

Monday, September 14

6:30pm Business Meeting and a **7:00pm** program by Stratham's Peter Wiggin, a lifelong resident of Stratham with a passion for 17th century history. He returns to present the second in his series of four decades in the life of Stratham's first settler, the Worshipful Captain Thomas Wiggin. "Life at Quamscott, the War Years 1645-1655" (How England's Civil War impacted Quamscott).

This program focuses on the years 1645-1655 when Thomas Wiggin and wife Katherine were busy raising their young family on the banks of the Quamscott River at Quamscott House and the "Farm next the Way". It contrasts the ebb and flow of life here as compared with the actions of Cromwell's "New Model Army" as it rampaged throughout England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Peter Wiggin is a 1988 graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder, College Design and Planning. After graduation he returned to Concord N.H. and resumed his previous employment as a Project Manager with a large General Contracting Company.

In 1990 he moved back to Stratham and founded 'Design 1 Architectural Drafting & Landscape Service' a Design/Build company. It was also at this time (1990) that his direct involvement in New Hampshire's 17th century past began. He discovered what would be identified years later by professional archaeologist Neil de Paoli as "the oldest professionally excavated historic home site in New Hampshire" located at Sandy Point here in Stratham.

From 2005 to 2016 he partnered with David Stuart Smith a professional Cultural Anthropologist doing investigations and restorations of Ceremonial Stone Landscapes and other historic stone structures in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. David is widely known and respected for his 1998 thesis entitled, 'The Pennacook Indians and the New England Frontier 1604-1733'

Working with David greatly expanded Peter's understanding of New Hampshire's 17th century past. It is this diverse background and thirty-seven years of independent research that he brings to his presentations.