

# Middleborough Historical Association Membership Application

Middleborough officially became a town in 1669, although Wampanoag (Indians) lived in the area long before that time. Middleborough's industrial history included early water-powered mills such as gristmills for grinding grains, iron works for making ironware (tools, pots, cannon balls etc.). sawmills, shovel works and cotton mills. Even the town's electric light plant was originally powered by the waters of the Nemasket River, which flows out of Lake Assawampsett (the largest natural body of water in Massachusetts).

Later industries included lumberyards, brickyards, shoe factories, iron foundries, printing firms, the harvesting and selling of ice, the making of straw bonnets, cardboard boxes, needles and varnish as well as the manufacturing of fire engines.

Middleborough has a town manager form of government. However, major town decisions are made by the residents at town meetings. The town has a municipally owned water & sewer department, gas & electrical light plant, fully staffed fire and police departments, accredited schools and recreational facilities that include a swimming pool, tennis courts, ball fields and playgrounds.

The Middleborough Historical Association (MHA) founded in 1922, is a private, non-profit organization that preserves the history of the Middleborough, MA area.

MHA saved two historic properties from demolition in the 1960s. The rescued 1820 mill houses and grounds became the Middleborough Historical Museum.

MHA has since grown into a valuable community resource with seven museum buildings, an impressive collection of Middleborough-related objects, an annual calendar of educational programs and a growing group of members and volunteers.

Anyone may join the Association. Our members come from all walks of life, but have one thing in common; they value local history. Members form the active volunteer workforce that guides, supports and operates the Museum.

The Middleborough Historical Museum is located in the Middleborough Center National Register Historic District. The seven building village includes two ca. 1820 mill houses. Three other structures were saved from demolition and relocated to the grounds; the West Side Whistle House, the Judge Wilkes Wood Law Office and the Sproat Tavern Outhouse. A blacksmith shop and a carriage house were later built to house museum exhibits.

The Museum contains a diverse collection rich in Middleborough connections including an operating Maxim fire truck, agricultural tools, household furnishings, military artifacts, photographs, manuscripts and a nationally known collection of "Tom Thumb" memorabilia. The museum is open for tours and special events from late spring through early fall.



## Middleborough Historical Association, Inc.

### Membership Categories

Student	\$5.00	Annual
Single	\$10.00	Annual
Family	\$15.00	Annual
Participating	\$20.00	Annual
Sustaining	\$50.00	Annual
Benefactor	\$100.00	Annual
Life	\$200.00	Each Person (Age 40 +)

## Welcome

To the Middleborough Historical Association, Inc.

The Museum is open every Wednesday 12-3 and Saturday 12-3

Your Membership entitles you to:

Free admission to the museum

Four interesting programs each year

Subscription to *Mill House Notes*, our quarterly newsletter and other special exhibits and events

Please help us preserve the history of Middleborough.

Fill out This form, check the category of membership you would like and mail it with your check made out to:

the *Middleborough Historical Association*

P.O. Box #304 Middleborough, MA 02346-2822

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### I AM INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING (please check your interests)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping us with Special Events   | <input type="checkbox"/> Become a Board member                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with the collections     | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining the Building & Grounds    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baking for events/sales          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (?)                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with Programs & Lectures | <input type="checkbox"/> Become a museum guide or receptionist |