

Vol. I No.13 L.R.Tootell,Wyoming,R.I.02898

MARCH 1969

## NEXT RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWN MEETING

The eleventh town meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held in the Richmond Town Hall, Tuesday evening, March 18th, at 8 P.M. The topic will be WHY IS RICHMOND GRANGE LOCATED IN SOUTH KINGSTOWN. The answer to this will be given by Virginia and J. Jesse Cottrell, Jr., Lecturer and Master of Richmond Grange. Come and learn about the close ties between a Grange and a Plantation Owner.

## COLLATION COMMITTEE

Would the following people bring cookies or some finger food for the above meeting: Mr. & Mrs. Henry Boucher and Mr. Charles Edmonds. Please call Lucy Tootell (539-7581) if you cannot.

## NEXT FIELD TRIP

Weather permitting, interested persons will meet at the Richmond Town House, Sunday afternoon, March 23rd, at 2 P.M. for another exploratory Field Trip. Suggestions from the members are invited. The trip is open to the public.

## NEXT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The next Executive Council Meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held at the home of Lucy Rawlings Tootell on Tuesday evening, April 1st, at 8 P.M.

## INQUIRIES &amp; ANSWERS

Mr. Graydon D. Piatt, P.O. Drawer 368, Belfast, N.Y. 14711, writes: -

"In your last Historical Society letter you ask about David Crandall. I am enclosing all I have.

Perhaps you recall the book I was working on when we were living at Hope Valley. I have just finished it. 2984 pages, five volumes. Now if I can find a printer.

I like the way that you are conducting the society. You are doing good work."

NOTE: Information of David Crandall is filed in Society Archives. We still need to know the parents of Sarah Sherman.

INQUIRY: Where was the Inn of George W. Haszard in Richmond?

INQUIRY: Where is there another Stationary Mortar southeast of intersection of Route 138 and Carolina-Town House Road?

RICHMOND HISTORY  
Lucy Rawlings Tootell  
Wyoming, R.I. 02898  
Dues - \$3.00

## LAST FIELD TRIP

The day of the last Richmond Historical Society Field Trip was bleak and cold and the snow on the ground was melting which made the ground soft and soggy, not ideal for roaming through the woods or over grown up paths of the past. Only three people appeared ready for adventure and even they felt that this was not a day to learn more about Richmond History. How wrong they were! Lucy Tootell, Earl and Eleanor Smith spent a very interesting afternoon and solved one of the mysteries of the past i.e. where was the the boyhood home of Thomas A. Tefft, Rhode Island's famous Architect.

We drove down the Carolina-Town House Road hoping to find some grown up path that would lead into the foundation of the former home of Mrs. Sarah Kenyon Tefft, widowed mother of Thomas. Failing to do this, we drove up the old Wilbour Hill Road to the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Paul DeGannett. To our amazement and delight, we found that Paul DeGannett is a local historian in his own right, having tramped all over this area in his boyhood and has done some writing on local history which we hope he will bring out of his cupboard and share with the Society. Paul knew all about Thomas A. Tefft - his home is the old Marshall House now owned by Paul's brother. Much of the house has been rebuilt so that the visitor would not realize that there was once a central chimney, and the outside does not look like the sketch of the homestead in the articles written about Mr. Tefft. Nevertheless this is the anointed spot! What a thrilling discovery!

Also Mr. DeGannett's home was once the farm of Thomas A. Cottrell and was a Stage Coach Stop along the Kenyon-Wilbour Hill Stage Coach route between Connecticut and Little Rest (Kingston), R.I. His outdoor fireplace is built around the chimney of the old carriage shed and he mentioned the old Stage Coach Barn in the yard. There is also a Tefft cemetery in the near vicinity.

The three "loyal Musketeers" of the Richmond Historical Society were more than rewarded for braving the New England weather and are most grateful to Mr. & Mrs. DeGannett for inviting us into their home and making a dull day come alive with their graciousness and informative comments on Richmond History.

## LAST TOWN MEETING

One of the main aims of a local Historical Society should be to stimulate the members to seek out new and unknown facts of local history and, through research, compile the information into written form to be filed for posterity in some place available to the public. An excellent example is the talk given by one of our members, Earl Brunskill, at our last town meeting. He told about Richmond's Civil War Hero, Col. John S. Slocum. He illustrated his talk with maps helping the unmilitary minded people in the audience to better understand the football tactics used by Generals in fighting a war. Earl has written an eighteen page article on Col. Slocum which he has presented to the Historical Society and will be filed in the Society Archives. He has spent a great deal of time doing this paper, reading and travelling about the State, and taking pictures. However he must derive much mental satisfaction for a job well done and of value to his community. A big thanks to you from the Society!

On page 69 are abstracts from his article. Society members should also read the original which includes much more of interest.

RICHMOND TOWN POUND

67.

1846 June 2 Richmond Town Meeting Records Book II - p.p.85,82.

"... at a town meeting held at the Inn of George W. Haszard in Richmond on the 2nd day June 1846 . . . "

"Voted that a Pound Keeper be chosen for said Town . . . John H. Lillibridge chosen Pound Keeper."

"Voted that Silas R. Kinyon, John H. Lillibridge, and George S. Kinyon be and are hereby appointed a committee to locate a place to build said pound at the expense of said town and to report the same to said town at August Town Meeting next."

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1846 Aug. 25 Richmond Town Meeting Records Book II, p.p.86.

"Voted that 100.00 be allowed to Maxson T. Kinyon for building Town Pound."

"Voted that 2.00 be allowed Thankful, Deborah & John H. Lillibridge for land for a Pound."

"Voted that the deed from Thankful Lillibridge, Deborah, & John H. Lillibridge for the land on which the Town Pound is built to the town be received by the town & ordered to be recorded."

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1846 Dec. Richmond Town Meeting Records Book II, p.89.

"Voted that 1.00 be allowed to George S. Kinyon for his services rendered building Town Pound."

\*\*\*\*\*

RICHMOND TOWN POUND KEEPERS

1846 - 1848	John H. Lillibridge (First Pound Keeper)
1849 - 1850	Maxson T. Kinyon
1851	George Shove
1852	Benjamin H. Young
1853	Amos Lillibridge
1854	Maxson T. Kinyon
1855	Stephen A. Tefft
1856	Maxon T. Kenyon
1857	Benjamin P. Phillips
1858 - 1860	Maxon T. Kenyon
1861 - 1869	Nelson K. Church
1870	Benjamin P. Phillips
1871 - 1875	Nelson K. Church
1876 - 1879	Stephen A. Field
1880 - 1890	Stephen A. Field                      Nelson K. Church
1891 - 1893	William W. Lillibridge                Nelson K. Church

(Continued on page 68)

(Continued from Page 67)

1894	William W. Lillibridge, Nelson K. Church, Herbert E. Lewis	
	"June 16, 1894 Resolved that the Town Council be instructed to establish a pound, at or near Wood River Junction, for empounding of horses, mules, neat cattle; sheep, etc." (1894 Tax Book)	
1895 - 1900	Nelson K. Church	
1901 - 1903	William G. Gardner	Henry E. Wells
1904 - 1905	William G. Gardner	Elmer A. Smith
1906 - 1916	Wendell Phillips	
1907	Wendell Phillips, Janetta L. Brown, Assistant	
1918 - 1920	Wendell Phillips	
1921 - 1933	Orville M. Meserve	
1934 - 1935	Earl Woodmansee	
1936 - 1937	Frank E. Dawley	
1938 - 1948		
1949 - 1953	Francis L. Hoffman	
1954 - 1956	Thomas F. Tefft	
1957 -	Henry A. Kenyon	

The above facts were compiled by Lucy Rawlings Tootell (1969). Information was found in early Town Meeting and Town Council Books. After 1877, Pound Keepers were listed in the Richmond Tax Books.

#### HISTORIC SITE NEEDS IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

Among the historic sites in South County which the Washington County Heritage Council felt should be included in their list for preservation was the old QUEEN'S FORT in the Northeast corner of Exeter. Recent interest has been doubly aroused by the article DEEP IN THE RHODE ISLAND FOREST, written by Stuart D. Goulding and published in the YANKEE MAGAZINE (March 1969, p.43).

Being a true Indian fort and mentioned time and again in the early Indian History of these United States, some action should be taken to open up this area, which is badly overgrown, for visitation by interested groups. This is an important part of Rhode Island History fast becoming a jungle!

One of the most detailed descriptions of this fort may be found in the book THE LANDS OF RHODE ISLAND AS THEY WERE KNOWN TO CAUNOUNICUS AND MI/NTUNNOMU WHEN ROGER WILLIAMS CAME IN 1636, written by Sidney S. Rider. This book can be obtained at any of Rhode Island's local libraries and is worth a trip to some library to read about it. On page 236 is the story and diagrams.

#### MORE INTERESTING HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS NEEDED

The Rhode Island Tourist-Travel Association claims that visitors come to Rhode Island for a vacation or a short visit. There has been a 50 percent jump in visitors who were lured into the state by the many brochures printed and published for and about the state and its facilities. Each town should keep this in mind and offer printed material on local sites of interest.

RICHMOND CIVIL WAR HERO - COL. JOHN STANTON SLOCUM 69.

(Abstracts from Article written by Earl Brunskill)

NAME: COL. JOHN STANTON SLOCUM

GENERATION IN AMERICA: IX

OF: Samuel(8), Peleg(7), Samuel(6), Samuel(5), Samuel(4), Ebenezer(3), Giles(2), Anthony Slocum(1).

FATHER: Samuel Slocum

MOTHER: Susan Stanton (of John & Mary Greene Stanton of Richmond)

BROTHERS & SISTERS: 1. Robert Stanton, 2. Samuel Dyer, 3. Mary

BIRTH: November 1, 1824 WHERE: Richmond, Rhode Island

DEATH: July 21, 1861 WHERE: Fell at Battle of Bull Run

CEMETERY: Swan Point, Providence, R.I.

RELIGION:

MARRIAGES: (1) Abigail A. James (of Hon. C.T. James, Providence, R.I.)

WHEN: February 18, 1858

WHERE:

OCCUPATION: Soldier, Member examining board West Point,  
Manufactured cannons with father-in-law.

RESIDENCE:

CHILDREN:

1. Catherine Seymour Slocum

BORN:

DIED: July 2, 1864

(5 yrs. 3 mo.)

2. John Stanton Slocum

DIED: July 9, 1864

(3 yrs. 1 mo. 7 days)

HIGHLIGHTS OF LIFE

1815 April 8 John & Samuel Slocum (father of John) of South Kingstown, both joiners, bought land in Richmond somewhere around the Richmond Air Park area.

1817 Father Samuel Slocum married Susan Stanton. May have built there.

1829 May 26 Sold land with dwelling to Arnold Slocum. Evidently left Richmond..

Educated in Bristol, Fruit Hill & Marlborough Classical Schools.

Also Commercial Academy in Hartford, Conn.

Always interested in military affairs

Dorr Rebellion, member of National Cadets at Acotes Hill.

1845 Chosen Second Lieutenant of the same unit.

1847 Appt. First Lieutenant Ninth Infantry in Mexican War.

Active Cerro Garodo, Contreras, Churubusco, Chapultepec.

After Mexico served as recruiting officer.

1858 Appt. Colonel of Mechanics Rifles.

Married daughter of Hon. Charles T. James, Providence manufacturer of the James Rifles Cannon-used in Civil War.

1860 Appt. member examining board at West Point.

1861 Major in 1st R.I. Infantry Regiment sent to Washington.

Made Colonel & Commander of 2nd R.I. Volunteers.

1861 July 21 Killed at Battle of Bull Run.

" . . . as Col. Slocum was crossing a rail fence between Mathews House and Warrenton Pike he was hit in the side and back of the head by rifle fire. This immobilized him and left him speechless. The command of the regiment went to Lt. Col. Frank Wheaton who finished out the day as commanding officer and

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70. (Continued from page 69) led the retreat to Washington.

Col. Slocum was laid on a door, taken to Mathews house and attended by Dr. Harris. Later he was evacuated to Sudley Church, then used as a hospital.

After the battle the Confederates took over and in his last hours Col. Slocum was taken care of by Pvt. Josiah Richardson of the 1st R.I. who stated that he lived almost two days after being wounded. He never spoke after being hit . . . Gov. Sprague sought permission to lead a party to the battlefield and try to recover the bodies of the dead officers for reburial in Rhode Island. . . . on the 21st they proceeded to Sudley Ford, Sudley Church, and the battlefield. Here Richardson was asked by the Governor to locate the graves of Slocum and Ballow. They were easy to find by the mound of dirt over them and very shortly the troopers began the gruesome job of uncovering the coffins. . . (they found that the Georgia boys had dug up what they thought was Col. Slocum, cut off his head and burned his body. They made a mistake as Col. Slocum's body was found wrapped in a blanket.) . . . identification was easy because of his mustache. . . Col. Slocum's body was returned to Rhode Island by March 30 and placed in the Armory of the first Light Infantry where it was viewed by thousands. . . the next day a solemn and impressive ceremony was performed . . . the procession wound through the principal streets of Providence to Grace Church Cemetery . . ."

1868 Feb. 27 Providence G.A.R. Post organized

Named Slocum Post No. 10.

Made plans for a suitable monument for his grave.

1862 to 1868 Between these dates, Slocum moved to Swan Point Cemetery.

1886 April Fair to raise money for monument.

Issued book entitled THE HARD TACK - represented an army biscuit - included picture and biographical sketch.

Monument made from Westerly Granite from the Smith's Granite Co., Westerly, R.I.

Design drawn by Alfred A. Combe.

"The monument rests on two bases. The lower one is eight feet and four inches by four feet six inches at the base. Total height is five feet. The top is treated as a cover and is almost concealed by a large carved American flag draped down a little in front. Upon this flag is carved in full relief the cap, sword, belt, sash and gauntlets, as worn by Col. Slocum while in the service.

The front has the words COL. JOHN S. SLOCUM in raised letters flanked by carved shoulder straps of his rank. The head of the die has this inscription in sunken letters, HIS LIFES EXPENSE HATH WON FOR HIM COEVAL YOUTH WITH IMMACULATE PRIME OF TRUTH. The foot of the die has the following:

ERECTED BY

SLOCUM POST NO. 10

DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND G.A.R.

On the end and back of the cap are his three famous battles of the Mexican War - CONTRERAS CHURUBUSCO CHAPULTEPEC.

The back of the die has these words: FELL AT BULL RUN JULY 21, 1861. Below this on the base are the words: -FIRST COLONEL SECOND RHODE ISLAND VOLUNTEERS.

The Unveiling Ceremony took place November 29, 1886."

Vol. I No. 14 L.R. Tootell, Wyoming, R.I. 02898

APRIL 1969

## NEXT RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWN MEETING

The twelfth town meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held in the Richmond Town Hall, Tuesday evening, April 15th, at 8 P.M. Parents and Teachers should find this program very interesting and worthwhile. Mrs. Milton J. Kelley, a Society member and teacher in the Elementary Schools of South Kingstown, will talk on AROUSING INTEREST IN HISTORY AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEVEL. If they learn nothing else, Leona's students, both brilliant and otherwise, are well versed in local history. Come and hear how she stimulates enthusiasm for this subject.

## COLLATION COMMITTEE

Would the following people bring cookies or some finger food for the above meeting: Mr. & Mrs. James Niles and Mr. & Mrs. Frank Dawley. Please call Lucy Tootell (539-7581) if you cannot do this.

## NEXT FIELD TRIP

Weather permitting, interested persons will meet at the Richmond Town House, Sunday afternoon, April 20th, at 2 P.M. for another exploratory Field Trip. Suggestions from the members are invited. The trip is always open to the public.

## NEXT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The next Executive Council Meeting of the Richmond Historical Society for May will be cancelled because of the busy schedule during Heritage Month.

## NEW MEMBERS

51. Mr. & Mrs. J. Jesse Cottrell, Jr.  
Waites Corner Road  
West Kingston, R.I.
52. Mr. & Mrs. John T. Machon  
Hoxsie Road  
R.F.D. West Kingston, R.I.
53. Mrs. Iva Nye  
Hope Valley, R.I.

Dues - \$3.00  
Lucy Rawlings Tootell  
R.I. 02898  
WYOMING  
RICHMOND HISTORY

MAY - RHODE ISLAND HERITAGE MONTH IN WASHINGTON COUNTY - MAY 72.

- May 1-15 Exhibit at Westerly Library on legislators active during era of Six Capitols.
- May 4-10 Exhibit at Richmond Town Hall on RICHMOND HISTORY, sponsored by the Richmond Historical Society. Open 2-5 P.M. or by special appointment.
- May 4 Indian Dinner at Dovecrest, Summit Road, Arcadia. Exhibit of artifacts & talk on Indian foods.
- May 5-28 Exhibit at Charlestown Library on CHARLESTOWN POLITICAL FIGURES, sponsored by the Charlestown Historical Society. Open Monday & Thursday, 6-9 P.M. and Wednesdays and Fridays, 2-5 P.M.
- May 17 RE-ENACTMENT OF CORONATION of Queen Esther of the Narragansetts at Coronation Rock, King Tom Farm, Scenic 1A at 2 P.M., followed by guided tour of King Tom Farm. Arranged by the Charlestown Hist. Soc.
- May 18 SPECIAL PROGRAM & OPEN HOUSE AT RHODE ISLAND'S REVOLUTIONARY STATE HOUSE, now the Kingston Free Public Library in Kingston, R.I., Route 138, at 2 P.M. Dr. William Metz will give history of the building.
- May 18 PETTAQUAMSCUTT HISTORICAL SOCIETY OPEN HOUSE, in old Washington County Jail, 2-5 P.M.
- May 20 Regular meeting of the Richmond Historical Society, Richmond Town Hall, at 8 PM when slides of last year's events will be shown. Public is welcome.
- May 24 Washington County Pomona Meeting. The Evening meeting will feature the new R.I. Development Council movie on THE RHODE ISLAND STATE CAPITOL.
- May 25 SPECIAL PROGRAM & OPEN HOUSE AT THE RICHMOND SIXTH PRINCIPLE BAPTIST CHURCH, located in Wyoming, R.I. near State Police Barracks. This is the oldest Church organization in Richmond surrounded by a large historic cemetery near the western boundary line of the original Shannock Purchase. After the history of the church, there will be a coffee hour and tour of interesting features of the cemetery. The public is welcome at 2:30 P.M. Sponsored by the Sixth Principle Baptist Church and the Richmond Historical Society.
- May 27 Regular meeting of the Charlestown Historical Soc. Public is welcome - 8 P.M. in old Stanton Tavern.
- May 30, 31 INDIAN POW WOW at Tomaquog Museum, Burdickville Road. Indian crafts, dancing, singing, & refreshments. May 30, from 2 P.M. to dusk. May 31, & June 1, from 10 A.M. to dusk.
- May 31 - WESTERLY TERCENTARY SPECTACULAR. The Richmond Historical Society will sponsor an exhibit in the Westerly Hardware Store window graciously offered to us by the owner, Mr. Peter Merrifield, Carolina, R.I. Westerly originally included the Richmond area.  
(The Heritage Month pamphlet lists other events)



NEWPORT TOUR OF THE LEAGUE OF RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES 73.

The fifth annual Meeting of the League of Rhode Island Historical Societies will be held on Saturday, April 19, 1969 in Newport. The Preservation Society of Newport County will be our host with the cooperation of the Newport Historical Society, Mr. & Mrs. Quinto Maganini, the State of Rhode Island, the Newport Naval Base and the Newport Artillery Company.

The meeting is open to all members of member-societies which includes the Richmond Historical Society, but because of limited space, reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

All cars should be parked in the free municipal parking lot located between Church and Mary Streets which may be reached via Spring Street turning left on Church, or from Thames Street turning left at Mary Street. Cars will not be needed as necessary transportation will be provided by Short Line buses.

REGISTER at Honymen Hall, Trinity Church, a short walk from the parking lot.

PROGRAM

- 9:30 - 10:10 A.M. Registration, coffee at Honymen Hall. Trinity Church. Park cars in free Municipal Parking Lot.
- 10:15 Buses leave for tour of the following:  
THE BREAKERS, magnificent mansion built in 1895 for Cornelius Vanderbilt and shown to the public under the auspices of the Preservation Society of Newport County.  
OLD COLONY HOUSE, built in 1739 and a National Historic Landmark.  
VERNON HOUSE, headquarters of Gen. Rochambeau during the American Revolution, privately-owned by Mr. & Mrs. Quinto Maganini who are completely restoring it.
- 12:30 - 2 P.M. Dutch Treat cocktails at Marble House. BUFFET LUNCHEON in the Gold Room & Gothic Room at Marble House, the William K. Vanderbilt mansion built in 1892. (No tickets will be sold at the door).
- 2:00 - 2:45 Tour of the Naval Base
- 2:45 - 3:30 P.M. Conducted tour around Newport's famous Ocean Drive to see the summer homes built at the turn of the century.
- 3:30 - 4:15 "Artillery Punch" will be served at the NEWPORT ARTILLERY COMPANY, chartered 1741, on Clarke Street. Walk to parking lot on Mary St.

REGISTRATION FORM

Register the following persons for the tour, luncheon, and annual meeting of the League of R.I. Historical Societies, Sat. April 19, 1969, at \$6.25 each:

NAME	ADDRESS	SOCIETY
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Mail checks to League Meeting, The Preservation Society of Newport County, Washington Square, Newport, R.I. 02840, by April 15

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

RICHMOND LOCAL HISTORY EXHIBIT AT RICHMOND TOWN HALL  
 Sunday through Saturday - May 4-10  
 In honor of Rhode Island Heritage Month

In honor of Rhode Island Heritage Month, the Richmond Historical Society will sponsor an exhibit on local history to be held in the Richmond Town House from Sunday May 4th through Saturday May 10th, from 2 to 5 P.M.

All interested persons are invited to loan any items of local historical significance.

Exhibit material can be brought to the Town Hall on Saturday, May 3rd, between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M.

Will each person plan how he wants to display his material and include a descriptive card with each item and name of the owner.

During the exhibit open house hours, there should be at least two people in charge. If you care to volunteer to act as a host or hostess on any of the days, please call Lucy Tootell (539-7581).

Let's make this an exhibit to be proud of. If everyone does something, I am sure it will be both interesting and enjoyable.

## LAST FIELD TRIP

Six people took a delightful walk along a section of the old Kenyon Hill Stage Coach Road. It was quite wet underfoot but it is a beautiful trail passing between glacier boulders, trees and bubbling brooks - typically rustic South County. It might be nice to repeat this walk when the profuse mountain laurel is in bloom.

The foundation of a very old house was discovered on the south side of the trail - could this have been one of the old Kenyon Homesteads? The 1870 map does not show a house on the south, only on the north. The chimney was built of rough field stone - no mortar was used - metal loops were still in the two granite slabs, once the sides of a stone fireplace - the loops obviously were there to hold a crane. The front yard was fenced in by a stone wall, probably to keep out the animals.

Several cemeteries were visited including the burial lot of JONATHAN MAXSON, located on the south side of the short cut dirt road connecting the Cheriho School Road with the Woodville Road.

Who was JONATHAN MAXSON? The old history of Richmond states - "The (Revolutionary) War having, after years of toil and hardship, been brought to a successful issue, and our independence having been acknowledged, a delicate and difficult problem was committed to our sages and patriots: the duty of giving to the people a constitution that should bind the people of the States in a Union, wise, safe, permanent and successful. After four months of earnest deliberation, the convention adopted a constitution which they had framed, and submitted to the people of the States for their approval, through their conventions.

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"A more determined opposition to this constitution was manifested in Rhode Island than in the other States, so that this state was the last to accept it as the law of the land, and to enter into the Union. But as in duty bound, by an Act of the Legislature, this constitution was submitted to the action of the freemen of the several towns, in Town Meeting. The vote of this town, after much discussion, was taken March 24, 1787.

The vote taken shows the conservative tendencies that then prevailed, and the slowness of the people to adopt new and untried principles in important public matters.

There were at the time:

Legal voters in the town . . . . .	77
Present and voted . . . . .	69
Voted against adoption of constitution . . .	68
Voted for adoption of constitution . . . . .	1

As these votes were taken yea, and nay, the names of the voters remain on the record. The name of the man who could dare to stand alone was:"

JONATHAN MAXSON

Voted to install officers at next meeting to be held at home of Brother Briggs on Saturday Feb. 18, 1911. Also voted to keep chapter list open until next meeting.

The preceding has been a direct copy of the reorganization minutes found in our minutes book. It is interesting to note - the home of Allen P. Stevens is now the home of Oliver Watson Greene, Jr. (Peter Pota) and the home of Brother Presbery H. Briggs was the home of the late Earl H. Woodmansee, at the corner of Beaver River Road and Route 138.

Also that Helen Huldah Smith, a member of Hope Valley Grange at that time (and present Mother-in-law of the writer), helped to install the officers at the home of Brother Presbery H. Briggs.

It should be noted here, that the last of the Charter Members, Mrs. B. Manchester (Treasurer), in her nineties, died this past winter.

After meeting a few times at the homes of members, the use of the Queen's River Baptist Church vestry was offered to the Grange members by Reverend C.H. Palmer, and they met there until they moved into their new hall located in South Kingstown sometime early in 1914.

The only reason this hall is located in South Kingstown, as far as can be determined, is that on March 27, 1913, at a regular meeting of the Grange it was voted to purchase the lot on which it stands, from Mr. Gideon Palmer for the sum of \$50.00 They chose between two lots, the other being located at the corner of Beaver River Road & Route 138, which at that time was known as the Roxie Farm (also part of Presbery H. Briggs land).

(Concluded next Month)

Compiled by Virginia & Jesse Cottrell, Jr.

Richmond Grange No. 6 P of H was organized on October 10, 1887 by Duputy A. A. Brigham, Secretary of the Massachusetts State Grange, with twenty-three charter members. Their officers were as follows:

Master - Levi Cornell  
 Overseer - Charles H. Kendall  
 Lecturer - Albert Hoyle  
 Steward - John Hoyle  
 Assistant Steward - Presbery H. Briggs  
 Chaplain - Hoxie Kenyon  
 Treasurer - David C. Kenyon  
 Secretary - Bradford C. Moore  
 Gate Keeper - Oscar L. Wilcox  
 Ceres - Martha S. Moore  
 Pomona - Sarah L. Moore  
 Flora - Mrs. Oscar Wilcox  
 Lady Assistant Steward - Agnes Hoyle

The meetings were held in Clark's Hall, Charlestown until January 1890, when the Grange moved to Kenyon Hall where the rent was lower.

After April 1, 1892, the meetings were held at the homes of members until the charter was surrendered on December 31, 1892.

On January 31, 1911, those interested in reorganizing Richmond Grange No. 6 met at the home of Mr. Alton P. Stevens, Glen Rock, R.I. and reorganized the above grange.

Mr. Frank E. Marchant, Master of the Rhode Island State Grange and Edmund Spooner, organizing Deputy, were present and conducted the meeting.

It was decided to leave the charter list open and meet at some future date and elect officers. Brother Stevens was instructed to take charge of the charter list and solicit more names and arrange for the next meeting which was accordingly done, and on Saturday evening February 11, 1911 the members met at the home of Brother Presbery H. Briggs to elect officers.

At this meeting it was found that there were 25 names on the charter list, six of which had not paid the fee, leaving 19 entitled to membership.

First in order, was to obligate those who did not receive it at the former meeting, next in order was the election of officers with the following result:

Master: Allan P. Stevens, Overseer: Presbery H. Briggs, Lecturer: Albert Hoyle, Steward: B. R. Cornell, Ass't Steward: C. D. Manchester, Chaplain: Mrs. L. E. M. Briggs, Treasurer: Mrs. M. B. Manchester, Secretary: Mrs. A. P. Stevens, Gate Keeper: Johnson Hoyle, Ceres: Mrs. Ruth L. Cornell, Pomona: Miss Ruth Briggs, Flora: Miss Christine Loftus, Lady Asst. Steard: Mrs. Sarah D. Hoyle, Executive Committee: Presbery H. Briggs, Benjamin C. Locke, Benjamin R. Cornell.

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## RICHMOND HISTORY

Vol. I No.15 L.R. Tootell, Wyoming, R.I. 02898

MAY 1969

### NEXT RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWN MEETING

The thirteenth town meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held in the Richmond Town Hall, Tuesday evening, May 20th at 8 P.M. MARION D/WLEY H/WKINS, a Society member, will tell us about her church in Shannock, R.I., known as the SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH IN RICHMOND. The public is invited to attend.

### COLLATION COMMITTEE

Would the following people bring cookies or some finger food for the above meeting: Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Handell & Mr. & Mrs. Allen C. Warren. Please call Lucy Tootell (539-7581) if you cannot do this.

### NEXT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The next Executive Council Meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held at the home of Lucy Rawlings Tootell on Tuesday evening, June 3rd, at 8 P.M.

### COOKIES! COOKIES! COOKIES!

Wood River Six Principle Baptist Church, Wyoming, R.I. will hold a special ceremony Sunday afternoon, May 25th at 2:30 P.M. This is a joint project in conjunction with the Richmond Historical Society in honor of R.I. Heritage Month. All members of the Historical Society are asked to bring cookies or finger food for refreshments. As there may be a large crowd, please do not fail to cooperate even though you may not be able to attend in person. On bended knee I beg of you, don't forget!! Thanks.

### REVOLUTIONARY STATE HOUSE CEREMONY

Sunday afternoon, May 18th, at 2 P.M. will be the date for a special program to be held at the Kingston Library, formerly one of Rhode Island's Five State Houses at which time Dr. William D. Metz will tell the story of the building and important events. The newly organized SWEET ADELIN QUARTETT will also entertain with appropriate music. Try and not miss this educational and interesting program.

### RICHMOND TO EXHIBIT IN WESTERLY TERCENTENARY

Be sure to stop and look at the Richmond exhibit in the window of the Hardware Store run by Mr. Peter Merrifield and located in the heart of the Westerly shopping area. The Exhibit starts May 31st. In fact, members might step into the store and thank him for allowing the Richmondites to use such an ideal location.

### RICHMOND LOCAL HISTORY EXHIBIT IN RICHMOND TOWN HALL

Don't forget to stop by the Town Hall and visit the Richmond Local History Exhibit sponsored by the Richmond Historical Society. Hours are from 2-5 P.M. daily from May 4 through May 10, or by special appointment. Also notice the special signs at the Richmond Town Pound and at the Old New London Turnpike Tavern in Wyoming.

## 78. LAST FIELD TRIP

Seven cars drove to Historical Cemetery No. 20 near the Six Principle Baptist Church, Wyoming, R.I. on Sunday, April 20th. Carl Stoner conducted the group through the three cemeteries i.e. Old - Main section - and New area across the road from the Church.

These cemeteries have examples of various types of burial stones used over the years: Field Stone, Slate, Old white marble, later grey granite and more recent styles of stone unknown to the writer. Most surprising monuments were those that gave the appearance of grey stone but are made of metal. There are several in the main cemetery, one erected to Benjamin B. Woodmansee, died 1875. Fred Cook has a beautiful slate stone, the slate was imported from England and evidently does not erode like the domestic slate.

Although the architect Thomas A. Tefft is buried in Swan Point Cemetery, his name is inscribed on the Family Stone in this cemetery. The monument is badly eroded. Here is also buried his sister Amanda Tefft Davis whose husband was a Stage Coach Driver.

Many familiar names are to be found - Enoch Card, died 1845 - Sprague Kenyon, died 1851 who built the Stilson House - Whitman Kenyon (1878) and his wife Abby Lillibridge (1879) - Harriet Frances Kenyon (1938.), local Historian - Halsey Clarke, Town Clerk for many years - Reverend Warren Dawley - Family lot of our Honorary President Daniel James who has given so much time over the years to maintaining this cemetery - Mary Lillibridge Bliven who wrote WEB OF DESTINY and was a direct descendant of Mary Dyer who came to Portsmouth from Massachusetts but continued to make life miserable for Massachusetts until they decided to bring her destiny to an end! - and many other interesting people not excluding Deacon Tillinghast!

The stone wall along the road was erected around 1900 at one dollar per foot. It was one thousand feet long.

On Sunday, May 25th, at 2:30 P.M. there will be a special program at the Six Principle Baptist Church at which time Kirk House will give the History of the Church as well as group singing and special music. Come to the program and visit the cemetery afterwards. Refreshments will be served. What more do you want!

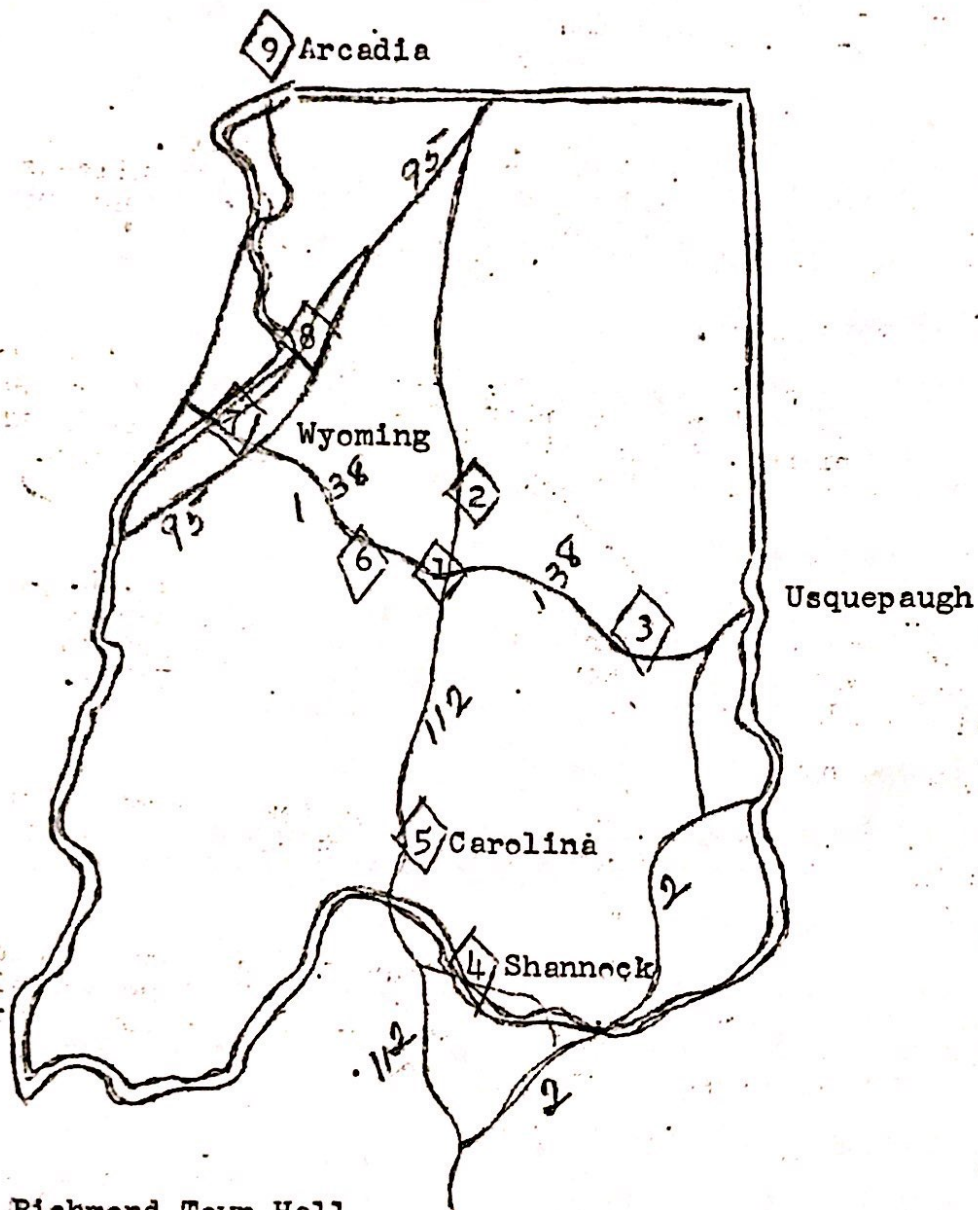
### ELECTED TO LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lucy Rawlings Tootell, President of the Richmond Historical Society and Chairman of the Rhode Island Heritage Month Committee, was elected a member of the Board of the League of Historical Societies at the annual meeting in Newport. Among the Richmond members attending this meeting were: Mr. & Mrs. Earl Brunskill, Mr. Charles Edmonds, Mrs. Hope Blaine, Mrs. Leona Kelley, and Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Stedman. The other new member of the Board was Mr. George Sisson, President of the Bristol Historical Society and manager of the Westerly Cable T.V.

### RICHMOND GRANGE NO. 6

Sorry but space did not allow for the conclusion of the interesting article by Virginia and Jesse Cottrell on the history of the Grange. Watch for it in the next issue.

## R I C H M O N D



1. Richmond Town Hall
2. Richmond Town Pound
3. Old Quaker Cemetery
4. Shannock Falls Monument
5. Octagon House
6. Indian Stationary Mortar
7. Old New London Turnpike Tavern
8. Wood River Six Principle Baptist Church
9. Dovecrest

(OVER)

POINTS OF INTEREST

1. RICHMOND TOWN HALL

May 4-10 - "Richmond History Exhibit" by Richmond Historical Society: 2-5 P.M. or by appointment.

2. RICHMOND TOWN POUND

Just north of Intersection of Routes 138 & 112. Fine example of public enclosure for stray or unlicensed cattle and especially high wall for sheep straying from early Colonial Plantations. Built 1846.

3. OLD QUAKER CEMETERY

Route 138 west of Usquepaugh, R.I. Historic Cemetery No. 16. Site of one of three important meeting houses of the Narragansett Friends. Burial site of Peter Davis, well known Quaker Minister, died 1812. Interesting grave stones.

4. SHANNOCK FALLS MONUMENT

"1636-1936 SHANNOCK FALLS." Located in Shannock, R.I. between Pawcatuck River & Railroad overpass. Here the Narragansett Indians won a fierce battle against the Pequot Indians for possession of the Fishing Falls.

5. OCTAGON HOUSE

Route 112, Carolina, R.I. One of the few octagonal houses still to be seen in Rhode Island. Exterior viewing only.

6. INDIAN STATIONARY MORTAR

Route 138 at Meadowbrook Golf Course, just west of path leading from Green No. 1 to Second Tee. In large granite boulder may be seen Indian Mortar or Bowl hollowed out of rock for crushing corn or seeds.

7. OLD NEW LONDON TURNPIKE TAVERN

Intersection of Route 138 and Old Route 3 in heart of Wyoming Village. Tavern was famous stopping place for the traveler when stage coaches traveled the famous Old New London Turnpike and knew Wyoming as BRAND'S IRON WORKS, important South County center of the Iron Industry. Read sign in yard.

8. WOOD RIVER SIX PRINCIPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Founding organization 1723. Original building constructed in 1769. Burned and rebuilt. Open Sunday mornings. Special service and open house on Sunday, May 25 at 2:30 P.M., at which time there will be music and a history of the church, refreshments, tour of church, & cemetery. Public invited.

9. DOVECREST RESTAURANT, Summit Rd., (12-2, 5-9 Daily) (Indian Food)