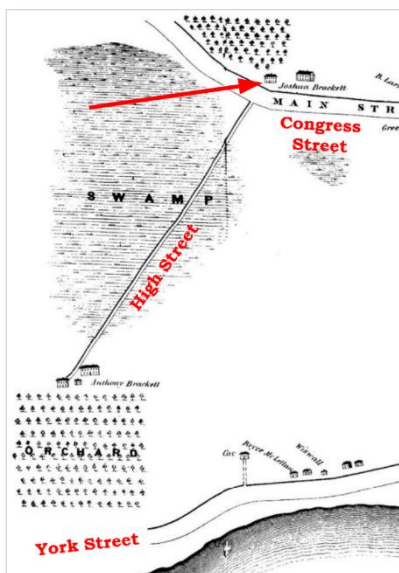
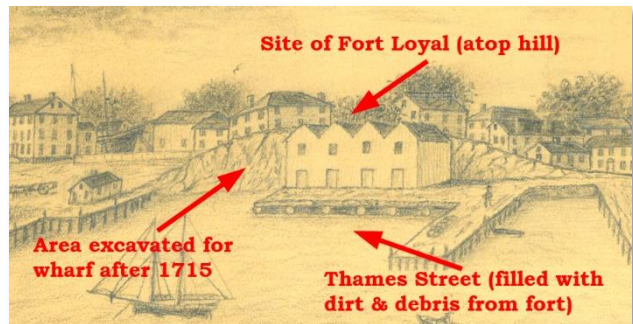




One of the sights you should see on your walking tour is [First Parish Church](#) at [425 Congress Street](#). Colonial Massachusetts was a Puritan theocracy with no daylight between church and state. This church was originally Congregational (Puritan) and, until the mid-18th century, was the only church in Colonial Falmouth. Your ancestors belonged to First Parish.

The tour should also pass by the site of [Fort Loyal](#) at [3 India Street](#), later the Grand Trunk Rail & Steamship Offices, and now Gorham Savings Bank. Most of your ancestors escaped the massacre by the French and their Native allies during [King William's War](#) in May 1690. Alas, Anthony the Immigrant and his wife were killed in 1691 where they had sought refuge in New Hampshire, and his son Anthony was killed in 1689 while defending his farm on Back Cove.

Here is a sketch of the fort's location in the 1840s. The fort was built atop a hill. The fort was burned by the French after the massacre. The bodies of the English settlers were later buried there. Part of the hill was excavated to make room for a wharf. The rest of the hill (including the skeletons) was excavated and used for landfill when the railroad was built during the mid-19th century.



[Congress Square Park](#) at the intersection of High and Congress Streets. This was the location of Joshua and Esther Brackett's homestead at the time of the Revolution. Esther Cox's family lived by Robison's Wharf on York Street near the intersection with High. Joshua was a soldier who served on expeditions during the Colonial and Revolutionary Wars. After the Revolution, Joshua was living by the Presumpscot River, probably near where [Riverton Trolley Park](#) is located.

You may find it helpful to refer to William Willis' maps of [Falmouth to 1690](#) and [Falmouth Before Burning](#) during your tour on foot and driving. Before leaving Portland Peninsula (formerly known as Falmouth Neck), here are some vantage points where you can gain a better perspective of Portland and imagine how it looked two centuries ago.

[Portland Observatory](#) at [138 Congress Street](#). Built to give early notice of arriving ships, the observatory provides a “bird’s eye view” of Portland.

[Fort Allen Park](#) at [49 Eastern Promenade](#) on Munjoy Hill. The park offers an expansive view of Casco Bay including Peaks Island (the Bracketts and the Mittons had deep ties to Peaks). The park is an excellent spot for a picnic. We recommend Italian sandwiches (a Maine staple) from [Amato’s](#) on [India Street](#). For modern fare, there are food trucks nearby on [Cutter Street](#).

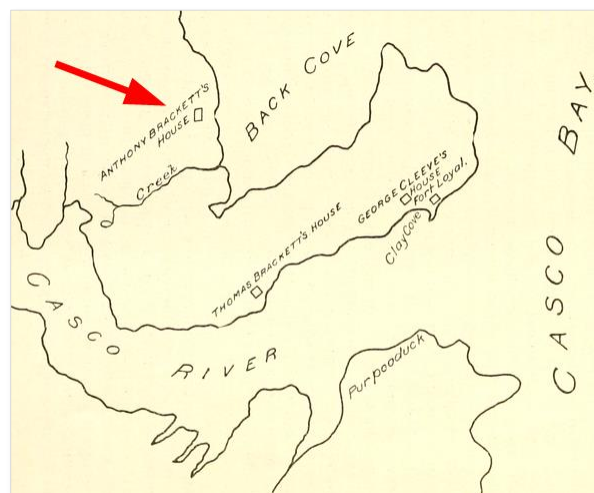
For a good view of Back Cove, there are [Loring Memorial Park](#) on the Eastern Prom, or [Fort Sumner Park](#) on North Street.

Visitors to Portland also enjoy driving by the grand homes on Bramhall Hill’s [Western Promenade](#).

And now we turn to the special points of interest off the peninsula.

Back Cove. Baxter Boulevard and a trail wrap around Back Cove. Most of the land upon which the road and trail run is fill. If you don’t mind a little walking, you should be able to park at [Back Cove Trail Parking](#). If pressed for time, you can pull into the parking lot at [14 Baxter Boulevard](#).

Just to your north is Pedro Little League Field. It’s worth stepping out onto the field because that is the approximate location of Anthony and Susannah’s homestead farm. Anthony and his first wife, Ann Mitton, had been taken hostage in 1676 during King Philip’s War. On the same day, Thomas was killed while working in his fields and his family was also taken hostage.



The best vantage point of the waterfront is from Falmouth Town Landing at the end of [Town Landing Road](#). For fun, visit [Town Landing Market](#) (“Fresh Native Ice Cubes”) at the intersection of Foreside and Town Landing Roads.

There isn’t much to see because the forest has grown back, but the Andrews farm was located on [Waite’s Landing Road](#) at the intersection with Elm Drive.

That covers the locations with special ties to your family.

We also suggest visiting local lighthouses:

1. [Bug Light](#) at [Bug Light Park](#) in South Portland.
2. [Spring Point Ledge Light](#) and [Fort Preble](#) on [Bunker Lane](#) in South Portland.
3. [Portland Head Light](#) at [Fort Williams Park](#) in Cape Elizabeth.
4. **Two Lights** as viewed from the [Lobster Shack at Two Lights](#) in Cape Elizabeth.

These are best toured when the weather is pleasant.

Enjoy!