

KEEPING THE RECORD STRAIGHT - YOUR FAMILY HISTORY X.- 40

It is important to maintain a record system which is simple and flexible enough to add data in its proper sequence while it is still clear in your mind and to record any authentic resources for future proof of that authenticity. Needed to carry out this flexibility are: -

1. Index Card File
2. Loose Leaf Notebook

INDEX CARD FILE SHOULD INCLUDE:

Alphabet Markers
Write surname first (maiden surname of females)
Birth card
Death card
Marriage card
Children (listed under their surnames)
Authentic references i.e. wills, etc.

LOOSE LEAF NOTEBOOK SHOULD INCLUDE:

Title Page (give both maiden surname & married surname)
Page protector for your picture
Six insertable-tab index pages marked thus -
I Direct Ancestors
II Direct Descendants
III Relatives
IV Relatives By Marriage
V My Life
Genealogical charts for direct ancestors
No. 1 - You
No. 2 - Your Father
No. 3 - Your Mother
Note: For reference number on chart, multiply any person's number by two and that is the reference number of his or her father.
Personal record sheets for direct ancestors
File in numerical sequence on genealogical chart.
Personal record sheets for Direct Descendants, Relatives, and Relatives by Marriage.
File alphabetically by surnames.
Chronology sheets for MY LIFE section.

METAL FILE FOR FOLDERS FILED BY SURNAMES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

If research becomes more elaborate, this folder file is practical as there can be a separate folder for each family member needing it.

START SIMPLE BUT BE THOROUGH AND FILE DATA LEARNED IMMEDIATELY.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Richmond Historical Society will be held at the Richmond Town Hall on Sunday afternoon, May 21, 1978, at 2 P.M.. The public is always welcome.

Ray Bader, Chairman of the Bell School Committee, will report on progress at the Bell School and take the members on a tour of the building.

Anyone having slides of the Bell School or any slides to do with district schools in general is invited to bring to this meeting. Mrs. Tootell will bring her slide projector.

Anyone having pictures of the exteriors or interiors of old district schools are asked to bring them for the SHOW & TELL table.

Any members who did not turn in their DIRECT ANCESTORS SHEET should bring them to this meeting.

COLLATION COMMITTEE

The Collation Committee for the above meeting will be: Mr. & Mrs. Earl Smith, Mr. & Mrs. John Arnold, and Leona Kelley. There is still plenty of coffee left for the perculator so do not bring any.

NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes the following new members:
Viola Ulm - Edwin C. Whitford, Jr. and wife Lorena - Gordon
and Joyce McElhaney.

GIFT

The Society thanks Mr. Elliott B. Clarke, Spring St., Hope Valley, R. I. for his donations to the historical archives which included a one dollar and five dollar Richmond Bank bill; a Confederate five and twenty dollar bills; a Wood River Branch Railroad ticket; 1892 Democratic Wild Cat Money; Camp Meeting Flyer at Greene, R. I.; and 1863 E.W.Lincoln Grocer Redeemables among several other items of interest.

The "Saga of the lost coin" will be explained by Jordan and Richmond at the next meeting i.e. "A Bell School Mystery !!!"

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Enjoy these News Letters, interesting meetings, and good fellowship with the Richmond Historical Society. Mail \$3.00 to Treasurer Charles Edmonds, Carolina, R. I. 02812.

PERSONAL RECORD

REF. NO. X.- 42.
1.

NAME: PASCO WHITFORD

GENERATION IN AMERICA: I GENERATION IN RICHMOND: _____

OF: _____

FATHER: _____

MOTHER: _____

BROTHERS & SISTERS: _____

BIRTH: ca. 1640 WHERE: _____

DEATH: 1690 WHERE: _____

CEMETERY: East Greenwich, R.I Cemetery No. 29 RELIGION: _____

MARRIAGES: Mary _____

WHEN: _____ WHERE: _____

OCCUPATIONS: _____

RESIDENCES: Newport, East Greenwich, Kings Towne, Rhode Island

CHILDREN:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 11. <u>Nicholas Whitford</u> | M. <u>Mary Carr</u> (Ref. 3) |
| B: _____ | D: <u>1748</u> |
| 12. <u>Pasco Whitford</u> | M: <u>Mary Stafford</u> (Ref. 3) |
| B: _____ | D: _____ |
| 13. <u>Charles Carmi Whitford</u> | M: _____ |
| B: _____ | D: _____ |

DESCRIPTION SHEET

X.- 43.

NAME: PASCO WHITFORDREF.NO. 1.

1. Austin, GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY OF RHODE ISLAND, page 223:

1680 = taxed two shillings
1689 = East Greenwich, R.I. Freeman
1697 = (April 13) - Kingstown, R.I. - was a witness to
a deed from Samuel Eldred Sr. to his son John.
It is assumed that he was the progenitor of
all of the name in Rhode Island and that he
was the father of Nicholas and Pasco.

2. Colonial Records: Volume III - page 270:

At the General Assembly meeting at Newport, R.I. on
May 1690, Pasco Whitford was admitted a freeman of
the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

3. McPartland, THE HISTORY OF EAST GREENWICH, R. I. - page 270:

Whitford, Pasco, married Mary Stanton. He was in
Newport in 1640 and came here (East Greenwich) about 1689.

Children:

Nicholas married Mary Carr

Pasco. married Mary Stafford

4. Records of Edwin C. Whitford, Jr.

Widow Sweet Road, Exeter, R. I. 02822.

The progenitor of the Whitford Family in Rhode Island
was Pasco Whitford. He came to America in the 1600's and settled
at Newport, R.I.

Pasco and wife Mary were the parents of Nicholas, Pasco, Jr.,
and Charles Carmi as well as possibly others.

Edwin Whitford has found no authentic records to date to
make him believe that Pasco's wife's last name was Stanton.

Pasco is buried in Historical Cemetery No. 29 in East
Greenwich, R. I.. This cemetery is known as the WHITFORD-TARBOX
CEMETERY. Pasco's stone bears the inscription

P. W. 1690

Edwin has a picture of Pasco's stone which is still
legible today. This grave, according to the HISTORY OF EAST GREEN-
WICH, is the oldest grave in the entire town. This cemetery is
located near Carrs Pond and Tarbox Corners.

- | | |
|---|--|
| I. Pasco Whitford
m. Mary Stanton | Pasco Whitford
m. Mary Stanton |
| II. Nicholas Whitford
m. Mary Carr | Pasco Whitford, Jr.
m. Mary Stafford |
| III. Pasco Whitford
m. Hannah Hill | John Whitford
m. Martha Tefft |
| IV. Job Whitford
m. Ruth Corey | Amos Whitford**
m.(1) Sarah Arnold |
| V. Job Whitford*
m. Rachel Nichols | John Whitford***
m. (2) Mary Himes |
| VI. James Nichols Whitford
m. Esther Straight | Amos Whitford
m. Desire Lillibridge |
| VII. Thomas Nichols Whitford
m. Mrs. Sarah Amanda Straight
Myas | Clark Amos Whitford
m. Abby Frances Hazard |
| VIII. JOHN LEONARD WHITFORD
m. MARTHA ANGELINE THAYER | Edwin Clifton Whitford
m. Bessie Olga Margery Salisbury |
| IX. HENRY WARREN WHITFORD
m. LENA ROSE ASHE | Edwin Clifton Whitford Jr.
(Historical Society Member) |
| X. MARCUS LEONARD WHITFORD****
(Historical Society Member) | |

* Job Whitford is listed in the West Greenwich Revolutionary Pension Roll of 1840.

** Amos Whitford (Generation IV) married (2) Mary Tillinghast.

*** John Whitford (Generation V) married (1) Elizabeth Wells.

**** Marcus Leonard Whitford is a member of the SONS of the American Revolution under National Number 113202 and the Rhode Island State Number 1503.

NOTE: names of persons, either owning property or residing in Richmond, R. I., are typed in Capital Letters.

GUILD'S SIGNAL

X.- 45.

By Bret Harte

Two low whistles, quaint and clear,
That was the signal the engineer -
That was the signal that Guild, 'tis said -
Gave to his wife at Providence.
As through the sleeping town; and thence,
Out in the night,
On to the light,
Down past the farms, lying white, he sped!

As a husband's greeting, scant, no doubt,
Yet to the woman looking out,
Watching and waiting, no serenade,
Love song, or midnight roudelay
Said what that whistle seemed to say:
"To my trust true,
So love to you!
Working or waiting, good night!" it said.

Brisk young bagmen, tourists fine,
Old commuters along the line,
Brakemen and porters glanced ahead,
Smiled as the signal, sharp, intense,
Pierced through the shadows of Providence:
"Nothing amiss -
Nothing! - it is
Only Guild calling his wife," they said.

Summer and winter the old refrain
Rang o'er the billows of ripening grain,
Pierced through the budding boughs o'erhead
Flew down the track when the red leaves burned
Like living coals from the engine spurned;
Sang as it flew:
"To our trust true,
First of all, duty. Good night!" it said.

And then, one night, it was heard no more
From Stonington over Rhode Island shore,
And the folk in Providence smiled and said
As they turned in their beds, "The engineer
Has once forgotten his midnight cheer."
ONE only knew,
To his trust true,
Guild lay under his engine dead.

William Guild was engineer of the train which on the 19th of April 1873 plunged into Meadow Brook, at Wood River Junction, R.I. on the line of the Stonington and Providence Railroad. It was his custom, as often as he passed his home, to whistle an "All's well" to his wife. He was found after the disaster dead with his hand on the throttle-valve of his engine. Read DRIFTWAYS INTO THE PAST, p.220.

April 16, 1978

The Richmond Historical Society met April 16 at 2 P.M. at the Richmond Town Hall with 23 persons in attendance.

The meeting was opened by the President Lucy R. Tootell. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as written in the News Letter on a motion by Mildred Chatalian and Charles Edmonds. Further business is to be conducted at the May meeting.

Mrs. Tootell spoke of the importance of keeping local records and tracing families of those who lived in or owned property in the town. She said that a system is required to keep proper records. A card file is needed to list births, marriages, and deaths; a notebook should include a title page, and a genealogical chart must have each name listed numerically.

Lucy recommended several books on the subject including the Hazard Genealogy, Spirit of '76 of R. I., and Census of 1777 of R.I.

Edwin C. Whitford, Jr., of Exeter, the guest speaker at the Sunday afternoon meeting told of gathering material on the Whitford family in America which he intends to publish. He noted that these Whitfords first came to Newport, R. I. in the 1600s. Most of them had large families some of whom moved to several states in the South as well as the North. Some fought in the Civil War as Confederates while others were Union soldiers. One Whitford was a doctor in the West and was responsible for building of three hospitals. The Whitford property in Exeter is still in the family since 1793. Mr. Whitford mentioned many family names some of whom were familiar to his audience.

He suggested places for people to look to find records of their own family history. First, one should ask parents and grandparents to tell what they can remember and to check the family bible. Then consult town hall records wherever the family lived for obituary and pension records, etc. Often small libraries keep such material, also there are the State Archives for census records which are available on request.

The speaker noted that it is important to record the sources of information such as the title of the book and the pages. Many interesting pictures and written accounts on the project were exhibited.

Captain Marcus Whitford, a relative and member of the Richmond Historical Society showed a handsome knarled cane which had belonged to his grandfather, John Leonard Whitford. He believed it was made of hickory.

Refreshments were served following the program by Mr. & Mrs. Harry Chatalian, and Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jordan.

Respectfully submitted
Virginia K. Arnold
Secretary Pro Tem

R I C H M O N D



H I S T O R Y

VOL. X No. 10*P. A. Millar, West Kingston, R.I. 02892*JUNE 1978

PRESIDENT RESIGNS

"Because of existing circumstances surrounding the Bell School Restoration Project, I am officially resigning from the Richmond Historical Society, Inc. as of this date (Ed. May 28, 1978)." /s/ Lucy Rawlings Tootell, President

It was with shocked surprise that the members of the Executive Board received the above statement this week. It was with great regret that the resignation was accepted. Following closely upon the heels of Lucy's resignation was that of Member-at-Large, Capt. Marcus L. Whitford, again accepted.

For those who may not have been aware, Lucy served not only as our President, but has been archivist for the past five years, has been researcher, writer, mimeographer, assembler of this Newsletter, and has performed many other outreach acts in the name of the Society. We do not take her resignation lightly, nor do we pretend to immediately fill all the voids.

This does not mean, however, that you will no longer be receiving newsletters or that you will be deprived of the valuable information which has been included in past newsletters. It does not mean that we will stop collecting materials or researching data. It does not mean that genealogical research will be set aside.

Lucy's resignation does mean that the new slate of officers to be elected at our annual meeting in June is going to have a challenging and exciting year ahead. It means that members who perhaps did not feel needed in the past will have an opportunity to serve and participate more actively in the Society's work. If you have a particular talent which would be of help to the Society, or have something you wish to share, please let us know.

Annual Meeting

DUES ARE NOW DUE

June 20

In spite of the inflationary effect on costs of paper and postage, Richmond Historical Society dues remain at \$3.00 per year for a family membership. Help to continue this vital force in the community by sending your dues to Treasurer Charles W. Wanda, Carolina, R. I. 02812.

YOU AND YOUR SOCIETY

A historical society is an extremely valuable asset to a community. It serves as a reservoir of factual data from the past, provides a resource for researchers, and is an educational institution. Such an asset should be carefully invested and nurtured. With your help and support the Richmond Historical Society can continue to grow and serve you and yours in generations to come. As our town grows in population, outreach from the Society can help newcomers to better understand their neighbors and enhance their appreciation of the rural area to which they have come.

WORK ON BELL SCHOOL STOPPED

A behind-the-scenes controversy regarding direction on the Bell School project has recently reached such magnitude that it was deemed advisable to temporarily dispense with all activity. At no time has anyone faulted the work of the committee. Window guards have been installed and the interior of the building stripped of its old deteriorating ceiling materials and squirrel nesting debris, the building has been cleaned, with reinforcing materials added to rafters and roof where necessary to prevent stress or leaking. The work has moved along quickly with enthusiasm in anticipation of early installation of a new ceiling and floor restoration.

The Board was perhaps remiss in not establishing specific restoration criteria before the work began. Although each work step has been performed according to majority vote (review minutes of previous meetings) among members in attendance at public meetings, we seem to be bouncing from one period to another in the restoration, with a virtual hodge-podge of history seeming to be the end result. As soon as some definite guidelines are established, guidelines under which any committee or contractor can function in such a way that their choice will be how to reach the goal rather than what shall be the goal, work will resume.

We look forward to opening our school as an authentic restoration in the very near future.

ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS

There is a file of past newsletters. If you would like to collect them to bring your own volumes up to date, please contact Carolyn Stoner at the Town Hall.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Let this serve as a reminder for those who have not turned in their direct ancestor sheets to please do so, that we may work on the genealogy files over the summer months.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 10th ANNUAL MEETING of the Richmond Historical Society will be held at the Carolina Volunteer Fire Station on Rt. 112 on Tuesday evening, June 20, 1978, at 6:30 P. M.

The business meeting will follow a family POT LUCK SUPPER. Please BRING your favorite casserole, salad, or dessert, and your own table service (forks, knives, plates, cups, etc.). Beverages will be provided and Chief Hank Handell will host the dinner, serving his famous jonnycakes.

Herb Arnold, Virginia Arnold, and Marion Hawkins have been asked to serve on the nominating committee. They will report at the meeting and an election of officers to serve for the coming year will be held. Because of the unusual circumstances and to ensure continuity of programs, the officers will be installed at this meeting rather than in the Fall. Dr. William Metz of the Pettaquamscutt Historical Society will perform the installation ceremony.

This is an especially social evening and we look forward to a good time.

APPRECIATION FOR GIFTS

to Robert Jordan for an 1876 dime found with a metal detector on the original site of the Bell School.

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Richmond Historical Society
Public Town Meeting

May 21, 1978
Town Council Chambers

Lucy Tootell, president, called the meeting to order with 22 adults and 4 children present. First on the agenda was to take a tour to the Bell School with Ray Bader, Chairman of the Bell School Committee. Ray gave a report and explained the progress made. He also explained different methods of repairing plaster for paint or wall paper. The members had the opportunity to inspect the floors, walls, windows, and door. The construction of the new ceiling met the approval of all members that were present in the school. Lucy and several other members made a request to Ray that before he closed the ceiling would he remove the 6 hooks driven into the top ceiling joist and drive them into the lower ceiling. There was a long discussion about the wire or chain that went to these hooks.

After the members had inspected the floors they approved that the floor in the ante-room remain the same as it is now, but to lay a new floor in the main room (or class room).

Going outside the school and looking at the old door, Chairman Bader explained how he could build a new door that would be

Minutes of the May 21st meeting continued:-

more secure. It could be built out of V-joint pine with a filler about 1½" to 1 ¾" thick. The door could be hung on the outside with heavy barn hinges and would bolt on the inside. The hinges have been re-worked and new bushings put in by Edmund Britland.

After the tour we returned to the Council Chambers to view slides of the Bell School, before and after it was moved.

There was a long discussion on the repairs of the school and Ray explained them in detail.

Motion made by Edmund Britland that Ray construct the door and if he sees fit, that it should swing out. Motion was seconded by Marcus Whitford. Motion was approved.

Motion made by Earl Smith that Ray provide a cover over the door. Motion was seconded by Chalres Edmonds. Motion was approved.

Motion made by Charles Edmonds that the entrance in the ceiling in the ante-room be closed. Motion was seconded by Robert Jordan. Motion was approved.

Long discussion on whether to paint or paper the plaster on the walls. Marcus Whitford states that he has no objection to a plain paper like an oatmeal paper.

Motion made by Edmund Britland that the plaster on the walls be repaired for papering. The color and type of wallpaper to be used will be selected at a later date. Motion was seconded by Earl Smith. Motion was approved by the vote of 12 members. The other members did not vote.

Ray states that he has added Carolyn Stoner, Henry Boucher and Earl Smith to the Bell School Committee.

The Richmond Historical Society thanks Roy Richmond and Robert Jordan for the 1876 dime, which they have presented to the Society. The dime was found by them, with a metal detector, at the Bell School site, where the foundation was pushed up when the building was moved. They also found another 1876 and a 1887 dime. They were passed around for everyone to see.

Mr. William Carpenter explained the use of the metal detector. He states that the detector has a set on it so you can pick up different metals. You can set it for different types of soil. Sea water will mess it up. Mr. Carpenter had on display some of his treasures: coins, watch fob, and a silver spoon from Germany.

Jean Wylley states, if you clean old coins and jewelry, you will lose some of its value.

Lucy Tootell, President, states the next meeting is our annual meeting and would the Society like to have their pot luck supper, and what night would they prefer. All members approved of the supper and to hold it at the Carolina Fire Station. Lucy called for a showing of hands to see if the members preferred to

Minutes of the May 21st meeting continued:-

have the supper on a Sunday night. 9 members preferred Sunday and the others did not care. Patricia Millar volunteered to secure the date for the supper and the Board of Directors will meet and set up the next meeting.

Lucy remarks about presenting citations to the people who have helped the Society with selling the book DRIFTWAYS INTO THE PAST.

Leona Kelley made a motion that the Board of Directors decide who is to receive the citations. Motion was seconded by Eddy Britland. Motion was approved.

Handcraft and Food Fair Committee:

Eleanor Smith reports that Mildred Chatalian, chairman of the Fair Committee, has sickness in her family. The committee members have served their time and did their duty on the committee. We have considered just what we could do. We have started a quilt but everyone is so busy. Patricia felt that maybe we could have the fair every other year. Earl Smith remarks that Bob Smith has given up the chowder.

Marcus Whitford made a motion that the President appoint 3 members to the nominating committee. Motion was seconded by Charles Edmonds. Motion was approved.

Lucy Tootell, president, would like to thank Virginia Arnold for the April 16, 1978 secretary's report. Motion made by Charles Edmonds, seconded by Ray Bader, that the secretary's report for April 16, 1978 be accepted as printed in the May news letter. Motion was approved.

Lucy showed a card from Carolyn Stoner, stating that she would be in New York at the time of our meeting, attending an association meeting of Town Clerks. The card had a squirrel on it and those that helped take the ceiling down in the Bell School knew what she was referring to.

Lucy adjourned the meeting and refreshments were presided over by Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith, Mr. and Mrs. John Arnold, and Leona Kelley.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Ida Card Bader, Secy.