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Old Stone Mill, Origin Unknown

By NEALE ADAMS

Who built Newport's Old Stone Mill? Vikings who sailed to the "New World before Columbus, or the first governor of Rhode Island? Nobody knows for sure.

Despite efforts by scientists and scholars for over a century, the origin of the curious round structure that stands on eight weathered columns is still shrouded in mystery.

The Old Stone Mill, or Newport Tower as it's called by some, stands in Touro Park on Gill Street. It's not very big, about 25 feet high, and 19 feet across. A solid iron fence surrounds it.

Controversy over the mill's shingimings started in 1839 when

Professor Charles Christian Rafn of Copenhagen published *An Account of an Ancient Structure in Newport, R.I.*

As early as 850 A.D. some Norsemen, notably the Icelanders, had been converted to Christianity by missionaries from Rome. Perhaps the structure, the professor theorized, was part of an early Norse Christian church.

The implications of Rafn's theory were sweeping. If true, the first building on the American continent was a Catholic church. What a shock to Puritan New Englanders!

But most New Englanders believed, as most do now, that the mill was no older than colonial times.

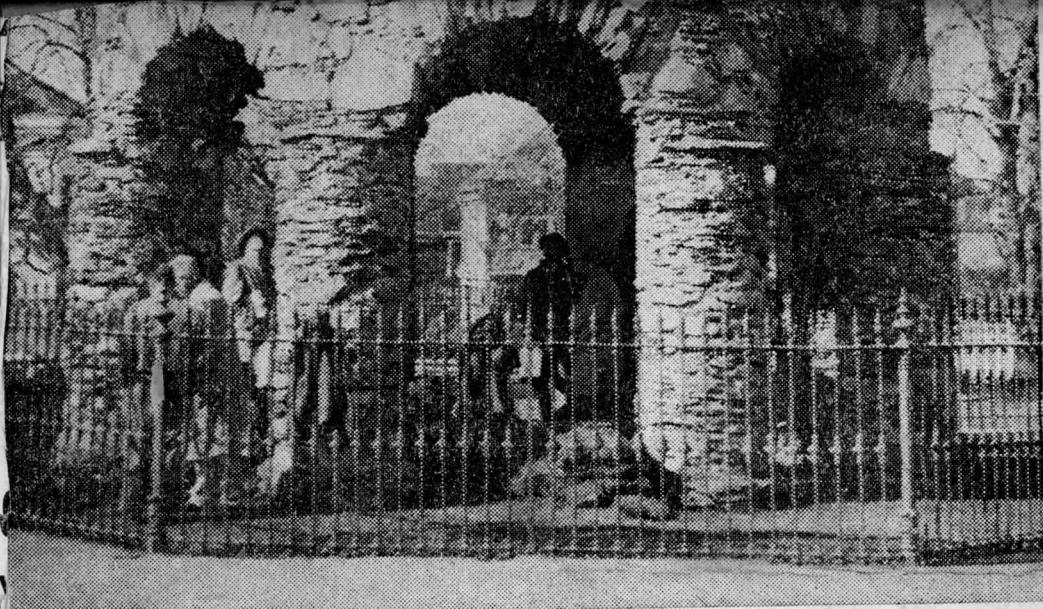
Early records show that in 1755 a storm blew down the town's only windmill. Two years later, documents of Benedict Arnold, Rhode Island's first governor, and no relation to the

Revolutionary War traitor, refer to "my stone built windmill." The theory is that Governor Arnold must have built the mill between 1675 and 1677.

A noted archeologist, Philip Ainsworth Means, went so far

as to write a book over 300 pages long about the dispute in 1942. He leaned toward the Viking theory, and urged a scientific excavation about the base of the mill.

During the summers of 1948 and 1949 an archeologist from Harvard, sponsored by the New-



SUBJECT OF A NEW THEORY — A member of the American Society of Civil Engineers has set forth some novel facts to substantiate his claim that the Old Stone Mill was used to signal and guide Norse ships in the 14th century.

(Daily News Photo)

Old Stone Mill Gets New Supporter Of Norse Origin With Novel Theory

North America's most controversial building, the Old Stone Mill — or Newport Tower, whichever you prefer — has a new backer of the contention that the sturdy, round structure in Touro Park was built by the Norsemen long before Columbus discovered America. And this proponent of the Norse sagas, a civil engineer, has come up with some new and forceful arguments to support his theory.

Edward Adams Richardson of the Bethlehem Steel Co. in Bethlehem, Pa., who prepared the paper for study by his contemporaries, noted that the Old Stone Mill was investigated with regard to structural design to determine possible reasons for the window and fireplace arrangement. He concluded the design proved adequate, by modern standards, for a particular church structure. But he noted that he was inclined to follow the thought that the windows and fireplace form a sophisticated signalling and ship guidance system characteristic of the

says, "to believe that this builder might have been trained in the construction of churches, a thing far from impossible at about the year 1360. This was not simply a tower built so solidly that nothing could cast it down; it was a tower designed to do a specific job and to use the minimum of material for a permanent structure.

"As he used a fireplace commonly accepted in or before the year 1400, but very inferior and in design and concept in 1675, it seems necessary to place the construction of the tower near the earlier date."

Richardson concluded that the windows might have been used for watch tower or signalling purposes. He noted that apparently there never has been

a published study investigating the nature of such watch and signal means or the significance thereof.

The engineer, therefore, undertook to investigate the extreme bearing lines for all openings from cross sections of the tower through the window openings.

He supports his study with geometrical figures and established, he claims, that the second floor was a signal - receiving station.

"The builder was greatly interested in three things: land approaches and possible outposts from the southwest so far as this second - floor receiving center is concerned," according to the report.

Since there was no watch on the southwest, Richardson concludes that the tower was built "prior to the 17th century, for the Dutch were a military threat in that per-

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Old Stone Mill tells nothing about its origin.

—Journal-Bulletin Photo

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By means of a chart on the actual design of the tower, Richardson concluded the structure to have been built by Norsemen. He set down the dimensions of the outer and inner diameter, the column base and shaft diameters, floor thicknesses, estimated mean height of the arches and all other data available. He established these in both English and Hanseatic feet. For example, he noted the outer diameter of the tower to be 23.16 English feet and by Hanseatic measure, 22 feet and six inches; the clear spacing of the second floor beams to be 5.15 English feet and exactly five Hanseatic feet.

The measurements continue in this manner on all dimensions and Richardson feels that, since the English feet all end up with severe fractions, that the Hanseatic feet are more true and correct because they end up even.

"There is reason," Richardson

says, "to believe that this builder might have been trained in the construction of churches, a thing far from impossible at about the year 1360. This was not simply a tower built so solidly that nothing could cast it down; it was a tower designed to do a specific job and to use the minimum of material for a permanent structure."

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southeast; and approachings of the west. Interested in the sea approaches from the southwest so far as this second - floor receiving center is concerned," according to the report.

Since there was no watch on the southwest, Richardson concludes that the tower was built "prior to the 17th century, for the Dutch were a military threat in that period and most certainly a watch would have been kept in that direction."

He then considered the conditions of Holland's colonists about 1555. "In this case there were no ships to be expected from the west. Any ships sent out in search of the West Greenland colonists would have sailed east and would return from that direction. A most likely approach by such ships would be through Vineyard Sound north of Martha's Vineyard, bearing south of Cuttyhunk Island. Any supply ships might be expected to arrive through this channel, or perhaps from the southeast, south of Martha's Vineyard. Certainly these considerations fit the provisions made by the town builder much better than any others that might be suggested at present."

Richardson carries his geometrical studies into the first floor and notes that this was intended as a beacon, or as a signal sending station. He said a nightfire on the hearth would provide the necessary light.

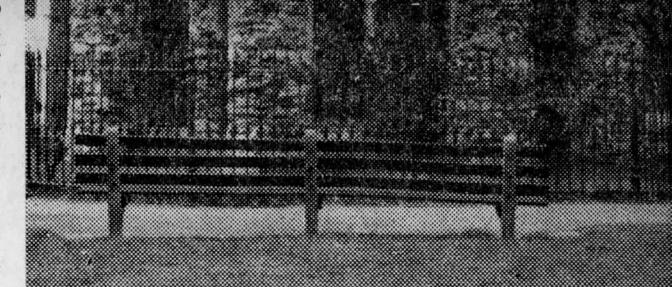
Members of the American Society of Civil Engineers prepare studies of this nature for discussion by other members.

had been converted to Christianity by missionaries from Rome. Perhaps the structure, the professor theorized, was extremely impractical for a windmill, was part of an early Norse Christian church.

The implications of Rafn's theory were sweeping. If true, the first building on the American continent was a Catholic church. What a shock to Puritan knees!

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Revolutionary War traitor, referred to as "my stone built windmill." The theory is that Governor Arnold must have built the mill between 1675 and 1677.

A noted archeologist, Philip Ainsworth Means, went so far as to write a book over 300 pages long about the dispute in 1942. He leaned toward the Viking theory, and urged a scientific excavation about the base of the mill.

During the summers of 1948 and 1949 and archeologist from Harvard, sponsored by the Newport County Preservation Society, dug a trench 78 feet long and three feet deep looking for Norse artifacts. He failed to find any. But in 1955 other scientists dug some and thought they found pre-Columbian evidence in the way plaster that used to cover the old floors fell.

In any case, newly built or newly converted from an old Norse ruin, the mill was used for grinding corn until about 1750. A floor was installed above the arches in the circular part of the tower.

Some believe it was then used as a powder mill or a powder magazine. Soon afterward it became a hayloft, and was painted as such by Gilbert Stuart in 1770.

In 1854 Touro Park was founded through the bequest of Judith Touro. The Old Stone Mill and the park were purchased for \$10,000 and given to the city.

A vine was planted near the

mill that soon covered it, and it faded into relative obscurity. A Newport architect even urged its removal. But in 1878 the vines were removed, and the structure became a public curiosity and cherished monument.

And so it is — no one yet knows who built Newport's tower.

It seems strange that Portsmouth, where came Dr. John Clarke, the Baptist minister, and his companions in 1638 to found a government based on civil and religious liberty, should never have had a Baptist church until this year of 1957.

Strange, because John Clarke, important as a scholar, a physician and a statesman, was the first long-sustained and significant minister among American Baptists.

The Rev. Dr. Wilbur Nelson, pastor emeritus of our United Baptist Church, tells us in his biography of the founding father, that the Christian ministry of Dr. Clarke in Rhode Island began with the settlement of the Island of Aquidneck in Portsmouth religious leader of the

founders and the only preacher and pastor among them, in Portsmouth and in Newport, in the early years. He carried on public worship in both towns.

But while the church in Newport became distinctively a Baptist church, whose direct descendant is alive and flourishing here today, Portsmouth failed to found a Baptist church. In fact, according to Bayles' history of Newport County, the first actual ecclesiastical body in the town of Portsmouth was that of the Quakers, or Friends.

Nor has one come to the town, down through the centuries, until now, when the Founders Memorial Baptist Church joins the numerous other faiths so strongly established there.

Portsmouth

Musicale Program Promises To Be Fine Entertainment

The concert to be presented at the Candlelight Musicale on Saturday evening by the Silver String Ensemble at "The Glen," Portsmouth, will be in two parts with classical eighteenth century music in the first half and popular concert favorites in the second half.

"Moderato" (from Military Symphony), Joseph Haydn will open the program followed by "Gavotte & Musette", (from the

3rd English Suite), Johann Sebastian Bach; "Little Fugue", George F. Handel; Theme from "Sonata in A", Wolfgang Mozart; "Menuette in G", with four menuett dancers, Ludwig van Beethoven.

"Gavotte Celebre in F Major", Padre Giambattista Martini; "Moment Musical", Franz Schubert; "Voi Che Sapete", (Miss Emma Beldan, soloist) Mozart; "Canzonetta", Felix Mendelssohn; "Amaryllis", H. Ghys.

Second Half

The second half will open with "Gold & Silver Waltz", Franz Lehar; "Because", Guy D'Hardelot; "To a Wild Rose", (featuring a clarinet solo by Paul L. Darby,) by Edward A. MacDowell. "In the Garden of Tomorrow", Jessie L. Deppen; "O Dry Those Tears", Teresa Del Riego.

"The Song of Songs" Edward Moya; "At Dawning", (Miss Beldan) Charles W. Cadman; "It Is a Grand Night for Singing", (Miss Beldan) Rogers and Hammerstein; "Emperor Waltz", Johann Strauss; "The World Is Waiting for the Sunrise", Ernest Seitz; "Romany Life", by Victor Herbert.

Battle of RI

Miss S. Alice Birkett, president of the Portsmouth Historical Society, which is presenting the program, will discuss briefly the

CANDLELIGHT MUSICAL

By
THE SILVER STRING ENSEMBLE

Miss Emma Beldan, Soloist
Presented By

Portsmouth
Historical Society

SAT., AUG. 29—8:30 P.M.
GLEN FARM

Light Refreshments Donation \$1.50

300 Anniversary of The

Rhode Island Monthly Meeting

of the

Society of Friends

at

Portsmouth, Rhode Island

1658 - - - 1958

June 20, 21, 22, 1958

Miss Beldan to Be Vocalist At Portsmouth Musicale

Miss Emma Beldan, Newport Soprano, will sing three numbers at the Candlelight Musicale to be presented Saturday at 8:30 p. m. by the Portsmouth Historical at "The Glen".

She will sing, "Voi Che Sapete," (from the Marriage of Figaro) by Wolfgang A. Mozart in the first half of the program of eighteenth century music.

In the second half of the program, which features popular concert favorites, Miss Beldan will offer, "At Dawning," by Charles Wakefield Cadman. The violin obligato will be played by Arthur A. Cohen, director of the Silver String Ensemble which is presenting the musicale.

"It Is a Grand Night for Singing," by Rogers and Hammerstein, will be Miss Beldan's final number.

Noted Background

Miss Beldan is a graduate of Juilliard Opera School and has

Portsmouth Program Marks Battle of R.I.

Over 200 persons attended a candlelight musical program last night in Portsmouth in observance of the Battle of Rhode Island. The program was sponsored by the Portsmouth Historical Society.

A string ensemble, directed by Arthur Cohen, offered a program of classical and semi-classical music at the Manor House in the Glen, home of the late Mrs. G. J. Guthrie Nicholson.

A minuet was danced by the Misses Anne Forwalt, Patricia Hayward, Charlotte Oborne and Jeanne La Perche, all of whom wore 18th century costumes.

Miss Emma Beldan, former member of the Philadelphia Opera Company, was the soprano soloist.

During an intermission guests were served refreshments by hostesses wearing 18th century costumes. Producer for the

church will hold an auction and lawn sale on Saturday from 10 to 4 at the church. Persons

with donations for the auction, the white elephant, plant, hand work and food tables are asked to leave articles in the church Friday evening and early Saturday morning.

John E. Janes will be the auctioneer. The auction will be held from 2 to 4 p. m.

Rev. Alan Carvalho, a Portsmouth Summer resident and minister at Hartford Theological

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Battle of RI

Miss S. Alice Birkett, president of the Portsmouth Historical Society, which is presenting the program, will discuss briefly the Battle of Rhode Island which took place on Aug. 29, 1778 in Portsmouth.

Arthur A. Cohen of Newport is director of the Silver String Ensemble and plays the violin. Other violinists are Mrs. Dorothy Dannin and Arthur H. Freeborn who is producer of the musicale.

Mrs. Marion Desotnek is pianist. Paul L. Darby plays the clarinet; Edward J. Craig, the viola; Mrs. Bernard Richards, cello and Bruce Murray, bass.

Refreshments

Refreshments will be served by several members of the society attired in eighteenth century costume. Tickets will be available at the door.

The musicale will be presented at 8:30 in the South Room of the Manor House at "The Glen," is reached by taking the main gate at the foot of Glen Road which runs easterly from East Main Road three-tenths of a mile north of the State Police Barracks and two miles south of Portsmouth Town Hall. There will be a sign at the head of Glen Road.

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Noted Background

Miss Beldan is a graduate of Juillard Opera School and has sung with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra at Carnegie Hall, with the Handel and Haydn Society at Symphony Hall in Boston and has been soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, at Robin Hood Dell.

Miss Beldan has toured the principal cities of the country with the Philadelphia Opera Company. She has appeared at the Berkshire Festival at Tanglewood and with the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra.

She is presently director of

music at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Newport.

WSCS OFFICERS

The officers of the Women's Society of Christian Service of St. Paul's Methodist Church will hold an executive committee meeting tomorrow at 8 p. m. at the parsonage. The purpose is to plan the year's program.

On Thursday at 8 p. m. the official board of the church will meet in the Parish House.

The church will hold an auction and lawn sale on Saturday from 10 to 4 at the church. Persons with donations for the auction, the white elephant, plant, hand work and food tables are asked to leave articles in the church Friday evening and early Saturday morning.

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Rev. Alan Carvalho, a Portsmouth Summer resident and middler at Hartford Theological School, will be the guest preacher at the service at 10 a. m. on Sunday.

Portsmouth Program Marks Battle of R.I.

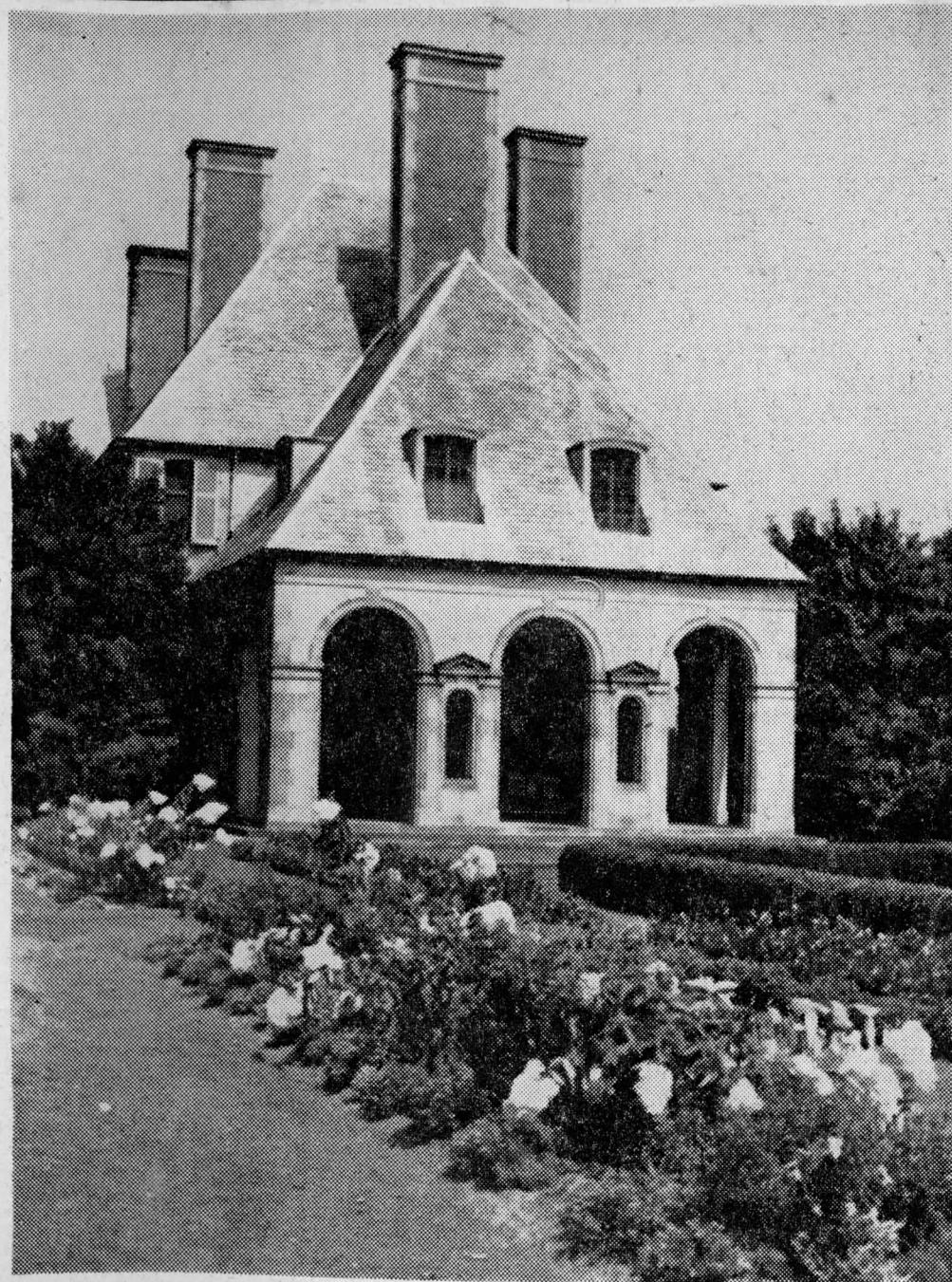
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During an intermission guests were served refreshments by hostesses wearing 18th century costumes. Producer for the program was Arthur H. Freeborn. Mrs. Ruth Earle was general chairman and dance director.



Herald News Photo

SETTING FOR CANDLELIGHT MUSICALE: View looking toward South Room at Manor House, "The Glen," Portsmouth, where Candlelight Musicale will be presented tonight. The program of fine music is being sponsored by the Portsmouth Historical Society.



Musicale Tonight



—Herald News Photo

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Musicale Tonight At Portsmouth

Tickets for the Candlelight Musicale being presented tonight at 8:30 by the Silver String Ensemble and Miss Emma Beldan will be available at the door of the Manor House, Glen Farm, The Taylor-Nicholson estate in Portsmouth.

The affair is being conducted by the Portsmouth Historical Society to benefit its building fund. Arthur H. Freeborn is chairman and producer of the musicale. John Pierce is chairman of the properties committee which also includes Russell Smith, Henry W. Wilkey, Edward J. Hilliard and Duncan Wilkey Jr.

John Brandt is in charge of the lighting effects. Mrs. Howard J. Earle and Miss Verna Church have instructed the minuet dancers.

The Manor House has been made available to the society through the courtesy of Reginald Taylor.



—Herald News Photo

A BIT OF EIGHTEENTH CENTURY atmosphere will be provided by these lovely Portsmouth ladies who will serve refreshments and act as ushers at the Candlelight Musicale to be held tomorrow night at Manor House, "The Glen," mansion home of the late Mrs. G. J. Guthrie Nicholson. Mrs. Glen D. Werhan at bottom of stair landing extends greeting to Miss Verna Church, while looking on, from top to bottom, are Mrs. Howard J. Earle, Mrs. Edward J. Hilliard Jr. and Mrs. Donald M. Koslow.

Island Historical Society was represented at the sale and made a substantial bid for the letter, but was overwhelmed in the competition.

The letter was written to an unknown official in England while the war was still in progress. Harris added any news which occurred before the letter was finished and he concluded with the last-minute bulletin that King Philip had been killed that day, Aug. 12, 1676.

A somewhat similar letter was written by Harris to Sir Joseph Williamson and is now preserved in the Public Records Office in London, but the letter sold yesterday is said to be more complete and detailed.

It also contains some observations not in the letter to Williamson. One of these notes a narrow escape from

The sachem, according to Harris, "sayth he saved the sd. Mr. Williams' life whome Indians would have killed."

Harris described, in his letter, Capt. Benjamin Church's methods of employing friendly Indians to fight the Indian enemy. Harris considered this a dangerous practice, since he had no faith in the loyalty of Christian Indians. He writes:

"They were soe trecherous and one Mr. Eliote and some others so much standing up in favour of the sd. Indians were in great danger of the multitude of some outrageous English."

Although he was a governor's assistant — a member of the upper house of the colony government — at the time of the war, in what official capacity Harris was corresponding with representatives of the government in England is not quite clear. But he seems to have been some sort of special correspondent of the home government in regard to all the affairs of the northern colonies.

Harris himself lost a son, Toleration, in King Philip's War, and the Indians drove off large numbers of horses

the agent of any collector or institution.

fair Bazaar Day when downtown merchants will, according to the mayor, "return to the ancient practice of selling merchandise from counters, racks and carts on the sidewalk in front of their various stores."

Interviewed on Radio Press Conference over WEAN, one of the Journal-Bulletin radio stations, by Harry V. McKenna, radio news director, Joseph C. Johnston Jr., general chairman of the birthday observance, said many downtown merchants are going to offer attractive sales on the days enumerated by the mayor.

Details of a mammoth, 20-division parade Saturday, as a sort of preview of the premiere performance of "The Acts of Providence" were made public. The parade, expected to last

Part of Newport County was once part of Plymouth County, where the Pilgrims landed in 1620, we are told. Little Compton,

settled in 1674 by Capt. Benjamin Church, Indian fighter, was incorporated by Plymouth Colony in 1681, and remained under control of that colony for 66 years until it was annexed to Newport County and made part of Rhode Island in 1747.

In Little Compton's Common Burial Ground are the remains of Elizabeth Alden Pabodie, daughter of the famous Pilgrim couple, John Alden and Priscilla Mullens. She was the first white girl born in New England. She lived a long and fruitful life there, dying in 1714 at the age of 94.

There still stands in this offshoot of the Plymouth Colony, on Sakonnet Point Road, two houses associated with Betty Alden. One is the Isaac Wilbour house, a section of which was built by William Pabodie in the 1680s, and the other the nearby Bessie Gray house, oldest section of which was the second house built by Pabodie.

In the same cemetery where Betty Alden Pabodie is buried are two "Should Have Been" stones. Standing next to each other, one reads:

"In Memory of Lidia ye Wife of Mr. Simeon Palmer who died Decm y 26th 1764 in ye 66th Year of her Age." The other reads: "In Memory of Elizabeth who should have been the Wife of Mr. Simeon Palmer who died Augst 14th 1776 in the 64th Year of her Age."

"Whitehall," the Bishop Berkeley house in Middletown, dating back more than 200 years, now has a garden in keeping with the Revolutionary period. The National Society of Colonial Dames, which has the estate under lease from Yale University, the owner, gave the Newport Garden Club permission to develop the garden. The result was the planting of flowers suitable to the 18th century, with emphasis on blooming in July and August when both house and gardens are open to visitors.

Students Take Heritage Week Walking Tour

Some 40 students of St. Michael's School heard highlights of Newport's historic past, learned about colonial architecture, early sailing lore and something about the earliest religious settlers, as they took a walking tour yesterday as part of the Heritage Week activities of the Preservation Society.

The children gathered at the Rogers House, society headquarters on Touro Street, at 1:15 p.m. with stops planned at the Colony House, Touro Synagogue and the Newport Historical Society.

Mrs. Frederick A. Peirce, director of the tours for school children, gave them a bird's eye view of what they would see. She explained that the Brick Market, which they would see from Washington Square, was the supermarket of colonial days. When children went there with their mothers, they watched the ships unloading at the wharves. Newport, she said, was then an active and wealthy seaport engaged in world wide trade. They might even sit along the docks and dangle their feet over the sides, she told them.

She described briefly the history of each place they would visit and asked the children to visualize the scenes that had gone on there in the early days of their country. She admonished the youngsters to take an interest in their heritage since it would be up to them in the future to see that "the symbols of our culture will not disappear." She also urged them to visit again and again the places they would see, since they would always learn something new.

The children gathered next at the statue of Oliver Hazard Perry in the park who Mrs. Peirce called "the greatest sailor" outside of John Paul Jones. She explained they were standing on what had been the soldiers' parade ground in colonial days, where little boys even then marched along trying to keep up with their dads. From this vantage point they viewed the decorative doorway of the Rogers House, the entrance to the home of the Brick Man-

brought here by the first Jewish settlers.

The final stop was next door at the Newport Historical Society, where in typical child fashion the boys were delighted with the displays of old guns and swords and the girls with the antique dolls and doll furniture. Boyish comments like "My father used to have one of those," were heard. The youngsters really let loose among the ailing and whaling artifacts that were on display in the lower room in connection with the maritime theme of Heritage Week. Stanley A. Ward was their guide. St. Joseph's Schools are scheduled here. Ten they visited the

Seventh Day Baptist Meeting House, where Ralph Gould explained the history of the congregation.

With the group yesterday were their teachers, Mrs. Robert Coughlan, Mrs. Vardaman M. Bucklew and Mrs. John Watson; and Mrs. Richard Hyde, assistant hostess.

Earlier in the week, fifth grade children from the Jamestown, John Clarke, and Lenthal Schools took the same tour. Berkeley - Peckham School went this morning and next week Cranston-Central Stanley A. Ward was their guide. St. Joseph's Schools are scheduled here. Ten they visited the

Jamestown Author Gives Reader New View Of Past, Present R. I.

By EDDY VENZIE

"Rhode Island has the most interesting history not only of any State in the Union, but of any other area of comparable size in the world." This statement was made by a Philadelphian, Bertram Lippincott, whose collection of historical sketches about Rhode Island titled "Indians, Privateers and High Society," is being published by J. B. Lippincott this week.

The book brings together contemporary documents and little-known historical accounts to give the reader a new view of Rhode Island, past and present, and includes such individuals as the explorer Verrazzano, Roger Williams, the Quaker heroine Mary Dyer, King Philip, Captain Kidd, Gilbert Stuart, Idawall Zorando Lewis, the lighthouse keeper's daughter; socialites Ward McAllister and Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, as well as hitherto unsung people such as Unfortunate Hannah of Narragansett and Perry Davis, the patent medicine king.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULED

A field trip to the Norman Bird Sanctuary, covering not only birds but also other nature fields will be held Saturday. Robert E. Woodruff, director, will be in charge. The trip, from 8 to 10 a.m. will include a bird banding

little has been published about the British and French occupations of Newport that the lapse almost amounts to a crime. The same applies to Newport society, he says, prior to the 1900's when it was the most highly organized and competitive society in America.

The author attended Princeton University in the class of 1923; served in the Navy in 1918-19, and with the Coast Guard in World War II. Until 1953, he was engaged in publishing; since then he has been a farmer and writer. He has been commodore of the Conanicut Yacht Club at Jamestown and governor of the Pennsylvania Society of Mayflower Descendants.

Rededication to Racial Tolerance

Opening of the bicentennial of Touro Synagogue in Newport is a fitting time for Rhode Island to rededicate itself to tolerance in racial affairs as well as in religious concerns. Freedom of worship is firmly established here now, but effects of racial intolerance still are visible in Negro ghettos and job discrimination.

When, in 1658, some 15 Jewish families arrived in Newport, religious freedom could not be taken for granted. They had fled persecution on the Iberian Peninsula and, after a stopover in Curacao, W. I., and possibly New York, they had come to the royal colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations to taste freedom of conscience promised by Roger Williams. Immediately, they established the congregation of Je-

shuah Israel and, in 1684, by special act of the colonial legislature, the small congregation was guaranteed protection to worship as their

religious liberty: "For happily Government of the United States which gives to bigotry no sanction to persecution no assistance requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens in giving on all occasions their effectual

During the revolution, the

congregation diminished in size,

the synagogue was closed from

until 1883. It was designated a

National Historical Site by the De-

partment of the Interior in 1946. In

recent years, the building on T

Street has undergone extensive

restoration in preparation for its 2

anniversary.

As part of the bicentennial

observance, the temple in Decem-

ber will be rededicated, a talisman

of the spirit of tolerance, even in

the home of Roger Williams, need

furbishing from time to time.

New View Of Past, Present R. I.

By EDDY VENZIE

ren went there with their moun-
ters, they watched the ships un-
loading at the wharves. Newport,
he said, was then an active and
wealthy seaport engaged in world
wide trade. They might even sit
along the docks and dangle their
feet over the sides, she told them.

She described briefly the history of each place they would visit and asked the children to visualize the scenes that had gone on there in the early days of their country. She admonished the youngsters to take an interest in their heritage since it would be up to them in the future to see that "the symbols of our culture will not disappear." She also urged them to visit again and again the places they would see, since they would always learn something new.

The children gathered next at the statue of Oliver Hazard Perry in the park who Mrs. Peirce called "the greatest sailor" outside of John Paul Jones. She explained they were standing on what had been the soldiers' parade ground in colonial days, where little boys even then marched along trying to keep up with their dads. From this vantage point they viewed the decorative doorway of the Rogers House, the arched windows of the Brick Market, and Mrs. Peirce pointed out that "no nonsense was taken from the pirates" in olden days and that they were hanged on the gallows on Long Wharf. She also showed them where the stocks for

"Rhode Island has the most interesting history not only of any State in the Union, but of any other area of comparable size in the world." This statement was made by a Philadelphian, Bertram Lippincott, whose collection of historical sketches about Rhode Island titled "Indians, Privateers and High Society," is being published by J. B. Lippincott this week.

The book brings together contemporary documents and little-known historical accounts to give the reader a new view of Rhode Island, past and present, and includes such individuals as the explorer Verrazzano, Roger Wil-

liams, the Quaker heroine Mary Dyer, King Philip, Captain Kidd, Gilbert Stuart, Idawalley Zorado Lewis, the lighthouse keeper's daughter; socialites Ward McAlister and Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, as well as hitherto unsung people such as Unfortunate Hannah of Narragansett and Perry Davis, the patent medicine king.

Lippincott has spent almost every summer of his life in Jamestown. As a child he attended the tennis championships at the Casino where "High Society" was in full blast; he swam and sailed at Narragansett when it was reached by open trolley and trolley, and he sailed his boats in the Bermuda races. He has begun the collection of specimens in a small nature museum, which will be on display. The last field trip announced at the Middletown sanctuary drew an attendance of 16.

A neat fast style is Lippincott's trademark in this book. He masters the story telling art and holds the attention of the reader who gets quite concerned about the whys and wherefores of early Rhode Island history. But he does not stop there; he carries his narrative through to last year'saz riots.

terial on Rhode Island; so

little has been published about the British and French occupations of Newport that the laps almost amounts to a crime. The same applies to Newport society, he says, prior to the 1900's when it was the most highly organized and competitive society in America.

The author attended Princeton University in the class of 1923, served in the Navy in 1918-19, and

served in the Navy in 1918-19, and with the Coast Guard in World War II. Until 1953, he was engaged in publishing; since then he has been a farmer and writer. He has been commodore of the Conanicut Yacht Club at Jamestown and governor of the Pennsylvania Society of Mayflower Descendants.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULED

A field trip to the Norman Bird Sanctuary, covering not only bird life but also other nature fields will be held Saturday. Robert E. Woodruff, director, will be in charge. The trip, from 8 to 10 a.m. will include a bird banding demonstration. Woodruff has begun the collection of specimens in a small nature museum, which will be on display. The last field trip announced at the Middletown sanctuary drew an attendance of 16.

OPENING JUNE 16th

CHASE'S

**Homemade
CLAM CAKES
CLAM CHOWDER
and PIES**

Dinners to eat here
and orders to take cu

VI 6 950

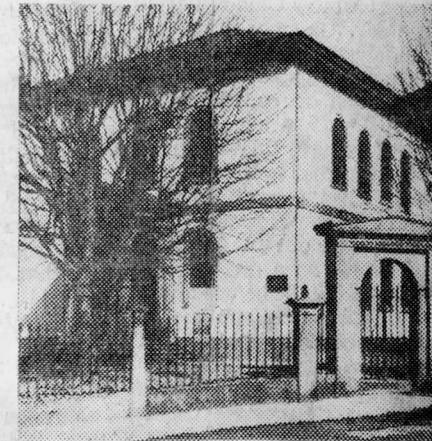
1 East Main Road, Portsmouth, R.
(corner of Mitchell's Lane)
• OPEN 11 to 8 P. M. Closed Mon.

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Touro Synagogue was the second Jewish synagogue built in the New World (now it is the oldest extant) taking its name from Isaac Touro of Jamaica, its first resident rabbi. It was designed by Peter Harrison who was the architect for the Redwood Library and the old Market House in Newport. Of simple colonial beauty, the interior design incorporated 12 columns representing the 12 tribes of Israel.

In his famous letter, "To the Hebrew Congregation in Newport Rhode Island," President Washington phrased his classic expression of



Touro Synagogue



CUTTING "LONG EARS" CAKE — At a ship's party in the Naval Station Chief Petty Officers Club last night, Cmdr. Robert J. Norman, at left, commanding officer of the USS Abbott, cuts cake with aid of Chief Commissaryman Raymond Stubblefield and Seaman Larry L. Silvernail, who made the cake. More than 300 attended the party given by the Abbott, which earned the name "Long Ears" during recent maneuvers when an atomic submarine was unable to escape the contact the Abbott had on it.

\$15,000 In Hotel, But Which One?

ber the name of the hotel."

He wandered around New York for two days looking for the Hotel Ashley. He went to police. They drove him around until he spotted what he thought was his hotel. But what he thought was his room was bare.

Radin was convinced he had been robbed of his valise containing \$11,067 in travelers' checks, \$3,800 in cash, \$600 in \$20 gold pieces, a bill of sale for an Oakland apartment building, his passport and steamship tickets.

The dejected Radin had enough cash in a money belt to fly back to Oakland.

"We had no idea that had happened to him," said Michael Finch,

CONT.
SHOW
DAILY
1:00 to 11:00

OPERA H
TEL. VI 6-0754

STARTING TOM

SINNER! ELMER GANTRY WANTS YOU SOUL! TO SEE THE LIGHT! ARE YOU HE WANTS YOU TO KNOW ALL ABOUT BUT NOT ABOUT HIS WHISKEY AND HIS



**BURT LANCASTER
JEAN SIMMONS**

in
SINCLAIR
LEWIS
**ELMER
GANTRY**

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Radin, unmarried, has no relatives except in Belgrade, capital of Yugoslavia.



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In Perspective — An SOS for Rhody Lore and Legend

Born in the middle of Rhode Island Heritage Week earlier this month, the *Jonny-cake Society* now is in the business of collecting local legends about this state and its residents, and it is as eager to acquire members as tales.

The Society's interest is folklore, the stories handed down from generation to generation, mostly by word of mouth, although frequently found in the yellowing records of an earlier day, as in personal diaries and town histories.

The Society is not competing with the Rhode Island Historical Society, although it would like to think that the community of interest in the state's past may lead to a fruitful Big Brother relationship.

The Society also is not competing with various local Preservation Societies which busy themselves with preserving and restoring the visible sym-



A cut of Thomas Robinson Hazard from the Frontispiece of The *Jonny-cake* papers of 'Shepherd Tom' of Portsmouth

bols of the past, whether an ancient house or a site of historic importance.

The *Jonny-cake Society* is interested in the less tangible features of the state's past — the legends spun perhaps from a basis in history but living because folk memory is strong and has a long reach.

The patron of the Society is the noted Thomas Hazard of South County, the Shepherd Tom of the *Jonny-cake Papers*, a major source of existing folklore and legend, particularly of that shapeless geographic area he loved.

The *Jonny-cake Papers*, in fact, will be the foundation on which the Society hopes to build a folklore record for the whole state. What Hazard did for South County, the Society hopes to do for all of Rhode Island and the Providence Plantations.

It is not an easy task, and it certainly is one to which the Society addresses itself in humility. All it can hope to do is to amass the raw material on which a later Shepherd Tom some day may construct a new set of Papers.

There's much to start with, of course — legends ranging from the tale of the brig *Palatine* to the humor of "P'int, Judy, p'int!" But surely in a state as old as this, there still are legends buried and waiting to be unearthed.

To that goal, the Society dedicates itself. A handful of members now call upon like-minded to join up informally by writing in care of the Acting Secretary at 1035 Reservoir Avenue, Cranston. No dues. No fees.

Perhaps, in time, a more formal organization may prove to be desirable. Right now, though, informality controls. There isn't even a charter yet, and the Acting Secretary is acting as secretary only in the fullness of his sense of duty to Heritage Week.

But the founders of the Society hopefully expect a long and vigorous life for the youngest, smallest, and liveliest of the organizations dedicated to dis-

covering, gathering and preserving the past of the state.

The range of interest is as broad and varied as the state's population. Surely, for instance, the waves of immigration cast up stories of legendary early figures among the Irish, the French, the Poles, the Portuguese. Can we find them?

Surely, in the shelves of town and city histories, in the memoirs of early Rhode Islanders, there are keys to old tales — of piracy, slave-running, and trade around the world. Can we pluck them from the past for the present's enjoyment?

Block Island, for instance, must be a storehouse of legends that have not seen print or wide circulation. Can we get a Society correspondent on the Island to help us begin the job of compilation we know ought to be done?

Can the Society, in fact, find corresponding members in all the back-country villages, such as the old and lovely community of Arnold Mills? Can each correspondent undertake a "census" of local legends for the central file?

Well, the Society is in business, but how much business it does and how well it accomplishes its mission will depend on the help it gets from Rhode Islanders themselves. May we have a show of hands, please?

J. J. D.

The Providence Journal

Registered U.S. Patent Office

Established as a Daily 1829

An Independent Newspaper

Published by the Providence Journal Company
75 Fountain St. Providence 2, R.I.

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all the local news printed in this newspaper, as well as all AP news dispatches.

67 Items given in 1960
Take down 7 Sept 1960

General Prescott's Capture In 1777 Related To Historical Society Here

The story of the capture in 1777 of British General Richard Prescott in his West Main Road house in Portsmouth was related by Mrs. Benjamin Ladd Cook, before the Newport Historical Society last night. Mrs. Cook now owns and occupies the historic Prescott House.

She termed the capture a remarkable exploit, inasmuch as the general was well protected, and Colonel Barton and his American cohorts carried the prisoner off under the nose of his own fleet, which had been alerted. But the

Prov Journal 25 Sept
1960

Great Swamp Fight Pilgrimage Today

The annual pilgrimage to commemorate the Great Swamp fight of 1675 will be held today in South Kingstown at the site at 3 p.m.

Princess Redwing, a direct descendant of the Wampanoag nation and the Narragansett tribe, will lead in ceremonies. Twenty Indians from outside of Rhode Island are expected to join others of this state.

Fires will be lit to honor the Indians who died in the ancient battle as well as others of Indian heritage who fell fighting for this country in later years.

A highlight will be a march around the monument by both Indians and interested spectators. Old tribal dances will conclude the ceremony.

British were looking a for a sail, believing the runaways had headed for Fogland, to the east, and had no idea the escape was being made by rowboat, to Warwick Neck, to the west.

There is some question, Mrs. Cook said, whether General Prescott's capture took place in the present main house on the estate, or whether this was built at a later date. She said he may have been taken in the small house which stood near the pond, and which was later moved to the rear of the main house. She inclines toward the former theory, however, basing her belief on a book published in 1839 by a Mrs. Williams, detailing changes made in the house since the Revolution, and on evidence uncovered when the house was remodeled by her father, the late Bradford Norman.

Accounts also conflict on the date of the capture, cited on the bronze plaque at the back of the house as July 9, 1777, but also recorded as July 10, Mrs. Cook said. She believes the Americans may have started their daring feat after dark on the 9th, rowing for a mile and a half and encountering on the way a thunderstorm which drove them to a shelter at Prudence Island. They then rowed to the Portsmouth shore and walked a mile and a half to the house. By the time they had overpowered the sentry and guards and made their escape it may well have been past midnight on the 10th, she suggested.

An ironic aftermath was the fact that General Prescott was exchanged in three days for the American, Charles Lee, who later proved to be as much of a traitor as did Benedict Arnold, while Colonel Barton, the American hero, languished for years in a debtors prison in Vermont, holding himself unjustly charged, until Lafayette in a return visit sought him out to talk about his exploit.

The Prescott House was the subject of a recent report in American Heritage magazine.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook were guests of Sydney L. Wright, Historical Society president, and Mrs. Wright before the meeting in White Horse Tavern.



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Newport Daily News

8

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1960

Newport's Part In Civil War Centennial

When a Newport commission was appointed, some months ago, to plan a program here for a local observance of the centennial years of the Civil War, based on the city's part in the war, it might well have been asked, what have we to observe from the local aspect?

There seems to be plenty. Hundreds left Newport to serve in the Army and Navy and that will be pinpointed by dramatizing the departure of the Newport Artillery Co. as Company F in the state volunteers. A ceremony recalling that, the Naval Academy's transfer here, because of the war, is planned. Use of the present Mt. Zion AME Church, a prominent gathering place under the name of the Academy of Music in the war days, has been offered.

We hope the government hospital at

Portsmouth Grove, where thousands of sick and wounded Union and Confederate soldiers and sailors were treated can be dramatized. Before it was well organized, scores of Newporters volunteered to serve there. Nor must we forget that sterling character, Miss Katherine P. Wormeley, who helped organize the Sanitary Commission which cared for the sick and wounded at the front lines.

Instead of finding only a few subjects to mark in the nation-wide celebration, as Newport's part in the war there is a wealth of material. The local committee, under Mortimer A. Sullivan Jr., whose grandfather was a disabled Union veteran, has made a good start toward creating proper awareness of this important period of our history.

It's Poison, They Told Newporter in 1820s

First to Eat a Tomato in America

By HENRY F. REILLY

Sunday Journal Garden Writer

Let's not say there would be no pizza pies, no tomato juice, no tomato soup, nor any ketchup, BLT's or spaghetti sauce if Michel Felice Corne had not lived in Newport in the 1820s.

Let's just say thanks to Mr. Corne for being the first person in this country to eat a tomato. This gastronomic breakthrough was bound to happen sooner or later but it was Mr. Corne who proved that the "love apple" was not poisonous but actually a delectable fruit.

Mr. Corne gained greater fame as an artist than as a scion of taboos against the tomato. Yet in Newport the house where he used to live bears a plaque informing the world that here was the home of the man who introduced the tomato into this country.

Actually, Mr. Corne probably brought tomato seeds with him when he arrived in Salem, Mass., from his native Naples. A Salem shipowner who admired the work of this Italian artist brought him to America to do some marine paintings. Mr. Corne's fame spread through the colonies and he was soon engaged by other wealthy home owners.

In 1810 he painted the frescoes in the Sullivan Dorr Mansion at Benefit and Bowen Streets in Providence. These highly prized murals are now being restored under the direction of the Providence Restora-

tion Society, which owns the historic house.

Mr. Corne settled in Newport about 1820 and lived in the house still standing at Mill and Corne Streets. It is now owned by Harold E. Watson.

In his back yard, Mr. Corne had a garden in which he grew, among other things, tomatoes. This was unusual in itself. Few people in those days grew "love apples," even as ornamentals.

It has been recorded that Thomas Jefferson grew some of these bright red fruit in 1781 in his gardens at Monticello. But neither he nor anyone else had tasted them. The tomato was considered poisonous, probably because it is a member of the nightshade family. Belladonna, sometimes called deadly nightshade, is a very poisonous plant. On the other hand, the potato, the eggplant and the pepper are also related to the nightshade. The tomato is in the same category.

Mr. Corne's Newport neighbors predicted dire things for this young Italian painter if he persisted in his strange habit of eating love apples. He was certain to be poisoned.

Although he urged others to try the delicious fruit, no one dared. It was not until nearly three decades later that Americans timidly began to eat them. While the tomato is of American origin it was not known as a food in this country until long after it was commonly eaten in Europe.

The word tomato comes from "tomati," which was the name



Corne House in Newport has been marked with tablet, shown on left corner, proclaiming that here lived the man who introduced the tomato in U.S.

given to the plant the Indians

it was first brought to this country in 1789 by a French refugee from Santo Domingo. The

cultivated tomatoes originated from wild forms in the Peru-Ecuador-Bolivia area of the Andes. From there they were carried northward into Central Mexico.

The first of the garden tomatoes to be cultivated was probably a flattened and more or less ribbed fruit. At least

breeders really went to work with the tomato to develop improved strains. Their efforts have resulted in bigger, better, more flavorful fruit.

In recent years, hybrid types have replaced many of the old standbys. The emphasis has been on earliness, uniformity, crack resistance, disease resistance, color, flavor, keeping

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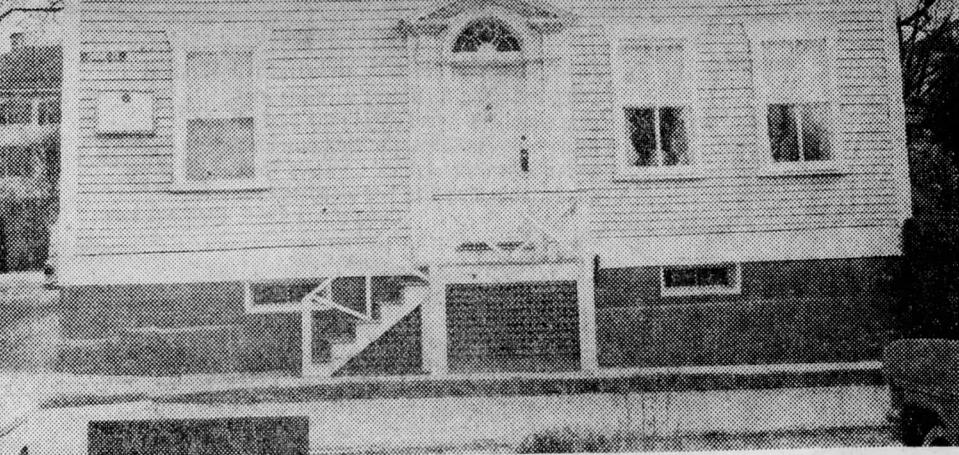
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The first of the garden tomatoes to be cultivated was probably a flattened and more or less ribbed fruit. At least the historians say that this is

"the kind whose introduction into general culture is noted from 1806 to 1830." About 1854, the large, smooth, round variety that is so familiar today made its appearance. It was a red tomato. About the same time a small, yellow, oval tomato also appeared.

Spaniards may have carried the seeds from Mexico to Europe. At any rate the first known record of the tomato was written in 1554. Italians supposedly grew tomatoes about 1550 and were said to be the first Europeans to eat them. For the next 200 years, this red fruit slowly made its way around the world.

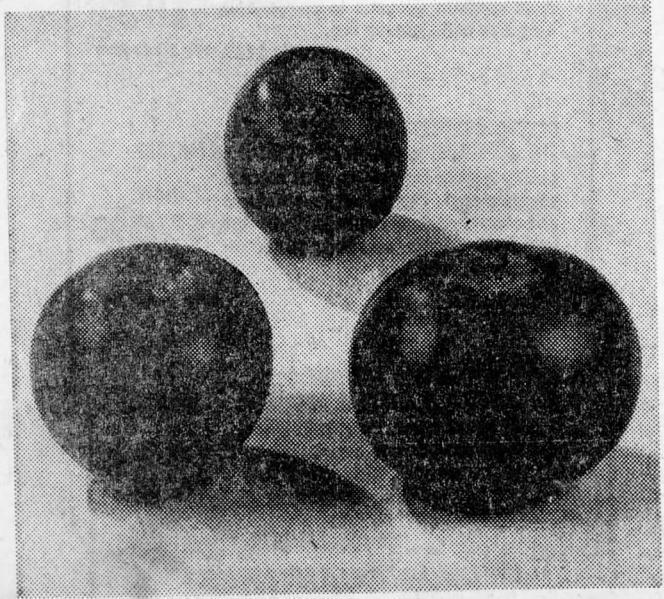
It apparently did not get back to North America until 1781 when it was grown by Thomas Jefferson. Another story says

turn of the century that plant breeders really went to work with the tomato to develop improved strains. Their efforts have resulted in bigger, better, more flavorful fruit.

In recent years, hybrid types have replaced many of the old standbys. The emphasis has been on earliness, uniformity, crack resistance, disease resistance, color, flavor, keeping qualities.

At the University of Rhode Island, plant breeding specialists have been busy developing strains of tomatoes that are better suited for Rhode Island conditions. A few years ago the Rhode Island Early, developed at the vegetable experiment station in Kingston, was introduced and is now being grown in gardens throughout the country, especially in the Northeast.

Next spring the newest of the tomatoes developed at URI will start on its way to the nation's gardens. It is tentatively named Summer Sunrise and it is hoped that it, too, will find favor among American gardeners and commercial growers.



Rhode Island Early is among the varieties developed at URI. Summer Sunrise will be introduced in spring.

It's Your Landscape

21 Oct '60 Newport News Preservation Leader Raps City's Filth, Horrible Signs, Parking, Indifference

Newport has a heritage to preserve, but its citizens are doing less than their share, the president of the Preservation Society of Newport County said last night at the annual meeting in "The Breakers."

Mrs. George Henry Warren, tracing "a year of ups and downs" in her annual report, said she was discouraged that the society had not achieved all the goals it set for itself when organizing nearly 15 years ago.

"We thought it would only be a matter of time before Newport picked up the ball," Mrs. Warren said. "It has to be a community project; you can't have an angel doing it for you."

As one of the five colonial cities, Newport has much to show, whereas the past has been largely obliterated in the other four — New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Charleston, S. C., Mrs. Warren said.

But she said, "It's not a place I'm proud to have people come to see after I've told them such nice things about it."

Declared Mrs. Warren: "This is a dirty city. It has filth in its streets. It has horrible signs. We've allowed parking places without any planning and have put too many in one location.

"We've put shopping centers where they shouldn't have been put; we've made a blighted area out of Thames Street. The entrances and exits of the city are disgraces," she continued.

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"Newport is a spot we can show to the rest of the country, but we can only do it by militant work," Mrs. Warren said. "Let's not be complacent about it."

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now out of the restaurant business and hopes to find someone who will lease and operate the society's historic White Horse Tavern, which is closed for the winter.

Noting that the society's executive director, Robert J. Kerr II, had accepted a similar position in Annapolis, Md., Mrs. Warren paid tribute to Holbert E. Smales, executive secretary, and Mrs. Harold R. Lehmann Jr., office secretary, for the extra work they had accomplished in the interim.

The society's annual award for distinguished service in the field of historic preservation was presented to Miss Alice Brayton of "Green Aminals" on Cory's Lane in Portsmouth. She was cited as an author, antiquarian, historian and horticulturalist who enabled the society to acquire the Hunter House, financed a season of archaeological studies on the Old Stone Mill and preserved the burying ground of Gov. Benedict Arnold.

Mrs. Harold P. Arnold reported for the activities committee and said the year's highlight was the successful public tour of six Newport mansions. Plans for the

annual Christmas sale are underway, Mrs. Arnold said.

Mrs. Leonard J. Panaggio, public relations director, said 4,500 news releases and 300 photographs were sent out and 90,000 brochures distributed. Because of an attendance drop at the society's attractions this year, an increased publicity program is needed, the director said.

Mrs. Warren was re-elected president of the society. Wilfred A. Brady was elected treasurer, replacing Mrs. Gertrude R. Taylor, who did not wish to be re-elected.

Others re-elected were Archbold van Beuren, first vice president; Henry A. Wood Jr., second vice president; Mason D. Rector, third vice president, and Mrs. Ottavio Prochet, secretary.

David U. Warren was elected a trustee for eight years. Chosen to the society's council for three years were Mrs. Harold P. Arnold, John E. Janes, William A. Sherman, Mrs. Harold E. Watson, Sydney L. Wright, Mrs. Alexander G. Teitz, Anthony J. T. Kloman and Jerome R. Kirby Jr.

Mrs. Clyde B. Anderson was

(Continued on Page 2)

Historic Churches Here Show Evolution In N.E.

MEETINGHOUSE & CHURCH IN EARLY NEW ENGLAND

The Puritan Tradition as Reflected in their Architecture History, Builders and Ministers. By Edmund W. Sinnott. Illustrated. Jerauld A. Manner, photographic collaborator. 242 pp. New York: McGraw Hill \$10.

By CLARA F. EMERSON

Five of Newport's historic churches are pictured, and five more are briefly described in this new volume, which outlines the history and development of some 200 of the houses of worship built during the first two centuries of the country's

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Several paragraphs of history and description accompany the two views of Trinity Church, of the spire and of the wine-glass pulpit within, dating from 1726. Oldest of the local structures pictured is the Portsmouth Friends Meetinghouse, built in 1700, once used as a barracks by Hessian troops in the Revolution.

The pulpit of the Seventh Day Baptist meetinghouse of 1729, now contained within the

Raytheon's Portsmouth Plant Ready To Lead A Double Life

By JAMES T. KAULL JR.

The Raytheon Co.'s shiny new plant in Portsmouth, scheduled for an official dedication Oct. 7, has already given evidence that it will lead a double life.

The first and most obvious is its existence as a modern research and production center on a sunny hillside in Portsmouth. But at the same time, this newest industry in our midst is wrapped in another environment, the mysterious world known as "hydrospace."

In other words, besides the speech-making which will take place outside Raytheon's front door on the 7th, there should be a similar ceremony somewhere in the ocean depths, for this is the place in which the work of the plant will come to life.

The Portsmouth facility is known as Submarine Signal Operations and is virtually a company within a company, with its own advanced development, engineering, manufacturing, marketing and support organizations.

What we have here, in brief, is America's first industrial center devoted to research and development of anti-submarine and overseas warfare equipment and systems. Just as satellites and moon rockets have pushed back the frontiers of the vast realms beyond the earth's atmosphere, so has the advent of the nuclear submarine opened up the Jules Verne empire of the ocean depths.

The major programs underway in Submarine Signal's activity include sonars for submarines, aircraft and surface ships. These are systems which detect and

communicate below the surface of the water.

For submarines, Raytheon has developed the world's first fully hull-integrated sonar. For aircraft, there is a lightweight sonar which is dipped at the end of a cable and can be towed speedily at considerable depths, by either blimps, helicopters or fixed-wing planes. For surface ships, Raytheon is working on a variable-depth sonar that can be mounted on the hull.

Among other military equipment projects are sonar trainers with which operators can be instructed in a realistic manner and submarine hydrophones for undersea craft to listen with.

Civilian By-Products

Inevitably, the military research effort has some interesting civilian by-products. One that Submarine Signal has developed is an acoustic flow-meter which can accurately measure the passage of water in rivers and streams — something that's highly useful when working on control of pollution, erosion or floods.

Raytheon's devotion to underwater research has resulted in developing a new type of ultra-sonic cleaner for use on aircraft engines and other equipment.

But most of Submarine Signal's work in the \$2,250,000 plant at Portsmouth, which opened in mid-July, will be angled toward military projects. A free hand has

been given researchers, who are eyeing this basic problem: Assuming there's no limitation whatsoever on techniques, what's the best way to detect, localize, classify and destroy underwater objects?

Raytheon workers here are immersed in techniques which include preformed beams, transistorized systems, multi-mode transducers, electronics switches and a maze of other space age devices which make it difficult for a layman to keep up with the pace of science. If there are other techniques, Raytheon hopes to find them.

Ideally, the Raytheon activity here might be likened to the molding of an improved underwater ear. But that's only part of the story, since an ear is only part of a system of perceiving and understanding.

Perfect Ear-System

Imagine, then, a perfect ear-system which listens in all directions

Industrial Group Elects Officers

Cornelius C. Moore was elected president of the Aquidneck Industrial Foundation, which chose its first permanent list of officers at the Chamber of Commerce last night.

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In her formal report, Mrs. Warren disclosed that the program of franchised reproductions of colonial Newport items is off to a good start. Contracts have been signed with manufacturers of furniture, silk and cotton fabrics, wallpapers and bedspreads, she said. Negotiations are underway with makers of china, silver, mirrors, clocks, lighting fixtures, glassware and tiles.

The copyright trademark "Historic Newport Reproduction" will identify the goods made under franchise from the society, Mrs. Warren explained. The first of the products will be introduced early in 1961, she said.

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Five of Newport's historic churches are pictured, and five more are briefly described in this new volume, which outlines the history and development of some 200 of the houses of worship built during the first two centuries of the white man's habitation of New England.

The author traces the evolution of the church edifice from the plain 17th century meetinghouses, used both for church services and for town meetings, to the white - steepled architectural gems typical of the first third of the nineteenth century. And he shows how this evolution reflected the development of religious thought.

"The history of New England," says Sinnott, "is the record

of a persistent idea undergoing persistent improvements in expression. . . well shown in the changes undergone by the design of the meetinghouse."

Several paragraphs of history and description accompany the two views of Trinity Church, of the spire and of the wine-glass pulpit within, dating from 1726. Oldest of the local structures pictured is the Portsmouth Friends Meetinghouse, built in 1700, once used as a barracks by Hessian troops in the Revolution.

The pulpit of the Seventh Day Baptist meetinghouse of 1729, now contained within the brick walls of the Newport Historical Society, shows its beautiful design.

In the final chapter, devoted to churches outside the Puritan tradition, is a short history and picture of Touro Synagogue, 1763.

In addition to those pictured, all the surviving ecclesiastical structures built before 1830, buildings of the federal period and some examples of the Greek revival, are listed in an appendix, more than 500 in all. Among these are the Jamestown Friends Meetinghouse of 1765; the Newport Friends Meetinghouse of 1700, added to in 1808 and now a recreation hall; the present Knights of Columbus Hall, originally Dr. Stephen Hopkins' meetinghouse and now much altered; the old Clarke Street Church, of 1733, first Congregational and then Baptist, and now part of the Hazard Memorial School property; and St. Paul's Methodist Church of 1806, whose interior was partly restored to its original pattern in 1946.

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Perfect Ear-System

Imagine, then, a perfect ear-system which listens in all directions at once to sounds that it has originated itself, which is small, light and not too expensive, which understands and displays immediately the information it picks up and which is smart enough to give good advice when asked for it.

To the extent that this sonar ear-system is improved and perfected, a hostile underwater object will become a dead or dying duck. Out of Raytheon's "sophisticated" electronic hardware will come, hopefully, the answer to many of the Navy's needs for warfare in the dark regions of hydro-space.

Probing for the answer, Raytheon set up its mammoth plant on Aquidneck Island in order to be near major Navy installations. First announced in June, 1959, the scope of the new activity is gradually being recognized by Newport area citizens who in October will have a chance to see for themselves what Raytheon has done on the farmland site since breaking ground less than a year ago.

(This is the second of two articles on Raytheon's progress to date in its new Portsmouth activity.)

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Others elected were Robert E. O'Neil, vice president; Robert Mirman and Eugene O'Reilly, directors for one year, Henry Danis and David Fitzgerald, directors for two years, Ernest Denomme and L. Eugene Rankin, directors for three years, Ted C. Jarrett, executive secretary; Lloyd Conrad, treasurer; and Doris Parris secretary.

Elected ex-officio members by virtue of their respective offices were Mayor James L. Maher, Karl E. Falkenholm, president of the Middletown Town Council, and Francis Kenney, president of Portsmouth Town Council.

The organization which is described as non-profit aims at obtaining financial assistance under the Rhode Island Industrial Authority Act with intentions of serving as the agency for industrial development in Newport, Middletown and Portsmouth.

The foundation plans to prepare a brochure aimed at "selling" the areas for industrial development.

Don't Open Left-Hand Door at Whitehall

By NEALE ADAMS

The Rev. George Berkeley, Dean of Derry, later Bishop of Cloyne, and colonial resident of Middletown, didn't believe (he said) in the existence of matter.

He was, to use the philosophical term, an "idealist." In fact, he was the first modern philosopher to hold his position.

And, in a way, the house he built in Middletown, which he named Whitehall, reflects his philosophy. The building is one of many historical buildings in and around Newport open to visitors.

For the house has a very solid, material, front door—and it doesn't. Half of the door is real, and half of it (the left side) is false.

Or, if you wish, "ideal."

On the inside the left-hand part of the door is the wall of the living room.

Mrs. John T. Duncan, resident-guide at Whitehall, says it's a puzzle why Berkeley built a false front. She and her husband are living at Whitehall for the summer and are showing visitors around from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. In the winter Dr. Duncan teaches at Texas A. & M.

"Dean Berkeley was a man of extremely good taste," said Mrs. Duncan. "He built the false door so the front of the house would balance."

But no one can explain why Berkeley designed the inside of the house in such a way as to make a false front necessary, Mrs. Duncan admitted.

The spiritual aspects of design, it seems, outweighed the material aspects of having a real door.

In 1729, 44 years old and

just married, Berkeley sailed from England with his bride. He expected funds to follow for the establishment of a university in the New World.

Waiting for the money in Newport, the dean preached at Trinity Church, another historic building still standing. He composed one of his philosophic works, "Alciphron," which mentions the Middletown landscape in passing.

Mrs. Berkeley gave birth to two children in Newport, Henry and Lucia. The girl died while an infant. She is buried in Trinity's churchyard.

Berkeley bought three slaves from a local trader. Their quarters in the cellar can still be seen at Whitehall.

The money for the new college never came, however. After two years and eight months Berkeley gave up waiting, and he and his family left for Boston and the four-month voyage home.

After leaving Newport, Berkeley gave his farm to Yale College, because "Yale breeds the best clergymen and the most learned of any college in America."

For years, the college of the most learned clergymen let Whitehall be run as a public house. As early as 1744, 12 years after the dean left, the proprietor was advertising Whitehall as the former home of "the famous Dean Barclay."

This made Whitehall the first tourist attraction, it seems, on the Aquidneck isle.

Whitehall was almost in ruins when it was leased to the Colonial Dames in 1899. The Dames restored the house and reopened it to the public.

Whitehall is at 313 Berke-

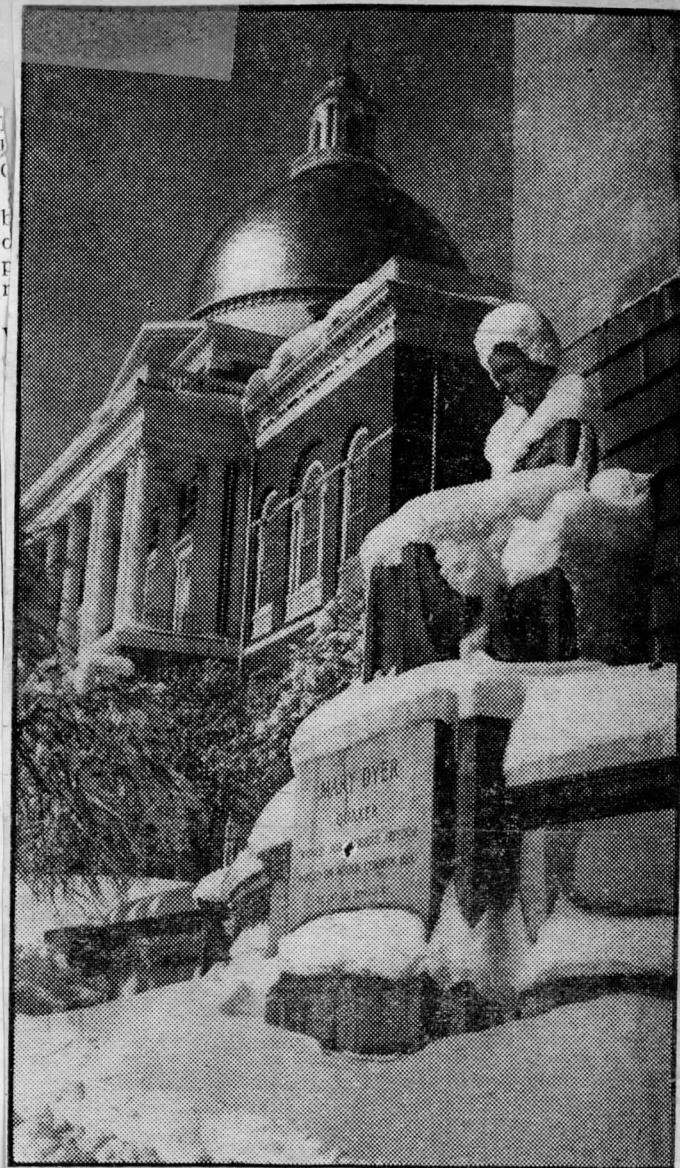


Mrs. John T. Duncan, resident guide at Whitehall, in the doorway of Bishop Berkeley's Newport home.

—Journal-Bulletin Photo

ley Ave., Middletown, about three miles from downtown Newport. An admission charge of 25 cents is made for upkeep.

And those believing in the existence of matter are urged to try the real door, on the right, not the ideal one.



Statue of Mary Dyer, Quaker, Hanged on Boston Common in 1660, Is Draped at State House in Snowy Mantle on Head, Shoulders And Arms.

(Record-American Photo, Carroll Myett)