

2019

History of Monson Maine

Town of Monson

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Welcome to Monson, Maine

On the shores of Lake Hebron

History

LOCAL FEATURES, FACTS & HISTORY

A moose horn, attached to a post by one of the earliest settlers, guided newcomers over the spotted trail to Monson. This site, located a few miles south of town on Route 15, was later named "The Moosehorns" and remains today as a local landmark.

The first church building between Bangor and the Canadian border was erected in Monson in 1831 and was dedicated as a Congregational Church. The original building burned. The Monson Community Church on Main Street (comprising the old Congregational and Baptist buildings) today stands at the same location.

Monson Academy opened its doors in the fall of 1847 with 106 pupils in attendance.

Slate was discovered in 1870. The Monson Maine Slate Company was the first quarry to open, and continued to operate until 1943. The Portland-Monson Slate Company was organized later and today, under the name Sheldon Slate Company, continues to produce some of the finest black slate in the world. The grave markers of both John F. Kennedy and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis in



Monson Academy



Portland Monson Slate Company circa 1906

Arlington Cemetery are made of black slate from Monson, Maine, and were also engraved here.

A narrow gauge railroad was once owned by the Monson Maine Slate Company in this community, its primary purpose being to transport slate to Monson Junction. The train carried passengers, mail and freight for

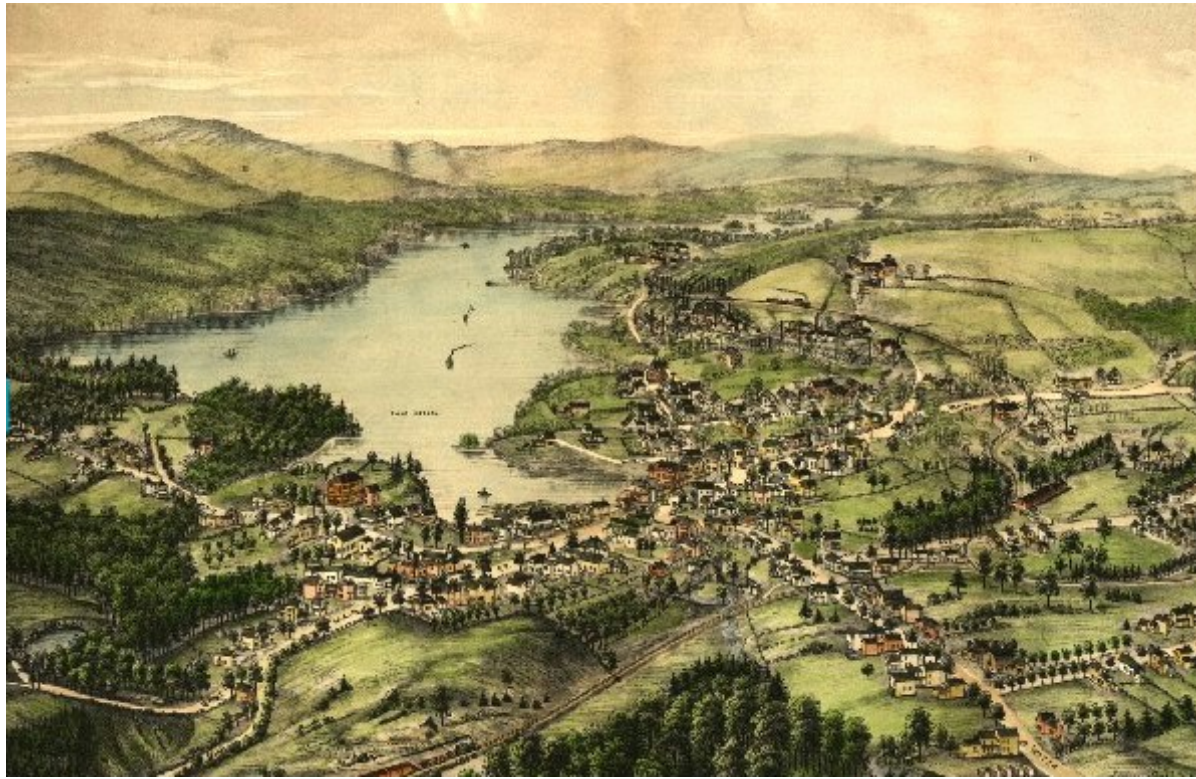
many years. For a current blog on this important part of Monson's history, visit the [Monson Railroad Blog by Roger Whitney](#).



Narrow Gauge Railroad



The kicksled was introduced to Monson by Mr. Gust Johnson, a Swedish blacksmith. His product was an immediate success. This became a unique and extremely popular sport in town, it being a great thrill to fly downhill and over icy lakes on a kicksled. Unfortunately, plowed and sanded roads retired this delightful pastime.



Monson 1889



Aerial view of downtown Monson

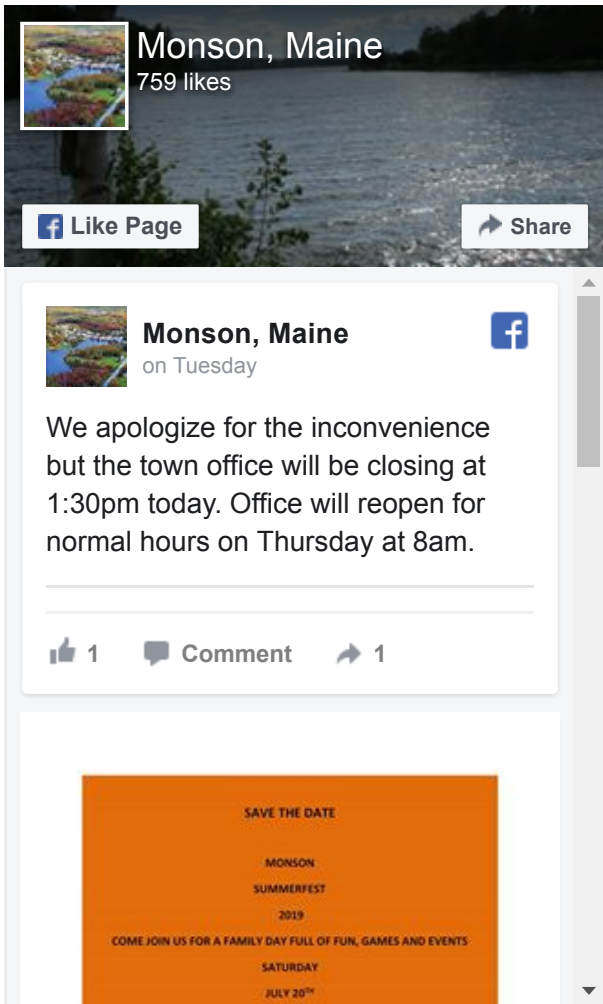


Visit the [Monson Historical Society](#) for more Monson history. *Photo courtesy of A.Trader*

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Monson, Maine
on Tuesday

We apologize for the inconvenience but the town office will be closing at 1:30pm today. Office will reopen for normal hours on Thursday at 8am.

1 Comment 1



SAVE THE DATE

MONSON
SUMMERFEST
2019

COME JOIN US FOR A FAMILY DAY FULL OF FUN, GAMES AND EVENTS

SATURDAY
JULY 20TH

Recent Posts

- [School Budget Voting](#)
- [Tax Acquired Property for Sale](#)
- [Select-Board Work Session- March 28th 7pm](#)

- [NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID FOR SNOW REMOVAL AND SANDING](#)
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TOWN OFFICE
10 Tenney Hill Road
PO Box 308

Monson, ME 04464

Phone: 207-997-3641

E-mail: info@monsonmaine.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: CLOSED

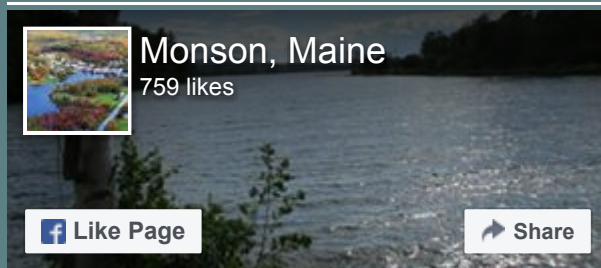
Tuesday: 8:00am — 4:00pm

Wednesday: CLOSED

Thursday: 8:00am — 6:00pm

Friday: 7:30am — 3:30pm

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