

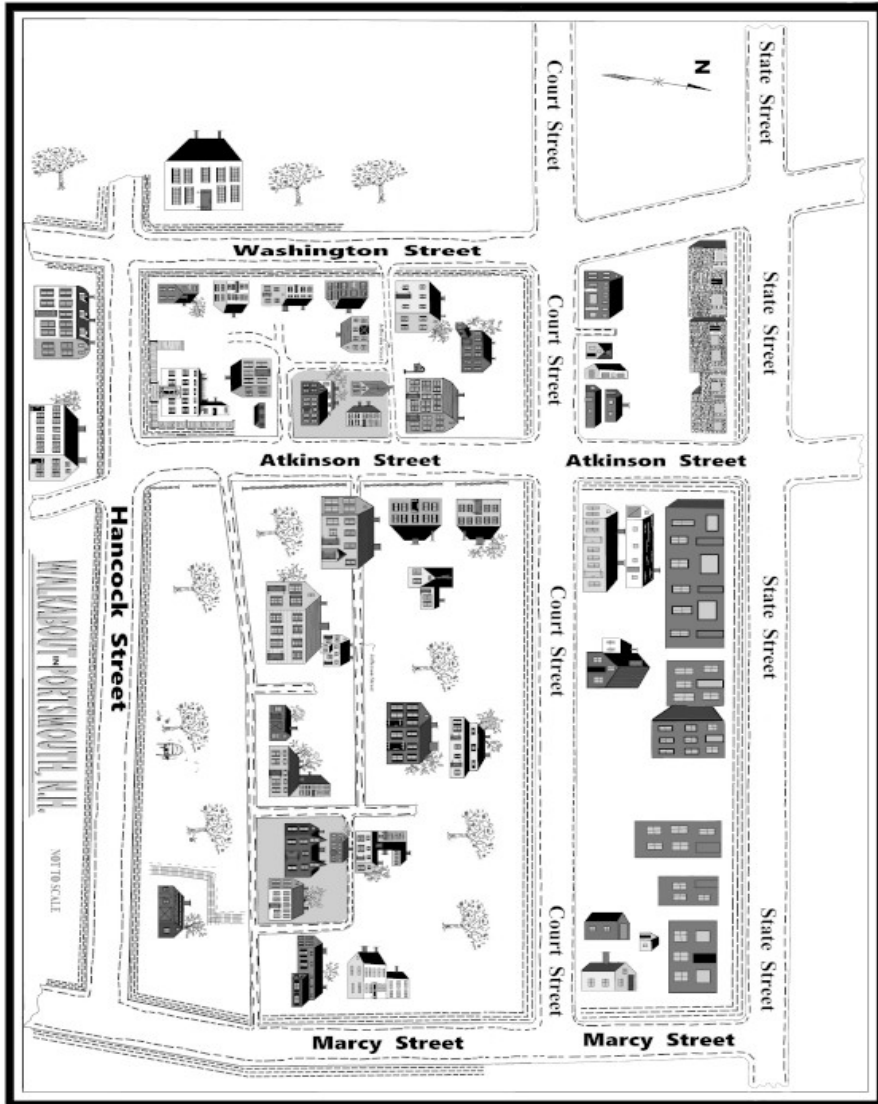
Turn of Fortune

Breaking news for the Kittery area, ... is it good news or simply a personalized victory to be harped on incessantly! Well, according to our own Viva Kittery reporter, its the latter!

A local dishwasher found a tray labeled, old tin tray with enamel.. in an antiques shop for 10 dollars. Weighing out the benefits of the tray taking up space for no reason and the value of having ten dollars... half a days pay in some areas... the dishwasher exclaimed .. I had an overwhelming need to clean it! Little wonder being a dishwasher our reporter noted.

Well from there on out it was a struggle the guy said. I put it through a commercial washer and thought it was clean.. I was not satisfied somehow. But i noticed that the outer area was not enamel after all and that it was corrosion developed from years of simple exposure to air and other conditional events.

So the dishwasher immediately went to the experts. FIRST, because it was marked Asian in origin he was able to have the piece confidently identified as a bonsai tree holder (planter) not a tray. Once identified the age of the metal piece was able to reach back to the year 700-ish into the Tang Dynasty in China where they worked with such chaste metals as copper and gold. Upon this awareness the dishwasher invested another 8 dollars in a bar of Gold cleaner, which easily (with



scrubbing pad from his professional tool box) removed the outer tarnish with ease. A beautiful gold shine appeared where the corrosion was removed. Calling other area experts on varied subjects the dish-guy learned that vinegar would turn the gold area black if not gold. He invested another 4 dollars in white vinegar and applied it to the GOLD area of the early Chinese bonsai tree holder. It maintained the gold luster.

Of course the last test must be done with an XRF metal analyzer, and from there it's one small step for "dish-kind" and one great leap to "Fortunes" ...