

## Upcoming Lecture Examines the Architectural Legacy of Local Franco-Americans

South Berwick, Maine- On Thursday, October 25, historian Peter Michaud will give a lecture about the architectural impact of French Canadian immigration over three generations in New Hampshire and Maine. The lecture is hosted by the Old Berwick Historical Society, and begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Arts Center at Berwick Academy in South Berwick. Admission is free and open to the public. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Beginning with Thomas Plant, whose father immigrated from Quebec to Maine in the 1830s, and the creation of his shoe factory and his estate Lucknow, to the work of local architect Lucien Omer Geoffrion who worked in the greater Portsmouth area from the 1930s to 1970, Michaud will discuss the buildings and landscapes created by French Canadian immigrants and their reflection of popular social trends.

Michaud holds a B.A. in history from the University of New Hampshire, and is known throughout the Seacoast for his work in, and passion for, regional history. Recent work experience includes being the National Register & Preservation Tax Incentives Coordinator for the NH Division of Historical Resources, preceded by being the Special Projects Director for the NH Division of Historical Resources. He currently serves on the Strawberry Banke National Council, the Vernacular Architectural Forum (New England Chapter), and is on the Board of the Piscataqua Decorative Arts Society, The Players Ring Theater, and Portsmouth Advocates.

The Counting House Museum, which currently features the exhibit “Forgotten Frontier: Untold Stories of the Piscataqua,” will be open through the end of October on Saturdays and Sundays from 1pm-4pm. The Old Berwick Historical Society’s 2018 lectures and hikes are generously sponsored by Kennebunk Savings and supported by historical society members and donors. More information is available at [www.oldberwick.org](http://www.oldberwick.org).



Thomas Plant’s Lucknow Estate (today known as Castle in the Clouds) is an example of the financial success he achieved in New England’s shoe industry.