

A topographic map of the Matunuck Hills area in Rhode Island, showing contour lines, roads, and various landmarks. The map is framed by a dotted border. The text is overlaid on the map.

The Hills of Matunuck

(1941)

and

The Old Post Road

(1944)

by

Carder H. Whaley

Courtesy Geological Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior

Reprinted by the Friends of the
Robert Beverly Hale Library
Matunuck, Rhode Island
2016

**THE HILLS OF
MATUNUCK**

And

THE OLD POST ROAD

By

CARDER H. WHALEY

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CONTENTS

Preface

Carder H. Whaley

The Hills of Matunuck

Part I

The Old Post Road

Part II

PREFACE

In September, 1963, Mr. Clarkson Collins, Librarian of the Rhode Island Historical Society, gave an interesting talk on the history of the area immediately surrounding the Robert Beverly Hale Library, and the audience entered into a lively discussion following the formal presentation.

A principle source of Mr. Collins' information turned out to be the two papers by Carder H. Whaley published here. Many people expressed a desire to have a copy of this source material. Hence, the library has undertaken the task of reproducing these copies. Nothing has been changed or edited.

June, 1964

Carder H. Whaley

Carder H. Whaley, the author, was born in Matunuck on March 12, 1873 and lived in this area all his life. He was a direct descendant of Theophilis Whaley. In his early years he was associated with his father in the business of collecting poultry, dressing and selling it in Providence, Newport and Narragansett.

After retiring he spent much of his time on genealogy and learning the historical background of the Matunuck Hills. With Mr. Alfred Taylor he made a map of Salt Pond. He was instrumental in the naming of Ministerial Road and the placing of the marker at the corner of Curtis Corner Road.

Mr. Whaley married Harriet B. Knowles of Ministerial Road. The land on which the house was located is now known as Aquapaug and is owned by the Boy Scouts. He died in 1946.

THE HILLS OF MATUNUCK

Tales of the people of long ago and approximate location of their houses. Ponds and origin of their names. Camps and houses as they are to-day.

Compiled by

Carder H. Whaley

1941

Carder H. Whaley

FOREWORD

The Hills of Matunuck west of the Post Road are well known throughout the State of Rhode Island. These Hills, surrounding the many ponds, are covered with mountain laurel and in June present a beautiful sight. The best rhododendron in Rhode Island covers many acres south and east of Tucker's Pond. In the spring the laurel and rhododendron blossoms attract visitors from miles around.

As the soil in the Hill section is mostly of a poor quality, the wealthier early-settlers built their houses along the Post Road, nearer the salt water, using the Hills for pasture and woodland. Only small tracts between the rolling Hills could be cultivated. Later, some small tracts of woodland and pastures in this Hill section were sold to people of lesser means and a number of small houses were built, of which only the cellar holes remain to-day.

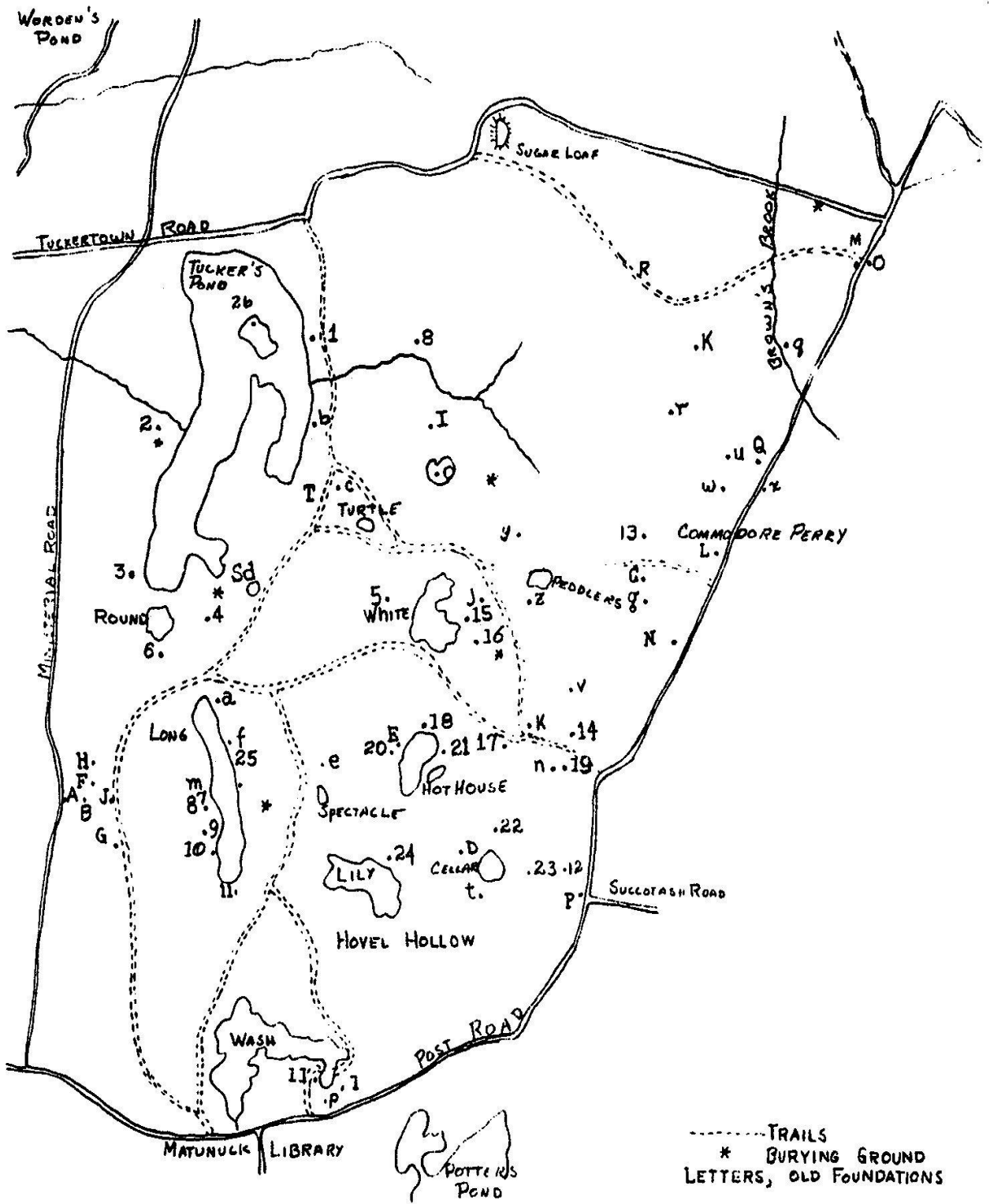
The map shows the approximate location of these houses and the text—what tradition tells of the people who dwelt in them.

a Stephen Carpenter
 b Quaco Hazard (colored)
 c Jason Burdick
 d Child-Crying Pond
 e Elisha Abrams Hovel (colored)
 f Alec P.A. Hazard (colored)
 g Freeman Perry
 h Jeremiah Whaley
 i Anthony Sharper (colored)
 j Bill Gamby (colored)
 k Conroy and others
 l Abram Hull (colored)
 m Oliver H.P. Gardner (colored)
 n Emily Cone
 o Pond
 p Eldredge Crandall
 q Robert Brown
 r H. Babcock
 s Foster Sheldon
 t White Hall
 u Dye
 v Joseph Peckham
 w Gideon Sunderland
 x Bonnie Jimmie
 y Benjamin Carpenter
 z Joshua Perry

A Joseph Whaley
 B West Cross (colored)
 C Albert Burdick
 D Silas Brayman
 E Dr. Ramsey
 F Hoxie Tucker
 G Polodore Gardner (colored)
 H M. Bradley-Perkins
 I Polodore
 J Franklin House
 K Windmill and Water Tank
 L Schoolhouse (1726)
 M Schoolhouse (1769)
 N Red Schoolhouse (1825)
 O Schoolhouse No. 9 (1847)
 P Schoolhouse No. 10 (1848)
 Q Frazier-Wilcox house
 R Tuckertown Driftway
 S -----Sharper
 T -----Abram

1 Marie Brown
 2 Joseph Tucker-Perkins
 3 Francis Lawton
 4 Tucker-Jordan
 5 H. Rountree
 6 M. Bradley-Perkins
 7 Perkins
 8 Perkins
 9 Mary Tucker-Perkins
 10 Hazard's Camp
 11 Mrs. N.W. Smith
 12 Mrs. M. Foster Peck
 13 Commodore Perry Place
 14 H.B. Cross
 15 T.G. Hazard
 16 W.G. Brown—H.D. Sharpe
 17 Claude R. Branch

18 Sibley Smith
 19 F.E. Richmond
 20 Howard Homans
 21 Albert Harkness
 22 Anna Brewster
 23 E. St. John Chaffee
 24 Edith Price
 25 Mrs. George Hazard
 26 Rowland Robinson
 27 Mrs. W. Kent



----- TRAILS
 * BURYING GROUND
 LETTERS, OLD FOUNDATIONS
 NUMBERS, HOUSES OR
 CAMPS, NOW
 OCCUPIED

FROM A MAP OF THE PERIOD - CIRCA 1846

- (a) Stephen Carpenter owned a small tract of land east of Long Pond near the north end and adjoining White Pond on the south. Carpenter had a small house, with fireplace, and other buildings. He used the water from Long Pond, as it was near to his house.
- (b) Quaco Hazard was a black man. He lived east of Tucker's Pond. The cove, southeast of the island, called Quaco's cove, was probably named for him.
- (c) North of White Pond and east of Tucker's there was a small tract of land called the Burdick lot, now owned by the South County Garden Club. Jason Burdick lived on the place. His main occupation was the making of ox bows and lash staffs. In those days there was a good demand for them as all the farmers kept oxen. Mr. Burdick lived alone; his house was not as clean as it might have been and bedbugs took possession, much to his dislike. Something had to be done about it. He hung the ox bows he had in stock over his neck, bundled his lash staffs under his arm and, setting fire to the house, he left for Connecticut, not to return.
- (d) Child-Crying Pond lies west of White Pond. A colored woman is said to have drowned her child there. Many stories have been told of hearing strange crying coming from the pond.
- (e) In a hovel east of Long Pond and north of Spectacle Pond, Elisha Abraham, a colored man, lived. He owned a small tract of land, now owned by the Perkins estate.

- (f) Alec P.A. Hazard, a colored man, had a small house on the hill east of Long Pond and west of Spectacle Pond. It was burned about sixty years ago. His widow, who was living in the house at the time of the fire, was taken out by some of the family and carried to a friend's house on the west side of Long Pond. Mrs. Hazard lived later in a house that stood near the present location of the Matunuck Library. She sometimes went out nursing. Many people knew her by the name of "Aunt Violet." Mr. Hazard was considered above the average colored person of those times. He rented some large farms or took them on shares and was quite successful. Mr. and Mrs. Hazard had a large family, many of them girls. Some of them took many husbands and their offsprings were numerous. On the west side of the path leading toward Wash Pond, a few rods south of the house that burned, there is a burying ground. Many of the family are buried there. Most of the graves have stones, but none are marked.
- (g) An old house southwest of the present Commodore Perry house and on the same farm. It had a stone chimney, fireplace and quite a large foundation. It is a question if it was the first house built by the Perrys. Nearly all the stones from the chimney and foundation have been taken away.
- (h) The house that stood on the cellar south of Long Pond was occupied at one time by Jeremiah Whaley, later occupied by other people. Probably by mixed colored as most of the old houses were. The land is now owned by the Weeden estate.

- (i) Anthony Sharper, colored, lived in a small house on land belonging to Benjamin Carpenter. The house stood in the northeast corner of a meadow, east of White Pond, near a big rock.
- (j) Bill Gamby, colored, at one time lived in a small tenement house on the land of Benjamin Carpenter. The house was located on the east side of White Pond, and was used as a tenement.
- (k) The place sometimes called the Conroy place is located on the northeast side of the path, leading from the Post Road near F.E. Richmond's place to White Pond, and a short distance west of the H.B. Cross place. It was known for a time as the George Whaley place. White people occupied it for a long time. Soon after the colored tenants came in a race war started and the house was burned.
- (l) Abram Hull, colored, lived in a small shack northeast of the Nat Smith property near the Post Road and west of Perch Cove.
- (m) On the west side of Long Pond, near the mansion house of Dr. Perkins, deceased, Oliver P.H. Gardner lived with his sister, Mrs. John Franklin, colored. The land was formerly owned by their father, Polodore Gardner. Oliver was well-known around South Kingstown. He earned a living digging clams and getting oysters, cutting them out of the shell and selling them around town. Most of his earnings went for drink. No one was afraid of him as he was always polite to women and children and minded his own business.

Mr. Gardner took little care of his health and often “slept it off” around the pond in cold weather. His rheumatism was pretty bad and he had trouble getting into a wagon. To make it easier he had a salt box with a string attached to it and after mounting his wagon, via the salt box, he would pull the box in after him by the string. Sometimes he forgot to pull the box up and would drag it along the road home, making a wide mark in the dirt and sand. After Oliver had had a few drinks the boys would have him dance for them. He was not much of a dancer, but his antics were most amusing. Oliver had very large feet and went barefoot most of the time, often when it was quite cold weather. He was a large man, tall and straight. After he grew very lame, someone gave him a white horse and a democrat wagon. The dash was taken off and his feet were stretched out nearly to the horse. Oliver, as he was known by nearly everyone in town, was a great character. He had a good appetite and received many handouts when he was peddling clams. Oliver was the inspiration for many jingles.

I went down street to buy a coat
First man I met was Jim Sling-Foot
Playing on a fiddle
Oliver Gardner, dancing in the middle

(Jim Sling-Foot’s name was Jim Hazard. He live a while in the Conroy place. During a whaling trip one of his legs was broken. When he walked one of his feet would turn out).

Oliver Gardner was a good old man,
Went to Wakefield peddling clams,
Yoke on his shoulder, measure in his hand.
Oliver Gardner was a great old man.

- (n) About two hundred feet northwest of the Richmond place was a house built by John Whaley. It was sold several times and was later occupied by Emily Cone, Artist, colored. During the race war it suffered the same fate as the Conroy House. It was on the south of the path leading to White Pond near the Post Road. The land now belongs to F.E. Richmond.
- (o) A small pond on the Burdick lot, now owned by the South County Garden Club. It is situated east of Tucker's Pond and north of White Pond.
- (p) The Eldredge Crandall house, situated near the Post Road and on Mrs. N.W. Smith's land. Mr. Crandall hung himself.
- (q) West of the Post Road and north of the brook called Brown's Brook, near the cedar swamp, was a long house occupied by Robert Brown. It was taken down and the best of the lumber used to build the house now occupied by Percy Blanchard.
- (r) The house owned by Hezekiah Babcock was west of the Post Road on the land owned by Carl Congdon.
- (s) The Foster Sheldon house was a short distance south of the Babcock house.

- (t) South of Cedar Swamp Pond was a long house not so large but sometime occupied by two or three tenants of mixed colors. The house was called White Hall.
- (u) The “Dye” house was built on land that was originally a part of the Commodore Perry place. Freeman Perry gave his son, Oliver, fifteen acres of land. Oliver had some financial trouble and the land was sold at sheriff sale and was later acquired by Judge William Peckham. The land is now owned by Carder H. Whaley. Abby Dye was the last tenant in the house so the lot is called the “Dye House” lot. The house is west of the Post Road.
- (v) Northwest of the Henry B. Cross house and northeast of the Conroy place is the foundation of quite a large house for the Hill section. It had a large chimney foundation and oven in the cellar. Sometimes called the Joseph Peckham place. After the Babcocks moved out it was taken over by colored people who lived in it until it fell down.
- (w) Gideon Sunderland stayed in a small house on land now belonging to Carder H. Whaley, northeast of the Commodore Perry place and west of the Post Road.
- (x) “Bonnie Jimmie’s” house. Bonnie Jimmie, whose surname is thought to have been Thomas, was a picturesque, if not a completely reputable character. His cropped ears gave rise to the belief that he was either associated with a counterfeiter, or that he had been a pirate; cropped ears being the common punishment for such crimes.

Tradition has it that a passerby once heard loud screaming from Bonnie Jimmie's house. On looking in the window he saw Bonnie Jimmie leading his wife around by her hair. By the time the observer reached the door to intervene, Bonnie was reading the Bible.

- (y) The house on the Carpenter land northeast of White Pond and west of Peddler's Pond was owned and probably built by Benjamin Carpenter, and later occupied by Hazard Crandall. According to tradition, Crandall placed brush against the house, set it on fire, went into the house and never came out again.
- (z) Joshua Perry had fifteen acres of land deeded to him by his father, Freeman Perry, in the southwest corner of the Commodore Perry farm, and north of the Conroy place. All that remains of the house is the cellar foundation and portions of the garden walls around it.
- (A) Joseph Whaley was a Revolutionary soldier. He lived at one time west of Long Pond, south of the Bradley-Perkins house.
- (B) West Cross, colored, lived a few rods north of the Whaley house.
- (C) Albert Burdick had a house, sometimes called the Streeter place, west of the Post Road, south of the drive leading to the Commodore Perry house.
- (D) Silas Brayman lived west of Cedar Swamp Pond.

- (E) Dr. Ramsey's house was where Howard Homans' house stands today. Dr. Ramsey was an herb doctor.
- (F) Hoxie Tucker lived south of Round Pond east of the Bradley-Perkins place. Mr. Tucker was a fisherman.
- (G) Polodore Gardner, colored, had a house west of Long Pond, southwest of the Perkins' mansion house, on the lot where Susan Hale is buried. Mr. Gardner owned a number of tracts of land in the Hills. Many of them carry the Gardner name.
- (H) The Bradley-Perkins place is south of Round Pond. A new house now stands on this site.
- (I) Polodore land; a cellar foundation on land owned by Carder H. Whaley, south of Tuckertown.
- (J) Franklin house. The Perkins' mansion house is built on the same site.
- (K) Windmill and water tower, south of Tuckertown Road, supplied water from a spring to the Robinson estate east of the Post Road.
- (L) The first schoolhouse of record in South Kingstown was built before 1726, on land belonging to George Hazard, purchased from the heirs of Roger Mowry. In 1726, George Hazard sold to Benjamin Mumford 38 acres of land "at a place commonly called Mottonock,

bounded easterly by a highway or country road and partly upon a piece of land with a schoolhouse upon a part thereof. Southerly, partly, upon a piece of land and partly on land of Benjamin Perry.” Nathan Nash bought one acre of land for Freeman Perry bounded partly on the schoolhouse lot. There is no record to show Mr. Hazard had sold, or set apart, land for a schoolhouse, prior to the Mumford deed. The land upon which the schoolhouse is located is now owned by Carder H. Whaley.

- (M) In 1769, Richard Ward leased a piece of land 26 feet square to Benjamin Peckham, Johnathan Holley, Seth Eldred, Freeman, John Cross, William Congdon (son of Joseph), Carder Hazard, Samuel Stedman and Thomas Sweet, bounded easterly on the highway. They were called proprietors of the schoolhouse. The schoolhouse was located on land a short distance south of Tuckertown Road and on the west side of the Post Road.

- (N) About 1825, after the lease had expired on the Ward schoolhouse lot, a schoolhouse was built on the land of Hezekiah Babcock and was called “The Red Schoolhouse.” It was attended by many of the children who lived in Matunuck at that time; Dockrays, Peckhams, Hazards, Shermans, Whaleys, Babcocks, Eldreds, Congdons and others. The schoolhouse was located about 200 feet west of the residence of Charles Durfee, on the west side of the Post Road. Between 1726 and 1840 schools were also kept in many of the old houses in the “great” room before the fireplace. After that the town

built schoolhouses, eliminating all the early schools except those kept in private houses.

- (O) In or about 1847, when the town took over the building of public schoolhouses, School No. 9, "Brown Schoolhouse," was erected on land purchased of Thomas Lawton, located on the east side of the Post Road about one quarter of a mile south of the Tuckertown Road.
- (P) A schoolhouse built about 1848 on land purchased of Robert Sherman, commonly known as School No. 10, located on the west side of the Post Road at the junction of Succotash Road on land now owned by Mrs. M. Foster Peck. The building was moved to the shores of Pt. Judith Pond, where it is now used as a summer camp.
- (Q) Frazier-Wilcox house located on the west side of the Post Road opposite the residence of Mrs. J.B. Lewis on land now owned by Carl Congdon.
- (R) Old driftway leading from the Post Road to Tuckertown, in use before the present road was laid out.

Many years ago a sheep hovel was dug into the east slope of the hill north of a large clearing, north of Wash Pond. This clearing was called Hovel Hollow. A large oak tree still stands on the side hill north of the open pasture. On Sundays, the boys from the Hills and the seaside section of the town would gather and have sports, mostly wrestling. It was said a hundred or more would be there, sitting on the side hill watching the fun. Black and white all mingled together.

In these Hills there are several large ponds. The largest, Tucker's Pond, was formerly called Babcock's Pond, as George Babcock owned nearly all the surrounding land. After his death the land was gradually acquired by the Tucker family and the pond became known as Tucker's. At the present time none of the land bordering on the pond is owned by the Tuckers.

White Pond, the oldest of the ponds to be named, has carried its name for more than a hundred years. The pond was so named by the Indians who were impressed by the clarity of the water.

Spectacle, Long and Round Ponds derive their names from their shape.

The naming of Hot-house Pond is perhaps the most interesting of any of the ponds in this region. It originated from the Indians' bathing customs about which we quote from Roger Williams' book, "A Key into the Language of America."

"Pesuponk is the Indian word for Hot-house. This Hot-house is a kind of little Cell or Cave, six or eight foot over, round, made on the side of a hill (commonly by some Rivulet or Brooke) into this frequently the men enter after they have exceedingly heated it with store of wood, laid upon a heape of stones in the middle. When they have taken out the fire, the

stones keepe still a great heat; Ten, twelve, twenty more or lesse, enter at once starke naked, leaving their coats, small breeches (or aprons) at the doore, with one to keepe all: here doe they sit around these hot stones an houre or more, taking Tobacco, discoursing, and sweating together; which sweating they use for two ends: First, to cleanse their skin; Secondly, to purge their bodies, which doubtlesse is a great meanes of preserving them, and recovering them from diseases, especially from the French disease, which by sweating and some potions, they perfectly and speedily cure; when they come forth (which is matter of admiration) I have seene them runne (Summer or Winter) into the Brooks to coole them, with the least hurt.”

We can assume that Hot-house Pond in the Hills was once the scene of such Indian cleansing and cure, a procedure followed to-day by the hardy Finns.

Wash Pond derived its name from the early settlers who drove their sheep to its banks, corralled them in a walled-in yard and washed their fleece in its waters, prior to clipping the wool for market. In the dry seasons there are two ponds, Big and Little Wash.

Cedar Pond’s name came from the cedar swamp, bordering the pond on the east. It was sometimes called Wash Pond too, as it was also used for the washing of sheep.

Peddlers Pond. According to tradition a peddler is said to have mysteriously disappeared under the ice.

Turtle Pond was so named because of the many rocks emerging through its shallow water where quantities of turtles sunned themselves.

The small ponds south of the Peck house and west of the site of School No. 10 were called Schoolhouse Ponds as they were popular for a quick skate during recess periods.

There are many smaller ponds in this region. Some of them are just water holes that generally dry up in the summer. Most of them took their names from the owners of the surrounding land. Two or three small ponds northeast of Brewster's were called "ponds in the Sherman pasture." Sometimes these ponds would be called a pond north, east, south or west of one of the larger ponds. This was for purposes of location.

There are many graves of these Hill dwellers in the regions around the ponds. The graves east of White Pond are those of the earliest settlers, the Indians, which have no stones to mark them. East of Long Pond are those of the colored people. All other burying places, marked * on the map, are those of white folke and are enclosed by stone walls or fences.

Many of the people in the Hills were descendants of slaves and bore the name of their former masters. The use of tobacco and snuff was the rule rather than the exception with the women; snuff boxes and clay pipes being common to every home.

These folks made their living by working on the farms along the seashore, receiving produce for their labor in part payment of wages. Some of the families had small gardens of their own. The salt ponds provided clams and oysters and they fished the fresh water ponds for pickerel, yellow perch and various other kinds of fish.

With few exceptions, the houses were quite long and only one story high. Those having stone chimneys had fireplaces. The sills of the houses and shacks were set on stones. Usually, one end of these structures was built over a small cellar, whose sides were kept in place by crib work of timbers for a retaining wall. In mild weather an outside entrance to the cellar was used. During the winter months this entrance was banked up with grass and earth. A trap door in the floor provided an inside entrance

into the cellar where winter provisions were stored. Decayed timbers in some of the old cellars have given rise to the belief that the houses were of log cabin construction. Many years after the houses had disappeared, fruit trees, lilacs and other shrubs indicated their former locations.

Fifty years ago the open spaces that show in the woods now were cleared pastures or garden spots. Cattle grazed the pastures and one could walk about very easily. The people living on the east side of the Post Road had no firewood. Some had wood lots or bought standing trees from the owners of woodland in the Hills. They cut the wood themselves and carted it home with ox teams, making the Hills a network of paths.

Arbutus grew along nearly every path. The ox teams, breaking and cutting up the ground, made it possible for the plants to root and spread. Arbutus grew profusely around the grazed pastures and old meadows and in the spring the ground was covered with blossoms. On Sundays people from around town would come to gather the flowers, some for their own use and others to sell in the market. The growth of arbutus increased until the wood choppers, ox teams, and grazing cattle ceased to travel through the woods. Now it is almost impossible to go about except in the paths that lead to the camps. Partridges were plentiful; now they are practically extinct and growing scarcer every year. Many of the small ponds that were in open pastures are now entirely hidden. Both wood and black duck nested and raised their young around these ponds. There are no cattle nor sheep in the pastures to-day nor is the land under cultivation. There is no new feed for the birds. Except for a few potato fields, most of the South County is fast becoming overgrown. The potato fields are saturated with poison and vegetable gardens sprayed with all kinds of bug exterminator. There is

plenty of cover for foxes and varmints but little encouragement for wild birds.

THE OLD POST ROAD

March 1944

Reprinted by the Friends of the Robert Beverly Hale Library, 2009

FOREWORD

At the time the Pettaquamscutt Purchasers had a meeting to divide the land they had purchased from the Indians, they set apart several tracts of 200 to 500 acres to sell to their friends for a small charge, giving them a priority, and also laid out some highways for the convenience of those who had bought land. Some of these highways were 10 and some 40 rods wide. After a few years they decided these roads were too wide to be of practical use, and sold the excess land on the sides to abutting owners.

One of the highways laid out by the Purchasers was from the east side of Great Swamp at a place called the landing or framing lot, and Ministerial Land, to Pettaquamscutt Hill. At that time the swamp was undivided and people who had purchased land could get timber free. Later the swamp was divided. Some of those people to whom land had been allotted were Rowse Helme, Henry Knowles, John Tefft, Eber Sherman, Jere Bull, Robert Hazard, and William Gardner, and the Ministerial Land to the Church. Many of the names of the first owners of some of the tracts are in use now.

In 1702, a committee was appointed by the Town of Kingstown to lay out a road through the town. This road we now know as the "Post Road." At this time Charlestown was a part of the Town of Westerly (divided in 1738), and the Towns of North and South Kingstown were called Kingstown (separated in 1722/23).

The road the committee laid out began at the easterly boundary of the Town of Westerly (now Charlestown) and was without question an old Indian Trail, referred to in the description as the old road. This ran along the head of the salt water ponds and followed along the foot of the hills. The road was laid out in two sections: the first turning at the Old South

Road through Kingston to Ridge Hill and East Greenwich; the second from Old South Road over Tower Hill, what is now called the Post Road. Other Indian Trails were farther away from the seashore, and passed near Great or Wordens Pond, and across the Plains west of Wickford, and joined other trails near East Greenwich.

The Trails were sometimes called Pequot Trails, and were used by the Indians when they were in a friendly mood or otherwise. Markers given or used were many times trees and bushes or other objects. In the present day—these markers would be of little use. They are most interesting. Many of the trees or bushes are gone, but the stone or hollows or ponds are easily identified and a description of them makes interesting reading.

The Old Indian Trails and the roads later laid out by the First Purchasers are still in use today as a part of our present road system.

OLD POST ROAD

The following laying out is believed to have been about 1702/03, recorded in the L.E. in the Secretary's office at the State House.

“From the Town of Westerly it being at a walnut bush marked the road run E. northerly by the hills and marked trees to a great rock by a little pond (1. Now called Lilly Pond, north of the highway near the intersection of the Green Hill and Post Road) and from thence by marked trees to a small pine tree around the hills until it comes to a walnut bush to the northward of Dedman's spring. (2. so named because a man was found dead near this spring. This spring is a part of the Mill Pond adjoining camp land of Grafton Kenyon) from thence by a great rock (3. on the northerly side of the road near the residence of Herny G. Clark) by the old road from thence by several marked trees to a black oak bush north of Samuel Perry's house (4. house stood on the west side of the Moonstone Beach Road near the Post Road) from thence E.N.E., by several trees or bushes to a great hollow (5. about halfway between Perryville Church and Ministerial Road near the residence of Albert Clark). The road runs southward from said hollow from thence to a pine tree about twenty rods from Thomas Hazard's N.W. corner of his farm.

(6. The corner is now the bound between the Weeden Farm (west of Matunuck Beach Road) and the farm now in possession of David and Christopher Browning) and to a stake upon the top of a hill with a heap of stone about it. (7.A—Near a stone house now occupied by Charles P. Sherman) and so to follow the old road until it comes to Capt. Greenman's southwest corner (8. near the junction of Succotash Road and Post Road) and from thence over a brook (9. crosses the highway near the residence of

Dr. Charles Durfee) while it comes to a walnut bush marked by the brow of a hill (10. Now called Cubit Hill meaning a measure).

South Kingstown Council Records-Book 6-page 113 and 114-Jan. 17, 1785 Voted that the district for mending and repairing the Highways in the town of which Joseph Peckham is one of the surveyors of said highways and whose district consists of the persons whose names are as follows viz:

Timothy Peckham, John Cross, John Cross Jr., Freeman Perry, Henry Hill, Edward Lock, Augustus Babcock, Richard Ward, Peleg Peckham Jr., Thomas Armstrong, Seth Eldred, and Samuel Eldred, of said district, for the future shall keep the highway from the corner near the dwelling house of John Hawkins (now Kingston South Road) to the top of Cubit Hill (so called) now land in possession of Walter Breard, in good repair, any vote or order of the Town Council to the contrary thereof in any wise not with standing. John Babcock gave the town a strip of land for highway purpose in 1890. He then called it Cubit Hill.

And from thence to a black oak bush near William Greenman's and George Whitman's N.E. corner (10.A—Wall between land of Carder H. Whaley and Byron S. Watson) and from thence to walnut tree just by the hedge about N.E. in George Whitman's land (11. Now owned by Mrs. John B. Lewis. The arbor vita hedge was taken away about forty years ago and replaced by shrubbery) and so along by trees and bushes until it runs over a brook about 10 or 12 rods to the northward of William Congdon's house (12.A Now the site of house of Mrs. Charles Fletcher) and from thence along at the head of the lots or farms to a walnut tree (13. Corner of Kingston South Road) which stands a little in the land now in possession of Christopher Allen and so along by marked trees and bushes in the undivided land until it comes to a highway laid out by the purchasers to the land of Rowse Helme (14.) and William Gardner, Sr. (14.A) now called Curtis Corner and so to a chestnut tree marked and from thence between the chestnut tree (15. On the bend of the road by the house of Mrs. Sally

Hall) and a white oak tree marked just by a swamp where people usually go over and through a corner of Samuel Tiff's land (16. North of Railroad Crossing on the west side of the road) until it comes to an old pair of barrs and the road to run to the eastward of Samuel Tiff's fence, until it come to William Knowles's N.E. corner (17. S.W. of well on Kingston Hill. The road then crosses Kingston Road and follows the Kingston North Road) and so by marked trees or bushes until it comes to the Stony Fort.

(17.A—An old Indian Fort) and then by marked trees through Ebenezer Sherman's farm (18. Now called Shermantown) till it comes to a great rock (commonly called Turkey Rock) not far from a brook and so until it meets with marked trees in a corner of Jeremiah Hazard's farm (19) to a highway and so along by marked trees until it comes to a bush marked in the east corner of James Sweet's land (20) and to run across it by marked trees to Ridge Hill (20.A) and so to run to the eastward of Benoni Sweet's house (21) through his field by marked trees to Cosenes Brook (furnishes water for Shady Lea Mill) and from thence to the old road to Capt. John Eldredge's (22. Land now site of Allentown Cemetery) until it comes to the brook and over the brook (23. Annaquatucket River) the road runs just by John Thomas's door to a stake in his field and so along by marked trees to the westward of the house now in possession of James Brayman (24. Collation Corner) and so along by marked trees while it comes to Mr. Updikes's stone wall (25. Now called Cocumscussuc) and so along by the westward of the wall in the road while it comes to Capt. Fone's house and so along the old road until it comes to a marked tree where paths divide and from thence N. by W. by marked trees until it comes to John North's fourd commonly so called, (27. now Hunts River) the road to run to the westward

of said marked trees which is deemed the bound between our town and East Greenwich.

The road that goes to Saugatucket River runs to the westward of the land now in the possession of Christopher Allen in the undivided lands around an alder bog or swamp to a black oak, bush marked.

(Mr. Allen was in possession of some of the land formerly belonging to Wilbore, who was one of the Pettaquamscutt Purchasers, later owned by John B. Dockray, and now known as Dockray's Corner) and so along to the northward in the undivided lands by the marked bushes or trees until it comes to the land of William Wilbore and so to the northward of marked trees through corner of said Wilbore lands (Sugar Loaf Hill) to Saugatucket River between two great rocks.

(The dye house, belonging to the Wakefield Woolen Company, and the dam, rests on a portion of the rocks or ledge).

There over the river in Mr. Brenton's farm (now the site of the village of Wakefield) to two black oaks and so by marked trees and bushes to a stake near Mr. Nathaniel Niles, his fence (Mr. Niles's land, formerly Sewalls, was on the north side of the road leading to Tower Hill) the road to run about southeast of said marked trees and then to the road to be equally divided between Mr. Brenton's and said Niles so far as Mr. Niles his land goes and then the road to run to the southward of the fence all in Mr. Brenton's land until it comes to Thomas Hazard's corner.

(Mr. Hazard's land began on the corner where the old Quaker Burying Lot now is) and then the road to run all in said Hazard's ground to the westward of the fence until it meets with a ten rod highway formerly laid out by the purchasers at the head of the lots upon Pettaquamscutt Hill (this road began at the road already laid out from the Pettaquamscutt Hill to the great swamp and continued in a northerly course to Ridge Hill) and so along to the old road to the highway that runs by James Wilson's house.

(E.—Mr. Wilson's house stood about halfway down the hill on the north side of the road) down to the old road below Pettaquamscutt Hill and so along to the second ware.

February 12, 1727/28, John Watson received permission from the town council of South Kingstown to enjoy the privilege of setting a ware across the Pettaquamscutt River to catch bass, until the council meeting in April next. For several years Mr. Watson received permission to set his ware across the river.

The first ware was near what is now Middle Bridge. Jeremiah Hazard received permission from the council to set a ware across the Pettaquamscutt River and to keep it there as long as customary.

John Smith
Christopher Allen
Andrew Willet
James O. Newton
Thomas Eldred-----T his mark
Jeremiah Brown
Benj. Green
Henry Tibbitts-----H his mark
Lodwick Updike
Henry Gardner-----H his mark
Joseph Case-----L his mark

- | | | | |
|--------|--|--------|---|
| 1. | Lilly Pond | 23.A. | John Thomas |
| 2. | Dedman's Spring | 23.AA. | Cosenes Brook |
| 3. | Rock near Henry Clark | 24. | Collation Corner |
| 3.A. | Quaker Burying
Ground, Perryville | 25. | Updike—
Cocumscussuc |
| 4. | Samuel Perry | 26. | Rolling Rock |
| 5. | Great Hollow | 26.A. | Capt. Fone's House |
| 6. | Weeden Farm—David
and Christopher
Browning | 27. | Hunts River |
| 7. | Near Stone House | A.* | Joseph Sheffield |
| 8. | Succotash Road | A.A. | Sugar Loaf Hill |
| 9. | Near Dr. Charles
Durfee | B.* | Christopher Allen |
| 10. | Site of School
House—1726 | C. | Niles land |
| 10.A. | Cubit Hill | D. | Dale Carlis Corner |
| 10.AA. | Carder H. Whaley and
Byron S. Watson | E.* | Old Quaker Burying
Ground—Tower Hill |
| 11. | Mrs. John B. Lewis | E.E. | Carder kill Jackson
Monument |
| 12. | Matunuck Brook | F. | Second Ware |
| 13.* | Joseph Sheffield | G.* | James Wilson |
| 13.B. | Town Pound and
marker "2 miles to
Little Rest" | | |
| 14. | Rowse Helme | | |
| 14.A. | William Gardner | | |
| 15. | Mrs. Sally Hall | | |
| 16. | Samuel Tiff | | |
| 17. | William Knowles | | |
| 17.A. | Stony Fort | | |
| 18. | Shermantown | | |
| 18.A. | Turkey Rock | | |
| 19. | Jeremiah Hazard | | |
| 19.A. | Platform | | |
| 20. | James Sweet | | |
| 20.A. | Ridge Hill | | |
| 21. | Benoni Sweet | | |
| 22. | John Eldredge | | |
| 23. | Annaquatucket River | | |

Places marked with an * are shown on the original road Plats.

