

The independent nonprofit that saves, preserves, and shares New Hampshire history.

NEWS FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 25, 2009

PHOTOGRAPH AVAILABLE

CONTACT: Stephanie Skenyon at 603-856-0611 or Renée LaBonté at 603-856-0607

New Hampshire Historical Society Offers Lecture and Book Signing for “Mother of Freedom”

Concord, NH— On the eve of the American Revolution, slave ownership was far more widespread in New England than most historians might concede. Yet, during and shortly after the American Revolution, slaves and their supporters planted the seeds of abolition by petitioning the press and appealing to the courts.

Mum Bett, a New England slave who summoned the courage to take her master to court in a bid for her freedom, is the subject of a new book entitled *Mother of Freedom: Mum Bett and the Roots of Abolition* by Ben Z. Rose. Rose will share Bett’s story in a lecture on Sunday, April 5, at 2 p.m., at the New Hampshire Historical Society’s library, located at 30 Park Street, Concord. Admission is free for New Hampshire Historical Society members and \$5 for non-members. For more information call 603-228-6688 or visit nhhistory.org.

Rose is also the author of *John Stark: Maverick General*, which was chosen by “ForeWord Magazine” as a Book of the Year finalist for biography. Rose and his writing have been featured in the *Boston Globe*, *Concord Monitor*, the *Union Leader*, and the *Bennington Banner*. He is a member of the New Hampshire Historical Society and the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Founded in 1823, the New Hampshire Historical Society is the independent nonprofit that saves, preserves, and shares New Hampshire history. The Society serves thousands of children and adults each year through its museum, library, educational programs, publications, and outreach programs. For more information about the Society and the benefits of membership, visit nhhistory.org or call 603-228-6688.

###

Calendar listing

Author Ben Z. Rose will talk about his new book his book *Mother of Freedom: Mum Bett and the Roots of Abolition* at the New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park Street, Concord, on Sunday, April 5, at 2 p.m. Admission is free for New Hampshire Historical Society members and \$5 for

nonmembers. For more information about the Society and the benefits of membership, visit nhhistory.org or call 603-228-6688.