

The Bullard House

The Bullard House, located at 4 Woodward Avenue, was purchased in 1996 jointly by the Town and the Historical Commission, for use as a museum of local history and art, and as a temporary annex for the adjacent Town Hall. The Berlin Historical Commission took responsibility for repairs and renovations. In the beginning, most work was being done by volunteers from the Berlin Art and Historical Society with major funding was provided by the Society from fundraising efforts and through donations solicited in the community.

History of the Bullard House

The “Bullard House” was built in at least seven parts over two centuries, beginning as early as 1750. About 1790, the center and southwest corner was added to outfit the building as a tavern and inn, for which it was used until 1813.

The first store, as noted in a deed dated 1799, was located in or near the northeast corner the house. John Dexter was identified as keeper of both the store and inn. The northeast end has, at various times, served as the post office, a barbershop, and the firehouse. There were other proprietors of the store on this site, the last of whom was Solomon Howe, starting in 1802. (He later built the present Center Store building, originally located at the corner of Central and Pleasant Streets.)

