

THE WHIPPING POST

(ANOTHER TALE OF TIVERTON) (SEE BELOW)

Published by the

TIVERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE TALE OF THE WHIPPING POST

(From R.B. Burchard's historical address in Little Compton on September 7, 1904; the event taking place at Four Corners after the Revolution and before the War of 1812, where a terrified woman was bound to an upright stone post.)

Governor Isaac Wilbour was conspicuous in the crowd accompanied by two uniformed officers. The Governor read the statute. "The condemned prisoner shall be tied to an upright post and flogged according to the sentence of the court." This was met with such outcries and possible rebellion that he suggested to the ladies present that if there should be no "upright post" how could the law be carried out? A hundred willing hands united in overthrowing the offensive post and since then no women have been publicly flogged in Rhode Island.



ABOUT THE CHACE-CORY HOUSE

The Chace-Cory house was built around 1730 by Abner or Benjamin Cory, of whom little is known. After several changes in ownership, it was purchased by Andrew Cory in 1816 and remained in the possession of his descendants until 1962. There was a long tradition of seafaring in the Seabury, Cory, and Gray families, all of whom were related.

J. William & Isabelle Middendorf purchased the Chace-Cory House with the intention of moving it to Little Compton, but presented it to the Society instead in

An early 18th century gray press bed—a simple, early piece of farm house furniture, but very rare today.



1964. Restoration has continued since then.

The outside of the house now is just as it appeared when first built except for a new wing at the back, which was designed to conform to the period of the house. With restoration complete, all modern utilities are housed in the wing,

rather than in the original rooms. An old barn was removed, as it was past saving, but the 19th century wash house stands in the yard, as well as a corn crib and outhouse.

Heavy window frames were common in the 18th century in Rhode Island and eastern Massachusetts, but are seldom found in other parts of New

OUT HOUSE



ACQUISITIONS

Donated by Jeff & Mary Jane Cobb:

- Roped trundle bed
- Unusual wooden clothes dryer
- Various cast iron fireplace implements

Donated by Bob & Dianne Booth:

- A Superba wooden washing machine, circa 1900, (photo at right).

The Society will happily accept donations of items including, but not limited to, ephemera (i.e. postcards, wills, diaries, photos, etc.), pottery, cast iron, furniture, quilts and other needlework, crocks, bowls and other kitchen items, paintings, barn and farm items, and other interesting items related to day to day living during the periods of the Chace-Cory House.



**CHARTERED
IN 1879, THE
TIVERTON
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY IS
ONE OF THE
OLDEST
HISTORICAL
SOCIETIES IN
RHODE
ISLAND**

TIVERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Tiverton Historical Society was chartered in 1879 as an educational and charitable institution under the name "The Whitridge Hall and Bowen Memorial Chapel Association." For many years, Whitridge Hall provided a meeting place for clubs, church groups, young peoples' organizations, etc. Lectures and plays were given there. With the large number of modern public meeting places available in

Tiverton after 1950, the Hall was sold, and the association has devoted itself as a local historical society.

Current officers and directors are: Paul Cellemme-President; Jeffrey Cobb-Vice President; Mary Wehle-Treasurer; Mary Jane Cobb-Assistant Treasurer; Richard Taylor-Secretary; Carlton Brownell-Director Emeritus, and the following directors: Glenn Allen, Cynthia Allen, John Manchester, Ken DeCosta, Christopher Blanchette, Victor St. Laurent, Deborah Williamson, Michael Williamson, Kirsten Blanchette.

JOIN US!!

TIVERTON PRIDE!!!!

SHOW PRIDE IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND HELP THE TIVERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESERVE LOCAL HISTORY. BUY TIVERTON DECALS FOR \$2.00 EACH AT THE CHACE-CORY HOUSE, GRAY'S ICE CREAM, MANCHESTER TREE & LANDSCAPING, AND TOM'S MARKET.



WHAT'S INSIDE THE HOUSE? (Just a taste — come to see the rest of the house!!!)

The small bedroom on the southeast, the kitchen, and the pantry are almost exactly indicative of the 1730 period. Many coats of paint were removed from the woodwork. Floors in the kitchen and bedroom are replacements of antique pine from Old Stone Church. The very low doors at each end of the kitchen show the size in 1730 when all interior doors of the house were this size. Wrought iron latches on these low doors are original. The larger doors to the front rooms were added soon after 1800.

The blackened ceiling results from fireplace smoke where a fire probably burned every day for over a hundred years. Note the higher ceiling in the bedroom. For years after the house was built, the kitchen and bedroom walls were simply white-washed vertical oak boards. Later, lath and plaster were added, but this has since been removed. It is thought the bare white walls were exposed for about fifty years in the kitchen, and longer in the bedroom. These small downstairs bedrooms are sometimes called borning rooms because they were convenient for a new mother who needed to be near the center of activities, the kitchen.

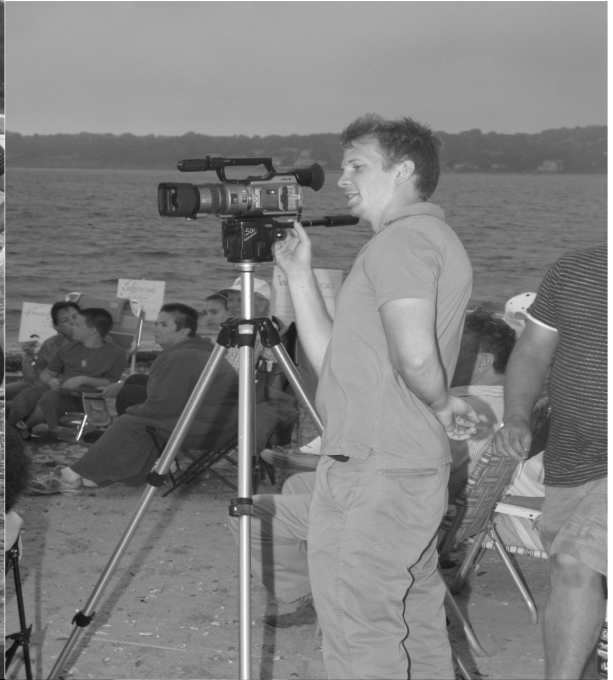
The oven at the rear of the fireplace is an early example, as later ones were located at the side of the fireplace. Fires were built directly in the oven, raked out, and food to be baked put in. This was a long, slow task, so baking day came only once a week. The wooden door, a great rarity, did exist until it accidentally burned in the 1970's.

The pantry was plastered before 1800 and painted green, and has been duplicated.











This WASH HOUSE is original to the property. Rare in New England, it would have been used to wash clothes in the summer so as to keep the house cooler. It probably would have been used to start seedlings in the spring also.

Some work has been done on the WASH HOUSE, but much more is required.

Inside the WASH HOUSE is an unusual cast iron stove with spaces to drop in the sad irons to be heated..



THE OUTHOUSE WAS MOVED TO THE PROPERTY. WORK WAS COMPLETED ON THE OUTSIDE, BUT A FAMILY OF RACCOONS MOVED IN THROUGH THE ROOF, CREATING A LARGE HOLE IN THE CEILING WHICH MUST BE PLASTERED! (see photo on masthead)



WHERE ARE WE AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?

We have just completed the shingling of the house roof (see photo below), and are currently having the windows reglazed, primed, and painted. The sidewall shingles need to be replaced. John Manchester is currently soliciting donations for a bundle (\$30.00) or a square (\$120) of shingles. Call John at 265-2650 if you would like to donate to this project. In the distant future we have plans to build an archival- quality barn to help preserve clothing, quilts, postcards, wills and other documents, books, photos, etc.



THANKS TO JOHN PECKHAM OF WOODY'S CARPENTRY FOR DOING SUCH A GREAT JOB IN SHINGLING THE ROOF AT THE CHACE-CORY HOUSE THIS SUMMER.



The CORN CRIB was moved to the property from Grover Douglas' farm in Tiverton. It is set on stone piers to keep the vermin out.

The corn crib would have been used to store johnnycake cake corn for grinding as well as corn for silage.

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C/O M.J. COBB, ASST. TREASURER

89 LEWIS STREET, TIVERTON, R.I. 02878



ONE FREE STICKER WITH MEMBERSHIP

HOUSE (CONT.)

The careful detailing of the exterior trim is noteworthy. Such rounded moldings were common in the 18th century, although seldom used today due to labor costs. Although some of the trim is original, most have been reproduced from the original. Nearly all the projecting window frames are original.

The chimney has been repaired with bricks of the same type as those originally used.

The granite steps to the road are probably additions of the early 19th century, although the front door step is thought to date from the building of the house.

A late dormer window on the front has been removed.

The front door with its brass latch dates from 1816, but the door is the same

windows of the new wing are old, removed from demolished Tiverton houses.

size as the original, since the overhead window light and much of the side frame are original.

The back door is a reproduction in old chestnut with antique hinges. The doors and .

ITEMS FOR SALE

- ◆ CAPT. GRAY, TIVERTON'S ILLUSTRIOUS SON BY FELIX DAVIS
- ◆ R.I. TERCENTENARY 1636-1936, HISTORIC EDITION OF TIVERTON, R.I.

The marrow squash was brought to Boston in 1833 by Native Americans from upstate New York, but is thought to be of prehistoric origin. It grows up to 30 pounds and is excellent for pie making.



Currently being grown in the garden at Chace-Cory House, along with Jonnycake corn, pole beans, herbs, etc.