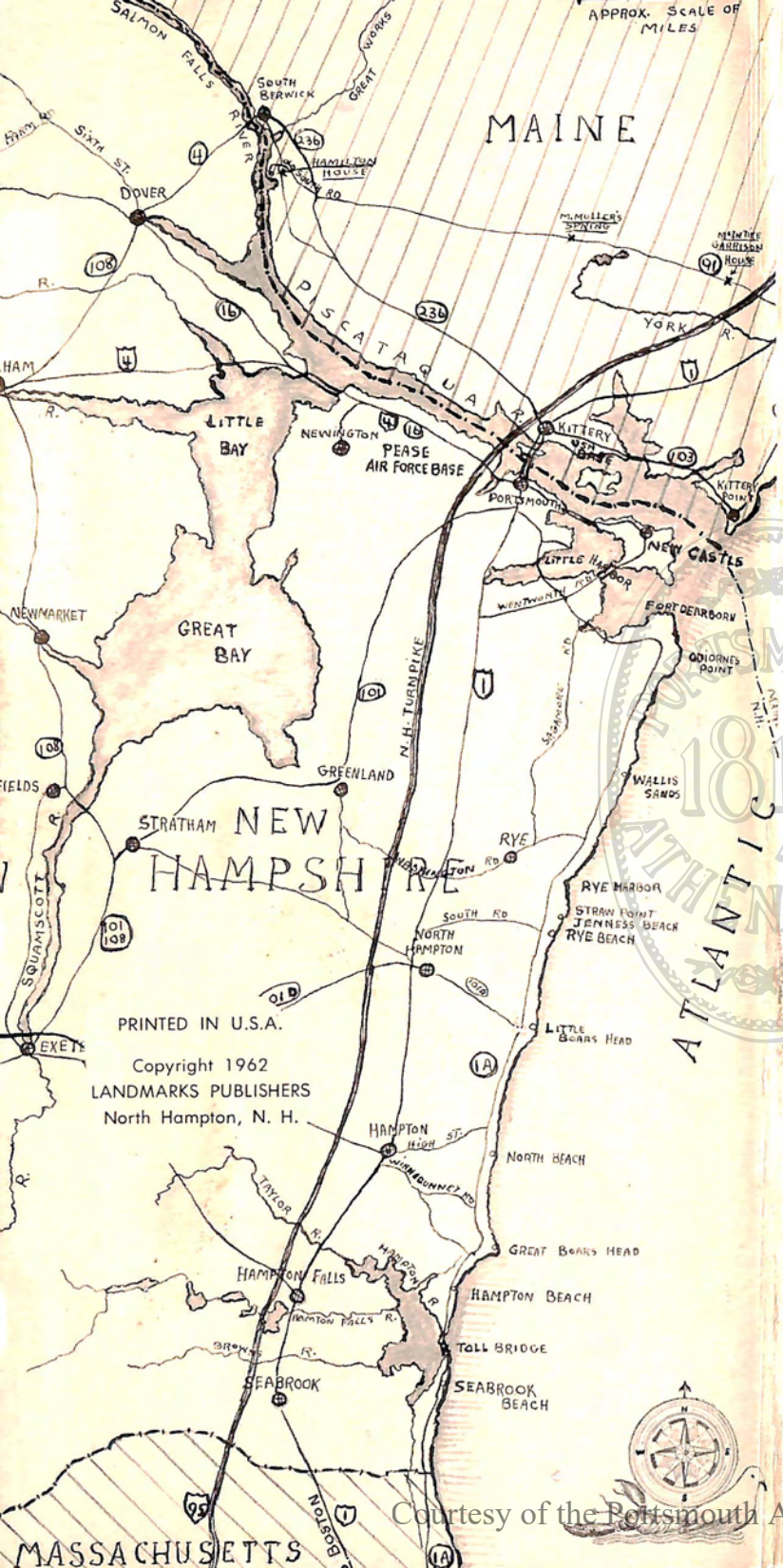




HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

A GUIDE TO

SHORELINE STAGECOACH TOWNS

THE HAMPTONS TO PORTSMOUTH
EXETER, DOVER TO YORK, MAINE

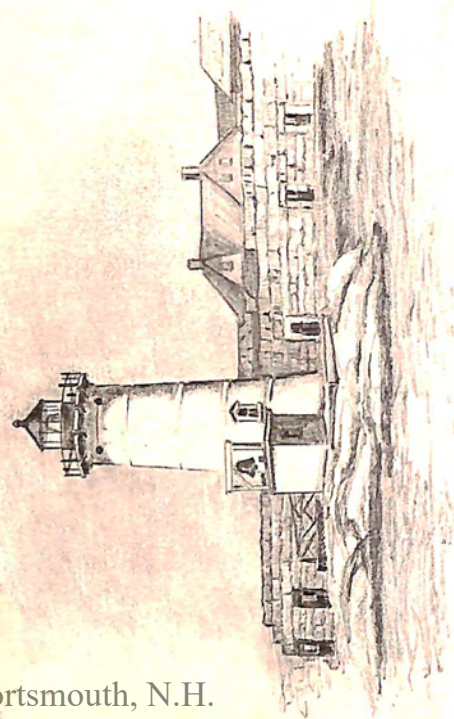
Text by

JUSTINE FLINT GEORGES

Price
Fifty
Cents

Illustrations by

IOLA L. LALLEY



Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.

Shoreline By Stagecoach

Tidewater farms . . . long stretches of woodland . . . tiny villages, each nestled close to a white-spired meeting house . . . such were the passing scenes framed by stagecoach windows of the 18th century.

As the horses galloped on the straight stretches or strained on the hills, the travelers looked forward to limbering up at the next tavern stop, or they amused themselves by recalling bits of news about the areas through which they were riding. At Breakfast Hill in Rye, N. H. someone was sure to comment that here survivors of "that horrible Indian raid at Portsmouth Plains" were rescued by the militia while their savage captors were at breakfast. Another passenger of more peaceful bent might admire a carefully cultivated piece of land or wave at a dusty farmer in a sunny hayfield.

In 1761 the first stage to run on regular schedule began its trips from Portsmouth to Boston and return. It first passed through Hampton on April 20. In May of 1763 the "Portsmouth Flying Stage Coach" drawn by four or six horses was making weekly trips carrying six persons inside.

We are not so far from stagecoach days as our modern mode of travel would indicate, for many of the roads and highways follow the same routes and a number of the old taverns still offer hospitality. Many of the villages have become towns, and even cities, but somewhere hidden away, perhaps on a back street, is a sea captain's house



looking much as it did 200 years ago, or an imposing mansion, preserved and open to the public. Ancient meeting houses still echo with well loved hymns and the bit of shoreline we are describing still boasts at least three stout old garrisons and innumerable early 17th century houses.

Fog, fairly tasting of salt, rolls in from the ocean. Light-houses wink off shore and sea-faring towns like Portsmouth still resound with footsteps of sailors on shore-leave.

This booklet with its accompanying map covers an approximate region from Seabrook, N. H. to Portsmouth, inland to Dover and east to the coast of York, Maine. Some of the houses are privately owned. Some are off the main travel routes and hard to find. In order that the interested visitor may see as much as possible during his explorations we have chosen HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS. In some instances we have listed private homes because we couldn't resist their appeal, either because of their historical significance (such as the Folsom Tavern in Exeter, N. H.) or because, like the McIntire garrison in York, Me., the setting is spectacular and the ride itself well worth the taking.



No. 40950

Date April 1997

pamphlet

PRESENTED TO THE PORTSMOUTH ATHENAEUM BY

Richard Candee

While this booklet obviously cannot cover all points of interest in this recreational region, it is of particular value to those who cherish New England's historical heritage, who admire the pioneer accomplishments of a valorous people and who love to poke about on back roads in search of a covered bridge or a Colonial landmark.



SHORELINE LIGHTHOUSES

Nothing speaks so eloquently of the sea and ships as does the persistent beacon flashing from some bit of treacherous rock off the coast. For those who like to identify these salty veterans the following are listed as they appear along the horizon from Newburyport, Mass. to York, Me. (All are maintained by the U. S. Coast Guard.)

Plum Island, Newburyport

Its beacon, visible for 12 miles, has witnessed many violent storms off this island in the sea. Built in 1788 and rebuilt in 1898, its beacon is now automatic.

Isles of Shoals Lighthouse (1821) White Island

Thomas Lighton (father of famed poetess Celia Thaxter) became keeper in 1839. During Civil War it was rebuilt of granite with walls 2 feet thick. Present flashing light is visible for 15 miles. Seven and a half nautical miles from the mainland, it may be inspected by Shoals visitors.

Fort Point Light, New Castle (Rt. 1A) (See cover illustration)

For almost 200 years ships have been guided into Portsmouth Harbor by a light on this shore. Situated at Fort Constitution, the area abounds in history. The first organized fight of the Rev. War took place here after Paul Revere made his first public ride one cold December day in 1774 to warn Portsmouth that Britain had placed an embargo on arms. Colonists led a raid against the then Fort William & Mary, seizing 100 barrels of gunpowder and a store of arms, both later used at Bunker Hill. Fort dates back to 1632. The present lighthouse (1877) was preceded by several, the first being a wooden tower built in 1771. Its light is visible 13 miles. Lighthouse reservation lies beyond "Old Fort" yard. Daily visiting hours 1-3 p.m. *Whalesback Light (1831)*

One nautical mile off New Castle it has a sonorous fog horn that spells eerie adventure to the hearer on a stormy night. Its light is visible for 13 miles.

Nubble Light off York, Me. (Rt. 1A 1st rt. beyond Long Sanas Beach)

This is probably the most photographed spot on the Atlantic seaboard. Separated from the mainland by 100 feet of tidewater the island affords a



magnificent panorama. There is a 6 room dwelling connected to the tower by a covered ramp, indispensable on stormy nights when salt spray dashes completely over the island. The 40 foot lighthouse was built in 1879 and its beam is visible for 15 miles. A third building, also connected by the ramp holds the mechanism for ringing the fog bell.

Boon Island Light (1811)

Eight miles outside York Harbor. New tower erected near the old in 1855. One of the most isolated and dangerous stations off the Maine coast, its fixed light can be seen for 18 miles. Said to have been named by shipwrecked sailors in 1682.

May we here remind travelers of a remark by Henry Thoreau: "A storm in the fall or winter is the time to visit the shore; a lighthouse or a fisherman's hut the true hotel. A man may stand there and put all America behind him."

SEABROOK, N. H.

Between 1638 and 1650 some fiercely independent settlers claimed this bit of coastline, and many of their descendants still swing their clam forks into the salt water flats at low tide or push off into the morning mists to fish or check their lobster pots. Most of the small weathered houses along the shore look as if they'd sprung out of the ground like the bittersweet and bayberry that flourish in the sea air and that they have been there just as long. Unfortunately, fire destroyed many of the more elaborate dwellings along Rt. 1. The old Baptist Meeting House (now a Federated Church) on Lafayette Rd. dates back to 1763. The Philbrick house (1821) nearby, although a restaurant since 1925, has lost none of its original architecture or rich panelling. Seabrook's attractive little library has interesting historical memorabilia. (Open 2-5 and 6:30-9 Weds. and Sats.).

HAMPTON FALLS

Noted for its apple blossoms in the spring and its abundant crop of superior fruit in the fall (not to mention the pure sweet cider), this little rural community draws visitors in all seasons. Across from a typical village green is the First Baptist Church (1836) of Hampton Falls, which has received so much wide and unfair publicity through the years because of a bit of misinformation about its steeple . . . atop which rumor incongruously has placed a beer bottle. It makes a good story, but members of the congregation reveal that the really lovely spire (1859) is topped with a simple wooden ornament, resembling nothing more iniquitous than a ten pin. (Services 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. each Sun. all year). Beyond the churchyard is an admirable Colonial home (1748), privately owned, once the abode of Meshech Weare, first governor of N. H.

Unitarian Church



Of Greek revival architecture is the small church of the First Congregational Society, Unitarian, (1835) on Rt. 88. Its interior is noted for unique "trompe l'oeil" decoration on walls and ceilings (a method of painting effecting three dimensional qualities). Services July and Aug., 10:45. (Ancestor Sunday 2nd Sunday in August)



HAMPTON

Back in 1638, the Rev. Stephen Bachiler was remarkable, even in an age of remarkable people, men and women. At 77 he landed off Hampton with a group of settlers who established home sites there. At 80 he married his third wife and he lived to be 100. Among his descendants were the poet Whittier and Daniel Webster.

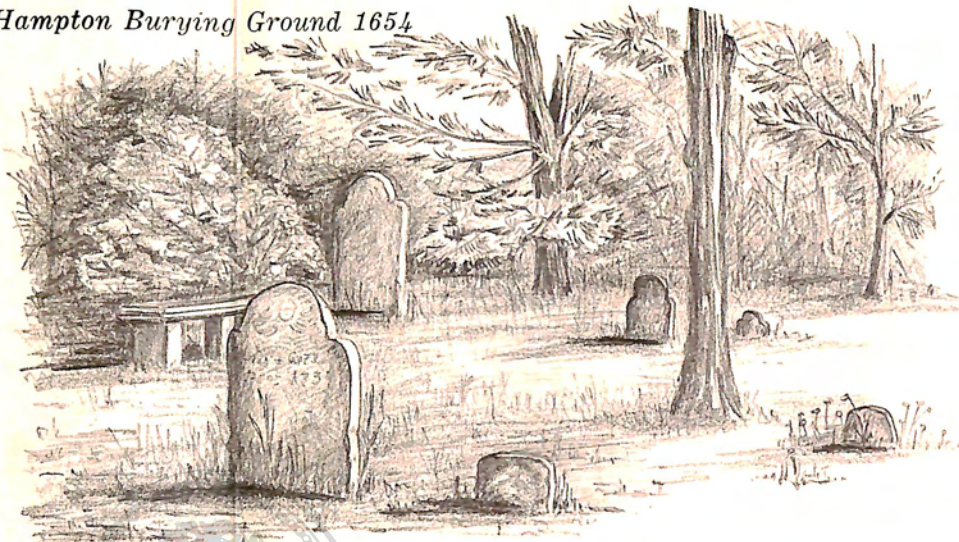
While there is actually little that one can visit . . . Hampton's oldest houses are privately owned . . . still there is much that can be enjoyed by a drive along its historic routes. The old fish houses and the salt marshes recall other days when in the fall the men went "mashing" . . . forming the picturesque hay staddles. Salt hay was also floated up river on gundalows. At a town meeting March 23, 1641 it was voted to set apart an extensive area of upland salt marsh and that ground for an ox common "TO THE WORLD'S END!"

Moulton House

Whittier used Hampton as the setting of so many poems that he was called Hampton's historian in verse. A splendid mansion that intrigued him may be seen on the west side of Lafayette Rd. (Rt. 1) a short distance south of the town proper. Of Moulton House he wrote: "From the oaken mantel glowing . . . Faintest light the lamp is throwing . . . On the mirror's antique mold . . . High backed chair and wainscot old." Sometimes called the Haunted House, it was the home of Gen. Jonathan Moulton who, so tradition says, was so fabulously wicked that he foiled even the Devil himself with whom he had made a pact. The house served as a tavern stop during stagecoach days. Just beyond, at the corner of Lafayette and Drakeside Rds., is another private residence, the 1739 Towle house, moved to this spot in 1750 by 40 yoke of oxen.



Hampton Burying Ground 1654



Grist Mill

Although only its exterior may be viewed at present, there is an old grist mill near the lower end of High St. First erected in 1688 and rebuilt in 1815 some of its interior original timbers are of huge proportions, and its mill stones are now used as steps. Two quarts of meal was payment for grinding one bushel of corn.

Congregational Church

One of the oldest church organizations in the state with **continuous records** is the First Congregational (1638) on Winnacunnet Rd. Present building, the sixth, was erected in 1844. Its graceful pulpit dates back to 1796. Services, 9:30, June thru Aug. - 10:45 other months.

First public burying grounds are Pine Grove (1654) on Winnacunnet Rd. and Ring Swamp (1797) on Park Ave.

Meeting House Green (Memorial and Historical Association)

The Green is a wide expanse of lawn off Park Ave. There is a little white country schoolhouse in its center and next door is "Tuck Hall", where early Americana is on view during summer, Weds. and Sats. 1-5 or by app't. Custodians are Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hayden (Mrs. Hayden is Hampton's gracious town clerk). The Green honors financier Edward Tuck, philan-

thropist, Hampton benefactor, and son of the famous Amos Tuck. The latter, a N. H. lawyer, in 1853 first suggested "Republican" as a name for the new Party. Nearby is a marked boulder honoring the first Winnacunnet settlers and a series of stones bearing their names.

Bound Rock

One of the earliest boundary markers in the U. S. may be seen at the south side of the Hampton River Bridge in a vacant lot just off Ocean Drive. Bound Rock, a marker for over 300 years, displays the crown of British royalty.

Norseman's Rock

There is another rock of historical significance at Surfside Park (off Winnacunnet Rd.) but probably only a resident of the Park could find it. Hidden away in the grass at the back of a cottage Norseman's Rock is thought to mark the burial place of Thorval, the Norse explorer, killed by Indians in 1066.

Hampton Beach

On Ocean Blvd. to the left as one approaches Hampton Beach is scenic Great Boar's Head, where the first hotels were located. Up until the 19th century Hampton Beach was just a long stretch of sun drenched sand where fishermen's dories lingered or farmers came to gather seaweed. Later "Farmer's Day"

held once a year brought rural families in hayracks and buggies to the shore for a day's outing. There were no houses beyond Nudd's farm, settled by a family from Kentville (Nova Scotia). A hotel by that name now stands on the site. The beach in front of the house was festive with a large tent while lobsters and clams and corn on the cob baked in steaming seaweed. Today, Hampton Beach is one of the State's prize resorts, boasting every attraction including a State Bath House.

NORTH HAMPTON

At Little Boar's Head on Willow Ave., which winds just west of Ocean Blvd., stands Union chapel (interdenominational) (1877). Services at 11 a.m., July thru Sun. before Labor Day. The same donor of the Chapel land, Mrs. Frank Philbrick of Rye, in 1876 gave the land for St. Andrews - by - the - Sea (Episcopal) at Rye Beach and she is buried in the tiny churchyard there. Same date schedule: services, 8 a.m. (Holy Communion) and 11:00. Back in stagecoach days Little Boar's Head road was nothing but a "driftway" as one early deed calls it.

Inland the town of No. Hampton was, and still is, a quiet rural community, cooled by sea breezes and scented by meadow hay and garden flowers. It has a Paul Revere bell (cast in 1815) in the tower of its Town Hall (1844). At the center by the Green the white spired Congregational-Christian church (1838) stands near the site of earlier churches and a garrison. Mr. Raymond Hobbs, whose ancestors were among the first settlers, calls attention to the barest outline of a road under the grass about the center of the hill (between the two roads that converge by the church). Up this steep incline the pioneer families traveled. Records reveal that in 1677 Indians killed four men in "North Hill", now No. Hampton, and in 1689 a fort was built around the meeting house.

RYE

First temporary settlement of N. H. was made April, 1623 at Odiorne's Pt. *Cable House, Ocean Blvd.*

The scene of great excitement in 1874 when the Direct U. S. Cable Co. laid the great Atlantic cable, extending from the N. H. shore across the sea to Ireland.

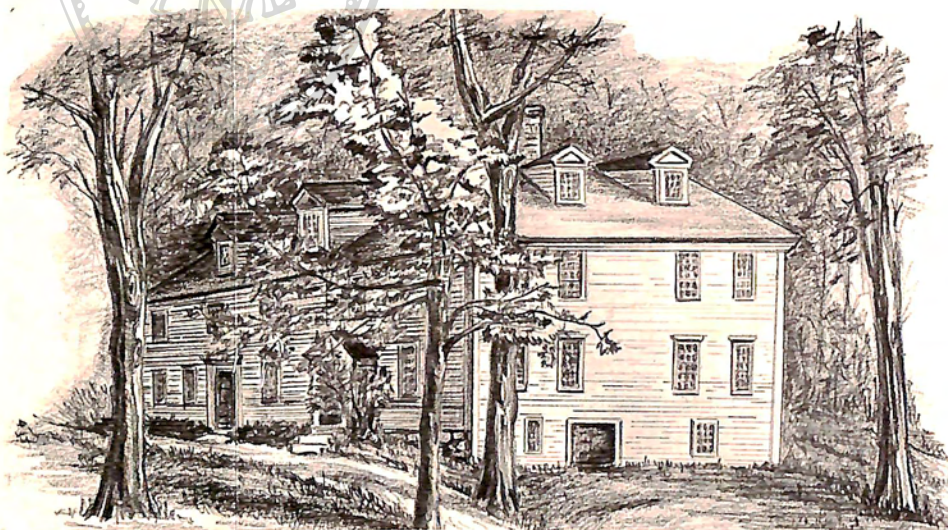
GREENLAND

Near the village mall are a number of distinctive private dwellings and a venerable church, Congregational (1756). Spire overlooks Greenland cemetery where first ministers are buried (Wm. Allen, 1706-1764) Samuel McClintock (a chaplain in Continental Army). Across the green from the church is a large 18th century country house owned in 1816 by Daniel Webster who, it is said, enjoyed the walk from here to Portsmouth. Sluggards take note!

Weeks House, Ports. Ave.

Often referred to as the oldest brick house in N. E., it was made from bricks manufactured right on the place in 1638. Pvt. Owned by descendants of the builder.

Cincinnati Memorial Hall



EXETER

Exeter is a town of many facets. Home of Phillips Exeter Academy it has an ivy-league look along the elm shaded campus. Its historical sites give it an air of timeless charm. Surrounded by meadow and woodland, its setting is appealing with the Exeter River flowing by its doors. Settled in 1638 it was the State Capital during the Revolution and is now one of two seats of Rockingham County.

A talented son was sculptor Daniel Chester French (creator of the Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D. C.), who designed — with Henry Bacon — the classic Band Stand at the end of Front Street (opposite Town Hall). Costing about \$25,000 it is of Greco-Roman design with ceiling a delicate mosaic and base of Milford granite.

The Town Hall with its statue of Justice balancing the scales in her hand once heard the voice of Abraham Lincoln who spoke there on the night of March 3, 1860. Lincoln had been visiting his son, a student at the Academy.

Cincinnati Hall

An imposing rambling house painted yellow has occupied the slight rise above Water Street since 1721. Built by Nathaniel Ladd, it was of brick, later covered by clapboards. During the Rev. War it served as home and office of Nicholas Gilman, State Treas. and Continental Loan Officer. His office still contains an old iron treasury chest as well as other precious memorabilia. Antique furnishings fill the many rooms. One guest room was occupied so often by Daniel Webster it bears his name as well as his bed. Owned by the Society of the Cincinnati the house is open on summer Thursdays 2-4 p.m. or by app't with its custodian Mrs. John Taylor who lives at the back. No charge.

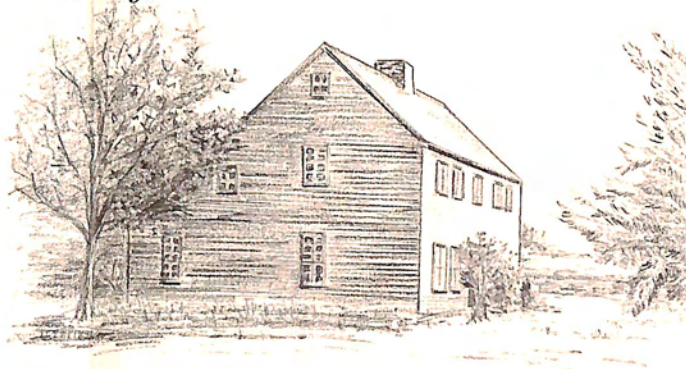
Folsom Tavern (1770-71)

Below Cincinnati house overlooking Water Street at Spring. President Washington visited at the tavern in 1789 when it was known as Col. Samuel Folsom's. All the outside doors are original. Tavern was restored by N. H. writer, Mrs. Martha G. Stearns and the late Congressman Foster Stearns. Pvt.

Gilman Garrison, Corner of Water and Clifford Streets

Built about 1650 as a log fort by Councilor John Gilman this is a dwelling of rare interest combining both the primitive and the elegant. The old fort construction may still be observed in an exposed wall. The wing added in the mid-18th century by Brigadier Peter Gilman (who also added the clapboards) was the scene of official visits by Royal Gov. John Wentworth. Daniel Webster occupied a room here when an Academy student. . . a shelf and a chair by the window suggest how he may have watched the river as he studied. A secret tunnel once led into the house from the sawmill by the river (where the dam is now). Open May to Nov. weekdays 10-5. Sun. 2-5. No charge.

Newington Parsonage



NEWFIELDS — DURHAM

The pleasant tree lined main street of Newfields (on State Rt. 108) is marked by well kept homes of the Colonial period with wide hearths and quiet gardens. A leisurely drive through this town to Newmarket brings the traveler to Durham and the University of New Hampshire — founded in 1866 at Hanover and moved to Durham in 1890 to comply with the will of benevolent bachelor Benjamin Thompson who left his farm to the State.

was built in 1699 by Richard Pomeroy, 1st church sexton, and is maintained as a museum by the Newington Hist. Soc. Open Sun 2-4 during July and Aug. The cemetery (1717) next to the Meeting House is worth a call as is the delightful library (1892) which, among other historical papers, contains a framed document, written by Paul Revere, and dated Nov. 23, 1804, a receipt for the sum paid for the recasting of the church bell (a gift from Newington, England).

NEWINGTON

Once a serene little farm community, now the progressive location of Pease Air Force Base, two remnants of its proud past still survive for the visitor's admiration. Its colonial white wooden church (1713) is the oldest Congregational church building continuously used in the U. S. It had as its first settled minister the Rev. Joseph Adams, uncle of the 2nd Pres. of U. S. Services: Each Sun. at 11. The parsonage

NEW CASTLE

An old town by the sea where snug seamen's houses, dating back to sailing days, stand flush with the sidewalks. It is noted for its elegant hostelry, The Wentworth, built in 1874, which housed the conferees of the Russo-Japanese Peace Conference held at nearby Ports. Navy Yard in 1905. Frank Jones, famed Ports. brewer, bought it in 1880. Jones held an interest in a stagecoach which ran from Ports. to New Castle and the Wentworth.



PORTSMOUTH

This classic little city first called Strawberry Banke has a true abundance of noteworthy dwellings. Some are distinguished as elegant examples of American Georgian architecture, others justify their fame because of age or a tie with history. This hybridizing of men's lives and deeds with the homes wherein they dwelt is nowhere more manifest than in the houses we are about to recommend to you.

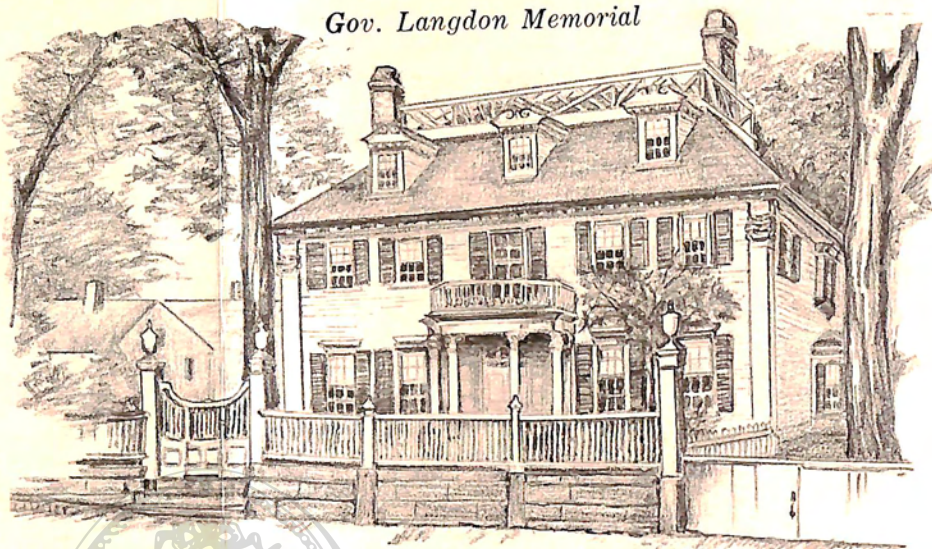
Gov. Langdon Memorial 143 Pleasant Street

Built in 1784 by the forceful patriot John Landgon, this mansion is thought by many to be so splendid architecturally that it is surpassed only by Stratford in Virginia or historically by Mt. Vernon. A gentleman, zealous in all divergencies political or personal, at 35 Langdon courted and won a local belle of 15 . . . despite the warning of his close friend Wm. Whipple to "think of 20 years hence!" A participating leader in the 1774 raid on Ft. Wm. & Mary, he became a delegate to the Cont. Congress, signer of the Constitution and as Pres. of the U. S. Senate he administered the oath of office to Presidents Washington and Adams. He served 5 times as governor of N. H. Describing Portsmouth, Pres. Washington penned: "There are some good houses, among which Col. Langdon's may be esteemed the first." Owned by the Society for the Preservation of NE Antiquities (SPNEA) Open wkdays 1-5, June to mid-Oct. or by app't.

Just beyond the Langdon house is a privately owned mansion built in 1783 by Capt. Thomas Thompson. Interesting features include imported English convex windows and an impressive hallway with hand carved bannister and long solid side panel.



Gov. Langdon Memorial



Jackson House, Northwest Street

Waterways served as roads in 1664 when a shipbuilder named Jackson raised the oak frame of his primitive home at Christian Shore. After sheltering members of the same family for over 250 years it remains today an excellent example of the true saltbox, adopted from the British Tudor cottage with sharply sloping roof and central chimney. Diamond-paned casement windows must have caused many a Jackson woman to dread spring cleaning! Ell and wings are later additions. Furnished to suit a 17th century builder of ships, the house is owned by SPNEA. Open mid-June to mid-Sept., wkdays, 11-5.

John Paul Jones House, State St.

The fierce and brooding eyes of Capt. John Paul Jones looked out of these windows in probable irritation back in the autumn of 1781 as he waited for his new frigate AMERICA to be outfitted at Badger's Island for duty on the high seas. Capt. Jones paid 10 dollars a week for board and lodging for himself and steward to the widow Sarah Wentworth Purcell who supported her seven daughters and two sons by running a boarding house . . . she who had been a niece of a royal governor! Her house had been built in 1758 by

her late husband. In spite of slow progress on his ship there is evidence that the dynamic, darkly handsome bachelor spent a pleasant Christmas here, writing a warm letter to his "most lovely Delia" in Paris in which he expressed the hope that absence would make her heart grow fonder. By spring, however, the captain was so enraged at shipyard delays that he had stopped speaking to Gov. Langdon! Today as the home of the Ports. Historical Society the house is filled with antique treasures. Open summer wkdays, 10-5.

Rockingham Hotel (1785-1830-1884) State Street

When Gov. John Langdon's elder brother, Woodbury, sat in his spacious dining room back in the late 18th century, he probably never dreamed that over 170 years later this room would draw tourist and townsman alike to view its refined elegance. The Hon. W. Langdon was a member of (1779-80) Continental Congress, later a Judge in the N. H. Supreme Court. His mansion (1785) was turned into the Rockingham House in 1833 about 28 years after his death. Approx. 40 years later Frank Jones, colorful Ports. figure who had made a fortune in the brewing business, purchased it; the main build-

ing was wholly rebuilt after a fire in 1884 except the Langdon room which had come through unscathed. Today the Hotel retains its Victorian flavor . . . rich mahogany panelling mellow and lustrous . . . white marble floors . . . and a fireplace of horseshoe design in the lobby where its polished brasses reflect the flames and cheer the visitor on brisk NE days. Its present owner, Miss Hazel Woods, preserves this atmosphere of Victorian England while displaying her "Langdon room" at its Colonial best. (always open to visitors)

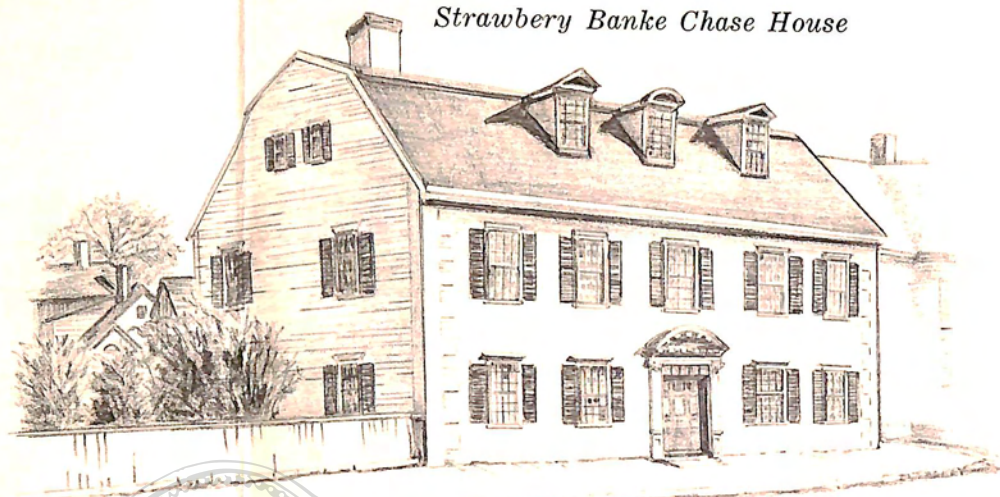
Davenport House, 70 Court Street

Having lived in great poverty in her youth Mary Kelley Treadwell was determined that she never again would be forced to knit nets for fishermen. She married a hairdresser, opened a store and managed both with shrewdness. She built a number of houses, this one in 1758 for her son, Nathaniel. Later John Davenport's tavern. Panelling and stairway are still lovely. Now houses professional offices.

Strawbery Banke, Inc.,

Chase House, 358 Court Street

'Twas said Geo. Washington kissed the young ladies of the household with gallant aplomb after visiting this comfortable home, now a part of Portsmouth's Strawberry Banke Village. Built by John Underwood of Kittery in 1762 it still retains original panelling and carvings. Most closely associated with the Chase family, it was the home of Stephen Chase, town merchant, when Washington attended a private dinner there as guest of Chase and Paine Wingate, Chase's cousin who was a senator in the 1st Congress and a friend of Washington. Philanthropic Geo. B. Chase turned the property over to homeless children in 1883; thus it became the original Chase Home for children, now located on Middle Rd. A later resident was Mrs. Thomas B. Aldrich, widow of



Strawbery Banke Chase House

the author. As headquarters for executive officers and architects of Strawberry Banke, Inc. it also contains a Guild Shop. Open Mon-Fri 10-5.

Eventually Strawberry Banke will cover around 9½ acres depicting a true Colonial village, restoring many fine old waterfront buildings and creating others, such as shops for potters, silver-smiths and cabinet makers. Miss Dorothy Vaughan, Portsmouth librarian and industrious historian, is Pres. of Strawberry Banke, Inc. Mr. Robert E. McLaughlin of the Piscataqua Savings Bank, is Treasurer, and either would be delighted to accept contributions for this exciting venture toward restoring and preserving an important heritage.

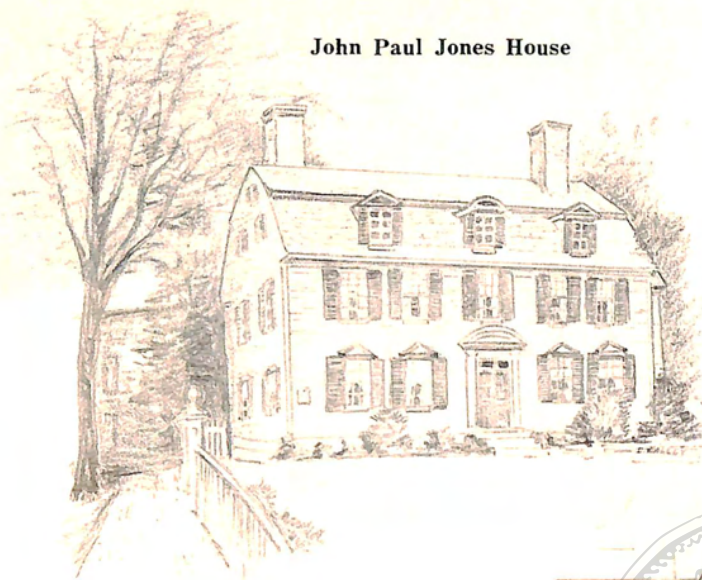
William Pitt Tavern Court Street *A Strawberry Banke House*

If the aged beams in this old Tavern could talk they'd reveal more history than a dozen books. Decay and neglect had left it like a ghost-house where necromancy might hold sway in upper rooms at midnight while moonlight patterned faces long forgotten. Saved from decrepitude by Strawberry Banke, Inc., it now has a proud future as a living exhibit of an early American hostelry from which stagecoaches

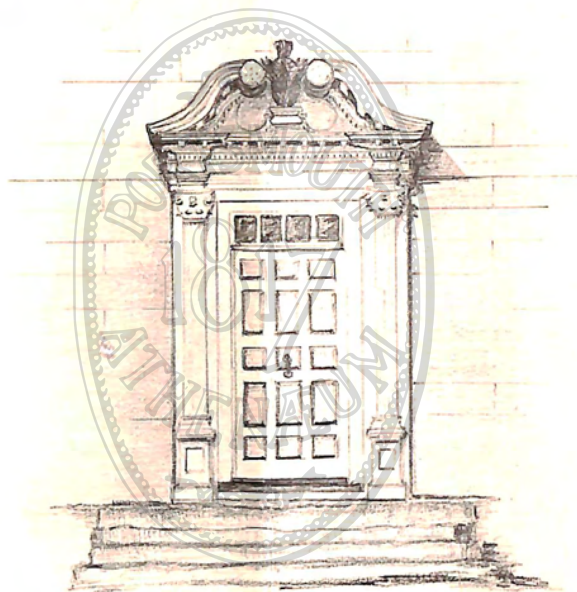
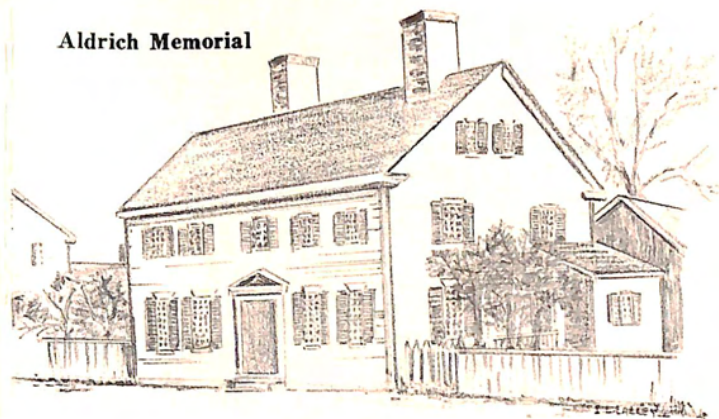
once departed for Boston and famous patriots drank rum before the great fires in its common room. Built in 1770 and originally called "Earl of Halifax" this was the meeting place of Ports. Tories and crown officers. In 1777 the Sons of Liberty threatened its proprietor John Stavers who hastily changed his politics and the name of his Inn to Wm. Pitt. Court was once called Pitt St. Among famous guests were Marquis de Lafayette, John Hancock, Elbridge Gerry and Gen. Knox. Louis Philippe (later King of France) was turned away for lack of room. In 1789 Pres. Washington greeted Gen. John Sullivan, Pres. of NH, and his Council here. Once the meeting place of St. John's Lodge (Masonic) and Grand Lodge of .NH (For info' about opening schedule, inquire at Chase House)

That Pres. Washington was appreciative of the fair sex is made further evident in a passage from his diary. Written in 1789 during his stay at Brewster's Tavern (Pleasant St. at the site of the Elk's Home) he thusly described the ladies of Ports. as: "well dressed and very handsome, among whom were a greater proportion with much blacker hair than are usually seen in the southern States."

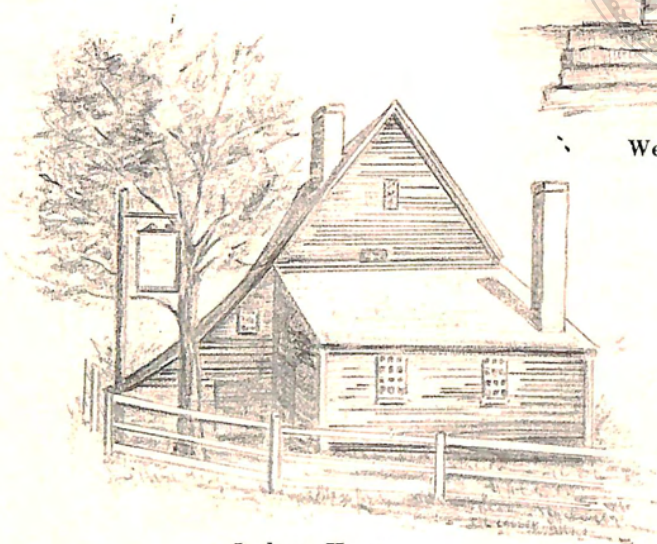
John Paul Jones House



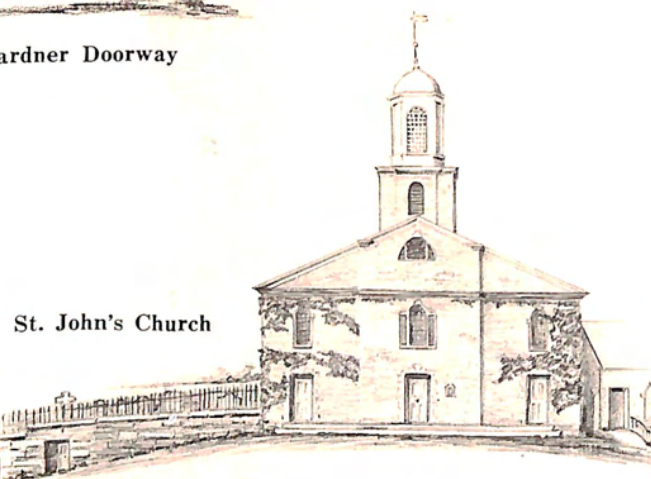
Aldrich Memorial



Wentworth Gardner Doorway



Jackson House



St. John's Church

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.

Aldrich Memorial, 386 Court St.

The little boy who lived in this house over a century ago wrote a book about it when he grew up. Thomas Bailey Aldrich's "The Story of a Bad Boy" written in 1868 tells about a lively lad who roamed Portsmouth's streets and wharves in 1843 and skated on the Mill Pond on frosty nights and set off firecrackers at Market Sq. before the sun was up on Independence Day. Today the house looks exactly as it did to young Bailey . . . from patch work quilts to silver tea service. A step into the past is a visit to the Aldrich house, built in 1790 and preserved to the last detail by the T. B. Aldrich Memorial Assoc. There is also a building at the rear by the garden containing rich literary memorabilia. Both open w'kdays mid-June to mid-Sept. 10-5.

The Wentworth Gardner House, 140 Mechanic Street

Built in 1760 by a woman of refinement who knew what she wanted is this exceptional example of Georgian architecture, a wedding gift to her son, Thomas. Madam Mark Hunking Wentworth kept 3 master carvers working 14 months on the woodwork alone. Noteworthy are the Dutch fireplace tiles, the scenic wallpaper in the dining room, and the graceful 15 panel doorway with its bonnet-top pediment and pineapple (symbol of hospitality). A later owner was Major Wm. Gardner who nearly impoverished himself as Acting Commissary during the Rev., his own credit being greater than that of his government! The old house has a graceful friend of at least 2 centuries, a remarkable linden tree, an English immigrant, that still shades the multipaned front windows. Open summers, Mon.-Fri., 1-5.

Tobias Lear House (c1740)

51 Hunking Street

Birthplace of Col. Tobias Lear, private secretary to Geo. Washington, who

visited here in 1789. Not open to the public but worth a glance if you visit the nearby Wentworth Gardner house.

Puddle Dock, off Marcy Street

Here stand the ancient remnants of 18th century sailing days . . . loft and warehouse, still in good repair, the former is hdqts. for the Ports. Art Assoc. Both are owned by the city. Down the street is the Liberty Pole commemorating the original one (1766) bearing the motto: "Liberty, Property and No Stamp." Puddle Dock is a sort of invisible dividing line between Strawberry Banke's buildings now being restored and its many proposed reproductions. Wild planting is soon to lend an aura of pioneer authenticity here.

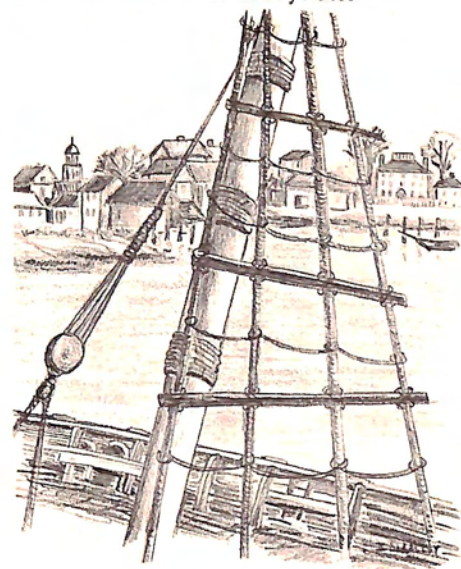
Moffatt-Ladd House, 167 Market Street

Even the terraced garden of this handsome (1763) mansion remains about as it did when salty Capt. Moffatt and his distinguished son-in-law, Gen. Wm. Whipple lived here. Erected for the capt's son, Samuel, who was about to be married to Sarah Mason, it soon passed back to its builder when business troubles caused Samuel and his bride to flee to the West Indies. When Catharine, the capt's youngest daughter married Gen. Whipple (later to sign the Dec. of Indep.) the couple took up residence here. Spectacular is the "English" great hall and staircase. Maintained by the Nat. Soc. of the Col. Dames of America in the State of N. H. Open June 11 to mid-Sept., w'kdays 10-5 - Sun. 2-5.

St. John's Church, Chapel Street

Discreet neck craning might have been forgiven among the good parishoners of old St. John's one pleasant Nov. Sunday back in 1789 when Pres. Geo. Washington attended services . . . imposing in black velvet and jeweled

Market Street Waterfront

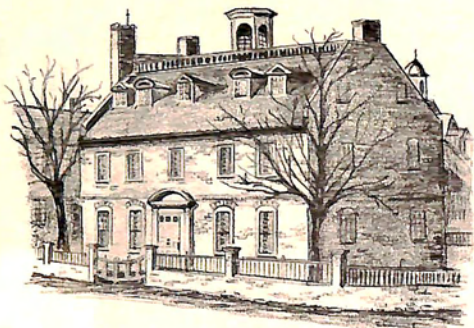


buckles, accompanied by his secretary, Tobias Lear. Visitors are still staring at the chair in which he sat for it is just one of the many historical relics to be seen here. A matching chair lost in the fire of 1806 plus a silver communion service still in use were gifts of Queen Caroline, consort of Geo. II for whom the original church, Queen's chapel (1732) was named. The present church (1808) also contains a marble baptismal font, probably African, taken from a French frigate off Senegal in 1758, and a rare vinegar Bible. Its bell, brought from the capture of Louisburg in 1745 and given by Sir. Wm. Pepperrell was later recast by Paul Revere. The Brattle organ, made in London around 1690, brought to Boston in 1713, was acquired by St. John's in 1836. Before leaving, do stroll through the interesting old churchyard (1732) where Crown dignitaries are buried beside leading Ports. families. Services: Sun., Holy Com., 8 a.m. - Morn. W'ship and Sermon 11 a.m. Thurs., Holy Com., 9:30 a.m.



Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.

Warner House (a Reg. Nat. Hist. Landmark) 150 Daniel Street



Capt. Archibald Macphedris built the finest brick house in town (1716), married the Lt. Governor's daughter Sarah when she was but a slip of a girl (records show her to have been 15 when he wrote: "I am now settled and married . . . to Col. Wintworth's daughter") and conducted a thriving shipping business (he owned at least 6 vessels in 1717), invested in farm development and an iron mine. He died after living in his stately mansion only 13 years and it finally took the name of his daughter Mary's husband, the Hon. Jonathan Warner, an aristocratic crown officer who lived there from 1760 to 1815. Owned by the Warner House Assoc. and appropriately furnished (including 5 Blackburn portraits) the house boasts original brass locks, unusual murals depicting Bibical and historical scenes (discovered under layers of paper) and a caribou head with antlers supposedly bestowed upon Macphedris by Indian friends. *"If one may learn and profit from a look into the past, the Warner House, if no encyclopedia, may properly be considered a legible and instructive primer."* Wm. G. Wendell (from his biog. of Jonathan Warner). Open Weekdays 10-5; Sunday 2-5 mid-June to mid-September.

Middle Street

Some of the finest private dwellings of historical vintage in N.E. are to be seen along Middle St. Coming into Ports. from Rt. 1 the first eye-

catching mansion on the left is the Rundlet-May house (1806) still boasting its original coach house. Now watch for the imposing brick Rice - Larkin mansion built in 1815 by Samuel Larkin, auctioneer of cargoes captured by privateers. He and his wife had 22 children and when he found himself in the same position as many fathers before or since . . . with chronically empty pockets . . . he was forced to move back to his original home, the white house next door. Still on your left take note of the Langley Boardman Marvin house (c1805) with its beautiful facade and door with whalebone trim. In 1755 the area at the end of Middle St. was known as Haymarket Sq. and here was built in 1799 the elaborate Peirce mansion now the parish house of the Middle St. Baptist church. The Ports. Public Library (1809) with its connecting annex (1810-12) are historically and architecturally significant. The main building is said to be a Chas. Bulfinch design.

Haven Park

Here is another section of town where 18th century private homes make walking a pleasure. Facing Pleasant St. is the Jacob Wendell house (1789). It has a hip roof pierced by 3 dormers, each (as in the doorway) adorned by ornamental whale oil lamps. On the corner of Pleasant and Washington Sts. is the Wentworth Home (1767), abode of the last Royal Governor.

Portsmouth's Ancient Burying Grounds

For those who like to read quaint epitaphs Portsmouth's early cemeteries offer a rewarding source indeed. The skull and crossbones are awkwardly carved on many of the lichenized stones at the Pt. of Graves (1672) on Mechanic St. (off Marcy) overlooking the River. Here lie some of the 1st settlers of Strawberry Banke. "Anne, ye wife of Geo. Jaffrey, Esq. Aged 18 yrs. Died Dec. 1682." Over the grave of

the father of Tobias Lear are the words: "A Wit's a feather and a Chief's a Rod; an Honest Man's the Noblest Work of God."

The Pleasant St. Cemetery (1754) is hidden behind a wall, its headstones sinking further with each passing year. Beware of spiders and little green snakes!

North Cemetery, Maplewood Ave. (1753) has the family tomb of Gov. John Langdon (1st Pres. of U. S. Senate) and Gen. Wm. Whipple (signer of the Dec. of Ind.). Buried near the latter is his faithful negro servant, Prince.

Smooth slate gravestones, centuries old, stand near modern monuments in the South Cemetery (off Sagamore Ave.), made up of 4 separate graveyards. The oldest, the Cotton, (1671-1721) has the following epitaph, evidently composed by a devoted wife: "A kind Affectionate Husband and Father, A true Democrat!" Whether listed in the order of their importance in the lady's mind is a question!

Goodwin House

Another proud house saved from imminent destruction, this was the home of Gov. Ichabod Goodwin, ingenious merchant and Gov. of N. H. (1859-61). He raised the 1st N. H. troops for the Civil War. He probably bought his home (c1809-11) around 1832, a few years after his marriage to Miss Sarah Parker Rice. The old house accommodated 7 Goodwin children. Daughter Susie was married in the parlor to Lieut. Geo. Dewey (later of Manilla Bay fame). Five years later in 1872 the young wife died in childbirth. Reported to be a Bullfinch design the 3 story house shows many of the tasteful features of his work . . . delicate moldings, graceful staircase and fine old fireplaces. To be re-located, the house will be open to the public in the near future. Further information may be obtained from the offices of Strawberry Banke, Inc.

*Wentworth Coolidge Mansion,
Little Harbor Road (off Sagamore Ave.)*

"Doors opening into darkness un-awares, Mysterious passages, and flights of stairs;" . . . Ancient and rambling with 40 odd rooms is the Gov. Benning Wentworth mansion (1690-1754) home of the 1st royal Gov. of the province. Longfellow described it as "a noble pile, Baronial and Colonial in its style . . . gables and dormer windows everywhere and stacks of chimneys rising high in air." The poet also described the marriage of the aging governor to his servant girl, one of the scandals in the old mansion's closets. Tradition has it that here beside a doorway, N. H.'s state flower the lilac was first planted in America. Owned by the state of N. H. Open daily, 10-5.

DOVER

It was first called Piscataqua and has the distinction of being about 50 years older than the state in which it is located. The 1st permanent settlement in N. H. was in 1623 on the Great Bay watershed at Dover Pt., then called Wecohamet by the Indians and today Hilton Pt. where a State Park is maintained.

County Farm Covered Bridge



The Seacoast Region's last and only "kissing bridge" is located northwest of Dover on a rambling dirt road in the city's outskirts called the "Scatter-wit" section (between Rts. 125 & 9). This neglected remnant of the horse and buggy days is a flat roofed and

box-like Howe truss structure, spanning the Cocheco at its junction with the Isinglass River. Built in 1870 it is 112 feet long. The creator of this particularly popular truss design, Wm. Howe, was a handsome millwright whose brother Tyler invented a spring bed and his nephew Elias developed the sewing machine.

Damm Garrison

Dover has dubbed itself "the Garrison City" and here the visitor may view at close hand one of the last surviving houses of this kind. Stark, primitive and with a strangely sad appeal, it stands within an arcade on the grounds of the Woodman Institute (Rt. 16 on Central Ave.). Built about 1675 near Back River in Dover it was called Damm, then Drew, Garrison. Its walls are massive hewn logs 20 ft. and more long. Occupied until Civil War times, it was moved to its present site in 1916 and filled with antique relics.

Woodman Institute

Furnishings and personal belongings of many of Dover's first families found their way to this museum as did natural history and mineral collections. Among its historical exhibits is a saddle belonging to Abraham Lincoln. Although badly in need of funds the Institute and the Garrison are open all year from 2-5 every day except Mon. at no charge.

Friend's Meeting House

Quaker meetings are still held in Dover. The Friend's Meeting House (1768) at 141 Central Ave. (Rt. 16 just beyond the cemetery) is perhaps the oldest church building in Dover in which regular meetings are held. (Unprogrammed each Sun. at 11.)



*Hale or Lafayette House
Just south of City Hall*

Gen. Lafayette was definitely weary when he arrived in Dover on a warm June afternoon in 1825. He was getting along in years and had had a long day greeting the citizenry of nearby towns. The cool, high ceilinged rooms in the mansion of his Dover host, Cong. Wm. Hale, must have seemed inviting. He sat down to tea, graciously accepting a bit of the huge cake "big as a peck basket" with the remark, "I must have some since I presume it was baked in my honor." The General, accompanied by his son Geo. Washington Lafayette and his aide M. Lavasseur enjoyed talking French with Miss Eliz. Hale. Plato Waldron, Dover's impeccable negro butler, proudly served at tea, later escorting the General to his room after dinner. It was the same bedroom used by Pres. Monroe when he visited the Hales July 17, 1817. Merchant ship owner and congressman (1809-11, 1813-17) Wm. Hale had 11 children, 5 of whom were born after he built his excellent house in 1806. Partially restored and furnished by members of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church it serves as Parish House and is open to the public without charge.



CALEF'S, East Barrington

In business for nearly a century, Calef's Country Store at the crossroads of the Dover-Concord and Calef Highways is traditional with those who like to shop in rural atmosphere. Calef's carries everything from rubber boots and kerosene lamps to aged cheese and dill pickles. Open yr. rd. including Sun.



Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.

SOUTH BERWICK, MAINE

Hamilton House

Hamilton House

There isn't a more magnificent view in Maine than that from the terraced south lawn of Hamilton House (off rts. 236 and 91). Below lies the Salmon Falls River, unspoiled and tranquil, framed on one side by evergreen forest and on the other by wooded hills and pasture land. You almost expect one of Col. Jonathan Hamilton's merchant ships to sail in with the tide. In the mansion itself (c1780) panelling and carvings manifest restrained ornamentation at its tasteful best. Mary Manning Hamilton and her Colonel had been married almost 10 years when they moved into their grand new manor house. The family tomb in Old Fields burying ground tells us that she died in 1800 aged 51. The couple's grown daughters wore mourning when he brought a sweet young widow from Portsmouth named Charlotte Swett to the great house as his new wife. It is said that Charlotte was never happy in this remote setting. Her stay was not long, however, for on Sept. 26, 1802 the Colonel died in the hallway of his house. (Charlotte's next husband was John Taylor Gilman of Exeter, a N. H. governor.) Today these early residents seem very close as the visitor strolls through the 13 rooms furnished in the style of Hamilton's day. Owned by SPNEA. Mr. and Mrs. Burton Traf-ton, Sr., custodians. Open 1-5 Weds. thru Sat., June 15 to Sept. 15.

Below the formal gardens is the Vaughan Memorial Park where wooded paths cut through Hamilton acreage. Ideal for an hour's stroll or picnic lunch.

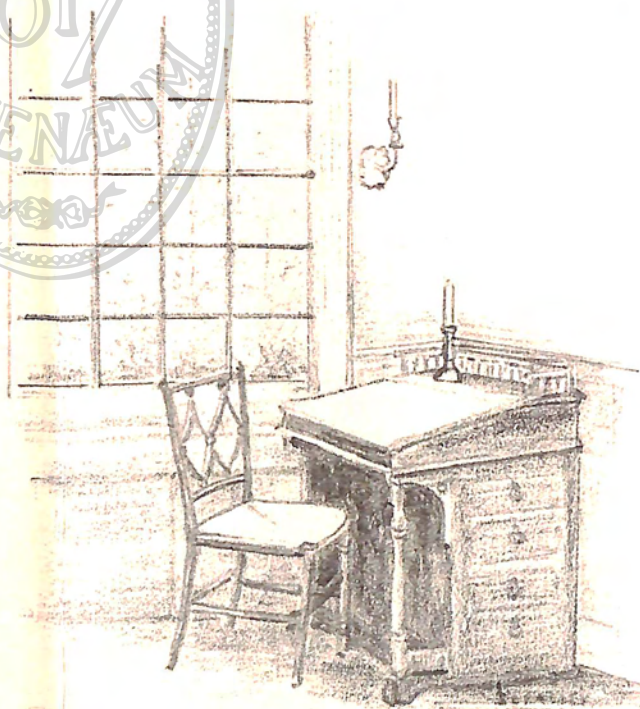
Also on Rt. 236 and 91 (just outside the town itself) is "Great Works" the 1st water power site in America . . . established by Sir Ferdinando Gorges around 1624. In 1630 the 1st saw mill was set up here.



Jewett Memorial

Anyone who has ever picked plump juicy blueberries on a hot morning with the smell of sweet fern in the air must not miss a visit to the home of Sarah Orne Jewett (1849-1909) overlooking the Square. Her books reflect the spirit of "down Maine" and in her handsome

house (1774) one may see the room in which she wrote and even her desk and pen. It and the Eastman house next door (1851) are owned by SPNEA. The latter house, built by her father when she was two, was Sarah's home for many years. Custodian Mrs. Joseph Curran sometimes shows visitors the kitchen



Sarah Orne Jewett's, desk & chair

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.

window pane on which young Miss Jewett scratched her name! Eastman house was owned later by Sarah's sister, Caroline and her husband. Their son, Dr. Theodore Jewett Eastman willed it to the Society. The Jewett Memorial with Miss Elizabeth Goodwin as custodian has the same schedule as Hamilton House. Eastman House is open every day from May 1st thru Christmas.

The country cemetery where the Jewetts and Eastmans are buried is about 1/3 of a mile down Agamenticus Rd. (proceed past the Eastman house; take a rt. at the civil war monument).

YORK, MAINE (1630)

First incorporated city in America. No community along our stagecoach route suffered from Indian raids so consistently as did this enterprising village. Buildings were burned, men killed and scalped, women and children marched off as captives; yet such was the indomitable spirit of York's pioneer settlers and so sure were they of the town's future that they went on building sound, attractive houses (one on land leased for 999 years!) and introducing to America the first pile bridge ever built in the country. A veritable colonial village even today, it offers visitors 17th and 18th century homes almost all in their original settings and authentically furnished.

Wilcox House (1740)

Unique feature is the enormous chimney (15' across at its base). Open same summer schedule as Gaol.

Old Burying Ground (Behind the House)

Some headstones date back to 1600s. Look for Father Moody's grave and that of Mary Nason (over whom was placed a heavy stone slab . . . some say because she was a witch; others take a more prosaic view: it was placed there by her husband, Samuel, to keep cattle from disturbing the lady's remains).

Jefferd's Tavern



Tea is served at the Tavern (1750) from 3-5:30 in an atmosphere of pleasant leisure and hospitality. Open weekdays 10:30-5:30; Sun., 1:30-5:30. No chg.

Old Gaol (1653)



There is still an aura of unyielding and merciless retribution within its cave-like dungeons. Until 1760 the building served as a prison for the entire province. It remained in use as a jail until 1860. The furnished quarters of the sheriff who lived within are a part of this museum. (Open summer weekdays thru Sept. 15, 9:30-5:30. Sun., 1:30-5:30.

Old School House (1745)

This may give you a start, if you peek in its windows on a fall day, for school is in session even to life-size models of schoolmaster and pupils in period costume. Open summers only.

John Hancock Warehouse and Wharf

Acquired by him through a mortgage foreclosure, the famous man may never have visited this property on the York River. Noteworthy as a rare Colonial relic.

Sewall's Bridge (1757-1761)

(Left on Organug Rd.) over York River. Restored. Used by Maine's 1st Minute Men on their way to Lexington.

Elizabeth Perkins House

One of the few to escape the Indian massacre of 1692. Open weekdays, 10-5:30. Sun., 1:30-5:30.

Yorks Beaches, Long and Short Sands, are typically Maine . . . with rolling surf and clean white sand. York Harbor has safe anchorage for the numerous boats for sport fishing. A few miles north, along the coast from York Beach, is Bald Head Cliff, rising like a sheer precipice from the sea. A spectacular landmark with unforgettable views.

First Parish Church, York Village

When 70 odd years old, the Rev. Samuel Moody, early pastor, went off to war (at Louisburg) with a Bible under his arm and a hatchet in his hand . . . one to save souls, the other to smash idols. He did both and returned a hero. Authentically remodelled, his church (c1747) still holds services each summer Sun. 10 a.m. (winter 10:45). Do not be late. The Rev. Moody once greeted a late sleeper thusly: "Here comes Dame Ingersol like a ship in full sail, beautifully rigged, but she has a leak that will sink her to Hell!"



McIntire Garrison

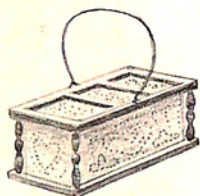
Every home had to serve as a fortress when the McIntire Garrison (1640-45) was built in the Scotland District of York. Damask roses, brought from the settlers' native Scotland, bloom by the ancient door. Constructed of solid timber, dovetailed together, the overhang allowed those within to fire on close intruders or to pour water onto Indian blazes. A pioneer family history reports "The McIntire is a peaceable, well disposed fellow if you do not chafe him too much, but beware how you start the Scotch blood!" Privately owned and unoccupied, the house in its rural marshland setting may be viewed only from the road (rt. 91) but it, plus this entire scenic York River section, is well worth a trip.



Maude Muller's Spring

Also Rt. 91 (the road to S. Berwick about 4 miles from York Corner) Admirers of Whittier's poems may continue on rt. 91 to a sheltered field where a clear-flowing spring beside the road bears a tablet revealing that here "Maude Muller on a summer's day, Raked the meadow sweet with hay."

The poem describes the arrival of the handsome Judge and how "She stooped where the cool spring bubbled up, And filled for him her small tin cup . . ."



McIntire Garrison



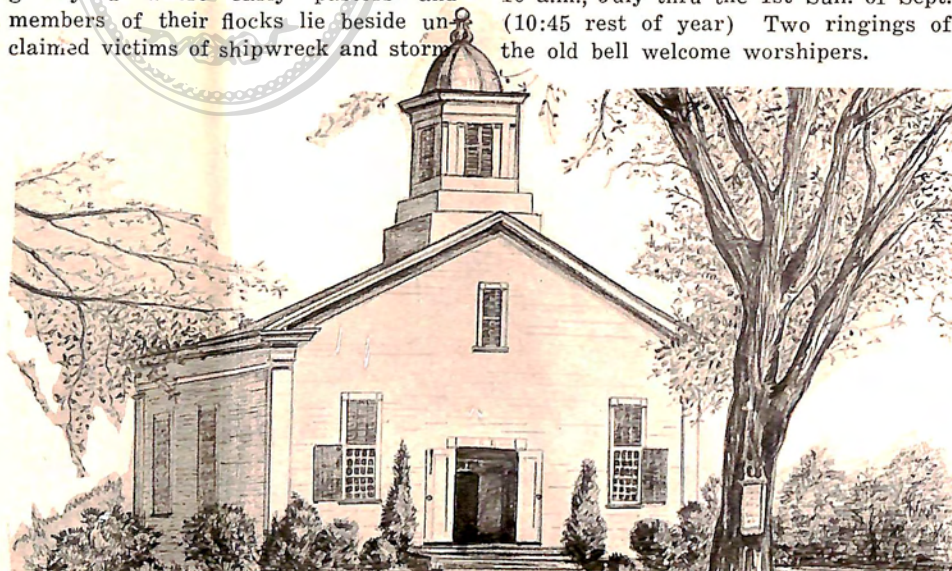
KITTERY POINT, MAINE

In an elm shaded setting so typical of Colonial America is found this village church of simple beauty and autocratic dignity. Its bell (1714) called the stout hearted people of a pre-Revolutionary parish to praise and prayers and is still doing so at all seasons, after being recast twice in London. The present meeting house was built immediately after its predecessor was burned by lightning in 1730. It underwent repairs in 1874.

Across the street is the ancient graveyard where early pastors and members of their flocks lie beside unclaimed victims of shipwreck and storm.

The Congregational Church

A sad little stone bearing the name of Margaret Hills, aged 28, reads: "I lost my life in the raging seas; A sov'reign God does as he please." In a quiet corner is the epitaph written by Rob't Browning for Levi Thaxter, husband of the gifted Celia. Another moving tribute obviously carved by an unskilled hand on a field stone simply states "Nicholas Sevey Died Oct. 27, 1759 - Old - Still." Could anyone say it better? Church open to visitors all week. Sun. services, 10 a.m., July thru the 1st Sun. of Sept. (10:45 rest of year) Two ringings of the old bell welcome worshippers.



Parsonage-Parish House (1729)

Back of church. Original parlor and fireplace.

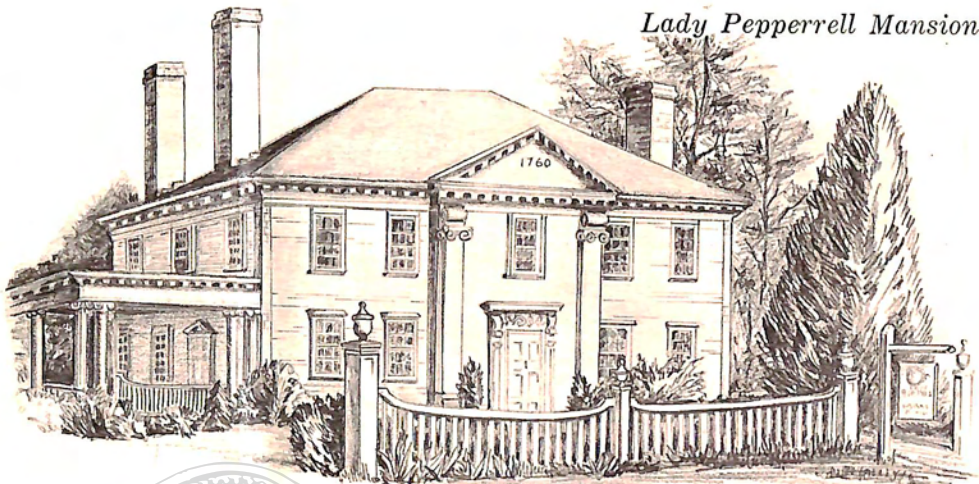
Lady Pepperrell Mansion

This Colonial setting is made complete by an imposing mansion house nearby on the corner. The church is only about 30 yrs. older than this elegant residence built for the fashionable widow of Sir Wm. Pepperrell. Lady Pepperrell was Mary Hirst, daughter of a well-to-do Boston merchant. Sir William, whose father had been one of the founders of the church across the road, was given his title by King Geo. II of England for capturing the fortress at Louisburg on Cape Breton Island. Lady Pepperrell's front door is surmounted by a pair of dolphins. The high ceilinged rooms with their attractive woodwork and fireplaces are reached from a great hall with carved balustrade. Once the property of the eminent Cutts family, still prominent in Kittery Pt. Owned by SPNEA. Open summer weekdays 10-5.

Fort McClary, Pepperell Cove



The site was fortified at various times (1690, 1715, 1721, 1812, 1864). Originally Fort William, it was named at the time of the Rev. War for Major Andrew McClary, good looking Epsom innkeeper who exchanged his plow for a gun, left his wife and 7 children and marched 70 miles to Cambridge only to die at Bunker Hill (immediately after boasting, "The ball is not yet cast that will kill me.") Historians differ as to



the date of the old hexagonal block house (1812 or 1842). Now a State Park. Open to the public at no chg.

Sir Wm. Pepperrell House (Opposite the Post Office)

Built by the Baronet's father, Col. Wm. in 1682. Sir William inherited his father's industry and courage, distinguishing himself as a merchant and soldier. In March, 1723, he brought his bride, Mary Hirst, to this house where today one may still admire the handsomely panelled walls, wide stair hall, great fireplaces and disarming view of the sea from its upper windows. Privately owned as is the Bray house (1662) farther down Pepperrell Road where lived Miss Margery who became the older Pepperrell's wife and mother of Sir Wm.

ISLES OF SHOALS

"Swept by every wind that blows and beaten by the bitter brine for unknown ages . . ." Ten miles at sea the surf lashed Isles were well described by poetess, Celia Loughton Thaxter, who spent so much of her life there. With such intriguing names as Smuttynose, Appledore, Star, Lunging and Malaga, (there are 9 at high tide) they are rife with romantic tales of pirate treasure, Indian raids, shipwrecks and even grisly murder. Said to be haunted by the ghost of "Blackbeard's" bride

Lady Pepperrell Mansion

the Isles actually are haunted with poignant memories. Not to be missed is the small Thaxter-Laughton memorial on Star Island (No chg.).

Gosport Village Church (1800)



A touching candlelight service, 1st conducted by fisher-folk, is continued here each evening during religious summer conferences. The excursion boat "Viking" skippered by Capt. Arnold Whittaker of Yarmouth, Me. leaves Ports. for Star according to the following schedule: Sun. thru Fri., 11 a.m. 5:15 p.m.; Sat. 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. Star Island to Ports. Sun. thru Fri., 8:40 a.m., 3 p.m.; Sat. 8:40 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. Tickets: \$3.50 round trip. Bring sun hat and glasses!