



Bring someone later on to see the Brickyard Roads exhibit — or come back and spend time creating a design at the interactive brick table.



Courtesy of Morin Brick Co.

**Museum**  
**L-A**

# History Detectives



HISTORY NEWSLETTER for YOUNG PEOPLE

SEPTEMBER 2009, ISSUE NO. 5



↑ The new exhibit opened August 1<sup>st</sup>! ↑

After-School Program: **Sept. 15**

The Story of Brick-making  
*and Can You Move Bricks?*

3:30 to 5pm, Tuesday ■ \$4.

■ **Sign up** by **Sept 14** ■

Visit the newest exhibit:  
Brickyard Roads at the  
next after-school program at  
**museumLA** on Sept. 15.

Is brick-making different today  
than 100 years ago? What were  
the jobs like? Why did we have  
so many brick-yards?



35 Canal Street, Lewiston  
**207-333-3881**  
www.museumla.org

## After-School Program

■ **Sept 15** ■ **Tuesday** ■

See the Modern Process of  
Making Bricks *and*  
Guess Who Can Move the  
Most Bricks!

3:30 to 5pm, Tuesday ■ \$4.00

**Sign up** by Sept 14

**Bring a friend!**

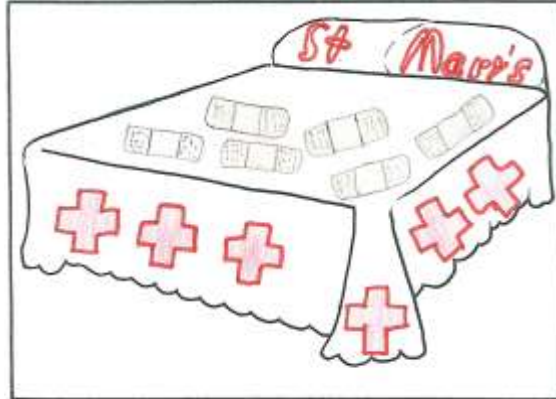
Annette Vance Dorey  
Director of Education  
Museum L-A  
35 Canal St., Box A-7  
Lewiston, ME 04240



Just before school ended for the summer, a couple hundred Lewiston students in grade 3 enjoyed field trips to Museum L-A. They learned about the weaving industry that filled our now-empty mill buildings. They discovered how the famous Bates bedspreads were created. They went back to school to try their hand at designing a bedspread. Enjoy the four examples of their creative designs on this page.

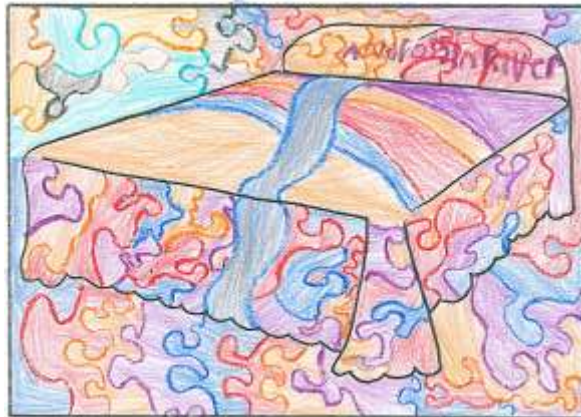


St. Peter's Basilica

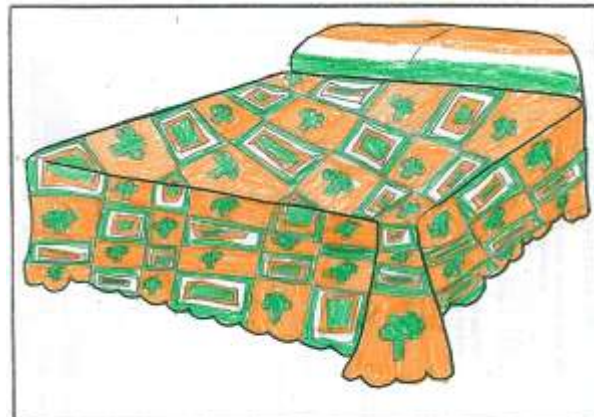


St. Mary's Hospital

You can look at over 200 student bedspread designs and read the 3rd-graders' short essays about their designs when you visit [museumL-A](http://museumL-A.com).



Androscoggin River Puzzle



My Irish Teacher

### Do You Know this brickyard jargon?

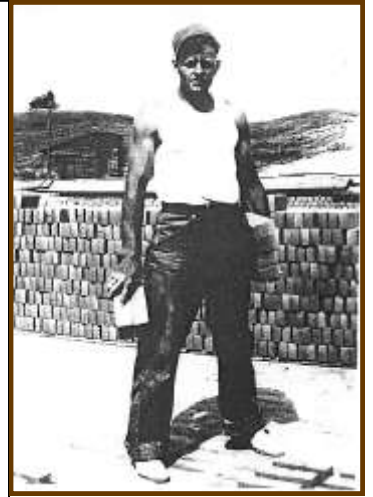
- barkers
- scoving
- hicking
- striker
- muscles
- edger
- daubing
- the pit

Guess where you can find out what these terms mean to brick-makers?

\_\_\_\_\_

WORD SEARCH ↓

L K R C D G B G M P H B G  
 I J K R V A N C S N I Q N  
 F U K C R I G I W X N C I  
 F M B K B S X Q V X D A K  
 N Z E U A H T N U O K W C  
 N R A E T U D R S K C K I  
 S D X D Z E V W I O I S H  
 W H X G P K A X K K V O E  
 Y I T E T F Y E Z E E H K  
 Q P C R Y I S N X D G R Y  
 P O S E L C S U M Z C K N  
 T H E P I T B F F X Z P P  
 A R L U U S Q K N B H T P



A typical brickyard worker, Alpheé Grenier, b. 1907, Quebec

Before You Visit [Brickyard Roads](http://BrickyardRoads.com): Guess how many brickyards we know about that have operated in the Lewiston–Auburn area over the past 170 years? \_\_\_\_\_

Choices: 2, 4, 8, 15, 22, 26, 32, 40, 66

Answer: Museum L-A

# Bedspread Design Contest

It has begun!

Try your hand at designing a bedspread.

Pick up the entry form and contest guidelines in the museum's Bates Design Dept. upstairs.

Return your entry before Dec. 31, 2009.

**Did You Know?** It took nearly 3 weeks for employees in the Design Department to color all the tiny dots on the design paper, once a new pattern was approved?

A WEAVER needed to have a good relationship with the FIXER in order to keep his loom running smoothly. If the loom broke down and stopped weaving, the WEAVER lost some of his pay!

## ASK an Expert:

A student asked: Q: Did those famous people and presidents choose those bedspreads? A: That is a great question. None of the people who had a famous Bates bedspread named for them was living at the time that Bates Manufacturing decided to create a series of Presidential Bedspreads in the 1960s and 1970s. The team of workers who designed these bedspreads thought that a series of bedspreads named for several famous U.S. Presidents and their wives (Martha Washington and Abigail Adams) would be popular and sell well because Americans were feeling very patriotic.

Those Presidential Bedspreads are woven on very complicated looms that can make patterns and designs that are raised, or puffy. In order to do that, the design for the bedspread must be transferred to about 12,000 punch cards that instruct the loom exactly how to weave. Annette Vance Dorey, Chief Detective

Seeing and hearing the stories told by mill workers –some worked 40 or 50 years in their mill jobs! –was one of the best parts of their visit, according to many students when Museum L-A visited their schools one week later.



Boys and girls listened carefully and learned about the whole process of designing intricate patterns & weaving heirloom bedspreads. They were also eager to ask Questions! ➔

How long did it take to build Bates Mill?

*Were there other places to work besides in the mills?*

How many people got sick here, from that stuff in their lungs?

*How many things of thread does it take to make one bedspread?*

Did those famous people and presidents choose those bedspread designs, or were they named when you made them?

*Did children really work in the mills?*



One Saturday in the Kids Korner, two very young sisters enjoyed themselves with a puzzle and *reading* books, before discovering the balls of colorful yarn they decided to unwind.

