

Castle Chronicle



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Richard Smith's *Nieuw Amsterdam*

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Image courtesy of the New-York Historical Society

Pictured here is the Castello Plan, or specifically a 1915 redraft of the Castello Plan that was originally produced in the mid 1660s (see sidebar, p. 11). It is a birds' eye view of New Amsterdam, the administrative center of New Netherland, in 1660.¹ In true colonial revival fashion, the artist, John Wolcott Adams, has freely embellished his version of the Plan. Nevertheless, it is an amazingly accurate, if overly tidy, rendering of the city at the time. Virtually every structure in New Amsterdam is represented. And in an incredible stroke

of good fortune, there is a companion census—the Nicasius de Sille List—that enumerates all the residents of New Amsterdam and their addresses. Thus the Castello Plan and the de Sille List in concert enable us to determine where every resident of New Amsterdam lived in 1660. The area in the circle above is where Richard Smith's house and storehouse were located—on a slight rise between Hooghstraet and the Strand overlooking the Oost Rivier. Across the river stretches Breukelen, all fields and forests as far as the eye can see.

—continued on page 10

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55 Richard Smith Dr.
Wickford, RI 02852
E-mail:
smithscastle@earthlink.net
Web site: www.smithscastle.org

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Note from the President

If you attended the annual meeting in February, you are aware that last year was a "year of survival" for Smith's Castle. The entire year was spent re-establishing leadership, transitioning to new accounting software, responding to financial challenges, and adapting to the realities of Castle life without a resident director. Our volunteers met the challenge with 8,375 hours of service in 2006—a 50 percent jump from the 5,570 hours recorded in 2005. We hobbled along during the year, stumbled a few times, but we made it. Thank you to each and every person who offered a helping hand.

Now in 2007 we are having a "year of rebuilding." We have four new board members with excellent credentials, an optimistic outlook, and a readiness to roll up their sleeves. Frank Boffi has stepped forward as treasurer and has taken a firm hand in beginning to reset our financial house in order. Under his leadership, the Finance Committee has already proposed a new chart of accounts that more accurately reflects the Castle's operations, and we have reviewed 2006 transactions with a fine-tooth comb to make sure that they are slated appropriately in the new chart.

Although initially our tour season was down last year, September and October saw a spurt of new tour activity. We hope that trend will continue this year, and we are ready to harness it.

In fact, our docents are helping with the rebuilding process with an updated house tour that reinterprets several rooms in the house (see page 8). The intent is to make our exhibits more accurate and to provide hands-on learning that excites and inspires our visitors.

I am also grateful to everyone who responded to our Annual Appeal. To date we have received \$5,340 from an initial mailing of just 400 friends of the Castle. Many thanks to Maggie Skenyon for chairing this appeal (see pages 4 and 5).

One of the chief challenges that remains ahead of us is addressing the moisture problem that has plagued the Castle for decades. Although our application for a state preservation grant to address this problem was turned down late last year, we will improve the application and resubmit it this year, while also seeking alternative sources of funding. We are seeking volunteers to help with the grant research and writing.

All in all, the outlook is positive at Smith's Castle. If you haven't volunteered, why not try us out? Our docent training program is now underway. We also have many other opportunities on our committees, as well as buildings and grounds work. Please join us and learn that spending a little time at the Castle helping our community preserve and understand its heritage can be a lot of fun. ■


—Neil Dunay, President

eChronicle launched

Watch your e-mail for our new electronic companion to the *Castle Chronicle*—the *eChronicle*. Through this newsletter we hope to get important news out faster and more frequently to our members. The *eChronicle* will provide timely updates to Castle events and news published quarterly in the *Castle Chronicle*.



The *Chronicle* has been informed of the death of Jack MacIver, former Smith's Castle Trustee. On behalf of the membership we extend sincere sympathy to his family and friends.

Welcome New Member

Congratulations to Walter Berry, winner of a complimentary membership to Smith's Castle. His name was drawn from entrants who visited the Smith's Castle table at North Kingstown's recent Spirit Day. Dr. Berry, a North Kingstown resident, is a research biologist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Newly Elected Officers and Trustees Begin Terms

At the annual meeting of the Acumscussoc Association in February, newly elected Officers Frank Boffi, treasurer, and Barbara Vollmar, secretary, and Trustees Bonnie Leonard, Patricia Lopez, Debra Poitras, Joyce Fuller Swirka, and Robert Verdi began their terms. The docents selected Dianne McGowan as their representative on the board for the coming year. ■



Barbara Vollmar, secretary



Frank Boffi, treasurer



Bonnie Leonard, trustee



Patricia Lopez, trustee



Dianne McGowan, docent representative



Debra Poitras, trustee



Joyce Fuller Swirka, trustee



Robert Verdi, trustee

Smith's Castle Honor Role

The 2006/2007 Annual Appeal letter went out in December, and as of March 31, 2007, we have received \$5,340 in contributions. This is a wonderful response to a mailing of just 400 Castle members and friends. We are a bit behind the \$6,685 in donations of last year, but are hoping we continue to see pledges trickle in. In addition, we are planning a second phase of the appeal late this spring targeting supportive area businesses. Many thanks to Maggie Skenyon and Meg Potter for their hard work on this year's drive. ■

Donors to the 2007 Annual Appeal as of March 31, 2007—

Chuck and Becky Allen
Alex Anderson
Irene C. Blais
Frank and Donna Boffi
Anne and Dick Bowen
Dick and Jan Breault
Paul and Patricia Carlson
Stephen and Kim Clark
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David and Heidi Duffy
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Phoebe and Everett Fernald
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Curtis and Betty Givan
George Hagerty, Jackie Elgar,
and Kathline Elwood
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth E. Hogberg
Robert and Arleeta Karwoski
Edward and Betty Keane

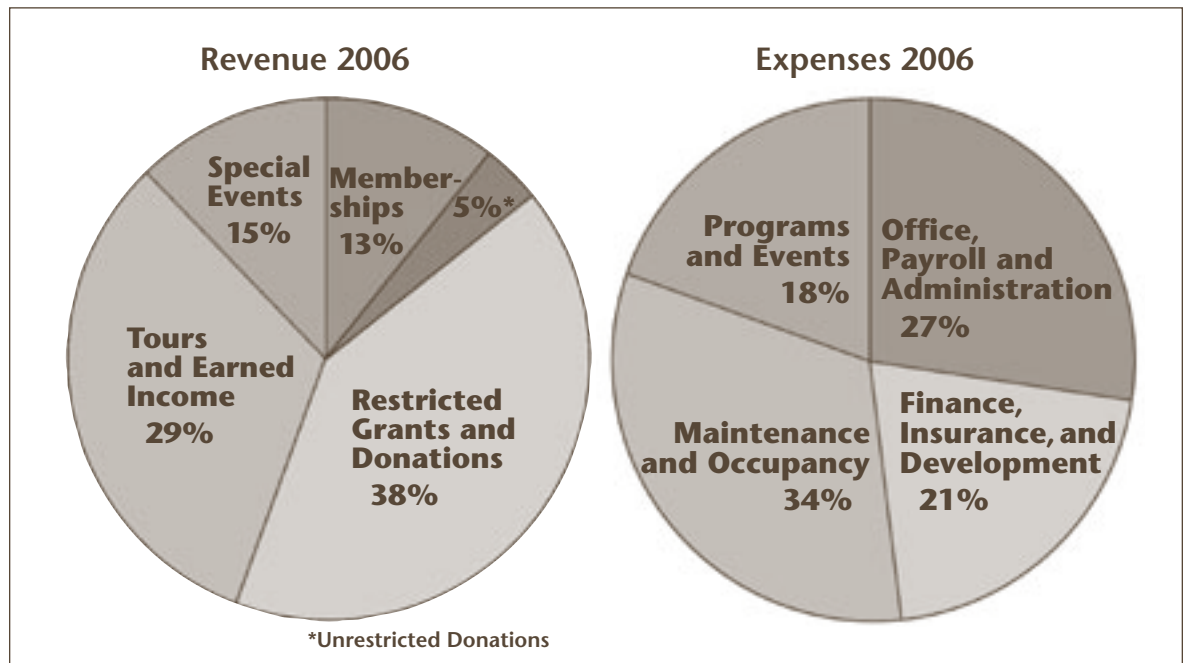
Capt. Donald H. Kern, USN (Ret)
Jan and Al Lewis
Mrs. William Low Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. William Malley
Jackie and Wayne McCarthy
William Metz
Ruth H. Metzler
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Meyers Jr.
in memory of:
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Greene Jr.
Susan Nickolson
David Outerbridge
Mr. and Mrs. Lauriston Parks
Shirley F. Payne
Thomas and Erma Peirce
Mary and Brian Pellegrino
Eunice Pratt
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Richard and Linda Tammara
David and Jane Tierman-Reilly
Rev. Lewis W. Towler
Barbara Vollmar
Alan and Marlene Zucker

It's Not Too Late!

If you've already sent in your Annual Appeal donation, thank you! If not, it isn't too late. We need your gift this year more than ever. If you agree that preserving the rich heritage of Cocumscussoc for today and for the future is a worthwhile mission, we encourage you to contribute generously to our Annual Appeal.

Distribution of revenue and expenses for 2006. Restricted revenue makes up the biggest chunk of income and highlights the need for the Castle to develop unrestricted income to fund our basic operations. A third of our expenses are for maintenance and occupancy—the preservation, upkeep, and utilities for the Castle, Annex, and grounds. (Note: The charts do not include expenses and reimbursements for the RIDOT transportation enhancement project, which is self-funded.)



Maggie Skenyon: Smith's Castle Volunteer of the Year

Carol Palmer

On April 26, The North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce is hosting its Second Annual Community Volunteer Recognition Celebration. It is a community-wide event to honor key volunteers for North Kingstown non-profit organizations. Smith's Castle was asked to nominate a 2007 honoree, and while the board of trustees had many wonderful and dedicated volunteers to choose from, we selected Maggie Skenyon. For many reasons, Maggie is worthy of this honor and I'd like to tell you why.

Maggie is a "rock solid" volunteer whose service is characterized by organization and vision. Over the past year, Maggie has been involved in many aspects of running the Association and Castle



events. In addition to serving on the By-Laws, Grant Writing, and Annual Appeal committees, and the Board of Trustees, Maggie has rolled up her sleeves for the Docent Tea, Strawberry Festival, and Harvest Festival. She is organized, pleasant, and very flexible. One is never surprised when her name is affiliated with projects and outcomes at Smith's Castle. She certainly deserves this recognition.

The Volunteer Recognition Event will be held 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. April 26th at HoofFinFeathers Carriage Inn. Anyone who would like to

cheer Maggie on is invited to join us there. Tickets are available at the North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce. \$10.00 per person. ■

Cocumscussoc Farm Ephemera

Neil Dunay



Two pieces of Cocumscussoc ephemera from the dairy period were recently found on eBay. The first is a matchbook advertisement from the Cocumscussoc Farm Restaurant & Milk Bar that stood about where Wickford Appliance is today. Wouldn't you have liked to have sampled their "delicious home cooked food" and ice cream? Another item is a postcard not yet in our collection ("Postcards from Smith's Castle," Winter 2003 Chronicle). Called the Babbit Farm, the photo predates the 1915 postmark of the correspondence on the reverse. The photo was taken before the Annex was built, and shows a young trumpet vine creeping up the porch columns. Though not visible here, magnification of the postcard reveals a man standing in front of the extended structure to the right (the future porte-cochere?) perhaps under an arbor, his head bowed as if working. Images like these give us important information about Smith's Castle's past and are used as part of the cultural landscape study, currently underway.

Recent Events

Christmas at the Castle '06

Photos by Lou Sansone



Upcoming Events

Travel Back to the 1600s

Smith's Castle, in collaboration with Roger Williams National Memorial, will host *Bridge to the Past* from noon to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6, 2006. Re-enactors, soldiers, sailors and privateers, and sutlers and traders will take over the Smith's Castle grounds and recreate the period when Richard Smith Jr. built his Castle in 1637. Visitors will be treated to the sights, smells, and sounds of the 17th century with fireside cooking, weapons demonstrations, games, and much more. The Castle will be open for tours.

Entertainment will feature Bruce Major, playing the psaltery—an ancient string musical instrument. Majors, attired in colonial-era costume, will stroll the grounds serenading visitors. Admission: \$5 (members, free); children 6–12, \$1; children under 6, free. For more information, call 401-294-3521, e-mail smithscastle@earthlink.net, or visit the web-site (www.smithscastle.org). ■



Free Men of the Sea, whose colorful presence did much to enliven last year's festivities, will be on hand again this year. Keep a watchful eye on your children! Photo: Melissa Powers.

Strawberry Festival

Haven't yet savored Smith's Castle's famous homemade strawberry shortcake smothered in whipped cream? Then don't miss the annual Strawberry Festival celebration on Saturday, June 16, 2006 from noon to

4 p.m. Beat the June heat with thirst-quenching lemonade and strawberry drinks. Family entertainment, sponsored by the North Kingstown Arts Council, will fill the afternoon.

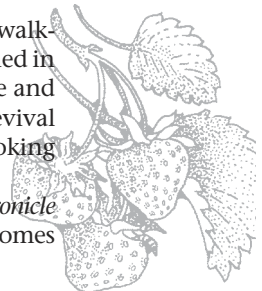
The children's craft area will feature two perennial Castle favorites: Make a tussie mussie, a tiny Victorian flower bouquet, or, if you prefer more physical crafts, hammer flowers to make a lovely keepsake flower print or note card.

The first floor of the house will be open for a walk-through with docents in period costumes stationed in each room to answer questions about the house and its history. Stroll through the lovely Colonial Revival Garden and enjoy the beautiful grounds overlooking scenic Mill Cove.

Watch your e-mail for the newly launched *eChronicle* for details and updates as this perennial event comes together. ■



Left: Grace Palmer, Lauren Ricci, Gill Cook, Mary Nunes, and Shannon Biello wearing big smiles—the official attire of Strawberry Festival.



Committee Profile

Collections Committee Takes New Approach

This year, expect to see a few changes as you walk through the Castle. During the off season, the collections committee, along with the docents and the adult and youth education committees, has been busy reshaping and refining how future visitors will experience the Castle and learn its history. The changes being introduced have been made to improve the historic accuracy of our presentation of the site to our visitors. The current changes represent initial efforts to create an interior that conforms as closely as possible to the existing historic documentation—the 1692 inventory of the estate of Richard Smith Jr. and the 1757 inventory of the estate of Daniel Updike. These are the most accurate descriptions we have of the contents of the house for these two primary interpretive periods.

Most of the furnishings changed this year were in our earliest period rooms—the 17th century Richard Smith Jr. Room and Richard Smith Jr. Chamber. Both rooms have been stripped of items that did not exist between 1678 and 1700. For example, the c1820 black Windsor chairs that used to line the wall of the R.S. Jr. Room are gone. As are the “mammy rocker” and other items that were nearly 200 years outside the interpretive intent of the R.S. Jr. Chamber.

A display of cheese-making items has been introduced to the Pantry in order to highlight the importance of the dairy enterprise to the history of the site.

The R.S. Jr. Room has been furnished to more closely reflect its original use as a kitchen and to spotlight the Smiths’ trading business and Richard Smith Jr.’s role in colonial political affairs. The R.S. Jr. Chamber has also been reworked. The decades-old bed hangings have been retired in favor of a “new” set fashioned from material hand-woven years ago on Smith’s Castle’s own loom. Also, Collections Coordinator Louise Duckworth has donated a reproduction rope bed that has been added to the room. The room now has three beds, as Richard Smith Jr.’s 1692 inventory tells us it should. Unfortunately, the inventory is mum on why there were three beds, or who used them.

The presence of this bed provides docents with an opportunity to invite visitors to experience history in a more direct way than merely looking and listening. Visitors will be invited to lie in the bed and feel what

it was like to sleep on a rope bed. Providing visitors with a more interactive, hands-on experience is another goal the collections group is working towards. They are attempting to ameliorate the “look, but don’t touch” rule common at many historic house museums. For example, the stanchions and ropes have been removed from the rooms in order to make a friendlier presentation. With physical barriers gone, visitors will be able to directly experience the rooms and relate more freely to their furnishings. It is hoped this new approach will make our site more accessible to the general public and encourage more school visits.

Beyond refurbishing, rearranging, and refurbishing, a fundamental streamlining of our collections is also under way. Smith’s Castle does not have the facilities to appropriately store and maintain artifacts that cannot be displayed. We do not have appropriate environmentally-controlled storage space, the necessary staff, or the financial wherewithal to maintain and store a large inventory of unused objects. Therefore, the collections committee is identifying objects that are out of period for the house (later than c 1820) or redundant to the furnishings plan. Pending board approval, these objects will be sold at auction. Proceeds raised from their sale will be used to pay for the recently completed restoration of one of the crowning objects of our collection—the 18th century portrait of Elizabeth Singleton attributed to Joseph Blackburn. Monies raised beyond that required for the painting will be applied to collections’ maintenance and acquisition of period-appropriate artifacts. ■

Feathers, please

To appropriately furnish the reproduction rope-bed in the Richard Smith Jr. Chamber, Smith’s Castle is looking for feathers to stuff the bolsters and mattresses. Do you have any old pillows, duvets, or mattress stuffed with real feathers that you can donate?

For collections volunteer information or feather donations, contact Louise Duckworth at mama_duck5@hotmail.com or leave a telephone message at the Castle office, 294-3521.



Looking for Volunteers

I would like to invite members, docents, and trustees to attend the collections cataloguing dates listed below. I am attempting to finish up this years-long project. Many hands make a job that much easier!

At these sessions we take an artifact, examine and measure it. By examining past lists and minutes from meetings, we try to determine when it came into the collection (this is some detective work!). We then write a brief description. The item is assigned a number that is recorded in a log and marked on the item. Finally, we take a picture of the object. The picture and the information are then entered into the collection's database software. Each session is like a trip to the Antiques Roadshow!

If this sounds confusing or intimidating, don't worry—everything is explained at each session, and volunteers are shown how to do it. There are many ways one can help, and you don't have to attend every session—just being there when you can will be a big help to the project.

The Collections Committee meets at about 9:00 a.m. and works until noon. Currently, sessions are scheduled for the following Wednesdays and Thursdays in April and May, although the May dates may change subject to the scheduling of school tours.

April 5 (Thurs.) April 11 (Wed.)

April 18 (Wed.) April 26 (Thurs.)

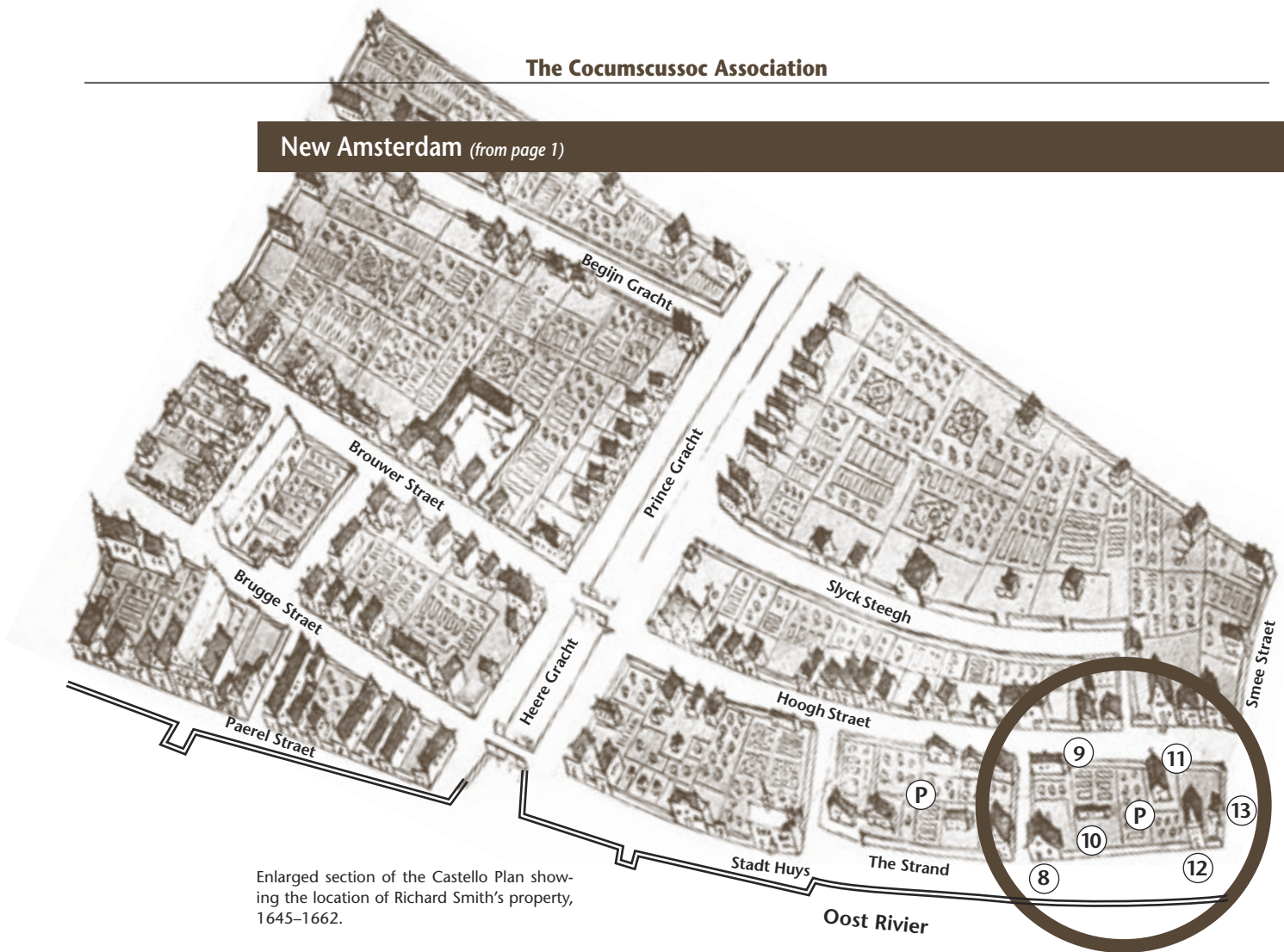
May 3 (Thurs.) May 9 (Wed.) May 16 (Wed.)

—Louise Duckworth
Collections Coordinator



Collections committee members, Virginia Miller, Florence Gaylin, and Carol Greenwell (far left) and Collection Coordinator, Louise Duckworth (left) catalog a few of the artifacts in the Castle's collection. Photo: Carol Palmer.

New Amsterdam (from page 1)



Enlarged section of the Castello Plan showing the location of Richard Smith's property, 1645–1662.

Although the Castello Plan shows New Amsterdam in 1660, it contains details that let us trace the history of Richard Smith's earlier land transactions in the city.

On July 4, 1645, Richard Smith purchased from the Dutch West India Company the section of Block P on which houses 8, 9, 10, and 11 are shown standing in 1660.² As the initial purchaser of land from the Dutch West India Company, Richard Smith was issued what is known as a "ground brief." Subsequent transfers of the land contained in the original ground brief were executed through deeds.

At the time, New Amsterdam hardly resembled the city represented in the Castello Plan. A January 1649 ordinance states, "as the houses here in New Amsterdam are for the most part built of Wood and thatched with Reed, besides which the Chimneys of some of the house are built of wood...henceforth no Chimneys shall be built of wood or wood and plaister." It was not until 1657 that "...all thatched roofs and Wooden chimneys, Hay-ricks and Hay-stacks within the City [were] broken up and removed." The Castello Plan shows about 300

houses in the city. Ten years earlier, in the mid 1650s with the city still recovering from the disastrous Indian war of 1641–1645, there were fewer than half that, just 120 houses.

Almost immediately after purchasing his block of land in 1645, Richard Smith built house #9 where the Smith family resided until they returned to Rhode Island in 1649. Daughters Katheryne and Johan married in 1643 and 1647 respectively and remained in New Netherland with their husbands. Richard Smith Jr., age 19, also remained in New Amsterdam, presumably to serve as his father's agent. Only James, age 20, and Elizabeth, age 17, accompanied their father to Rhode Island.

About the time he built the house, Richard Smith created the little street or lane that divides Block P in half. Smith's lane would have afforded him easy access to and from the East River where he undoubtedly moored the *Welcome*, the coastal sloop aboard which he transported trade goods to and from Cocumscussoc. Thomas Willett, fellow Englishman and Smith attorney, owned the portion of Block P across the lane.

Building #10 is identified as a superstructure in the records, and Smith appears to have built it as a storehouse. The storehouse and the residence were the only structures on Smith's property while the family lived in New Amsterdam in the 1640s. Likewise, the lots that subdivide the block did not then exist, but were created as Richard Smith sold off sections of his block between 1651 and 1662. As the drawing indicates, most of Smith's vacant land was devoted to an orchard and gardens, probably vegetable gardens. It is unlikely that Smith, living there intermittently, would have installed an ornamental garden.

In 1651, Richard Smith Jr., acting on behalf of his father, mortgaged the house to Gillis Pietersen. The younger Smith presumably continued to live there, for when Thomas Willett, acting as Richard Smith's attorney, sold the lot on which house #11 would be built to Evert Duyckinck in 1656, the sale described the lot as lying to the east of Richard Smith Jr.'s house.

In 1655, Abraham Martens Clock received a ground brief for the section of the block on which stand houses 12 and 13. House #12 was built shortly thereafter. House #13 was built for Clock's son.

In the late 1650s, Evert Duyckinck, who lived in house #11, was authorized to sell Smith's vacant land. On March 28, 1659, he declared that "Mr. Smith himself has valued it at fl. 500 in Beavers; he (Duyckinck) expects him (Smith) here shortly,"—indicating that Smith continued to travel to New Amsterdam until, at least, the late 1650s.

In 1662, Thomas Willett, attorney for Richard Smith, sold house #9 and the lot behind it on the Strand to Thomas Wandel. By 1663, Wandel built house #8. It is unclear why this post-1660 house is included on the Plan.

In 1661 and 1662, Thomas Willett, acting as Smith's attorney for the final time, sold the remainder of Smith's holdings to Jan Hendricksen Steelman. The lot immediately adjoining Smith's house was sold "with a certain superstructure (the storehouse) upon it, and the adjoining lot to the east (beneath the P) on the drawing) as "an improved lot." The improvements probably refer to the orchard, fencing, and grading. ■

—Darrell McIntire

Notes

¹The colony of New Netherland's territorial claims roughly corresponded to today's New York City tri-state metropolitan area, i.e. Southern New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

²Land records described in this discussion are compiled in I.N. Phelps Stokes, *The Iconography of Manhattan Island*, Vol. II, *The Castello Plan Showing the City of New Amsterdam in the Year 1660*, pp. 321–324, and *The Dutch Grants*, pp. 405 and 406.

The Castello Plan

The Castello Plan, drawn by an unknown draftsman, is based on an original produced by Jacques Cortelyou, land surveyor for the Dutch West India Company. He completed his map in October 1660 and it was immediately sent to company directors in Amsterdam. Soon after its arrival in the Netherlands, Cortelyou's map was copied. The original map has been lost.

In 1667–69, Tuscan Prince Cosimo de Medici, while on a visit to Holland, purchased a number of Dutch maps and charts, including a copy of the Cortelyou map of New Amsterdam. They were returned to Italy where they remained, forgotten to everyone but the Italians, until 1910, when the editor of a Dutch geography periodical rediscovered the map on the wall of the Villa Castello near Florence. The map, *Afbeeldinge van de Stadt Amsterdam in Nieuw Nederlandt*, is referred to as the *Castello Plan* after the villa where it remains archived today.

I.N. Phelps Stokes inserted a redraft of the map, executed under his direction by John Wolcott Adams, as a frontispiece to the second volume of his monumental 16-volume work, *Iconography of Manhattan Island*, in 1916. This redraft is the version of the Castello Plan illustrated on page 1. New Amsterdam, which had a population of about 2,500 in 1660, is presented in a somewhat glorified state: The harbor is shown filled with merchant vessels and local trading craft; numerous recently completed public improvements—the canals, the sea wall along the East River, the new Stadt Huys (city hall)—are featured; gardens are appended to all house lots, mostly vegetable, but many ornamental; large orchards are shown, and property lines are lined with trees, probably black locust, the Dutch favorite. The overall impression is remarkably urban and commercial, in sharp contrast to the agrarian villages of New England at the time.

Also, in 1660, Director General Peter Stuyvesant ordered his secretary, Nicasiaus de Sille, to compile a list of all the inhabitants of New Amsterdam. The so-called *de Sille List* was intended to supplement the Cortelyou survey. Combined, the *Castello Plan* and the *de Sille List* constitute a complete and accurate census of the houses in New Amsterdam and their inhabitants in 1660.

—continued on page 12

New Amsterdam (from page 11)

Three Centuries and a Half Later

Richard Smith's Block Today



Richard Smith's block of New Amsterdam is shown superimposed onto a modern street map of the financial district in lower Manhattan (note Wall Street in the upper right corner).

One of the most noticeable difference between then and now is that Smith's former block no longer borders the East River. In the 19th and 20th centuries, huge tracts of riparian land were infilled as the city grew outwards (see www.racontours.com/archive/coastline_anim.php for an animated look at the process).

Soon after the English took over New Amsterdam in 1664, the canal was infilled and became Broad Street. Pearl Street was extended across the new Broad Street and replaced the Strand. Brewers Lane, the first street to be paved in New York, was renamed Stone Street. It also was extended across Broad Street and replaced

Hoogh Street. Coenties Alley at Pearl Street is where the New Amsterdam Stadt Huys (city hall) was located. The site, excavated in the 1980s, is now the location of Goldman, Sachs.

Remnants of the Stadt Huys were not found, but archaeologists did unearth tens of thousands of artifacts, the largest collection of 17th-century objects ever found in New York. Also found were the walls of the Lovelace Tavern that was built alongside the Stadt Huys in 1670 and served as a temporary city hall for the English from 1697 to 1703. The walls can still be seen thanks to a glass-covered ditch that was left behind at the site.

In 1659, when Richard Smith placed his Manhattan property on the market, he estimated its value at 500 guilders in beavers. Today? Let's just say there aren't enough beavers in the world. ■

Kids' Corner

Wampum

Wampum are small tubular beads made from quahog and whelk shells. They are about a quarter inch long and an eighth inch wide. The Narragansett and other native tribes used wampum as jewelry and to commemorate special events or to communicate messages among tribes.

Because it was so difficult to make, wampum was very expensive. Only the most important members of the tribe owned and wore it. When the Dutch in New Amsterdam realized how highly prized wampum was to the Indians, they began to use it as money—mostly to buy beaver pelts.

When wampum was used as money the beads were strung in six-foot lengths. Six feet of wampum beads was called a fathom. Wampum beads were either white or purple. The purple beads came from the purple part of a quahog shell; the white beads from whelk shells. One person could make about

42 white beads in a day. Quahog shells are much harder than whelk shells, so it took about twice as long to make a purple bead as it did to make a white one. One fathom of white wampum was worth about 3 guilders. A fathom of purple wampum was worth about twice as much as a fathom of white wampum.

Richard Smith bought beaver pelts from the Narragansett Indians at Cocumscussoc and sold them to the Dutch at New Amsterdam. The basic unit of commerce in New Amsterdam was the Dutch guilder. One beaver pelt was worth 8 guilders. Because there were very few actual guilders in New Amsterdam, the Dutch used wampum as a substitute. Sales transactions could be made in guilders, in wampum, in beaver pelts, or in any combination of these. Everybody knew how many of one equalled how many of the others. ■

After you have read about wampum, answer the following questions.

Richard Smith's land in New Amsterdam was worth "500 guilders in beaver." How many beaver pelts would be required to buy his property? (If necessary round up to the next whole pelt.)

If you wanted to buy Richard Smith's land but did not have beaver pelts, how many fathom of purple wampum would you need?

You have recently bought 10 beaver pelts and would like to resell them. How many fathoms of white wampum are 10 beaver pelts worth?

How long did it take to make 1 fathom of white wampum?

Answers



Calculations

Kids' Corner

Solve all the puzzles on pages 13 and 14 and return to:

Smith's Castle
55 Richard Smith Dr.
Wickford, RI 02852

The earliest post-marked entry with all three puzzles solved correctly will receive this Native American wampum bracelet. Good luck!



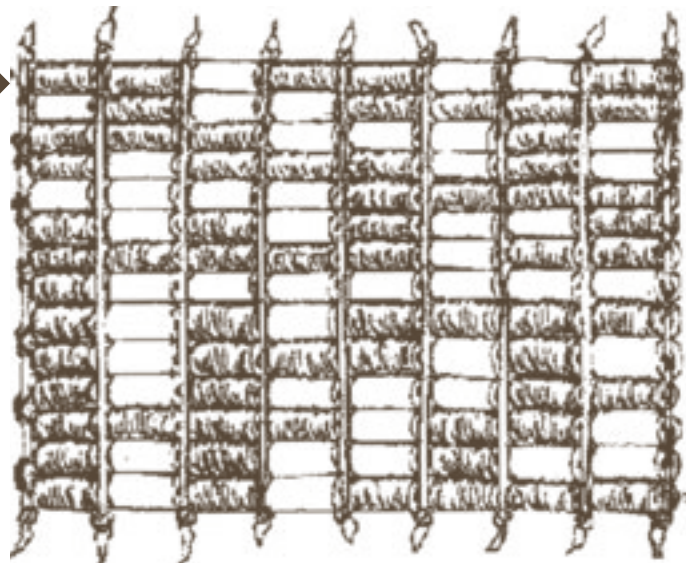
Name	_____
Address	_____
City, State, Zip	_____
Age	_____

F	D	U	C	N	F	A	T	G	U	I	T	F	U	U	R	R	B	N	B	N
U	N	N	N	E	N	U	W	E	N	A	R	R	A	G	R	E	V	A	E	B
R	V	E	A	E	W	E	H	H	T	E	A	U	Q	U	A	E	H	W	V	E
Q	G	Q	W	L	W	H	W	W	M	T	W	H	U	I	R	R	A	N	E	V
U	D	U	T	H	R	A	H	N	H	I	H	A	A	L	D	M	M	E	M	E
A	M	A	B	E	A	E	M	R	E	H	I	U	M	D	P	E	H	T	O	R
H	B	H	A	L	L	M	H	P	A	W	A	M	P	S	U	C	O	I	H	E
O	E	O	L	K	D	D	S	T	U	D	N	U	T	G	T	P	G	U	T	V
N	A	G	A	R	R	A	N	T	E	M	M	E	Q	U	P	E	R	G	A	A
E	V	B	E	A	V	L	M	A	E	N	A	E	D	A	R	T	R	U	F	T
W	R	I	T	E	W	I	M	A	W	R	W	N	R	E	P	U	F	D	P	H
S	R	E	D	L	I	U	G	U	W	E	E	E	P	U	R	P	L	E	A	O
T	T	E	S	N	A	G	A	R	R	A	N	N	N	P	F	L	E	H	W	M

Find and circle the following words in the grid above. The words read horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forwards or backwards.

WAMPUM
BEAVER
PURPLE
WHITE
QUAHOG
FATHOM
NEW AMSTERDAM
NARRAGANSETT
WHELK
GUILDERS
DUTCH
FUR TRADE
NEW NETHERLAND

start →



→ finish

Find the path of dark wampum beads from the start of the belt to the finish. Move left, right, up, or down on the dark beads only. No moving diagonally. Wampum maze puzzle courtesy of Nipmuc Indian Association of Connecticut (www.nativetech.org/Nipmuc/).



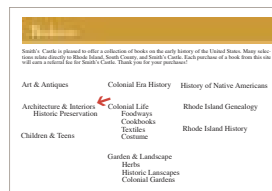
This winter several aerial photographs were taken in support of the ongoing archaeology survey of the Castle grounds. Photo: Don Bousquet and Son Aerial Photography.

Earn \$\$\$ for Smith's Castle with 4 Clicks of Your Mouse

1 Open www.smithscastle.org and click on the **Museum Shop** button

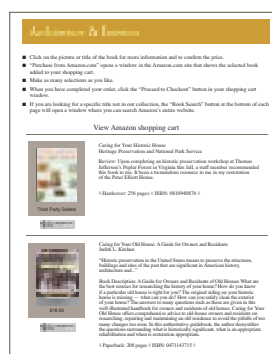


2 On the front page of **Museum Shop** click on **Bookstore**.



3 The **Bookstore** page lists the book categories. Click on any category to view the associated book list. You can return to this page from any book list page to view other categories.

4 **Architecture & Interiors** is typical of the book list pages. Clicking on a book will open a new window in Amazon with additional information about the book. Clicking the **Buy from Amazon.com** button places the book in your shopping cart on Amazon. You may add as many books as you like to your shopping cart. When you are finished shopping, click **Proceed to Checkout** on Amazon and complete your transaction as directed.



Clip and keep next to your computer.

The Cocumscussoc Association

This Spring at Smith's Castle

April

Day	Time	Event
Monday, 9	7:00 p.m.	Executive Committee
Saturday, 14	8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	Interior Clean-up Day at the Castle Coffee, donuts, and lunch provided
	9:00 a.m.	Docent meeting
Sunday, 15	1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.	Volunteer orientation
Monday, 16	7:00 p.m.	Trustee meeting
Saturday, 21	8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	Landscape Clean-up Day at the Castle Coffee, donuts, and lunch provided
Tuesday, 24	6:30–8:30 p.m.	Docent training #1
Saturday, 28	9:00–11:00 a.m.	Docent training #2
	2:00 p.m.	British Soldiers in R.I. During the American Revolution, Lecture by Don Hagist NK Free Library

May

Day	Time	Event
Tuesday, 1	6:30–8:30 p.m.	Docent training #3
Saturday, 5	9:00–11:00 a.m.	Docent training #4
Saturday, 5 & Sunday, 6	Noon–4:00 p.m.	Bridge to the Past
Tuesday, 8	6:30–8:30 p.m.	Docent training #5
Saturday 12	9:00–11:00 a.m.	Docent training #6
Tuesday, 15	6:30–8:30 p.m.	Docent training #7

June

Day	Time	Event
Saturday, 9	9:00–11:00 a.m.	Docent meeting
Saturday, 16	Noon–4:00 p.m.	Strawberry Festival (rain date Sunday, June 17)

The Cocumscussoc Association
55 Richard Smith Drive
Wickford, RI 02852-4414

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