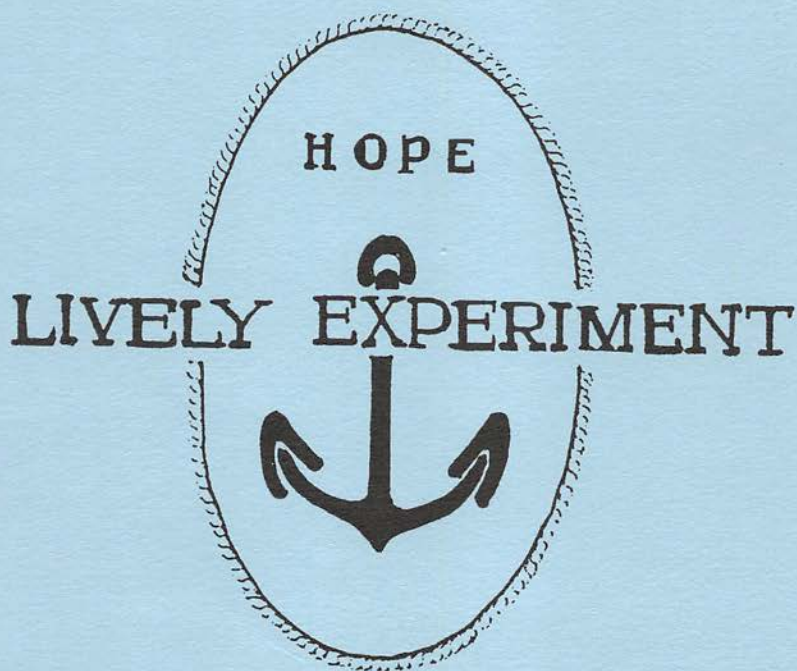


THE ORDER OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF  
RHODE ISLAND  
AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
1636-1647

Founded October 16, 1990



Volume II

1995

Number 1

THE ORDER OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF  
RHODE ISLAND  
AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
1636-1647

Founded October 16, 1990

# LIVELY EXPERIMENT

**Editor:**

Lilla McKnight Licht  
490 M St., SW; Apt W604  
Washington, D.C. 20024-2612

Volume II

1995

Number 1

## 1995-97 OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY



(left to Right): Gov. Gen: Grahame Thomas Smallwood Jr.; Tres. Gen.: Peter Arrott Dixon; Sect'y Gen.: Lilla Giles McKnight Licht; Registrar Gen.: Robert Carter Arnold; Chaplain Gen.: Rev. D. Gene Patterson; and Honorary Gov. Gen: C. Owen Johnson. (missing: see photo, page 25) Deputy Gov Gen: Col. Elmer Hall Palmer.

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**THE ORDER OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF  
RHODE ISLAND  
AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
1636-1647**

**FOUNDED  
OCTOBER 16, 1990**

**OFFICERS - 1995-97**

**Governor General**

Grahame Thomas Smallwood Jr.  
7825 Mary Cassett Drive  
Potomac, MD 20854-3228

**Deputy Governor General**

Colonel Elmer Hall Palmer  
7919 Post Road  
North Kingston, RI 02952

**Secretary General**

Lilla Giles McKnight Licht  
(Mrs. Frederic J. Licht Sr.)  
490 M St., SW; Apt W604  
Washington, D.C. 20024-2612

**Treasurer General**

Peter Arrott Dixon  
111 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**Registrar General**

Robert Carter Arnold  
P.O. Box 2816  
Reston, VA 22090-0816

**Chaplain General**

Rev. Donald Gene Patterson  
9 West Penn Street  
Muncy, PA 17756

**GREETINGS****From****Grahame Thomas Smallwood Jr.****Governor General, Order of The  
First Families of Rhode Island &  
Providence Plantations 1636-1647**

As one of the three Founders of our Order, I am indeed honored to have been elected as your second Governor General for the term 1995-1997.

We are not one of the largest hereditary societies, but our members take pride in their Rhode Island ancestry as noted in the large number of Supplemental papers submitted.

We also devote a weekend in October for our Fall meeting at a Rhode Island location. This year it was Portsmouth, and I was pleased to meet those with Portsmouth ancestry who attended our gathering the weekend of October 20-21.

Our annual Assembly will be held the 17th of April, 1996 at the Washington Club at 15 Dupont Circle.

We look forward to seeing each of you at our Spring Meeting. Our speaker will be our Deputy Governor General, Col. Elmer Hall Palmer of East Greenwich, R.I., who will speak on, "The Other Parts of Rhode Island".

## APRIL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

Wednesday, April 19, 1995, the Society met at the Washington Club on Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C.

The spring Assembly began with a social hour followed by luncheon.

Rev. D.Gene Patterson, Chaplain General, gave the Invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Grahame T. Smallwood Jr, Deputy Gov. General.

Eleanor Niebell was given recognition of appreciation for the arrangements for our spring Assembly.

Reports of Officers were given. Treasurer General Peter A. Dixon reported Deposits of \$5972. Disbur- of \$4598.03 with a balance on hand as of 19th April of \$10,410.13.

Robert C Arnold was appointed to audit books of the Treasurer.

Gov. General C. Owen Johnson suggested a new roster be made with todays election of new officers.

Registrar General Robert Arnold reported 14 new members for a total membership of 139. 8 members turned in Supplementals for a total of 39 Supplementals on file. He reported that Ralph Allen Cangston has the largest number of Supplements: 31.

Lilla M Licht, Editor of Lively Experiment provided her report and requested that members please send her stories on their R.I. ancestors and any Antedotes they would enjoy sharing with the membership.

## MINUTES

She reported that the magazine is donated to seven libraries: Library of Congress, NSDAR, NSSAR, Colonial Dames Seventeenth Century, NYG&BS, NEGHS, and RIHS. Members may donate copies of the magazine to their State libraries for a tax deductible contribution of \$20.00 per Volume (2 year subscription). Send requests to the Treasurer General with check.

The Ancestral Roll Call of members attending the luncheon was read by Gov General C Owen Johnson.

Following the luncheon, Patricia Wilson Rice, a member of OFFRR&PP, gave a talk on Samuel Gorton which will be found in Vol II, #1 of the Lively Experiment.

Secretary General Col. Donald R. Perkins gave the report of the nominating committee. Officers for the 1995-97 term nominated and elected by the members are: Governor General: Grahame T. Smallwood Jr; Vice-Gov. General: Col. Elmer Palmer; Secretary General: Lilla M Licht (Mrs. Frederic J. Licht Sr.); Registrar General: Robert C. Arnold; Chaplain General: D. Gene Patterson; Chancellor General: Charles Owen Johnson.

The membership voted that C Owen Johnson be made an Honorary Governor General.

(Continued page 6)



**SAMUEL GORTON**  
**POLITICAL & RELIGIOUS LEADER**  
**FOUNDER OF WARWICK, R.I.**

[Speech given by member, Patricia Wilson Rice at Spring Assembly, '95]

It is indeed a pleasure to speak to you today concerning one of my very favorite Colonial ancestors - Samuel Gorton.

"Who was Samuel Gorton? What type of man was this who stirred some to become his ardent disciples and others to explode with intemperate wrath? What inner fire led him to challenge the whole powerful Massachusetts Bay establishment, which was determined, through a quarter century of machinations to crush his small settlement and to absorb all of the territory of Rhode Island?"<sup>1</sup>

"He has been called one of the most interesting characters of the 17th Century Colonial period. Enigmatic and mystical in his religious beliefs, he was, nevertheless, pragmatic and aggressive as a founding father of Rhode Island. He is given much credit for the principles which governed the early history of that most liberal of colonies."<sup>2</sup>

"Samuel Gorton's political creed maintained that the immigrants in America deserved the same

(Continued page 15)

## MINUTES

A motion was made by Lilla Licht and seconded by C. Owen Johnson that the Society create the office of Historian General. Motion passed.

Following announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

Members and guests attending the Spring Assembly: Peter A. Dixon, Michael J. L. Greene, Rita London White, Carleton B. White, MD; Stephen Wallstreadt, Kimberly Arnold, Elaine Wideman, Carol Ginder, Lairie Hall, Leon Howard Arnold, Anne McKown, Janet Patterson, Barrett L. McKown, Raymond N. Zimmerman Jr., Lilla M. Licht, Mary R. Northrop, Betty Westcott Acher, Jacqueline Strickland, Marcia N. Moyer, Stephanie A. Soutouras, Rev. D. Gene Patterson, Grahame T. Smallwood Jr., Patricia W. Rice, Robert C. Arnold, and Eleanor Niebel'

---

### Flowers of the Field

---

Summer, 1995:

Charter Member #4 Life

**Ralph Allen Cangston** of

Garden Grove, CA. Survived by wife Dorothy Ann Meier

---

**NEW MEMBERS**  
**Since February 1995**

#136

Hon. Raymond Lawrence Drake  
P.O. Box 2, 101 W. Galena St.  
Cripple Creek, CO 80813  
ANCESTOR: John Peckham

#137

Patricia Anne Scheurs  
2901 North Swan Road  
Tuscon, AZ 85712-1222  
ANCESTOR: Samuel Gorton

#138, Life Member

Edward Dunn Havens Jr.  
1505 Via Boronada  
Palos Verdes Estates, CA  
90274-1857  
ANCESTOR: William Havens

#139

Ona Marlene Rathbun Wilkinson  
(Mrs. Edward Lewis Wilkinson)  
6896 Richard Wilson Drive  
Millington, TN 38053-3934  
ANCESTOR: Nicholas Cottrell

#140

Richard Marshall Burr  
222 Elm Street  
Westville, NJ 08093  
ANCESTOR: John Wickes

#141 Life Member

Stuart Waterman  
46 East Lamoka Avenue, Apt A  
Savona, NY 14879  
ANCESTOR: Richard Waterman

**NEW MEMBERS**  
(Continued)

- #142 Life Member  
Elaine Denise Eaton Bernstorff  
(Mrs. David James Bernstorff)  
6621 Farmview  
Wichita, KS 67206-1008  
ANCESTOR: Samuel Gorton
- #143 Herman Lewis Wielaned  
2511 N. Waverly Drive  
Bossier City, LA 71111-5933  
ANCESTOR: John Wood

**SUPPLEMENTALS**  
**February - August 1995**

- #17 Life Member  
Col. Elmer Hall Palmer  
1401 South County Trail  
East Greenwich, RI 02818-1622
- Supplement #17:  
Walter Palmer
- #47 Charter Member  
Thomas Mayhew Smith  
15 Tenney Street  
Cambridge, MA 02140
- Supplement #1  
Pardon Tillinghast  
Supplement #2  
Thomas Olney  
Supplement #3  
Surgeon John Greene

(Continued page 21)

## STUKELY WESTCOTT

[Information for this article was contributed by Betty Arline Westcott Acker (Member #105). It comes from Westcott History and Genealogy, Vol I (1932) & Vol II (1939). Both volumes were written by Roscoe L Whitman, founder of the "Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants of America" in 1934. The Society's next gathering will be in Des Moines, IA in 1996.

On 24 June 1635, Stukely Westcott, his wife Juliana, and their 6 children arrived in Massachusetts from Ilchester, Somersetshire Co., Eng. The family first settled at Salem where in 1636, "Stukely Westcott" is recorded as a grantee of land.

His, "house lot of one acre" is described in an old colonial deed of 8 Oct 1643, as being bounded on one side by the 'salt water' indicating that his place faced the shore of the peninsula. He was made a Freeman of Salem in 1636 and on 25 Oct 1637, his 'house lot' had been granted to him as, "one of the inhabitants and freeman."

It was here, while Roger Williams served the Salem church that the two men met. Later events show that Stukely Westcott was one of Williams' closest and warmest friends and shared with him his opinions. Westcott, too, was soon to have the 'great censure' for "heresy" passed upon him.

## Stukely Westcott

Westcott obtained license from the General Court, 12 Mar 1638, to remove with his family out of the jurisdiction of the Mass. Bay colony, "& for that information hath bene given to the Court that yo (your) intent is onely to w drawe (withdraw) yo selues for a season, that you may avoyde the Censure of the Court in some thing we may be objected against yo."

Stukely and wife, 5 Jan 1639, were "published" in the church at Dorchester, along with Williams & his wife, John Throckmorton & wife, Thomas Olney & wife, Mary Halliman and 'Widdow' Reeves.

On 8 Aug 1638, nearly five months after Stukely Westcott had been ordered to leave Salem, Roger Williams, "freely admitted twelve loving friends and neighbors" into equal ownership with himself of lands he had first purchased in 1636. On that list of stalwart men first appears the name of Stukely Westcott, and second, the name of William Arnold. The 8th name on the list is that of William Carpenter, who with Westcott and Arnold, made the crossing together from England. Others were: John Greene, Thomas James, Robert Coles, William Harris, John Throckmorton, Thomas Olney, Francis Weston, Richard Waterman and Ezekiel Holliman.

All but Arnold, Greene and Carpenter, the former being from

## Stukely Westcott

Hingham, MA, were from Salem. Including Roger Williams, all became ancestors, through marriage, in the second to fifth generations, of the descendants of Stukely Westcott.

When the whole number of settlers, including the original 13, had reached 52, they made a first division between them of a portion of the lands upon which the city of Providence and its immediate suburbs, including Cranston, are located, allotting to each a 'home lot' and an outlying six acre lot. The 'home lots' each contained about five acres.

Based upon old deeds of 11 Nov 1664, it is believed that Stukely Westcott's 'homd lot' in Providence was located upon the present block bounded by Waterman St. on the north and College St. on the South, and nearly in the center of that block and extending from N. Main St. eastwardly to Hope Street.

In October 1638, Stukely contributed 2 pounds, 10 shillings, toward defraying the town expenses, and on the third day of that month, Rober Williams receipted to him for 18 pounds, 11 shillings, 3 pence, in full covering the grant of land of the previous August.

The first Baptist church to be organized in America, the old First Baptist Church of Providence, was founded March 1638-9. Stukely West-

## Stukely Westcott

cott and his wife were received into its membership at the time of its organization, after baptism by Roger Williams. This re-baptism of adults who had been previously baptised by sprinkling, gave great offense to the mother church at Salem when they heard of it. The Salem church then excommunicated the eight re-baptised members that had belonged to them. Stukely and his wife were among them

12 May 1642, Stukely was a party to the agreement for the division of Pawtuxet from Providence.

While the old records make it appear that Stukely Westcott removed with his family from Providence to Old Warwick in the Spring of 1647, it is reasonably certain that he was at least active at Warwick as early as the Spring of 1643. He was one of the nine persons there in that year who were taken to Boston, whom he calls, "the first settlers of Warwick". And as the soldiers killed one of his sheep, he must have been in Warwick long enough in Sept, 1643, to acquire such a flock.

Following their pardon from the Mass. authorities, Stukely Westcott on 30 March 1644, bore witness under oath to, "the outrage committed upon property and the persons of the first settlers of Warwick because they refused to subject themselves to the pretended juris-



## Stukely Westcott

diction of the Massachusetts Bay colony."

The reason why Westcott left Providence, where he had been received by Roger Williams as one of his "loving neighbors", for a home with Gorton and his friends, maybe due to the opportunity to acquire land purchased from the Indians by Gorton and his associates. It was undoubtedly a factor.

"In addition to his house lot, "three score acres of land" were set off to him near Pawtucket Falls. This was the first of several grants of large tracts he received.

The actual extent of the land in the Providence Plantations acquired and owned by Stukely Westcott, will probably never be known. That he possess upward of 20,000 acres in what is now Providence and Kent counties is a matter of public record. That this by no means comprised all his land, is indicated by an old deed dated 10 Oct 1671. His land domain extended north of Providence, as well as to the South and the West.

The following itemization of some of the activities of Stukely Westcott from August, 1647 to the Summer of 1675, shows him as having been diligent in his duties as a citizen and as a public official:

1647 Aug 8

Was second and his son Robert

**Stukely Westcott**

6th on a list of eight, comprising the Towne Council...

1649 Aug 14

Is sued by the son of Gov. Greene for trespass; verdict found for him at trial.

1649

Chosen with Ezekiel Holyman to collect 13 pounds to pay for watching cattle against Indian intrusion.

1649 Dec 10

Sells six acres of his 'out lot' at Providence.

1651 Nov.

And again Feb, 1662, and Dec., 1662, chosen Deputy to represent Warwick in the Colonial Assembly.

1652 May 10

Chosen juryman, in which capacity he frequently served for years.

1652 May 12

Sells his house, orchard and lot in Providence, to Samuel & Anna Ben nett, whose granddau., Priscilla, was later to become the wife of his grandson Stukely.

1652 June 7

Appt with two others to lay out the meadows about the Towne.

1652

Chosen one of the surveyers, an office he held almost continuously until his last appointment 21 Nov 1676.

(Continued page 23)

## Samuel Gorton

rights as Englishmen in the old country; that government should be set up under law and royal charter, rather than be self constituted, and should be limited to civil affairs, otherwise the magistrates would be able to impose their own religious beliefs upon the populace; that the civil rights of the individual should be protected, and also that the minority should be protected from the passing whim of the majority. He advocated that the colonists purchase their lands from the Indians, while he is credited with sponsorship of one of the first laws for the emancipation of slaves."<sup>3</sup>

"Samuel Gorton was a strong advocate of freedom of worship and was among the very few of his day willing to extend this privilege to Quakers.

"He taught that immortality was dependent upon the total character of an individual; that all rituals and ordinances should be abolished. He denied the doctrine of the Trinity, but believed that Christ was God and the only proper object of worship."<sup>4</sup>

"He believed there was no necessity for a special group of men to serve as ministers to others. A Biblical scholar and eloquent preacher, he inspired groups of his

Continued page 16,

**Samuel Gorton**

adherents throughout New England. Later in England, he drew such large audiences to his sermons that he infuriated some of the established clergy. They insisted on a Parliamentary hearing of allegations against his charges of which he was quickly cleared by the Parliamentary committee."<sup>5</sup>

"Although he left behind no religious sect, since it would not have been in his character to do so, his adherents bore an almost idolatrous testimony to their adoration for him as an individual. For a hundred years, there were adherents of his views, who called themselves Gortonists or Gortonions, but he did not establish an organized church."<sup>6</sup>

It is noteworthy that he advocated, for that era, more than the average amount of personal freedom for women.

"This then was Samuel Gorton; forthright, disputatious, a spokesman for the rights of the individual; a champion of equity, civil and religious; excoriated by his antagonists, idolized by his followers; a towering figure in early Rhode Island history."<sup>7</sup>

Baptized 12 February 1592 in the Cathedral Church in the chapelry of Gorton, Manchester, Lancashire, England. Although not a college or

# OWNERS & DESCENDANTS OF GREENE HOMES

(RIGHT):

Mrs. Nancy Kessler  
Owner of the Greene  
-Gorton house built  
1684.



(BELOW):

Thomas Casey Greene  
Owner with his  
mother Mrs. Anna  
Greene of Nathaniel  
Greene home built  
1682.



**Samuel Gorton**

university graduate, Gorton did possess a good classical education obtained from private tutors. He learned to read the Bible in the original tongues and was well versed in English law.

"Previous to 1630, he married Mary Maplett, who came from a well known and wealthy family. Mary's grandfather, Rev. John Maplett, was a distinguished clergyman..graduate of Queens's College, Cambridge. Her brother, Dr. John Maplett, graduate of Oxford, practiced both law and medicine at Bath and Bristol, as well as serving a physician extraordinary to King Charles II.

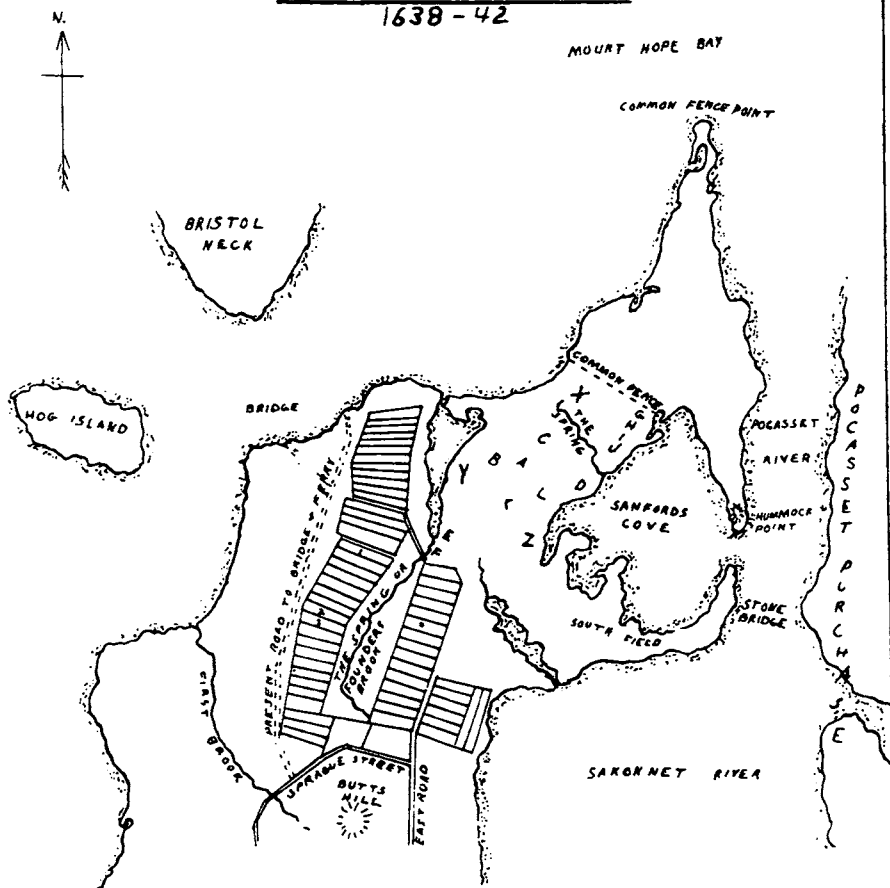
"Samuel Gorton, describing himself as Gentleman, Citizen of London, Clothier and Professor of the Mysteries of Christ, landed in Boston in the spring of 1637. His persuasive speeches soon disturbed the Puritan leaders, being troublesome and insolent and received orders to leave the settlement. His destination was the Narragansett Bay area ...specifically Aquidneck Island.

"Finding conditions uneasy during his stay at Pocasset (later Portsmouth), Gorton moved to Providence, where he was never to attain Freeman status.

"Hostilities grew, resulting in Gorton's resettlement at Pawtuxet (now Cranston), as the power of Ma-

# PORTSMOUTH.

1638 - 42



A. WILLIAM CODDINGTON  
 B. JOHN CLARKE  
 C. RANDAL HOLDEN  
 D. WILLIAM HUTCHINSON  
 E. SAMUEL WILBORE  
 F. WILLIAM BAULSTON

G. NICHOLAS EASTON  
 H. EDW. HUTCHINSON SR  
 I. EDW. HUTCHINSON JR  
 J. JOHN SANFORD  
 K. JOHN COGGESHALL  
 L. WILLIAM DYRE

1. RICHARD HAWKINS  
 2. PHILLIP SHERMAN  
 3. SAMUEL GORTON  
 X. NORTH FIELD  
 Y. WEST FIELD  
 Z. GREAT FIELD

EDWARD W. WEST.

Map by Edward W. West, Rhode Island  
 Historical Society Collections,  
 October, 1939 [Reprint]

**Samuel Gorton**

ssachusetts Bay continued to threaten his freedom, as well as those of his devoted followers.

"1642, Gorton purchased Shawomet, encompassing what is present day Warwick, West Warwick and Coventry (Kent County). Problems continued to escalate, resulting in a raid on the settlement and trial and imprisonment of Gorton and the others in Boston. The magistrates eventually came to realize that Samuel Gorton and fellow Gortonists were continuing to speak out and at the same time rapidly gaining adherents. Gov. Winthrop set them free in March, 1644 with 14 days to leave...and ordered them to stay beyond the boundaries of Massachusetts, "on pain of death."

"Gorton later left on a mission to England to obtain a Royal Charter for Rhode Island. While there, he defended its political independence from the threat of Massachusetts power. In honor of Lord Warwick, whose influence was crucial in securing the Charter, Gorton named the town, Warwick.

"There was still a great deal to be done. Gorton found himself more and more involved politically. Named 'Assistant' (Representative to the Assembly) from Warwick in 1649, he was elected for 13 additional terms from 1651 to 1666.

(Continued page 27)



**SUPPLEMENTALS**  
(Continued)

#112 Patricia Wilson Rice  
1 Main Street, Apt 18  
Youngstown, NY 14174-1094

Supplement #1  
Samuel Gorton

#142 Life Member  
Elaine Denise Eaton Bernstorff  
(Mrs. David James Bernstorff)  
6621 Farmview  
Wichita, KS 67206-1008

Supplement #1  
Rev. John Crandall

**ADDRESS CHANGES**

#45 Charter member  
Robert L French  
479 Angell Hill Road  
Chatham, NY 12037-2003

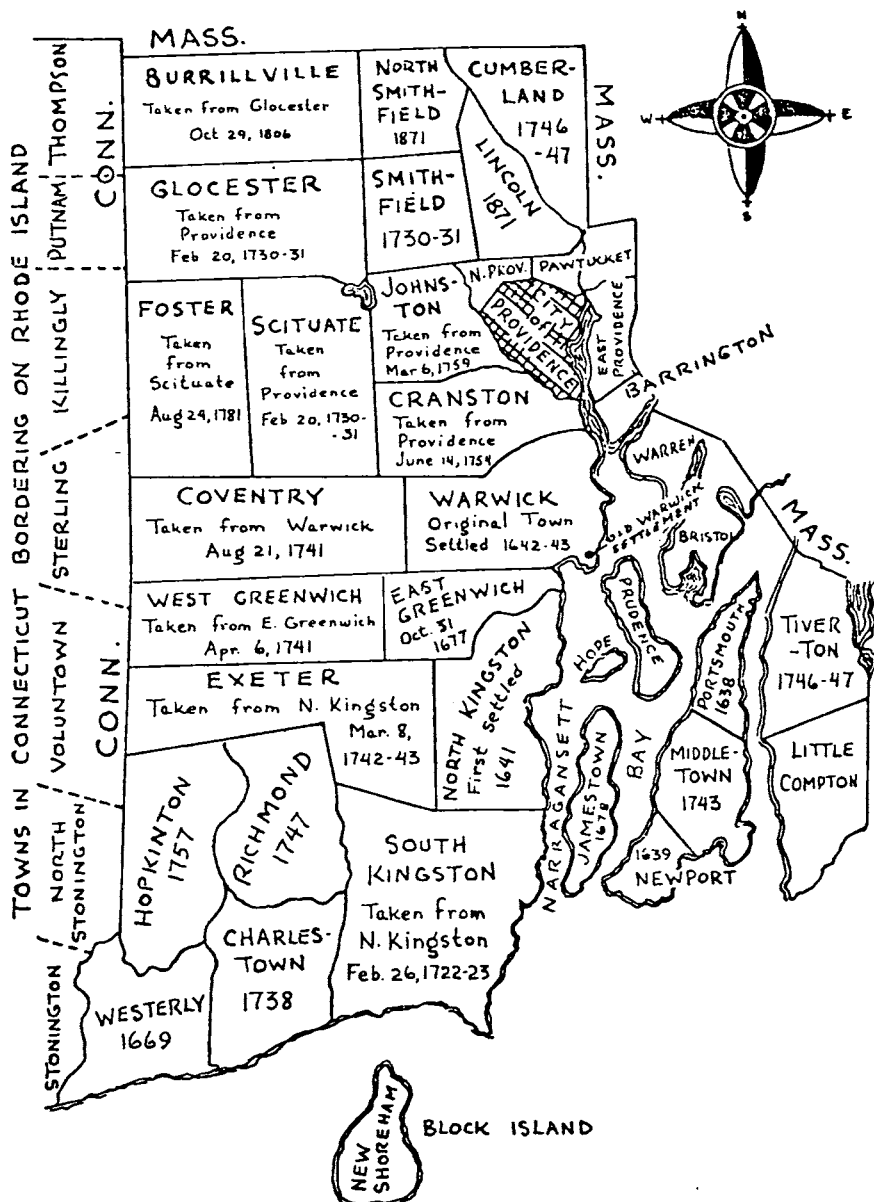
#61 Charter member  
Walter C. Burgner, Jr.  
2005 Ann Way Drive  
Lima, OH 45805-1619

#107 Mrs. Ellen Rathbone G. Brown  
1701 SW Capri St., #G144  
Palm City, FL 34990-4537

(Continued Page 29)

## BOOK OF APPENDICES

## TOWNS IN RHODE ISLAND



The above map shows the various townships in Rhode Island with dates when they were formed; also the bordering towns across the State line in Connecticut. Providence, 1636, was first to be settled; then Portsmouth, 1638, Newport, 1639, Warwick, 1642. The executive heads of Portsmouth and Newport were first entitled Judges, until 1640, when these two towns were united, and the chief officer was thereafter called Governor. Providence and Warwick had no executive head until 1647, when the four towns were united under a charter or patent granted in 1643 by parliament. Roger Williams was probably Chief Officer from Sept., 1644, to May, 1647.

**Stukely Westcott**

to the Governor; two from each of the four settlements forming the Governor's Council. He served in such capacity in a number of years.

1655

And again in 1660, elected Deputy to the Assembly.

1656 Dec

Deeds land to his sons Robert, Amos and Jeremiah.

1662

Representative for Warwick in Colonial Assembly.

1664

Authorized to keep an 'ordinary' (public house or inn) and to entertain the King's Commissioners when they held court in Warwick.

1665 Feb 19

Allotted 7350 acres of common lands lying west of the 7 mile limit. He was given a 2nd allotment 7350 acres 12 Apr 1675.

1670 Oct 10

His son Amos lives with him in the old homestead, indicating that Rosanna, his wife, had recently died.

1671, Apr

Elected Deputy to the Colonial Assembly; this is the last public service recorded of him. He retired from public life in 1672, at the age of eighty.

"At Portsmouth on that Island,

Continued page 24

## Stukely Westcott

on 12 Jan 1677, at the home of his grandson Caleb Arnold, he sickened and died. His remains, borne by his sons across the bay to its western shore near to which the last thirty years of his life had been passed, were laid at rest beside those of his wife, in the first public burial ground of Warwick, adjoining his home lot and former residence."

The date of the marriage of Westcott and the baptism of his first two children are recorded in the parish register of the ancient St. John the Baptist Church at Yeovil. He married 5 Oct 1619 to Juliana Marchant(e), daughter of John Marchant who was bapt at Yeovil 8 Aug 1571, and granddaughter of John & Eva (Cominge) Marchant who were married at Yeovil 18 July 1568. The parents of Stukely Westcott are unknown.

Children of Stukely & Juliana (Marchant) Westcott:

- i. Damaris Westcott, bapt 3 Mar 1621; m. Benedict Arnold who was the first Governor under the Royal Charter. He d. 20 June 1678 while serving his 3rd term.
- ii. Samuel Westcott, bapt 3 Mar 1623. Appears to have died as a young man unmarried.

(Continued page 26)

# DESCENDANTS OF STUKELY WESTCOTT



**STUKELY WESTCOTT MONUMENT  
SHAWAMUT (WARWICK), R.I.**

(Left to Right) #105, Betty Arline Westcott Acker; Charter #44, Robert C. Arnold; Robert Greene (guest); Charter #4, Ralph Allen Cangson; Charter #17, Col. Elmer Hall Palmer (Not Present): Charter #88, Marcia Holly Morgan.

**Stukely Westcott**

Children of Stukely & Juliana  
(Marchant) Westcott, continued:

- iii. Robert Westcott b. @1625/26.  
m. Catherine \_\_\_\_\_.
- iv. Amos Westcott b. @1630/31; d.  
prior to 1688; m/1 Sarah Staf-  
ford; m/2 Deborah Stafford.  
Both were daughters of Thomas  
Stafford.
- v. Mercy Westcott, b. @ 1632; m.  
Samuel Stafford, son of Thom-  
as Stafford..
- vi. Jeremiah Westcott, b. @ 1634

**CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS**  
**TO**

**Volume 1, #4, page 2**

**Fall Meeting - 22 October 1994**

In regards to the houses that we  
visited in Warwick, R.I.) Surgeon  
John Greene's house - his son James  
Greene built the house. General  
Nathaniel Greene was the most  
important occupant. There have been  
ten generations of Greenes living  
here.

The second home was built by  
Samuel Gorton's son-in-law Samuel  
Greene. Since 1718, it has been  
known as the Governor Greene Farm.  
Two Governors, one Deputy and a  
U.S. Senator, all Greenes, lived  
here.

(paragraph five) Wreath laying  
cermonies were held at the graves  
of Deputy John Greene and Stukely  
Westcott.

## Samuel Gorton

"1651-52, he served as President /Governor of the Providence Plantations. He also held the positions of Deputy and Judge 1664-1667... again in 1670.

"Samuel Gorton died between 27 Nov. and 10 Dec. 1677 and was buried in the family cemetery at Warwick Cove. At his request, the Warwick Patent, obtained through assistance from Lord Warwick, was placed across his chest. His grave is designated by a R.I. Governor's marker, which reads, "Samuel Gorton President/Governor, State of Rhode Island, under the Royal Charter, 1651-1652".

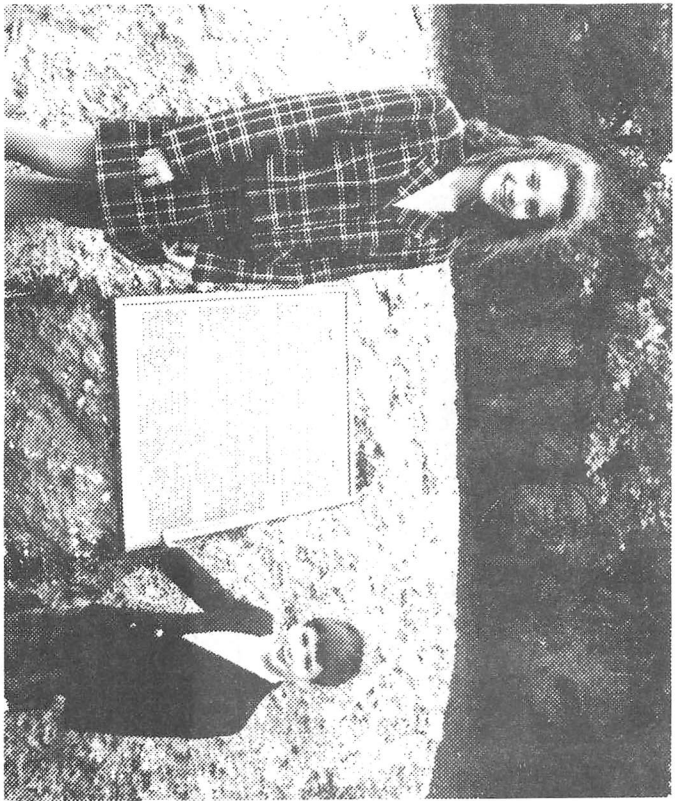
"His valedictory might well be taken from his last letter to John Winthrop, Jr., when he wrote with gratitude about, "God's hand to us in these partes, which hath removed us into a place more suitable to English bodies than other partes are: wherein the people are multiplified beyond thoughts of heart their affairs and implyes successful, their courage not diminished."<sup>8</sup>

### REFERENCES:

Samuel Gorton of Rhode Island And His Descendants, Vol I & II, by Thomas Arthur Gorton, Ph'D, Gateway Press, 1985, pp. 1, 2, 54.

**YOUNGEST ATTENDEES**

Mary and Thomas Patterson, whose father is Chaplain Gen. Rev. Donald Gene Patterson, were the youngest attendees at our Fall 1995 Rhode Island meeting.





**ADDRESS CHANGES**  
(continued)

- #121 Marion Rood  
(Mrs. Dave Rood)  
2017 Randall Drive  
Jackson, MI 49201
- #71 Charter member  
Dr. Clifton Rowland Brooks  
10717 Sunset Blvd  
Oklahoma City, OK 73120-2437
- #113 Brett Dicken Brown  
237 Wedgewood Circle  
Lake Worth, FL 33463-3078
- #79 Charter member  
William Schilling Lutz  
1410 Rockledge Lane, #8  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

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**SRING ASSEMBLY : APRIL 17, 1996**  
**Washington Club, 15 Dupont Circle,**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**WATCH MAIL FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF**  
**DETAILS & RESERVATIONS INFORMATION**

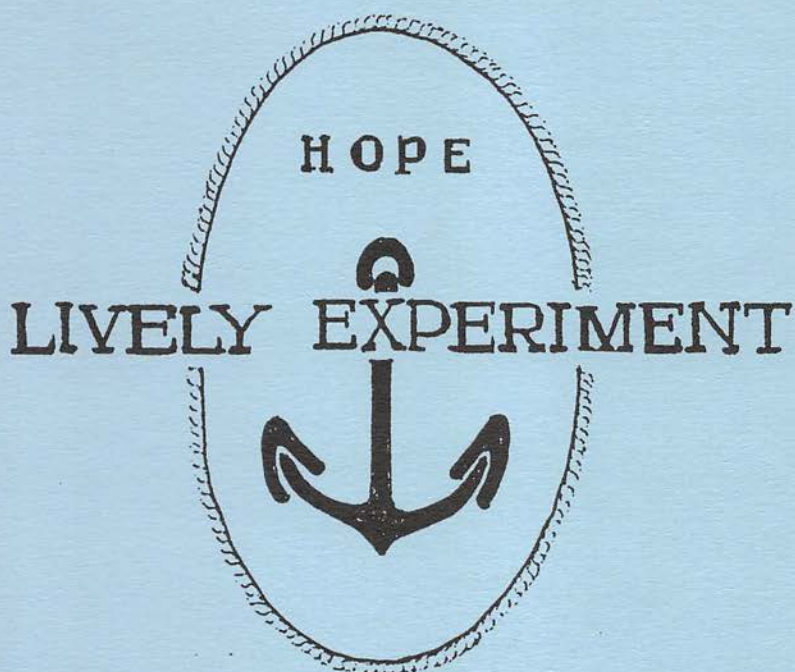
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THE ORDER OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF  
RHODE ISLAND  
AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
1636-1647

Founded October 16, 1990



Volume II

1997

Numbers 2 & 3

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**THE ORDER OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF  
RHODE ISLAND  
AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS 1636-1647**

Founded October 16, 1990

**OFFICERS - 1997-99**

**Governor General**

Colonel Elmer Hall Palmer  
1401 South County Trail  
East Greenwich, RI 02818-1622

**Deputy Governor General**

Robert Carter Arnold  
2700 Q St., NW #139  
Washington, D.C. 20007-5004

**Secretary General**

Peter Arrott Dixon  
111 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**Treasurer General**

Thomas Mayhew Smith  
15 Tenney Street  
Cambridge, MA 02140

**Registrar General**

Lilla Giles McKnight Licht  
490 M St., SW, #W604  
Washington, D.C. 20024-2612

**Chaplain General**

Rev. Donald Gene Patterson  
9 West Penn Street  
Muncy, PA 17756

**Historian General**

Betty Arline Westcott Acker  
2145 Richvale Road  
Nashport, OH 43830-9727

## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

April 17, 1996, the Annual meeting convened at 11:30AM with a social hour. Pres. General "Chips" Smallwood welcomed the membership and their guests.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by invocation by Chaplain Rev. Donald Gene Patterson.

Following a delicious luncheon the Ancestor Roll Call was taken: William Arnold, John Anthony, James Barker, Richard Gale, Robt. Carr, Lady Clark, Jeremy & Joseph Clark, John Coggeshall, Rev. Gregory Dexter, Gov. Easton, Ralph Earl, John Field, George Gardiner, Sgt. John Greene, Wm. Hall, John Hicks, Wm. Hutchinson, Thomas Lawton, Adam & John Mott, Stephen Northrup, John Potter, Wm. Olney, John Sherman, John Slocum, John Sweet, Edw. Thurston, Henry Timberlake, Stukey Westcott, Capt. Samuel Wilcox, Roger Williams, and Walter Palmer were represented by members present.

Gov. General "Chip" Smallwood gave a brief account of the October, 1995 meeting in Rhode Island.

Treasurer General Peter A. Dixon reported that balance on hand is \$12,402.92. A motion was made by Owen Johnson, seconded by Mr. Griffin to accept the Treasurer's report.

Registrar General Robert C. Arnold reported nine new members since April 1995. We now have 150 members including Founding Members. Ralph Cangston (who died the Summer of 1995) has the most Supplementals submitted - 31.

Secretary General & Lively Experiment Editor Lilla M. Licht asked to be notified of deaths of members, and if

## Minutes of Annual Meeting 1996

possible, a copy of their obituary for the Secretary's files. She thanked the membership for notifying her of address changes. She also welcomes from the members stories of their ancestors for the Society's magazine. If any member is missing a back issue of the Lively Experiment, please send her a postcard stating which issues you are missing.

A nominating committee for the election of officers in April, 1997 was elected: Robert Arnold, Eleanor Niebell Lilla M. Licht, Matthew Clark and Owen C. Johnson.

New Business: Peter A. Dixon reported for the Insignia Committee. We are to have ribbons for the Officers and medals for the membership. Barbara Lohr designed the ribbons; Dexter Schienenbeck designed the metals. The cost is estimated to be \$55/\$60 for a large medal; \$45/\$50 for smaller medals. The colors are taken from the early Rhode Island Flag. Elmer Palmer described the first flag of blue with white stars.

There being no other business, the business meeting adjoined at 2:05 PM.

Gov. General "Chip" Smallwood introduced our speaker, Deputy-Governor General Elmer Palmer.

Thirty Two members and guests attended the Annual Meeting. They were: Eleanor Niebell, Gov. General Grahame T. Smallwood Jr., Trustee C. Owen Johnson, Roger M. Pegram, Rev. Dr. Dixon Barr, Margaret M. Clarke, Mary Ruth Northrup, Robert E. Greene, Secretary General & Lively Experiment Editor Lilla M Licht, Marshal H. Morgan, Carolyn F. Lubker, Brig. Gen. Michael



## Minutes of Annual Meeting

J.L. Greene, Mr. & Mrs. Barrett McKown, Chaplain General Rev. D. Gene Patterson, Judith Marie Haddock Swan, Thomas N. Clarke, Dr. & Mrs. Carlton B. White, Deputy-Gov. General Col. & Mrs. Elmer Hall Palmer, Mr. & Mrs. Ruth L. Griffin, Dexter Schienenbeck, Mr. & Mrs. John J. Schlick, Registrar General Robert Carter Arnold, Treasurer General Peter Arrott Dixon, Patty Trollinger, Alesander Coates, Mrs. Barbara Lohr, and Jerry Zillion.

Respectfully submitted

Lilla M. Licht  
Secretary General

## 1997 ANNUAL MEETING

April 16, 1997, the Annual Meeting of the Society convened at the Washington Club at 11:30 AM for a social hour.

The meeting opened with Gov. Elect Elmer H. Palmer giving a short speech about the flag then leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain General D. Gene Patterson gave the invocation. Lunch followed.

Gov. General "Chips" Smallwood asked everyone to rise and we 'toasted' our Rhode Island ancestors. Members then introduced their guests to the Society.

Deputy Gov. General Elmer Hall Palmer reported that we have now visited the four original towns and Seekonk for Fall meetings. He will come up with a program for our 1997 Fall meeting.

Treasurer General Peter A. Dixon reported a Balance on hand: \$11,925.84.



## THE OTHER PLANTATION

[Speech given by Deputy-Governor General Col. Elmer Hall Palmer at annual meeting 17 April 1996].

On a cold snowy day in the winter of 1635-6, Roger Williams, who had just been banished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony, accompanied by a few of his followers, settled down in an area near a river which formed the boundary between two native American tribes who called themselves "Ninnuock" or men. They had been given by the white man the title of "Indian". The place where Roger Williams settled down to survive the winter was called "Seaki-honk". In the native language "Seaki" meant black and "Honk" translated into goose. Thus a place known by the name "Black Goose".

Roger Williams had come to the new world on the ship "Lyon" which left England 1 Dec 1630 arriving off Nantasket 5 Feb 1631 to serve as a preacher and to minister to the native Americans. He went to Salem and became their spiritual advisor for a few months. Massachusetts Bay, as the second colony in the area, had been settled by Puritans. The first colony called Plymouth had been settled by Pilgrims and there is quite a difference in their theological beliefs.

Roger had strong views. He was concerned with the rights of the native Americans. His ecclesiastical differences with the Puritanical Doctrines of other preachers in the colony, made his preaching considered close to being heretic. His independent thinking cer-

## The Other Plantation

tainly is a forerunner of the philosophy of the smallest colony in the present United States which has on the dome of it's Capitol building a statue of the Independent Man.

His non-conformist views not being well received in the church in Salem, and being a seeker, he went to Plymouth Colony and preached his views there for a couple of years.

His views were about as well received there by the Pilgrims as they had been by the Puritan congregation in Salem.

By the end of 1633, he returned to Salem to try again but his outspokenness of the established church angered the puritanical elders to the extent that on 9 Oct 1635, he was given a perpetual banishment from the colony and was ordered to depart within six weeks. With winter approaching, he obtained permission to stay until spring. But he persisted in preaching his offensive doctrine and orders were sent to seize him in January, 1636.

It seems that he had foreseen the possibility of trouble as in 1634-35, while preaching in Plymouth and meeting with the natives, he had arranged for purchase of lands from Canonicus and Miantonomi, Sachems of the Narragansetts. Thus, in the middle of the winter, he left with a few of his followers for parts south of the colony where he could preach his views without interference.

He went to a place just west of the Narragansett lands and, finding it a favorable location, met in the spring with the great sachem of the Wampanoag,

## The Other Plantation

Osemequin (Massasoit) whom he had made a friend of and negotiated a grant of land in old Secuncke.

If we look at a map of the area (see page 11) we find a river (now called the Ten Mile River) flowing into a pond area (Omega Pond) which in turn overflowed into a much larger river (Blackstone) which was subject to tidal flow. The natives had set up at this junction their fish weir as it was a natural place for fish to transverse to their spawning grounds. A small island was a favorite place for wild fowl to use for nesting purposes. The flat characteristic of adjacent land surrounding this river and the fertile soil of its meadows, both fresh and salt, made it an ideal place to settle the first Seecuncke Plantation.

It was here that in the spring of 1636 that he began to build and plant, thinking he was beyond the jurisdiction of both Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay. This home was located a little above the mouth of the Ten Mile River on Omega Pond.

In the spring, Plymouth Colony keeping track of him, sent a friendly message that they considered him still with in their territory. They obviously had word from Mass. Bay of the banishment and were informing Williams of their notice.

Roger, wishing to be free of his tormentors, made arrangements with the chief sachem of the Nahigonsics (Narragansetts) to meet him at Mooshausic (Providence). This was an area where there was intermarriage between the Wampanoags, Nipmucks and Narragansetts.

## FALL LUNCHEON ASSEMBLY

On Saturday, October 12, 1996, after luncheon at the Agawam Hunt Club, the members visited and laid wreaths at three historic monuments: The memorial to the Seekonk Planters, the Roger Williams Original Landing Place, and the Pardon Tillinghast Memorial.

Arrangements for the Fall meeting and luncheon were made by our Deputy Governor General Col. Elmer H. Palmer.

(Continued page 17)

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### Flowers of the Field

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(No date) #104

**Jean Ardrey**

2701 Little Oak Lane  
Rescue, CA 95672-9623

(no date) Charter #78

**Hazel Genevieve Evans**

400 East 52nd Street  
New York City, NY 10022

19 June 1996 Charter #49

**Ruel Adel-Verne Morse**

Box 732, 11 Knapp Avenue  
Greenfield, MA 01301

9 December 1996) Charter #30 Life

**Katherine L. Parkins Robison**

(Mrs Charles Bennett Robison)  
1639 Campbell Avenue  
Des Plaines, IL 60016-6636

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**NEW MEMBERS**  
**February 1996 - September 1997**

- #144     Barrett Lee McKown  
         3580 South River Terrace  
         Edgewater, MD 21037-3245  
         ANCESTOR: George Potter
- #145     Life-Arlene Grace Tallman Havens  
         1505 Via Boronada  
         Palos Verdes Estates, CA  
         90274-1857  
         ANCESTOR: William Hall
- #146     Bobbie Lou Brettell Green  
         1304 Homewood  
         Laurel, MS 39440  
         ANCESTOR: Lawrence Wilkinson
- #147     Dorothy H. White  
         (Mrs. Everett O. White)  
         15 Frederick Drive  
         Barrington, RI, 02806  
         ANCESTOR: Joshua Winsor
- #148     Life - Peter Lee Palmer  
         2455 Bamboo Street  
         Newport Beach, CA 92660  
         ANCESTOR: Walter Palmer
- #149     Harold Winthrop Sands  
         10 Cherry Creek Road  
         Newport, RI, 02840  
         ANCESTOR: James Sand
- #150     Life  
         Millicent Taylor Elder Duvall  
         (Mrs. Mareen Walker Duvall)  
         6850 Grande Drive North  
         Boca Raton, FL 33433-2735  
         ANCESTOR: John Throckmorton

**SUPPLEMENTALS**  
**October 1995 - September 1997**

#47 Charter Member  
Thomas Mayhew Smith  
15 Tenney Street  
Cambridge, MA 02140

Supplement #4  
William Almy  
Supplement #5  
Robert Potter  
Supplement #6  
Randall Houlden

#70 Charter Member  
Mary Ruth Northrop  
300 West Franklin St., #401E  
Richmond, VA 23220-4962

Supplement #1  
Governor Caleb Carr

#139 Ona Marlene Rathbun Wilkinson  
(Mrs. Edward Lewis Wilkinson)  
6876 Richard Wilson Drive  
Millington, TN 38053-3934

Supplement #1  
Walter Palmer

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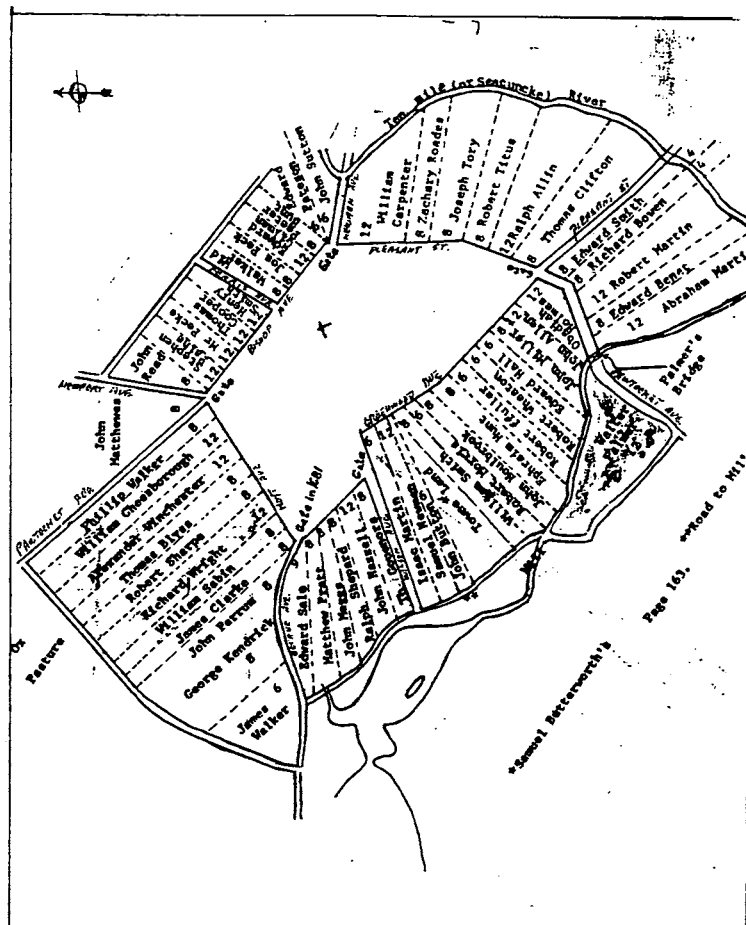
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**WATCH YOUR MAIL!** Fall Meeting in  
Rhode Island Saturday October 25th

**MARK YOUR CALENDER!** And Plan now to  
join us for another delightful day in  
Rhode Island.

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## "The Other Plantation

## Seecuncke Planters

1635

## The Other Plantation

Roger Williams friendship with the Indians must have preceeded him. When he crossed the Seecuncke River, with at least 7 families of his followers, he was greeted on the opposite shore by the words, "What Cheer Netop" which translates to "Welcome White Man", or "Welcome Friend".

We all know that he then proceeded to purchase from Canonicus the land that was to become the, "Providence Planations"; and one of the four towns of the 1647 merger to become, "Rhode Island and Providence Plantations".

Williams, as we know by his papers, was always a friend of the Indians and during his sojourns to their territories stayed with them in their wigwams and partook of their food. He learned their language and, as they had no written language, he recorded them as they sounded to the English in his, "Key to the Indian Language".

This was written while he stayed at his trading post in Nahigonsic (Naraganset) Cawcawmcussic (Cocumcussoc) now Wickford, North Kingston, R.I. and completed on his voyage back to England where he had it printed. (Yours truly has inherited what may well be the site of said trading post.)

He became a lifelong friend of the chief sachem of the Narragansetts named Canonicus and when Roger sought a place near his village to set up a trading post, Canonicus responded, "What I have is yours". Roger Williams chose a place at Cawcawcussoc now marked by a stone in front of maternal homestead overlooking easterly, a cove where trading shallops and pinnaces could ply their



## The Other Plantation

trade with the Indian village which lay to the west. Roger responded to Canonicus in the same manner, "What I have is yours". When Canonicus was dying, he asked Williams for a shroud to be buried in, which was freely given.

Thus, we have an account of Williams sojourn in Seacuncke and his move to the founding of Providence.

But that's another story.

Williams had been preceded to the area by the Rev. William Blackstone. In earlier times, this area had been under the control of the Massachusetts who along with the Pawtuckets had been defeated by the Wampanoags.

This was an area to the northwest of Seacuncke within the bounds of the Wampanoag Nation. Rev. Blackstone left the Bay Colony and gave his property in Boston to them for a common, now known as Boston Common, for community grazing of livestock. He settled on "Study Hill" near the river which is named after him now Cumberland, R.I. He was also preceded by John Oldham who was a trader with the Indians and whose death by the Pequots led to the Pequot war. The Pequots were defeated by the English with the assistance of the Mohegans. This opened up the former territory of the Pequot Nation to settlers which several of our Seacuncke Planters migrated to after settlement of the jurisdiction of Seacuncke in favor of Plymouth Colony.

John Oldham had been given the Island of Chipaunsett (Prudence) by the Narragansett Indians in November, 1634.

After his murder in 1635 by the Pequots, this island was sold by the

## The Other Plantation

Narragansetts in 1636 to Roger Williams of Providence Plantations and Governor Winthrop of Massachusetts Bay. Remember that Winthrop and Williams remained personal friends even though Williams had been banished from that colony for religious differences. It is interesting to note that the Indians still seemed not to understand the ownership of land for we find the Narragansetts giving and then selling the same land which, is or was, controlled by the Wampanoag Nation at one time under the Sachem Osamequin [Yellow Feather][Massasoit and his father]. Indians quite frequently changed their names as their positions of importance grew.

When Roger Williams in 1636 crossed the river and thus was considered out of the confines of Massachusetts Bay, some of the settlers who were not necessarily under banishment stayed behind in Seacuncke and established their homesteads.

Robert Morris and John Hazzell/Hassell were allowed to remain there when Edward Winslow of Plymouth Colony forced the remainder of Roger Williams followers to leave Seacuncke. These two were allowed to become a part of the 1641 Seacuncke Plantation.

Robert Morris' homestead was later bought by Nicholas Ide. Thomas Morris' six acre homestead south of the Ten Mile River was eventually purchased by Roger Amadowne. Amadowne's homestead was bordered by the grist mill on the west and **Walter Palmer** on the east.

John Hazzell was a resident of old Seecuncke when Williams settled there and was absorbed into the Seecuncke

## The Other Plantation

Plantation in 1643. He was a Baptist follower of the Rev. Obadiah Holmes and was joined in Boston about 1650, when he witnessed the public whipping of Holmes and went forward to congratulate him on his courage. Hazzell died in jail in Boston.

A group of Massachusetts Bay men met at Hingham in 1642 to form "The "Seacuncke Compact" to purchase a tract of land to be known as the "Seacuncke Planters". It seems that the sale of land is beginning to be recognized by "Ousamaken" for we find that the, "'Great Sachem of Pokanocott' in Plymouth jurisdiction accompanying him with many men and some other sagamores" etc. (As recorded by Gov. Winthrop) wishing to remain friendly with both colonies, visited Gov. John Winthrop on 23 July 1642.

Thus Gov. Winthrop admits Seacuncke is under the Plymouth Colony jurisdiction, when he admits that "Ousamequin" who owns the area, which includes Seacuncke, is under Plymouth Colony.

In the Plymouth records, we find: "John Hasell (late Hazell) on November 1, 1642 went to Plymouth Court and confirmed the purchase of Seecuncke at Roger Williams's house" (Providence).

"John Hasel affirmeth that Vasamaquine (Ousamequin) chose out X (ten) fathoms of beads at Mr. Williams, and put them in a basket and affirmed that he was fully satisfyd there-with for his lands at Seacuncke and left the beads with Mr. Williams and willed him to keep them until Mr. Hubbard came up." (This seems to confirm the trust the Indians had in Roger Williams and

## The Other Plantation

possibly distrust of others.) He affirmed the bounds were to Redstone Hill (presently site of Fuller Hospital) VIIJ miles into the land, and to Annacamscoate VIJ miles down the water.

On 19 May 1643 in Boston, Massachusetts Bay Colony, Plymouth Colony, Connecticut Colony and New Haven Colony formed a confederation of the "The United Colonies". (Note RI Colony is not included). To protect themselves from Indians: Mohegans, Connecticut tribes, remaining Pequots, Niantics, Narragansetts... and the Dutch, who were colonizing in the area and trading with the indians.

The United Colonies feared that the Narragansetts, under Canonicus and Miantonomi, were attempting to draw all the indian tribes together against the English. (History seems to prove that these fears were unfounded.) Unfortunately for the Narragansetts, they put their trust in the wrong tribes. For they turned Miantonomi, innocent in their deliberations, over to Uncas of the Mohegans for Indian justice. They tortured him, quartered his body and hung his head on a pole. We know that Oussamequin's son Metacomet (who took the name King Philip) was a Wampanoag; a tribe not included in their names at the time of the confederation and were asumed to be peaceable. It was King Philip's War that gave the excuse for the United Colonies to assemble at Richard Smith's trading post in Cocumcussoc (Wickford, R.I.).

It was from here in a blizzard, the winter of 1676, that they marched south

## 1996 Fall Meeting

Present at the Fall meeting were: Gov. Gen. Graham T. Smallwood Jr., Deputy Gov. Gen. Col. Elmer H. Palmer & Mrs. Palmer, Trustee C. Owen Johnson, Eleanor S. Niebold, Mr. & Mrs. John A. Davidson, Mr. & Mrs. William S. Olney, Geneva De Wolf, Stuart Waterman, Thomas M. Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Everett White, and the following guests: Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Clifford Mr. & Mrs., Robert F. Poyton, Joyce Poyton, and Walter Tillinghast.

## 1996 Fall Meeting

Left to Right: C. Owen Johnson, Thomas Mayhew Smith, Dorothy White, Geneva DeWolf, Stuart Waterman, Col. Elmer Hall Palmer, Eleanor Smallwood Neibold, Gov. Gen. Grahame T. Smallwood Jr.



## The Other Plantation

west some ten miles, the swamp being frozen over, to massacre the inhabitants of the Narragansett Indian village in what is known as, "The Great Swamp Fight".

Their excuse seemed to be that they, the Narragansett, were giving sanctuary to some of the Niantics who were seeking refuge from the crafty Uncas and the Mohegans in a tribal war.

Thus ended for all practicable purposes the Great Narragansett Nation of Rhode Island, which had befriended the father of our State; A part of his **Lively Experiment.**

The 2nd Seacuncke Plantation was settled in 1642-43 and the colonist who banded together in Hingham to form such came from various towns from various parts of the colonies. They were from:

### 1. MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY

**Braintree @ William Cheesebrough \***

@ James Clarke (son-in-law of Richard Wright)

@ John Peram (Brown)

@ John Reade

@ William Sabin

@ Robert Sharp

@ Richard Wright \*

@ Alexander Winchester \*

**Charlestown @ Walter Palmer \***

@ William Smith

**Dorchester Richard Bullock**

Mrs. Frances Burr (wife of Rev. Jonathan)

@ Thomas Clifton

@ John Holbrook (Houlbrook)

Job Lane

John Miller

## The Other Plantation

### 2. PLYMOUTH COLONY

Plymouth      John Cooke (Walter Palmer  
                    Rec. 50 pds)

Scituate      @ George Kendrick

Seacuncke      @ John Hassell (Hazzell)  
                    @ Robert Morris

Taunton          James Browne  
                    Mr. John Browne  
                    @ James Walker  
                    Widow Walker

### 3. RHODE ISLAND COLONY

                    @ Ralph Allen (Allin)

- \* Considered leaders of Plantation.  
Highlighted **Names** Received land in  
the Plantation.
- @ Signifies house lots on common.

## THE SEACUNK COMPACT

"The 3d of the 5th Month (July) 1644

"This combination, entered into by the general consent of all the inhabitants, after general notice given the 23rd of the 4th month (June).

"We whose names are underwritten, being by the providence of God, inhabitants of Seacunk, intending there to settle, do covenant and bind ourselves one to another to subject our persons (torn off) (sic, according to law and equity) to nine persons, any five of the nine which shall be chosen by the major part of the inhabitants of the plantation, and we (sic promise and

## The Other Plantation

agree) to be subject to all wholesome (sic, rules and regulations made) by them, and to assist them, according to our ability and estate, and to give timely notice unto them of any such thing as in our conscience may prove dangerous unto the plantation, and this combination to continue untill we shall subject our selves to some other government.

- |                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| "1. Walter Palmer *       | 20. Zachary       |
| "2. Edward Smith          | Rhodes            |
| "3. Edward Bennett        | 21. Job Lane      |
| "4. Robert Titus          | 22. Alexander     |
| "5. Abraham Martin        | Winchester *      |
| "6. John Mathewes         | 23. Henry Smith   |
| "7. Edward Sale           |                   |
| "8. Ralph Shepherd        | 24. Stephen Payne |
| "9. Samuel Newman         | 25. Ralph Alin *  |
| "10. William Cheesborough |                   |
| "11. Richard Wright *     | 26. Thomas Bliss  |
| "12. Robert Martin        | 27. George Kend-  |
| "13. Richard Bowen        | ricke             |
| "14. Joseph Torrey        | 28. John Allen    |
| "15. James Clark          | 29. William Sabin |
| "16. Ephraim Hunt         | 30. William       |
| "17. Peter Hunt           | Cooper            |
| "18. William Smith        |                   |
| "19. John Peren           |                   |

\*\* Original Signatures 1-30 \* Leaders

Thirty of the fifty-eight Planters signed the agreement, which was like an oath of allegiance to the Plantation of Seacuncke. The real leaders at this time appear to be Richard Wright, Walter Palmer, Alexander Winchester and William Cheesborough. All of these men who came from Massachusetts Bay Colony



## The Other Plantation

later removed from Seacunccke when they lost in their attempt to be under Mass. Bay to the Plymouth Colony.

Walter Palmer left his land in the hands of his son Jonah Palmer, a son by his first wife who died in England, who came to Massachusetts Bay with his father when Walter Palmer emigrated.

In September 1644 at the request of the Bay Colony, the United Colonies reviewed the Plymouth Patent and placed Seacuncck, which was a part of Poccanokick or Sewamsett, under the Plymouth jurisdiction as is shown in the commissioners records.

"Whereas there hath beene some differences between Massachusett and New Plymouth concerning a plantacon now called seacuncck, to wch Jurisdiccon it should belong and appertaine, wch was now refered by both pties to the Commissioners and an abstract or copy of the clause of Plymouth Patent expressing limiting their bounds shewedd vnto them: By wch it appeareth that A Countrey or place called Poccanokick (als) sewmasett is graunted vnto them. The Commissioners not conceiuing that the clause (als) SSwamset as there expressed should streaten their limmits and improueing an oppertunitie of the Narrohiggansett Deputies now rpsnt do find Secuncck clearly within the limmits so graunted to New Plymouth, And therefore adjdg vnlesse better euedence at or before the Commissionrs meeting the next yeare in September Seacuncck doth and should fall into the Jurisdiccon of New Plymouth."

## The Other Plantation

This was dated XIXth September 1644 and was approved by the following commissioners of the United Colonies:

Edwa: Hopkins, Presidnt

Symon Bradstreet

Willm Hathorne

Edw: Winslow

**John Browne**

Geor: Fenwick

Theop. Eatcn

Tho: Gregson

Mr. John Browne, a strong leader of the Plymouth Colony, was or became a Seacuncke planter. He and Edward Winslow must have been quite happy over this decision. Thus, Seacuncke remained under the Plymouth Colony jurisdiction. Seacuncke in 1644 included the present area of Pawtucket, east of the Blackstone River, Attleboro to the Fuller Hospital (Redstone Hill) on Route 1, East Providence, Seekonk and Rehoboth, north of a line running east from the golf course on Pawtucket Ave. (East Providence), through Bowens Bridge over the running river at School St. in South Sekonk. South of this line was Wannoisset (the present Riverside), 100 acre Cove and Longmeadow in Barrington and parts of Swansea.

In an attempt to settle the dispute over Seacuncke, the Seacuncke Planters had a General Meeting of Freeman and elected nine "Townsmen" (The first selectmen or Town leaders) to settle the dispute and run the Plantation. Their meeting was recorded as follows:

"At a general meeting of the town of Seacunk being the 9th of the 10th month

**Minutes of 1997 Annual Meeting**

He passed around to those present the new metals for the Society that were designed by Dexter Schienenbeck & will be produced by Bailey, Banks & Biddle, Jewelers.

Registrar General Robert C. Arnold reported we have six new members (#145-150) making a total of 153 members; one new Supplemental. He suggested that in doing Supplementals, members try to do them on unproved ancestors of the Society.

Gov. General "Chip" Smallwood read the names of four deceased members since our last Annual Meeting. Chaplain General D. Gene Patterson did a Prayer of Remembrance.

Chancellor General C. Owen Johnson said a few words followed by the Gov. General's annual report.

The Society voted on whether our metals should be silver or gold. Silver was the choice of the members present.

The report of the Nominating Comm. was given by Secretary General Lilla M. Licht. There being no further nominations from the floor, the Secretary was directed to cast a ballot for the slate. Chancellor C. Owen Johnson swore in the New Officers. Meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Twenty nine members and guests attended the Annual Meeting: Gov. Gen. Grahame T. Smallwood, Jr.; Chancellor Gen. C. Owen Johnson; John Hallberg Jones, Betty A. Westcott Acker, Brig. Gen. Micheal J. L. Greene; Jacqueline Strickland, Carolyn E.F. Lubker, Thomas Mayhew Smith, Chaplain General D. Gene

**ADDRESS CHANGES****(Please note in your Membership Roster)****Founder - Life**

Grahame Thomas Smallwood Jr.  
 7825 Mary Cassett Drive  
 Potomac, MD 20854

**#16 Charter Member**

Norma Lovett Gregory Flude  
 (Mrs. George Flude)  
 12A Ryans Road  
 Goffstown, NH 03045-2904

**#17 Charter Life/Governor General**

Colonel Elmer Hall Palmer  
 1401 South County Trail  
 East Greenwich, RI 02818-1622

**#35 Charter**

Lou Anne Borden Lederer  
 (Mrs. Robt. Walter Lederer)  
 3165 E. University, #119  
 Mesa, AZ 85213

**#39 Charter Member**

Janet Cecelia Stineman Kres  
 (Mrs. Mark Leonard Kres)  
 P.O. Box 80635  
 Austin, TX 78708-0635

**#44 Charter Member/Deputy-Gov. Gen.**

Robert Carter Arnold  
 2700 Q Street NW; #139  
 Washington, D.C. 20007-5004

**#45 Charter Member**

Mr. Robert Lewis French  
 479 Angell Hill Road  
 Chatham, NY 12037-2003

**(Continued Page 27)**



### THE STONE CASTLE

This is a pencil sketch of the Old Stone Castle made by one who had intimate recollection of it and was pronounced by the family to be a correct representation of the structure. Because of its construction the house was used by the colonists as a garrison in times of danger.

It was from this place that John Wickes left one evening in search of his cattle, never to return. His remains lie buried in two separate graves a short distance from the site of the old castle. He was the only man in the colony who lost his life in the Indian War.

The house came into the possession of Thomas Greene, and because of this circumstance, the family have been known as the "Stone Castle Greenes."

The castle was located on the Apponaug-Warwick road.

The 1997 Fall Meeting in Rhode Island will include a visit to The Stone Castle.

## The Other Plantation

of Rehoboth. It remained as such until 1812 when the town of Rehoboth was equally divided, the western portion taking the old and original name of Seekonk and the eastern portion keeping the name of Rehoboth.

In 1828, an area in the northwest part of Seekok became a separate town by the name of Pawtucket, MA and remained as such until 1862. At this time, another boundary dispute was ended when the western section of Seekonk was awarded to Rhode Island. This area included Wannamoisett, Watchemoket and ancient Rehoboth which became East Providence, R.I. Pawtucket, MA became Pawtucket, R.I.

Thus, in 1862, the Seecuncke of Roger Williams Settlement in 1636 finally became a part of Rhode Island Plantation.

REFERENCE: "History of Rehoboth, Seekonk, East Providence, Pawtucket & Barrington", Vol. I, Seacuncke 1500's to 1645, by Dr. Dr. John G. Erhardt

**ADDRESS CHANGES**  
(Continued)

- #50 Charter Member  
Eva Lowweson Collins  
(Mrs. John Armstrong Collins)  
P.O. Box 80734  
Rochester, MI 48308-0734
- #54 Charter Member (Married 6/6 1992)  
Cynthia Ann Sheeve  
(NOW) Cynthia Ann Sheeve Richard  
(Mrs. D. Grant Richard)  
982 Mott Hill Road  
South Glastonbury, CT 06073
- #55 Charter Member  
Pamela Ann Shreve  
2 Andrews Avenue  
Islip Terrace, LI, NY 11752
- #71 Charter Member  
Dr. Clifton Rowland Brooks  
Collingwood-on-Potomac  
8301 East Blvd. Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308
- #98 Charter Member  
Mr. Leon Howard Arnold  
2018 East River Road  
Nichols, NY 13812
- #102 Charter Member  
Richard Barry Wideman  
c/o Leon Howard Arnold  
2018 East River Road  
Nichols, NY 13812
- #109 William Salisbury Olney  
10 Longwood Drive, #215  
Westwood, MA 02090  
(Continued page 47)

**HERODIAS (LONG) HICKS GARDINER PORTER**  
(1623/4-1692)

Robert L French (Charter #45) & Lilla M Licht (Charter #33) are 8th cousins both sharing the same first three generations of John & Herodias (Long) Hicks descendants. Unbeknownst to each, they both have collected records on their ancestry - particularly the story of one of the most intriguing ladies of the 17th century - Herodias (Long) Hicks Gardiner Porter.

The Alliances of this lady and of her spouses' marriages produced by 1740 over 1000 descendants. This article is a combination of the records of both Robert L. French & Lilla M Licht.

This is an account of the "Redoubtable and, undoubtedly, glamorous lady, Herodias Long, who played such havoc with the domestic peace of several 17th Rhode Island households."<sup>1</sup>

"Herodias Long was born in England about 1623/4, but where or who her parents were, is as yet unknown."<sup>2</sup> In her testimony before the Rhode Island court in 1664, Herodias (Long) Hicks Gardiner stated that "upon her father's death, she was sent to London by her mother 'in much sorrow and grieve of spiritt'"<sup>3</sup> This was probably in 1636. Evidently, for some reason, her mother could not let Herodias remain at home. Since she was only 12/13 years old when she was sent to London - she either was put into service or sent to stay with a relative. The latter is more likely as Herodias states further "there taken by one John Hicks unknowne to any of my friends...".<sup>4</sup> Later speaking of her lost inheritance she says, "My mother



## Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

and brother loosing their lives and estates in his Majestyes service, and I being not brought up not to labour"...

5

The latter statement is most interesting; inferring that she was of upper class family and one wonders in what capacity her mother and brother were serving the King to lose their lives and estates. This would have had to occur between 1636 and 1643 when John Hicks left for Long Island, NY with her inheritance.

An "Odias Long" received a bequest of 5 pounds in the will of John Aylesford 26 Jan 1638/9 proved 23 Feb 1638/39. Aylesford mentions lands in Little Ockenbury, a plantation in Barbadoes.<sup>6</sup> Did Herodias's mother and brother go to Barbadoes and die there?

Wills from the Archdeaconry of Suffolk 1629-40,<sup>7</sup> indicate there was a Richard Long of Halesworth with five children under age 21 in 1627 [Will of Susan Swatman]. He was Susan Swatman's nephew. He was a witness to a number of Wills, the last mentioned 6 April 1637. Henry Norman, of Ufford, Will in 1631 mentions "lands which used to belong to Edward Long" Also found in Ufford Wills are William Long and Nicholas Longe. Thomas Longe was a witness to will of Joan James of Kesgrave 12 Sept 1637. Robert Ferrier of East Bergholt 23 Oct 1637 made a bequeath to his "well respected friend Mr. Longe, the curate of East Bergholt...". In 1575, [Essex Wills 1571-77]<sup>8</sup> we find a John Long in Ipswich and Thomas Long in Chelmsford. Essex County is south of Suffolk

## Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

Co. and both counties are found North-east of London.

Future research of these leads may uncover the ancestry of Herodias Long.

Herodias Long married John Hicks by license dated 14 March 1636/37 in St. Faith's, the underchapel of St. Paul's, London, England<sup>9</sup> and soon after left for New England.

French's notes say that they came to Weymouth in the company of the Rev. Francis Doughty who was the son of an alderman of Bristol. Licht's records show that John Hicks was granted land in Weymouth in 1637.<sup>10</sup> 2 July 1638, he was admitted an inhabitant of Aquidneck, Rhode Island. 1st 3rd mo. 1638, he was admitted an inhabitant of Newport and 14 September 1640 he was made a freeman of Newport, RI. He served as a member of the Grand Jury at the General Court held at Newport March 1641/42 and again 3 December 1643.<sup>11</sup>

"7:1 mo 1644/5 he was before the Court and bound for 10 pounds to keep the peace for beating his wife Harwood Hicks and to continue bound until his wife should come and give evidence concerning the matter."<sup>12</sup>

16 November 1644, John Hicks is listed as one of the patentees of Hempstead, LI, NY<sup>13</sup>

During this period, Herodias bore three children - Hannah, Thomas and Jemima Hicks. It was about this time that she received her mother's inheritance. Her husband took the money and went to New Netherlands. In her statement to the Court in 1662, she said that John Hicks took with him the

## Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

estate which was sent to her by her mother in England and she was left destitute with 3 small children. She filed a complaint seeking a divorce from John Hicks. The magistrates sent papers to John Hicks in New Netherlands giving him the opportunity to appear in court to answer the charges but he did not come, and the Magistrates of the Colony of RI granted to her a divorce 2 December 1643.<sup>14</sup>

Herodias was now twenty years old with three children under 7 years old. She went to live with George Gardiner of Newport. Later, a close friend of George Gardiner testified that one night "being at his house both of them did say before him and his wife that they did take one the other as man and wife."<sup>15</sup> This agreement, before two witnesses, established the legality of their marriage according to the custom of many of the Quakers both in the Colonies and in Great Britain. They continued to live together 'in good repute' as man and wife for 18 or 20 years. During this time, Herodias bore nine Gardiner children. Living with them were also the three children she had by John Hicks

"On 12 December 1645, John Hicks wrote from Flushing to John Coggeshall at Newport, RI, the following:

"Now for parting what way there is seeing she have carried the matter so subtilly as she have I know nt, but if there be anyway to bee used to untie that Knott, wch was at first by man tyed that so the world may be satisfied I am willing thereinto, for the Knot of

## Herodias Long Gardiner Hicks

affection on her part have been untied long since, and her whoredome have freed my conscience on the other part, so I leave myself to yor advice being free to condissend to yor advice if ther may be such a way used for the final parting for us."<sup>16</sup>

On 1 June 1655, in preparation for his 2nd marriage to Florence Carman, widow of John Carman of Hempstead, LI, NY, John Hicks was granted a divorce from Herodias in the Court at New Amsterdam by Gov. Peter Stuyvesant. The original of the decree is in Dutch in the state archives at Albany and a translation follows:<sup>17</sup>

"We, the councillors of New Netherland having seen and read the request of John Hicks sheriff on Long Island, in which he remonstrates and presents that his wife Hardwood Longh has ran away from him about 9 years ago with someone else with whom she has been married and had by him 5 or 6 children. His wife having therefore broken the bond of marriage (without him given any reason thereto) he asks to be qualified and given permission to marry again an honorable young girl or widow (in accordance with politia and ecclesiastical ordinances). The above mentioned councillors having taken notice of the above request and in addition of the affidavits and declarations attached thereto made by trustworthy inhabitants of this Province, they find that this request cannot be refused and that they therefore have given him letters of divorce and free and frank...widow in the bond of marriage...allowed to enter

## Heridias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

in accordance with political and ecclesiastical ordinances; done and given in our meeting Ad ut supra. New Netherland and have attached our seal in red wax. Was signed Nicasius De Sille, La Montagne, Corn: van Tienhoven."

7 Apr 1661, Council minutes of New Amsterdam show that the children of John and Florence Carman nee Hicks petitioned the court in an attempt to recover their estate from John Hicks.

In 1662, John Hicks took for a 3rd wife Rachel (Taylor) Starr, widow of Dr. Thomas Starr of Oyster Bay. It was a double wedding with Jemima Hicks, daughter of John & Herodias Hicks, marrying Josiah Starr, son of the widow Rachel Starr.<sup>18</sup> She was born 1615 and was to remarry a 3rd time to John Spencer, their marriage license dated 24 May 1676, after John Hicks death in 1672. Word of his previous profitable marriages, and pressure from her children, prompted Rachel to seek a antenuptial agreement with John Hicks which was recorded in the Hempstead Town Records: "22 January 1662 - John Hicks, worth 13,360 Guilders, makes an antenuptial agreement with Rachel Starr of Oysterbay. The children of each are to have their parents property as inventoried, and the future profits of the joint estate to be equally divided between all the children. He gives her during widowhood, the house and all earnable lands and meadowland, six cows, four oxen, one horse, and as much household stuff as shall think meet for her necessary use."<sup>19</sup>

## Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

There is one last instance when John Hicks shows up in the Records of the Colony of Rhode Island in 1664. It is a curious item that needs further research. "Ordered that these persons (viz): John Wood, John Hickes, Thomas Gould and Richard Smith, being at present bound to this Court, the Court orders that they shall be called one by one before the Court." They were each ordered to give bond John Hicks bond was for 200 pounds, his 'suretyes in one hundred starling' were Robert and Caleb Carr of Newport. Whatever the cause of the court calling the 4 men, the court stated, "that as one doth faire, on what Court doth doe with one, they are resolved and must doe to all, as with respect to that which was proposed to them severally the last night, when called before the Court one by one, whether they would give bond or goe to prison.

"Vpon the request of Richard Smith, Thomas Gould, John Wood and John Hickes, that they might know the accusers; the Court have determined that nothing shall be made knowne vnto them conceaning what they are accused of vntill they have declared themselves, which of the propsoalls that are presented to them they will take."<sup>20</sup> They were to make a personal appearance at the General Assembly that was to be held for the Colony in October, 1665.

The subject matter may have had to do with their original patents or grants of land in Newport for although Thomas<sup>2</sup> Hicks was married and living

## Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

on Long Island we find in the "History of Portsmouth" (p. 170) 7 June 1669 - "...Thomas Hicks are admitted freeman of this town." (p. 281) "eare marke of the cattle of Thomas Hicks is a slitt in the right eare about the middle part of the eare from the top of the same marke being fformely belonging to his ffather. Entered and recorded 21 Nov. 1672. (p. 427) "Thomas Hicks witness to Will of Richard Cornell, Newport, RI 20 April 1673.

Finding Thomas<sup>2</sup> Hicks in the Rhode Island records is quite surprising as it has always been assumed that after he left Rhode Island to join his father on Long Island that he lived thereafter always on Long Island. It was about this time that John Porter began giving property to his wife Herodias children by George Gardiner and perhaps Thomas was an opportunist or maybe his mother thought it prudent for him to come to Rhode Island and take up his rights to his father John Hicks property and perhaps also gain in the division of Porter's lands.

To return to our story of Herodias Long now wife of George Gardiner. "This George Gardiner was admitted a Freeman at Newport on 17 December 1639<sup>21</sup> and he resided there the rest of his life. He had been admitted an inhabitant the preceding year (1638). On 9 April 1639, he witnessed William Coddington's deed to William Tyng of his Massachusetts lands, and on 1 May 1639, he witnessed Richard Colacot's note to William Coddington... In 1662, he was a Commissioner. He died testate after 22

## Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

October 1673 and about 1677, but the record of the probate of his estate was in the lost Newport records."<sup>22</sup>

"Herodias became an ardent follower of George Fox, and on 11: 3 mo.: 1658 she, 'the mother of many children, with a babe sucking at her breast', accompanied by a girl, Mary Stanton, who helped to carry the child, walked from Newport to Weymouth to bear witness and was whipped ten stripes by order of Governor Endicott."<sup>23</sup>

"By 1664, she had had enough of George Gardiner and presented a petition to the King's Commissioners, then in Rhode Island, asking for a separation from him. It was referred by the Commissioners to Gov. Benedict Arnold, who placed it before the General Assembly. It is this petition that we gain the full story of her life up until this time. As regards her marriage to George Gardiner her petition states:

24

"Not long after my coming to Rhode Island, there happened a difference betweene the saide John Hicks and my-selfe soe that the authority that then was under grace saw cause to part us... Then I thought to goe to my friends, but was hindered by the warres, and the death of my friends. My mother and brother loosing their lives and estates in his Majestyes service, and I being not bought up not to labour, and young, knew not what to do to have something to live, having noe friend; in which straight I was drawne by George Gardiner to consent to him soe fare as I did, for my mayntainance. Yett with



## Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

much oppression of spiritt, judging him not to be my husband, never being married to him according to the law of the place; also I told him my oppression, and desiered him, seeing that hee had that little that I had, and all my labour, that he would allow mee some maintenance, either to live apart from him, or else not to meddle with mee; but hee alwayes refused. Therefore, my humble petition to your honours is that of that estate and labour hee has had of mine; and that the house upon my land I may enjoy without molestation, and that hee may allow mee my child to bring up with maintainance for her, and that he may be restrained from meddling with me, or toubling mee more.

"The Commissioners, Sir Robert Carr, George Cartright, and Samuel Maverick handed this petition to Governor Arnold on 20 March 1664/65 'to doe justice to the poore petitioner according to the best of your judgement.'

"The General Asembly took the testimony of George Gardiner and of Robert Stanton, a Newport Quaker and a close friend of George and Herodias. Gardiner admitted that 'he cannot say that ever hee went on purpose before any magistrate to declare themselves, or to take each other as man and wife, or to have their aprobation as to the premises.' Stanton on being asked 'whether hee knew that ever George Gardiner and Hor-ed, his reputed wife were ever married according to the custom of the place,' answered 'that hee knew noe other marriage, but onlye one night being at his house both of them did say before him

## Horadias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

and his wife that they did take one the other as man and wife.'

"On 3 May 1665, the Assembly decreed the separation of the parties, but did not find things exactly as stated by Herodias.

"Whereas Hored Long, heretobefore the wife of John Hicks, and since the reputed wife of George Gardiner of Newport in Rhode Island, by a petition presented unto the Right Honourable His Majestyes Commissioners did most imprudently discover his owne nakedness by declaring therein unto their honours, that although she had lived for a long space of time with the aforesaid Gardiner, as in a married estate, and had owned him as her lawfull husband, yett she was never lawfully married to him, neither could owne him in such a relation, and soe consequently that she had lived all this time in that abominable lust of fornication, contrary to the generall apprehension of her neighbors, she having had by the afoesaid Gardiner many children...and upon diligent search have found it to be even soe as the aforesaid Hored hath declared, and that by the confession alsoe of the aforesaid Gardener, soe that the horrible sin of uncleanness in which they had lived for the space of eighteen or twenty years together, and had under cover of a pretended marriage, (owning each other as man and wife), being now and not before, by her own acting and confession brought to light and most shamefully expressed to the publicke view, to the extreme reproach and scandall of this jurisdiction..."<sup>25</sup>

## Horadias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

"They were each to pay a fine of 20 pounds before the next sitting of the Court in October...

"At this same sitting of the General Assembly (3 May 1665), Mrs. Margaret Porter, the elderly wife of John Porter, presented a petition to the Assembly asking that her husband be made to support her. John Porter had been a Freeman at Roxbury, MA in 1633. Belonging to the Hutchinson party, he had removed with Coddington to Portsmouth, RI in 1638. He continued to reside in Portsmouth until he removed to Pettaquamscutt (South Kingston, RI) after 20 January 1656/7, on which date he and several other persons purchased from the Indians a large tract known as the 'Pettyquamscutt Purchase'. By his wife Margaret, he had a daughter Hannah who married about 1658 Samuel Wilbor one of the Pettaquamscutt Purchasers.

"In her petition Mrs. Porter 'doth most sadly complaine that her said husband is destitute of all congugall love towards her and hath left her in such a nessesetous state that unavlydably she is brought to a meere dependence upon her children for her dayley suply, to her very great grief of heart and the rather considering that there is in the hands of her said husband a very competant estate for both their subsistance..."<sup>26</sup> She then goes on to request the General Assembly to make some suitable provision for her relief out of her husband's estate. The Assembly directed that all deeds and conveyances made by John Porter since his departure from her shall be void and of no force.

## Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter

"On 27 June 1665, he was released from this restraint, as he had made such provision for her for life as satisfied her."<sup>27</sup>

Soon after John and Margaret Porter divorced and John married Herodias. He died before 8 Apr 1692 when Benoni, William, George Jr., Nicholas Gardiner and John Watson, their brother-in-law, "representing themselves as together with Henry Gardiner, their brother, the assigns of John Porter, deceased"<sup>28</sup>.

Since Herodias Porter's children by Gardiner were seeking John Porter's estate, I assume she was deceased by this date. Certainly, she was dead by 1705 when all her Gardiner children, along with their wives, "all of Kingston, RI sold 410 acres on Point Judith Pond to John Potter for 150 pounds [the sum] to be paid to Thomas Hicks of Flushing, LI [their half-brother]."<sup>29</sup>

"After his separation from Herodias, George Gardiner married Lydia, daughter of Robert and Susannah Ballou of Portsmouth, RI and Boston, MA. By her he had five more children. After Gardiner's death in 1677, Lydia married second William Hawkins of Providence, RI on 14 June 1678"<sup>30</sup> and had three more children. Lydia (Ballou) Gardiner Hawkins died prior to 1722.

Children of John & Herodias (Long) Hicks born Newport, RI:

- i. Hannah Hicks, b. @ 1638; m. 1653/54, Newport, RI, William Haviland (1620-1697), b. Gloucestershire, Eng. Freeman at Newport 1653. Son of either James or Matthew Havi-

**Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter**

Children of John & Horodias (Long)  
Hicks, continued:

- i. (Hannah Hicks, cont.) 1and<sup>31</sup>.  
@1667, they removed to Flushing,  
LI. Desc. removed to NJ & West-  
chester Co., NY. 5 ch.<sup>32</sup>
- ii. Thomas Hicks, b. 1640; m/1 1658/  
59, Mary Butler, widow of John  
Washburne & dau. of Richard But-  
ler of Stratford, Fairfield Co.,  
CT. She was liv. May, 1676 when  
she signed an agreement. He m/2,  
6 July 1677, Mary Doughty, dau of  
Rev. Francis Doughty of Flushing,  
LI, NY. He grew up in Newport;  
and returned for a short while,  
but most of his adult life spent  
in Flushing, LI, NY; he d. in his  
100th yr, 1740. His will dated 15  
May 1727, pro. 28th Feb. 1741/42.  
13 ch; 300 desc. in 1740.
- iii. Jemima Hicks, b. @1642; m. 1662,  
Oysterbay, LI, Josiah Starr, son  
of Dr. Thomas & Rachel (Taylor)  
Starr. They lived in CT.

Children of George & Horadias (Long)  
Gardiner, born Newport, RI:

- iv. Benoni Gardiner, b. @1644; m.  
Mary \_\_\_\_\_.
- v. Henry Gardiner, b. 1645/46; d.  
1744; m/1 Joan \_\_\_\_\_; m/2 Abigail  
widow of John Remington & dau. of  
Edward & Abigail (Davis) Richmond  
b. 1656, d. 1744. 4 ch.
- vi. George Gardiner, b. @1648; m. 17  
Feb 1670, Tabitha, dau. of John &  
Mary Tefft of Portsmouth. She b.  
@1652, d. in or after 1722; 10 ch

**Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter**

Children of George & Herodias (Long)  
Hicks Gardiner, continued:

- vii. William Gardiner, b. @1650, d. 1711; m. Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_; she d. 1737; 8 ch.
- viii. Nicholas Gardiner, b. @1652; d. 1712; m. Hannah \_\_\_\_\_; 3 sons.
- ix. Dorcas Gardiner, b. @1656; m. @ 1673, John Watson. 3 daus.
- x. Rebecca Gardiner, b. @1658; she m. as his 2nd wife John Watson.

Children of George & Lydia (Ballou)  
Gardiner b. Newport, RI:

- xi. Joseph Gardiner, b. 1666/67.
- xii. Robert Gardiner, b. @1668.
- xiii. Lydia Gardiner, b. @1670.
- xiv. Mary Gardiner, b. @1672.
- xv. Peregrine Gardiner, b. 1674.

**REFERENCES:**

1. "Herodias (Long) Hicks - Gardiner Porter, A Tale of Old Newport", by G. Andrews Moriarty, A.M., LLB, F.S.A., F.A.S.G., pub. in "Genealogies of Rhode Island Families", Vol I, Baltimore Genealogical Pub. Co., Inc., 1983, p. 599. [HEREAFTER: GAM]
2. IBID
3. Op. Cit., p. 601
4. IBID
5. IBID
6. Op. Cit., p. 607. GAM reference is: "Somersetshire Wills", by Brown, 4th Series, p. 58.
7. "Wills from the Archdeaonry of Suffolk", vol. I 1629-1636; Vol. II 1637-40", Abst. by Margaret E. Allen

**Horodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter**

## REFERENCES, continued:

7. (continued) & Nasta R. Evens, pub. by NEHGS, Boston, 1986, Vol. I, pp. 262, 401, 581, 795, 855, 889, 935, 1065; Vol. II, pp. 48, 77, 569, 654 702, & 886.
8. "Wills of County of Essex, England" vol. 3, 1571-1577, by F.G. Emmison, NEHGS, Boston, 1996, pp. 395, 808, 971.
9. GAM, p. 600.
10. Op. Cit., p. 603.
11. Op. Cit., p. 600.
12. Op. Cit., p. 599.
13. "Gazeteer of the State of N.Y.", by J.H. French, Syracuse, NY, pub. by R. Pearsall Smith, 1860, p. 546.
14. GAM, p. 600.
15. Op. Cit., p. 603.
16. Op. Cit., p. 600.
17. Op. Cit., p. 601. Note: Prof. Wm. J Hoffman of Keystone College translated the New Netherlands divorce case of John Hicks.
18. "NY Marriages Prior to 1784".
19. "Records of Towns of North & South Hempstead", Vol I, Liber B., p. 120 (22 January 1662).
20. "Records of the Colony of RI & Providence Plantations in New England" Vol II 1664-1697, ed. by John Russell Bartlett, Printed by Order of General Assembly, Providence, RI, A Crawford Greene & Brother, State Printers, 1857, pp. 43-45.
21. GAM, p. 601.
22. IBID.
23. IBID
24. Op. Cit., pp. 601, 602.

**Herodias Long Hicks Gardiner Porter****REFERENCES, continued:**

- 25. GAM, p. 603.
- 26. Op. Cit., p. 604.
- 27. IBID.
- 28. Op. Cit., p. 606.
- 29. IBID.
- 30. Op. Cit., p. 607.
- 31. "Haviland Genealogy"
- 32. IBID.

**Member Descendants of Horodias Long  
by John<sup>1</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Jacob<sup>3</sup> Hicks:**

Charter Life #33

Lilla M. Licht (Mrs. Frederic Sr.)

Charter #45

Robert Lewis French

**By George Gardiner:**

Charter Life #4

Ralph Cangston (deceased)

Charter Life #17

Col. Elmer Hall Palmer

Charter Life #24

Elizabeth Grace Roth

Charter Life #36

Roger Miller Pegram

Charter #46

Lt. Gen. John McNair Wright Jr.



## Minutes of Annual Meeting 1997

Patterson, Marcia H. Morgan, Mary R. Northrup, Eleanor B. Niebell, Mr. & Mrs Barrett L. McKown, Ruth Lewis Griffin & guest, Deputy Gov. Gen. Col. & Mrs. Elmer Hall Palmer, Secretary Gen. Lilla G McKnight Licht, Augustino Mattoli, Miss Rossi, Registrar Gen. Robert Carter Arnold, Treasurer Gen. Peter Arrott Dixon, Frances Swan, Susan Chamberlain, Dr. & Mrs. Carleton White, Rev. Dr. Dixon A. Barr, & Gen. Hall Worthington.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lilla M. Licht  
Secretary General

## AN APOLOGY

Due to illness, several accidents, the Editor of the Lively Experiment has not put out an issue since February, 1996. My sincere apologies. To make up for Volume II, #2, this will be a double issue - Vol. II, #2 & #3. Some of you have written requesting back issues. If you have not received them, please let me know.

Do you have a story/stories on your Rhode Island ancestor? Please do send them to the Editor, Lilla M. Licht. Don't forget to include references.

**ADDRESS CHANGES**

(Continued)

- #111 Charles William Neuhauser  
14836 Carroll Road  
Phoenix, MD 21131
- #141 Life Member  
Stuart Waterman  
P.O. Box 592, Slidell LA 70459

**NAME CORRECTION**

- #27 Charter Life Member  
**Rev.** Dr. Dixon A. Barr  
308 Clinton Road  
Lexington, KY 40502-2354

**RESIGNED MEMBER**

- #95 Charter  
Jane Fletcher Fiske  
(Mrs. John Wyman Fiske)  
44 Stone Cleave Road  
Boxford, MA 01921

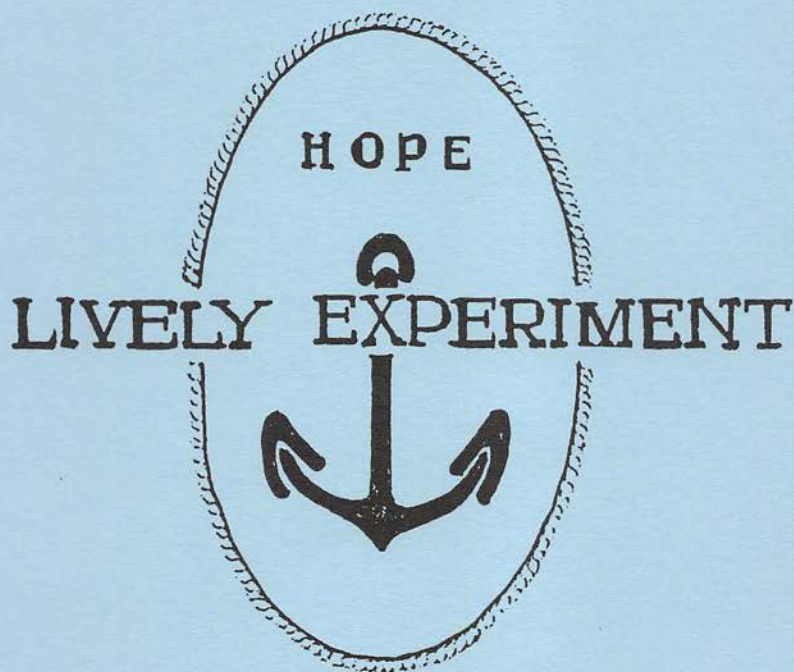
**DROPPED MEMBERS**

- #108 Millard Vernet Coggshall  
#93 (Charter) Vane Arthur Crandall  
#9 (Charter) Frederick Russell Snyder  
#12 (Charter) Frederick R. Snyder III

**THANK YOU FOR SENDING IN YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES!** Do you have a Winter address?

THE ORDER OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF  
RHODE ISLAND  
AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
1636-1647

Founded October 16, 1990



Volume II

1998

Number 4

THE ORDER OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF  
RHODE ISLAND  
AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
1636-1647

Founded October 16, 1990

# LIVELY EXPERIMENT

**Editor:**

Lilla McKnight Licht  
490 M St., SW; Apt W604  
Washington, D.C. 20024-2612

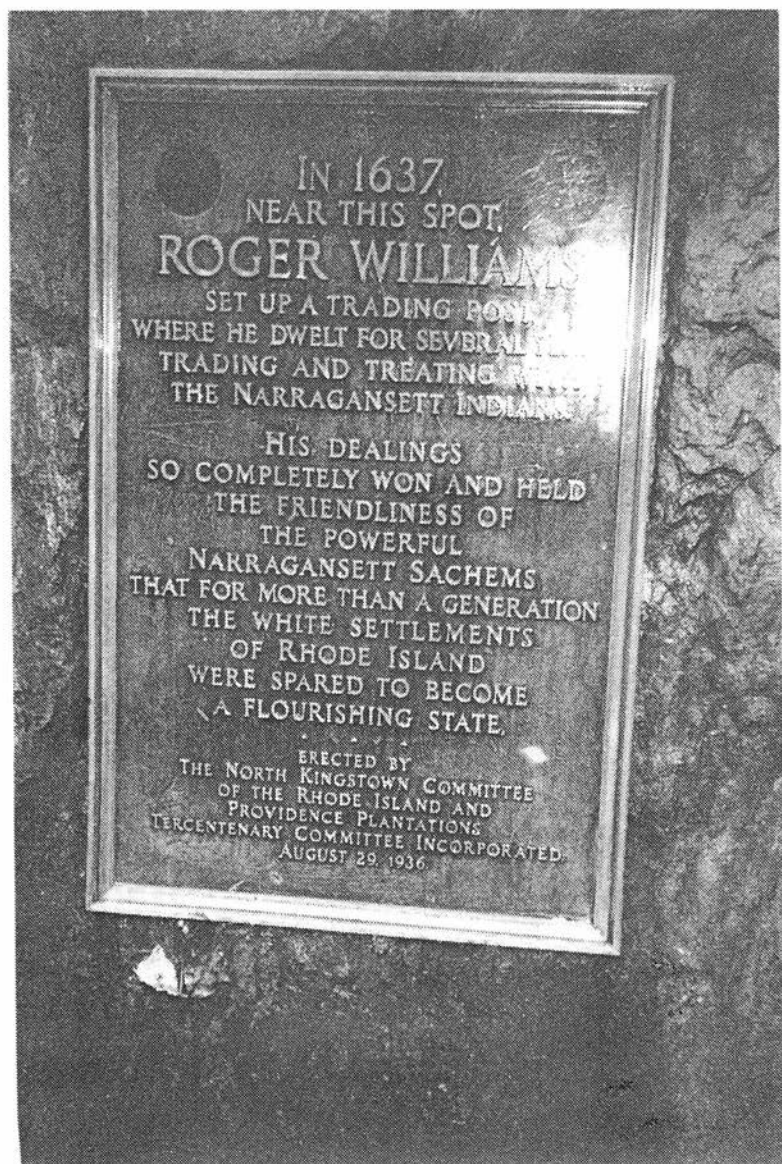
Volume II

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Rock Marking Roger Williams  
Trading Post location



IN 1637  
NEAR THIS SPOT  
**ROGER WILLIAMS**  
SET UP A TRADING POST  
WHERE HE DWELT FOR SEVERAL YEARS  
TRADING AND TREATING WITH  
THE NARRAGANSETT INDIANS  
HIS DEALINGS  
SO COMPLETELY WON AND HELD  
THE FRIENDLINESS OF  
THE POWERFUL  
NARRAGANSETT SACHEMS  
THAT FOR MORE THAN A GENERATION  
THE WHITE SETTLEMENTS  
OF RHODE ISLAND  
WERE SPARED TO BECOME  
A FLOURISHING STATE.

ERECTED BY  
THE NORTH KINGSTOWN COMMITTEE  
OF THE RHODE ISLAND AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
TERCENTENARY COMMITTEE INCORPORATED  
AUGUST 29, 1936

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**THE ORDER OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF  
RHODE ISLAND  
AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS 1636-1647**  
Founded October 16, 1990

**OFFICERS - 1997-99**

**Governor General**

Colonel Elmer Hall Palmer  
1401 South County Trail  
East Greenwich, RI 02818-1622

**Deputy Governor General**

Robert Carter Arnold  
2726 Poplar Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20007

**Secretary General**

Peter Arrott Dixon  
111 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**Treasurer General**

Thomas Mayhew Smith  
15 Tenney Street  
Cambridge, MA 02140

**Registrar General**

Lilla Giles McKnight Licht  
490 M St., SW, #W604  
Washington, D.C. 20024-2612

**Chaplain General**

Rev. Donald Gene Patterson  
9 West Penn Street  
Muncy, PA 17756

**Historian General**

Betty Arline Westcott Acker  
2145 Richvale Road  
Nashport, OH 43830-9727

**PRESIDENT JOHN SANFORD**

[Reference: "The Great Migration Begins Immigrants to New England 1620-1633", by Robert Charles Anderson, NEHGS, Boston, 1995, pp. 1626-1629]

John Sanford, according to Anderson, was probably born ca. 1608. It is more likely earlier as he is found serving in various offices in Boston and after becoming a founding freeman of Portsmouth 7 March 1637/8, serving a variety of town positions until he became President of the Colony of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations.

He was admitted to the Boston church as member #115 in late 1631, and became a freeman there 3 April 1632. He was on a committee to build bridges over Stony River and Muddy River 6 Aug 1633. 14 May 1634, with Mr. Edward Tomlyns, "entreated by the Court to take notice of the ordnances, powder and shot, & to make report to the next Court in what condition they are in." He was chosen cannoneer for the fort at Boston to be paid 20 pounds for two years service that he hath already done at the same fort & for one year more he shall do. On 8 Septmeber 1636, to have 10 pounds for his service as cannoneer of the fort for the year preceding, and chosen surveyor of the ordnance and other ammunition. His services as cannoneer continued until November 1637 when, "John Sanford is granted 13 pounds, 6s.

(Continued page 3)



## President John Sanford

8d. for the year past & so he is discharged, upon delivery of an inventory to another which shall be appointed." He also served on various minor Boston committees 9 Feb. 1634/5 to 15 Aug. 1636 and as a Boston selectman (for six months terms) 14 Mar 1635/ 6 to 19 Feb. 1637/38.

He married ca fall, 1632, Elizabeth Webb, sister of Henry Webb. An Elizabeth Webbe was admitted to the Boston church late 1631 as #120. She died after the birth of their second child and Sanford married 2nd by 1637, Bridget Hutchinson bp. Alford, Lincolnshire England 15 Jan. 1619, daughter of William and Anne (Marbury) Hutchinson. She married 2nd by 1656, as his 3rd wife William Phillips and died not long before 18 Aug. 1698.

In Portsmouth, John Sanford served as constable 12 Mar. 1639/40; Town magistrate & town council June, 1650; Assessor 19 Feb. 1650/51; Head magistrate 3 June 1651; Committee to grant land 12 Mar. 1639/40 & 2 Feb. 1651/52; Committee to determine all matters for defense and offense 1 April 1653; Town Council 20 June 1653; Lieutenant of the military company of Portsmouth 15 Mar. 1642/43; Assistant for Portsmouth 19 May 1647 & 22 May 1649; and Deputy for Portsmouth to R.I. General Court 16 May 1651. He became President for the Colony of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations 17 May 1653 and died while serving in this office.

(Continued page 4)

## President John Sanford

10 June 1638, he was granted 10 acres at Portsmouth and received 240 additional acres 10 Feb. 1639/40. On 6 October 1642, John Porter of Portsmouth sold to John Sanford, "all my part of the land in the Calves pasture." 8 Nov. 1648, Samuel Wilbore of Taunton sold to John Sanford six acres of meadow. 10 Apr. 1651, Adam Mott, Sr. sold him, "my part in the Calves pasture lying between his house and the claypit Field."

In his will dated 22 June 1653, proved 20 Nov. 1653, John Sanford bequeathed to his wife Bridget "my new dwelling house in which I live," with adjoining land and 1/3 of the moveables for life; to his son John certain land and the ferry; to son Samuel, 40 acres at Black Point with some moveables, including a bible; to son Peleg, at age, 20 acres at Black Point with some moveables; to sons Restcome, William, Esbon and Elisha land at Black Point; to daughter Eliphal 100 pounds - 60 pounds at her marriage, 40 pounds at her mother's marriage; to daughter Anne 60 pounds at marriage. The inventory of the estate taken 15 Nov. 1653 totaled 824 pounds 11s. 1d. with no real estate included.

Children of John & Elizabeth (Webb) Sanford born Boston, MA:

- i. John Sanford Jr., bp. 26 June 1633; m/1 Portsmouth 8 Aug 1654 Elizabeth Spatchurst, dau. of Henry of Bermuda; m/2 17 Apr.

(Continued page 5)

## President John Sanford

- i. (John Sanford Jr., continued)  
1663, Portsmouth, Mary (Gorton) Greene, dau. of Samuel & Mary (Mayplat) Gorton & widow of John Greene.
- ii. Samuel Sanford, bp 21 Jun 1635; m/1 Portsmouth 1661, Sarah Wodell, dau. of William; m/2 Susanna Spatchurst, dau. of William of Bermuda.  
Children of John & Bridget (Hutchinson) Sanford, all but the first born Portsmouth, R.I.:
  - iii. Elipal Sanford, bp 10 Dec. 1637 Boston, MA; m. @1656/7, Bartholomew Stratton a mariner of Boston 17 Oct 1663.
  - iv. Peleg Sanford, b. 10 May 1639; m/1 Mary Brenton, dau. of William; m/2 1 Dec. 1674 Mary Coddington dau. of William.
  - v. Endcome Sanford, b. 23 Feb 1640; d.y.
  - vi. Restcome Sanford, b. 29 Jan 1642 d. bet. 12 Aug & 24 Sept. 1667, unnm.
  - vii. William Sanford, b. 4 Mar. 1644; d. after 10 Mar. 1671, unnm.
  - viii. Esbon Sanford, b. 25 Jan 1646, d.y.
  - ix. Frances Sanford, b. 9 Jan 1648; d.y.
  - x. Elisha Sanford, b. 28 Dec 1650; dec. by 1691; unnm.
  - xi. Ann Sanford, b. 12 Mar 1652; d. 26 Aug. 1654.

## SETTLEMENT OF BLOCK ISLAND

[Reference: Livermore's History of Block Island, R.I., orig. printed 1877; Reproduced & Enhanced by the Block Is. Comm. of Republication for the Block Is. Tercentenary Anniv. 1961, pp. 9-11, 13-21, 268-275, 286-297, 338.]

Although, as will be seen, the settlement of Block Island and its subsequent town charter from the Rhode Island assembly took place after 1636-1647, the eligible years for membership in The Order of the First Families of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations, many descendants of the founding Block Island families married descendants of the First Families of R.I.

When Block Island was first seen by civilized navigators or when it was first inhabited by Indians can only be guessed. Verrazzano gave the first account of it in 1524. He described it as being 50 leagues east from New York harbor and about 3 leagues from the mainland. He said "it was full of hills, covered with trees, well peopled for we saw fires all along the coast."

Ninety years later, in 1614, Adrian Block visited the island and gave it his name.

In 1636, twenty two years after Block's discovery, a trader from Boston named John Oldham, accustomed to traffic with the Indians, came to this island with a small sailing vessel to trade with the Manisseans who "came

(Continued page 7)

## The Settlement of Block Island

into his boat, and having got a full view of commodities which gave them good content, consulted how they might destroy him and his company, to the end they might clothe their bloody flesh with his lawful garments." Their murder of Captain Oldham thoroughly advertised the Island in Boston and doubtless gave to many in New England their first knowledge of its existence.

Massachusetts sent an expedition under the command of Col. John Endicott who was sent to punish the Indians for the murder of Oldham and at the same time make a more thorough exploration of the island.

From the Narragansett Indians, it passed into the possession of Massachusetts. Its transfer to that colony was acknowledged by Miantinomo, the great sachem of the Narragansetts, to Gov. Vane in 1637 and was stated then to be "by right of conquest."

In 1658, the possession of Block Island was transferred from Massachusetts colony to private individuals: John Endicott, Richard Bellingham, Daniel Dennison and William Hawthorne. In 1660, the last transfer of Block Island, as a whole, was made by these four men, selling the same to a company of sixteen men, most of whom constituted its first settlers. The compact, purchase, and settlement were mainly as follows:

Memorandum in the year of our Lord 1660; as followeth:

(Continued page 8)

## Settlement of Black Island

"Mr. John Alcock, physician in the town of Roxbury, in the Colony of MA being connected with Mr. Thomas Faxun, Peter George, Thomas Terry, Richard Ellis, Samuel Dering, Simon Ray, all of Braintree, with sundry persons belonging to other towns:

"Mr. John Alcock acquainting them of an island that was to be sold, namely, Block Island, which might make a situation for about sixteen families and also declaring the price to be 400 pounds, and that if they would be concerned with him proportionably towards the erecting a plantation on Block Island, he the aforesaid John Alcock would then proceed in the purchase thereof, granting him for his trouble and pains five pounds for a sixteenth part, or 25 acres of land as an equivalent, and to be at equal proportion at payment for said purchase in manner and form as followeth:..."

All those who were interested were to meet at Mr. Alcock's the 17 August 1660. Present at Mr. Alcock's were: Thomas Faxun, Peter George, Thomas Terry, Richard Ellis, Samuel Dering, Simon Ray, Felix Wharton, Hew Williams, John Gluffer, Edward Vorse and John Rathbone.

The men agreed forthwith for to build a barque for the transporting of cattle to said Island for the settlement thereof. In addition, Samuel Dering and Simon Ray, for the better and quicker transporting of passengers,

(Continued page 20)

## ROGER WILLIAMS TRADING POST

A plaque erected by the North Kingston Committee of the R.I. & P.P. Tricentenary Committee Inc. is located on a rock on the Post Road in South Kingston near the driveway of Governor General Col. & Mrs. Elmer Hall Palmer's home.

It reads: "In 1637 near this spot ROGER WILLIAMS set up a trading post where he dwelt for several years trading and treating with the Narragansett Indians. His dealings so completely won and held the friendliness of the powerful Narragansett Sachems that for more than a generation the white settlements of Rhode Island were spared to become a flourishing state."

For the October, 1997 gathering of Society members in Rhode Island, we spent the morning visiting Smith Castle at Cocumscussoc. This home rebuilt in the 1700's was the home of the Richard Smith family (ca 1637) then the Updike family until 1812.

After a delightful luncheon in a restored 18th C. tavern, we retired to the Palmer home which was possibly Roger Williams trading Post. While enjoying a regal English tea prepared by Anne Palmer, before the great fireplace with its warmth removing the chill of the day (it was a damp, rainy day), Colonel Palmer regaled us with tales of Roger Williams trading post.

Following is from Colonel Palmer's notes.

(Continued page 10)

## Roger Williams Trading Post

"After laying out the town of Providence in 1636, Roger Williams (b. ca 1603; d. 1683) decided to establish a house on Narragansett Bay to trade with the Indians and to escape worldly life.

<sup>1</sup> This was accomplished some time after 28 October 1637, when the Chief Narragansett sachem, , Canonicus, gave Williams a tract of land for a trading post.<sup>2</sup> It seems likely, although not conclusive, that this trading post was located at Cocumscussoc by 1638, since a letter by Williams is dated 7 Sept. 1638 at Narragansett.<sup>3</sup> However, the first direct mention of the trading post at the site comes from a letter from Williams to John Winthrop Jr. dated 28 May 1647 at Cawcawmsquissick.

"At Cocumscussoc, Williams, and his Indian servants raised goats and crops, hunted wild game, and engaged in the lucrative trade with the Narragansett Indians.<sup>4</sup> Williams held this trading post until 1651 when he sold it to Richard Smith.<sup>5</sup>

"While there is no surviving description of William's house, there is a brief description of the property in the deed to Richard Smith. For fifty pounds, Williams sold 'my trading house at Narragansett, together with two Iron Guns or murderers, there Lyeing as alsoe my fields & fenceing about the s'd House, is alsoe the use of the little Island for goates which the old Sachem, deceased, Lent mee for that use....'<sup>6</sup>



## Roger Williams Trading Post

"The exact location of Roger Williams's trading post is unknown. However, three possible locations have been suggested: the Vaughan house north of Spink's tavern; the Hall-Northup house situated on the west side of Post Road opposite Smith's Castle; and the property owned by the Cocumscussoc Ass. or adjacent to it.

"The Vaughan house location for Williams trading post was proposed by Elisha Potter in 'The Early History of Narragansett' in which he reports that 'Wilkins Updike says William's trading house was where Royal Vaughan last lived next north of Spink's Tavern. John C. Reynolds lives there now.'"

Col. Palmer went on to say, "This seems to be the least likely of the three possible locations. The reasons for this assessment are (1) the Vaughan house is too far from a harbor to be a logical choice for a trading post; (2) it is much closer to Maskechugg Brook than Cocumscussoc Brook thereby making it illogical to call the settlement Cocumscussoc; and (3) the Vaughan house is located on property that was never owned by Richard Smith, Sr. who bought Williams's trading house in 1651."<sup>8</sup>  
[Note: Wilkes Updike lived 1784-1867]

"The core of the Hall-Northup<sup>9</sup> House is a one-room, one-and-a-half-story, stone ender, which is characteristic of mid-seventeenth century Rhode Island homes. On the basis of its architecture and general location in the

## Roger Williams Trading Post

vicinity of Cocumscussoc both Norman Isham<sup>10</sup> and Antoinette Downing (1979) have suggested that 'if it were not that the chronicles of King Philip's War of 1675-76 record the destruction of every building south of Warwick, one would have to conclude that this is Roger Williams' trading post of ca. 1638.'<sup>11</sup> It is possible that after King Phillip's War the house was rebuilt on the foundation of the earlier structure encompassing remains of stone ender which may have been Williams's trading house.

"However, the careful notes of the present owner, Mr. Elmer Hall Palmer, suggest from Patricia E. Ruberstone (1990) Principal Investigator in her report with Robert K. Fitts, that this house could not have been sold to Smith by Williams in 1651. Extensive deed and genealogical research show that the house remained within the Hall family for the entire 18th C., and that the first Hall owner, William Hall, left his sons in his 1673 Will 'all my land in the Narragansett which I purchased of Thomas Lawton'.<sup>12</sup> Thomas Lawton purchased this tract from the Narragansett sachem, Cadganaquant in 1660, but the exact location of this tract has not been identified. The tract is described as being 'bounded on the north and west with a river called Signebetuck together with all the mowable land bordering on its north and west sides

(Continued page 14)

## Enjoying tea at Fall Meeting 1997

Geneva DeWolf



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### SEPTEMBER 18th & 19th

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Join us Friday Sept. 18th for a black tie dinner at the Squantum Club 5PM & Sat., Sept. 19th trip to Block Island.

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## Roger Williams Trading Post

of the said river, on the south bounded an Indian path called Mascopoumsicke, on the east with the English path from Warwick to Pequot.<sup>13</sup> Assuming that the land purchased from Lawton is the same on which the house now stands, this land was never owned by Richard Smith and thus could not have been sold to him by Williams in 1651. Thus the Hall-Northup house does not seem to be the site of Williams' trading post.<sup>14</sup>

"It is therefore probable that Roger Williams's trading post is in the general vicinity of the Cocumscussoc property. According to the 'Petition From The Inhabitants Of The Narragansett Country To The King' in 1679, Smith may have moved into Williams's house after 1651 and built around it.<sup>15</sup>

This suggests that Williams trading post would be in close proximity to the block house in which the Colonial troops were garrisoned in 1675, although it may not be on land presently owned by the Cocumscussoc Ass. since the Updike lands were subdivided in the early 20th century.

"There are two lines of evidence to suggest that John Wilcox also may have erected a trading house at Cocumscussoc by 1645. First New Netherland court records state that Richard Smith sued Jan Wilcox (sic) on 15 July 1645 'because Wilcox (sic) traded with the pltf's [plaintiff's] merchantile house against his compact.' However, Wilcox (sic) af-

(Continued page 15)

## Roger Williams Trading Post

firmed that 'it was sold at his house' suggesting that each owned their own trading post.<sup>16</sup> Second, the diary of John Winthrop, Jr. states that on 30 November 1645 'we came to the trading post at Caco, Mr. Wilcox house where 2 English that traded for the Dutch Gov. John Piggest & John ...Mr. Williams man.'<sup>17</sup>

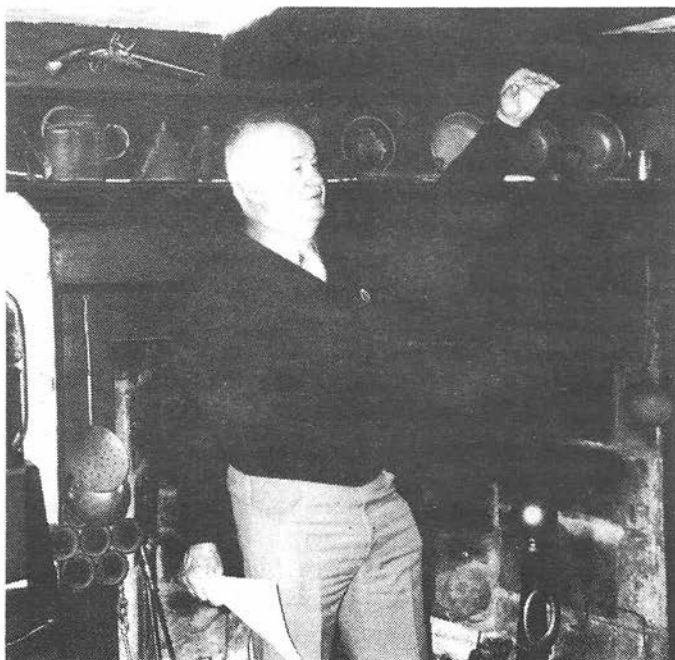
"Moreover, there is some evidence which suggests that either before or after the 1645 agreement, Smith and Wilcox were partners. In their declaration of 1680, Randall Holden and John Greene of Warwick state 'Mr. Roger Williams and one Mr. Wilcockes for their advantage of trade set up trading houses, and afterwards Mr. Richard Smith Senr. came thither havinge joined in partnership with sayd Wilcockes.'<sup>18</sup> Peleg Sanford, also writing in 1680, declares 'one Mr. Wilcocks and Mr. Roger Williams obtained leave of the Indians to sett up a Trading house for commerce with the Natives there. And some yeares after, Mr. Richard Smith Senr. aforesaid (being an Inhabitant of the Towne of Portsmouth on Rhode Island and a Freeman of said Colony) removed to the said Trading house at Narragansett (being as was said a partner with the said Wilcocks) ...'<sup>19</sup> It seems likely, therefore, that John Wilcox erected his own trading post sometime in the late 1630s or early 1640s at Cocumscussoc, but was

(Continued page 17)

**Fall Meeting - 1997**

**TOP:** Tres. Gen Thomas M Smith, Barbara Davidson, Secty Gen. Lilla M Licht.

**BOTTOM:** Gov. Gen. Col. Elmer H Palmer during tea at the Hall-Palmer house.



## Roger Williams Trading Post

bought out by Richard Smith in late 1645. The location of this trading post is unknown.

Although John Wilcox's testimony in the New Amsterdam Courts in 1645 provides the first contemporary evidence of a structure owned by Richard Smith (b. 1596; d. 1662) at Cocumscussoc, documents from 1679 provide the key for establishing a date for the trading post. These documents are part of a series of affidavits intended to establish who was the first settler of Narragansett Country in order to determine whether this region should be part of Rhode Island or under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts.

### Footnotes

1. LaFantasie 1988:xxxviii.
2. Op. Cit. pp. 130, 752.
3. Chapin 1933:19.
4. Arnold 1894:93-94; Bartlett 1859:219; LaFantasie 1988:752.
5. Arnold 1894:93-94.
6. IBID.
7. The Early History of Narragansett 1835:343.
8. Chapin, 1933.
10. RE: Palmer-Northup House - The house should be referred to as the William Hall homestead...Abiel Palmer Northup was a 19th C. owner of the house. He married Teresa L Hall. It is incorrectly called by this name on the National Register of Historic Places 3 Jul 1972 R.I. Code 44 R.I. Hist. Pres. Comm.

**Roger Williams Trading Post****Footnotes (Continued)**

11. Isham & Brown 1895.
12. Downing 1979:57.
13. Portsmouth Land Evidence 1:138.
14. Op. Cit., p. 164.
15. Bartlett 1858:58.
16. Merrill 1891:62.
17. Chapin 1933:20.
18. Op. Cit., p. 25.
19. IBID.

**Fall Meeting - 1997**

Carolyn E. Fish Lubker browsing in  
the Governor General's library.



**NEW MEMBERS**

- #151 Robert Forrest Poyton  
P.O. Box 217  
North Scituate, RI 028570217  
ANCESTOR: Stephen Paine
- #152 Carleton B. White  
Life 608 South Overlook Drive  
Coffeyville, KS 67337-2541  
ANCESTOR: William Sabin
- #153 Jo Lynn Hathaway  
(Mrs. Richard Gerard Fillon)  
188 B South Street  
Hingham, MA 02043-2628  
ANCESTOR: Hon Philip Sherman
- #154 Lillie Eylene Anderson Canup  
(Mrs. George W. Canup)  
2340 Habersham Drive  
Marietta, GA 30064-3806  
ANCESTOR: Richard Borden
- #155 Thomas Jeffrey Clarke  
Life 56 Balcort Drive  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
ANCESTOR: William Arnold

**CORRECTION TO MEMBERSHIP ROSTER**

Our apologies to Mrs. Lovett who  
was omitted in Vol. I, #1:

- #115 Dorothie M Boyer Lovett  
Life (Mrs. Jack Lovett)  
16437 W. 43rd Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85032-3319  
ANCESTOR: Hon Philip Sherman

## The Settlement of Block Island

considering there was no harbor, built a shallop upon their own cost and charge for the promoting and settling of the Island. Both ships were finished by the end of the year 1660. William Rose, was employed as first Master of the barque and William Edwards and Samuel Staples were employed for undertaking to sail the shallop around the Cape, and meet the passengers at Taunton then to sail them to Block Island.

April, 1661, the barque set sail from Braintree for Block Island. The shallop received its passengers at Taunton, probably in April, 1662, as the surveyors went out in Sept., 1661 and it would have taken time to appor-tion the Island. The sixteen who went in the shallop were:

"Thomas Terry, Samuel Dering, Duncan Williamson, John Rathbone, Simon Ray, Wm. Tosh, Thormut Rose, Wm. Barker, David Kimball, Wm. Cahoone, Edward Vorse, Nicholas White, William Billings, Tristram Dodge, John Ackurs. Thomas Faxun had preceded with the surveyor, Mr. Peter Noyse of Sudbury.

From the laying out of lots, it can be seen that many of the original purchasers in the compact were not among the first settlers and that others took their place to comprise 16 families.

The old book of records for the first settling of Block Island show the following division of the Island: "The North Part of the Island by lot: Mr. Richard Billings #1, Mr. Samuel

(Continued page 22)

**NEW ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS****Charter Members**

- #16 Norma L. Flude  
(Mrs. George Flude)  
1843 Windswept Oak Lane  
Fernandina Beach, FL  
32034-8995
- #18 BG Michael J.L. Greene  
6200 Oregon Avenue NW #361  
Washington, D.C. 20015-1543
- #22 Doris Mercant Wiener  
(Mrs. Frederick B. Wiener)  
Beatifudes Lodge, 1616 W.  
Glendale Avenue #387  
Phoenix, AZ 85021-8948
- #25 Mary Alice Sheldon Short  
Life (Mrs. Clifford H. Short)  
10900 Temple Terrace,  
Apt. #1714  
Seminole, FL 33772-4738
- #26 Ellen Hays Perrin, Ph.D  
Life 1 Dorchester Drive #309  
Pittsburgh, PA 15241-1027
- #89 Joan W. Hantel  
(Mrs. Wilbur Charles Hantel)  
201 Hunter Avenue  
State College, PA 16801-6948

**Members**

- #106 Edward Francis Sherman  
2440 W. Greenleaf Ave., #1  
Chicago, IL 60645-3304

(continued page 25)

## The Settlement of Block Island

Dering #2, Nathaniel Wingley & Tormot Rose #3, Edward Vorse & John Rathbone #4, Thomas Faxon (2 lots) #5 & #6, Richard Ellis #7, Felix Wharton #8, John Glover #9, Thomas Terry #10 & #11, James Sand #12, Hew Williams #13, John Alcock #14, Minister's land #15, Peter George #16, and Simon Ray #17.

"The Western Part of the Island as by lot Divided: Mr. Thomas Faxon #1 & #2, Nathaniel Wingley & Tormot Rose #3, Thomas Terry #4 & #5, Felix Wharton #6, John Alcock, Physician #7, and P George & Simon Ray #8 & #9.

"The South East Part of the Island: John Rathbone & Edward Vorse #10, Richard Billings #11, Richard Ellis #12, Hew Williams #13, John Glover & James Sands #14 & #15, and Samuel Dering #16. The other small divisions by lot divided unto every purchaser by proportion."

Block Island is located directly south of the central part of Rhode Island 12 miles from the mainland. It is southwest of Newport about 30 miles and about 18 miles north of east of Montauk Long Island, NY. It is about 8 miles long and 3 miles wide. "It lies so far out to sea that in summer its surface is cooled by breezes, and in winter its hills are swept by fearful gales and its shores are weathered with the white foam of assaulting billows."

There was so much rocky soil that it said there are now 300 miles of rock fences to attest to it.

(Continued page 23)

## Settlement of Block Island

Capt. James Sands, was the only one among the purchasers of Block Island to have previously lived in Rhode Island. He was born in Reading, England in 1622 son of Henry Sands who was admitted a freeman of Boston, MA in 1640. 2 April 1654, William Earle, planter of Portsmouth, sold to James Sands of Portsmouth 14 acres "which was possessed by the late deceased the widow Walker.... 3 Dec. 1656, the proprietors of Portsmouth ordered that "William Earl and James Sands shall have 50 acres of land it being grant to John Walker deceased."<sup>1</sup> He is mentioned as a freeman in 1655 and as a representative of the General Court of Commissioners held at Newport 19 May 1657. He married by 1648 Sarah, daughter of John and Katherine Walker of Portsmouth, RI. John Walker was a freeman of Portsmouth at its incorporation 7 March 1637/38. Katherine Walker in her will written before 2 April 1654, recorded 16 Dec. 1671, makes bequeaths to "my daughter Sarah Sands" to "James Sands".<sup>2</sup>

The History of Block Island states he came to Plymouth from England in 1658, but this is obviously incorrect. It is likely, that he, along with his father-in-law, were adherents of Anne Hutchinson as he is went to New York with her and built her house in Westchester Co., NY; returning afterwards to New England.

(Continued page 24)

## Settlement of Block Island

"In May 1664, Mr. Sands with Mr. Joseph Kent, presented to the General Assembly of Rhode Island, a petition on behalf of the Islanders...that they... be admitted as freemen of the Colony of Rhode Island...Capt James Sands, with Thomas Terry was the first representative from Block Island to sit in the General Court of Commissioners of Rhode Island, admitted such in 1665. In 1672, he was foremost in presenting the petition to have the Island Incorporated under the name of New Shoreham, and the General Assembly granted the request "preserving the old name Block Island, the chartered name being "New Shoreham, otherwise Block Island." Three of his four sons (Capt. John, James Jr., and Samuel Sands) removed to Cow Neck, now Sands Point, LI, NY. Edward, the fourth son remained on Block Island...At the same time, they retained their farms and cattle on Block Island, to which they annually returned in the summer.

Simon Ray was the son of Simon Ray who came from England and died in Braintree, MA in 1641 leaving a large estate. Simon Jr. was born 1635 and lived to be 102 years old. His son, Simon Ray Jr (sic, the third) married a granddaughter of Roger Williams. Their daughter Anna Ray, born 27 Sept. 1728 married Gov. Samuel Ward of R.I.; Their daughter Catherine Ray, born 10 July 1731, married Gov. William Greene of R.I. Phebe Ray, born 10 Sept. 1733 married William Littlefield of Block Island. Catherine, daughter of Phebe

## Settlement of Block Island

and William Littlefield, was early left an orphan and was adopted by her aunt Catherine, wife of Gov. Wm. Greene and while a resident in that family was married to Major-General Nathaniel Green of the American Revolution.

By the 1680's, we begin to see descendants of First Families of R.I. & P.P. settling on Block Island and their subsequent marriages with Block Island families - names such as Mott, Paine and Gorton. Thus a knowledge of the family records of Block Island are valuable in establishing lineages for prospective members and Supplements of members of our Society.

1. The Great Migration Begins, Immigrants to New England 1620-1633, by Robert C. Anderson, NEHGS, Boston, 1995, p. 1907.
2. Op. Cit., pp. 1906, 1907.

## NEW ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS

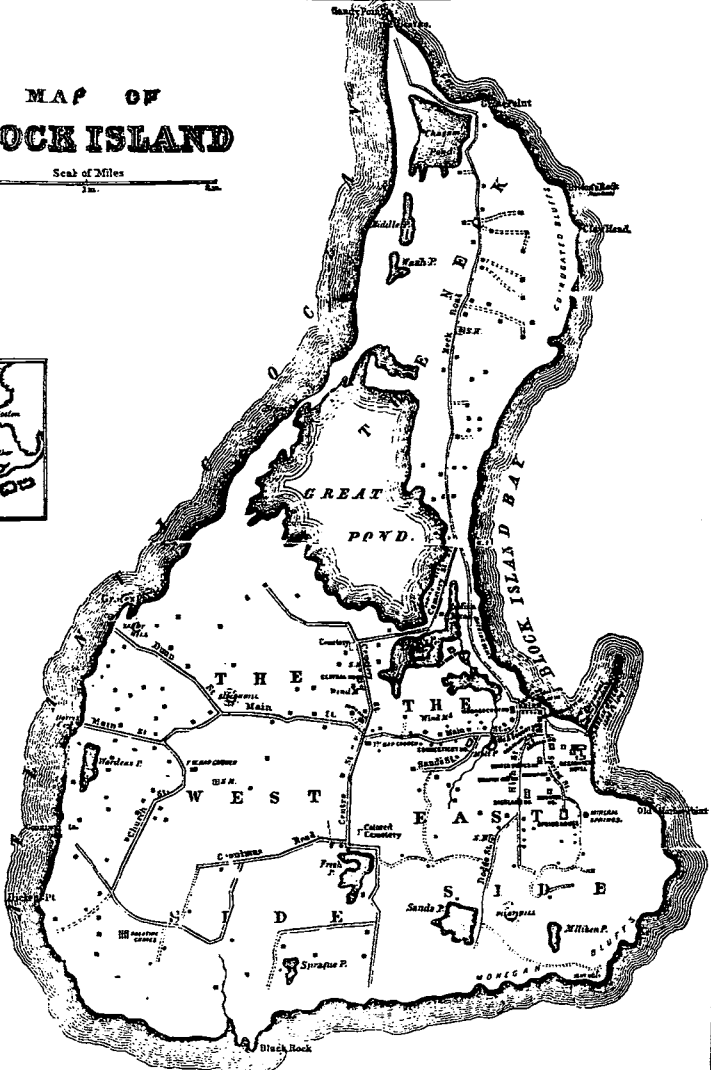
(continued from page 21)

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| #124 | Monica V. Schlick  |
| #126 | Monica M. Schlick Stockdale<br>13509 Sunset Canyon Drive NE<br>Albuquerque, NM 87111 |
| #142 | Elaine Denise Bernstorff<br>2475 Greenleaf Street<br>Wichita, KS 67226-1535          |

# MAP OF BLOCK ISLAND

Scale of Miles

1 in. = 1 mi.



Drawn by J. C. Thompson, Prov. N.Y.

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### **Hall - Palmer House**

Robert Henry Lubker (guest) & Gov.  
Gen. Col. Elmer Hall Palmer.

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### **FLOWERS OF THE FIELD**

Charter Member #11

Lois Barbara Hall Barrington  
died 16 May 1997

Charter Member #63

Harry Bowden  
died 16 Feb. 1998

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Hall - Palmer House  
Outside view of the original chimney



### Fall Meeting - 1997

Standing (l to r) of Trading Post Marker: Officers Peter A. Dixon, Thomas M Smith, Col. Elmer Hall Palmer; John A. and Barbara Davidson from N.J.

