of Petersburg, and was present at the Surrender at Appomattox. The sword was donated to the BHS by his descendants.

Room Sponsorship—\$1650

Entry Hallway

The front “stair hall” of the Thomas A. Hill House is a unique room that has seen a lot of changes over the years. Originally the front door was a single panel Greek Revival door as installed in 1835. In the 1850’s, the building’s second owner, Samuel Dale renovated the hall by changing the stairs and the front door into the more fashionable Italianate style you see today. Sadly, in the 1950’s the staircase was removed to allow more display space for the collections of the GAR/SUV and the BHS.

Entry Hall Items of Interest:

Jeremiah Pearson Hardy (1800-1888) was a New Hampshire native who moved to Hampden in the 1820’s. He opened a studio in Bangor and walked from his home every day to work. He is well known for painting portraits of well-known citizens in the area from lumber baron’s and their families to local clergymen. Here are at the BHS, we are fortunate to have many of his portraits as part of our collection with many of them hanging in this front hall including **Park Holland (1840)**, **Mrs. Jones P. Veazie (1847)**, **Son of Jones P. Veazie (1845)**, **Martha Call (1827)**, and **Henry Call (1827)**.



Room Sponsorship—\$650

The Entry Hallway Sponsorship combined with *Free Admission for the Year Sponsorship*—\$1650

Front Parlor & Back Parlor

Originally this room was two separate parlors. Shortly after Sam Dale moved into this house, he started renovations. He and his wife Matilda decided to remove the dividing wall and replace it with the Corinthian columns and the ornately carved entablature that we see today. The fireplaces that contain two types of marble: one from Pennsylvania and the other from Italy. The large pier mirrors are the only furniture that are original to the house.

President Ulysses S. Grant was entertained at a party hosted by the Dale family in the Hill House in October of 1871 when Grant was celebrating the completion of the European and North American Railroad that passed through the city. Many new amenities were brought into the house leading up to this party.

Front Parlor Item of Interest:

The **furniture set** on display in the front parlor once belonged to BHS founder & **President Judge John E. Godfrey (1809-1884)** and was used in his first home, **Fern Ledge**, that still survives today on Lee Street.



Back Parlor Item of Interest:

The large clock that dominates the back parlor is a **James Condliff Astronomical Floor Regulator clock** that dates to the first third of the 19th century. The mahogany and rosewood case breaks into three parts and was shipped to Bangor from Liverpool, England. The unique silver faced clock would have been used as a master clock for Bangor jeweler Adolph Pfaff’s clocks to be set to. Pfaff donated the clock to the BHS in 1936.

Room Sponsorship—Front or Back \$1600 or Both Parlors—\$3000

Dining Room

The dining rooms of the mid to late 1800's were much more focused on the formal aspects of dining than they are now. While dining has changed dramatically, back then diners would have been much more formal involving many courses, specialized utensils, dishes. The furniture and décor would have reflected these changes in high class society. This dining room would have showcased the Dale's formal status and would have included furnishings like what here tis seenoday.



Dining Room Item of Interest:

Our **Sheraton style sideboard** dates to the early 19th century and is made of mahogany with maple and mahogany accents.

Room Sponsorship—\$1300

Collections Storage

The collections of the Bangor Historical Society span many years of the history of this area. On a fate-filled day in April 1911, a fire destroyed a large portion of downtown Bangor. One of the buildings destroyed contained the collections of the Bangor Public Library and the Bangor Historical Society. In the years since, our organization has rebuilt the collections thanks to generous donations by the citizens of Bangor. While there are holes from the devastation of the Fire of 1911 that will never be filled, our collections span generations.

The storage room of the BHS used to be the bedrooms of the building. In the 1950's when the front stairs were removed, the bedroom partitions were also removed to allow the upstairs to become a gallery space for the BHS. Eventually the BHS converted this space into a more climate-controlled room to store our collections safely and securely. Our collections contain over 10,000 images, a textile collection of over 1200 pieces, and over 20,000 artifacts and documents.

Collections Items of Interest:

- ♦ 1823 Declaration of Independence, engraved by William Stone printed on vellum. Ours is one of 201 originally printed, there are believed to be 52 surviving today.
- ♦ A facsimile of the Emancipation Proclamation
- ♦ John Hancock's bathrobe
- ♦ 1200 Garments ranging from the 1860s to the 1970s

Room Sponsorship—\$1200

Questions? Contact Matt Bishop – 207-942-1900
or curator@bangorhistoricalsociety.org