



Jamestown Historical Society

HERITAGE

Spring 2026

To collect, preserve, and share with others the heritage of Jamestown, Rhode Island.

Coming up This Summer

Battery Day

May 30, 10 am to 1 pm

Conanicut Battery, Battery Lane



The Pawtuxet Rangers, Newport Artillery, Ladies of the Greene, the DAR, Veterans, the Jamestown Community Band, JHS Colonial cookies, and Splash Dogz and Iggy's food trucks should make for a festive Battery Day! Parking is allowed along one side of Battery Lane or in the lot with a disability sticker. Bring a chair or blanket. Free admission. No pets allowed.

The Dirty Blue Shirts

June 18, 4 pm

Jamestown Philomenian Library



The Web They Wove: Women & Their Wardrobe During the Revolution: a presentation with slides and costumes. Members may reserve a seat at info@jhsri.org.

Coastal Queen Cruise

June 24, 5 to 7 pm

East Ferry Wharf



Join us for an evening cruise with appetizers and a cash bar. Socialize with friends and enjoy occasional announcements about historic sites on the Bay. Tickets online at jhsri.org

Jamestown in the 18th Century

July 9, 1:30 pm

Senior Center

Presentation by Jamestown historian Rosemary Enright. Contact edonnelly@jamestownnri.net for reservations.

Coming up This Summer (continued)

Evening at the Windmill

July 24, 5 to 7 pm

All are welcome to join us under the big tent for a festive evening of wine and appetizers as the sun sets. [RSVP online](#) by July 20th.

Windmill Day

July 25, 11 am to 2 pm

To celebrate the 250th, we'll be serving RI Jonnycakes hot off the grill. There will be a food truck as well. We'll also have tours of the windmill, games, art projects, and the To Be Continued Band.



The Ladies of the Rolling Pin Morris Dancers will teach a few steps to those who are interested.



The Silhouette Lady will be working her magic with scissors to make portraits. There will be information about signing up for a slot with her on our website soon.

Parking off Weeden Lane or at the Windmill with disability sticker. Free admission.

No pets allowed.

Other Things Happening

At the Windmill

Our millwright, Andy Shrake, created a wider opening so that the grindstones are easier for visitors to see.

Annual Meeting

JHS annual meeting will be held on August 11 at 6:30 pm at the Jamestown Philomenian library. President Betsy Baldwin will report on the activities of the 2025-2026 Board, and we will elect officers and members of the Board for the 2026-2027 year. The brief business meeting will be followed by a talk on "Views of the Revolution at Watson and Casey Farms" by Jane Hennedy of Historic New England.

Quononicut Garden Club

The JHS is supporting the Quononicut Garden Club by providing water from the JHS Museum faucet for the lovely pollinator garden beds that surround the wall around the town cemetery. We already pay for minimum usage but our small docents' lavatory uses only a fraction of that. We all enjoy the colorful plantings and are happy to help.

Jamestown Garden Club

When you visit the JHS Museum, be sure and admire the beautiful flower arrangements provided by members of the Jamestown Garden Club. We are very grateful to have a variety of lovely bouquets, adding a cheerful note to our exhibit space.

Watch your email for event reminders

Volunteers Needed

The JHS is an all-volunteer organization and relies on members who volunteer their time to help things run smoothly. You can sign up at the [JHSRI.org Volunteer Portal](https://jhsri.org/Volunteer-Portal). Here are some opportunities to help.

Windmill or Musuem Docent

Whenever the Windmill or Museum is open to visitors, a docent is needed to put up flags and open signs, to welcome visitors, and to answer questions about the sites, the exhibits, and the historical society. At the Windmill, docents should be able to climb the rather steep stairs and walk on un-even ground. A cell phone is required in case of an emergency. The Museum has a small sales area that the docent needs to manage.

Both sites are open from 1 to 4 pm. For those who don't want to spend three hours, we suggest finding a friend to split the time.

Event Docent

Each event is a little different, but usually a docent's shift is 1 to 2 hours. When you sign up to help, specific tasks will be assigned. For example,

At the House Tour, a docent spends two hours at one of the houses welcoming visitors and ensuring that house rules are obeyed. Docents are able to visit all the houses before or after their shift.

Windmill Day volunteers set up and clean up, give tours of the Windmill, put the sailcloths on, grill RI Jonnycakes, oversee the art table or games area, greet visitors, direct parking, or hang signs.

Battery Day volunteers help with the organization of the event, contacting re-enactors, directing parking, and publicizing the event.

JHS has several receptions, parties, and fundraisers throughout the year. At each event, which generally run from 5 to 7 pm, volunteers are needed to greet people at the registration table, direct parking, pass appetizers, and help with set up and clean up.

Volunteer Positions

The Jamestown Historical Society is an all-volunteer organization and relies on the many members who volunteer their time to help things run smoothly. Instructions are provided for all roles. Use the button below to view all available volunteer opportunities or continue reading for information about specific opportunities.

[JHS Volunteer Portal](https://jhsri.org/Volunteer-Portal)



[Volunteer Portal at jhsri.org](https://jhsri.org)

Collection Workers

If you look at the Collection tab at the JHS website, you will find almost 50,000 records that describe objects, archives, and photographs in the the JHS collection. Each one of those records was entered in the database by a volunteer.

Collection volunteers work Tuesday and Thursday mornings in the JHS vault in the basement of Town Hall. Some do the data entry itself using PastPerfect, a commercial database package. Others photograph objects or scan archives and attach the images to the records. Inventoring objects is an ongoing task. Questions sent to the website are researched and answered.

If you are interested in helping with any of these or similar tasks, just show up in the vault any Tuesday or Thursday morning and the Collections Committee will put you to work.

Jamestown Historical Society Board

Officers 2025-2026

President Betsy Baldwin
Vice President Ross Williams
Secretary Patricia Pereira
Treasurer Suzanne Fay

Directors to 2026

Bill Burgin
Abigail Campbell-King
Christine Clarke
Alma Davenport

Joyce Hooley-Bartlett
Karen Montoya
Elizabeth Reid
Pat Sheehan

Directors to 2027

Carol Chew
Peter Fay
Timothy Noble

Directors to 2028

Mary Jo Diem
Greg Nussbaum
Donna Dutra Wood

Spring 2026 Events

Colonial Dinners Reimagined

Dinners at Our Table and at the Conanicut Yacht Club were well attended and all enjoyed the delicious food.



Colonial dinner at Our Table, February 26



CYC colonial dinner on April 11

Stopping Stones Celebrating Freedom

A Stopping Stone for Orman Remington: Celebrating Freedom at Watson Farm. The JHS teamed up with Historic New England and the Jamestown Art Center on May 2 to recognize this enslaved man who bought his own freedom in 1781. For more about this remarkable story, see [Peter Fay's article](#) on our website.



The celebration included African Sanke' drummers, Valerie Tutson, from the RI

Taylor and Kim Dumpson, descendants of Remington.

Black Storytellers, a land acknowledgement by Taylor Dumpson, and talks by Peter Fay of the JHS and Kim Dumpson.

The JHS sponsored the speakers, the van, and provided refreshments.

Revolutionary War Food

Keith Stavelly and Kathleen Fitzgerald are Jamestown residents who are well known for their books and talks on American food. They gave a fascinating talk at the library on May 6, along with tastes of plum cake.



They also helped with the exhibit at the Museum, providing some of the colonial recipes on display there.

Talk and Book Signing

On May 13, Peter Fay and Valerie J. Southern gave a talk about their new book *A Peaceful Patch of Earth: Blacks in Jamestown, Rhode Island, in a Time of Racial Turbulence in America, 1850-1920*. The book, described on page 8, is available on the [JHS website](#) and in the Museum Store.

JHS Museum Exhibit Opening Reception

This summer's exhibit opened on May 21. The opening reception was a great chance to see the



African Sanke' drummers at Watson Farm.

Spring 2026 Events (continued)

exhibit and talk to curator Joyce Hooley-Bartlett and other contributors while enjoying wine and appetizers. Learn more about the exhibit, *Behind the Lines: Life in Jamestown in 1776*, on page 9.

The museum, like the windmill, is open every Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holiday through October 12.

Genealogy Project

The Jamestown Census of 1774 says there were 565 people in Jamestown. JHS Secretary Patti Pereira decided to trace the family history of these early residents and discovered that quite a few descendants still live on the island. She collected their stories and used the information to create an exhibit on display through June 13 at the Jamestown Philomenian Library.



Current Jamestown residents descended from Revolutionary War residents gathered to open the exhibit at the Library. Curator Patti Pereira is standing a far right.

From the President

We have raised most of the estimated \$305,000 needed for the Friends Meetinghouse and Museum Restoration Project. We have about \$260,000 in grants and donations from many of you and are continuing to accept donations online or by mail. Thank you!

We have added the phrase “and Museum” to the name of the Meetinghouse to signify that it will be a JHS site open to the public for regular tours or for special tours by appointment. We will be looking for members to volunteer to greet visitors once we open later this summer. The Conanicut Friends will continue to gather for meeting on Sunday mornings during the season.

The JHS is celebrating our nation’s 250th birthday with dinners, talks, and other events. We have already held several terrific events and hope you will join us for the rest of the schedule this year!

Many people have worked hard on all the various events and projects. Rosemary Enright deserves special recognition for all that she does for the JHS. While she is no longer on the Board or Treasurer, she has been an enormous help to all the terrific people who took over both her many responsibilities and Sue Maden’s as well.

As we apply for grants, keep track of the accounts, plan exhibits, figure out glitches with computer software, research questions about events, buildings, and people, Rosemary is there to make suggestions, point us in the right direction, and

provide valuable mentoring. She is invaluable as a sounding board, writer, and editor. She is also very gracious about accepting new ideas and ways of doing things. Thank you, Rosemary!

I took Sue’s photo to the Town Photo Shoot at Fort Getty. See below. She is with us all in spirit!

Betsy Baldwin



Meetinghouse Restoration

Restoration of the 1786 Conanicut Friends Meetinghouse has continued through the winter months.

The major repair of the supporting structure under the floorboards was completed. This work included installing new perimeter beams and joists. The work was accomplished from the top down rather than from below. This approach provided the greatest stability of the entire structure as individual supporting members were removed and replaced.



Meetinghouse interior with the floorboards removed and the new supports in place.

The benches and floorboards were precisely numbered, mapped and removed to provide access to the beams and joists. The floorboards have since been carefully put back in their original locations. A small floor area was covered with plywood when the project began. The plywood was replaced with floorboards of the original width



Original floorboards in place while work continued on upgrading boards replaced over the years.

sourced from Kirby Perkins' inventory of historic building materials.

The benches were re-installed. Minor carpentry repairs were made on sections of a few benches, the partitions that divide the east and west portions of the room, and the exterior doors and sills.

The new foundation poured in the fall raised the building slightly higher than it was originally. During the coldest days of the winter, the mason faced the concrete with fieldstones. He broke and placed individual stones while sheltered under a small enclosure that he moved along as the work progressed around the perimeter.



The benches were returned to their proper places.

Meetinghouse Restoration (continued)

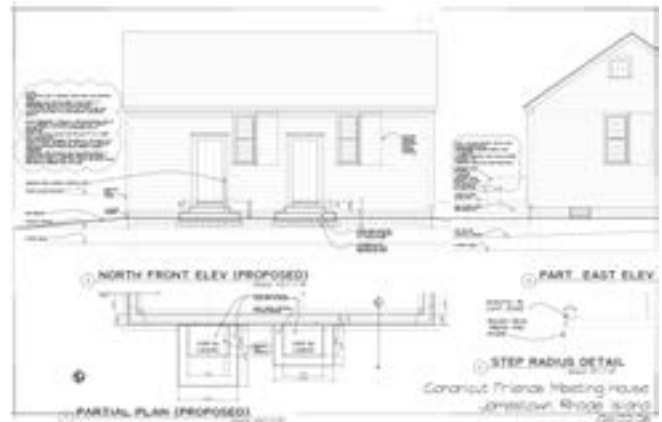


The raised foundation of the building was faced with fieldstone.

The most obvious work item finished this winter was the application of new red cedar shingles on the exterior. The shingles are attached to vertical sheathing that rests on the perimeter beams and extends to the roof.

On the interior, plaster is attached to the other side of the sheathing. While work was in progress, we learned that the east wall was built differently. That wall is constructed with studs and the exterior sheathing is applied horizontally.

We do not know when the east wall was damaged and rebuilt. However, a report to the JHS Board in 2018 noted that “heavily charred, hand-sawed boards” were found in the attic above the



Plans for the new granite steps .

stove. The assumption is that sometime in the past, a catastrophe had been narrowly avoided.

As has been done many times over the years, the workmen have added gussets and collar ties to stabilize the rafters. The roof was reshingled in May and the granite steps were installed.

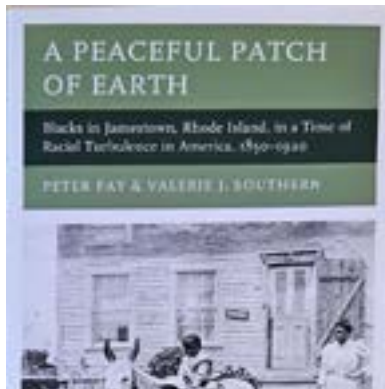
The site will be graded to draw water away from the building and to emulate the original landscaping of the building. In keeping with the agricultural history of the area, the stone walls will be rebuilt as necessary and trees and ornamental plantings will be minimized.

We look forward to a summer completion date.



Sides and roof reshingled and the granite steps installed.

New Books

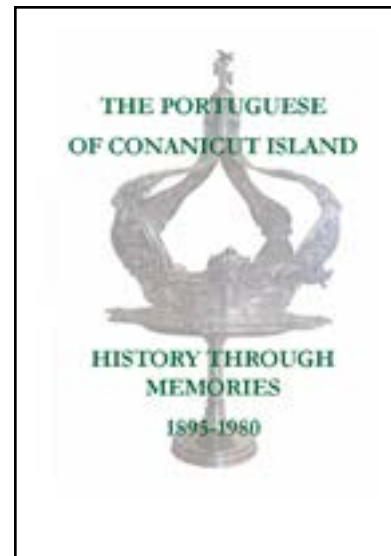


A Peaceful Patch of Earth: Blacks in Jamestown, Rhode Island, in a Time of Racial Turbulence in America, 1850–1920
by Peter Fay and Valerie J. Southern

More than a local history, *A Peaceful Patch of Earth* traces the rise of Black America and its response to oppression, both before and after the Civil War. It connects Rhode Island to pivotal moments in the nation's struggle for freedom and civil rights – from Isaac Rice's aid to Underground Railroad freedom seekers to the training of nearly two thousand Black Civil War soldiers on Jamestown's Dutch Island.

Revealing the untold history of a thriving Black community in rural Rhode Island, the book challenges the conventional narrative of an all-white New England before the Great Migration. On Conanicut Island, this community took root in the 19th century and flourished despite national racial turbulence.

The book brings to life pioneering figures such as James Howland, one of Rhode Island's last survivors of slavery, and the Champlin family, who rose from bondage to establish the island's first Black-owned farm and became its first Black voters. Within view of Newport, once the center of the American slave trade, Jamestown's free Black residents cultivated a community that welcomed newly freed migrants from the South and forged the social, cultural, and economic fabric of a multi-racial rural New England.



The Portuguese of Conanicut Island: History Through Memories, 1895–1980

Collected by Shirley Tiexiera Quattromani
Edited by Catharine Morris Wright

2nd Edition

Many Portuguese from the Azores came to work on Conanicut Island in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Men from the Azores knew all about fish; knew all about farming; knew all about gardening. Somehow they discovered there was work to be had in Jamestown. So the Portuguese, coming almost all from similar islands (even if the Azores were volcanic) were happy and eager to leave America's big cities for familiar land and seascape.

The newcomers were too busy, too involved with trying to correlate their own history and upbringing with that of their new land, to keep records. So in 1978 and 1979, Shirley Quattromani, herself second generation Portuguese, interviewed many of the older immigrants in order to capture the history of Jamestown's Portuguese community.

The original book, financed by the R. I. Department of State Library Services, has long been out of print. This year the Jamestown Historical Society produced a second edition, adding notes about and pictures of people and places mentioned in the interviews, a detailed index, and a table of contents. The interviews remain essentially unchanged.

Exhibits and Articles

Exhibits

Joyce Hooley-Barlett has taken on the responsibility of sharing the JHS collection through exhibits.

The summer exhibit, *Behind the Lines: Life in Jamestown in 1776*, explores the daily lives of people living in Jamestown during the turmoil of the Revolutionary War. From 1776 to 1778, Conanicut Island was occupied by British forces. One-third of Jamestown families left the island either under duress or voluntarily. The lives of those who stayed behind – women, children, the elderly, and people of color, both free and enslaved – were circumscribed by their isolation from the rest of the state.

The exhibit opened on May 21. Docents are needed for the museum to be open to the public. Read about a docent's duties on page 3 and volunteer at the "volunteer" page on the [JHS website](#).



Don Mong's watercolor of fishing in Jamestown in 1776, commissioned for the summer exhibit.

Smaller exhibits are mounted monthly in the display case in the foyer of Town Hall. Exhibits so far this year included

- January: a tribute to Sue Maden featuring some of the many objects she donated to the society over the years.
- February: needlework objects.
- March: greeting cards by island artists.
- April: works of art in a variety of media by June Webb.
- May: mementos from celebrations in years past, including the 2000 town photo taken to mark the new century.

"From the Collection"

Each month members of the Collections Committee email a short article highlighting an object in the JHS collection. Often the subject reflects the content of the Town Hall exhibit, giving more depth and information about an object in the exhibit. For example, the April "From the Collection" discussed June Webb's watercolors of Jamestown scenes and how these paintings captured the "feel" of Jamestown in the late 20th century.

Past "From the Collection" articles can be found on the JHC website at [Articles](#) using the "From the Collection" filter.

The Jamestown Press

For 2026, Peter Fay and Rosemary Enright are focusing their *Jamestown Press* monthly history articles on happenings in Jamestown during the American Revolution.

The burning of the houses on Narragansett Avenue in December 1775 was reported both from the view of independence-sympathizer Ezra Stiles and from the view of British military reports. The May article contains the May 4, 1776, "Act of Renunciation," which denounced King George III for tyranny and asserted the colonists' right to "oppose that Power which is exerted only for our destruction."

Past *Jamestown Press* articles can be found on the JHC website at [Articles](#) using the "JHS in the News" filter.

Excerpt from the Act of Renunciation

Whereas George the Third, King of Britain, forgetting his dignity, regardless of the Compact most solemnly entered into ratified & confirmed to the Inhabitants of this Colony by his illustrious Ancestors and till of late fully recognized by him, and entirely departing from the duties and Character of a good king, instead of Protecting is endeavoring to destroy the good people of this Colony and of all the united Colonies by sending Fleets and Armies to America to confiscate our Property and to spread Fire, Sword and Desolation throughout our Country in order to compel us to submit to the debasing and detestable Tyranny.

... it becomes our highest Duty to use every means with which God and Nature have furnished us, in support of our invaluable rights & privileges, to oppose that Power which is exerted only for our destruction.

Additions to the Collection:

December 2025 to April 2026

Donations

Ken Caswell. Trunk from Revolutionary War period.
(The Caswells are making the trunk a long-term loan to JHS.)

Jessie and Joey Dutra. 2026 Calendar

Rosemary Enright. David J. Brazil, Memorial Card, September 30, 2008; Obituary, Captain W.J. Slattery, December 24, 1958.

Sue Maden Research Data. Spreadsheets containing research data on buildings built in Jamestown between 1734 and 1997, buildings moved within the town, Jamestown & Newport Ferry crew members between 1935 and 1969; articles on summer residents; *The Old Fort, Conanicut, RI*, History of America, by W. Croome; Social Index, Jamestown families, pages 153-158; Jamestown Council of Defense World War II; history of the Diamond Spring Rifle Club; history of Thomas Carr Watson Farm; photos of the building of 1940s Jamestown Bridge from Harris Structural Steel;

Sue Maden Library. *A Christmas Ennead*, poems by Patrick Hodgkins; *Jamestown, A Memoir, The Place I Loved* by Arthur Clarke Paine; *Mr. Rat of Beavertail Lighthouse, Historical Fantasy for Children* by Peter Frazier; *Oliver's Surprise A Boy: A Schooner, and the Great Hurricane of 1938* by Carol Newman Cronin; *The Hessian Occupation of Newport and Rhode Island 1776-1779* by Walter K. Schroder; clippings of articles by Maden and Hodgkins in 1992 and 1993.

Sue Maden Art Collection.

Ceramics: plaque with sheep, 1678, Jamestown, RI by Jillian Barber; mask with fish and sea greens by Jillian Barber; plate, "Dumplings, Jamestown, RI," plate, "Ye Olde Map of James Towne Quononoquitt Island," plate, "Jamestown, Rhode Island, Tercentenary."

Tiles: "Jamestown Museum" by Erik Peterson; "Beavertail Light House"

Paintings: "Beavertail Lighthouse" by S.A. Boyle; "Bird Sanctuary at Great Marsh" by Carol Chew; "Maden House Overlooking the West Passage" by D. DeAngell; "Jamestown Museum in Snow" by Sassy Ellis; "Horse Head" by Peter Marcus; "Buoy at Dutch Harbor" by Jane Payne; "View of West Passage from Maden House" by Patricia M. Sprouls; "Conanicut Marine Office, East Ferry" by June L. Webb; "Jamestown Windmill" by June L. Webb; "Shops at East Ferry" by June L. Webb.

Prints: "Jamestown Bridge" by Evelyn Rhodes; "From Jamestown, Clingstone" by Richard Grovesnor; "Coming Soon! The New Bridge" by Don Bousquet, autographed.

Photographs: Old Jamestown Bridge beside new Jamestown Verrazzano Bridge on Opening Day by John T. Hopf; six photos of the demolition of old Jamestown Bridge by Sue Maden; Jamestown Verrazzano Bridge under construction by Richard E. Olson; "Storm on West Passage" by Onne van der Wal; "Beavertail in Winter," unsigned.

Poster: original Jamestown Bridge beside new bridge under construction (from 2007 summer museum exhibit).

Mary Madden. *Buildings of Rhode Island* by William H. Jordy.

Jamestown Philomenian Library. Poster, 6th Annual Fools Rules Regatta; Souvenir Program for dedication of the Jamestown Bridge.

Donna Peckham/Estate of Donald Richardson.

Uniform jacket, "Newport Bridge, R.I. Turnpike and Bridge Authority;" children's flotation device from the *Governor Carr*; sales poster with buttons "Vote to Approve Bridge Referendum;" Jamestown school girl's gym uniform; Bay View Hotel key fob; Thorndike Hotel key and fob; War Ration Book; letters, photographs, and articles, including "A Study Of Potential For Downtown Revitalization, Jamestown, Rhode Island," October 13, 2002 "Friends of the Jamestown Community Center Dedication" brochure, ferry tickets and schedules, Jamestown Rotary Club 70th Anniversary brochure.

John Potter. Numerous Jamestown & Newport Ferry documents, including captain and purserette reports, freight reports, and financial records.

Sav Rebecchi. Jamestown Government – 2025: The Year in Review.

Jim Rugh. East Passage Estates Owners Association files, including association bylaws and rules, purchase agreements with Commerce Oil, and blue prints.



"Shops at East Ferry" by June L. Webb

Linda Warner. "Two Girls Painting on Rocks at Mackerel Cove," watercolor by Constance Armbrust; two wooden holiday ornaments – 1946 angel and 1947 cottage – painted with text "The Crawfords."

Pamela Wood. "The Barrys and the Martlands: The Way We Were" by Pamela Barry Wood.

Collected by Staff.

Multiple articles and obituaries from *The Jamestown Press*, including monthly history articles by Rosemary Enright and Peter Fay.

Jamestown articles from the *Newport Daily News* and *Newport Mercury*.

Programs and flyers for events in Jamestown.

JHS monthly *From the Collection* and *Town Hall Exhibit keys*.

Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association newsletter.

Genealogy of the Matthew Grinnell Family.

Will of Thomas Carr Watson.

Antone Rosa Frank Naturalization papers.

Report on the structural assessment of the 1901 Clubhouse building to the Jamestown Town Council.

St. Mark Church Jamestown, RI. Parish Directory.

Interview with Archie Clarke

Born in 1949, Arthur Soule Clarke III, known as Archie, is the foremost ferryboat expert in town. We sat down with Archie in Fall 2025 to hear about his discovery and acquisition of the wheelhouse from the ferryboat Hammonton. These are edited excerpts from the interview.

History of the Hammonton

The ferryboat *Hammonton* was built in 1906 by the New York Shipbuilding Company for the run between Philadelphia and Camden. The Jamestown & Newport Ferry Co. bought her in 1930.

The last day they had steam up was Saturday, January 4, 1958. Donald Richardson and his brother Victor were the two firemen who shoveled coal for the last time. Shortly afterwards, the boat was sold for scrap.

Finding the Hammonton Wheelhouse

Anthony Ricci in Johnston acquired the wheelhouse after it was scrapped. One day in January of 1974, I took a ride up there. I knocked on the front door and said "Hi, I'm Arthur Clarke from Jamestown" and asked his mother "Does he still have it (the wheelhouse)?" She said "Yes, it's right in the backyard! You're welcome to go have a look."



Hammonton at work.



Archie Clarke in the Hammonton wheelhouse in his yard on Southwest Avenue.

So, I looked around the corner of the house and there it was! I thought "Oh my God! It still has the copper range light on it." Usually when they scrap it, that's gone. All the windows were still intact, the first six were curved.

So, I went back to the house and said to Mrs. Ricci "I'd like to talk to your son."

The Purchase

A couple of days later, we met. I asked Ricci if there was anything else left from the wheelhouse. The auxiliary wheel was still with the scrap company in great condition. Not a spoke was broken. I purchased the wheel before I knew for sure that I was going to get the wheelhouse.

Time passed, but in May 1974, Ricci called and said "Arthur, I'm going to die one day and I really like your idea. Where is your place located?" I said

Interview with Archie Clarke (continued)

"On Southwest Avenue on the way to Mackerel Cove and Beavertail." He said "Oh yes, I know where that is."

Moving

It wasn't until July, my uncle retired and we went back over to get it. There was concrete poured around it. We broke that up and then started to jack it up. I brought my dump truck up with my 6-ton trailer. The wheelhouse was 15 feet across with the overhang. My father was fire chief at the time and had a red truck with a flashing light on the top to lead the way.

We arranged for the Jamestown police to block off the bridge on Saturday the 20th at 6:30 am. We made it down North Road to Southwest Avenue. Finally, I turned into my driveway and my father came out, just shaking his head, and said "Well, you made it. I didn't think you'd make it with this thing. Boy, you have a lot of work to do."

Restoration

A couple months later, I had Nick Robertson sandblast the paint. I had the name boards redone.

The Historical Society had two original side name boards. In January, 1975, Henry Armbrust and Maggie Potter helped to install the signs. I had Julian Garlick make a duplicate for me. The original brackets were still there and all I had to do was to screw them on.

I had the lantern back on top when I realized that something wasn't right. The belly of the lantern was missing. So, I got Ed Holland's father, Howie, who specialized in this kind of thing and he took it. Three months later I called him up and said "Howie, how are you doing? He said "Archie, boy I'll tell you, this had to have been hand made." I told him "Yea, well there were 12 of them, two on each of the six ferryboats. Those old guys must have just banged them out." Howie said "Well, I'm almost done with it." He came down and we put it up and I said "Boy, Howie, you did a good job. You did a good job."

There were other disappointing days when I couldn't find stuff. It was important that the wheelhouse looked authentic. I purchased a telegraph. It wasn't the right style, it was a double handle and the *Hammonton's* was a small, single handle Charles Cory telegraph, but it was good enough.



Henry Armbrust and Maggie Potter installing the Hammonton name boards on the wheelhouse,

I was lucky, very lucky. That ferry and wheelhouse were built to last with Carnegie steel. That's the only reason it's still here. The wheelhouse had the 3-foot overhang. I was able to obtain the specs for the six ferries that were built, the *Hammonton*, *Wildwood*, *Salem*, *Bridgeton*, *Haddonfield* and *Middleton*. The last of these ferries was built in 1922.

The historic Hammonton wheelhouse sits in the yard at Clarke's Marine and Appliance, 50 Southwest Avenue. Archie welcomes visitors daily to stop by and see the exterior of the wheelhouse. If you would like to tour the interior, he asks that you contact him to schedule an appointment at 401-486-7940.



The restored Hammonton wheelhouse