

## APPRECIATION

Commencing with the 1991 Town Report, the Town has annually recognized a Fremont resident who has given much of their time to the Town.

### THE 2018 APPRECIATION RECOGNIZES

### Matthew Thomas

Anyone who has been in Fremont for any length of time will be familiar with Matthew “Sandy” Thomas. He was designated as the **Official Town Historian** at the March 1994 Town Meeting. Matthew had been serving in this role in Fremont for many years before his official designation. He came to Fremont in 1960, relocating for some years in Exeter, but returning to the place he considers home, in 1977 and being an active Fremont community member ever since.



Matthew has been an active participant in the Fremont Historical Society for years, having various roles (currently President) as his time and the participation of other volunteers dictates. His contributions to the Town also include the immense collection included in the *Fremont NH - Old Poplin, 1764 to 2004 - An Independent New England Republic*. The Town paid to publish this collection in softcover in 1998, and an updated hardcover edition in 2004, but Matthew truly did all of the research, writing, and work to bring the project to fruition. He has also researched, written, and promoted New England’s rich historic past in several other venues, volumes, and locations.

He was actively involved in Fremont Bicentennial Celebrations in 1989 and 2014, chairing the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee during its planning from 2010 to the culmination events in 2014, working tirelessly with a great group of volunteers for years prior to the event to orchestrate it happening in grand fashion. He also was Fremont’s Co-Chair of the 1976 US Bi-Centennial Committee.

Additionally Matthew served the Town as Supervisor of the Checklist for 29 years from 1978 through January of 2007; and as a Library Trustee from 1998 to 2007. He currently serves as a Cemetery Trustee, a position he was first elected to in 2014.

**Thank you Matthew, for your many contributions to preserving  
Fremont’s rich and colorful history!**

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Photo courtesy of Lloyd Metevier