Press Release- Mr. Rockefeller's Roads: The Story Behind Acadia's Carriage Roads, 2nd Edition

By Ann Rockefeller Roberts - Wednesday, 6:00 pm - July 18, 2012 at The Northeast Harbor Library

On Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., Ann Rockefeller Roberts will present her updated version of her book Mr. Rockefeller's Roads: The Story Behind Acadia's Carriage Roads, at The Northeast Harbor Library in collaboration with The Mount Desert Land and Garden Preserve and The Beatrix Farrand Society at Garland Farm.

The beautiful carriage roads of Mount Desert and Acadia National Park fit so perfectly in to the land it seems as though they have always been there. Actually, they are the result of decades of painstaking effort. Although philanthropist John D. Rockefeller, Jr. planned them, the roads were built by Mount Desert Islanders over a 27-year period. Constructed of native materials and landscaped for a natural effect, the carriage roads are not accessible by car, so they remain a boon to walkers, horseback riders, bicyclists, and cross-country skiers.

In this fascinating history, Ann Roberts recounts the story of the carriage roads and a man ahead of his time. This second edition includes excerpts from an interview with David Rockefeller, son of JDR, Jr. and a detailed history of the roads' restoration following decades of neglect.

Curving gracefully across the island's dramatic landscape, Acadia's carriage roads form a network of trails unequaled in the National Park System.

Ann Rockefeller Roberts is the granddaughter of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and daughter of Nelson A. Rockefeller. Many of her early summers were spent in Seal Harbor where she rode, bicycled, and hiked the carriage roads and trails of Acadia National Park. A graduate of Wellesley College, she has a master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Virginia. She lives in New York.

Mary Louise Pierson took the photographs for the book. Her work is shown and collected nationwide. She is a passionate supporter of the arts and a longtime trustee of The Vermont Studio. A granddaughter of Nelson Rockefeller, she lives on a farm in Vermont with her husband and children.

The talk is free and open to the public but space is limited. First come - first serve. The books will be for sale at the presentation.