

2023 WINTER LECTURE SERIES



Sponsored by **SPIRITS ALIVE** at Eastern Cemetery

Three Saturday afternoon lectures exploring how the history of early New England helped shape the Portland of today

Saturday, January 28 -

An Accounting of the Dead (The Arch Street Project)

presented by **Nicholas Bonneau (via Zoom)** In 2016 developers in Philadelphia discovered their building site at 218 Arch Street was a cemetery - thought since 1860 to have been moved to the Mount Moriah Cemetery across town. Since then, volunteers from the Arch Street Project have worked to understand not just why these interments had not been moved, but something of the lives and deaths of these individuals. Dr. Bonneau, the primary historian of the project, will take us through the history of this congregation and community of the dead (1709-1859) using techniques that combine the modern technologies of skeletal, DNA and isotopic analysis with related church documents to identify these individuals.



Saturday, February 25 -

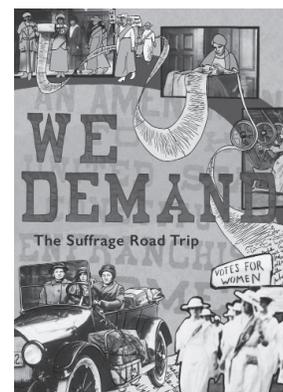
And the Sea Shall Take Them All - The Wreck Of The SS Portland, presented by **Herb Adams**

This year marks the 125th Anniversary (1898-2023) of the wreck of the SS Portland, the largest loss of life at sea in a single storm in New England history. Some 200 souls were lost in a storm so severe it was forever known as "The Great Portland Gale." On the weekend after Thanksgiving 1898, the sidewheel steamship carried home a cross-section of city life - immigrants, politicians, servants, businessmen, brokers, infants and entire families - all lost in "The greatest wind that ever swallowed New England." The city's African-American population was especially hard hit. Why did the ship sail? Where was it lost? Featuring ROV images of the wreck as it is today deep off Cape Cod, still holding its secrets.

Saturday, March 25 -

We Demand: The Suffrage Road Trip, presented by **Anne Gass**

In 1915 four women leave San Francisco for Washington DC on a desperate and dangerous mission to demand an amendment to the US Constitution enfranchising women. The story unfolds through the eyes of unsung heroes Ingeborg Kindstedt and Maria Kindberg, middle-aged Swedish immigrants who own the car, do all the driving, and fix what goes wrong. They lose their way in a trackless Nevada desert and get stuck in the mud in Kansas, among many other adventures. Can they arrive in DC at the appointed day and time? Join author and independent historian Anne B. Gass as she shares remarks and historic slides about her historical novel *We Demand: The Suffrage Road Trip*, based on a true story.



All lectures begin at 1:30 PM. **The Jan. lecture can be seen online only via Zoom.** Feb. & March will be in person at the 7th floor Event Room, Glickman Library, Bedford St, USM Portland Campus. Lectures are free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Go to www.spiritsalive.org/lectures to register for Jan. 28 Zoom

We will be sponsoring an additional Feb. talk. Details to come!

The Lecture Series is presented by Spirits Alive, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to the preservation of historic Eastern Cemetery, at the foot of Munjoy Hill on Congress St. www.spiritsalive.org