

# General John Stark Scenic Byway



## Points of Interest

- Cultural
- Historic
- Recreational
- Scenic
- Scenic Byway Route
- Town Boundary



**Data Sources:**  
 Granit Digital Data (1:24,000)  
 NH Department of Transportation  
 NH Department of Environmental Services  
 NH Division of Historical Resources  
 LRPP Data - Mapped by SNHPC and Individual towns but owned by State DES office



## General John Stark Scenic Byway Council:

The development and management of the General John Stark Byway is a coordinated effort between the towns of Dunbarton, Goffstown, New Boston and Weare with support of the Southern NH Planning Commission (SNHPC), Central NH Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) and the NH DOT. It is overseen by the General John Stark Scenic Byway Council. For more information about the Byway, contact the SNHPC at (603) 669-4664 or [www.snhpc.org](http://www.snhpc.org)

The individual municipalities represented on this map and the SNHPC make no representations or guarantees to the accuracy of the features and designations of this map.

# General John Stark Scenic Byway

## What is the General John Stark Scenic Byway?

This 34 mile circular route connects the towns of Goffstown, Dunbarton, Weare, and New Boston and is named in honor of New Hampshire's best known Revolutionary War hero, General John Stark. There are many historical points of interest along the route that refer back to the Stark family and the Revolutionary War era, along with other periods of history. The route was officially designated as a State Scenic Byway in 2008. Below are just a few of the many points of interest that can be viewed along the Byway.

## Bridge (1928) and Bridge Abutments - Goffstown

The cement bridge that is in place today was constructed in 1928 and is one of a small group of New Hampshire bridges designed by nationally renowned bridge engineer, Daniel B. Luten. On the downstream side of this bridge are two abutments that supported the covered railroad bridge which burned in 1976.

## Goffstown Town Hall (1969)

This is the second town hall to stand at this location since 1869. Extensive renovations were made in 1889 to the original building, known as the Opera House until it was destroyed by fire in 1937. At the time, the town voted not to spend any monies on rebuilding. Finally, it was replaced in stages until its completion in 1969.

## Molly Stark House (1759) - Dunbarton

The childhood home of Elizabeth "Molly" Page was built by her father Capt. Caleb Page in 1759. She was married to General John Stark in this home and Caleb, their first child, was born here. At age 15, Caleb Stark slipped away on the eve of the Battle of Bunker Hill to travel to Boston and join in the Revolution. This adventure is depicted on the Dunbarton Town Seal. Caleb Stark later became a Major and served together with his illustrious father.

## First Congregational Church of Dunbarton (1836)

In 1836, the Congregational Church commissioned the skills of master builder Capt. Samuel

Kimball. The Church was constructed in the center of town, west of the Town Common. Its steeple design mirrors the architecture of the steeple of the North Church of Boston.

## Weare Town Hall (1837)

The Weare town hall building is on the National Register of Historic Places, and was once a Universalist Church on the second floor and town meeting hall on the first. In 1919, the first public high school classes were offered on the top floor.

## Mapleworld Tavern - Weare

The Mapleworld Tavern is also known as the Dustin or Dearborn Tavern. The first tavern keeper was William Dustin, who served under John Stark in the Battle of Bennington. The tavern was later owned by John Dearborn.

## Community Church of New Boston

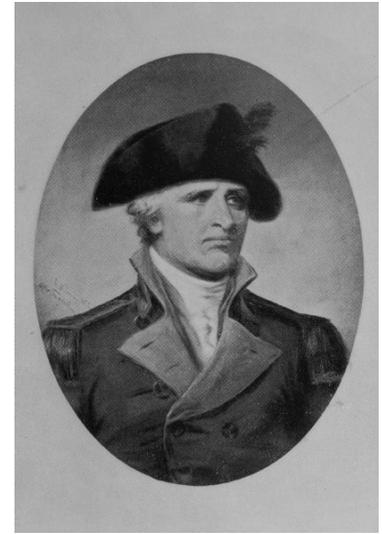
The "Great Village Fire" in 1887 destroyed nearly 40 buildings including the Community Church. It was soon replaced, and the furnishings from the old meetinghouse were moved to the new building, including the bell that had been cast by Paul Revere. It was reported that the bell was purchased in 1826, and is the heaviest of the sixteen known Revere Bells in New Hampshire.

## New Boston Historical Society - Molly Stark Cannon

The Historical Society is in the rebuilt fire station which burned to the ground in a town-wide fire in 1889. It houses the barrel of the Molly Stark Cannon and is open to the public Thursdays from noon to 2 PM.

## Who is General John Stark?

General John Stark has been attributed for New Hampshire's famous state motto "Live Free or Die". He was instrumental in leading the fight at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775 and the Battle of Bennington in 1776.



## Upcoming November/December Events 2009:

### Dunbarton:

Dec. 5 - Caleb Stark 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Molly Stark House Tour Fundraising Event, 1-4 PM  
\$25/person. Pre-registration required.

### Goffstown:

Dec. 4 - Friday Night Under the Lights, Goffstown Village  
Dec. 5 - Goffstown Historical Society Open House, 10-2 PM

### New Boston:

Nov. 29 - Tree on the Common Lighting, 6 PM  
Dec. 2 - Wassail at the Whipple Free Library, 7-9 PM  
Dec. 4 - Kids Dance at the New Boston Central School  
Gymnasium, 7-9:30 PM  
Dec. 6 - Monthly Fire Department breakfast, 8-10:30 AM  
Dec. 13 - Breakfast with Santa at the New Boston Central  
School Gymnasium, 8-10:30 AM

### Weare:

Dec. 6 - Christmas Party by Weare Historical Society &  
Weare Public Library, Weare Town Hall, 2-4 PM

### Manchester:

Nov. 14 - The 1759 Account Book of Captain John Stark of  
Rogers Rangers presentation by the Manchester Historical  
Association, 10:30 AM, Free for members, \$10 general  
public. Pre-registration requested.  
Dec. 5 - Holiday Open House, Manchester Historic  
Association, 10AM - 4PM