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# PSU'S MUSEUM OF THE WHITE MOUNTAINS OPENS FEBRUARY 23



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PLYMOUTH — A vision to celebrate the history, culture and beauty of New Hampshire's White Mountains is becoming a reality at Plymouth State University.

The Museum of the White Mountains will open to the public February 23 in a former church on Highland Street in Plymouth. In keeping with the university's core mission and goals, the museum will preserve and promote the unique history, culture and environmental legacy of the region. Plymouth State University President Sara Jayne Steen said the MWM is a natural extension of the University's duty to serve the region.

"PSU is fortunate to be located in a wonderful place for living and learning, one that we want to support and celebrate," said Steen.

The MWM brings art, history, literature, science, tourism and more together to create a transdisciplinary

understanding and experience of the White Mountains region – both physically and virtually – from its ideal location at the gateway to the White Mountains.

According to Museum director Catherine Amidon, "The museum is not just a place; it is a gateway to experience. It is a site to share knowledge, sublime experience, and personal connection. The educational experience starts outside from the growing interpretive trail that leads visitors into the museum; they are then encouraged to venture into the region with GPS coordinates that connect displays and culturally significant sites."

Among the collections already acquired by the Museum are:

- Archives and images, including rare glass-plate photographs, stereoscopic images, hotel ledgers, postcards and more donated by the late Dan Noel.
- A comprehensive collection early and first edition as well as more recent books and guides about the region from John W. (Jack) and Anne H. Newton.
- White Mountains art by women artists from Frances 'Dolly' MacIntyre.
- Images and collectables from the Balsams Grand Resort Hotel from Steve Barba.

The upcoming exhibition will be divided between five geographic regions: Franconia Notch, Northern Presidentials, The Summit of Mount Washington, Crawford Notch and Conway Valley.

The Museum offers free admission and during the school year will be open Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, Noon -5 p.m., closed Mondays.

In addition MWM will be closed both Monday and Tuesday during the summer.

Designed by the architectural firm Barba and Wheelock, the construction management firm is Bauen Corporation in Meredith. LEED Silver standards served as a guide for the renovation project. To learn more about the Museum of the White Mountains, go here: <http://www.plymouth.edu/museum-of-the-white-mountains/>

Photo Captions:

*At the White Mountains*, Frederick Gleason, (Courtesy N.H. Historical Society)

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