

HISTORY OF OWNERSHIP OF SMITH'S CASTLE

	Date	Grantee (new owner)	Grantor	Acres	Source
Smith Ownership 55 Yrs.	1637	Richard Smith, Sr.	Narragansetts		
	1651	Richard Smith, Sr.	Roger Williams	?	Fones, p. 93
	1656	Richard Smith, Sr.	Coginaquand	?	Fones, p. 95
	1666	Richard Smith, Jr.	Richard Smith, Sr.	?	Richard Smith's Will
	1692	Lodowick Updike	Richard Smith, Jr.	?	Richard Smith, Jr.'s Will
Updike Ownership 120 Years	1734	Daniel Updike	Lodowick Updike	?	Lodowick Updike's Will
	1757	Lodowick Updike	Daniel Updike	3,000	None
	1804	Wilkins Updike	Lodowick Updike	3,000	Lodowick Updike's Will
	1812	Benjamin Congdon	Wilkins Updike	300	No. Kingstown LE 18 : 449
Congdon Ownership 58 Years	1816	Heirs of Benjamin Congdon	Benjamin Congdon	?	None
	1823	J. Congdon	Heirs of Benjamin Congdon	300	No. Kingstown LE 24A : 106
	1831	T. Congdon	?	300	None
	1870	S. Allen	T. Congdon	300	No. Kingstown LE 34B : 599
Miscellaneous Ownership 63 Years	1877	T. Rathburn	S. Allen	?	None
	1876	A. Gardiner	T. Rathburn	300	No. Kingstown LE 36 : 82
	1878	F. & W. Chapin	A. Gardiner	300	No. Kingstown LE 36 : 461
	1879	A. Babbit	F. & W. Chapin	300	No. Kingstown LE 38 : 29
	1919	Alice Fox	A. Babbit	?	No. Kingstown PR 669
Fox Ownership 17 Years	1933	Aus. G. Fox	Alice Fox	?	No. Kingstown PR 1081
	1933	Aus. H. Fox	Aus. G. Fox	300	No. Kingstown LE 56 : 260
	1936	Vesta, Inc.	Aus. H. Fox	250	No. Kingstown LE 66 : 201
	1947	J. Lawson	Vesta, Inc.	?	No. Kingstown LE 79 : 349
Association To Present	1949	Cocumscussoc Assoc.	J. Lawson	?	No. Kingstown LE 88 : 211
	1958	Cocumscussoc Assoc.	J. Lawson	?	No. Kingstown LE 142 : 473

CHRONICLE OF SMITH'S CASTLE AND VICINITY

Event/Owner	Year	Comments
15 th CENTURY	1492	Columbus landed in America.
16 th CENTURY	1524	Verrazano, an Italian explorer in the service of France, visited the area.
17 th CENTURY	1616	Dutch explorers sailed to Wickford from New York to trade with the Narragansetts.
	1620	Plymouth colony was founded. John Oldham, an English trader from Plymouth, traded with the Narragansetts until he was killed on Block Island in 1636.
	1631	In February, Roger Williams with his wife of one year arrived in Boston with some followers.
	1633	Roger Williams accepted a position in the Salem church. After two years, he is not allowed to preach any longer because of his radical ideas such as paying the Indians for their land and separation of church and state.
	1635	Governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, John Winthrop, warned Roger Williams of his impending arrest and Roger Williams fled Massachusetts. Masasoit and the Wampanoags aided him through the winter.
	1636	Roger Williams and his followers, purchasing land from the Narragansetts, established themselves in the area they named Providence. Roger Williams set up shop on land that is now North Main Street in Providence.
	1637	<p>Roger Williams realized that the Narragansett Country had the largest population of Narragansett Indians, about 30,000, and purchased land from them to set up a trading post near where Smith's Castle is today. In 1637 or 1639, Richard Smith, Sr. bought a tract of land from the Narragansetts and built a blockhouse near Roger Williams. The blockhouse was part fort and part trading post. Smith originally left the blockhouse in the hands of agents, visiting occasionally, while he made his home in Portsmouth, Taunton, and New Amsterdam.</p> <p>The trade consisted of beaver pelts from the Indians for iron pots, blankets, guns, and other English implements. The beaver pelts were used to make hats.</p> <p>Around the same time, Edward Wilcox erected a nearby trading post and was probably in partnership with Smith. The Wilcox post and business came into the possession of Smith in 1645.</p> <p>In 1651, when he bought Roger Williams' trading post, Smith probably moved his family into the Roger Williams house, which was enlarged to suit his family and servants. This home is no doubt the site of the present Castle. According to one account, this blockhouse was 50-foot square and two stories high with walls of rough stone two feet thick.</p>
Richard Smith, Sr. Trading Post		
First RI Charter	1643	<p>Roger Williams's book of the Indian language, <i>A Key Into The Language Of America</i>, was first published in England.</p> <p>The Massachusetts, Plymouth, and Connecticut Colonies laid claim to Rhode Island. The leaders of the Rhode Island communities of Newport, Portsmouth, Warwick, Providence, and Cocumscussoc, asked Roger Williams to go to England for a charter so they could govern themselves. In 1644, Williams returned with a charter, not from the crown, but from a commission of Parliament during the English Civil War. This Charter</p>

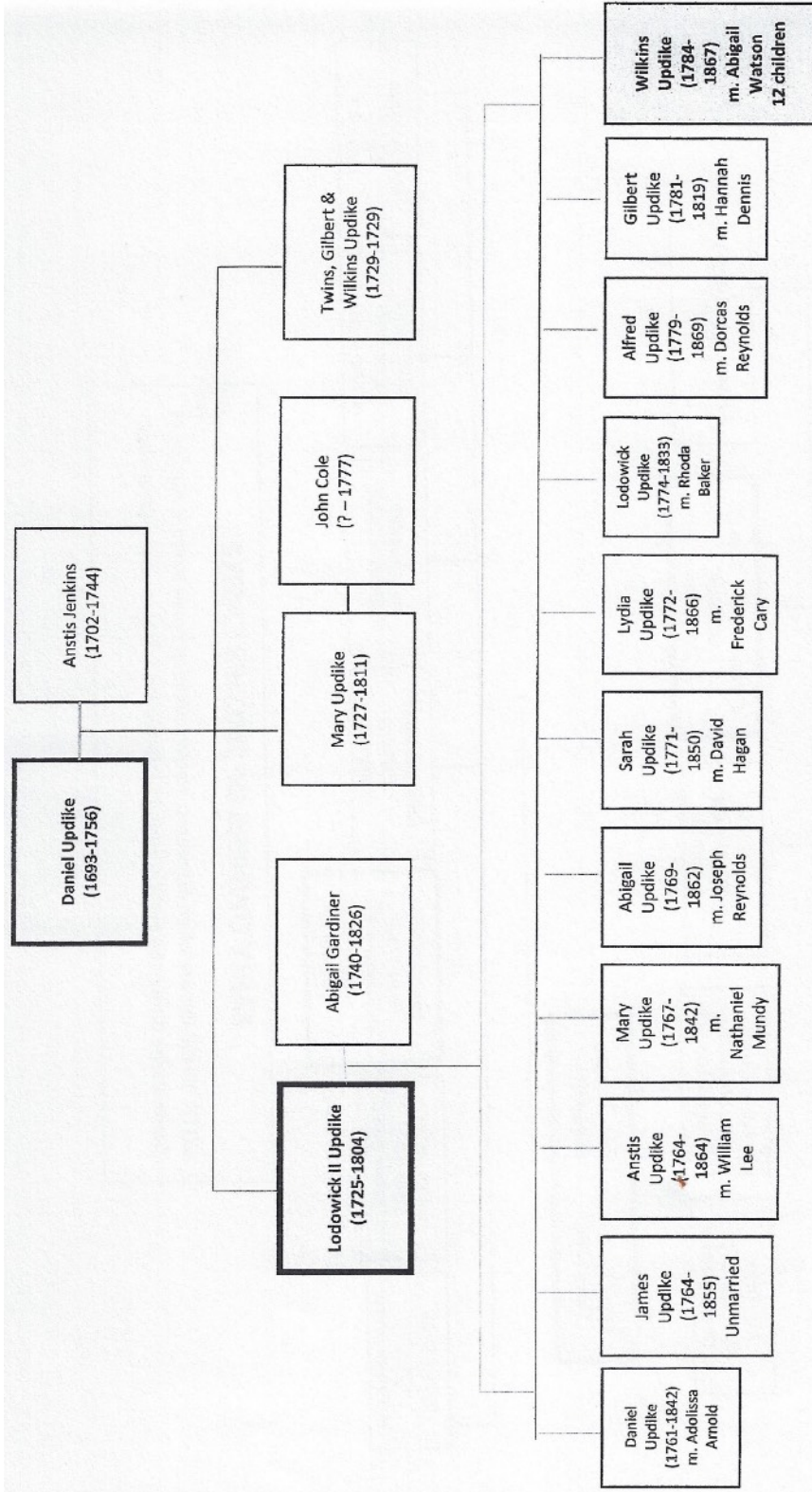
Event/Owner	Year	Comments
<i>The Lively Experiment</i>	1663	<p>governing the Narragansett Country.</p> <p>Smith's Castle played a prominent part in the dispute as the site of meetings of the royal commissioners and of other conferences regarding the dispute. Until the death of Richard Smith, Jr. in 1692, Cocumscussoc was the unofficial capital of Narragansett Country.</p>
		<p>Colonial records as early as 1663 mention Wickford. The wife of John Winthrop, governor of Connecticut, suggested the name to Richard Smith and Roger Williams because it reminded her of her birthplace, Wickford, England.</p> <p>John Clarke returned to Rhode Island with the most liberal charter of all time from Charles II. Clarke called it "The Lively Experiment." Under this charter, there was no Royal Governor. Instead, the colony was permitted to choose its own governor. This charter contained two principles unique to this period. 1.) It recognized Indian land ownership; land was to be acquired by purchase from the Indians, and 2.) It provided for religious liberty so that people could worship as they pleased or not at all, provided they did not disturb the peace. It served as the Rhode Island constitution until the 1840s, about 179 years.</p>
		<p>At this point Rhode Island was called "Rhode Island and the Providence Plantations and the Kings Province." Rhode Island referred to the cosmopolitan areas of Newport and Aquidneck Island. Providence Plantation indicated all other locations except the Narragansett Country. The Kings Province encompassed Narragansett Country, what is now known as Washington County plus East Greenwich and West Greenwich.</p>
<i>Richard Smith, Jr.</i>	1666	Richard Smith, Sr. died and the Castle was inherited by his son, Richard Smith, Jr.
<i>King Philip's War</i>	1675	<p>Rapid growth of the colonies resulted in increased friction between the settlers and the Indians. In January, King Philip of the Wampanoags, at the age of 23, formed an alliance with other Indians and started a war against the colonists, burning settlements in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.</p> <p>King Philip was the son of Massasoit, the Wampanoag chief. Massasoit asked the English for names of English leaders to name his sons. Philip whose Indian name was Metacom, was named after Philip of Macedonia and his brother Alexander whose Indian name was Wamsutta, was named after Alexander the Great.</p> <p>Smith's Castle was the center for negotiations with the Narragansetts, supposedly neutral in the conflict, because Richard Smith was the agent for the United Colonies, which was comprised of the Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut Colonies. During the fall of 1675, the Narragansetts seized Smith and his family at the Castle and kept them under guard for several days. Smith tried to induce the Narragansetts to give up members of the Wampanoag tribe staying at the Narragansett encampment in the Great Swamp. By sheltering the Wampanoags, the Narragansetts involved themselves in the conflict.</p> <p>In December, 1,000 troops from the Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Plymouth Colonies marched to Smith's Castle and, from there, marched the 12 miles or so south to the Narragansett encampment at Great Swamp. Rhode Island troops did not participate but some Rhode Islanders did. A battle ensued and there were great casualties on the side of the Indians and at least 200 colonists died. This battle is known as the Great Swamp Fight.</p>

Event/Owner	Year	Comments
		About 40 of the colonists who died in the battle or during the trek back to Smith's Castle were buried in a mass grave at the Castle, including Richard Smith's nephew, Richard Updike, son of Catharine and Gysbert Updike. The site of the original grave is not known but it was reported near a large apple tree known as "The Grave Apple Tree." In 1813, this tree was blown down during a storm and the location of the site was forgotten over time. A bronze plaque was placed on a rock in 1907 commemorating the burial site.
	1676	In the Spring, the Narragansetts came to Smith's Castle and burned it to the ground in retaliation for the Great Swamp Fight. John Clarke died.
	1678	Major Richard Smith, Jr. rebuilt the Castle to about the size of the structure as it stands today. The will of Richard Smith, Jr., in 1692, mentions the "great house," the "warehouse," and the "stone house." This was the start of the great plantations in South County.
	1683	Roger Williams died in Providence. A commission, appointed to examine the Narragansett Country claims, met at Smith's Castle and Boston, and concluded that the Narragansett Country belonged to Connecticut and the right of the soil belonged to Atherton and his associates.
<i>Lodowick Updike</i>	1692	Richard Smith, Jr. died with no Smith heirs and left the Castle to his nephew, Lodowick Updike, and his wife Abigail Newton Updike. Lodowick was the son of Catharine Smith Updike, who was married to Gysbert Updike. In time, the Updike heirs developed their holdings to a great plantation eventually encompassing 27 square miles (3 miles wide and 9 miles long).
<u>18th CENTURY</u>	1703	A Board of Commissioners of Rhode Island and Connecticut confirmed the 1663 decision favoring Rhode Island's claim to Narragansett Country.
	1709	Lodowick Updike laid out streets, sold lots in the village of Wickford, and named a portion of the village Updike's Newtown. The name of Wickford was later restored.
<i>Daniel Updike</i>	1734	Lodowick Updike died and the Castle was inherited by his son, Daniel Updike, whose principal residence was in Newport. Daniel was one of the founders of the Redwood Library in Newport and was the Attorney General of the colony from 1722 to 1757.
	1740	After inheriting the Castle, Daniel, and his wife, Anstis Jenkins Updike, enlarged and modernized the Castle along the lines of the 18 th century style homes in Newport. They paneled the two front rooms and encased the corner posts and summer beams, put on a new roof, chimney, and fireplaces, and built the staircase as we know it today. Around this time, the Castle was the largest plantation in North Kingstown with 3,000 acres.
<i>Lodowick Updike</i>	1757	Daniel Updike died and his son, Lodowick Updike, inherited the Castle. In his will, he gave land on Church Lane in Wickford to St. Paul's Church. This is the site of the old Narragansett Church, which was built in 1707 on Shermantown Road and moved to its present location in 1800.
	1776	The United States severs ties with England.

Event/Owner	Year	Comments										
19th CENTURY <i>Wilkins Updike</i>	1804	Lodowick Updike died and his youngest son, Wilkins Updike, inherited the Castle. Wilkins wrote the <i>History of the Episcopal Church in Narragansett, Rhode Island</i> . Wilkins Updike was the final Updike to own the Castle. Due to financial difficulties brought on by family obligations and shipping interruptions caused by the war, Wilkins had to sell the Castle. He sold it to the Congdons and moved to Kingston to practice law. His Kingston home still stands.										
<i>Congdons</i>	1813	Wilkins Updike sold the Castle to Benjamin Congdon and the Castle was owned by the Congdon family until 1870. It was probably during this ownership that the Castle lost a lot of its acreage. Lots on both sides of Post Road, at least as far north as Camp Avenue, were sold to various individuals. Updike holdings were broken up into five different plantations: <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>South Farm</td> <td>250 acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cold Spring Farm</td> <td>250 acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td>River Farm</td> <td>200 acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saugo Farm</td> <td>360 acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Homestead Farm</td> <td>395 acres</td> </tr> </table>	South Farm	250 acres	Cold Spring Farm	250 acres	River Farm	200 acres	Saugo Farm	360 acres	Homestead Farm	395 acres
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<i>Thomas Rathbun</i>	1870	The Congdon heirs sold the Castle to Thomas Rathbun.										
<i>A.B. Gardiner</i>	1876	Thomas and Lucy A. Rathbun sold the Castle to Aldredge Bissell Gardiner. Gardiner was the brother of Lucy Rathbun.										
<i>Fannie Chapin</i>	1878	Aldredge B. Gardiner sold the Castle to Fannie V. Chapin, wife of General Walter B. Chapin. The Chapins added a large barn to the property. Smith's Castle was operated as a dairy farm.										
<i>Anna Babbit</i>	1879	The Chapins sold the Castle to Anna A. Babbit, wife of Henry A. Babbit. During this time, the property was known as the Babbit Farm. During the latter part of the 1890s, a dock was built north of the Castle on the west shore of Mill Cove to load granite taken from Devil's Foot Ledge to build the Newport City Hall.										
20th CENTURY <i>Alice Fox</i>	1919	Mrs. Alice Hoppin Fox, wife of Austin G. Fox, inherited the Castle from her mother, Anna Babbit. Alice Fox sold the land west of Post Road to the State of Rhode Island for a State Police Barracks. The Foxes owned a large herd of cows and sold milk and ice cream at the Cocumscussoc Milk Bar built by them on the southwest corner of their property. That property was sold to Howard Johnson's Restaurant and now is the site of the Irish Pub.										
<i>Austin Fox</i>	1933	Austin G. Fox inherited the Castle upon the death of his wife, Alice Fox.										
<i>Fox Heirs</i>	1936	Austin Hoppin Fox and Mrs. Arise Fox Gerster inherited the Castle from their father, Austin G. Fox.										
<i>Vesta Underwear Co.</i>	1936	The heirs of Austin G. Fox went through bankruptcy. The Vesta Underwear Company bid for and obtained the Castle to protect its mortgage. During this ownership, more land was sold, bordered on the south by West Main Street. On this land, the Wickford Housing Development was built by the U.S. Government. Today it is the site of Wilson Park and Intrepid Drive. During World War II, the Vesta Company converted the Castle to an inexpensive boarding house for personnel connected with the Quonset Air										

Event/Owner	Year	Comments
		Station.
<i>John Lawson</i>	1947	John A. Lawson, a land developer, bought the remaining Cocumscussoc property from Vesta Underwear Company.
	1948	The Castle was threatened with either radical change or extinction because of accelerated housing development. Mrs. Norman B. Smith motivated a group of patriotic citizens to form the Cocumscussoc Association to pursue the purchase of Smith's Castle to preserve it for posterity.
<i>Cocumscussoc Association</i>	1949	The Cocumscussoc Association purchased Smith's Castle and two acres from John Lawson. Through a number of purchases through 1966, the Association now owns 24 acres including Queen's Island (AKA Goat Island and Rabbit Island) with 1040 frontage feet on Post Road.
	1997	Extensive renovations were completed through a grant from the Champlin Foundation.

The history of ownership of the Castle is clear and complete, stretching from the period of the Indians' possession to the present. Because of the fullness of the record we can be certain that Smith's Castle is the building erected by Richard Smith, Jr. in the period of 1678-1680.



REMAINING UPDIKE OWNERS OF SMITH'S CASTLE

The heavily colored and outlined boxes indicate owners in each generation.

In 1812 Wilkins Updike sold the Castle to Benjamin & Phoebe Congdon to cover an older brother's debts. According to family tradition, it so upset him that he never again came to Wickford. He built a house (still standing) in Little Rest (South Kingstown). There also is a tradition that the brother was Lodowick, a merchant in NYC and that the traditional name of Lodowick was never again used by future generations of Updikes.

The Congdons owned the property until 1870.

RICHARD SMITH SR. & RICHARD SMITH JR.

Richard Smith, Sr. was born in about 1596 in Thornbury, Gloucestershire, England. Richard, a successful merchant, emigrated from England with his wife and their five children to Plymouth Colony in about 1637. The Smiths had come, along with other members of the congregation of Rev. Francis Doughty seeking a religious freedom they were not granted in England. He is listed among the 46 original purchasers and proprietors of Cohannet (now Taunton), the list also including Francis Doughty and Richard's brother John. Richard became a "most acceptable inhabitant and prime leading man in Taunton. . . ."

Through friendship with Roger Williams he was able to negotiate the purchase of land (The *Opdyck Genealogy* says 30,000 acres) on the west side of Narragansett Bay and erected a trading post at Cocumscussoc not far from that of Williams, though which was constructed first is a matter of dispute. The Smith family, however, continued to live in Taunton; the trading post being operated by regular visits from Mr. Smith. During this period Smith had, as testified by Roger Williams many years later, "broke the ice (at his great charge and hazard) and put up, in the thickest of the barbarians, the first English house amongst them." The new structure was more than a "house for trade" and a lodging for travelers. It was built as a blockhouse, part trading post and part fort, constructed, according to tradition, of timber floated from Taunton, down the river and across the bay. In those a fortified dwelling was sometimes called a *castle*. Consequently, the structure came to be known as "Smith's Castle," a name that even up to the present has been used synonymously with Cocumscussoc, though the building is completely changed in form and function. No visible traces of the blockhouse remain, nor is any architectural plan or design known.

In 1642, after a religious disagreement in Taunton which resulted in the expulsion of their minister Francis Doughty, the Smith family and others moved with him to Dutch territory in present Connecticut. Rev. Doughty and his followers were welcomed and granted land in the newly founded Dutch settlement of Maspeth, Long Island (the western part of the present Borough of Queens). In 1643, hostile natives attacked, destroying their newly built homes and killing, among others, Richard Smith's brother. Soon afterwards the Smith family moved to New Amsterdam, where Richard acquired large land holdings from the Dutch proprietors. Richard and his family spent many years among the Dutch on Manhattan Island, during which time he "held offices of trust." It was in connection with those duties and with his trading activities that he first met and worked with Gysbert Op Dyck (the surname later being Anglicized to Updike).

Gysbert Op Dyck (1605-1668) had come to New Amsterdam in 1635 from Holland as an officer of the West India Company. By the time the Smith family arrived in New Amsterdam, he was already well established in the community. Since 1638, he had served as the West India Company's

Commissary at Fort Good Hope (now the Dutch Point section of Hartford). This fort, manned by a small contingent of soldiers, also served as a trading post, a tangible reminder of waning Dutch trading interests in Connecticut. He, along with his soon-to-be father-in-law Richard Smith Sr., also sat on the New Amsterdam Council and assisted in making Indian treaties.

On September 24, 1643 Gysbert Updike (then 38) married Richard Smith's much younger daughter Katherine (16). The early years of their marriage were probably spent at Fort Hope (Hartford), but eventually the couple set up house on Stone Street within a few hundred yards of the Battery (Manhattan). In the years between 1644 and 1658, they had seven children – five boys and two girls, one of their sons being Lodowick Updike (1646?-1737). On June 10, 1646, Richard Smith Sr. was one of the Baptismal sponsors for his grandson Lodowick.

While living in New Amsterdam, Richard Smith, Sr. and his son, Richard Jr., conducted a trading business among the Dutch, but also maintained the trading post in Rhode Island, traveling frequently to it by his sloop "Welcome." The Updike boys probably occasionally accompanied their grandfather and uncle (Richard Smith Jr.) on these restocking trips.

Mr. Smith's older daughter Joan married Thomas Newton, a widower, in New Amsterdam in 1648. The couple lived first in Connecticut and later in Newton, Long Island. Over the sixteen years of their marriage, they had at least four children, three sons and a daughter Abigail.

In 1651 in order to raise funds for a trip to England to solidify the Rhode Island Charter, Roger Williams sold his Cocumscussoc land and "all his belongings, including two big guns and a small island for goats" to Richard Smith for £51. Having already purchased the property and trading post of Edward Wilcox, this made him the sole owner of the property at Cocumscussoc. While it is known that Roger Williams's trading house which Richard Smith acquired in 1651 was in close proximity to the blockhouse, its precise location has not been determined. In the absence of a title deed, there has been considerable speculation as to whether it was the building enlarged by Smith on the present site, burned by the Indians in 1676, and subsequently rebuilt, or another building nearby. The former has been generally accepted as the plausible view.

After renewed hostilities between the Dutch and the Pequots, Richard Smith, Sr., his son Richard Jr. and his wife Esther, and possibly daughter Elizabeth moved permanently from Manhattan to the house in Cocumscussoc. Some evidence exists that Richard Smith, Sr.'s wife Joan may have died before this time and never actually lived in what came to be known as Smith's Castle, although other sources seem to indicate that she did not die until 1664. Richard urged the young Updike family to make the move as well, but Katherine and Gysbert remained in Manhattan with their growing family. Daughter Joan and her husband Thomas Newton likewise did not move to Cocumscussoc with her father. Both Katherine and Joan died sometime prior to 1666, when they are mentioned in Richard Smith Sr.'s will as "deceased."

It is safe to assume that Smith acquired some of Roger Williams's swine and goats for breeding stock, and possible cattle and sheep from Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay, or other sources, and that within the next decade he had built up substantial herds of some if not all of these animals. It is a matter of record that during the lifetime of Richard Smith, Cocumscussoc was engaged in dairying on a considerable scale.

Two purchases of great tracts of land increased the Smiths' holdings: the Pettaquamscutt Purchase of 1658, a tract about 12 miles square, and a smaller area adjoining it on the north and east known as the Atherton Purchase, acquired in 1659. Together they embraced most of the region commonly called the Narragansett Country, including the whole of the present towns of South Kingstown and Narragansett, and portions of North Kingstown and Exeter. The Smiths' land-holdings came to comprise 27 square miles, an area nine miles long and three miles wide. Although rival claims to the land were disputed between Rhode Island and Connecticut, Smith's Castle was, in effect, during this period, the "unofficial capitol of the Narragansett country."

In 1666 Richard Smith Sr. died at Cocumscussoc. He was buried in the family cemetery just off the Cove within sight of the Castle, his grave marked by a small pointed slate stone bearing the modest inscription "R. Smith 1666." A mural tablet in St. Paul's Church in Wickford, erected in 1903 to the memory of Richard Smith, says: "He led a sober, honourable and religious life," and closes with the words of Roger Williams, "In his owne house with much serenitie of soule and comfort he yielded up his spirit to God (the Father of Spirits) in peace." By his will the property was divided between his surviving son, Richard Smith Jr., his daughter Elizabeth, and the children of his deceased daughters Joan Newton and Katherine Updike.



Richard Smith, Jr. lived at the Cocumscussoc property for another 28 years, during which time it passed through many changes. Following the Dutch surrender to the English in 1664 and Katherine Smith Updike's death around that time, the Updikes joined their Smith kin in Rhode Island, living in the Wickford area. Richard Smith, Jr. and his wife Esther had no children, so it was not unusual that they took in the two eldest Updike boys, Lodowick and Richard, to train them in the management of the property which would eventually be theirs. The area around Cocumscussoc had been designated as a separate district known as King's Province and it wasn't until long afterward that the boundaries were finally settled. The Smiths and Updikes were almost the only residents of the area at the time. Most of the western shore of Narragansett Bay was still occupied by native tribes.

In 1675 the entire white population of all New England was estimated as under 60,000. Mutual suspicion and fear between the settlers and the natives eventually led to the outbreak of hostilities

despite the efforts of Richard Smith, Jr., Roger Williams and Canochet. King Philip (Metacom) and the Wampanoag nation and a coalition of Nipmuck, Pocumtuck and Narragansett tribes fought for 14 months in what came to be called “King Philip’s War” against the colonists and their allies, the Mohegans and the Mohawks. “The war was the single greatest disaster of 17th century New England and, in proportion to population, is considered to be the deadliest war in American history.” (Rebecca Beatrice Brooks, “The History of King Philip’s War”)

Cocumscussoc served as the assembly point for militias from Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth and Connecticut colonies preparatory to the Great Swamp Fight in December 1675. The Smith and Updike families paid dearly for the battle. Richard Updike (Lodowick’s brother), who fought under Major Samuel Appleton, died. In April 1676 the Castle was burned to the ground in retaliation for having allowed its use as a bivouac for the militias. Almost ten years later Richard Smith, Jr. was still petitioning for recompense for damages caused to his property by the foraging of the under-supplied colonial soldiers.

The period after the war was one of rebuilding – of property and of lives. The Castle, reconstructed in the English style in 1678, became the unofficial capitol of King’s Province and a meeting place for the prominent men of the day. After the virtual eradication of the native population in King Philip’s War, Cocumscussoc moved from its role as a trading-house to that of a plantation house. The Smiths and Updikes were able to revive and even expand the traditional spirit of hospitality in the new house. In fact, it was written of Richard Smith, Jr. that “he lived like one of the old Patriarchs; [he] hath his doors open for the reception of all strangers which pass the country.” Meanwhile, Gysbert’s son Lodowick grew as a man of standing, assisting his uncle in the management of the plantation, serving on the most important province committees, and holding positions of Assessor, Grand Juryman, and Deputy to the Rhode Island General Assembly. Sometime between 1687 and 1690, Lodowick married his first cousin Abigail Newton (daughter of Joan Smith Newton). At Richard Smith, Jr.’s death in 1692, the homestead property passed to Lodowick and Abigail. The couple were able to create a large plantation by combining his personal inheritance from Richard Smith, Jr., land which had come to him through his Smith mother, land purchased by his father Gysbert Updike, and land which came to Abigail through her Smith mother. Updike descendants would hold the property for the next 130 years.



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History of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations: Biographical

NY: The American Historical Society, Inc. 1920

p. 135 - 139:

THE UPDIKE FAMILY is one of the most conspicuous and important in Rhode Island history. The American ancestor, Gysbert Opdyck, who came to New Amsterdam prior to 1638, was a son of Lodowigh (Locowick) Op den Dyck, of Wesel, Germany, son of Gysbert op den Dyck, son of Lodowigh, son of Gysbert, son of Johan, son of Johan, son of Deric, son of Henric op den Dyck. The name is found in a great variety of spellings, all different forms of the name, op-de-Dyck, which means at or on the dike.

(I) Gysbert Opdyck, the American ancestor, signed his name, Op d Dyck, in the two autographic signatures which have been handed down, and this form was also used by his father on the baptismal certificate of his son in Wesel. The name became anglicised quickly, and is found in the records under varied form, Updike, Updyke and Opdyke, being the more prevalent forms.

Gysbert Opdyck was baptized in Willibrod's Church, Wesel, Germany, September 25, 1605. The years between his birth and his coming to New Amsterdam were spent in his native city, where he was well educated. He bore the title, Doctor, which in German is a degree of learning, not of medicine. This has led to some confusion as there seems no proof that he was a physician. Wesel Academy was then famous in Europe, and the best influence is that he was graduated from that institution of learning with the doctor's degree. He came to now New York City, prior to 1638, and until the English occupation in 1664 was one of the leading men in New Amsterdam, an officer of the Dutch West India Company, commander of Fort Hope, under repeated appointments, commissary, one of the eight men who signed the great Treaty of Peace, August 30, 1645, between the Dutch and all the River Indians, his father-in-law, Richard Smith, also one of the 'Eight Men'. He was also tithe commissioner, and frequently sat in the Council. He was a friend of Governor Keift, Secretary Van Tienhoven, Fiscal de la Montagne, and Burgomaster Creiger, all of whom stood as sponsors at the baptism of his children. Through all the many difficulties and trying situations through which the early Dutch settlement passed, he bore himself creditably. Gysbert Opdyck maintained a home on Stone Street, New York, and also owned a farm at Hempstead, another at Cow Neck, L. I., and the whole of Coney Island was his property, part of it bearing his name. The present Coney Island was then composed of three islands all owned by him, duly patented by Governor Kieft, and recorded by the secretary as can still be seen on the old

Dutch records in Albany State Library. The easternmost of the three was known as 'Gysbert's Island' for many years, but all were patented to him. Although he had a legal and valid patent to all of Coney Island, he was never able to occupy it without danger from the Indians. Finally he transferred his claim to Duck de Wolff, a wealthy Holland merchant. After the English occupation, nothing is found on the records concerning him. The tradition is doubtless correct that he went with his children to Narragansett, after the death of his father-in-law, Richard Smith, in 1666, to take possession of the lands about Wickford, bequeathed to the children of Gysbert's deceased wife, Catherine. 'Gysbert Op ten Dyck, a bachelor from Wesel, and Catherine Smith, a maiden from England', were married September 24, 1643. She was a daughter of Richard Smith, a man of wealth, character, activity and energy, prominent in Massachusetts, New Amsterdam, and Rhode Island. He was born in Gloucestershire, England, came to New England to attain religious freedom, and was a most acceptable inhabitant and prime leading man in Taunton in the 'Plymouth Colony'. About 1639, he bought from Narragansett Sachems thirty thousand acres on the west side of Narragansett bay, and there erected a trading post located on the 'Pequot Path'. He died at his house at Wickford, R. I., his large land holdings being divided by will between his children and grandchildren. Gysbert Opdyck's eldest son, Lodowick, appears upon Kingstown records at Wickford, R. I., as early as 1668, and others of his children later.

(II) Lodowick Updike, the second son of the Dutch-American ancestor, was baptized in the Dutch Church at New Amsterdam, June 10, 1646. Three years of his infancy were passed at Fort Hope (Hartford, Conn.), as his father was commander there, but his youth, until the age of twenty, was spent in New Amsterdam in his father's house on Stone street, or in the house 'next the City Hall', and on Long Island. Two years after the English occupation he is of record at Wickford, R. I., where his Grandfather Smith's trading house stood, and henceforth Rhode Island was his home, the name becoming as now, Updike, the English clerks so writing in the public records 'to take off the Dutch of it'. His name is of continual mention in Rhode Island and Wickford records which leads to the inference that he was a man of prominence and energy. He held the rank of lieutenant, was assessor, grand jurymen repeatedly, served on important town committees, and as deputy to the General Assembly. He inherited largely from his Grandfather Smith, and doubled his inheritance by his marriage to his cousin, Abigail Newton, daughter of Thomas and Joan (Smith) Newton, who was seventeen years his junior. Lodowick Updike had his children educated at home by a foreign tutor, one of his sons marrying the daughter of a governor of Rhode Island, and becoming one of the most eminent men of the colony. His wife, Abigail, was a convert to the Protestant Episcopal faith, the following item being from St. Paul's Church Register:

'1726, September 11, at night, clinic baptism, was administered by Mr. McSparran to Abigail, wife of Captain Lodowick Updike, it being the sixty-third year of her age.'

Lodowick Updike lived to be ninety years old, seventy years of that period being spent in Rhode Island, in the Narragansett section, which he saw change from a wilderness to a well ordered community. He came when a young man of twenty to 'Cocumscussuc', or Smith Castle, built by his Grandfather Smith, at Wickford, in 1639, and rebuilt in 1680 by Richard Smith, Jr. Later Lodowick Updike became its owner, who in turn passed it to his son, Daniel, he to his son, Lodowick (2), he to his children, the 'Castle'

passing out of the family in 1816. The old historic town yet stands, no other building rivaling it in historic interest. It sheltered many Updikes during the one hundred and eighty years it remained in the family name, and there many distinguished guests were entertained: Roger Williams, Governor John Winthrop, Sir Edward Andros, Edward Randolph, Bishop Beverly, Smibert, the artist, Benjamin Franklin, the Marquis de Lafayette, the Duc de Lauzun, Bishop Seabury, Dr. James McSparran, and many other men of note having partaken of Updike hospitality within the walls of 'Smith Castle'.

(III) Daniel Updike, second son of Lodowick and Catherine (Smith) Updike, was born at Wickford, R. I., in 1694, and died May 15, 1757. He was educated under a private French tutor, who taught him Greek, Latin and French, other tutors teaching the usual studies forming the classical courses. He studied law, opened an office in Newport, and there practiced very successfully. In 1722 he was elected attorney-general of Rhode Island, and annually re-elected until 1732, when he declined further election. Boundary disputes continually arose during his official term, Connecticut and Massachusetts being averse to granting Rhode Island the little she claimed. Mr. Updike represented Rhode Island on the committees appointed, and was of great service to the Colony in presenting Rhode Island cases before the deciding bodies. He was attorney-general until 1740, when a law was passed abolishing the office and creating a similar one of each county. Daniel Updike was appointed attorney-general for Kings county, in 1741, was re-elected to the same office in 1742, the county law was repealed in 1743, and the old law revised under which Mr. Updike was again re-elected attorney-general for the Colony, annually re-elected until his death in 1757, his service to the State having been vital to the very life of the same.

In 1730 the first literary institution in the Colony was formed, in Rhode Island, out of which grew Redwood Library. Mr. Updike was one of the founders, the first signer of its constitution, and a zealous member. He was an intimate friend of the learned Dean Berkeley, and when the Dean returned to England he presented his friend with an elegantly wrought silver coffee pot, and after his arrival sent him his 'Minute Philosopher', which remained in the family as remembrance of the distinguished Divine. His intimacy with Gridley, Colonial attorney for Massachusetts; Shirley, Governor under the Crown, Judge Auchmuty, the elder and Mr. Bolland, often caused him to visit these gentlemen in Boston, and outside of Rhode Island his acquaintance was large. He possessed a fine library of classical and general literature, was highly respected among his professional brethren, and in all literary ⁴⁻¹⁵ associations of his day his name stands at the head. He was a strong advocate for the cause he championed, stood about five feet, ten inches high, with prominent features, and a clear, full musical voice. From the records of St. Paul's Church, this extract is taken:

'Colonel Updike of North Kingston, Attorney-General of the Colony, died on Saturday, the 15th of May, 1757, about noon, and after a funeral discourse was preached by Dr. McSparran, was interred in the burial ground of the family beside the remains of his father and second wife, Anstis Jenkins, mother of Lodowick and Mary Updike, his surviving children.'

This burial ground of the Smith and Updike families was a part of the 'Cocumscussuc', the estate owned by them at Wickford. He had three wives: Sarah Arnold, Anstis Jenkins, and Mary Wanton.

(IV) Lodowick Updike, the first born of Daniel Updike, attorney-general of Rhode Island, and his second wife, Anstis (Jenkins) Updike, was born at Newport, R. I., in 1725, died in 1804. Under the

custom of his day he was educated under private tutors, studied law, but never practiced, devoting all his life to the care of his private estate. He became an eminent citizen of Rhode Island, and while his qualifications were such as fitted him for high position at the bar, in political or military life, he preferred the dignity and scholarly leisure of his private life of a landed gentleman. He owned five farms, 1500 acres, resided in Smith Castle, the Updike Mansion, near Wickford, which descended down to him through his father and grandfather from Richard Smith. To strong intellectual powers he added taste and attainment, entertained with an almost royal hospitality, and the doors of the Smith Castle were never closed to traveler of either low or high degree. In fact, his great delight was the entertaining of his numerous friends. He was a zealous adherent of the Church of England, and to his interest was largely due the erection of an Episcopal church at Wickford. In personal appearance he was tall and fine looking, always wore a wig, and small clothes, and was said to resemble George III, of England. He is interred in the family burial plot at Wickford, as are his wife and children. He married, January 25, 1759, Abigail Gardner, of Boston. They were the parents of eleven children: 1. Daniel, a lawyer and attorney-general of Rhode Island. 2. James, died unmarried. 3. Anstis, married William Lee, and died on her one hundredth birthday; her memory is perpetuated in St. Paul's Church by a beautiful communion table imported from Europe, a century and a half ago. 4. Mary, married Nathaniel Mundy, a merchant of Wickford. 5. Abigail, married Joseph Reynolds, a farmer. 6. Sarah, married David Hagan, a mariner. 7. Lydia, married Frederick Cary, a merchant. 8. Lodowick, a merchant of Rhode Island and New York City. 9. Alfred, a mariner and merchant of Wickford. 10. Gilbert, a mariner of Rhode Island, who later went West. 11. Wilkins, of further mention.

(V) Wilkins Updike, youngest of the eleven children of Lodowick and Abigail (Gardner) Updike, was also almost the last of a generation of true Rhode Island men known as 'old fashioned', 'of the old school', but worthy of respect and imitation in the walks of private and public life. This was the eulogy passed upon 'an old fashioned gentleman, this vigorous and honest legislator, the hospitable and warm hearted citizen' by his colleagues of the Rhode Island General Assembly at his decease. He was born at North Kingstown, R. I., January 8, 1784, died at his home in Kingstown, January 14, 1867. He was educated under private tutors and at Plainfield Academy (Connecticut), pursuing law study under William Hunter and Asher Robbins, of Newport, and Elisha Potter, of Kingstown. He was admitted to the bar in 1808, and soon rose to eminence in his profession. He resided at Tower Hill, also for a few years at the homestead at North Kingstown, now Kingston. He was a law maker as well as a lawyer, and was identified with many legislative reforms, the Married Woman's Act, the system of public schools, and many of the great public enterprises of his time. He was a hard working member of the General Assembly, in debate was most effective, in logic convincing, in ridicule most powerful and in sympathetic appeal could draw the hardest to tears. At his decease the General Assembly passed the following resolutions:

'Resolved, That we desire to inscribe upon the record some memorial of our respect for this old fashioned gentleman, this vigorous and honest legislator, this hospitable and warm-hearted citizen. Resolved, That in the decease of Hon. Wilkins Updike, has passed away from earth almost the last of a generation of true Rhode Island men, worthy of our respect and imitation in the walks of private and public life.'

His pen was equally effective and he contributed to the public press. He wrote 'Memoirs of the Rhode Island Bar', published in 1842, a valuable work preserving much concerning distinguished men of the Rhode Island bar which otherwise would have been forgotten and lost. He also wrote a 'History of the Episcopal Church in Narragansett, Rhode Island', published in 1847, a book now very valuable and rare. He was a valued member of the Rhode Island Historical Society, one of the hardworking members to whom the Society owes its life. Said one of his biographers:

'There is a portrait of Mr. Updike, by Lincoln, excellent both as a picture and as a likeness when he was in the full maturity of his physical and mental powers. It is a radiant face, suggestive of strength and enjoyment. If it were hung in a gallery of portraits of men who have made a mark in the world, it would at once arrest attention and provoke inquiry about the original. As the picture, so the man. In whatever company Mr. Updike was, he was a centre of attraction, not because he asserted himself, but because he was alive in every part of his nature. He enjoyed himself, and so was a source of joy to all around him. He loved to eat and drink and laugh and work. What was worth seeing, he saw. What was worth knowing he knew.'

He had strong convictions, loved to study individual character, was a zealous friend of temperance, a church-man, a nobleman in personal appearance, and in the generous humanity of his nature. Wherever he sat was the head of the table, and he would have entertained royally at his home without any thought of difference in rank. He was beloved of the large family which grew up around him, the idol of his children, and when at a good old age he passed over he was laid at rest by a loving group of relatives and friends.

He married, September 31, 1809, Abby A. Watson, daughter of Walter and Abigail (Hazard) Watson, a lady of remarkable mentality, who preceded her husband in death, her remains being interred in the family burial ground at Wickford. Her portrait was painted in 1817, by Artist Gimbrede, in water colors, but later wax copied in oil. She was greatly beloved and esteemed. Their children were twelve: 1. Thomas Boudoin, a druggist of Pittsburgh, Pa. 2. Mary A., married Samuel Rodman, a manufacturer of Rocky Brook. 3. Isabelle W., married R. R. Randolph, an accountant of Kingstown. 4. Abby A., of further mention. 5. Walter W., a lawyer of Seekonk, Mass. 6. Artis T., of Kingston. 7. Angeline, married John F. Greene, of Brooklyn, N. Y. 8. Elizabeth T., of Kingston. 9. Caesar A., a lawyer of Providence. 10. Caroline, married John Eddy, a lawyer of Providence. 11. Daniel, of Kingston. 12. Alice, of Kingston.

(VI) Abby A., fourth child and third daughter of Wilkins and Abby A. Updike, married, in 1839, Henry A. Hidden, of Providence, who died August 7, 1899. (See Hidden V). They were the parents of three sons: Charles Henry, Wilkins and Walter.

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Gilbert Updike — Slave Trader

“The View from Swamptown” – 6/10/2004 G. Timothy Cranston

<https://www.nklibrary.org/sites/nklibrary.org/files/pdf/5-8part3.pdf>

According to the authority on such things, *Webster's Dictionary*, a "black sheep" is defined as a discreditable member of an otherwise respectable group. This certainly is a fitting description for Gilbert Updike, son of Lodowick Updike of Smith's Castle, Cocumscussoc. Although, he had been born into one of the most prominent and affluent families in the region, Gilbert seemed determined to latch upon a "get rich quick" scheme and ascend to a position of prominence in his own right. Sadly, his questionable financial dealings would, in the end, be the undoing of his family's birthright and the cause of the loss of its ancestral home at Cocumscussoc. For it is a widely held belief by myself and my fellow historians, that Wilkins Updike, Gilbert's younger brother and the then scion of the clan, was required to liquidate most of the Updike family's assets, including the Castle, in order to extricate his wayward sibling from a fiscal disaster.

One of Gilbert's attempts at financial success involved the sordid world of slave trading. Gilbert chartered and financed a slaving expedition on the 100-ton ship *Mary* captained by George Lawton and crewed, in part, out of Wickford. Gilbert, like all the other Rhode Island slave traders, loaded up his ship with Rhode Island rum made and purchased in Newport and Providence, sent it off to the west coast of Africa, where the rum was traded or sold for slaves that would then be loaded on his ship the *Mary*. She would then be sailed to either a Caribbean or southern US port where the slaves would be sold, and molasses purchased with part of the proceeds. The molasses was then brought back to RI where it was made back into rum. This is the basis for the infamous Triangle Trade of which you may or may not have heard. Each leg of the journey brought an opportunity for profit as slaves, rum, and molasses were traded like the commodities they were at that time. Sort of a colonial version of money laundering and commodity trading all rolled up into one painfully human tragedy. A tragedy that Gilbert Updike took a willing part in.

Little is known of Gilbert's life after his brother Wilkins rescued him from his final financial quagmire. As is usually the case with *black sheep*, he seems to have been forgotten by his contemporaries; an entry in the Updike genealogy notes that Gilbert married and settled "out west." You only need to possess a little knowledge to be able to read "between the lines" and imagine the legacy he left behind.

JOHAN (JOAN) BARTON SMITH
(c. 1600 - ?)

For almost all 17th century women, little documentation remains of their lives: just scraps from church and family records and an occasional mention in legal documents. Such is the case with Johan (Joan) Barton Smith, the wife of Richard Smith, Sr.

We know her maiden name, Barton, from her marriage record, assuming that this is the correct Richard Smyth (Smith). Fairly conclusive corroboration comes from the mention of William Barton as the witness for their first child's baptism. Many years later, Joan's son, Richard Jr., wrote a letter to his *uncle*, William Barton who lived in Morton, Gloucestershire, a small town only a mile from Thornbury. From such fragile evidence, we can surmise that Johan was probably the daughter of a family named Barton which lived in Thornbury or nearby. ¹



Thornbury Church, Church of England, Gloucestershire
<http://www.thornburyroots2.co.uk/st-marys-church/>

Within ten years of their marriage, Joan and Richard had completed their family of five children: three daughters and two sons. Remarkably for the times, all of them survived to adulthood. Sometime after Elizabeth's baptism in 1631/2 at the Anglican Thornbury Church, they apparently became disenchanted with the Church of England and joined the congregation of a

controversial minister by the name of Francis Doughty. Daniel Berkeley Updike wrote of him that he was a ". . . somewhat impossible person, who was always getting himself and others into trouble. . . . [although] at first, his influence with Smith [and presumably, Johan as well] was real . . ." ² In 1635, having spoken unwisely about the King as well as questioning established Church practices, it seemed prudent for Rev. Doughty to remove himself from England. Members of his congregation, including the Smith family, emigrated with him.

The family story her descendant Wilkins Updike told of Johann Barton Smith is that "she drew herself up at husband Richard's request to leave a comfortable home and sail at the worst possible season to arrive in America." Her husband's brother John and family also joined them in departing their Gloucestershire homes. The Smiths were among some thirty passengers who left for the New World under the spiritual guidance of Rev. Francis Doughty. We do not know the name of the ship, but from the accounts of others in that time period, we can imagine something of their voyage.

*FROM: PHILLIMORE'S
REGISTER OF
THORNBURY, VOL. XV,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE
SERIES, THORNBURY
CHURCH*

Record of the Marriage of
*Richard Smyth and Johan
Barton 28 May 1621*

BAPTISMAL RECORDS:

- 1623/3 January: Johan
Smyth was baptized.
Witnesses: William
Barton, John Smyth and
Kathryn Smyth*
- 1627 August: Katheryne [sic]
Smith was baptized.
Witnesses: Richard
Dallansay, Thomas
Vidder and Katheryn
Sellman*
- 1629 December: James
Smyth was baptized.*
- 1630 December: Richard
Smyth was baptized.
Witnesses: Guy
Andrews, Lydia Brewton
and Johan Mortimore*
- 1631/2 March 18: Elizabeth
Smith was baptized.*

Joan gathered their five children, ranging in age from seven to fourteen and bundled them aboard ship, likely sharing close quarters with the other passengers and livestock that ranged from chickens and pigs to cows and horses. While the larger livestock would have been secured on deck, the smaller barnyard animals would have been housed below deck in the same areas where the passengers also ate and slept. She would have been able to bring only a few belongings, leaving behind most of her household goods, family treasures and memories. Joan's biggest concern would have been for the health of her family, faced with the 50-60 day journey that a sailing vessel commonly took to arrive in North America absent serious mishaps. Joan would probably have known to purchase lemons before the voyage to ward off scurvy, as well as ginger and mint to alleviate seasickness. She undoubtedly suffered through storms and prayed for fair winds.

When they arrived at the place the Native Americans called Cohannet, probably in late 1638, they likely still had to share cramped living space for several months before their own house could be built. The settlement had been established just a year or so before and had few houses or improved land. In 1640 the town was incorporated as Taunton with Richard and brother John Smith among the 46 "Ancient Purchasers" of the town.

The Rev. Francis Doughty is listed as well, and while Richard Smith became noted as a "most acceptable inhabitant and a prime leading man"³ of the town, the outspoken and uncompromising minister soon brought trouble again upon his congregation through his support of infant baptism. Differences with the local pastor Reverend Hooke resulted in him literally being forcibly removed from the assembly by the constables.

46 Ancient Purchasers of Taunton
(In Alphabetical Order)

1. Henry Andrews.	16. Mr. John Gilbert.	31. Richard Pault.
2. John Briant.	17. Thomas Gilbert.	32. William Phillips.
3. Mr. John Browne.	18. John Gilbert.	33. Mr. William Pole.
4. Richard Bart.	19. John Gingell.	34. The Widow Randall.
5. Edward Case.	20. William Hailstone.	35. John Richmond.
6. Thomas Cooke.	21. George Hall.	36. Hugh Rositor.
7. David Corwithy.	22. William Harvey.	37. William Scadding.
8. William Coy.	23. Hezekiah Hoar.	38. Anthony Slocum.
9. John Crossman.	24. Robert Hobell.	39. Richard Smith.
10. John Deane.	25. William Holloway.	40. John Smith.
11. Walter Deane.	26. John Kingsley.	41. Francis Street.
12. Francis Doughty.	27. John Luther.	42. John Strong.
13. John Doolen.	28. George Macey.	43. Henry Uxley.
14. William Dunn.	29. William Parker.	44. Richard Williams.
15. Mr. Thomas Farwell.	30. John Parker.	45. Benjamin Wilson.
		46. Joseph Wilson.

Plymouth Record of Deeds, Vol. III, p.13 (1638)

In 1642 Doughty and his congregation (about 28 in all) moved again to Dutch Country where they were welcomed by Governor Kieft (Director of New Netherland) and granted 13,332 acres to establish the new settlement of Mespat (Maspeth) on what is now Long Island.⁴ There they hoped to establish a place free from the restraints of Puritanical Plymouth Colony, having been given the ". . . power to erect a church, and to exercise the Reformed Christian religion which they profess."⁵ The Smiths and the others built homes and the settlement prospered for almost a year.

Joan and her family were not given much of a chance to enjoy their good fortune. In 1643, as part of what came to be known as Kieft's War, Mespat was attacked by local native tribes. Several settlers were killed, including John Smith, Richard's brother. Their newly built houses and farms were destroyed. The survivors fled to safety in Nieuw Amsterdam (New Amsterdam), the seat of Dutch colonial government at the southern tip of Manhattan Island. Although the Smiths later returned to Mespat for a time, property conflicts arose with Rev. Doughty, who now seemed to consider himself a patroon. Breaking ties with Doughty, the Smith family moved with their few salvaged possessions to New Amsterdam, where they apparently joined the Dutch Reformed Church.

Joan, by now about 45 years old with her children almost grown, set up another home near what is now 56 Stone Street, so named because it was the first street in the town to be paved with stone. The next year her second daughter (only 16) married Gysbert Updike (38), a business and political associate of Richard. Joan quickly entered the grandmotherly phase of her life, the Updikes having three of their seven children within the next five years.

There is uncertainty as to when Joan died. In 1646 there is a reference to her in the Gloucestershire Probate Records *Abstracts from Wills 1636-1650 for Thornberg and Oldburg on Severn*, which lists “Joan Smith” as a daughter in the will of Eleanor Barton, widow. We know that she was alive when Lodowick Updike, her second grandchild, was born and that Richard stood as his baptismal sponsor on June 10, 1646. We further know that she was alive as late as 1648, since she is mentioned in the New Amsterdam Council minutes of April 3, 1648 as “Ritchert [sic] Smith and his wife”⁶ in the matter of the “indecent and unheard of manner of marrying”⁷ (i.e., without the parents’ consent) of her eldest daughter Joan to Thomas Newton. The matter was resolved and Joan and Thomas were legally married soon afterwards. Probably she did not live to see their children, one of whom (Abigail Newton) eventually married her grandson Lodowick Updike and inherited Smith’s Castle.

In 1651 Richard Smith moved to Cocumscussoc, to the property he had purchased long before from the natives and later increased through purchase of Roger Williams’ property and other land in the area. Over the years he had continued to maintain his trading post there. Perhaps Joan’s death, as well as growing uneasiness about the safety of New Amsterdam, may have precipitated his decision to make yet another move. Richard died at Smith’s Castle in 1666 ; however, Joan is not mentioned in his will. In fact, Joan is not mentioned anywhere after 1648, although some family records suggest she died only two years before her husband. Significantly, Joan is also not a party in real estate transactions which occurred in the late 1650s, although Esther Smith, her son’s wife, does sign them with her husband. Finally, when her son Richard died in 1692, it is recorded that he was buried **next to his father**; there is no mention made of his mother’s grave. It is probable that Joan, although considered the matriarch of Smith’s Castle, never actually lived there and is buried somewhere on the island of Manhattan.

ESTHER SMITH

Excerpts from Chapter about Esther written by Maggie Skenyon
for *The Women of Cocumscussoc*

>Wife of Richard Smith, Jr. Richard, Jr., often referred to her as his cousin.

>Birth date/birthplace unknown

>Most likely close in age to Richard, Jr., who was born circa 1630.

> There is one clue that suggests that Esther came from the same area as the Smith family in Gloucestershire, England. Richard, Jr., sent a letter to his Uncle William Barton who in 1669 still was living in Thornbury, Gloucestershire, in which he sends his “respects to my Aunt Irland” and writes that “we are all in helth, my cousen Ester Smith presents her respects to you **all her friends.**”

>Esther may or may not have been literate; however, she was able to write her name which was evidenced in real estate transactions involving her and her husband.

>Her marriage to Richard, Jr., appears in the **New England Marriage Records Before 1700** as having occurred in 1654 “King’s Towne” (a former name of the Narragansett country, a portion of which eventually became North Kingstown). Again, neither her maiden name nor her birth date is recorded there.

>Two factors further complicate attempts to research events and individuals in colonial America in the 17th century:

- * A transition from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar beginning in 1582 resulted in changes to dates due to the gradual adjustment of days. Since this was initiated by Pope Gregory XIII, there was reluctance on the part of non-Catholic countries in Europe to adapt. For example, Anglican England did not change its calendar format until 1752 yet Catholic Scotland made the adjustment in 1600.

- * Literacy was lacking among many of Europe’s inhabitants and England was no exception. The spelling of names in particular was subject to the phonetic sounds of the dialects used in specific regions of the country.

“Esther” was spelled as “Ester” “Hester” and even “Easter” in the real estate transactions in which she was involved with her husband.

> Esther and Richard, Jr., had no children. This was most likely due to her poor health.

- A number of letters were exchanged between Richard, Jr., and John Winthrop, Jr., Governor of Connecticut and a renowned physician, about her medical condition as well as medications that Winthrop sent to Cocumscussoc for her.
- The description of her symptoms seems to suggest that she had a chronic condition such as rheumatoid arthritis.
- Winthrop’s primary medication he prescribed for her was “rubila,” which, in keeping with his belief in alchemy, consisted of salt peter and antimony and possibly compounded with pain killers.
- Ironically, this medication may have caused her a number of intestinal problems. This is evidenced by the fact that Winthrop died in 1676 yet Esther did not die until around 1692, with no further documentation of Richard, Jr., seeking medical assistance for her. Possibly her intestinal ailments may have subsided as the rubila in her system subsided.

>Esther continued the tradition of cheese making that was started by Richard Smith, Sr.’s wife Johann, and was a common practice among the women in Thornbury, England, from which they had emigrated. She most likely learned that recipe from Johann, even though there is no documentation confirming that Johann actually lived at Cocumscussoc.



Smith’s Castle as it was rebuilt by Richard Smith, Jr. in 1678

>The steps involved in making the cheese required very strenuous work.

- Esther and Richard, Jr., had 8 slaves – a couple, Sarah and Caesar, who had 5 sons as well as a man by the name of Eben Melich.
- While Esther oversaw the cheesemaking, it was most likely the slaves who carried out the production.
- Richard, Jr., and Esther would send John Winthrop, Jr., cheeses as gifts in appreciation for the medications he sent.

>She had an interest in the Quaker religion, and there were at least 2 gatherings at Cocum-scussoc when Quaker leaders stopped there on their way to and from Connecticut. This is mentioned in letters written by Roger Williams to John Winthrop, Jr., in which he expresses his fondness for Esther in spite of her “Quaker leanings.”

>Esther was evacuated along with a number of other women and children on the west bay to Newport in June 1675, when the impending King Philip’s War escalated. She most likely stayed there for several years and did not return to reside at Cocumscussoc until after 1678. Consequently, she was not at the blockhouse during the staging of the Great Swamp Massacre nor when it was burnt down by the Narragansetts the following April.

>Esther and Richard, Jr., were part of a group of landowners in the “Narragansett Country” who assisted a group of Huguenots who fled to Rhode Island from France to avoid persecution in the 1680’s. They developed a bond with one of the leaders of the refugees, Captain Ayrault, and attempted with the other landowners to obtain a tract of land now called Frenchtown Road for them. Unfortunately, the Rhode Island Colonial government nullified that purchase and the Huguenots again scattered to avoid local harassment.

>Esther was listed as well as nephew Lodowick Updike as executors of Richard, Jr.’s will. She died sometime after the filing of that document (March 16, 1691) and before the probating of that will (July 12, 1692), since at that time only Lodowick is listed as executor.

CHEESE MAKING AT COMCUMSCUSSOC

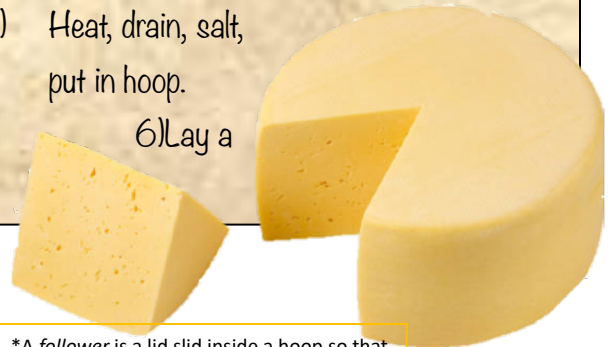
Adapted from "Joan Smith & The Making of Cheese at Cocumscussoc" by Robert A. Geake

Cheese making likely commenced at Cocumscussoc between 1660 and 1666. Richard Smith Jr. and his wife Esther moved permanently to Cocumscussoc in the late 1650's, having stayed in New Amsterdam after his father's move in 1651 as his agent for business there. Thus, it is Esther Smith, Mrs. Richard Smith Jr., who must be credited with making the first cheese at Cocumscussoc, although it is quite possible that she used an old family recipe passed on to her by her mother-in-law. This recipe and the subsequent introduction of large-scale cheese production was to fundamentally change the economy of the region and ultimately contribute to the growth of the Narragansett Plantation system.

What type of cattle were the source of this cheese? According to William Davis Miller, the earliest breed imported into the region was the English Devon, a large, broad-horned species with a thick red coat of hair, reputed to produce greater measures of milk than other cattle. Other sources point to Richard Smith's long association with New Amsterdam and speculate that his cattle were of Dutch stock. North Kingstown historian G. Timothy Cranston suggests that it was a mix of the Dutch and English stock that produced a unique Rhode Island dairy cow, ". . . bred that ensured success in the South County

Mrs. Smith's Recipe for Good Rhode Island Cheese

- 1) Strain milk into tub.
- 2) Stir in cream.
- 3) Add more milk and rennet (calf's stomach)
- 4) Separate curds from whey.
- 5) Heat, drain, salt, put in hoop.
- 6) Lay a



*A *follower* is a lid slid inside a hoop so that you can set the next hoop on top

for traits

environment" that would eventually become the source of *Good Rhode Island Cheese*.

The best cheese was made from *morning milk*, that is, milk taken from the cow in early morning. After it was strained into a clean tub, cream skimmed from the previous night's milk (*evening milk*) was added. Wilkins Updike, a later descendant, credits this extra cream with giving it a unique richness and flavor.



ABIGAIL NEWTON UPDIKE: PLANTATION MATRIARCH & HEALER

(1663?-1745)

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As is the case of most of our colonial forbearers, particularly the women, what we know of their lives must be pieced together from brief mentions in legal documents, family genealogies and, if we are extremely lucky, diary entries or letters. In Abigail's case the fact that she used her "mark" (shown above) to sign a 1687 deed, suggests that she was probably not literate at that time, so what little we are able to know of her comes from what has been written by others. In spite of that, Abigail Newton Updike left her mark on Rhode Island history both in her own right and as the matriarch of an exceptional family.

Abigail Newton and her husband Lodowick Updike were first cousins through their respective mothers. Abigail's mother, Joan Smith (c. 1624-c.1664) and Lodowick's mother, Katherine Smith (c. 1627-c.1664), were both daughters of Johan (Barton) and Richard Smith, Sr. The Smiths with their five children - Joan, Katherine, James, Richard Jr., and Elizabeth - had immigrated from England in the 1630s, living in Taunton while maintaining a trading post at Cocumscussoc. They moved to Dutch country in 1642 and eventually to New Amsterdam, where the family came in contact with a German-Dutch officer of the West India Company named Gysbert Updike.

On September 24, 1643 Gysbert (then 38) married Richard Smith's much younger daughter Katherine (16). In the years between 1644 and 1658, they had seven children - five boys and two girls, one of their sons being Lodowick Updike (1646?-1737), who would eventually become Abigail's husband. The Updike family remained in New Amsterdam after Richard Smith Sr. moved permanent to Cocumscussoc in about 1651. We know that Kathryn Smith Updike died sometime between 1658 and 1666, because she is mentioned as "deceased" in her father's 1666 will. Sometime after her death, probably around 1664 when the English took over New Amsterdam, the Updikes moved near the Smiths at Cocumscussoc. Richard Smith Jr. and his wife were childless so it was not unusual that they took in the two eldest Updike boys, Lodowick and Richard, to train them in the management of the property which would eventually be theirs.

Katherine's older sister Joan had also married and lived in New Amsterdam. She married Thomas Newton, a widower from Connecticut in 1648. They had four children, three sons and a daughter - our Abigail - born in late 1663 or early 1664. Joan died, possibly of childbirth related problems, shortly after Abigail's birth. Thomas Newton removed the family to Barbados where they lived until his death in 1678. Abigail and her brothers returned to the colonies. Abigail, just a teenager, lived with her Aunt Elizabeth

Smith Viall's family in Boston for several years. At some point, she also lived at Smith Castle with her Uncle Richard Smith Jr., possibly to help care for her sickly aunt Esther. We know that she was there in 1687 because she made her mark on that land deed. Sometime after 1687 and before 1690, she and her considerably older cousin Lodowick married. In 1692 Richard Smith Jr. died and the property passed to Lodowick and Abigail.

Abigail's first years as mistress of Smith's Castle were taken up with a rapidly growing family. Exact birth records were not kept, but we know that their son Richard was the eldest, probably born in 1691. He was followed by a sister (Esther) and then Daniel Updike, born in 1693. Four more sisters followed, whose birth years and order have not been firmly established: Catherine, Abigail, Sarah (probably 1700) and Martha. It was no small accomplishment for her to have given birth to seven children, all of whom survived to adulthood.

Abigail was known for her considerable medical skills, treating natives as well as the plantation slaves and her own family. The fact that she was recorded as treated natives is significant, in that at that time “. . . the country was unsettled, and the Indians were so dreaded that every stray savage was shot on sight like a wild beast.”

She would have raised medicinal herbs in her garden, but probably also gathered wild plants when they were needed. Not having had the guidance of a mother in her formative years, one has to wonder where she acquired such skills. She had also grown up in Barbados where the herbs would have been much different from those of New England. She may have supplemented local herbal remedies with more exotic substances brought in trade from the West Indies: aloes, cerasee (used to treat parasitic worms and for liver problems), and blue vervain (used for respiratory tract problems and angina).

Early English settlers had introduced plants such as mullein, plantain, and basil from the mother country, but the indigenous people had taught them the use of bee balm and Joe Pye Weed. The settlers were so impressed with the properties of the latter to treat stings and as a tea, that they sent seeds back to their relatives in England. Joe Pye Weed was named after a Native American who saved the life of a New Englander by breaking his fever with the herb. It was used for kidney stones, gout, rheumatism, and a variety of other ailments. There was a wide variety of herbal remedies available to Abigail, but it was her knowledge and skill in using them effectively that was a boon to those she helped.

Abigail Newton Updike's greatest legacy was her family and descendants. Most notable of her children were Daniel and Sarah. Daniel was the Attorney General of the Rhode Island colony from 1722 to 1732, and again from 1743 to 1757. He was active in Rhode Island politics throughout his life and even ran unsuccessfully for governor against William Wanton. Abigail's daughter Sarah Updike Goddard was an amazing woman who took over the publishing of the *Providence Gazette and Country Journal*, the first newspaper in Providence, from her son. She also successfully ran his printing shop, paper

mill, and bookstore with her daughter Mary Katherine. Her family formed one of the earliest influential publishing dynasties in the American colonies. Undoubtedly thousands of Abigail's descendants excel today in their own fields, thanks to the Updike matriarch, Abigail Newton Updike.

A FEW COLONIAL & WORLD EVENTS DURING ABIGAIL NEWTON UPDIKE'S LIFETIME (1663?-1745)

1663 [Abigail is born, probably late in the year]

- Charles II is the King of England.
- Louis XIV is the King of France and is building Versailles. July 8 – King Charles II grants John Clarke a Royal Charter, for the American Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.
- Aurangzeb, having defeated and executed Dara in 1659, rules the Moghul Empire in India.
- The English Parliament passes the second Navigation Act, requiring that all goods bound for the American colonies have to be sent in English ships from English ports.
- Publication at Cambridge in the Massachusetts Bay Colony of the "Eliot Indian Bible," a translation from English into the Massachusetts Language.

1664 [Abigail's mother dies; family moves to Barbados]

- Isaac Newton is experimenting with gravity.
- The English seize New Amsterdam from the Dutch and it is renamed New York.

1665

- The Great Plague in London kills 75,000. This was last major epidemic of the bubonic plague. Cambridge University is forced to close, and Isaac Newton flees to Lincolnshire, where over the next 2 years he makes ground-breaking discoveries.
- The Second Anglo-Dutch War begins; will last until 1667.
- Charles II a/k/a "The Bewitched (only 3 years old) becomes king of Spain; he is the last Hapsburg ruler of the Spanish Empire.
- New Haven (previously a colony) is annexed by Connecticut.

1666

- Molière's comedy *The Misanthrope* is premièred at the Théâtre du Palais-Royal in Paris, by the King's Players.
- Four Days' Battle: The Dutch Republic fleet under Michiel de Ruyter defeats that of the Kingdom of England in the North Sea, in one of the longest naval engagements in history.
- Great Fire of London – Destroys more than 13,000 buildings including Old St. Paul's Cathedral; at least 80,000 were left homeless and destitute, although only 8 died in the fire itself. Samuel Pepys diary describes it.
- Dutch artist Johannes Vermeer paints *The Art of Painting*, his largest and most complex work.

1667

- End of Russo-Polish War (1654-1677)
- Dubrovnik earthquake (Croatia) kills one-fifth of population
- The first human blood transfusion is administered by Dr. Jean-Baptiste Denys. He transfuses the blood of a sheep to a 15-year-old boy (though this operation is a success, the patient later dies from the procedure and Denys is accused of murder).
- First edition of John Milton's *Paradise Lost* is published.
- War of Devolution begins. France occupies large parts of the Spanish Netherlands, and Franche-Comté, both then provinces of Spain.
- The "Dreadful Hurricane of 1667" ravages southeast Virginia, bringing 12 days of rain, blowing down plantation homes and stripping fields of crops.

1668

- Massachusetts annexes Maine.
- Brooklyn is chartered under the name Brueckelen by Mathias Nicolls, Governor of New Netherland.
- The British East India Company takes over Bombay under a Royal Charter.
- Isaac Newton builds the first reflecting telescope.

1669

- Mount Etna erupts.
- The Hanseatic League (after 400 years of operation) holds its last official meeting.
- Shakushain's Revolt breaks out in Hokkaido, Japan.
- Famine in Bengal kills 3 million people.
- Phosphorus is discovered by Hennig Brand.
- Antonio Stradivari makes his first violin.

4-18F

1670

- The Hudson's Bay Company is founded in England to operate in Canada.
- Charles II of England and Louis XIV of France sign the Secret Treaty of Dover, ending hostilities between their kingdoms.
- Charleston, SC was founded as Charles Town, honoring King Charles II of England at Albemarle Point (this site was later abandoned for its present site).

1671

- Pirate Henry Morgan lands at the gates of Panama City.
- The first Seventh Day Baptist church is founded in Newport.
- French explorer Simon François d'Aumont claims the interior of North America for King Louis XIV, as an extension of New France.

1672

- First copyright law is passed in the colonies by Massachusetts.
- The Royal Africa Company is given a monopoly for the English slave trade.
- Third Anglo-Dutch War (1672-1674): The Kingdom of England declares war on the Dutch Republic; later France also does so.
- Spain begins construction on the masonry fort that will become Castillo de San Marcos, designed to protect St. Augustine, Florida.

1673

- Test Act: Roman Catholics and others who refuse to receive the sacrament of the Church of England cannot vote, hold public office, preach, teach, attend the universities or assemble for meetings in England.
- French explorers Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet reach the headwaters of the Mississippi River, and descend to Arkansas.
- A Dutch battle fleet of 23 ships demands the surrender of New York.

1674

- The French army under Louis II de Bourbon, Prince de Condé defeats the Dutch–Spanish–Austrian army under William III of Orange in the Battle of Seneffe.
- the Dutch Republic cedes its colony of New Netherland to England. This includes the colonial capital, New Orange, which is returned to its English name of New York.
- The Dutch West India Company is dissolved.

1675

- King Philip's War begins in the northern colonies; there are scattered raids and battles over the next 18 months.
- Antonie van Leeuwenhoek begins to use a microscope for observing human tissues and liquids.

1676

- Feodor III becomes Tsar of Russia.
- Bacon's Rebellion against the rule of Royal Governor William Berkeley in Virginia Colony. Jamestown is ultimately burned to the ground.
- The Irish Donation of 1676 shipped to Boston for the relief of Boston.

1677

- The first medical publication (a pamphlet on smallpox) is published in America (Boston).

- The Treaty of Middle Plantation establishes peace between Virginia colonists and the loyal natives.
- The future Mary II marries William of Orange.
- Ice cream becomes popular in Paris.

1678 [Abigail's father dies]

- The first fire engine in what was to become the US goes into service.
- The first part of John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* is published in London
- Robert LaSalle builds the Le Griffon, the first known ship built on the Great Lakes.
- About 1,200 Irish families sail from Barbados, to Virginia and the Carolinas.
- The first chrysanthemums are planted in Europe.

1679 [Abigail and brothers return to Colonies; she lives with Aunt Elizabeth in Boston]

- Charles II dissolves the "Cavalier Parliament (1661-1679)."
- Scottish Covenanters defeat a small government force in the Battle of Drumclog; Covenanters later subdued at Battle of Bothwell Bridge.
- New Hampshire becomes a county of Massachusetts Bay Colony.

1680

- The first documented tornado in America kills a servant at Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- Pueblo Indians capture Santa Fe (New Mexico) from the Spanish.
- The Great Comet of 1680 is sighted.
- Johann Pachelbel writes his Canon in D Major.

1681

- Charles II of England grants a land charter to William Penn, for the area that will later become Pennsylvania.
- A London woman is publicly flogged, for the crime of "involving herself in politics."
- Havertown and Bryn Mawr are founded in Pennsylvania by Welsh Quakers.
- The bell Emmanuel in Notre-Dame de Paris is recast.

1682

- Robert La Salle, exploring rivers in America, reaches the mouth of the Mississippi River, claiming the territory as La Louisiane for France.
- Louis XIV of France moves his court to Versailles.
- The reign of Peter the Great officially begins in Russia.
- August 12 – Vesuvius begins a period of volcanic activity lasting for 10 days.
- Following the Bideford witch trial, three women become the last known to be hanged for witchcraft in England.
- A comet is observed, which later becomes known as Comet Halley, after Edmond Halley successfully predicts that it would return in 1758
- The city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania is founded by William Penn.
- The Richard Wall House, believed to be the longest continuously inhabited residence in the US, is built in Pennsylvania.

1683 [Abigail is possibly at Smith's Castle, helping to care for ailing Aunt Esther]

- Battle of Vienna considered to be the turning point of the Ottoman Empire's fortunes.
- Germantown, PA is established as the first German settlement in North America.
- The English crown colony of New York is subdivided into 12 counties.

1684

- The British East India Company receives Chinese permission to build a trading station at Canton. Tea sells in Europe for less than a shilling a pound, but the import duty of 5 shillings makes it too expensive for most English people to afford; hence smuggled tea is drunk much more than legally imported tea.
- John Bunyan publishes the second part of *The Pilgrim's Progress* in England.

1685

- Catholic James Stuart, Duke of York, becomes King James II of England and Ireland, and King James VII of Scotland.
- LaSalle, intending to establish a colony near the mouth of the Mississippi River, lands with 200 colonists on the Texas coast, believing the Mississippi near. He establishes Fort St. Louis.
- The Killing Time: Five Covenanters in Wigtown, Scotland, are executed for refusing to swear an oath declaring King James as head of the church, becoming the Wigtown martyrs.
- Monmouth Rebellion: James Scott, 1st Duke of Monmouth, lands at Lyme Regis with an invasion force brought from the Netherlands, to challenge his uncle, James II, for the Crown of England; they are defeated, and he is executed.
- The first organized street lighting is introduced in London, England, with oil lamps to be lit outside every tenth house on moonless winter nights.

1686

- Sweden is confirmed as a Lutheran state. Non-Lutherans are banned from immigration unless they convert.
- A hurricane saves Charleston, SC from attack by Spanish vessels.
- Joseph Dudley formally begins tenure as President of the Council of the newly formed Dominion of New England.
- The Grand Alliance (League of Augsburg) is founded; it comprises the Holy Roman Empire, the Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, the electors of Bavaria, Saxony and the Electorate of the Palatinade.
- New York City and Albany, NY are granted city charters by the colonial governor.

1687 [Abigail is at Smith's Castle; witnesses a land deed]

- La Salle is murdered in a mutiny while searching for the mouth of the Mississippi.
- Emperor Higashiyama succeeds Emperor Reigen, on the throne of Japan.
- The publication of *Principia Mathematica* ushers in a tidal wave of changes in thought and the birth of modern physics.
- Suleiman II becomes Ottoman Emperor.

1688 [Sometime in years between 1687-1690, she married her first cousin Lodowick Updike]

- The Germantown Quaker Protest Against Slavery is drafted by four Germantown Quakers.
- Friedrich Wilhelm becomes the first King of Prussia.
- The Nine Years War begins; conflict between France and League of Augsburg. Some consider it the first global war, since it spilled over to American colonies where there were battles between French and British colonies and their respective indigenous allies.
- King James II flees to France.
- William of Orange enters London.
- Edward Lloyd opens the London coffeehouse that becomes a popular meeting place and eventually Lloyd's of London.

1689

- William III and Mary II are proclaimed co-rulers of England, Scotland and Ireland, although Ireland does not recognize them, Williamite War in Ireland starts.
- Boston Revolt: Unpopular British governor Edmund Andros and other officials overthrown
- Bill of Rights establishes constitutional monarchy in England. Conclusion of the Glorious Revolution.
- First Jacobite rising; Battle of Killiecrankie.
- Peter the Great starts construction of the Great Siberian Railroad to China.
- British East India Company establishes administrative districts in Bengal, Madras, and Bombay; this begins the company's long rule in India.

1690

- The clarinet is said to have been invented in Nuremberg, Germany.
- Massachusetts Bay Colony issues the first paper money in North America.

- Battle of the Boyne: King William III of England (William of Orange) defeats the deposed James II, who returns to exile in France. The rebellion in Ireland continues for a further year until the Orange army gains full control.
- Sutanuti (which later becomes Calcutta) is founded on the Hooghly River by the English East India Company.
- The only issue of *Publick Occurrences* (the first multi-page newspaper in the Americas) is published in Boston, Massachusetts, before being suppressed by the colonial authorities.
- Massachusetts Puritans, led by Sir William Phips, besiege the city of Quebec; the siege ends in failure.
- The planet Uranus is first sighted and recorded, by John Flamsteed.

1691 [Abigail's first child, Richard, born]

- Leisler's Rebellion: A new governor arrives in New York – Jacob Leisler surrenders, after a standoff of several hours; he is later hanged for treason.
- Ahmed II succeeds Suleiman as Ottoman Emperor.
- The Treaty of Limerick ends Williamite Wars.
- The colonies of Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth are united into a single entity by an act of the King and Queen of England.'

1692 [Abigail's Aunt Esther and her husband Richard Smith, Jr. die; Abigail & Lodowick inherit Cocumscussoc; daughter Esther born]

- Massacre of Glencoe; the forces of Robert Campbell slaughter around 40 members of the Clan MacDonald of Glencoe in Scotland for delaying to sign an oath of allegiance to King William.
- Salem Witch Trials begin in March with the charging of three women. By end of the year, more than 14 women and 5 men are hanged, and Giles Corey is pressed to death.
- Jamaica Earthquake destroys capital, Port Royal, killing and injuring thousands.
- Famine in Mexico City.
- In Barbados a slave revolt is crushed.

1693 [Abigail's son Daniel born]

- Sicily earthquake and eruption of Mt. Etna
- College of William and Mary in Williamsburg is granted royal charter.
- Mennonite Amish sect is formed after religious schism in Switzerland.
- John Locke publishes his influential book *Some Thoughts Concerning Education*.

1694

- The Bank of England is founded through Royal charter.
- Queen Mary II of England dies of smallpox aged 32, leaving her husband King William III to rule alone but without an heir.
- The notorious voyage of the English slave ship *Hannibal* (part of the Atlantic slave trade out of Benin) ends with the death of nearly half of the 692 slaves aboard.
- Voltaire, French philosopher, is born.

1695 [Abigail's daughter Catherine born?]

- Mustafa II (1695–1703) succeeds Ahmed II, as Ottoman Emperor.
- The Wren Building is started in Williamsburg, Virginia (completed in 1700).
- A window tax is imposed in England.[2] Some windows are bricked up to avoid it.
- After 23 years of construction, Spain completes Castillo de San Marcos, to protect St. Augustine, Florida, from foreign threats.
- The Great Famine of 1695–1697 begins in Swedish Estonia, and spreads across Finland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden.

1696

- The Great Famine of 1695–1697 begins in Swedish Estonia, and spreads across Finland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden.

- Connecticut Route 108, one of Connecticut's oldest highways is laid-out to Trumbull.
- The Inquisition burns a number of Marrano Jews in Évora, Portugal.

1697 [Abigail's daughter Abigail born?]

- French writer Charles Perrault publishes *Histoires ou contes du temps passé* ("Mother Goose tales") in Paris, a collection of popular fairy tales, including Cinderella, Puss in Boots, Red Riding Hood, The Sleeping Beauty and Bluebeard.
- The Spanish conquest of Petén, and of Yucatán, is completed with the fall of Nojpetén, capital of the Itza Maya Kingdom, the last independent Maya state.
- The earliest known first-class cricket match takes place in Sussex, England.
- The 6th Dalai Lama is installed.
- St. Paul's Cathedral is opened in London.
- The Manchus of the Qing Dynasty conquer Outer Mongolia.
- English artist, William Hogarth, is born.

1698 The Abenaki tribe and the Massachusetts colonists sign a treaty, ending the conflict in New England.

- English engineer Thomas Savery obtains a patent for a steam pump.
- Bucharest becomes the capital of Wallachia (part of modern-day Romania).
- The Whigs sponsor Captain Kidd of New York as a privateer against French shipping.

1699

- Pirate Captain Kidd is arrested and imprisoned in Boston.
- Treaty of Karlowitz with the Ottoman Empire is signed, marking an end to the major phase of the Ottoman–Habsburg wars.
- Billingsgate Fish Market in London is sanctioned as a permanent institution, by an Act of Parliament.

1700 [Abigail's daughter Sarah born]

- Protestant Western Europe, except England, starts using the Gregorian calendar.
- Cascadia Earthquake, magnitude of 8.7-9.2; involves the Juan de Fuca Plate from mid-Vancouver Island, south along the Pacific Northwest coast as far as northern California. It causes a tsunami which hit Japan 10 hours later.
- The Treaty of London is signed between France, England and Holland.
- In Rhode Island, Walter Clarke, three term former Governor of the Colony, is elected deputy governor for the second time, serving under his brother-in-law Samuel Cranston.
- John Dryden's death.
- William Penn begins monthly meetings for blacks, advocating emancipation.
- Massachusetts and New York pass laws ordering all Roman Catholic priests to leave their colonies, under penalty of imprisonment or death.
- Charles II, the last Spanish Hapsburg king, dies insane and childless; Louis XIV claims throne on behalf of his grandson, who becomes Philip V of Spain, triggering the War of the Spanish Succession (1701-1714).
- Mission San Xavier is founded near modern day Tucson by Spanish missionaries.
- An English translation of *Don Quixote* is published in London.
- Lions become extinct in Libya.

1701 [Breeding of Narragansett Pacers began in this decade]

- The electorate of Brandenburg-Prussia becomes the Kingdom of Prussia with Berlin as the capital.
- Captain Kidd is hanged in London.
- The Act of Settlement 1701 is passed by the Parliament of England, to exclude the Catholic Stuarts from the British monarchy. Under its terms, King William III, childless, will be succeeded by Queen Mary II's sister Princess Anne and her descendants. If Anne should have no descendants, she will be succeeded by Sophia of Hanover and her descendants (hence the Hanoverian Succession in 1714).
- Fort Ponchartrain is founded as a French trading post (later to become Detroit).

- Deposed King James II of England (James VII of Scotland) dies in exile. His supporters, the Jacobites, turn to his son James Francis Edward Stuart.
- The Collegiate School of Connecticut (later renamed Yale University) is chartered in Old Saybrook, Connecticut.

1702

- In North America, French ships arrive at Twenty-Seven Mile Bluff, to build Fort Louis de la Mobile (future Mobile, Alabama), to become the capital of French Louisiana.
- William III of England dies of complications following a fall from his horse; his sister-in-law, Princess Anne Stuart, becomes Queen Anne of England, Scotland and Ireland. Although Anne was the mother of 17 children, none survive childhood, enabling the Hanoverian Succession.
- The first regular English-language national newspaper, *The Daily Courant*, is published on Fleet Street in London.
- Queen Anne's War (1702-1713), the second in a series of French and Indian Wars, starts with English forces 2-month siege and plunder of St. Augustine, Spanish Florida.
- Delaware is designated as a separate North American colony.
- The Man in the Iron Mask dies in the Bastille, in France.
- Between 1702 and 1703, an epidemic of smallpox breaks out in Quebec, in which 2,000-3,000 people die (300-400 in Quebec City).

1703 [Abigail's daughter Martha born?]

- The Jamaican town of Port Royal, a center of trade in the Western Hemisphere and, at the time, the largest city in the Caribbean, is destroyed by a fire.
- A series of three major earthquakes occur in Italy.
- Soldiers at Fort Louis de la Mobile celebrate Mardi Gras in Mobile, starting the tradition for Mobile, Alabama.
- The city of St. Petersburg, Russia, is founded.
- The completed Icelandic census of 1703 is presented in the Althing, the first complete census of any country.
- Daniel Defoe is placed in a pillory, then imprisoned for four months for the crime of seditious libel after publishing his satirical political pamphlet *The Shortest Way with the Dissenters*.

1704

- Apalachee Massacre: English colonists from the Province of Carolina, and their native allies, stage a series of brutal raids against the largely peaceful Apalachee, in Spanish Florida.
- Raid on Deerfield (Queen Anne's War): French Canadians and Native Americans sack Deerfield, MA, killing over 50 English colonists.
- The first regular newspaper in the Thirteen Colonies of British North America, *The Boston News-Letter*, is published.
- Thomas Darley purchases the bay Arabian horse *Darley Arabian* in Aleppo, Syria, and ships him to stud in England, where he becomes the most important foundation sire of all modern thoroughbred racing bloodstock.

1705

- In Williamsburg, capital of the Colony of Virginia in America, construction of the Capitol Building is completed.
- The Province of Carolina incorporates the town of Bath, making it the first incorporated town in present-day North Carolina.
- Joseph I, Holy Roman Emperor succeeds his father Leopold I.

1706 [Old Narragansett Church – St. Paul's built]

- The Treaty of Union between Scotland and England is agreed upon in London, for ratification by the national legislatures.

- *Twinings* founder, Thomas Twining, opens the first known tearoom at 216 Strand, London, still open as of 2020.

1707 [Lodowick platted Wickford]

- The new sovereign state of Great Britain comes into being, as a result of the Acts of Union, which combine the Kingdoms of Scotland and England into a single united kingdom of Great Britain.
- Volcanic eruption in the Santorini caldera begins in May.
- The Hōei earthquake (the most powerful in Japan until 2011) strikes, with an estimated local magnitude of 8.6.
- The last recorded eruption of Mt. Fuji begins.
- Charles XII of Sweden launches his campaign to conquer Russia.
- James Francis Edward Stuart, Jacobite pretender to the throne of Great Britain, unsuccessfully tries to land from a French fleet, in the Firth of Forth in Scotland.
- Easter Sunday: first performance of George Frideric Handel's *Oratorio La Resurrezione* takes place in Rome.
- Johann Sebastian Bach is appointed chamber musician and organist at the court in Weimar.
- Calcereous hard-paste porcelain is produced in Europe for the first time in Dresden, Saxony in imitation of centuries-old Chinese porcelain ware.

1709

- The French capture St. John's, the capital of the British colony of Newfoundland.
- Western Europe's Great Frost of 1709, the coldest period in 500 years, begins in January and lasts three months, with its effects felt for the entire year.
- Abraham Darby successfully produces cast iron using coke fuel at his Coalbrookdale blast furnace in Shropshire, England.
- During his first voyage, Captain Woodes Rogers encounters marooned privateer Alexander Selkirk, and rescues him after four years living on one of the Juan Fernández Islands, inspiring Daniel Defoe's novel *Robinson Crusoe*.
- In the Ukraine, Peter the Great, Tsar of Russia, defeats Charles XII of Sweden, thus effectively ending Sweden's role as a major power in Europe.
- The hot air balloon of Bartolomeu de Gusmão flies in Portugal.
- The city of Chihuahua, Mexico is founded.
- From London, ten ships leave for the New York Colony carrying over 4,000 people.
- The first modern edition of William Shakespeare's plays is published in London, edited by Nicholas Rowe.
- The first piano is exhibited in Florence by its inventor Bartolomeo di Francesco Cristofori (1655-1731), who named it "gravicembalo col piano e forte", a name which was subsequently shortened to "pianoforte" and then "piano".

1710

- Queen Anne meets the Four Mohawk Kings
- The Tuscarora nation sends a petition to the Province of Pennsylvania, protesting the seizure of their lands and enslavement of their people, by citizens of the Province of Carolina.
- After the Siege of Port Royal, the French surrender, giving the British permanent possession of Nova Scotia.
- Juan Arias Diaz becomes the first non-Incan visitor to Choquequirao, an Inca site in Peru.
- John Smithwick begins brewing Smithwick's ale at Kilkenny, Ireland (St. Francis Abbey Brewery).
- Beijing becomes the largest city of the world, taking the lead from Istanbul.
- Jacob Christoph Le Blon, working in Amsterdam, invents a three-color printing process with red, blue, and

1711

- Cary's Rebellion: The Lords Proprietor appoint Edward Hyde to replace Thomas Cary, as the governor of the North Carolina portion of the Province of Carolina. Hyde's policies are deemed hostile to Quaker interests,

leading former governor Cary and his Quaker allies to take up arms against the province. Cary's followers are ultimately defeated, and he is taken as prisoner to England.

- Joseph I, Holy Roman Emperor dies, opening the way for the succession of his brother Charles VI. This complicates the ongoing War of the Spanish Succession as Charles is one of the two candidates for the Spanish throne, backed by the Grand Alliance.
- Alexander Pope publishes the poem *An Essay on Criticism* in London.
- The first horse race is held at the newly founded Ascot Racecourse, which was to become one of the leading racecourses in the United Kingdom.
- The Tuscarora War (1711-1715) begins, when Tuscarora natives under the command of Chief Hancock raid settlements along the south bank of the Pamlico River, within the Province of Carolina (modern-day North Carolina), killing around 130 people.
- Wall Street in New York City becomes the city's first official slave market for the sale and rental of enslaved Africans and Indians.
- The rebuilding of St Paul's Cathedral in London to a design by Sir Christopher Wren is declared complete; the old cathedral had been destroyed by the 1666 Great Fire of London.

1712

- Anne, Queen of Great Britain administers the Royal touch (a ritual with the intent to cure illness) for the last time; 300 scrofulous people are touched, the last of whom is Samuel Johnson.
- New York City's Slave Insurrection results in nine whites being killed, and 21 slaves and other blacks being convicted and executed.
- The Stamp Act of 1712 is passed in the United Kingdom, imposing a tax on publishers, particularly of newspapers.
- The Bandbox Plot aims to kill British Lord Treasurer Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford but is foiled by Jonathan Swift (author of "Gulliver's Travels").
- The first known working Newcomen steam engine is built by Thomas Newcomen with John Calley, to pump water out of mines in the Black Country of England, the first device to make practical use of the power of steam to produce mechanical work.

1713

- Frederick William I of Prussia begins his reign.
- French residents of Arcadia given one year to declare allegiance to Great Britain or leave Nova Scotia.
- Treaty of Portsmouth ends Queen Anne's War.

1714 [Son, Daniel, admitted to Bar]

- Queen Anne dies; George of Hanover becomes King George I.
- War of Spanish Succession ends with siege of Barcelona.

1715

- Tuscarora War ends; Tuscaroras move to a reservation near Lake Mattamuskeet and large numbers later move to New York.
- Fall of Nauplion seals fate of Peloponnese Peninsula, which is retaken by Ottomans.
- First major Jacobite uprising in Scotland against King George. Battles continue throughout year.
- King Louis XIV dies, great grand-son Louis XV succeeds him. King Louis XIV becomes the longest-reigning monarch in the world (72 years, 110 days); as of 2020, the record still holds.
- Coffee is first grown in the French colony of Saint-Domingue.
- Around this year, a breech loading firearm is made for Philip V of Spain.

1716 [Son Daniel marries Sarah Arnold]

- James Edward Stuart flees from Scotland back to France with a handful of supporters, following the failure of the Jacobite rising of 1715. Jacobite leaders James Radclyffe, 3rd Earl of Derwentwater and William Gordon, 6th Viscount of Kenmure are executed in London.[2]

- English pirate Edward Teach (Blackbeard) is given command of a sloop in the Bahamas.
- Natchez, one of the oldest towns on the Mississippi River, is founded.

1717

- Great Britain, France and the Dutch Republic sign the Triple Alliance.
- In late February into March what is now the northeastern United States is paralyzed by a series of blizzards, that bury the region.
- Dancer John Weaver performs in the first ballet in Britain, shown at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

1718 [Daughter-in-law Sarah dies in childbirth with infant daughter]

- France declares war on Spain, leading to the 2-year War of the Quadruple Alliance.
- The settlement of New Orleans is founded in New France.
- Virginia Governor Alexander Spotswood sends a Royal Navy contingent to North Carolina, where they battle Blackbeard and his crew in Ocracoke Inlet. Blackbeard is killed in action, after receiving five musket ball wounds and twenty sword lacerations.
- The white potato reaches New England from England.

1719

- The Principality of Liechtenstein is created, within the Holy Roman Empire.
- Daniel Defoe publishes Robinson Crusoe.
- Andrew Bradford publishes the American Weekly Mercury, Pennsylvania's first newspaper.

1720

- The Treaty of The Hague is signed between Spain, Britain, France, Austria and the Dutch Republic, ending the War of the Quadruple Alliance.
- The Kangxi Emperor announces that all western businessmen in China can trade only in Guangzhou.
- The first yacht club in the world, the Royal Cork Yacht Club, is founded in Ireland.

1721 [Rev. James McSparran becomes rector to St. Paul's]

- Johann Sebastian Bach's Brandenburg concertos are completed.
- Pirates John Taylor and Olivier Levasseur capture a 700-ton Portuguese galleon. The total value of treasure on board is estimated as between £100,000 and £875,000, one of the largest pirate hauls ever.
- Peter I, is proclaimed the first Emperor of All the Russians, replacing the 176 year-long czardom.
- Regular mail service between London and New England is established.

1722 [Daniel marries Anstis Jenkins; Daniel first elected Attorney General]

- *Moll Flanders* is published.
- On Easter Sunday, Dutch admiral Jacob Roggeveen lands on what is now Easter Island.
- The first *Silence Dogood* letter is printed, written by Benjamin Franklin.
- Father Rale's War (1722–25) between the Wabanaki Confederacy and New England begins along the Maine and Massachusetts border. Father Rale was a Jesuit who lived among the Kennebe tribe.
- After the longest reign by an Emperor in Chinese history (61 years), the Kangxi Emperor dies, and is succeeded by his son Yinzhen as Yongzheng Emperor.
- Johann Sebastian Bach composes *The Well-Tempered Clavier*.

1723

- The Treaty of St. Petersburg is signed in Russia.
- *The Four Seasons*, a set of violin concertos by Antonio Vivaldi, is composed.

1724 [Abigail's grandson Lodowick born to son Daniel and Anstis Jenkins]

- King Philip V of Spain abdicates the throne in favor of his 16-year-old son Louis I.
- Catherine I of Russia is officially named czarina by her husband, Peter the Great.
- The Treaty of Constantinople is signed, partitioning Persia between the Ottoman Empire and Russia.
- Louis I of Spain dies of smallpox, aged 17, after a reign of 7 months, and his father Philip V resumes the throne.[]

- China expels foreign missionaries.

1725 [Grandson Lodowick – Daniels son – born]

- Catherine I becomes Empress of Russia, on the death of her husband, Peter the Great.
- The Treaty of Hanover is signed between Great Britain, France and Prussia.
- Freemasonry is established in France, as an English import.

1726 [Abigail received clinical baptism]

- Voltaire begins his exile in England.
- Jonathan Swift's satirical novel *Gulliver's Travels* is first published (anonymously) in London; it sells out within a week.
- The *Gujin Tushu Jicheng*, an immense Chinese encyclopedia, is printed using copper-based movable type printing.

1727 [Granddaughter Mary – Daniel's daughter – born]

- George, Prince of Wales, becomes King George II of Great Britain, on the death of his father
- Uxbridge, Massachusetts, is incorporated as a town.
- The first Amish move to North America.
- Lt. Col. Francisco de Mello Palheta smuggles coffee seeds to Brazil in a bouquet, starting a coffee empire.

1728

- Vitus Bering sails northward from the Kamchatka Peninsula, through the Bering Strait, and round Cape Dezhnev.
- English astronomer James Bradley uses stellar aberration (first observed in 1725) to calculate the speed of light.

1729 [George Berkeley & Artist Smibert visits]

- Seven of the original eight Lords Proprietor sell their tracts within the Province of Carolina, back to the British crown. The Province is permanently divided and reorganized into the Royal Colonies of North Carolina and South Carolina.
- Baltimore, Maryland is founded.
- The Comet of 1729, possibly the largest comet based on the absolute magnitude, on record, is discovered by Fr. Nicolas Sarrabat, a professor of mathematics at Marseille.
- Natchez Revolt: The worst Native American massacre to take place on Mississippi soil occurs when Natchez people kill 138 Frenchmen, 35 French women, and 56 children at Fort Rosalie (near modern-day Natchez, Mississippi).

1730

- Shearith Israel, the first synagogue in New York City, is dedicated.
- The Virginia House of Burgesses passes the Tobacco Inspection Act of 1730 to regulate the quality of Virginian tobacco and establish inspection warehouses near plantations in the Tidewater region.
- Cresap's War – a nine-year-long conflict also known as the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary dispute – the conflict mainly centers in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and York County, Pennsylvania on either bank of the Susquehanna River.

1731

- The Treaty of Vienna is signed between the Holy Roman Empire, Great Britain, the Dutch Republic and Spain.
- Benjamin Franklin and fellow-subscribers start the Library Company of Philadelphia.
- A fire at Ashburnham House in Westminster destroys 114 irreplaceable manuscripts/ Dr. Richard Bentley, the King's librarian and the House's owner, saves the only copy of the Codex Alexandrinus, carrying it under one arm as he leaps from a window; however, his 10 year labor translating the Greek Testament is lost. The surviving 844 manuscripts later form the heart of the collections of the British Library.

1732

- James Oglethorpe is granted a royal charter for the colony of Georgia.

- The magnitude 5.8 Montreal earthquake occurs in Montreal, New France.
- The original Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, London (the modern-day Royal Opera House) is opened.

1733

- British colonist James Oglethorpe founds Savannah, Georgia.
- The Molasses Act is passed by the Parliament of Great Britain/
- Royal Colony of North Carolina Commissioners the town of New Carthage (which will eventually become Wilmington, NC/
- The first Freemasons lodge opens in what will become the United States of America.

1734 [Abigail's oldest son, Richard, dies, leaving wife and several children]

- Salzburger (German speaking Protestants) arrive at the mouth of the Savannah River, in the British Colony of Georgia.

1735 [Abigail's daughter Sarah marries Giles Goddard at the Castle

- George Hadley publishes the first explanation of the trade winds.
- *The New York Weekly Journal* writer John Peter Zenger is acquitted of seditious libel against the royal governor of New York, on the basis that what he published was true.
- The King's Highway (Charleston to Boston) is completed.
- The first successful appendectomy is performed, by French surgeon Claudius Aymand in London.

1736

- Francis I, Holy Roman Emperor marries Maria Theresa of Austria, ruler of the Habsburg Empire.
- Bellevue Hospital, the oldest public hospital in North America was founded in New York.
- Benjamin Franklin builds the first volunteer fire company in Philadelphia.

1737 [Husband Lodowick died. Daniel inherited and renovated Castle. Abigail presumably continued to live there.]

- The Battle of Delhi takes place between the Maratha Empire and the Mughals.
- Runner Edward Marshall completes his journey in the Walking Purchase, forcing the cession of 1,200,000 acres (4,900 km²) of Lenape-Delaware tribal land to the Pennsylvania Colony.
- An earthquake with an estimated magnitude of 9.3 occurs off the shore of Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula. Tsunamis up to 60 meters (200 ft) high follow in the Pacific Ocean.
- Tony Brian Attenborough creates the Philadelphia Police Force – the first city-paid force.

1738 [Abigail's granddaughter, Mary Katherine Goddard, born to daughter Sarah and Giles Goddard]

- Jacques de Vaucanson stages the first demonstration of an early automaton, The Flute Player at the Hotel de Longueville in Paris.
- John Wesley experiences a spiritual rebirth at a Moravian Church meeting in Aldersgate, in the City of London, essentially launching the Methodist movement.
- The excavation of Herculaneum, a Roman city buried by Vesuvius in AD 79, begins.
- Black Forest clockmaker Franz Ketterer produces one of the earliest cuckoo clocks.

1739

- John Wesley lays the foundation stone of the New Room, Bristol in England, the world's first Methodist meeting house.
- The Stono Rebellion, a slave rebellion, erupts near Charleston, South Carolina.

1740 [Abigail's grandson, William Goddard, born to daughter Sarah and Giles Goddard]

- Frederick II comes to power in Prussia upon the death of his father.
- The song Rule, Britannia! is first performed at Cliveden, the country home of Frederick, Prince of Wales, in England.
- Maria Theresa inherits the hereditary dominions of the Habsburg Monarchy; however, because she is a woman her succession to the Holy Roman Empire is contested.
- The University of Pennsylvania is officially established.

- By an act of the Parliament of Great Britain, alien immigrants (including Huguenots and Jews) in the colonies receive British nationality.

1741

- Sir Robert Walpole, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, popularizes the term "the balance of power" in a speech in Parliament.
- The New York Slave Insurrection, a plot to set fire to New York City, is discovered.
- Maria Theresa of Austria is crowned Queen Regnant of Hungary in Bratislava.
- Anders Celsius develops his own thermometer scale.

1742

- Charles VII becomes Holy Roman Emperor.
- Henry Fielding publishes his picaresque novel *Joseph Andrews* anonymously in London.
- The *Pennsylvania Journal* first appears in the United States.

1743

- The Verendrye brothers, probably Louis-Joseph and François de La Vérendrye, become the first white persons to see the Rocky Mountains from the eastern side. The Spanish conquistadors had seen the Rockies from the west side. The Verendrye brothers bury a tablet claiming the Great Plains of North America for King Louis XV of France.
- At a summit in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the British colonies of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania conclude a treaty with the Six Nations, conceding that the member tribes are entitled to the territory west of the Appalachian Mountains and as north of the Ohio River.
- Benjamin Franklin's view of a lunar eclipse from Philadelphia is spoiled by a rainstorm; several days later, he learns that residents of Boston received the same storm hours after the eclipse, demonstrating that weather moves from west to east.
- King Louis XIV of France informs King Philip V of Spain of his intent to try to restore the House of Stuart to the throne of the United Kingdom.
- The last wolf in Scotland is shot.

1744 [Daughter-in-law Anstis dies]

- Violent storms frustrate planned French invasion of England. France later declares war on Great Britain.
- October 4 – In one of the greatest disasters for the Royal Navy, HMS *Victory* sinks in a storm in the English Channel, killing 1,100 sailors and officers it had been bringing back from Gibraltar to England, including Admiral John Balchen [67] The wreck will be located 264 years later, in January, 2009.
- The Massachusetts General Court, colonial legislature for the Massachusetts Bay Province, approves an incentive for the killing of enemy Indians, authorizing the payment of 100 Massachusetts pounds for the scalping of a Mi'kmaq or Maliseet Indian, and 50 for the scalps of women or children.
- The third French and Indian War, known as King George's War, breaks out at Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia.

1745 [Abigail dies]

- The ruling white colonial government on the island of Jamaica foils a conspiracy by about 900 black slaves who had been plotting to seize control and to massacre the white residents.
- Under the command of British Army General William Pepperrell, the first 4,300 American colonists in the New England Army depart Boston to liberate the French North American colony of Nova Scotia. The British capture Cape Breton Island in North America from the French.
- The Jacobite rising of 1745 begins at Glenfinnan, Scotland, where Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) raises his standard. The Jacobites are initially successful but are ultimately defeated the next year at the Battle of Culloden. Many Highland Scots subsequently emigrated to the Colony of North Carolina.

DANIEL UPDIKE AND HIS WIVES

Based on *The Op Dyck Genealogy & The Women of Cocumscussoc*

DANIEL UPDIKE (1694-1757) – The Basics

BIRTH – At Cocumscussoc – 3rd child of 7; 2nd son – born in 1694

Parents – 1st cousins - both grandchildren of Richard Smith Sr

- Father - Lodowick Updike (his mother – Katherine Smith; father- Gysbert Updike)
- Mother - Abigail Newton (her mother- Joan Smith, father – Thomas Newton)

EDUCATION –

Home schooled – tutors lived with family

- Daniel Vernon – principal tutor + + French tutor
- Greek, Latin and French in addition to basic studies
- Visited Barbados (where mother had lived after death of her mother) with friend of father, admitted to first circles of society there
- Returned home - studied law

LAW & POLITICAL CAREER

- Mr. Updike in person, was about five feet ten inches in height, with prominent features. As an advocate, he sustained a high reputation, and among other personal advantages, possessed a clear, full, and musical voice.
- (1714-1716) Admitted to Bar & opened office in Newport
- 1722-1732, 1743-1757 Elected annually as Atty. General
- 1723 – Appointed State’s Counsel – trial of 36 pirates; 26 were executed in Newport
- 1732 – Ran against Gov. William Wanton (whose widow he later married) but lost.
- 1730s-1746 - Worked on boundary disputes – finally decided in 1746
- Considered one of the most eminent men of the colony. Judges Auchmuty the elder, and Bolla, induced him frequently to visit Boston. These gentlemen often argued causes in the colony, and occasionally made Mr. Updike's mansion their place of residence.
- Mr. Updike possessed a large library in classical and general literature.

MARRIAGE – 3 TIMES - Married “well” – acquired wealth, property & prestige through marriages

- **Sarah Arnold** (1698-1718)
 - (**granddaughter** of Gov. Benedict Arnold (First Governor of RI & Providence Plantations under Royal Charter) – Her father was also named Benedict Arnold, as was her brother and his son, who was the Benedict Arnold who defected to the British Army in the Revolutionary War.
 - **Her father** – Benedict Arnold II was Deputy to the Colonial Assembly from Newport in 1686 and seven following terms. He was three times chosen Governor's 'Assistant,' and 1706-7 he was a Speaker of the House of Deputies but not governor. Her mother was Sarah Mumford.
 - Sarah married in 1716 – he was 22, she was 18
 - 1718 – She died in childbirth (baby girl also died), shortly after her 19th birthday

- Although some historians believe that the marriage was brokered to consolidate political power and prominence in the state, the Updikes and Arnolds maintained close contacts even after Sarah's death.
- **Anstis Jenkins** – 1702-1744 (age 41-42)
 - Anstis was the daughter of Richard and Mary Wilkins of Bristol, RI.
 - Her **Great grandmother** was Polish royalty on her mother's side; she met and married Mr. Wilkins. Her Polish family disowned her for marrying below her station and the couple emigrated to the colonies/
 - Anstis brought considerable property to the marriage.
 - She married Daniel Updike on December 21, 1722 in Trinity Church, and shortly after, they moved into a splendid Newport home. She was 24 and Daniel was 32; that year Daniel was first elected as Attorney General of the colony.
 - Although there is some question, the portrait of Anstis (see right) was probably painted by Nehemiah Partridge (a/k/a Aetatis Sue Limner). This is a copy, the original (the oldest know RI portrait), being at the Rhode Island Historical Society. A native of Albany, New York, the artist painted a pair of portraits of the couple, one of eight portraits he did during a brief visit to Newport the year of their marriage. Unfortunately, Daniel's companion portrait, has been lost. The *Opdyke Genealogy* reports that John Smibert (a friend of Daniel Updike and Dean Berkeley) painted portraits of Anstis and her mother in 1729 (p.84 and 112), but it is probably not referring to this portrait, which does not appear to be in the Smibert style.
 - They had 2 surviving children, Lodowick II (1725-1804) and Mary (1727-1804); twin boys died in infancy and there may possibly have been at least one other set of twins who died in infancy.
 - Daniel, philosopher George Berkeley, and artist John Smibert became friends through Rev. James MacSparran of St. Paul's Church, and frequently visited each other. [In testimony of the friendship and esteem which the Dean entertained for Mr. Updike, he presented him, on his departure for Europe, an elegantly wrought silver coffee-pot and after his arrival in England, sent him a copy of his "Minute Philosopher."]
 - 1730 - The first literary institution in the colony was formed in Newport, out of which subsequently grew the Redwood Library. Daniel Updike was one of its founders and owned a number of its shares. He was the first signer to the constitution of the literary society; and was among its most active and zealous members.



Copy of Portrait of Anstis Jenkins Updike (1722)
 Attributed to Nehemiah Partridge (Aetatis Sue Limner),
 Original in RI Historical Society

- 1734 – Lodowick’s older brother Richard died, making Daniel heir to Cocumscussoc. There is also evidence that Anstis took in Richard’s son, John Updike, who was schooled in the family business by his uncle Daniel. John’s sister Mary also seems to have lived in the house with her cousins Mary and Lodowick for a period during the years immediately following her father’s death.
- “Cocumscussoc historian Neil Dunay has pointed out that at the height of the estate’s Plantation era, slaves were cooking, cleaning, laundering, and caring for the horses of up to thirty visitors each day. Those consigned to the back room-what we exhibit to visitors today as the kitchen-
 - ‘...repeatedly lugged up, down, and over, huge and heavy iron pots. The fire smoked their eyes. The women were always at risk of either catching their skirts on fire or (more likely) burning themselves on the searing iron cookware, creating sores that could lead to infection’.” (From: “Matrons of the Mansion House: The Wives of Daniel Updike” – Robert A. Geake)
- There were 19 slaves at Cocumscussoc at the time of the inventory for Daniel’s will in 1757. Anstis probably had the help of three women and two children for household work, the rest worked in the fields. It is possible that elderly male slaves also helped in the kitchen and the buttery.
- 1740 ROYAL COMMISSION – SETTLEMENT OF RHODE ISLAND/MASSACHUSETTS BOUNDARIES: In 1740 Rhode Island appointed Daniel, Henry Bull and four others to represent the colony before a Royal Commission to decide RI’s boundaries with Massachusetts. In June 1741, the King’s Commission met in Providence to hear the dispute. If Massachusetts could establish her claim to the Narragansett Bay on the southwest, RI’s exclusive jurisdiction over the waters would have been lost forever. Daniel Updike and Mr. Honyman spoke on behalf of Rhode Island’s claim. Judge Lightfoot spoke of it as “one of the most anxious exhibitions that he had ever witnessed and that the argument of Mr. Updike, in the close was a masterly effort.” (Opdyke Genealogy, p. 102). The adjudication gave to Rhode Island a strip of land which became Cumberland, all of Bristol, part of Swansea, and a great part of Barrington (the last two being made into a township called Warren), and a three mile strip constituting the towns of Tiverton and Little Compton. In 1746 the controversy was finally settled when the King confirmed the judgment of the Commissioners.
- ATTORNEY GENERAL. During the years of these proceedings Daniel Updike had been appointed Attorney General for newly named King’s County (the office of Colony Attorney General having been eliminated in favor of one for each county). In 1742 he was re-elected. In 1743 the colony revived the former law and he again was appointed Attorney General for the Colony to which position he was re-elected annually until his death 14 years later.
- 1744 – Anstis died on May 20th; there is no record of the cause of death. She was only about 41-42 so it may have been related to childbearing, although it had been many years (about 15) since the loss of the twins.

- Rev. MacSparran, who meticulously recorded things in his diary was away in Boston at the time, and the only thing he later recorded was: "Sunday June 3rd, At St. Paul's A Funeral Service for Mrs. Anstis Updike."
- There is no specific record of her burial but according to subsequent St. Paul's records at the time of Daniel's death: "[Daniel] was [in 1757] interred in the burial ground of the family, beside the remains of his father and second wife Anstis Jenkins..."
- **Mary Godfrey Wanton (1702- ?**
 - Granddaughter of 20th Colonial Governor Caleb Carr (mother's side). Gov. Carr was an early Rhode Island settler and Newport resident. He served for a short time as governor before his death in 1695, owned large tracts of lands on Conanicut (Jamestown) and established a ferry between Jamestown and Newport.
 - Mary was the daughter of Capt. John and Elizabeth (Carr) Godfrey, born March 23, 1702.
 - At least one source indicates that her mother and possibly also her father died when she was young. Youngest brother was born in 1711, so she would have been at least nine.
 - 1717 – She married 46-year-old widower Gov. William Wanton when she was 15.
 - 1732 – Daniel ran unsuccessfully for governor against Governor Wanton.
 - 1733 - Governor Wanton died
 - Gov. Wanton's brother John succeeded him as governor; his nephew Gideon Wanton was later governor; and his son Joseph Wanton, who had loyalist sympathies, was deposed as governor at the beginning of the American Revolutionary War
 - 1745 – Mary Godfrey Wanton married Daniel; she was 31 he was 51 and at that time Attorney General of Rhode Island. Daniel's children were almost grown; Lodowick was 20 and Mary was 18. Presumably, Mary did not bring any children to the marriage nor did she have any with Daniel.
 - 1745 – At the first meeting of the Rhode Island Bar Assn, Daniel's was the first name on the founding document.
 - 1749 – RI Supreme Court decided that English laws were not in force in RI UNLESS they were introduced by RI statute, early sign of coming break with England.
 - 1757 – Daniel died; Mary survived him, but the date of her death is unknown. From the records of St. Paul's church, under the rectorship of Dr. MacSparran, the following entry is extracted — " Colonel Updike of North Kingstown, Attorney General of the Colony, died on Saturday, the 15th. Of May, 1757, about noon, and after a funeral discourse was preached by Dr. MacSparran, was interred in the burial ground of the family, beside the remains of his father and second wife, Anstis Jenkins, mother of Lodowick and Mary Updike, his surviving children."
 - Mary survived him, but no records has been found of her death or burial.

COCUMSCUSSOC – UPDIKE MANSION CHANGES FROM 1678 HOUSE IN RENOVATIONS 1737-1740

- Exterior
 - Gables removed
 - New roof line
 - Enlarged home to a full two-story plan.
 - What had been lean-to storage area's ceiling raised and opened up to large kitchen .
 - Rebuilt chimney
 - Removed projecting front porch
- Interior
 - Wood paneling in front rooms and bedchambers.
 - Encased ceiling beams.
 - Fine staircase.
 - Large brick kitchen fireplace with beehive oven in rear wall of keeping room (similar to that in the Berkeley residence {Whitehall} in Middletown.
 - Constructed office for Daniel with separate client entrance.

Further



1678 House. Note position of door and salt box configuration.

enlargement and changes took place in the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, before it was

restored to its 1740 by Norman Isham and later John Hutchins Cady in the mid-twentieth century.



Present Appearance – Renovation to 1740 Style

OTHER DANIELS – CONFUSION

There are several Daniel Updikes and it can become confusing. You might want to refer to the document, *Daniel Updike's Male Descendants* at the end of this document to help you keep them apart. There were, of course, many more Daniels than those highlighted here. It seems that in almost every generation of Updikes, sons would be named Daniel (or Lodowick or Richard). These are the four Daniels you will most often hear about around the Castle.

DANIEL UPDIKE (c. 1660 d. 1704) He has been added to the ancestry chart which follows, since he was in the generation **before** Attorney General Daniel Updike. He was the son of Kathryn Smith &

1 Gysbert Opdyck and brother of Lodowick Opdyck (Updike) who married Abigail Newton. When the family moved from New Amsterdam, Daniel may have followed his brothers Lodowick and James to either Wickford or Boston, but there is no tangible record of him at either place. The only thing we know is that he was a mariner and that he was captured by Algerian pirates January 24, 1680 and subsequently ransomed by his uncle Richard Smith, Jr. for 1500 gunlocks.

Letter from William Harris to his wife, dated Algiers, April 6, 1680. [They were] Taken in a ship from Boston, on the 24th of January, and they were all sold in the Market on the 23^d. and 24th of February and shut up until the last of March. . . . Since I came, I saw Daniel Updike, and he says he had a plague-sore, and that the same sickness is here every summer, and begins in May, and that last summer died 9 or 10 of the English captives, but some say not so many. Speak to Mr. Smith to redeem him and tell Lodowick, his brother, Mr. Smith, Mr. Brindley, and others
“ (Updike Memoirs, R.I. Bar, 35.)

1689 April 4. Letter from William Harris to Mr. Brindley at Newport. Pray tell Mr. Smith, Daniel Updike is well. --- He may do well to redeem him (Updike Memoirs, R.I. Bar, 36)

According to family tradition, Daniel came to Rhode Island to thank his uncle, stayed one night at Smith's Castle, and then returned to England for the rest of his life. In his will (Feb.9, 1704) he describes himself as “of St. Dunstons, Stepney, County Middlesex (England)” and he left property he had inherited in New Rochester to Daniel and James Updike (these would have been his nephews).

2 DANIEL UPDIKE (1694-1757) The following ancestry chart starts with Daniel Updike (1694-1757) – This is the Daniel Updike with the 3 wives you've been already hearing about, so we'll skip him here.

3 DANIEL UPDIKE (1761-1842) is the previous Daniel's grandson, the eldest son of the 11 children of Lodowick and Abigail Gardiner. [Note that this is also the second pair of Lodowick and Abigails. This Daniel was the brother of Wilkins (who had to sell Smith's Castle) and also Anstis Updike (who married William Lee and lived to be 100).

At the age of 16, Daniel found himself in the militia and in the Revolutionary War. Through the next four years, he alternated between military duty (4-6 months a year) and his studies for the law. In 1784 he was admitted to the Bar and practiced in Washington County until 1795. He was described as “a man of

noble presence, of fine personal appearance and polished manners, -- a true gentleman of the old school; always wore small clothes, shoe-buckles &c." . . . "Mr. Updike was bred to the bar, and at his death was the oldest lawyer in Rhode Island." (Op Dyck Genealogy, p. 116). He was repeatedly honored with public trust: Clerk of the House of Representatives, North Kingstown Representative in the General Assembly, and, like his grandfather, Attorney General. He was particularly proud of having served as Secretary of the State Convention which in 1790 ratified the Constitution of the United States, the last of the colonies to do so. As the oldest son, he took on increasingly more of the management of his aging father's property as well as his own. The period after the Revolutionary War were difficult economic times as well as a time of transition from dependence on slave labor; the meticulous day books he kept are a helpful historical record of those times.

In 1791 when he was 30 and his sister Anstis was 24, they took a trip on horseback (on Narragansett Pacers of course) to Connecticut. Fifty years later, she wrote her memories of their journey and the people they visited.

In 1799 Daniel Updike married Ardelissa Arnold, daughter of Colonel William & Alice Arnold of East Greenwich. They continued to live in Wickford until 1816 when they moved to East Greenwich. Legal problems involving the settlement of his father's debts, the eventual sale of the Castle to the Congdons, and the death of Ardelissa's father probably influenced their decision.

In 1770, Col William Arnold, Daniel's father-in-law and a shipping merchant had bought a Main Street Hotel from James Greene. There had been a hotel at this site since 1740 under a variety of names. The tavern was called "The Bunch of Grapes" and the Arnolds and their nine children also lived there. When Colonel Arnold died in 1816, two of his sons ran it. In 1825 Daniel took over management and renamed it the Updike Inn. At the time of his marriage, Daniel had become a devout Quaker and a staunch supporter of the growing temperance movement. In the thirty years he operated the inn, not a single drop of liquor was served. In spite of that

rule, the establishment was extremely popular. The inn had 34 rooms and during court week, meetings of the general assembly, and the quarterly Quaker meeting, the hotel was completely filled. They were particularly famous for their colonial food including specialties like calf's head soup.



Arnold Inn, East Greenwich – Later Updike Inn



Daniel Updike died on June 15, 1842 at the age of 81. He is buried in the East Greenwich Cemetery. Ardelissa, who died in 1850, is buried next to him. At the time of his death one of the prized family heirlooms found to be in his possession was a beautifully made silver coffee-pot which had been presented by Bishop Berkeley to his grandfather Daniel.

DANIEL BERKELEY UPDIKE (1860-1941) was the great-great-great-great-grandson of Gysbert Updike and Kathryn Smith and the grandson of Wilkins Updike (the last Daniel's brother). Note that his name **4** was handwritten onto the descendants' chart. His middle name is apparently in memory of the friendship of his great-great-grandfather's friendship with philosopher George Berkeley. Obviously he was born after the Updikes lost ownership of Smith's Cattle.

Daniel Berkeley Updike was born in Providence, Rhode Island, on February 24, 1860, the only child of Caesar Augustus Updike (1824-1877) and Elizabeth Bigelow Adams (1830-1895). He was a printer, historian of typography and founder of Merrymount Press (1893-1949).

One the first works issued under the Merrymount Press imprint was *In the Old Days, A Fragment*, a remembrance of her youth written by his mother. The Merrymount Press was founded "to do common work uncommonly well." Updike was renowned as a liturgical printer for the Episcopal Church and commissioned Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue to create the Merrymount printer expressly for an altar book. He also commissioned other special fonts. Merrymount was the first American firm to use the now widely familiar font, Times New Roman font. The Merrymount Press is estimated to have produced 14,000 pieces of printing during its run. The majority of its creations were intended for the private collectors' market and limited-editions clubs.

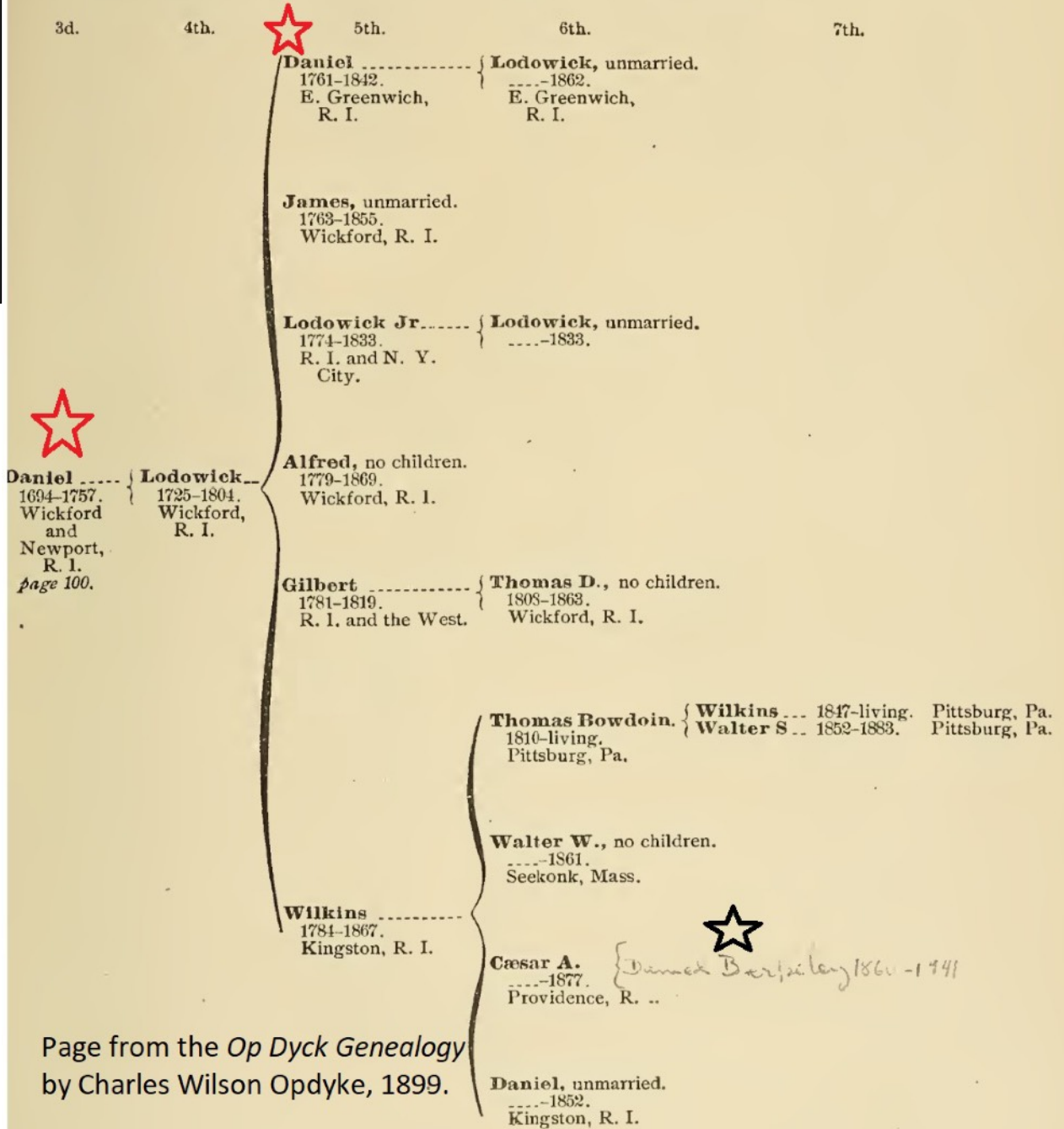
A question that visitors ask every so often is "Is the modern author John Updike related to these Updikes? "

The answer is that no one really knows although researchers and genealogists have tried to find out. John Updike's earliest ancestor in New Netherland was a Louis Jansen Johannes Opdycke, but we have no indication that he was related to our Gysbert Opdycke. On the other hand, he might have been.

Daniel's Uncle Daniel (c. 1650-1704) His father Lodowick's brother and son of Kathryn Smith & Gysbert

CHART 4.

Male Descendants of Daniel Updike, Chapter B, pages 110-126.



Page from the *Op Dyck Genealogy*
by Charles Wilson Opdyke, 1899.

WILKINS & LODOWICK UPDIKE

The Hazard Family of Rhode Island, 1635-1894: Being a Genealogy and ...

<https://books.google.com/books?id=ips-AAAAYAAJ> Caroline Elizabeth Robinson - 1896 - Rhode Island. The following is part of a very lengthy but interesting discussion of Wilkins Updike.

Mr. Updike [i.e., Wilkins Updike 1784-1867, son of Lodowick and brother of Anstis Updike Lee] came of a race of lawyers, his grandfather [i.e., Daniel Updike 1693-1756] having been for twenty-five years Attorney-General of the Colony and one of the first lawyers of the Colony; and his elder brother [i.e., also Daniel Updike 1761-1831] enjoying the same office. His father, [i.e., Lodowick Updike 1725-1804] however, lived a life of leisure. Mr. Updike was educated first at home, afterward at the Academy in Plainfield, Connecticut, which in those days had great vogue as a classical school. After leaving the Academy he studied law in the office of James Lanman, afterward Senator from Connecticut, and later in the offices of the Honorable William Hunter, and the Honorable Asher Robbins and Elisha R. Potter. He was admitted to the Bar in 1808. He Married September 23, 1809 [Abigail Watson with whom he had 12 children] and lived at Tower Hill, and later at Cocumscussuc, which his father gave him. Owing to



Portrait of Wilkins Updike by James Sullivan Lincoln in the Smith's Castle 18th Century Dining Room

becoming security for his brother Lodowick, he lost this property in 1814; a loss about which he felt so strongly that until the end of his life he avoided passing it, or speaking of it. And the name Lodowick, which had alternated with that of Daniel for many generations, has not since been used in the family.

We don't know much about his brother Lodowick, except that he lived in Rhode Island and New York City and died in 1833. According to the Updike genealogy, he was a merchant and married Rhode Baker. They had 2 children, neither of whom married. Their son – Lodowick, Jr. also died in 1833 – maybe some sickness??

Wilkins Updike House 1819; 1276 Kingstown Road (Rt.138), Kingston, RI: A large, 2-story, Federal residence, with a large, brick, center chimney, corner quoins; a tall, narrow

doorway with transom lights and a bracketed cornice, centered in a 5-facade; and a 2-story ell at the rear. (Now apparently apartments)

The house was built by Wilkins Updike, who inherited Cocumscussoc & Smith's Castle near Wickford, but had to sell it. He moved to Little Rest before 1819, later built this house (raising 12 children in it) and a law office nearby. Wilkins Updike, who also represented the town in the General

Assembly, is the author of the *The History of the Narragansett Church* among other works.

http://www.preservation.ri.gov/pdfs_zips_downloads/survey_pdfs/south_kingstown.pdf



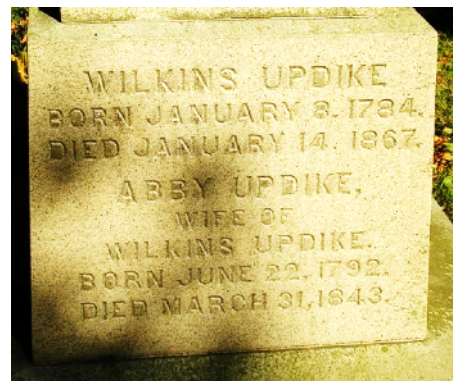
bay

and

NOTE: [House \(now painted light yellow/cream\) is still standing on the left side of Route 138 approaching URI, just before the antique book store. You will have just passed Fayerweather House \(now a craft shop\) on your right – also interesting \(George Fayerweather, who built this house and ran a business nearby, was the son of a former slave of Rev. Fayerweather, also named George.\)](#)



[Wilkins is buried in St. Paul-
Updike Cemetery, North
Kingstown.](#)



SARAH UPDIKE GODDARD: COLONIAL WOMAN OF THE PRESS

Sarah Updike Goddard, although mentioned in, among others, *Notable American Women*, *Rhode Island Founders from Settlement to Statehood*, *American National Biography* and *18th Century American Women*, as well as in numerous other books and historical studies of colonial printing, has remained largely unknown. At a time when it was rare for women to be involved in business outside the home and late in her life, she became the second printer in Providence (the first being her son), and owner/editor of the *Providence Gazette*, a woman more than able to run a business on her own. Her devotion to the “mystick art of printing”⁸ was second only to her devotion to family and friends.

Through both her mother and father, who were first cousins, Sarah traced her ancestry back to Richard Smith, Sr. and his wife, Johan. In the 1630s the Smiths brought five children to the New World, two sons and three daughters, including the two who would become Sarah’s grandmothers: Katherine Smith Updike and Joan Smith Newton. When Richard Smith, Jr. died without children in 1692, Smith Castle passed to Katherine’s oldest son, Lodowick Updike, who had married Joan’s daughter Abigail Newton.

Sarah Updike Goddard was one of seven children born to Lodowick and Abigail (Newton) Updike in about 1700. Growing up as a child in Smith’s Castle (or the Updike Mansion as it had come to be known), Sarah Updike entered a world of wealth and privilege. Like other young women of her social class, she was homeschooled, but “Sarah’s education included not only the subjects usual to the day but also French and Latin from tutors who lived in the Updike household”⁹ to educate her brothers, Richard and Daniel. On December 11, 1735, she married Dr. Giles Goddard, originally from Boston, at a festive wedding at the Castle. Over the next few years, the couple had four children, only two of whom survived: Mary Katherine and William. Dr. Goddard built up his practice as well as serving as postmaster for Groton and later New London, Connecticut.

By the time William was a teenager, Giles Goddard was becoming increasingly incapacitated by gout and more and more responsibility was falling upon Sarah, including taking over the duties of postmaster. In 1755 they made the decision to place William as an apprentice to James Parker who, in partnership with John Holt, had established the *Connecticut Gazette* newspaper in New Haven. Two years into Williams’ apprenticeship, Giles died. At the age of approximately 62, Sarah Updike Goddard embarked on a new phase of her life. Within a few months of the end of William’s apprenticeship, she used almost half of her inheritance to finance her son’s establishment of the first printing and publishing business in Providence, Rhode Island. On October 20, 1762, (William’s 22nd birthday) the first issue of Providence’s first newspaper, the *Providence Gazette and Country Journal*, was published with Sarah and Mary Katherine’s help.

These were volatile times in the colonies. The Stamp Act and colonial opposition to it played an important role in defining some of those grievances which eventually led to the break with England and William was heavily involved in opposition to it. He was also looking for more profitable opportunities, leaving Sarah and Mary Katherine to run the newspaper, print shop, paper mill and a bookstore alone. In late 1765 and early 1766, while William traveled regularly between New York and Providence, the

firm's publications bore the imprint Sarah & William Goddard (sometimes S. & W. Goddard), the first time Sarah's name appeared in connection with the business and making her officially the second printer in Providence.

By the end of 1766 William was in Philadelphia making plans for his newest venture publishing the *Philadelphia Chronicle*, in partnership with Joseph Galloway and Thomas Wharton. In 1767 John Carter came from Benjamin Franklin's Philadelphia office to work with Sarah in Providence and soon afterwards became her partner. The *Gazette* was now published under the imprint of Sarah Goddard and John Carter. Sarah also served as postmaster for Providence, collecting news through this source. Editors at that time clipped from London and colonial newspapers and wrote (often anonymously or under pseudonyms) editorial comment and fillers. Mary Katherine Goddard set the print and operated the presses.

The year 1768 was to bring another great change in Sarah's life. Possibly in the belief that Sarah might moderate her son's ideas, William's partners proposed that he should sell the Providence business, which his mother and sister had been operating, and move them to work with him in Philadelphia. Unwillingly, as William later said, ". . . she from motives of maternal tenderness consented to leave an easy agreeable situation and a multitude of amicable friends, and my sister agreed to accompany her"¹⁰ in the move. The print shop and the *Providence Gazette* was sold to John Carter for \$550.00; he operated it until 1814.

In Philadelphia Sarah and Mary Katherine continued to support William's enterprises, running the operations while he was frequently traveling. At that time, he was trying to establish a colonial postal system to circumvent British control over the mail. Early in January 1770, while William was traveling in New York, he received a letter from his mother offering sympathy and support for his current (financial) difficulties and reassuring him that the *Philadelphia Chronicle* was doing well, with new subscriptions every day. The very next day he received word from a friend that Sarah had died.

A lengthy anonymous memorial appeared in the January 20, 1770 issue of the *New York Gazette* (later reprinted in the February 10, 1770 *Providence Gazette*). Such a long obituary was unusual in the 18th century for anyone, much less a woman. The anonymous author, saying he was "no relation to the family and ... not intimately acquainted. . . "after a biographical summary, ended by writing:

. . . . Her uncommon attainments in literature were the least of valuable parts of her character. Her conduct through all the changing trying scenes of life, was not only unblameable, but even exemplary – a sincere piety, an unaffected humility, an easy agreeable cheerfulness and affability, an entertaining, sensible and edifying conversation, and a prudent attention to all the duties of domestic life, endeared her to all her acquaintance, especially in the relations of wife, parent, friend and neighbour. The death of such a person is a public loss, an irreparable one to her children!¹¹

Some have criticized the eulogy, as not giving Sarah enough credit for her part in her son's career and in the colonial newspaper and printing worlds; she probably would have considered it the highest compliment since it stressed her personal, rather than business, traits.

Her children's future successes would probably have brought her great joy. Mary Katherine continued to run businesses for her brother for many years and excelled as a publisher of several of his newspapers, became Baltimore's first postmaster, and became famous for publishing the first signed copy of the Declaration of Independence, at some risk to her own life. William, besides his printing and publishing career, was recognized as an American patriot of the Pre- and Revolutionary Period and as creator of the Constitutional Post for intercolonial mail service. When the Postal Service Act was passed in 1792, his ideals of open communication and freedom from governmental interference formed the basis of the new system, although to his disappointment Benjamin Franklin, rather than he, was appointed First Postmaster General. Later in life, William married Abigail Angell and they had one son and four daughters, who carried Sarah's ideals into future generations.

SOURCES:

Providence Gazette, March 17, 1765.

Ward L. Miner, "Goddard, Sarah psike," *Notable American Women*, Vol 11, p. 56-55.

William Goddard *The Partership*, William Goddard: Philadelphia, 1770, p. 26.

Udpike, Wilkins, *Memoirs of the Rhode Island Bar*. Boston: Thomas H. Webb, 1842, p. 256-257.

JOHN GODDARD – RI FURNITURE MAKER

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/2020>

These images and descriptive text are from the Metropolitan Museum, where the pieces are part of their collection.

MTH NOTE: I have not been able to establish a definite family connection between these Goddards and Giles Goddard (husband of Sarah Updike); however, it is possible that there was one. In any case, the furniture makers were an important part of 18th century RI history and Lodowick Updike II owned some of their pieces.

John Goddard (1723/24 – 1785) The son of Daniel Goddard, a house carpenter in Massachusetts moved with his family in the 1740s to Newport, where he and his younger brother James worked for Job Townsend. Shortly after they married



In this rare instance, the characteristic Newport knee carving, usually found on that city's finest high chests and tables, was employed on a side chair. The spherical ball feet and fleshy bulges above the rear talons are features associated with the cabinetmaker John Goddard (1724–1785).



This chest is one of a group of Newport pieces distinguished by their bold serpentine shapes and solid forms. The serpentine corner posts, raised-pad rear feet, and claw-and-ball front feet are similar to those on documented pieces by the cabinetmaker John Goddard.

Townsend's daughters, John established his own workshop, and by the 1760s he had become Newport's leading cabinetmaker, being commissioned by such eminent early Americans as Gov. Stephen Hopkins of Rhode Island and the famous philanthropist Moses Brown. In contrast with the Philadelphia school, which tried to imitate the more flamboyant Chippendale styles, Goddard, like the Townsends, created simple adaptations, unpretentious and

sensible and possessing a solid dignity.

Goddard Pieces Once Owned by Lodowick (II) Updike

Blockfront Desk & Bookcase

This example is one of nine mahogany Rhode Island blockfront desk and bookcases ornamented with six shells attributed to John Goddard.



Provenance

Lodowick Updike II (1725–1804), Wickford, Rhode Island; by descent to his son, Wilkins Updike (1784–1867); by descent to his daughter, Mrs. Henry Hidden (née Abigail Updike); by descent to her son, Walter Hidden; by descent to his daughter, Mrs. Howard Lee (née Mary Hidden); by descent to her son, Walter Hidden (his name was legally changed from Lee to Hidden, died 1929), Providence, Rhode Island; by descent to his wife Mrs. Walter Hidden (died 1950), Providence; sold to Henry Francis du Pont (1880–1969), Winterthur, Delaware, 1932; given to Winterthur Museum, Delaware, 1960

Present Location: Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library

Mahogany & Marble Slab Table



Provenance

Lodowick Updike II (1725–1804), Wickford, Rhode Island; by descent to his daughter, Anstis Updike Lee (1765–1864), Wickford, Rhode Island; bequeathed to St. Paul's Church, Wickford, Rhode Island, 1864; the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, by 1964; consigned to Sotheby's, New York, June 26, 1986, lot 162; sold to Doris Duke (1912–1993) for Newport Restoration Foundation, Rhode Island, 1971; Whitehorne House Museum, Newport Restoration Foundation, Rhode Island, 1986

Present Location: Newport Restoration Foundation

Source: The Rhode Island Furniture Archive at the Yale University Art Museum - <https://rifa.art.yale.edu/>

ABIGAIL GARDINER UPDIKE

- Abigail Gardiner was born on September 26, 1740, the daughter of Col. John Gardiner(1696-1770) and Mary Taylor(1713-1774).
- Abigail was the first child of Mary Taylor Gardiner and John, and the eighth child in the family.
- The Gardiners owned one of the largest plantations in Kings County, and with another plantation in Westerly, were among the wealthiest landowners in Rhode Island.
- John Gardiner's first wife, Mary Hill, was the mother of 6 children, including Anstis Gardiner who grew up to marry William Robinson and become the mother of Hannah Robinson (of the familiar tale) who, though a niece, was just 6 years younger than Abigail.
- William Gardiner (John's brother)'s daughter Hannah Gardiner was the wife of Rev. James MacSparran.
- As a relative as well as a member of a prominent Narragasset Plantation family, Abigail Gardiner was a frequent visitor at the homes of the Robinsons, Updikes and MacSparrans.
- After years of education at home, Abigail may have attended a formal school. specifically, Madame Osborne's Finishing School in Newport, run by Sarah Haggar Wheaton Osborn.
- Based upon the bookcase full of volumes mentioned in her will, we may assume that Abigail was an avid reader from early on in her education.
- Abigail Gardiner married Lodowick (II) Updike in 1760. She was almost 20; he was 35. They were the parents of 11 children, including Daniel II, Anstis (Lee), and Wilkins (her youngest and the last Updike owner of the Castle).
- After Lodowick's death in 1804, his debts, and declining family fortunes, it became obvious that the property would have to be sold. When she wrote her will on April 23, 1812, she must have seen the writing on the wall, and was already planning with her children for the property to be sold with the provision that she would be allowed to live in the house until her death (This was not an unusual provision in those days).
- In December, 1812, the property was sold to the Congdons. Wilkins and his family then removed to a home they built in Little Rest (South Kingstown).
- Abigail died at her home on May 12, 1826. She would be buried on the property of Cocumscussoc and still lies there today, beyond the present boundaries on the Ayrault-Congdon-Updike lot, Rhode Island Historical Cemetery # 43.
- The notice of her death said that Abigail was known for her "amiable disposition, benevolence and piety."



**Documenting Slavery at Cocumscussoc:
A Chronology of Documented Events**

- 1639 *In November, 1639, Gysbert Opdyck, Commissary at the Dutch Fort, Hartford, by accident or otherwise, killed a negro boy, Louis Berbice, from Dutch Guiang, belonging to him. In the language of Mr. J. Hammond Trumbull, "This is the first black servant, or slave, of whom I can find trace in Connecticut."*
– William Chauncey Fowler. *Local law in Massachusetts and Connecticut, historically considered*. Albany: Joel Munsell, 1872 [from a speech delivered June 22, 1864].
- Nov.17, 1639:--"At the requisition of the Attorney General, it was declared by Gysbert Opdyck, Commissary in Fort Hope, that he gave his black boy, named Louis Barbese [Berbice?] the pan to fry cakes, and whereas the fire was too hot for the boy, so Opdyck took the pan in his own hand, and placed his knife in the hands of the black, then he commanded the boy to fetch a dish, who brought one very unclean, on which Opdyck struck the black, who, to evade it, tried to take hold of Opdyck, who thrust him away, so that the boy fell down on his left side, when he kicked him with his feet. The boy then went out of the door and fell down; when Opdyck discovered the knife, crooked as a hoop, and went to look at the boy, who was wounded in his body under the left arm, and died very suddenly." – Dutch Records (Translated), vol.ii, p.72.*
– In J. Hammond Trumbull, *The True-blue laws of Connecticut and New Haven and the false blue-laws ...* Hartford: American Publishing Company, 1876.
- 1675/6 Export of Narragansett and other Native American captives as slaves from Wickford.
– [source?]
- 1691 *I give unto my negro, Caesar and to his wife Sarah, their freedom after my decease and one hundred acres of land in convenient place, to be laid out by Lodowick Updike on some of my outshares of land either mortgage or surplusage of the neck. Also I give unto Caesar's children all their freedom when thirty years old and to Ebed-melich the like freedom, and the land Caesar is to have to him and his heirs forever, this after my wife's decease, not in her life time, for she shall possess her life in all.*
– Will of Richard Smith [Jr.] of Rochester [North Kingstown], made March 16, 1690/1.
- 1692 *two negro men Cost ... £40 s00 / five negro Children & an old negro Woman ... £40 s00.*
– "An Inventory of the Estate of Major Richard Smith deceased as presented to the underwritten & appraised by us the 3d Day of May 1692."
- c1715 Daniel Updike visits Barbados.
– Wilkins Updike, *Memoirs of the Rhode Island Bar*.

- 1723 1723 June 18 -- Voted, that Mr. Daniel Updike, the attorney general, be and he hereby is ordered, appointed and empowered to gather in the money due to this colony, for the importation of negroes, and to prosecute, sue and implead such person or persons as shall refuse to pay the same; and that he be allowed five shillings per head, for every slave that shall be hereafter imported into this colony, out of the impost money; and that he be also allowed ten per cent. more for all such money as he shall recover of the outstanding debts; and in all respects to have the like power as was given to the naval officer by the former act.
– Bartlett's Records of the Colony of Rhode Island, v4 p330
- 1724 *Melich a Negroe Man of North Kingstown ... 16th of July 1724 ... [against] Samuel Rhodes.*
Marginal note: *Judgment satisfied by Rhodes to Daniel Updike att. to Melich Negroe.*
– Newport County Supreme Court, General Court of Trials, Vol. A 1671-1724, 496.
- 1731 March 13. *The said Daniel Updike Shall find on sd Farm Two Good Negroes or other hands there to attend, live and Labour as the said Israel Philips shall Direct and Shall Clouth them.*
– Agreement between Daniel Updike & Israel Philips for Lease of Mansion House (South) Farm, North Kingstown, RI.
- 1734 Will of Lodowick Updike, badly burned, possibly references a slave named Penny.
--- *Item. I give unto my beloved Wife Ab[igail]-----*
--- *of the Room in my Dwelling House -----*
--- *proper Priviledge in the Kitchen and -----*
--- *Life and I give also unto her the -----*
--- *which [so?] lodge [S?]tanding in said -----*
--- *Natural Life. Also the Service of my -----*
--- *Penny. All which I give unto my said -----*
--- *her thirds.*
– Will of Lodowick Updike, made 1734, proved March 22, 1736/37. Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island. Probate Records, Vol. 7 (1731-1742), Pages 94-97.
- 1757 18 Negros
Nathaniel Vallewed at nothing
- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| <i>Charles</i> | <i>£ 300</i> |
| <i>Moses</i> | <i>600</i> |
| <i>Joseph</i> | <i>600</i> |
| <i>Dimas</i> | <i>600</i> |
| <i>Newport</i> | <i>500</i> |
| <i>Dublin</i> | <i>600</i> |
| <i>Mingo</i> | <i>450</i> |
| <i>Claro</i> | <i>400</i> |
| <i>James</i> | <i>400</i> |
| <i>Cæsar</i> | <i>200</i> |

Dominic at Nothing
Paul 2 Years Old 100
Prince 50
Sue 100
Lille and Child 500
Bridget 250
Robie 2½ Years Old 100

– An Inventory of the Personal Estate of Daniel Updike Esqr. of North Kingstown Deceased taken and Approved by us the Subscribers the 5th Day of June A.D. 1757

- 1763 *Date: 5/14/1763*
Master: Lodowick Updike
Source: Providence Gazette
Run away young Negro man named Dimas, born in this country, Five feet four inches tall. "Has a down look. ... Had on when he went off, a new double breasted jacket of snuff color'd broad cloth, trim'd with horn buttons, and breeches of the same; he wore a low brim'd hat, and affects of a sailor." Also has a scar from bridge of nose to corner of mouth.
 – Robert K. Fitts, *Inventing New England's Slave Paradise*. Garland, 1998, p.220.
- 1767 [Fitts notes that Dimas ran away again in 1767 and Lodowick Updike posted a second ad, but Fitts did not abstract or reference this ad.]
- 1765-69 *Most interestingly, in [Aaron] Lopez's Newport ledger books from 1766 through 1769, there are many instances of his doing business with a Negro named Prince Updike. Lopez delivered raw cocoa to Updike and Updike returned ground chocolate for which he received five shillings for every pound prepared. Between 1766 and 1767, Updike produced 2000 pounds of chocolate from 2500 pounds of cocoa, and between 1768 and 1769, Updike produce 4000 pounds of ground chocolate from 5000 pounds of cocoa (fig. 5.4).*
 – Louis E. Grivettie, et al., *Chocolate: history, culture, and heritage*. Wiley, 2009, pp.58-59. P. 59: Figure 5.4 Aaron Lopez's ledger Negro Prince Updike for the year 1766. Notation for Updike grinding cacao. Source: Aaron Lopez Collection, Lopez Account Book 715, p.37, left. Courtesy of the Newport Historical Society, Newport, RI.
- 1778 *Date. Slave's Name Master's Name Value*
May 8 Moses Updike Lodowick Updike, N. K. 93
May 8 Ceaser Updike Lodowick Updike, N. K. 120
 – A List of Slaves Enlisted in to the Continental Army. To whom belonged, with their value, in the year 1778, from Kings County. Value in Pounds. As published in *The Narragansett Historical Register*, Volume I. April, 1883. No. 4, p. 313.
- 1779 Caesar Updike listed as Private in Col. Christopher Greene's Rhode Island Regiment, as it stood May 1, 1779.

- W.T.R. Saffell, *Records of the Revolutionary War*, 1894, p.153.
- 1781 Death of Prince Updike at age 70.
– Tombstone in Newport Common Burial Ground. (Photo here:
<http://travel.webshots.com/photo/1432469812042101085fjhsgO>)
- 1794 Sept. 5. Caesar Updike, Private, Rhode Island line, listed among “[Pension] Claims Barred by the Statutes of Limitation.”
– *American State Papers*, Vol. IX, 1834, p. 403
- 1798 *One Negro woman have about Twenty Six years of age.*
– The Land and Houses of Lodowick Updike of North Kingston , December 12th, 1798.
Updike Family Papers, Rhode Island Historical Society Manuscripts, Case 14:21-23.
- 1802 *A manuscript bill from Lodowick Updike(?). January 1802. It's a bill for pay for his work on the Schooner BETSEY. "A voyage to Cape de Verd and else where in the Schooner Betsey. Richard Cornell, Master" For a 10 month and 23 day voyage to and from "Cape de Verd" -- 10 months and 23 days. \$172.26. That's 16.00 per month. An interesting historical document. Cape Verde (West Africa) was a regular run for Slave Ships. This bill is most assuredly from a seaman working on a slave ship. [NB: This is Lodowick Updike b.1779, son of Lodowick Updike (1725-1804).]*
– <http://www.freemaninstitute.com/Collectmain.htm>. Item 52.
- 1835 Caesar Updike, private, list on 1835 Pension Roll with note “suspended under act May 1, 1820.” [Apparently Caesar was still living at this time.]
– United States. War Department. *The Pension Roll of 1835*. Vol 1, p.182.

An Inventory of y^e Estate of Maj^r
 Richard Smith dece^d as presented to the Under Written &
 appraised by us y^e 3^d Day of May 1692 _ _ _ _ _

	£	s
In the Warehouse Chamber		
Six Iron pots and Kettles a Coile Cordage below In the warehouse	2	10
A parcell of cask and other Lumber	1	10
50 bushells of Salt and a Copper	10	00
In y ^e Shop a parcel of Goods	90	00
In y ^e Stone house Chamber a Brass Kettle and other Lumber	03	00
In the Kitchen Pewter Brass Iron Potts and other things	04	00
In the Kitchen in the Greate house one Brass Kettle Chaires Candlesticks & other Small Things	05	00
12 Guns & other Small arms	15	00
In the Dairy Room Some few old Things	00	10
In y ^e hall a Small Sea Bed & Som furniture a map of y ^e world a Platt of Boston a pair of Colours and other Things	10	00
In the Closett Sundry Books & other Things	05	00
In the Porch Chamber a Bed and Bedstead a rug and Some Blanketts a Read Leather Trunk and other Things	10	00
In Plate	25	00
Wearing apparel Linen and Woollen	20	00
In the Greate house Kitchen Chamber 2 old Beds & homemade furniture & other things	14	00
In a Littele Closett Shoes and Some Lumber	02	00
In a Chest Pewter Brass & Tin Ware	06	00
In The Hall Chamber Three Beds Bolsters Covering 4 Setts of Curtains 4 Cover =lids with other Small things with wareing apparel of M ^r Smiths	65	00
Linen New & old with an old watch	31	00
Gold & Rings	40	00
English money	15	00
New England mony and Spanish	65	00
Broken Pieces of Plate	01	10
In a Closett one pair of Brass and Irons one Jack and other Things	03	00
In y ^e Leanto Chamber about 40 of Sheeps Woole and Lumber	02	10
In y ^e Kitchen Garrett Servents Beds & Covering	03	00
In the Hall Garrett a Scane[?] home Spun Cloath and other things	04	00
In y ^e Porch Garrett Several old things	02	10
tow negro men Cost	40	00
five negro Children & an old negro Woman	40	00
Tow Geldings & a Stone Horse	20	00
about 30 Sheep at Thomas Havens	09	00

(ucite)

In the Warehouse Chamber		£	s
young and old swine about 20		5	10
Carts Ploughs & other Husbandry Tools		7	00
Cattle young & old about 135		250	00
A Debt of Henry Bulls dece,d on obligation		42	00
A debt of Coll Smiths of Seaccannit [?]		40	00
Severall other debt wich If Paid about		200	00
Half of y ^e Sloop Primrose		100	00
a Clock at Boston		20	00
		11179	1?

Francis Brinley John Fones
Andrew Willett

Before the Hon.^{ble} William Stoughton Esqr

Lodowick Updike Exec^r psonally appearing made oath that this cont
=ains a just and true Inventory of ye Personal Estate of his Late Uncle
Major Richard Smith Deced. so far as hath Come to his Knowledg and that
If more hereafter appears he will Cause It to be added.

Boston Octo^r 13^{the}
1692

Jurat Cor. W^m Stoughton

Examd per Is^e Addington Reg^r
A True Copy Exam

Paul Dudly Reg^r

An Inventory of the Personal Estate of Daniel Updike Esq ^r . of North Kingstown Deceased taken and Approved by us the Subscribers the 5th [?] Day of June A.D. 1757		
Imprimis	To his Wearing Apparel & Silver Hilted Sword	160
	To 8 Gold Rings	120
	To 119 Ounces of Plate at £6	714
In the Office	To his Books 2 Desks & Book Case	450
	To 1 Table and Chest	14
	To 1 pair Pistoles	20
The Great Room	To 1 Clock	70
	To 2 Looking Glasses	190
	To 2 Oval Tables	40
	To 1 Tea Table and Chaney [Chancy?]	25
	To 7 Leather Chairs	14
	To 1 Old Couch and Stool	5
	To 1 pair Andirons Tongues and Shovel	8
	To 5 Old Pictures	5
In the Bedroom	To 1 Bed and Bedding	80
below	To 1 Low Case of Draws	12
	To 1 Bed and Furniture	120
	To 1 High Case Draws	60
	To 1 Table and 8 Chairs	45
	To 1 Tea Table and 1 S?????	21
In the 2 Bedrooms	To Bed and Furniture	150
	To 1 Looking Glass	45
	To 1 Table and 2 Chairs	20
	To 1 Bed and Beding 1 Old Desk & 1 Chair	60
[In the North Chamber?]	To 1 Easy Chair & 5 other Chairs	35
[In the North Chamber?]	To 1 Case Draws and Old Dressing Table	30
	To 1 Sett Curtins & Counterpin [?]	20
	To Chaney [Chancy?] and Glass Ware	120

Carried Over

Front of the Castle

Grave

About 40 colonists who died in the Great Swamp Fight, either during the battle or during the trek back to Smith's Castle are buried in a mass grave at the Castle, including Richard Smith's nephew Richard Updike, son of Katharine and Gysbert Updike. The site of the original grave is not known but it was reportedly near a large apple tree known as "The Grave Apple Tree." In 1813, this tree was blown down during a storm and the location of the site was forgotten over time. A bronze plaque was placed on a rock in 1907 commemorating the burial site.

Island

Looking towards the water you can see an island that has been known as Queens Island, Goat Island, and currently is known as Rabbit Island. The goats of the colonists would get into the crops of the Narragansett. In order to keep the peace, Queen Sachem, Quaiapen, gave the island to Roger Williams so he could graze his goats there. The island belongs to the Cocumscussoc Association.

Garden

Visitors are welcome to visit this colonial revival style garden, which did not duplicate our historic garden but was designed with a romantic and nostalgic perspective on an earlier historic period. The garden design was created by Irmgard Graham in 1953. The design won the Founders' Fund Award of the Garden Clubs of America. A garden brochure is available in the gift shop and in the garden brochure box. Daniel Updike's elaborate garden was located in the front of the house.

Punt

This square-ended, flat-bottomed boat is a reproduction of the English punt. It is propelled with poles in shallow water and with long "sweeps" in deeper water. Very stable in calm water, it is difficult to handle in wind and waves. Its primary purpose was to transfer cargo from larger sailing ships, which could not come into shallower waters. It also transported animals, goods, and supplies along the sheltered waters of the bays and inlets. This model was built for the Castle in 1988.

Front door view port

The view port shows the location of the original door frame. This can be seen on the model and in the laminated photo of the 1678 Castle. It was discovered during the 1993-97 restoration.

Richard Smith Jr. Room (Trading Post)

(The light switch is located in the hallway between the two kitchens)

This room is representative of the 17th century as it might have been when Richard Smit, Jr. lived in his new house, which had been rebuilt after the original structured was burned to the ground in King Philip's War. The furnishes were gifts to the association; some are reproductions.

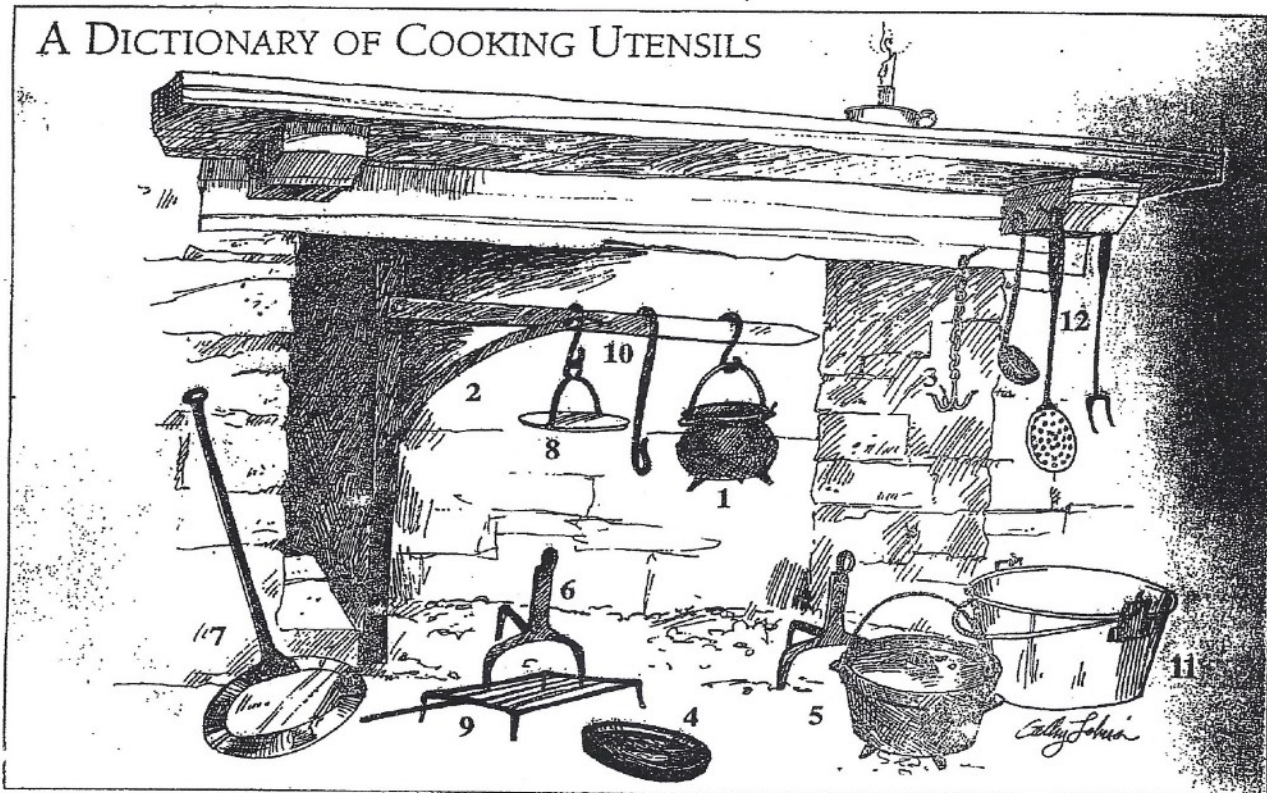
Beams	<p>Crossed summer beams are an unusual feature in homes of this period. The term is derived from the French term "sommier," meaning "load bearing." Usually there is only one beam at a right angle to the fireplace wall. The load-bearing beam going into the chimney wall is oak and the crossbeam is white pine.</p> <p>Along the edge of the beams is <i>chamfering</i> or beveling. For decorative purposes there is a <i>lamb's tongue stop</i> at the ends and at the cross in the center. This decoration is unusual and is a display of the Smith's great wealth because only the wealthy could afford woodworking.</p>
Paneling	<p>The paneling in the corner by the fireplace is original to the 1678 house. During the 1950 John Cady restoration, the rest of the room was finished with matching reproduction paneling; however, originally the outside walls would likely have been plastered.</p>
Windows	<p>The leaded glass windows in the 1678 house were smaller and diamond shaped.</p>
Homemade furniture	<p>The stool next to the hearth and the table next to the upholstered chair are excellent examples of homemade furniture.</p>
Chests	<p>Jacobean/William and Mary transition style Chests such as these were used in England during the 1600s. They were also made in Rhode Island during the 17th century.</p>
Dishes	<p>The dishes on the table are pewter, a metal made of tin and other metals. Wood was also used for utensils and serving pieces. Spoons were the common utensil. Forks were not commonly used until the mid 1700s. The only knives used at the table were the ones men kept in their belts.</p>
Settle	<p>This reproduction period is multipurpose. The top tilts to provide seating or a table surface. There is storage under the seat.</p>
Gate-leg table	<p>This table could be easily folded and placed against the wall. Furniture was frequently moved in multifunctional rooms such as this.</p>

Kitchen

This room was originally the lean to storage area in the 1678 house. It was enlarged and converted to a kitchen in the c1738 renovation.

Fireplace	This is a huge firebox. It was built during the c1738 renovation. Inside are unusual double bee hive ovens. After 1750 most bee hive ovens were built to the side of the firebox, complete with their own flue. (See <i>Castle Chronicle</i> , Vo. 11, No. 3, Fall 2002 for in depth information on this fireplace.)
Hearth	The area directly in front of the fireplace, usually made of stone. .. protected the wooden floor from catching fire and provided additional cooking surface.
Viewport	Shows original wooden sill of the 1678 house. The sill provides the base for the foundation.
Flintlock musket	An example of the type of weapon used during the colonial era.
Powder horn	Storage for gunpowder for the flintlock musket.
Trestle table	A reproduction of a type commonly used in colonial homes. It could be taken apart and stored when additional space was needed.
Hutch	The hutch holds a small collection of redware. Redware was the common made pottery used in colonial times. It was made in New England.
Jonnycake board	Flat board used for baking this pancake-like food.
Candle box	Storage which protects candles from rodents.
Pewter dishes	Pewter was used by the wealthy. Middle to lower class families used wooden plates.
Mortar and pestle	Could be made of metal, wood or stone. Used to crush and grind food stuffs and medicinals.

A DICTIONARY OF COOKING UTENSILS



Since only a few cooking utensils came to the New World with the colonists, foundries as early as the late seventeenth century were making pots and kettles to meet the demand for cast-iron vessels, and the forged products of the blacksmith and other metal workers were in

great demand. Our list includes cooking utensils or implements needed specifically to prepare food over the fire—but remember that fully stocked hearths didn't exist in early American homes. A typical fireplace would have contained only the essentials for that day's cooking.

1. BULGE POT

A rounded cast-iron pot with a bail and short legs. Unlike a kettle, a pot has a flared edge.

2. CRANE

Two bars joined at right angles, the vertical bar attaches to the sidewall of the fireplace, the horizontal bar swings out over the fire and is used to suspend cooking pots and kettles.

3. DANGLESPIT

A three-pronged hook, on a chain or hole-and-peg trammel, to which meat is attached for roasting.

4. DRIP PAN

Placed under a juicy roast turning on a spit, it keeps the drippings from going into the fire.

5. DUTCH OVEN

A heavy three-legged cast-iron pot and cover. Lid has a rim. When set in coals to bake, coals are also heaped on top, thus surrounding contents with heat.

6. FIREDOGS (Andirons)

Used to hold logs above hearth and to keep them from rolling forward. Some were designed with hooks or rings on the up-rights to hold spits.

7. FRYING PAN

A long-handled shallow pan made of iron, copper, or brass. Usually without legs.

8. GRIDDLE

A flat, round pan with a bail for hanging.

9. GRIDIRON

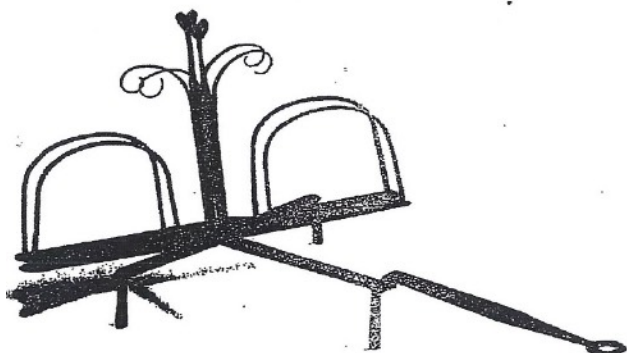
A rack with a handle to hold meat for grilling. Some of these have longer legs in front because of deeper coals to the rear of the fireplace; round ones may swivel.

10. VARIOUS HOOKS

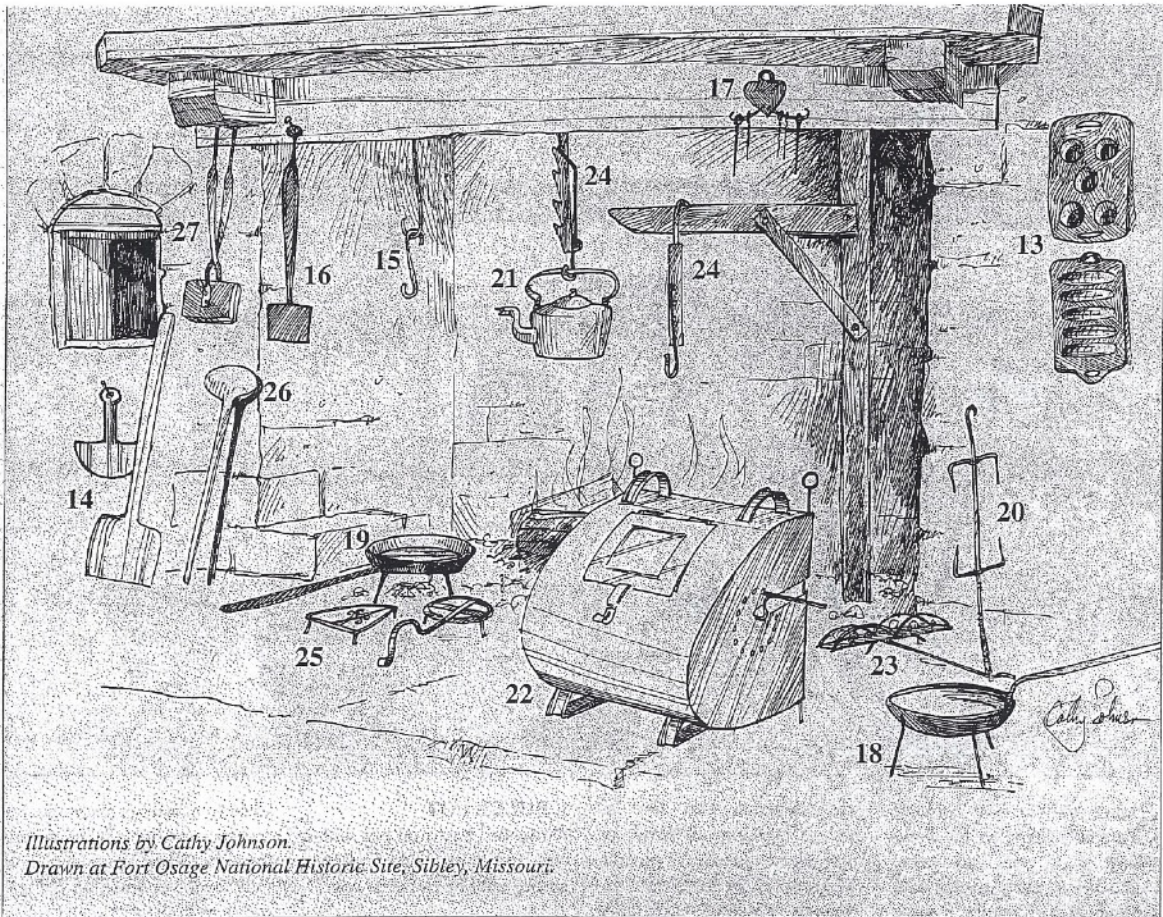
11. KETTLE

Large, heavy boiling vessel with a bail, which widens gradually from the base to the rim and hangs from a trammel.

12. LADLE, SKIMMER, FORK



Toaster from the Walter Himmelreich collection, Pennsylvania, c. 1800. Bread was placed between the arches; when one side was browned, the toaster was rotated to brown the other side.



Illustrations by Cathy Johnson.
 Drawn at Fort Osage National Historic Site, Sibley, Missouri.

LUG POLE (not shown)

Thick greenwood or iron pole inserted into sidewalls or shelves of fireplace about three feet above hearth. Pots suspend from trammels or hooks hung on the log pole.

13. PANS

Baking pans of various contours—flat or molded, large or small, iron or tin.

14. PEEL

A long-handled iron or wooden utensil like a broad, flat shovel (can be round or rectangular). Used to slide bread or pie into and out of the bake oven.

15. S-HOOK

A series of these make an adjustable chain for hanging pots from a crane or lug pole. Some longer ones were more suited to the lug pole than the short type used with

the crane.

16. SALAMANDER

A short-handled metal peel heated and held over food to brown it.

17. SKEWERS

Iron pins used to secure roast to spit either over an open fire or in a tin kitchen.

18. SKILLET

A stewing pan with a long handle, sometimes with legs.

19. SPIDER

A long-handled frying pan on long legs (19th century).

20. SPIT

Long, sharp metal spike inserted through meat and suspended over fire or within tin oven for roasting. Skewers were needed to secure meat if spit lacked prongs or spikes.

21. TEA KETTLE

Some had handles for lifting off the crane, and others had tippers attached at the front to facilitate pouring without lifting. Some tea kettles had legs to set into the coals.

22. TIN KITCHEN or REFLECTOR OVEN

A tin box, placed close to the fire, with an opening on the side facing the fire. Meat, secured on a spit, could be turned and roasted slowly. A door on the cook's side enabled viewing.

23. TOASTERS

Sometimes elaborate, some of these long-handled wrought-iron devices may have had legs and swiveling grillwork to turn the toast.

24. TRAMMEL

A two-part device that hung from the lug pole or crane to

hold the cooking pot over the fire. Holes in the hole-and-peg type, or the toothed edge of the sawtooth type, permitted height adjustment.

25. TRIVET

Small, three-legged iron filigree utensil with a handle. Placed in the coals, a skillet, pot, or Dutch oven would set on it to cook; set to the side, it kept food warm.

26. WAFER IRON

Rarer than the waffle iron, this was used to make thin, sweet pastries with fancy designs. Pastries would then be filled and rolled.

27. WAFFLE IRON

Two iron waffle blocks with long handles operate either scissor fashion or end-hinged. Clasp at end locks it, then it's inserted into coals and held until done. ★

This is in Kitchen in Box to Right of the Fireplace

From Estate Inventory of Daniel Updike (1757)

19 Negroes

Nathaniel Vallewed at nothing

Charles	-----	£300
Moses	-----	600
Joseph	-----	600
Dimas	-----	600
Newport	-----	500
Dublin	-----	-- 600
Mingo	-----	-- 450
Claro	-----	-- 400
James	-----	400
Caesar	-----	200
Dominic at Nothing		
Paul 2 Years Old	-----	100
Prince	-----	50
Sue	-----	100
Lille and Child	-----	500
Bridget	-----	250

Robie 2-1/2 Years Old -----	--	100
2 Mares & Colts -----		300
2 Mares £300 & £200 -----		500
10 Year Old Horse £50 & Mare £70 ----		120
2 Mares -----	--	300

THIS IS THE WAY WE WASHED OUR CLOTHES

Most of the laundry consisted of “body linen,” items worn next to the skin, like undershirts, shifts, and chemises. These protected finer, outer garments from skin oils and sweat that soiled clothing more than dirt from the outside. Outer garments were therefore rarely laundered.

4:30 am Wood and water were gathered and fire was prepared. On laundry day 50-60 large pieces of wood would be needed—about 150-200 pounds of wood — and also 20-40 gallons of water brought by yoke and buckets from the nearest water source. The wash water was boiled in a *COPPER*, a large multi-purpose pot, also used to prepare food, make beer, render animal fat, and heat bath water.

9:00 am Clothes were sorted by color and degree of soil and the first load of laundry was placed in the boiling water to loosen any dirt. It was agitated with a washing bat known as a *BEETLES* (earlier used for beating clothes on rocks or a board) or, somewhat later, a *DOLLY* or *POSSER*.

10:00 am—? Stained clothes were treated by various methods. Chalk, brick dust, and pipe clay were used on greasy stains. Alcohol treated grass stains and kerosene, bloodstains. Milk was thought to remove urine stains and fruit. Urine (both animal and human) and lye (due to the high ammonia content) were often used for bleaching as were lemon and onion juice. Depending on the severity of the stains, clothes might be soaked for many hours or even days.

BUCKING and *CROFTING* was a particular method for very infrequently washed linens. Boiling water was poured onto the laundry through *BUCKING CLOTH* on which lay a layer of ashes. The bucking tub was raised on a frame and a plug at the bottom allowed the water to flow into a bucket; the water was then re-heated and poured over the laundry over and over again. After washing again they were *crofted* (laid out on the grass) for several weeks.

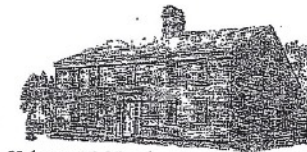
NOON Clothes were rinsed thoroughly and excess water was removed. Two people usually wrung them. Richer families might have a box mangle which wound the clothing around wringers and pressed out the liquid.

1 pm Clothes were hung out to dry on lines or laid on the grass.

TIME TO START THE SECOND LOAD!

Daniel Updike's Law Office

- Desk** Rhode Island 18th century slant-front (fall-front) cherry and chestnut desk which belonged to Beriah Brown, a descendant or Richard Smith through a maternal line. Mr. Brown was elected High Sheriff of Washington County in 1746; he served in that position for 38 years and died in 1792. (See *Chronicle* article for more information.)
- Desk Chair** Queen Anne style pad feet and Chippendale slate back.
- Portrait: Anstis Jenkins Updike** This portrait of Daniel Updike's second wife and the mother of his children was painted by Nehemiah Partridge (a/k/a the Aetatis Sue limner), and artist known to have visited Newport in 1722. This is a copy, the original being in the RI Historical Society. It is their oldest American portrait. It was commissioned in honor of the Updike's wedding; the companion portrait of Daniel has been lost. The *Opdyke Genealogy* says that there were portraits done of Anstis and her mother done by John Smibert but it is not known if it is referring to this portrait, which does not appear to be in his style.
- Map** The white shaded areas show modern towns transferred from Massachusetts to Rhode Island through Daniel's efforts.



The Law Office of Rhode Island Attorney General Daniel Updike

Recreating an 18th Century Law Office at Smith's Castle

For its 2008 season, Smith's Castle is developing a permanent exhibition recreating the c. 1755 office of Daniel Updike, Rhode Island attorney general. The exhibition will commemorate the accomplishments of Updike as attorney general, incorporate or recreate elements of his office based on the inventory of his personal estate, and interpret the workings of a mid-18th century law practice.

Formative Years

Daniel Updike was born in 1693 or 1694, the son of Lodowick and Abigail (Newton) Updike. One year earlier, Daniel's father had inherited the vast estate of his uncle, Richard Smith Jr., consisting of thousands of acres centered on the family's seat at Cocumscussoc (Wickford), also known as Smith's Castle.

Much of what we know about Daniel Updike comes from a biography written by his grandson, Wilkins Updike, in his *Memoirs of the Rhode Island Bar* (1842).

"Daniel was educated in his father's house, by an able French instructor, in the Greek, Latin, and French languages, and his sisters, in the Latin and French. After Daniel's education was completed, he visited Barbadoes, in the company of a friend of his father's; and was admitted to the first circles of society on the Island. His intercourse with the English residents was highly beneficial, in improving his mind, and polishing his manners. Upon his return, he immediately applied himself to the study of the law. After his admission he opened an office in Newport..." [Updike 1842: 37]

While Wilkins Updike paints the Barbados trip as the coming-of-age, educational experience of an elite young man, the trip may actually have been a working one for Daniel. In colonial records, Daniel and his uncle, James Updike, appear in Newport court records as mariners from 1718 to 1721 (when he was about 25 to 28 years old).¹ Yet, in May 1722, when Henry Bull declined to fill the office of "General Attorney," Daniel Updike was elected to fill the vacancy.

Elected General Attorney

Wilkins Updike is silent on the dates of Daniel's legal training and with whom he studied and apprenticed in order to qualify for the bar. What explains Daniel Updike's fast-track elevation from mere mariner to chief legal officer of the colony in just one year?—especially given that, at the time, he had not even been admitted as a freeman of the colony? Daniel was accepted as a freeman of the town of Newport in 1723—almost a year after his election as attorney general.²

Is it possible an advantageous marriage accounts for his meteoric rise?

—continued page 16

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Attorney General Daniel Updike



Anstis Jenkins Updike was the second wife of Daniel Updike. Painting by Nehemiah Partridge (the Aetatis Sue limner), 1722. Courtesy of the Rhode Island Historical Society. Photograph by David Shultz. (RHI x5 367)

About 1716 Daniel married Sarah Arnold, likely the daughter of Benedict Arnold, a speaker of the House of Deputies (1706–1707) and granddaughter of Governor Benedict Arnold. Sarah died in 1718, but this family connection no doubt helped Daniel in his professional aspirations.³

Shortly after his election as attorney general in 1722, Daniel Updike married his second wife, Anstis Jenkins. According to Wilkins Updike, Anstis was the granddaughter of an aristocratic Polish woman, “a lady...who by her intermarriage with Mr. Wilkins, below her degree, lost the favor of her family and emigrated with him to America. By the connexion [sic], Mr. Updike became possessed of a considerable property, in addition to his patrimonial estate.” [Updike 1842: 37–38]

In honor of the wedding, two portraits were painted of the couple by the Aetatis Sue limner (also known as the Schuyler limner), who recently has been identified as Nehemiah Partridge, an artist known to briefly have visited Newport in 1722. The portrait of Anstis survives and today is the oldest painting in the collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society. Unfortunately, the companion portrait of Daniel is missing. [Goodyear 1974: 3] Daniel and Anstis had four children: Lodowick in 1725, Mary in 1727, and twins Gilbert and Wilkins in 1729, both of whom died in infancy.

Setting R.I. Boundaries

In 1724, the legislature voted that “Mr. Daniel Updike be sent to Connecticut to exchange copies of the Assembly’s acts, and of the commission for the settling of boundaries between the two colonies.” [Bartlett 1859 IV: 349] This boundary had been disputed since the mid 1600s, with Updike’s own ancestors, Richard Smith Sr. and Jr., staunch advocates for Connecticut’s claim to southern Rhode Island. The negotiations proved fruitless and the matter was ultimately decided by the King in Council in 1726, although the border was not firmly established until the 19th century. [Updike 1842: 39]

Also that year, Massachusetts requested Rhode Island (and Connecticut) military assistance against alleged Native American hostilities. Wilkins credits Daniel Updike with drafting the reply (signed by Richard Ward, recorder) that rebuffed the request diplomatically, thus keeping Rhode Island out of the immediate conflict. [Updike 1842: 39–41; Bartlett 1859 IV: 351–353] In 1727, Updike was also on a committee to draft an address to the newly coronated King George II that contained, in addition to the expected pleasantries, requests for cannons for new fortifications at Newport. [Bartlett 1859 IV: 392–294]

In 1729, Daniel Updike became embroiled in a cause that marked the high point in his legal career. He was appointed, along with William Jencks and Daniel Abbott, to fix the border between the colonies of Rhode Island and Massachusetts. [Updike 1842: 44] This effort would not be decided until the 1740s.

“In June, 1741, the King’s commissioners met at Providence, to hear and determine the cause... To Rhode-Island the issue was eventful. Her existence, as a colony, depended on the decision. If Massachusetts could establish her claim to the Narragansett Bay, on the south-west, the exclusive political jurisdiction of Rhode-Island over the Narragansett waters would be lost forever; but if Rhode-Island could establish her jurisdiction over the territory described in her Charter, she would hold, within her control, the great naval and commercial key of New-England. Both parties were confident; and both were arrayed with their best talents, for the conflict... Each party thought they understood their case; they were ready for the trial; neither asked for postponement or delay. Mr. Shirley, or Bolland, and Auchmuty, distinguished advocates in Boston, argued the cause in behalf of Massachusetts, and Messrs. Honeyman and Updike in behalf of Rhode-Island. Judge Lightfoot, who heard the trial, spoke of it as one of the most anxious exhibitions

that he ever witnessed, and that the argument of Mr. Updike, in the close, was a masterly effort. [Updike 1842: 48-49]

The commissioners sided mostly with Rhode Island, and the decision was confirmed by the crown, over Massachusetts appeal, in 1746. The decision gave to Rhode Island the modern towns of Little Compton, Tiverton, Bristol, Warren, Barrington, and Cumberland.

Despite Updike's later success in settling and expanding Rhode Island's borders, his ancestors' own unpopular land claims were a political liability. In 1732, Daniel Updike declined to run as attorney general to pursue a run for governor. Supporters of his opponent, William Wanton, however, spread a rumor that if Updike was elected, he would reopen and reverse land claims to Narragansett country. Wanton prevailed.

Newport Culture

Reverend George Berkeley, Irish philosopher and dean of Derry, arrived in Newport in 1729 and quickly became friends with Daniel Updike. Berkeley was on his way to Bermuda to establish a college, but Updike and other locals tried to persuade him to establish the school in Rhode Island. Berkeley bought an old house in Newport (now Middletown), and Daniel Updike's name appears as a witness to the deed. Berkeley renovated the old farmhouse in the Georgian style, the latest in English fashion at the time. He called his house Whitehall in reference to the home of the English kings. It remains today as a museum.

Updike, already a learned man, was no doubt encouraged by Berkeley, as were other locals, in literary and philosophical pursuits. In 1730 a group of Newporters, including Updike, formed a literary society out of which was formed the Redwood Library in 1747, and Updike is one of the Redwood's original proprietors. Updike had a vast personal library, including books on law, religion, and the classics. Funding for Berkeley's college was not forthcoming, and Berkeley returned home in 1731. On his departure, he presented Updike with a silver flagon (coffee pot), now in the collection of Newport's Trinity Church.

Daniel's father Lodowick died in 1737, leaving his vast estate to Daniel. At this time, Daniel, who had called Newport home for nearly two decades, moved back to the family home at Cocumscussoc. Inspired by Berkeley's renovation of Whitehall, Updike transformed his great uncle's c.1678 Elizabethan-style "Castle" into a grand and elegant Georgian mansion

house, with symmetrical façade painted bright white and paneled interiors of bright pink. The renovation may have taken about two years, as in September 1739 the records of Old St. Paul's mention the admission of Mrs. Anstis Updike, "the wife of Col. Daniel Updike, having been heretofore, before her removal to the main land, a Communicant at y^e Church of Newport." [Updike 1907 I: 183]

Final Years in Office

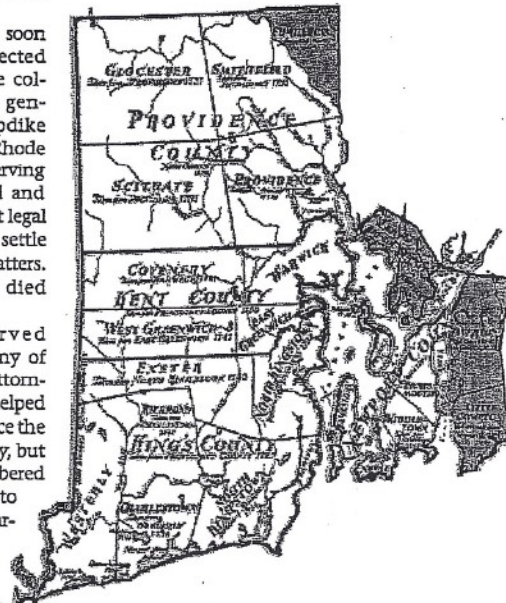
In 1740, the office of Attorney General was changed from one, colony-wide, position to individual attorney generals for each county. Daniel Updike, who had given up the position in 1732, was appointed to represent King's County in 1741 and 1742. This method was repealed and in 1743, Daniel Updike was once again elected as the colony-wide Attorney General.

Anstis died about 1744. In 1745, Daniel married a third time. His new wife, Mary, was the widow of his rival in the governor race, William Wanton. Mary also preceded Daniel in death.

In May 1757, soon after he was elected yet again as the colony's attorney general, Daniel Updike died. Ironically, Rhode Island's longest serving attorney general and one of its greatest legal minds failed to settle his own legal matters. Daniel Updike died intestate.

Updike served the longest of any of Rhode Island's attorneys general. He helped mould and enforce the laws of the colony, but he will be remembered most for helping to secure the boundaries of the Rhode Island colony as we know them today.

The shaded areas on the map show the modern towns transferred from Massachusetts to Rhode Island in 1746. "Map of Rhode Island, 1806-1854" John Hutchins Cady, 1936.



That Wonderful Clock... (Law Office)

Peter Nunes

During my first visit to Smith's Castle, just a couple of years ago, I overheard a man adjacent room exclaim, "What a wonderful clock!". Since I've been collecting and



restoring antique clocks since 1968, my interest was naturally piqued, and I went in to the Updike dining room to view the object of his comment. I was amazed to see an example of one of the most unusual forms of New England made clocks, a dwarf tall-case clock, commonly known as a "grandmother" clock. (The origin of the term "grandmother clock" for short "grandfathers clocks" is uncertain, but it is comparatively modern. In Great Britain, grandfather clocks are known as longcase clocks; here in the United States, they are called tall-case clocks. The popular term "grandfathers clock" derives from a very well known folk song turned nursery rhyme, *My Grandfather's Clock*, written by Henry C. Work, and published in 1876.)

While the maker of the clock did not sign the dial or the movement, thereby most likely relegating himself to permanent anonymity, much can be deduced about its origins by the manner in which it is

made. The shaped movement plates, made that way so as to save brass, point to a northern Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire, or southern Maine maker. The simple pine case, which almost certainly would have been painted originally, and the very beautiful dial, done by a not overly



sophisticated hand, point to the clock's rural origins. I had hoped that the exquisite heart shaped hour hand might lead me to the maker, but a fairly thorough search of the literature of New England clocks didn't turn up a match. It may be unique.

The weight driven, week running clock movement is very well made and competently finished. The clockmaker was clearly experienced and probably well trained by an older master clockmaker. The vertically oriented bell is struck once at each hour by a hammer which is lifted and dropped by a pin mounted on a gear, obviating the need for a much more complex striking mechanism. This system is known as "passing strike". A standard strike train would have doubled the number of gears, arbors and pinions used in the movement, which of course would have had to be made larger to accommodate the extra parts. All this would have added significantly to the cost of the clock.

While it is difficult to ascribe a specific date to the clock, the style of the case, the painted dial, and the existence of other, somewhat similar clocks with known dates of manufacture, make the first quarter of the nineteenth century very likely. If I had to guess, I would say that it was made just prior to the War of 1812, during which brass was very difficult to come by due to the suspension of trade with England.



Although diminished by having once been stripped and refinished, the clock is in generally excellent condition. The condition of the dial and hands is remarkable, and while the movement is in need of cleaning and minor restoration, it too is in fine, entirely original condition.

A clock of this caliber would likely have been purchased by a fairly prosperous, rural family... like the Updikes. Smith's Castle is fortunate to have such a fine clock, and the clock is fortunate in having found an honored place among the collections at Smith's Castle.

ANSTIS UPDIKE LEE (11 Jul 1764—11Jul 1864)

Died on Her 100th Birthday (Accident)

Older sister of Wilkins Updike; 3rd child of eleven of Lodowick II & Abigail Gardiner

At 23 took trip with her brother Daniel to CT riding a Narragansett Pacer and wrote about her adventure.

Married William Lee (Providence merchant) in 1811; she was 43—He died in 1814.

No children—probably why she lived so long. Many women died in childbirth.

Wilkins had sold Castle homestead in 1812 so she lived in Lafayette Section of North Kingstown.

Census of 1830 indicates her orphaned nephew was living with her (she probably raised him).

In 1860 census shows her living alone, but her sister Abigail Updike Reynolds who was 91 at the time lived down the street.

Of her family of 11, the average age at death was over 80. Four lived into their 90s and Anstis was 100.





UNKNOWN CHILD

Painted by an unknown itinerant artist.

Itinerant artists would paint the torsos of people, often children, during the “off-season” and in better weather, take the canvasses around to offer their artistic services to people in the settlements. The head of the person being represented was then painted (“photo-shopped”) onto the already-complete bottom part of the portrait.

This may have been either a boy or a girl. Both wore dresses in early childhood.

Note that the neck seems disproportionate to the rest of the body.

Smith's Castle was the recipient recently of the donation of a vintage grandfather clock from local clock dealer and repairman Robert Brousseau.

The clock is a Georgian long case grandfather's clock. It stands approximately 10 feet tall. It was manufactured in England around 1780-1790 by Robert Pitts. It is an older model and utilizes a 30 day rope winding mechanism. It came with a pendulum and other accessories.

The clock was delivered in August with assistance from Chet Browning and Bob Geake, and was placed in the dining room near Anstis Updike Lee's portrait to coincide with the family's last years of ownership of the property. The smaller grandmother clock was removed and will be placed in the house after consultation with the site committee .

We thank Mr. Brousseau for his generous donation, and look forward to the chimes of a working clock ringing through the rooms of the Castle.



Five Colonial-Era Drinks You Should Know – Corin Hirsch

[Photos: Corin Hirsch]



“Once flip appeared in taverns in the 1690s, it would capture the colonial hearts and livers for a century to come. A blend of beer, rum, molasses (or dried pumpkin), and eggs or cream, flip was usually mixed in a pitcher and then whipped into a froth by plunging a hot fire poker (called a flip-dog) into its midst.

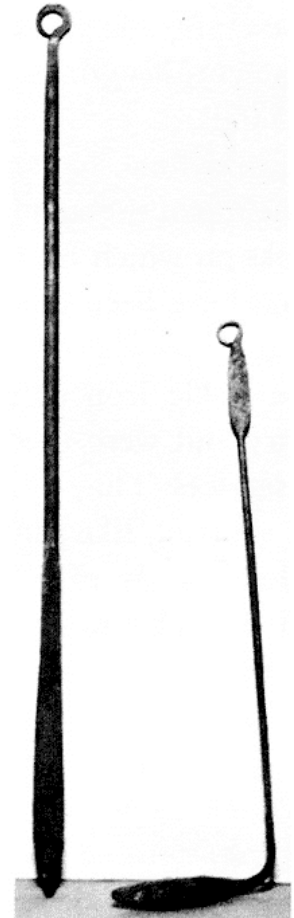
The tavern keeper would then decant the singed creation into ceramic mugs or featherlight flip glasses.

The composition of flip varied from tavern to tavern, and sometimes so did its name—from Bellow-Stop and Hotch-Pot to Yard of Flannel and Crambambull. The most vaunted flips were rendered velvety by pouring the drink several times between two pitchers until well-blended.

To make a basic colonial-style flip, fill a pitcher with two beaten eggs, two ounces of rum and a tablespoon of superfine sugar (or molasses) and beat to combine. In a saucepan, heat eight to 10 ounces of brown ale over a low flame until it begins to steam.

Slowly pour the warm beer into the rum-egg mixture, then pour the drink back and forth between vessels until blended. Decant into a pint glass, shave some nutmeg over the top, and serve—it's sort of like drinking liquified earth, but it has its charms.”

FLIP DOG. This was a long iron used to heat the drink called a flip or toddy. The end was heated in the embers till red hot then plunged into the drink, which sizzled. It probably reacted with the sugar in the rum giving a sort of caramelized taste. They were 2-3 feet long with either a tear shaped or pointed end. It was hung right by the hearth and was used quite a bit.



Light Shed on Sampler and Its Maker

This article is extracted from the June 8, 2000 edition of the *North-East Independent*. The complete article is available in the Castle office.

For me this story started out as a mystery, a challenging piece of detective work. It ended up a revealing glimpse into the life of a typical woman born in the early 1800's. Initially an enigma, Lucy was another faceless name amongst the many who braved the challenges of life in early Rhode Island. She became an old friend, revealing her trials and tribulations through clues left behind through not only a paper trail buried in the dusty ledgers of archives and town halls across the state but also a tangible legacy in the form of the crowning achievement of her childhood—a sampler. This brings us to the start of the sleuthing—to Lucy Wall Reynolds' sampler—sewed in meticulous detail when she was but eleven years old and now hanging in Smith's Castle. How this little swatch of history came to the wall of the Castle some 100 years later is a mystery I intend to pursue. But I was able to bring Lucy out of the shadows to be remembered as the remarkable woman she must have been.

Lucy Wall Reynolds was born in 1816 to Thomas and Elizabeth (Howland), who lived in East Greenwich somewhere near the North Kingstown border. They were a fairly affluent family of builders, and Lucy's early years were probably good. Both Lucy's mother and father came from families with long Rhode Island histories, having arrived in the new world in the mid 1600's. She likely received some sort of education, although it was surely the abbreviated type deemed appropriate for a girl. Little evidence remains of her early years; only the sampler lends testimony to that time. The intricate piece shows Lucy to have been a serious student in the study of the "womanly" skills then taught to young ladies. Some suggest that Lucy made the sampler

while attending "The Wickford Young Ladies School," but I was unable to confirm that intriguing possibility. Lucy, thankfully, told us in her creation, that it was done in 1827.

Records show that Lucy married Albert Clark Gardiner of North Kingstown, who was ten years younger, making Lucy about thirty years old when she accepted his



proposal. Possibly her mother died young, and Lucy was left to assist her father in raising her siblings as this is an advanced age for a first marriage in the early 1800's. It was not uncommon at that time for husbands to lose their wives to the rigors of childbirth. Also, this may have been Albert's second marriage.

Lucy's union with Albert brought them two children, John Albert and later Sarah Adeline. Albert was a machinist by trade, working in the flourishing North Kingstown fabric industry. He eventually left the mills of North Kingstown for a presumably better opportunity at a Providence mill. Real estate records show that

he was successful enough to purchase his own home at 31 Wilson Street in the city.

Although their life was likely hard, Lucy probably felt that she was doing well, with a happy family and a home of her own. But fate dealt Lucy a bad turn on April 18, 1874, when forty-eight year old Albert succumbed to a tuberculosis-like condition caused by nearly thirty years of breathing cotton and wool dust in the mills. Fifty-seven year old Lucy sold her Providence home and eventually moved back to North Kingstown. She then fades into the background of permanent record. She most certainly lived with a relative, probably one of her children, and spent her days with grandchildren and day-to-day housekeeping responsibilities. Nearly eighty and outliving her husband by twenty-one years, she succumbed to heart failure on April 4, 1895, following a long bout with uterine cancer. Lucy's will was recorded and probated in North Kingstown. John, her eldest, was the executor. She evidently had very little, as her will states only that personal effects should be divided equally between her two children. But among those meager possessions was a nearly seventy-year-old sampler which, I'm sure, John and Sarah cherished above all else.

The next time you're in the Castle, stop and examine Lucy's handiwork. Think of her. In doing so, you will bring her back to life along with other hardworking women who helped shape their world and our future. ■

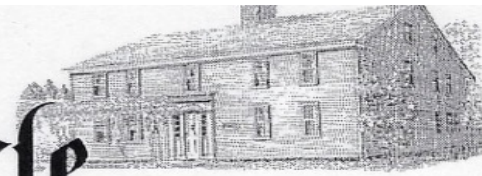
—Tim Cranston

Tim Cranston is a local history writer, weekly columnist for the *North-East Independent*, historic preservation activist, and Smith's Castle member. Cranston is proud to claim that his great, great, great, great, great grandfather's brother was Caleb Cranston, Lodowick Updike's horse trainer.

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Sampler Loaned for RIHS Spring Exhibit

A Newport sampler given to the Cocumscussoc Association by Mrs. William Davis Miller in 1954 normally hangs in the dining room at Smith's Castle, and there has always been curiosity about its history. Be curious no more—Sybil Dean's ancestry has been found, and the sampler definitely has a North Kingstown connection!

Sybil was born in Plainfield, Connecticut on August 25, 1747, the daughter of Ezra Dean (1718–1811). Her mother's name was Elizabeth, but little other information is known about Elizabeth Dean at this time. Ezra was married four times, and his last wife was Phoebe Waterman of Rhode Island; they married in 1774.

Ezra and Rebekah Dean moved the family to East Greenwich, R.I., circa 1754. Rebekah was likely the third wife of Ezra Dean and Sybil's stepmother. Ezra, Rebekah, and Henry Tibbits owned land together in East Greenwich; Ezra's occupation is listed as blacksmith on the deed to that land. Ezra also purchased land in Warwick, near Noose Neck Hill in 1772 and later bought additional land in Cranston. As a man with a lucrative trade and the owner of property, Ezra Dean could well afford to send his younger daughter to be educated. To date no sampler or other documentation exists about older

daughter Anna's education. But surely the two sons, Jonathon (b. 1741) and James, were also well educated.

At the time the sampler was made in 1761, the family was living on the Pardon Mawney farm in Davisville. Sybil very likely attended

already been schooled at home or at a local dame school with basic instruction, like reading, writing, and elementary sewing. But the boarding school went further, and most of the Newport schools taught extensive stitchery techniques to their young students. However, no single technique can be attributed to the teaching of any one school mistress. Few records or lists of students exist; primary sources include mostly correspondence between students and parents or between teachers and parents.

Sybil married Joshua Davis in Davisville on the 19th of November in 1775. Her brother Jonathon married Joshua's sister, Molly Davis. The three sons of each family were named Ezra, Jeffrey, and James; apparently the cousins were very close as youngsters. Sybil died on December 20, 1829.

Sybil's sampler is being featured, along with about 35 others, at an exhibition at The Rhode Island Historical Society, 110 Benevolent St., Providence, R.I. The exhibition opens to the public on March 16, 2001 and runs through April 6, 2001. Hours for Aldrich House are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A workshop to make a reproduction sampler from the RIHS collections will be held on Saturday, March 31, 2001. Call 331-8575 for further information.

—Linda Eppich



school in Newport; her sampler shows characteristics of other Newport samplers—animals and particularly the meandering floral border. Young ladies of affluent families were sent to a boarding school to learn French ciphering, dancing, painting, deportment, and other subjects. They had probably

MISS ELIZABETH—Unknown Artist and Subject

Mid 18th c.



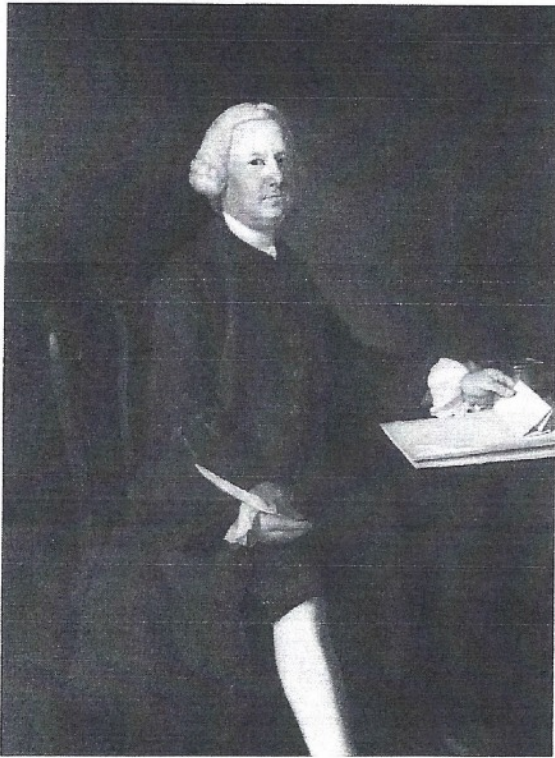


Figure 2.
Jonathan Simpson,
Joseph Blackburn,
ca. 1758. Museum
of Fine Arts, Boston.
24.340

Figure 3.
Mrs. Jonathan
Simpson (Margaret
Lechmere). Joseph
Blackburn, ca. 1758.
Photos courtesy of
Museum of Fine
Arts, Boston. 24.341

but the authors did not explain what they meant by “school of.” The Blackburn attribution, therefore, is suspect, and any progress towards identifying the artist must await an examination of the painting itself by a knowledgeable scholar of 18th century American portraiture.

The identification of the sitter as “Miss Elizabeth Singleton” comes from that name unceremoniously dashed across the folds of the subject’s satin gown in brown ink sometime in the distant past—almost certainly not by the same hand that meticulously crafted those very folds.² Only part of the name is clearly readable: Miss Elizabeth S—. The balance of the last name is illegible, but, as noted, was thought for many years to be “Singleton.” However, where 1960s eyes read “Singleton,” more recent eyes, connecting the same dots, see “Simpson” (fig. 1). About four years ago, Dan Soule, an antiques dealer and appraiser who may be familiar to viewers of the PBS series *Antiques Roadshow*, examined the name on the painting and concluded that it was Simpson and not Singleton.

This raises the question: Did a Miss Elizabeth Singleton or Miss Elizabeth Simpson live in 18th century Rhode Island? A great deal of genealogical research has been done in an attempt to answer this question. While nothing conclusive has yet turned

up, there are several leads: The surname Singleton cannot be found in Newport records of the early-to-mid 18th century. It is also uncommon in New England more generally. There is a Singleton family in Virginia in the first half of the 18th century, but no child named Elizabeth.³

The name Simpson does appear in 18th century Newport. Newport gravestone transcriptions show the following burials of individuals with the Simpson surname: Mary (ca. 1721–1744), Margaret (ca. 1728–1756), Richard (ca. 1733–1810), and Susanna (ca. 1724–1766). Mary’s tombstone indicates she was the daughter of John and Susanna [Rhode Island Vital Records: 366] No gravestone or other genealogical records appear, however, for an Elizabeth Simpson in Rhode Island.

The trail for Elizabeth Simpson is hotter in Massachusetts. Recorded in Boston in 1755 is the marriage intention of John Laughton and Elizabeth Simpson. Two years earlier, the same Boston records show a marriage intention for Jonathan Simpson (1711–1795) and Margaret Lechmere. Interestingly, Jonathan and Margaret Simpson were both painted by Joseph Blackburn about 1758, and these portraits are in the collection of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts (figs. 2 and 3). Also, Blackburn painted a second



Figure 5. Lace cap and lappets. Elizabeth Simpson wears a cap similar to this example. The lappets on her cap, however, are black and appear to be wider. Image courtesy of Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, #1953-187. [Baumgarten: 97]

portrait of Mr. Simpson, recently acquired by the Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth, as well as a portrait of his father, which is in the collection of the Springfield Museum of Art. It is natural to wonder if the sitter in our portrait was somehow related to Jonathan Simpson.

Dr. Brenda Richardson who is researching Dr. Edward Augustus Holyoke of Salem, the husband of Jonathan Simpson's niece, has been a wealth of information on the Simpson genealogy.⁴ She has identified two individuals named Elizabeth Simpson who would have been of marrying age in the 1750s. If the name is indeed Elizabeth Simpson, one of the strongest possibilities, Dr. Richardson notes, is an Elizabeth Simpson born 1727, the daughter of John Simpson and Mary Randall of Boston. Her

father John was a distant cousin of the Jonathan Simpson painted by Blackburn. Elizabeth's mother, Mary (Randall) Simpson, died sometime before 1745, when her father married Judith Fisher, and the family moved to Dedham, Massachusetts. No further records identify either a marriage for this Elizabeth Simpson or her death. According to Dr. Richardson, the second Elizabeth Simpson married Col. John Laughton in Boston in 1755 and was the sister of Lt. Thomas Simpson.⁵ This Simpson family was not related to the Simpson family painted by Blackburn.

In general, the Simpson families of Massachusetts are very difficult to research. They had a penchant for the names John and Johnathan, assigning each name to brothers in the same family! And apparently every branch of the family did so. Sorting out the tangled web of multiple generations of Jonathans and Johns is a challenge, to say the least. In addition, many of the family were Loyalists, and disappear from colonial records at the time of the Revolution, presumably returning to England or immigrating to Canada.

Since our portrait's attribution in early Castle records is to Joseph Blackburn and because of Black-

burn's documented association with the Simpson family, it seems worthwhile to take a brief look at this artist. In some ways Blackburn is as enigmatic as our Elizabeth. The circumstances of his origins, training, and death remain unknown. It is believed he was born in England in 1700, but his parents have not been identified. Little is known of his life until he arrived in Bermuda in 1752 where he quickly completed more than 30 portraits of the island's social elite in just a year's time. After a brief stay in Newport in 1754, he travelled north to Boston where he was active from 1755 to 1758.⁶ Blackburn left Boston for Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in 1758 and remained there until 1762. Finally in 1763, he returned to England, and once again fell into relative obscurity. Knowledge of his later years is limited to a few portraits done between 1763 and 1778, when documented examples of his work cease.

Blackburn's portraits from the period of his stay in the American colonies exhibit knowledge of the latest stylistic trends and technical developments in English portraiture. He sometimes clothed his subjects in lavish costumes and jewels that exceeded their actual possessions, likely reflecting their aspirations rather than their actual circumstances. He excelled at executing the shimmer and folds of silk and satin and at painting lace, ribbons, and other details of dress. "Tell Mr. Blackburn that Miss Lucy is in love with his pictures, wonders what business he has to make such extreme fine lace and satin, besides taking so exact a likeness." writes Mary Russell, an enthusiastic patron. [Park: 273] Blackburn's skill at rendering costume, considered his chief strength, suggests he may have been a drapery painter in one of London's leading portrait studios prior to his colonial sojourn.

The folds, textures, and surfaces of the fabrics of Elizabeth's dress as well as the detailed black lace of her cap are executed with considerable skill. Likely, this is the reason Blackburn was suggested as the artist in the first place. Whether or not the level of skill exhibited in our painting rises to the level of Blackburn, however, has never been addressed by a knowledgeable viewer. To the authors' admittedly untrained eyes it does not seem that it does so. Our painting has endured a very difficult life, and how much of this impression is due to ill-conceived efforts by insufficiently skilled individuals to correct past indignities, we can not say. At any rate, it is not on such stylistic issues that the Blackburn provenance has been called into question.

If the portrait of Elizabeth is by Blackburn, it could not have been painted before 1752 or after 1762, the decade Blackburn was active in the colonies. If it is possible to place the painting outside this time period it would rule Blackburn out as its creator.

Dr. Ellen G. Miles, chief curator of the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., writes: "I truly wonder if your picture is by [Blackburn], because of the costume style. In the *Handbook of English Costume in the Eighteenth Century* by C. Willett Cunnington and Phillis Cunnington (Boston, 1972) are images of the type of cap that the sitter wears, called a round-eared cap, and these often had side pieces of fabric called lappets, in a light or white color (fig. 5). However, black lappets like hers were apparently worn when the wearer was in mourning. The black ribbon on her bodice and even the curtain (is it black?) also suggest mourning. Also, the Cunningtons illustrate a dress almost identical to hers, and date it to ca. 1730. So, neither would be appropriate for your purported sitter as by Blackburn during his years in the American colonies."

Linda Baumgarten, curator of textiles and costume at Colonial Williamsburg, places the dress about a decade later than does Miles: "The woman in the portrait is wearing a gown derived from a probably-English print source, adapted for the painting, and not a genuine gown that might have existed in all those details. For that reason, it is difficult to be too precise about its date. However, the use of cuffs rather than sleeve ruffles, the hair style, and the closely [fit] cap all suggest a date in the 1740s." She adds, "If the artist relied on an older print source from a decade earlier, I suppose it is possible the painting goes into the 1750s."

Richard H. Saunders, director of the Middlebury College Museum of Art and Walter Cerf Distinguished College Professor, noted his impression was that the painting was not a Blackburn. "In fact, my first reaction is that it might be a 19th century work, copied from an 18th century model. But it is very hard to say much about that possibility without seeing the work in person."

These scholars viewed a digital image of the restored painting sent to them via e-mail. All agreed that seeing the actual painting was essential in order to make a firm judgment. Until an acknowledged expert in 18th century portraiture is able to examine our painting we are unlikely to learn anything more from the painting itself. Perhaps genealogical research will turn up additional information.

While our investigation of questions surrounding the painting of Miss Elizabeth S— has not produced definitive answers, it has revealed much that we didn't know. Someday the pieces may fall into place and all might be revealed. Until then questions of Elizabeth's identity, her creator, or her worth, as intriguing as they may be, should not lessen our enjoyment or diminish our appreciation of one of our treasures. Smith's Castle is fortunate to possess such a lovely, if mysterious, work of art. ■

Notes

1. Fred L. Smith was born about 1867, probably in Burrillville, Rhode Island, where he was living with his parents, Simon S. and Melissa Smith, in 1870.
2. When Blackburn signed his work he did so with a neatly printed or, occasionally, scripted signature that demonstrated a mastery of penmanship. He often employed Latin terms (*Pinxit* to identify himself as the painter), *Natus* or *Nata* (preceding the birthdate of a sitter), *Aetatis*, (with the age of the sitter), and *Depictus*, (before the date painted). It seems unlikely that he would have written the name of the sitter so offhandedly in such an unusual location. [www.worcesterart.org]
3. It is tantalizing to note that in the Trinity Church Cemetery is a Maj. Anthony Singleton of Richmond, Virginia, buried in 1795 (he died at the age of 47). [Rhode Island Genealogical Register: 175] Maj. Singleton, however, was quite new to Newport. He had arrived with his family in August 1795, and "in eight weeks died of the disease from which he sought relief." [Mason: 320]
4. Dr. Brenda Richardson is a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society and Past President of Essex South District Medical Society. Dr. Holyoke was the first president of both these societies. He was also the husband of Mary Vial. It is in the capacity of enthusiastic researcher on the subject of Dr. Holyoke that Dr. Richardson has unearthed the information on the Simpson families of Massachusetts.
5. It was this Lieutenant Thomas Simpson who was second-in-command to John Paul Jones and petitioned for court-martial by the naval hero in 1778.
6. In Newport Blackburn painted his earliest-known portraits in America: Mrs. David Chesebrough (Margaret Sylvester) (1754, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York), her sister Mary Sylvester (1754, The Metropolitan Museum of Art), and her stepdaughter Abigail Chesebrough (1754, Stonington [Connecticut] Historical Society). These sitters were the wife, sister-in-law, and daughter of David Chesebrough, called King David for his eminence in the merchant trade in Newport. Blackburn's initial stay in Newport was brief, although later portraits of subjects from the town suggest that he occasionally returned. [www.worcesterart.org]

Inventory of Richard Smith, Jr., 1692

Hall Chamber

Three beds Bolsters Cover 4 Sets of Curtains Cover-lids with other small things with wearing apparel of Mr. Smith's	£ 65 00*
Linen New & Old with Old Watch	£ 31 00
Gold & Rings	£ 40 00
English Money	£ 15 00
New Englan & Spanish Money	£ 65 00
Broken Piece of Plate in closett	£ 01 10
One pair of Brass and Irons One Jack and other things **	£ 03 00
In a little Closett Shoes & Lumber***	£ 02 00
In a Chest Pewter Brass & Tin Ware	£ 06 00

* Equivalent value of 1692 English Pound to 2018 US Dollar is \$245.61, *Eric W. Nye, Pounds Sterling to Dollars: Historical Conversion of Currency.*

** *Brass and Irons* - andiron for holding logs in fireplace. *Jack* refers to boot jack.

*** *Lumber* is an archaic term for surplus or disused articles (sometimes even broken furniture) stored away.



PIECES OF EIGHT (Display on chest of drawers by door)

- The Spanish dollar, also known as the piece of eight (in Spanish: Real de a ocho or Peso), is a silver coin of approximately 38 mm (1.5 in) diameter worth eight Spanish reales. It was minted in the Spanish Empire following a monetary reform in 1497.
- Colonial North American commerce was conducted with foreign coins, and there are several good reasons
 1. There were no gold or silver mines in British North America.
 2. Second, Great Britain itself had limited sources of precious metals.
 3. Coins came from the major gold and silver producing regions and the great trading nations. The most commonly used coins were from Spanish territories.
- Many of these coins reached America through trade with other nations' colonies in the Caribbean.
- The Spanish dollar is the basis of the American dollar, the Canadian dollar, the Japanese yen and the Chinese yuan. It was the first “world currency” starting in the late 18th century. It’s definitely the most famous Spanish coin.
- In the eighteenth century, the value of a coin was not determined by its face value, but by its weight in gold or silver. Change could be made by shaving off some of the material, thus changing the weight and therefore its value.
- Store owners kept jeweler’s scales handy to prevent being cheated by “clip artists” or “chisellers” who fraudulently clipped or chiseled the corners or edges of the coins.
- It was easier (and you didn’t have to have a scale available) to cut the coin into smaller pieces to be used as payment or change, as needed. However, despite stories to the contrary, pieces-of-eight were not routinely cut up by merchants to make change, although some were recut by local governments, jewelers, or at private or official mints to meet the local needs for more smaller denomination coins.
- Coins were sometimes milled, or their edges marked with lines, like our modern-day quarters, to discourage people from shaving minute amounts of metal from the edges. Shaved coins had less metal and, therefore, less value.
- Despite the fact that, for most of the colonial era, there was no legal trade between Spain and Great Britain, British colonists used more Spanish dollars than pounds sterling. Their only source for the Spanish coins was through pirates and smugglers. At one point, just one piece-of-eight on an American ship was considered sufficient proof by the Spaniards that the Americans were pirates or smugglers and the Spanish “Guardacosta” would confiscate the whole ship
- When the “thirteen colonies” broke away from England, the United States adopted the Spanish dollar (“piece-of-eight”) as its standard monetary unit. For convenience, the United States divided its dollar into 100 parts rather than eight. The amount of silver in the new “American” dollar, half dollar and quarter dollar coins was meant to put them on par with the Spanish 8, 4, and 2 “real” pieces.

- In Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*, Long John Silver's parrot had apparently been trained to cry out, "Pieces of eight!" This use tied the coin (and parrots) to fictional depictions of pirates.

A Few of Mrs. Updike's "Simples"*

*Simples are medicinal herbs.

Basil (St. Josephwort). Used dried as snuff to relieve headaches and colds. Also used as a strewing herb. It was brought from Europe to America in the early 1600s. Colonists used this herb in salads and soups, especially pea soup.



Burdock. The leaves bruised with the white of an egg and applied to any place burnt with fire, take out the fire, give sudden ease, and heal it up afterwards. Crushed and mixed with salt, it was useful in treating dog bites, and taken inwardly helped pass gas. It was also used to reduce tooth pain and to strengthen the back.

Chamomile. The flowers were brewed into a tea to treat stomach complaints and dispel cold and aches. A sugary syrup made with the flowers was thought to treat dropsy and jaundice. It was also used as a strewing herb and as an insect repellent.



Bee Balm
www.shutterstock.com · 147895736

Bee Balm. Used for bee stings. Bee balm is a member of the mint family. It is native to North America, but colonists soon sent seeds to Europe for their friends to plant and enjoy. Tea brewed from its leaves was called Oswego tea and was used as a substitute for China tea after the 1773 Boston Tea Party.

Tansy.- Seed was used as a vermifuge (to kill internal parasites like roundworms) for children; the root was also used to treat gout.



More “Simples”**

Simples are medicinal herbs.

Garlic. Used to treat many colonial ailments and was thought to offer protection from evil spirits. It was introduced from Europe but there was a native species known to Indians used for a variety of problems, from snakebite to intestinal worms.



Valerian. An ancient medicinal herb long valued around the world. It was found in the medicine bag of Canadian Indian warriors as a wound antiseptic. The root acts as a depressant on the central nervous system; Colonial women would have used it as a sedative.



Mullein – naturalized from Europe – had several uses. The long flower stem was often used as a torch; leaves were placed in the soles of worn shoes; the leaves were dried and smoked a remedy for coughs and asthma; young girls may have rubbed the leaves on their cheeks to bring flush as a substitute for rouge.



used
and
a

Joe Pye Weed Named after a Native American named Joe Pye who saved the life of a New Englander by breaking his fever with this herb. It was used for a number of ailments, including treating stones in the urinary tract, dropsy, gout, rheumatism, impotence, uterine prolapsed, asthma, gallbladder and chronic coughs.



Plantain Used in salads; also as a poultice to heal wounds, and the seeds to prevent miscarriage. The leaves, seeds, and roots could be brewed as a tea. It was brought by European settlers and spread where they settled and earned the name “White Man’s Foot.”





BURYING PLACE POINT

On the peninsula that lies at the entrance to Mill Creek, one can see the site of a slave burial ground. It was listed as "the burying point" on an 1802 survey, and officially documented in 1883 by George Harris in his book *Ancient Burial Grounds of Olde Kingstowne*.² Harris counted 72 large graves and 8 smaller graves within the plot, and speculated that there may have been other stones, which were removed. All of these were crude markers for the men, women, and children who spent their lives working at Cocumscussoc and other nearby plantations. Harriet Smith's family owned a farm across Post Road from Smith's Castle in the late 19th century. In November 1888, she wrote in her diary: "The Old Burying Place I crossed or passed once more. There must have been nearer 200 than 100 graves in the

early days. But now it having been out to the commons' so long, most of the rough stones broken down. [One stone read] 'Tony, son of Tony and Arney Mollatt, aged 6 years . . . ' died in 1764, I think. His engraved headstone [is] flat on the ground. "

INTERESTED IN

LEARNING MORE?

- Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North* – A PBS documentary of the DeWolfe family and the Triangle Trade. Available on loan through the RI Library System.
- Cranston, G. Timothy and Neil Dunay. *We Were Here Too: Selected Stories of Black History in North Kingstown*. CreateSpace, 2014.
- Delude-Dix, Elizabeth. *No Simple Truth: A Minister and His Slaves in Colonial R.I.* <https://vimeo.com/116018991>
- Fitts, Robert S. *Inventing New England's Slave Paradise: Master/Slave Relations in Eighteenth Century Narragansett, Rhode Island* Rowledge, 1998.
- Greake, Robert A. *From Slaves to Soldiers: The 1st Rhode Island Regiment . . .* Westholme Publishing, 2016.
- Pujara, Christy Clark. *Dark Work: The Business of Slavery in R.I.* NYU Press, 2018.



SMITH'S CASTLE
55 Richard Smith Drive
North Kingstown, RI 02852
Phone: 294-3521
www.smithscastle.org

Some Notes On Slavery At Cocumscussoc

R U N A W A Y



From the Subscriber at North Kingstown, in the Colony of Rhode-

Island, a young Negro Man named Dismas, born in this Country, a well set Fellow about 5 feet 4 inches high, has a down Look, is thin jaw'd, and has a visible Scar from the Bridge of his Nose, over his Cheek, reaching below the Corner of his Mouth. . . . He is a subtil Fellow, and has got a forged Pass, with which it is suspected he will effect his Escape to Boston, as he has some Acquaintances there. Whoever takes up said Fellow, and

Smith's Castle at Cocumscussoc, is an award-winning National Historic House, where four centuries of Rhode Island history are preserved and interpreted

MOSES, CAESAR & JAMES UPDIKE

A PATH TO FREEDOM

Text by Robert A. Geake

In March of 1778, the Rhode Island General Assembly issued an Act, whereby¹ , , , ,

...every able bodied negro, mulatto, or Indian slave in this state may enlist into either of ...two battalions to serve during the continuance of the war with Great Britain.

Every slave who enlisted would receive the bounties, wages and privileges of every soldier in the Continental Army, and upon service of three years and honorable discharge would be . . .

“absolutely FREE, as though he had never been incumbered with any kind of servitude or slavery.”

Moses and Caesar, slaves on the Updike plantation, were among those who enlisted to win their freedom. They enlisted together in May 1778. Records show that Updike was paid £92 for Moses, and the maximum £102 for Caesar. Both are listed on the May 1779 muster roll of the 1st Rhode Island Regiment under the command of Colonel Christopher Greene.

While records for Moses are incomplete, we know that Caesar served for five years, earning an “Honorary Badge of Distinction,” an award given to soldiers who had “served at least three years with bravery.” He was discharged from the Continental Army on June 15, 1783 and like many veterans, he returned to his home state and lived quietly.

In the spring of 1795 he returned to Smith’s Castle, working as a wage laborer for the Updike family. He was paid in corn, shoes, and sometimes currency. He is listed in the Rhode

Island census of 1800 as living in East Greenwich. Like many other veterans, he applied for a pension that was long in coming, not received until April 11, 1818, about a year and a half before his death.

The Daughters of the American Revolution publication of *Forgotten Patriots* lists a black James Updike from North Kingstown, once also a slave of Lodowick Updike. He was set free by the 1784 Emancipation Act. Around 35 when he became a free man, he married a woman named Freelove.

By the 1790 North Kingstown census he and his family are listed as “James Updike Negro and all other free persons, listing his wife and six of the ten children they would eventually have together. The family remained residents of North Kingstown, and James received his pension for military service in 1831.

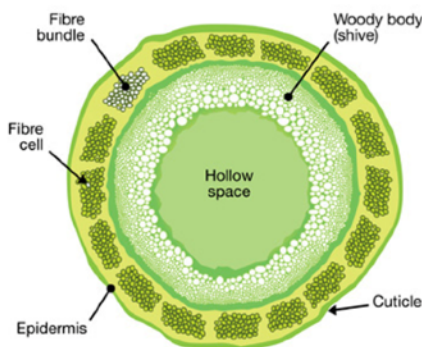
The Economic Activities of the Narragansett Planters (detail below) by artist Ernest Hamlin Baker, hung at the old Wakefield Post Office from 1939-1999. It is now at the Old Washington County Jail, Kingstown.



FLAX TO LINEN IT'S NOTHING NEW

The Ancient Egyptians developed flax-to-linen production to an art form, but even they were not the first.

- The earliest evidence of using wild flax to make textile dates back almost 30,000 years!
- The flax plant (*Linum usitatissimum*) is not native to the Americas; however, the indigenous people used similar fibrous plants to make thread, mats, and rope.
- European colonists brought the plant, as well as the tools and techniques to process it to the New World.
- The first colonists were largely occupied with land clearing, construction, and survival farming; linen and other materials were imported for the first years.
- It was not long, however, before they realized the desirability of producing their own fabrics. Besides growing the plant for its fiber (largely for domestic use), Rhode Island farmers became known for the export of flaxseed.
- The second part of the Latin name for the flax plant, *usitatissimum*, means “useful” and it is indeed a plant of many uses. Just a few are: **Linseed Oil** (actually flaxseed oil) to treat wood and in paint; **Oil Cake** (residue after pressing oil from seeds) to feed cattle; and **Flaxseed** for animal food and to treat disease.



- At one time the beautiful blue flower was even thought to ward off witchcraft.

THE FLAX PLANT

- The flax plant is a woody cylinder surrounded by strong fibers and encased by a tough outer bark; this is surrounded by a glue-like substance which binds it all together.
- Releasing and processing the fiber to make linen is a labor-intensive process which requires patience and skill.

PLANTING FLAX

- The early Rhode Island farmer broadcast his flax seeds in moist, rich soil in late March or early April.
- Thickly sown seeds yielded finer stalks and subsequently better quality linen thread.
- As one colonial author wrote: “*Flax should be sowed promiscuously (as Wheat or Oats, &c.) but somewhat thicker.... It will take a Bushel and a Half to sow one Acre of Land to make it fit for Linen or Thread.*” [John Wily, *A Treatise on the Propagation of Sheep, the Manufacture of Wool, and the Cultivation and Manufacture of Flax*. [Williamsbury F. Royle](#), 1765, pp.31-32]
- The plants were usually ready to be hand-pulled in July. For the best thread, they were pulled up by the roots when the lower leaves fell off and the stalk yellowed. If being raised primarily for seed, the plants were pulled later, after the seeds ripened.

NOTE: The RI Master Gardeners usually plant some flax in or near the dye garden for us.

PROCESSING FLAX - See <https://ulsterlinen.com/flax-to-linen/>

STOOKS & SHOCKS

After the flax has been pulled up by the roots, it is tied together into bundles called *stooks*. Several of these bundles are bound together and stood upright in the field to make *shocks*. These are allowed to dry for about a week. This helps the flax lose water weight and hardens the seeds so they can be easily removed from the stalks.

FLAX RIPPLING

This is the process used to deseed the flax. The top ends of the dry bundles of flax are pulled through nails hammered into a board, like a comb (similar to hackle). The seeds are collected below on a sheet for the next planting season. At this point the flax can be stored for awhile as long as it is kept dry.

DEW/WATER RETTING –SOFTENING THE HARD OUT SHELL OF THE STALKS

This is the trickiest part of the process. After the flax has been rippled and the seeds have been removed, the flax is either laid out in the fields or put into water so that bacteria will ret (rot) away the pectin which binds fibers and stalk together. If the flax is left too long in this environment, the fibers themselves will rot and the flax will be ruined. If it is not left long enough, the fibers will not separate properly from the stalks.

FLAX BREAK

This device is used to break the inner woody stalk into smaller pieces so that it is separated from the flax. The broken woody fragments, called *shives*, fall through the fiber to the ground.



SCUTCHING

The broken shives that do not fall to the ground must be scutched out. This is done by swinging a wooden scutching knife down the flax which scrapes it and pulls away the shives that remain.



HACKLE/HATCHEL/HETCHEL

The flax is pulled through several hackles on each of which the nails are differently spaced. The last hackle used has the nails very close together to polish and split the fibers so they are ready to be spun.



WEASEL (CLOCK REEL)



This device is used to measure out a skein of yarn. When a skein is wound, the mechanism “clicks” off; hence, “Pop Goes the Weasel.”

DISTAFF & SPINDLE The distaff is a tool used to hold fibers to keep them untangled while they are being spun. A spindle is a rod or pin, tapered at one end and usually weighted at the other, on which fibers are spun by hand into thread.

DISTAFF

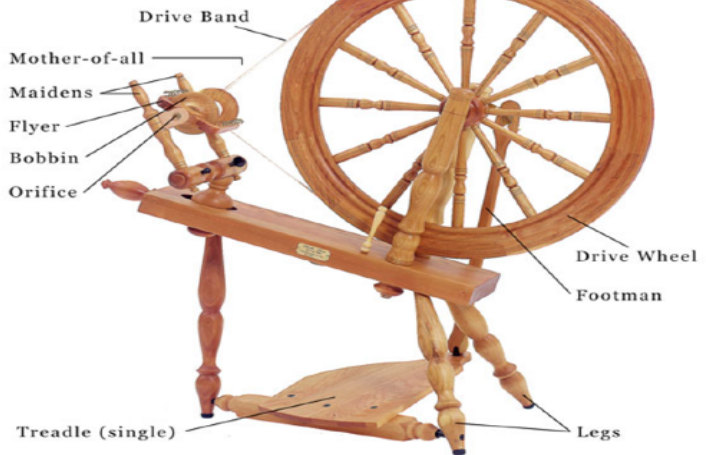


NIDDY NODDY

This tool is used to make skeins from yarn. It consists of a central bar with crossbars at each end.



A SAXONY WHEEL



SPINNING WHEELS twist fiber into a basic string shape. The large ones (below) were used exclusively for wool, while the smaller were usually used for flax but could also be used for wool.



GOSSIP WHEEL

This wheel has two bobbin flyers. Both are usually driven by the same treadle. This would allow two people to sit at one wheel and spin yarn at the same time — and possibly gossip.



WALKING WHEEL

Also known as a Great Wheel, High Wheel or Wool Wheel
The large drive wheel turns the much smaller spindle assembly, with the spindle revolving many times for each turn of the drive wheel.

PROCESSING WOOL

#1 SHEAR—Sheep were usually shorn in early spring

#2 SKIRT—The process of removing heavily matted or stained wool and vegetable matter.

#3 SCOUR/WASH—Dirt and grime are gently washed off

#4 DRY—Fleece is hung to dry

#5 TEASE—Wool is loosened and fluffed up.



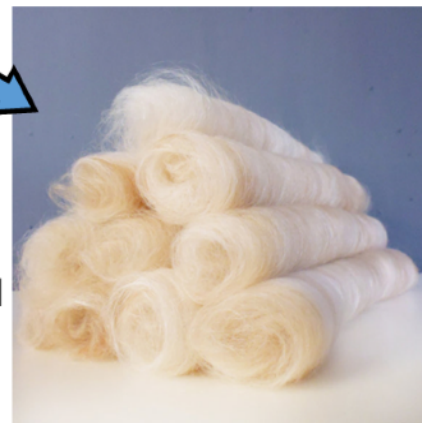
#6 CARD—Carding paddles are used to straighten the fibers.



#7 ROLAGS—Fibers are rolled to be ready for spinning

#8 SPIN - Spinning wheels use a pulley system to twist the fibers into yarn. The system is driven either with the hand or the foot (with the treadle)

#9 DYE—Natural dyes were made from plants, animal sources (e.g., from small beetles—cochineal) or minerals (ocher containing iron oxide).



18th Century Bedchamber

This room represents the bedroom of a well-to-do 18th century plantation owner.

Beams and post	The 17 th century beams are now encased and painted. A section of the 17 th century post is exposed to allow viewing of the beautifully chamfered post.
Paneling	The walls are partially covered with painted raised paneling.
Wall view port	This exposes the old plaster made with shells, hair, stones and whatever else was available to give the needed consistency.
Mop board	This sample reflects the first finish of black. Mop boards preceded baseboards. Paint was applied along the lower portion of the wall to protect the wall from soil when the floor was washed.
Floor	The color is matched to the earliest paint color discovered in the National Park Service paint analysis. It is likely 19 th century.
Floor view port	The view port by the fireplace shows the 17 th century post and beam construction.
Chest: Chippendale style	This chest is near the hallway door. Notice the batwing style pulls.
Chest: Hepplewhite style	This chest is near the small bedchamber door. Note the bowed front and inlays.
Bed	This is a mahogany pencil post bed. c1810. Note the Hepplewhite style inlays. It has a rope support for the mattress.
Bed furniture	This is the 18 th century term for all the textiles used on the bed. These are reproductions. <i>Tester and tester cloth:</i> bed frame which connects the posts at the top and the fabric stretched on it. <i>Curtains, head and foot:</i> hanging fabric around the bed, closed or opened to control light and temperature. <i>Head cloth:</i> the curtain which hangs from the tester, behind the bed. <i>Valance:</i> short fringes or fabric hanging around the tester frame. <i>Counterpane (counterpin, counterpain, coverlid, bed quilt):</i> covering over blankets and sheets; usually matched the rest of bed furniture if possible. <i>Base or drop:</i> lowermost portion of bed furniture, below the counterpane and between the posts.

Lolling Chair Blue upholstered, Hepplewite style. C.1790-1810. Front legs and casters added later.

Wig stand It was common and fashionable for men and many women to wear wigs.

Bedwarmer A long-handled brass, lidded container to hold hot coals to warm the bed.

Portrait: Alfred Updike



Portrait is on loan from the Rhode Island Historical Society. Alfred is listed as Capt. Alfred Updike in the *OpDyke Genealogy*. He married Dorcas Reynolds – no children. Reynolds family was another Narragansett Planter family. He was one of Wilkin brothers.

Portrait: Phoebe Congdon.

Phoebe and her husband Benjamin bought the property from Wilkins Updike in 1812. The Congdon family owned the Castle until 1870. They were Quakers from Newport.



Combs . Phoebe’s combs are made of tortoise shell.



Potter Family at Tea.

This is a copy. The original, which is about three times the size, is at the Newport Historical Society. Originally this was an over-the-mantel panel. It was removed from the home of John Potter in South Kingstown and

probably represents Potter, His second wife (Elizabeth Hazard), his sister Martha, his daughter Mary, and a slave (For more about the Potter family, see the article in Section 5, pages 5-15)

Tea Table. Newport Fly Leaf Table, 18th century Acquired at auction in 2009. probably of Rhode Island origin and descended in one of the Brown families. A label on the underside reads, “This table came into possession of my family in 1768, Charles W. Brown.” (see following article)

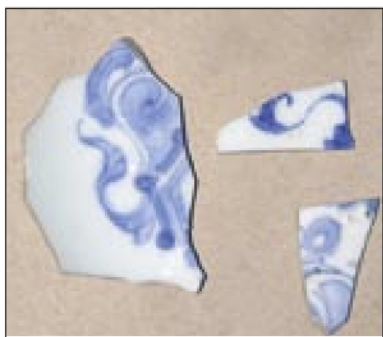
Tea Service. 18th-century, rose-pattern Chinese-export porcelain tea set. Note handle-less cups

EXERPTS FROM CASTLE CHRONICLE, Vol.15, No.2, Summer 2016 ((For full article, see hardcopy at the Annex or contact Marilyn Harris for digital copy)

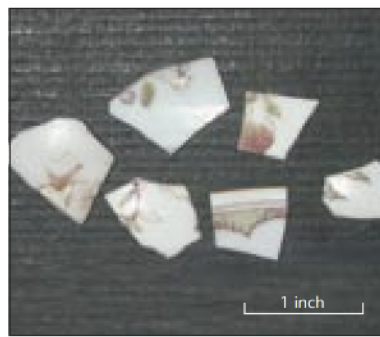
Tea & Trade; porcelain from Cocumscussoc By Caroline Frank, MA, Brown University, 2003

“The most striking thing about the assemblage of nearly of nearly 200 Chinese porcelain sherds found during excavations in the grassy waterfront area of Rhode islands Cocumscussoc site is its diversity. While there are clearly several sets contained within this collection, there are also many fine pieces that stand alone.”

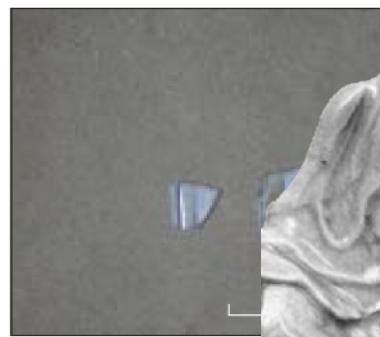
“During several field sessions at Comcumscussoc in the yard area in front of Smith's Castle, a mid- 16th century country house, archaeologists from the University of Rhode Island and Brown University excavated and labeled a large assemblage of faunal and cultural materials,



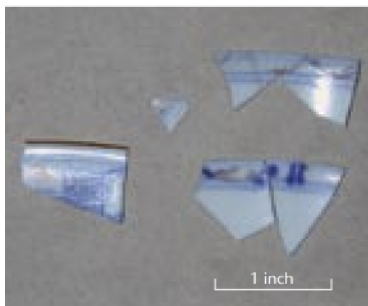
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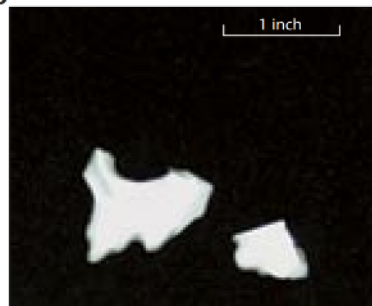
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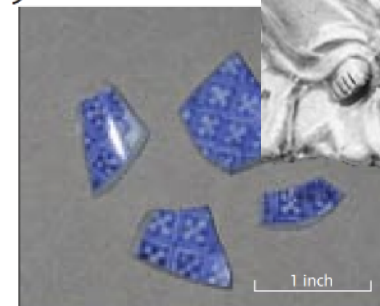
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including 157 sherds of Chinese porcelain. A wide range



10

of porcelain types is represented in the assemblage, in terms of design quality, design style, and vessel form. There are even sherds of two figurines. Almost all the shards are very small, averaging less than an inch across along the longest broken edge, and very few could be matched. Therefore, no attempt has been made here to obtain a vessel count.” The sherds were grouped into 5 broad groups based on glaze color or vessel type:

1) plain white soft paste porcelain called Blanc de chine; 2) Brown- washed exteriors, also called Batavian Brown reserve; 3) Blue and whites, the largest group and by far the most common export type; 4) overglazed pieces with red as the most typical color and 5) 2 figurines. The Spanish were the first to

export porcelain to this continent and this they did in great galleon loads across the Pacific beginning in the 16th century. While Dutch shippers are usually considered responsible for the first porcelain pieces on the East Coast north of Mexico, it may well be that pottery arrived here through exchange with Spanish colonists earlier. The Dutch attained preeminence in the shipping lanes to the Orient during the 17th century, carrying an average of 200,000 pieces annually in the mid -17th century. Most of it was sent outside Holland, including to the Dutch colonies in the new world

The pure white wares found at the site were a velvety ivory color typical of exports from Fujian province in the late 17th century. It is likely that this group represents a tea set, whether or not it was originally priced by its owners is another question.

Two distinct types are represented in the Batavian brown-washed wares and are clearly from a tea set that probably included other dishes as well . Batavian ware became common by the late 17th century in Europe and amongst the wealthy in America. From 1720 to 1770 it was found in every port city of North America. The set found here with blue and white floral interior, seems of average export quality and there are other browns which are darker on the outside and plain white on the inside and are clearly of separate manufacturer.

Many different types and sets are represented by the over 100 blue and white porcelain shirts. The most striking of these are the four Nanking pieces, the majority of the blue and white in this assemblage, however, whether Canton or Nanking ware, they exhibit designs of finer craftsmanship than the typical export blue and white being sold by colonial merchants in the 18th century.

The two pure white clear white sherds of decorative ware have a few specks of gilt left on their tips. These pieces most likely represent the base of a figurine. Decorating mantels and tabletops with Chinese porcelain figures was fashionable among the nobility in England during the 18th century, and such figures were found only among the wealthiest colonial households. By far the most frequently occurring porcelain statue inside and outside of China is the GUANYIN, Chinese goddess of mercy.

Theory #1 – Daniel Updike - Daniel Updike (1694 – 1757), son of Lodowick Updike and Abigail Newton, was a successful Newport attorney when his father died and left him the property here. Within a few years of taking possession of the house, he had completely renovated it in the then fashionable Georgian style. Meanwhile, he maintained a residence in Newport, participating in elite organizations such as the Newport Literary Society and the Rhode Island Commission that settled the border dispute with Massachusetts. Cocumscussoc most certainly served as a country retreat for this well-established gentleman and his wife and children. Both in Newport and here, Daniel would need the refined props of social performance required in his elite circle, including the very best privately ordered porcelain tea sets. Indeed, it is in the period of Daniel's ownership of the house that we find tea tables and china in the inventory. Daniel had a link with the merchant heart of the then booming seaport of Newport and this is probably a key factor in his ability to purchase a large assortment of ever-more beautiful tea sets. It is also important to note that Daniel married three times and wealthy women often carried porcelain into their new houses in their dowries. Daniel in Georgianizing his home, marrying well, and purchasing

a lavish collection of refined props, including several Chinese tea services, was performing the ambitious, expensive social rituals of his time in class.

One summer day in 1760, just three years after Daniel's death, Narragansett's Parson Fayerweather stopped at Smith's Castle, which he did regularly. He was a renowned lover of tea, and on this visit, he drank 13 cups. It's also interesting that tea drinking held the spotlight to such an extent that someone actually counted the number of times the Parson refilled his Cup and recorded it for posterity.

Theory #2 porcelain present from the 17th century - Did Daniel's father, Lodowick, or his grandfathers Richard Smith and Gysbert Op den Dyck have or use porcelain at Cocumscussoc? While Chinese porcelain is most typically found in colonial American context dating from 1720 to 1780, it was present in Spanish North America in the 16th century and in the Dutch colonies in the 17th century. ^{4-62B} categories of porcelain in the assemblage we found were common items in the European China trade by the second half of the 17th century and remained on the market throughout the 18th century to greater or lesser degrees.

Two additional traits speak to a pre-revolutionary character for this particular collection. One is the absence of patriotic American motifs typical after the war. Moreover the blue and white designs are very finely painted and by the second half of the 18th century you do not usually find this precision. The gilding of the white porcelain figurines was done to please the Dutch, especially during the period 1675 to 1725. The gilt on the figure pieces we found would argue against its arriving in New England by way of the Spanish and argue for a late 17th century Dutch connection.

There are two essential pieces of historical information that serve as an argument for placing a good portion of this collection in the 17th century. The first is the close early connection between Cocumscussoc and New Amsterdam. In 1643 Richard Smith senior was living in new Amsterdam and there developed a friendship with Updike. Even after he moved back to Rhode Island Smith traveled back and forth between Rhode Island and the Dutch colonies probably bringing goods to trade with the Narragansetts, possibly even porcelain dishes since this novel trade goods was so easy to come by. Further, Oriental punch bowls were streaming into the new world at this time on Dutch ships, especially to the Caribbean. Smith was both wealthy and worldly, and had trade relations with the Caribbean and such items were well within his reach. Smith eventually settled here and ran a shipping operation, perhaps the 1st in Rhode Island, from his dock. Certainly New Amsterdam, where his daughter who had married Gysbert resided, was a favorite destination. The possibility of his returning home with porcelain dishes for his wife seems very likely. In the 1660s, he could have easily been carrying blue and white a favorite of the Dutch. The Smiths and the Narragansetts continued their friendly relations, and one wonders how often the Native Americans received gifts of Oriental porcelain from father or son, Richard Smith Jr.

The second compelling fact of history that argues for an early presence of porcelain on the site is the number of merchants and sea captains present in the early branches of the family. Richard Smith Sr. was a trader; His son Richard participated in numerous shipping ventures. The widower Gysbert moved to Cocumscussoc with his children around 1660 and his sons were sailing the sea at that time also. The

inventory research has made it plain that merchants and sea captains were the first and largest holders of fine ceramics in the colonies.

Conclusions

Porcelain was one of those household items that had a social as well as a functional existence. It did more than serve as a necessary utensil for eating and drinking. It was exotic and expensive. But it was also beautiful and durable. It made the social statement. The small broken pieces we found tangibly conveyed their beauty and durability to us centuries later, and allow us to see with our own eyes one small space of colonial existence. We know with certainty that porcelain dishes and cups of the patterns and colors represented in these 157 sherds were manufactured in China, traveled across the globe and came to rest in Rhode Island. Because they were expensive and not readily available to those without far reaching trade connections, we can also presume with some certainty that the porcelain dishes we found were affiliated with the Smith and Updike residence, most likely after 1640 and before 1780. The sherds themselves leave few clues as to their date. As porcelain was highly valued, it tended to remain in use through many generations.

Castle Acquires Brown Family Tea Table – Article from *Chronicle* Spring 2009

A new addition to the Smith's Castle furniture collection is the tea table below. Purchased at Cottone Auctions of Genesio, New York, on Saturday, March 21, it is a late eighteenth century tilt-top table, probably of Rhode Island origin and possibly descended in one of the Brown families. A label on the



underside reads, "This table came into possession of my family in 1768, Charles W. Brown." The table is 28 inches in height and 30½ inches in diameter and retains its original finish and patina. It was formerly in the collection of Herb Laport of Lockport, New York.

In the eighteenth century, tea tables and ceramics were often found in the main bedroom of the house, where owners kept their most expensive and prized possessions and where they entertained important guests. Daniel Updike kept one of his tea tables and associated china in his bedroom.

Tea on the Fly – *Chronicle* Summer, 2009, pp. 16ff.

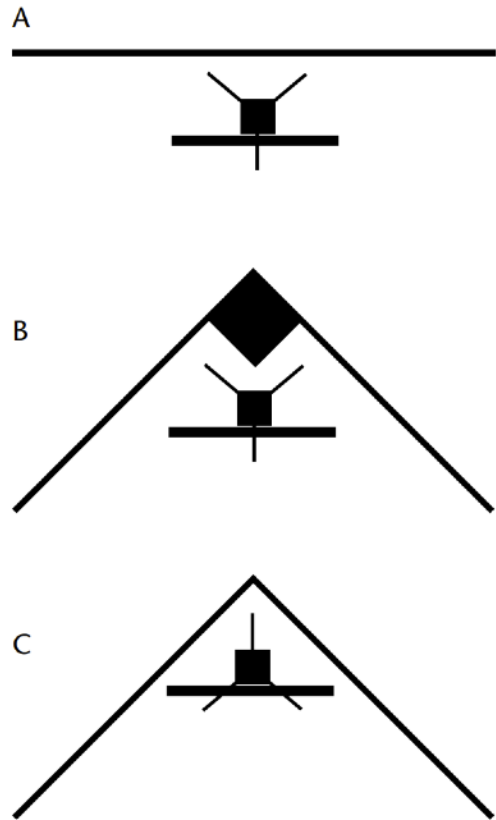
Today we call them tilt-top tables, but in the eighteenth century they were known as "fly tables." The auctioneer from whom we purchased the table had identified it simply as "Late eighteenth/Early nineteenth Century. Probably Rhode Island." That description, however, places the table's date of construction slightly later than a label on underside that reads, "This table came into possession of my family in 1768, Chas. W. Brown." The question of when and where the table was made has not been resolved. A search on the internet quickly yielded some answers. The table looks precisely like many that have sold or are for sale that are attributed to Newport cabinetmaker John Goddard and made about 1750 to 1785.

This specific form of table was researched exhaustively by Dr. Patricia Kane of Yale University for a 1999 article. Kane makes several observations that are particularly relevant to the Smith's Castle's table. Dr. Kane calls this type of table the "standard Newport fly tea table," describing it as having "a columnar pillar supported by serpentine legs ending in snake or very small paw feet. The serpentine legs on these tables are plain with no shaping on the undersides where they meet the pillar, although the sides of some of the legs have shallow indentations." This describes our table perfectly). Kane notes that eleven examples of this type of table were then (1999) known. She was able to examine four of the eleven and to closely inspect six others from photographs. She determined that they were made by different craftsmen and probably in more than just one shop. So much for a firm attribution to John Goddard! She observes that design elements of these tables reflect the architectural environment in Newport, in particular, Peter Harrison's designs for the Redwood Library. The Redwood's restrained Doric columns

are nearly identical to the simple turned pillars on the standard Newport fly table. Serendipitously, the pillar on our table also mimics an architectural feature at Smith's Castle, the turned newel posts on the front hall staircase (see sp. 18). Attorney General Daniel Updike, who renovated the Castle to its current configuration, c.1730, was a founder of the Redwood Library.

Dr. Kane also makes an observation that is important in staging these pieces. The tops on Newport fly tables tilt only; i.e. they do not rotate like the tables that have a bird-cage mechanism. When not in use, the top is tilted up so that the tripod base will have either one leg extending in front of the table top or one behind it. The buyer would need to know which configuration to order based on where the

table was to be placed in his house. A table like the Castle's with one foot extending forward had the most flexibility. It could be placed against a flat wall or it could be nestled into a corner with a post, the legs in back straddling the corner post. A table with one foot extending behind, could be placed in only one area, a void corner, which was rare in most colonial post-and-beam houses.



Positioning the fly table, bird's-eye view. A. wall; B. corner with post; C. void corner



MORE INFORMATION ON HOUSE PORTRAITS

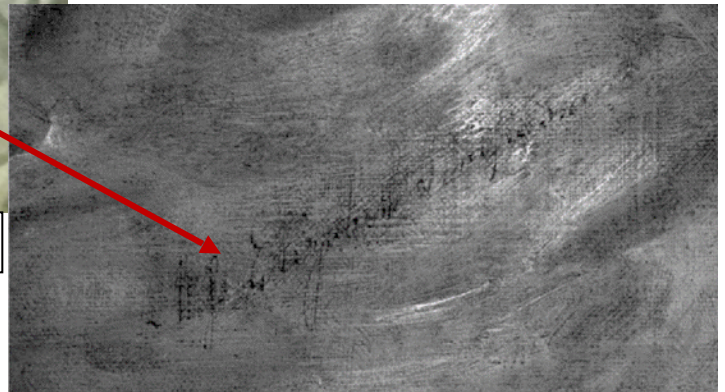
“MISS ELIZABETH”

It was hoped that a 2006 restoration and cleaning of the large portrait hanging in Smith’s Castle’s stairwell would reveal clues about its subject and artist. A name handwritten over the folds of the sitter’s dress has been variously interpreted as both Miss Elizabeth Singleton and Miss Elizabeth Simpson and it has been suggested that it might be the work of Joseph Blackburn.



The portrait was donated to Smith’s Castle in 1960 by Norman B. Smith, the first president of the Cocumscussoc Association. Smith had inherited Cedarhurst Farm (Updike’s Saugo Farm in the 18th and early 19th centuries) from his father, Fred L. Smith, in 1924. The possibility that the painting had been handed down either from a related Singleton or Simpson family was explored, but that does not appear to be the case. In 2008 long-time docents recalled that Mr. Smith had acquired it in an auction.

Because of certain characteristics similar to the work of the artist Joseph Blackburn an appraisal, done by Clifford P. and Eleanore B. Monahon in May 1979, attributed it to the “School of Blackburn.” Blackburn was an English portrait painter who worked in Colonial America in the



mid-1700s. Our painting, however, has not been studied by 18th century American portraiture experts to ascertain the veracity of this claim.

Photos: Gay Myers

The identification of the sitter as “Miss Elizabeth Singleton” comes from what appears to be that name written in the folds of the subject’s satin gown in brown ink. This was done sometime in the distant past—almost certainly not by the artist. According to the Worcester, MA Art Museum, which holds several Blackburn portraits, that artist typically signed his work and/or wrote the name of the sitter in a neatly printed or script signature often with appropriate Latin words. In our case, only part of the name is legible – Miss Elizabeth S. For many years it was thought to read “Singleton,” but more recently it has been believed to be “Simpson.” Genealogical research has not uncovered any good candidates for the Singleton ascription but there are indications of a Simpson family in Massachusetts. Interestingly, members of that family were painted by Joseph Blackburn and their portraits hang in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Dr.

Brenda Richardson, who has done genealogical research on the family has identified two individuals named Elizabeth and feels that the strongest possibility might be an Elizabeth Simpson born in 1727.

“Miss Elizabeth” remains a mystery, both as to her identity and that of the person who created her portrait. To fill in the gaps, myths have grown up over the years including that she was a young woman who fell to her death on the stairway while attending a ball and now haunts the house. No one has ever reported seeing or hearing her, however. There are additional questions about the possibility of her clothing suggesting bereavement and just what she is holding in her hand (a precious memento of a lost loved one, a scent packet?). We’ll probably never know all the answers, but we can still greet her as we travel up and down the stairs with our guests.

REFERENCES:

Cocumscussoc Association, *Castle Chronicle*, Vol. 17, No. 2, Summer 2008.
www.worcesterart.org – Accessed, November 4, 2020.

UNKNOWN CHILD

- This portrait was painted by an unknown itinerant artist; such unknown artists were called “limners.”
- For the most part these artists were untrained and lived hardscrabble lives, often trading sign painting, a small portrait, or interior mural for a bushel of potatoes or a few chickens.
- They often made their own pigments from the raw material they found along their way, such as: crushed burnt walnuts, ground chicken bones, boiled eggshells, blueberries and even local clays and mud.
- They typically accentuated the eyes of the subject and included narrative elements such as books, birds, pets, household objects, or in our case, a basket.
- Itinerant artists would paint the torsos of people, often children, during the “off-season” and in better weather, take the canvasses around to offer their artistic services to people in the settlements.
- The head of the person being represented was then painted (“photo-shopped”) onto the already-complete bottom part of the portrait.
- This may have been either a boy or a girl. Both wore dresses in early childhood.
- Note that the neck seems disproportionate to the rest of the body.



REFERENCE:

Early American Art and Limner Portraits, <http://www.historyofpainters.com/limner.htm>. Accessed November 4, 2020.



JOHN POTTER
(1715-1787) & FAMILY
OF MATUNUCK, R.I.

This is a reproduction of an oil on pine painting by an unknown artist. The original, which now hangs in the Newport Historical Society in Newport, was an over-mantel panel, much

larger than our copy, which was removed from the house of John Potter. Mr. Potter was a Quaker slaveowner/trader in Mantunuck and a friend of the Updikes. He was found guilty of master-minding a colonial counterfeiting scheme.

The painting consists of John Potter, his second wife (Elizabeth Hazard), his sister Martha, his daughter Mary, and a young slave. There are various interpretations of the significance of a slave being included in a family portrait. It is possible that the domestic servant was someone special to the family. On the other hand, the family could have wanted to show that they were wealthy enough to own a slave, as well as the imported tea service. Another question has been posed with regard to the positioning of the subjects, with Mr. Potter staring forward, while the ladies look towards him or aside. This could represent male dominance and female subservience in colonial society.

REFERENCES:

Depictions of "Family" in Colonial America, <https://jthill2014.wordpress.com/2014/04/10/depictions-of-family-in-colonial-america/> Accessed: November 4, 2020.

Cocumscussoc Assn., *Chronicle*, Vol. 15, No. 2, Summer 2006, p.1.

Scott, Kenneth, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Rhode Island*, p. 17-21. (Photocopy included in Docent Handbook, 2020).

UPDIKE FAMILY PORTRAITS AT THE CASTLE

ANSTIS JENKINS UPDIKE (1702-1744) (Portrait in Daniel Updike Law Office)

Shortly after his election as attorney general in 1722, Daniel Updike (the great grandson of Richard Smith Sr. and grandson of Gysbert Updike)) married his second wife, Anstis Jenkins. Anstis was the granddaughter of an aristocratic Polish woman, “a lady...who by her intermarriage with Mr. Wilkins, below her degree, lost the favor of her family and emigrated with him to America.” Through the marriage, Daniel acquired considerable property and Anstis was the mother of his only surviving children, Lodowick and Mary.

In honor of their wedding separate portraits were painted of the couple by the Aetatis Sue limner, who recently has been identified as Nehemiah Partridge, an artist known to briefly have visited Newport in 1722. Our portrait of Anstis is a copy of the original which is the oldest painting in the collection of the Rhode Island Historical Society.

Unfortunately, the companion portrait of Daniel was lost.

WILKINS UPDIKE (1784-1867) (Portrait in Updike Dining Room)

Wilkins Updike was the last member of the Updike family to own Smith’s Castle. He inherited it in 1804, but financial circumstances forced him to sell the home in 1814 and to move to Kingston. Through his books, *Memoirs of the Rhode Island Bar* and *History of the Narragansett Church*, Mr. Updike preserved many of the oral traditions about Smith’s Castle and the history of South County that had been handed down through his family. A prominent attorney and orator, he was an advocate for public education, state judicial reform, and women’s rights. In 2002 Wilkins was inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame.

Our painting of Wilkins Updike by noted Providence portrait painter James Sullivan Lincoln is on loan from the Rhode Island Historical Society. Mr. Lincoln has been called the “Father of Rhode Island Art.” His other works include eleven portraits of the governors of Rhode Island which are displayed in the State House.

ANSTIS UPDIKE LEE (1764-1864) (Portrait in Updike Dining Room)

Anstis Updike Lee, Wilkins' oldest sister, married Providence businessman, William Lee, in 1811 when she was 50 years old. After his death just three years later, she returned to North Kingstown where she lived out the rest of her long life in the Lafayette section of town, raising an orphaned nephew. In 1845, Anstis wrote an account of a trip to Connecticut she had taken on a Narragansett Pacer with her brother Daniel 50 years before. Mrs. Lee died from an accident on her 100th birthday and is buried in the Ayrault-Congdon Lot.

This portrait was donated by Mrs. Clarkson Collins Jr. in 1951.

ALFRED UPDIKE 1779-1869 (Portrait in 18th Century Bedchamber)

Alfred, brother of Wilkins, is listed as Captain Alfred Updike in the *OpDyke Genealogy*, a sailor and merchant. Later in life, however, the censuses report him as a farmer. He married Dorcas Reynolds, daughter of Gardner Reynolds of another prominent Narragansett Planter family, in 1809. Dorcas died in 1822; they had no surviving children. A lifelong Wickford resident, Alfred is buried in the Ayrault-Congdon Lot.

This portrait is on loan from the Rhode Island Historical Society.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT ANSTIS JENKINS UPDIKE

Cocumscussoc Association, *Chronicle*, Volume 17, No. 1, Spring 2008, Feature Article, p.2 and then continued on page 17 ff.
Opdyke, Charles Wilson. *Op Dyck Genealogy*, Printed for Charles W. Opdyke, Leonard E. Opdycke, and William Opdyke, New York, 1880, p. 84, 92, 100, 106, 125.
Woodward, Carl R. *Plantation in Yankeeland*. Cocumscussoc Association 1971, p. 75, 76, 81, 86, 95, 120-122, 130, 147, 161, 164.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT ANSTIS UPDIKE LEE

BASIC INFORMATION FROM:

Opdyke, Charles Wilson. *Op Dyck Genealogy*, Printed for Charles W. Opdyke, Leonard E. Opdycke, and William Opdyke, New York, 1880, p. 115, 125.
Woodward, Carl R. *Plantation in Yankeeland*. Cocumscussoc Association 1971, p/ 61, 97, 121.

1830 Census

- Widowed (William had died in 1814)
- Lived in North Kingstown (No Specific Residence Listed)
- "Head of Household"
- Free White Male 20-30 Years Old Living with Her

(probably nephew Thomas – who would have been in early 20s)

1840 Census

- Same as 1830

1850 Census

- Living in the Lafayette Section of North Kingstown.
- Living with Thomas & Elizabeth Updike.
- Thomas (a cabinet maker) was Probably Her Brother Gilbert's Son, who was Married to Elizabeth Russell (Gould).

1860 Census

- Listed as Living Alone in Dwelling #79 in the Lafayette Section
- Anstis' Personal Estate Value was \$6,000. \$6,000 in 1864 is equivalent in purchasing power to \$93,676.43 in 2017
- Her Sister, Abigail Updike Reynolds, 91 years old, Lived Next Door with a Servant; Her Real Estate and Personal Estate was Valued at \$7,400.

OTHER – ANSTIS' NEPHEW

- Thomas Updike was only 10-11 when both his parents died (his mother in 1818 and his father in 1819) so Anstis probably took him in.
- FROM: THE GARDINERS OF NARRAGANSETT –Ed. Caroline Elizabeth Rodman Robinson, 1919, p.253 Notes.

"She [Anstis] was a woman of strong personality. Apparently with a premonition of her longevity, 4-70 a piece of real estate **near the Arcade** in Providence to Mr. Alexander Duncan, [in 1834] when she v.

seventy years of age, she readily accepted the offered privilege of receiving the consideration for it in the form of an annuity, thereby, by reason of her long survival, deriving great advantage.”

- Probably this property had been left to her by her husband, who had been listed as a “merchant of Providence” in their marriage announcement. It may have been the property where they lived after their marriage.
- ONLY MARRIED 3 YEARS - William Lee (born 9 May 1758) died in Providence on 20 October 1814. He is buried at Swan Point Cemetery (Sect.295; Map 813) born Swansea, MA – Removed from West Ground) per RI Historical Cemetery Commission Index (ancestry.com) .
- In his will, William left “to his beloved wife Anstis” the house in which they dwelled and the lot on which it stands and \$100 per year during her widowhood to be paid out of his estate. \$100 in 1814 is equivalent in purchasing power to \$1,392.73 in 2017

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT ALFRED UPDIKE

Woodward, Carl R. *Plantation in Yankeeland*. Cocumscussoc Association 1971, p. 120, 147, 148, 161, 162, 164.
Opdyke, Charles Wilson. *Op Dyck Genealogy*, Printed for Charles W. Opdyke, Leonard E. Opdycke, and William Opdyke, New York, 1880, p. 115.

HOW TO INTERPRET CHRONICLE ENTRIES:

YEAR
(LAST 2 DIGITS) NUMBER* PAGE(S)

- #1-Spring
- #2-Summer
- #3-Fall

- #4-Winter

Note that the Fall 2007 Issue of Chronicle has an incorrect masthead; it should be 2007 Volume 16, Number 3 (instead of 2). Number 2 is the Spring issue.

EXAMPLE:

E.G., 06-2-8ff represents the Spring issue of 2006 for an article starting on page 8 and continuing on following pages. Page entries in bold print indicate a significant article or the lead article in an issue devoted to this topic.

E-Chronicles – E/Date/page

If you wish to access specific back issues of the Chronicle, contact Marilyn Harris mtharris39@verizon.net or Susan Danforth susandanforth82@gmail.com for digital copies. Hard copies are available at the Annex Library.

Activities of the Narragansett Planters, by Ernest Hamlin Baker (mural) – 04-Ha3-6;

Adult Education/Programs - 02-2-11; 02-3-8; 02-4-3; 02-4-9; 03-1-10 (Fitts' lecture); 03-1-12; **03-2-1,11ff**; 03-4-4; 03-4-10 (photos); 04-2-16 (antique auto show); 04-3-10; series – 04-3-11; camp-05-1-4; ladies' camp – 05-3-4

Agriculture – 08-2-12ff, 08-2-11ff 08-3-11ff; barn, corncrib – 05-2-13; Cocumscussoc farms - 02-4-7;

Alcohol – Trade/Use/with Natives – 06-4-1, 6, 7,

Anglo-Dutch Wars - 09-2-6ff

Aquidneck Island/Portsmouth - 07-2-9

Archaeology at Cocumscussoc - 09-2-4ff, 08-4-2,3; **07-3-1ff**, 07-4-3

2007 Artifacts 07-2-13ff

1972-1973 Artifacts, Brown Univ - 06-4-1ff

1972 URI (John Senulis) – 00-1-4 (17th c. silver willowtree coin; musket flint); 02-3-4

Buttons 06-1-1ff

Geophysical Remote Sensing (2006-7) 07-3-1

Glass Bottle Studies (Brown) - **06-4-1, 6ff**

Interpreting Porcelain found at Cocumscussoc – 06-2-14ff

Metal Artifacts related to domestic activities - 06-4-15ff (photos)

Porcelain sherds - **06-2-1ff**; Cat(alog of finds 06-2-21ff

RIDOT Grant Ground Penetrating Studies 06-4-3

Small Finds from 1972-73, 1989-1984 Brown Studies 06-4-15, 06-2-1ff

Arnold Family

Ardeliza (Mrs. Daniel Updike)

Gov. Benedict

Eleazer Arnold House – 00-4-4

Josiah

Sarah (Mrs. Daniel Updike)

Artifacts - See also specific items, archaeology

Buttons – **06-1-1ff**

Clock (dwarf, tall-case in 18th c. dining room) – **04-02-10**

History 06-1-1,8

Specific to Cocumscussoc 06-1-9ff White metal, brass, porcelain, bone 07-1-9 (photos)

Items found in 1972-1973 excavations - 06-4-1ff

Items found in 1989-1994 excavations (Brown) – 06-1-1ff

Items found in 2006-2007 excavations - 07-3-13ff

Glass **06-4-1ff**

Metal Artifacts related to domestic activities - 06-4-15

Milk Bottle – 03-4-4

Walking Stick (Daniel Updike) - 02-1-7 (photo);

Atherton purchase - 02-4-6 (map);

Ayrshire cow – 03-4-4 (milk bottle); 05-3-13

Babbitt Family, Babbitt Farm - 08-3-11, 07-1-5

Babcock Family

John

Samuel

Balch Academy - Mary "Polly" Balch's academy (Providence) – 04-1-1;

Bale Seals 06-4-17;

Barbados

Barbary Pirates - **05-1-1,10ff**

Battle of Rhode Island- 05-4-7 (Black Battalion);

Beaver - 07-1-12ff

Bedchambers

17th century (Richard Smith Jr); bedhangings 07-1-8;

18th century

Lily's

Nursey

Berkeley, Bishop George - 08-1-17

Bermuda

Bernon, Gabriel (St. Paul's) - 03-3-8

Black Regiment/Battalion - **05-4-1ff**;

Blackburn, Joseph - 08-2, 2ff

Blackstone, Rev. William - 03-3-1

Book Reviews: *No Idle Hands: The Social History of American Knitting* – 00-3-5; *Murdered by His Wife (Joshua Spooner Murder)* – 00-4-6; *King Philip's War: The History and Legacy of New England's Forgotten Conflict* - 02-1-10; *Early Rhode Island Houses* – 02/3-7; *Inventing New England's Slave Paradise: Master/Slave Relations in 18th Century Narragansett* – 3-1-10, *What Clothes Reveal; The Language of Clothing in Colonial and Federal America* – 04-3-4; *Rhode Island North Kingstown: 1880-1920* 06-1-17; *The Island at the Center of the World* – 06-2-6; *Quonset Hut: Metal Living for the Modern Age* - 06-3-8; *Mayflower* 06-4-23; *Widows of Wickford* 09-1-16ff; *Dutch Trade and Ceramics in America in the Seventeenth Century* 09-2-4; *The Brother Gardeners Botany, Empire, and the Birth of an Obsession* – 09-3-6ff; *A Favorite Place of Resort for Strangers* - 09-4-8; *Nathanael Greene: A Biography of the American Revolution* 08-2-23; *The Healer's Calling: Women and Medicine in Early New England* 08-3-6; *Sons of Providence: The Brown Brothers, Trade, and the American Revolution* – 07-2-3; *Slavery in the Age of Reason: Archaeology at a New England Farm* – 07-3-4; *Children in Colonial America* – 07-4-11; *John Townsend, Newport Cabinetmaker* - 05-3-8; *Christian Slaves; Muslim Masters* - 05-1-13; *King's Province: Samuel Tefft's Narrative of the Narragansett Country* – 05-01-15; *Founding Foods: The Story of New England Cooking* – 05-01-18; *A History of Kingston, Rhode Island, 1700–1900* – 05-2-8;

Bonner, Bethany (artist) - 03-2-11

Boston Neck

Boston Post Road

Boundary dispute - 02-1-1,6ff; 08-1-17, 06-4-17ff

Bridge, Rev. Christopher (1st Anglican rector) 03-3-1

Briggs, Aaron - 05-4-1

Brinley, Francis - 05-1-13

Broches, Alexandra (artist) - 03-2-11

Brown Family

Beriah (desk in Law Office) – **02-2-1,6ff**; 02-2-6 (relationship to Smith-Updikes), 02-2-7 (house; now in Newport); 02-2-8 (death); 02-04-11 (Provenance of desk);

Elizabeth (Beriah's wife) - 02-2-1

James 07-2-3

John - 07-2-3

Moses 07-2-3

William

Buckles 06-4-17

Butter & Churn – E04-10-2009,p2., 08-1-20ff

Buttery - E04-10-2009,p2

Buttons – **06-1-1ff**

Cady, John Hutchins (architect/restoration) – 00-4-4; 08-4-21; 05-1-9 (photo);

Carter, Thomas (Jackson murder) - 02-2-1;

Castello Plan (New Amsterdam) - 07-1-10ff, **07-1-11**

Cattle - 08-4-5ff, 08-4-8ff, 08-4-19ff, 05-1-13;

Caesar 09-1-9, 07-4-8ff;

Cellar - 06-2027 (Secret passage, chains and holds)

Chains 06-4-17

Cheese making – 09-1-4ff, utensils - 09-1-10, cheese-making maze - 09-1-21, 08-4-4ff, 08-4-10ff,

Childbirth - 08-3-6ff

Children, Colonial Life - 02-3-10;

Chinaware - 09-2-4ff, 09-2-10 china puzzle, 09-2-18, 07-3-13; 06-4-20; **06-3-1ff, 10ff**;

Christmas at the Castle – 99-4-1; 00-1-1; 01-1-6; 05-01-13ff (history); 05-4-15;

Clemens-Irons House – 00-4-4;

Clothing - 09-1-14ff, 09-2-12ff

Daniel's Waistcoat 02-1-8 (photo); 06-1-18

Richard Jr's Coat - 02-1-6 (photo);

Cocumscussoc Association - 08-4-20ff (acquisition of property); 03-4-3 (mission statement);

Cocumscussoc Ayrshire - 05-1-13;

Cocumscussoc Brook - 08-3-10, 08-4-19ff; **04-2-1,8ff**

Fish diversity chart – 04-2-8

Water quality – 04-2-9

Wildlife – (blue heron); 04-2-13;

Cocumscussoc Farms - 02-4-7; 03-4-4 (milk bottle)

Cocumscussoc Trading Post 07-2-9

Coin (1652 silver willowtree sixpence)

Congdon Family - 02-1-8; 08-3-9ff, Family Tree - 08-3-14ff

Benjamin & Phebe – 08-2-17, 08-3-9ff, Genealogy 08-3-16ff, 05-3-1,10;

Cochineal beetle (dyes) 03-3-3

Cooking/Recipes – (See also Hearth Cooking) 05-01-18;

Apple Fritters - 02-3-10;

Beverages – 08-2-20ff, Spiced Rum 07-4-15

Blueberry (Whortleberry) Pudding 07-2-12

Cheese - 09-1-13

Crab cakes 07-4-14

Flummery - 02-2-10;

Gingerbread –09-4-10ff; Gingerbread aplcookies 07-4-15

Maple syrup - 3-1-14 (Wax Sugar)

Onion Bread - 08-1-21

Tea Cakes - E-4-24-2011,

Dairy, Dairy Farm - 03-4-4 (milk bottle); 08-4-10, 07-1-5; 05-1-13

Dean, Sybil (m.Davis) (sampler) – **01-1-1**

Dining room (18th century/Updike) Great Roomz) 09-4-4ff; 04-2-10ff (grandmother clock, photos);

Dinnerware **06-3-1ffm 8ff;**

Docents (history) – 05-01-14ff;

Doll Collection – 05-4-8

Doughty, Francis (Rev) 07-2-1; 07-2-8,9ff, 06-2-7

Duddingston, Captain William (*Gaspee*) - 05-4-1

Dutch-Indian War 07-2-10ff

Dutch West India Trade - 03-3-3 (dyes); 09-2-4ff, 07-1-10ff, 07-2-9, 06-2-8

Dwyer, Susan (artist) – 07-3-6

Dyes/Dye Garden - 03-3-4; **03-3-5** (plants in garden);

Earthenwares (Transfer printed) - **06-3-1ff**, catalog of finds 06-3-14ff;

Ebed-Melich - 07-4-8ff

Eighteenth Century Garden (See Garden, Graham) – Perennials 00-2-4; 06-1-20;

English Path (Post Road) - 08-3-10

Enslaved at Cocumscussoc - 06-4-12

Episcopal Church – See Old St. Paul’s

Fall Festival (Plantation Days) – 99-3-3; 99-4-3; 00-3-1; 02-3-8; 02-4-7; 03-4-8;

Farming at Cocumscussoc - 08-2-12ff, 08-2-11ff, Survey -08-3-4ff, 08-3-11ff, 08-4-5ff; 02-4-7 (list of farms);

Fayerweather, Rev. Samuel - 03-3-9ff

Fireplace/firebox (kitchen) - **02-3-1,6ff** (1927 photos), Restoration - 02-3-7

Flax 03-3-3 (dyes); 03-4-3;

Fort Ninigret - 09-2-5

Fox Family – 03-4-4 (milk bottle); 08-3-11ff, 07-1-5

Austen – **02-3-1,6ff**;

French Blue-green bottles 06-4-9 (status symbol)

Furniture

Beriah Brown Desk (Law Office) - **02-2-1,6ff**; 02-4-10 (provenance)

Chest (Jacobean Blanket Chest in Smith Jr. Bedchamber) - 08-1-5

Coaching Table (Front Hall) – 08-1-5

Mahogany Desk/Bookcase (Lodowick’s in museum) – 09-4-7, **04-4-6ff**;

Marble topped Table (Anstis Lee- St.Paul’s) – 09-4-7

Tea Table - E04-10-2009,p2ff, 09-1-17, 09-2-16ff,

Updike French Wash Stand – 00-2-5 (with photo)

Windsor Chairs - 08-1-5

Games (Colonial) – 03-2-14 (peg farthing); Nursery Rhymes - 02-3-10;

Garden

Dye Garden **03-3-5**,

Graham Restoration – 00-2-4; 05-1-9; 05-1-6; 5-2-8; ; plants 06-1-20; 08-4-21ff 09-3-6ff,

Gardiner Family

Hannah (m. Rev. MacSparran) - 03-3-9 (portrait)

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Recipe for:

From the kitchen of: Smith's Castle Cookies

3/4 c shortening

1 c sugar

2 c sifted flour

1 egg beaten

1 tsp baking soda

1 tsp salt

1/4 c molasses

1 tsp each ginger, cinnamon
& ground cloves.

serves:

Mix ingredients. Form into balls about the size of large marbles. Roll balls in a plate of sugar and place on a lightly greased cookie sheet, leaving enough room between them to spread out. Bake at 350° for 15 min. (I usually do half butter, half shortening & I never sift the flour!)

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APPLE CRISP

(This makes a large 9 x 13" pan – used for Smith Castle) –
used for Fall Festival

10-12 Medium to Large Apples (4 Granny Smith's plus 8 Courtlands is a good flavor blend. Don't use MacIntosh - too mushy)

Peel and slice apples to uniform size, put aside

COMBINE:

1-1/2 C. packed brown sugar

1 c. flour

1 c. either quick-cooking or old-fashioned oats

2/3 c. butter/margarine SOFTENED

1-1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon

1-1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg

In medium bowl stir combined ingredients - Cream until well blended.

Preheat oven to 375 F. Grease bottom AND sides of pan with butter/shortening

Spread apples in pan - sprinkle creamed mixture over apples

Bake 30-50 minutes or until topping is golden brown and apples are soft when pierced with a fork.

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE (Strawberry Festival)

- **2 pints ripe, well-rinsed strawberries**
- **½ cup sugar, or more to taste**
- **4 cups flour**
- **3 tablespoons sugar**
- **¼ teaspoon salt**
- **5 teaspoons baking powder**
- **1 ¼ cups butter**
- **3 cups whipping cream** 1-1/4 for the dough (the rest is to whip)
- **¼ teaspoon vanilla extract**

1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees.
2. Into a large mixing bowl, sift together flour, 3 tablespoons sugar, salt and baking powder. Add 3/4 cup of softened butter, and rub into dry ingredients as for pastry. Add 1 1/4 cups cream, and mix to a soft dough. Knead the dough for one minute on a lightly floured pastry board, then roll it out to about 1/2-inch thickness. Using a 3-inch biscuit cutter, cut an even number of rounds - 2 rounds per serving.
3. Use a little of the butter to grease a baking sheet. Place half the rounds on it. Melt remaining butter and brush a little on the rounds; place remaining rounds on top. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes, or until golden brown.

HOT MULLED CIDER (for Christmas at the Castle)

Pour cider into coffee maker or crockpot---for a gallon put about 1/2 of a sliced up orange in----tie together in cloth about 1 teaspoon of whole cloves, 3 or 4 cinnamon sticks, and a couple of slices of fresh ginger----let the whole thing get nice and warm--don't boil-- then serve---you could cut back on

spices if you use a half gallon----if you use a coffee pot the spices will swell and plug the drain (I learned the hard way, had to take the whole drain apart to get them out of it)

GINGERBREAD COOKIES (Christmas)

INGREDIENTS:

6-1/2 c. flour

2 T. cinnamon

2 T. ginger

1-1/2 tsp. baking soda

1-1/2 tsp. cloves

1 tsp. nutmeg

1 tsp. salt

1-1/2 c. unsalted, softened butter

1 c. packed brown sugar

2 large eggs

1 c. molasses

3 tsp. vanilla

(optional) zest of small orange

HALF RECIPE

3-1/4 c. flour

1 T. cinnamon

1 T. ginger

3/4 tsp. baking soda

3/4 tsp. cloved

1/2 tsp. nutmeg

1/2 tsp. salt

3/4 c. butter

1/2 c. packed brown sugar

1 large egg

1/2 c. molasses

1-1/2 tsp. vanilla

orange zest

Instructions

1. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together flour, cinnamon, ginger, baking soda, cloves, salt and nutmeg. Set aside.
2. In an electric stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment (or alternately, you can use a hand mixer and a large mixing bowl), beat the butter and sugar together 2 minutes on medium-high speed until light and fluffy. Add in



for

eggs, molasses and vanilla, and beat on medium speed until combined. Reduce mixer speed to low, and gradually add the flour mixture until just combined.

3. Divide the dough into two equal portions, and form them each into a ball. Then gently use your hands to flatten each ball into a 1-inch thick disk, wrap tightly in plastic wrap, and chill in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours or overnight.
4. Once the dough is thoroughly chilled and you're ready to bake the cookies, heat the oven to 350°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper; set aside.
5. Unwrap the dough and place it on a large, lightly-floured hard surface. Use a floured rolling pin to roll the dough evenly until it is approximately 1/8-inch thick. Then use your favorite cookie cutters to cut out your desired shapes, re-rolling the dough as needed to cut out more. Transfer to parchment-covered baking sheets.
6. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes, or until the cookies are crisp around the edges and on top. Remove from oven and let cool for 5 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to finish cooling.
7. Once the cookies are room temperature, feel free to decorate them as desired with the icing (see below) plus any extra sprinkles or candies. Serve and enjoy immediately, or store in a sealed container for up to 4 days.

To Make The Simple Icing: (We usually buy icing kits)

Simple Icing Recipe:

- 2 cups powdered sugar
 - 2–3 tablespoons milk
 - 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
8. Whisk all ingredients together in a bowl until smooth. If your icing is too thin, add in a little more powdered sugar. If your icing is too thick, add in a tiny bit of milk.
 9. Use a piping bag, or a ziplock bag (with the corner snipped off), or a plastic squeeze bottle to pipe the icing onto

Dutch Pepernoten

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon anise seed
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1 cup self-rising flour
- 1 tablespoon milk



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).
2. Beat brown sugar, white sugar, and butter together with an electric mixer in a large bowl until smooth. Add nutmeg, cinnamon, cloves, anise seed, and ginger; mix well. Stir in flour and milk; mix until dough is thoroughly combined.
3. Roll dough into approximately 50 marble-size balls; place on a baking sheet.
4. Bake in the preheated oven until golden, 10 to 15 minutes.

VIDEOS ABOUT SMITH'S CASTLE

Videos are available on youtube.com about various topics related to the Castle and its environs. To search on youtube, enter Smith's Castle RI. Note that this list is not all inclusive; there are also videos of various lectures and activities at the Castle. These, however, give you a good introduction to our history and what we do here.

The Castle channel is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOq130rILBjeNB2uQUgVlw> Please subscribe.

These are videos specifically recorded for educational purposes by the Castle and currently on our channel:

Richard Smith Jr Bedroom - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pFDVekVU-SE> (Sharon Ferrara) – 17th century bedchamber. Tells about the artifacts found in the room.

Mill Cove - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t9zUQx5U50A> (Robert Geake) – Overview of the cove and the land around the Castle as well as the Narragansett life pre-contact.

Paintings of Smith's Castle - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYldq1lqA3I> (Marilyn Harris) – Concentrates on several of the paintings hanging in the Castle.

Colonial Gardens - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lgik3gpENuE> (URI Master Gardeners) – Presentation about the 18th century Georgian garden researched, constructed and maintained by the URI Master Gardeners at the Castle. It shows the garden as it may have looked when the Smith's Castle/Updike Mansion plantation was at the height of its prosperity.

Trail Ecosystem (The Old Farm Trail) - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_EIFBxbjw00 (Brian Maynard, URI Horticulture Professor). Describes the ecosystem of the trail as it existed during the days when this area was a dairy farm as well as plants (native and invasive) that have come in during reforestation.

ALSO OF INTEREST:

Presentations at *Roger was Here* (A Seminar of the Life and Works of Roger Williams) held in September 2019):

Roger Was Here at Smith's Castle - Welcome and Indigenous Blessing – Lorén Spears, Author, Educator and Director of the Tomaquag Museum <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7c0ljf7s6Gk>

Roger Was Here at Smith's Castle - James Warren – Keynote Address - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oqif92QzSl4> Keynote Speaker, James A. Warren, Author of *God, War, and Providence: The Epic Struggle of Roger Williams and the Narragansett Indians against the Puritans of New England*

Roger Was Here at Smith's Castle – J. Stanley Lemons – Keynote Address - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GNES_0EwUig J. Stanley Lemons, Professor Emeritus at Rhode Island College and Co-author of *Decoding Roger Williams: The Lost Essay of Rhode Island's Founding Father, The Decline & Fall of Roger Williams*.

Roger Was Here at Smith's Castle - Creating the Colony of Rhode Island <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2E620Zzwr8> – “Interview” with Roger Williams (portrayed by John Niff) and Governor Sam Cranston (portrayed by Tim Cranston) by Charlotte Carrington-Farmer (Roger Williams University).

