

**INTRODUCTION** - Wolfeboro was named in Nov. 1759, in honor of Gen. James Wolfe, two months after his victory in the Battle of Quebec, a turning point in the French & Indian War. The town was divided into parcels in 1766; settlement began a few years later. This tour will visit or pass a number of historic locations.

**CAUTION** - *don't slow down or stop on busy roads. Park on shoulders or side roads. Don't go on private property. Do not read these directions while driving.*

*FROM DOWNTOWN*, go South on Main St., passing (on the left), Town Hall (1890), Pickering House (1813, yellow house, early tavern) & the brick building (1834, early bank). *AT PICKERING CORNER*, named for

Daniel Pickering, an early 1800's businessman, go Left on Rt. 28 thru Wolfeboro Falls, passing (near Smith River) a unique Queen Anne house (left, 1897), & a RR Storage Building (right, red 1872).. At 0.7 mi., turn Right (Silver St.) into the parking lot for:

**MAST LANDING** - This access serves Crescent Lake & Lake Wentworth & was used to haul out logs for the Wolfeboro Falls mills for many years. It was named Mast Landing because the terms of the 1759 land grants indicated white pines of suitable size were reserved for the Royal English Navy (for ship's masts). If a settler kept a large log, it was considered a punishable theft.

*EXIT Right, go 0.2 mi. & bear Left after the bend onto Birch Rd. Stop on side of road for:*

**GOODWIN'S BASIN ICE HARVEST** -

Across Rt. 28, the Basin & Crescent Lake (in the background) were an important ice harvesting location for many years. The Basin was created in 1872 by the Railroad Causeway. See the State Historical Marker.

*USE THE SHORT ACCESS just ahead & go Left (continuing North) on Rt. 28, past a Quonset Hut on the right (part of Allen A Resort, 1935-1980's), an impressive 1810 house & older barn on the left, then at 1.6 mi., turn Left on Allen Rd. & stop shortly for the:*

**TOWN MEETING HOUSE & CEMETERY**

- Allen Rd. was named for the town's first official Minister, Rev. Ebenezer Allen, who presided 1792 to 1806. Walk back a short distance up the old road to see the Town Cemetery & the plaque for the site of the first Town Meeting House, also used for services. This location was called Center Wolfeboro, somewhat equidistant from the scattered settlement areas of the time. Allen Rd. was the location of the route north to Ossipee, until Rt. 28 was straightened in 1954. Ahead is the 1840 barn which was attached to the house (burned down in 1977) of the Minister's son, also named Ebenezer. At the end of the road, on the left before you return to Rte. 28, is an 1820's farmhouse and barn.

*AT THE END OF ALLEN RD., turn Left. At Rt. 109, turn Right a short distance & carefully pull into the dirt parking area on the Left just past the:*

**WOLFEBORO CENTER COMMUNITY CHURCH** -

In the early 1800's religious interests grew & numerous congregations were formed in many areas. Meetings were held in various locations, including homes, Schools, Meeting Houses, & even outdoors. Travelling Evangelists were popular. Dedicated Church buildings soon followed. This Church was built in 1840 and served the early settlement of Wolfeboro Center, which also had a school, Post Office & small stores. The road, Gov. Wentworth Highway, was laid out under the auspices of Colonial Governor John Wentworth, & ran from Portsmouth to Dartmouth College in Hanover. Gov. Wentworth was quite progressive & was an admired British official. This Church is still used for occasional summer activities.

