Kingfield Historical Tour

Town Center

1. Old Primary School House
Built in 1875 by C.W. French. Closed in 1969.
Recently remodeled and used as a gallery.

2. CSM Real Estate/(Pike House)
Built in 1822 by Charles Pike. Known as "The House by the Side of the Road." Daniel Cushman, engineer of first train into Kingfield in 1884 lived here.

3. Anni's Market/(L.L. Mitchell Drug)
First building on this site was built in 1870 & burned in 1882.L.L. Mitchell's drugstore located here before moving across the street in 1899. In1918 it became a grocery and eight or nine different owners and a century later still remains as a central business in downtown Kingfield as a convenience store / gas station..

4. Longfellow's Restaurant /(Joseph Parker Block)
Building was originally located south of the site of the Thompson's Apartments(where Irregular is now) and moved to this site. It is believed to be the oldest original structure in the downtown business area and was always used as a business.

5. High Peaks Gallery
The town post office was formerly on the left side of this space, having moved there after a fire in the 30's. Harvey Boynton's Ski Shop occupied the right side in the 50's and 60's.

6. Don Fowler Law Offices /(French Block)
Built in 1900, housed a dry goods store, ice cream parlor & variety store, dentist office upstairs as well as a 500 person capacity hall where graduations, plays, movies and even roller skating events were held. It suffered fire damage in 1933, but was rebuilt.

7. Powers Building/(Riverside Movie Theater)
The structure before you was built in 1938, and played some of the first talking movies in town. It operated on and off as a movie theater through the early 60's, when it was converted to retail and business space.

8. Irregular Offices/(Thompson's Apartments)
Built in 1869 and expanded in 1888. Originally housed a dance hall, dentist office & town hall, as well as a livery stable. Burned and replaced several times, many of the buildings along this stretch were.

9. Grand Central Station
(Formerly Kingfield Savings Bank/originally Alhambra Block)
Constructed in 1894 as the Alhambra Block, it housed offices of E.E. Jenkins & Co and the Union Mutual Life Ins Co.. In 1895, with $23.00 in it's new vault (which cost $800 to install), Kingfield Savings Bank opened it's doors in a rented room in the Alhambra Building. H.S.Wing was the driving force; he was the first treasurer, then president.

10. The Herbert Grand Hotel
First hotel built by Samuel Usher in 1830 as the Franklin House. This building burned in 1880 and in 1886 John Winter's hotel, known as the Kingfield House was built. H.S. Wing purchased & remodeled the building. Then in1918-19 the current three story Herbert Grand Hotel was built.

11. Masonic Building
This space once housed a harness shop on one side and an ice cream parlor on the other. The masons have used the 2nd and 3rd floor levels for their functions.

12. Sugarloaf Shop /Strickland's Dry Goods Store
Once had gas pumps. This occupied the left side of the building as you face it. The right side had a drug store and shoe shop.

13. Sugarloaf Shop/Larrabee Block/Mitchell Block
Blacksmith shop built in 1853 by William Dolbier & Jerry Larrabee. In 1899 L.L. Mitchell's drugstore and Harris & Knapp shoe store occupied the space.

High, School & Depot Streets

14. Methodist Church
Built in 1895 as a Universalist Church. In 1956-57 it was sold to the Methodist Church.

15. Historical House
In 1890 Frank Hutchins hired Lavella Norton to build the house for his bride Effie Winter. Charles & Alma Wilson purchased it in 1944. The property was given to the Kingfield Historical Society by Alma Wilson in 1967, and it was placed on the National Register of Historical Places in 1987.

16. Baptist Church
This was Kingfield's first church. Organized in 1851 as the Free Will Baptist Church. The structure before you was built in 1866, and raised in elevation in 1899. There are 15 stained glass memorial windows.

17. Governor King Home
The home of Maine's first Governor and our town's namesake. Built in 1821. Governor King was instrumental in the separation of Maine from Massachusetts.

18. Fire Station
Also served as the municipal offices for our town prior to their relocation next to the Stanley Museum.

19. Stanley Museum
Built by L.A. Norton, Parker Norton et al in 1903 as the Kingfield High School. It remained the town's high school until 1969, and was an elementary school until closing in 1980. Stanley twins contributed money to building of this school. John Webster of Hartford, CT left $ to town in 1930, requesting Webster Hall be built. It was used as a gym for the Stanley High School and now houses the town offices.

20. New England Wire Mill
Originally the Jenkins and Bogert's Novelty Mill, and then H.G. Winter and Sons Woodturning Mill. Continuously in operation as a wood turning mill from it's construction in 1885 until 2003 when H.G. Winter closed operations. For many years folks around town would set their schedules by the mill's whistle at seven,noon and 4 pm daily.

21. Knapp Brothers Auto original building
Started as a Livery/Stable, prior to being purchased by the Knapps in 1910. They retired and closed their business in 2006.

22. Webster Library
Although a library group first formed in 1901, this building was not built until 1930; financed by a generous donation from John Webster.

21. Mt Abram Health Center/AG Winter Co. Store
Now serving as a health center, this was the A.G. Winter Company drygoods store for 71 yrs. Purchased by Harold Tranten in 1955, it continued as a general market and store until the family relocated to north Main Street in their current location.

22. Winters Inn
Originally built in 1900 – 1904, for the Amos Winter, Sr family and named "Hillholm". Plans were drawn by F.O. Stanley, and L.A. Norton was the master carpenter. Amos Winter, Jr was the instrumental force behind Sugarloaf Mountain, cutting the first trails in the early 1950s. At one time the local doctor, Dr. Covert, resided here, and since then it has been known as "Winter's Inn" or "The Inn on Winter's Hill" through three subsequent owners.

Historic Dam & Stanley Ave.

25. Carrabassett River Dam/Stanley Mill Pond
Once a productive source of captured energy from the Carrabassett River flow, now a gathering spot for fishing and swimming. The Carrabassett once powered seven mills located along its shores in town.

26. Grist Mill
Once the home of Chamberlain's Roll Top Mill, it currently houses our local redemption center. Be sure to look inside at the hardware from its former days.

27. Centennial Bridge
The Stanley Mill Pond was crossed by boat until 1845 when a float bridge for foot traffic was built. In 1849, a two- way covered bridge was built & in 1851 a storm blew it down. In 1852, a chain bridge costing $1800 was erected. After breaking down twice, once in 1859 and again in 1909, money was raised for a concrete bridge. In 1916 the Centennial Bridge was installed. So named as 1916 was the Centennial year of Kingfield's incorporation in 1816. The bridge's 174-foot span, at the time, was probably the longest span of a flat arch concrete bridge in existence in America.

28. One Stanley Ave
Built in 1899-1901 by Lavella Norton and his brother William. It is on the National Register of Historic Places due to its unique tower and roofline creating a balcony effect. It was lived in for many years by the Norton Family. Opened as a restaurant in 1972 by Dan Davis, he remains the owner to this day.

29. Three Stanley Ave
Circa 1900, probably built by the Norton Brothers. It was the home of Bayard and Laura Stanley, youngest brother in the Stanley Family. The third floor opens onto a balcony where its original owner often slept to help with his TB. It became Kingfield's first B & B in 1975 by its current owner, Dan Davis.

30. Dr Dunlap Home
Built in the 1890's, this was the long time home of our towns' doctor, who delivered many babies, and tended tirelessly to the townsfolk.

31. Niidas Home/Original Stanley Family Homestead
Oldest house in Kingfield, built in 1818 by Solomon Stanley, Esq, who came from Winthrop, Maine to Kingfield in 1807 as one of the first settlers of the town. The Stanley Homestead is the birthplace of Stanley Steamer inventors Francis E. & Freeland O. Stanley, photographer Chansonetta Stanley Emmons as well as four other brothers.

The locals refer to this side of the river as 'The British Side'.

There are many more lovely properties about our town with long and interesting histories. We invite you to tour about, and inquire about places that you find architecturally interesting at our Historical House when you get a chance. Thank you for taking the time to learn a little about our town's history and please come back soon!

Welcome to Kingfield Maine

Incorporated in 1816

We are celebrating our milestone many ways throughout this year, and we invite you to join us!

Please use this map to take a tour of our lovely town and discover some of its history along your walk.

While we do make note of many historic properties, we ask that you respect the privacy of those living here and keep your tour within the public ways! However, feel free to frequent the many businesses along your way, they would love you for it!

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