American Spirit
Daughters of the American Revolution
March/April 2008

Mind Your Manners
Courtesy Books in Colonial America

Building on Tradition:
Craftsmen Connect to Preserve Historic Trades

The Hanging of Henry Gale

Days of Reckoning:
A History of Our Calendar

Cincinnati, City of Freedom
Consider membership in the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), a volunteer women’s service organization that honors and preserves the legacy of our Patriot ancestors. More than 200 years ago, American Patriots fought and sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today. As a member of DAR, you can continue this legacy by actively promoting patriotism, preserving American history and securing America’s future through better education for children.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP?
Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a Patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. DAR volunteers are willing to provide guidance and assistance with your first step into the world of genealogy.

HOW IS PATRIOT DEFINED?
DAR recognizes Patriots not only as soldiers, but as anyone who contributed to the cause of American freedom. To find out if your ancestor is recognized by the DAR as a Revolutionary Patriot, a request form is available online at www.dar.org by clicking on “Membership.”

HOW MANY MEMBERS DOES THE NATIONAL SOCIETY HAVE?
DAR has 165,000 members in nearly 3,000 chapters worldwide, including chapters in 11 foreign countries. Since its founding in 1890, DAR has admitted more than 800,000 members.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE?
Go to www.dar.org and click on “Membership.” There you’ll find helpful instructions, advice on finding your lineage and a Prospective Member Information Request Form. Or call (202) 879–3224 for more information on joining the work of this vital, service-minded organization.
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American Spirit

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BY BILL HUDGINS

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ABOUT THE COVER: QUILL, INK AND MANUSCRIPT BY BARRY DAVID MARCUS, JUPITER IMAGES
From the President General

Our cover feature on courtesy books reveals how these volumes provided etiquette information and wisdom to Colonial society. Even George Washington had opinions about the proper behavior of gentlemen and women, copying Rules of Civility & Decent Behaviour in Company and Conversation when he was only 13. Today, the books reveal details about the everyday lives—and aspirations—of early Americans.

Contributing writer Phyllis Speidell and photographer John Sheally attended the recent International Preservation Trades Workshop, where they watched experts demonstrate hands-on techniques and methods for preserving historic structures. These talented educators and preservationists should be commended for being such good stewards of our country’s cultural heritage.

Our feature on the 300-year-old Colonel James Barrett House in Concord, Mass.—soon to undergo an extensive restoration—unlocks the history of a central landmark to the American Revolution. Its owner, Col. Barrett, commanded the Middlesex Militia during the Revolution’s first battle at the North Bridge, forcing the British to retreat. And there is a DAR connection to the house: Harriet Lothrop, founder of the Old Concord Chapter and the National Society Children of the American Revolution, wrote A Little Maid of Concord Town 1775. Her historical novel tells the story of Col. Barrett’s teenage granddaughter, Meliscent Barrett, who taught Concord’s young women to make powder cartridges after a British officer unthinkingly showed her how.

The aftermath of the Revolution is the focus of our biographical feature on Henry Gale. In 1786, Gale, his older brother Abraham, Daniel Shays and other Revolutionary War veterans battled against the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for prosecuting and jailing indebted farmers. Arrested and declared guilty for his leadership role in what was to become known as “Shays’ Rebellion,” Henry was sentenced to be hanged for treason. We explore what the rebellion meant for the nascent nation.

Our Spirited Adventures department travels to Cincinnati. From the earliest settlers looking for new homes in the Northwest Territory to the German immigrants who settled in the mid-1800s and later fugitive slaves who made their way across the Ohio River, this river city has long symbolized freedom.

We spotlight one of our younger members in the Today’s Daughters department. Anne Bradley Furr, a 23-year-old Fulbright scholar and recent graduate of Appalachian State University, recently returned from a 10-month research project in Madagascar. Her global perspective and spirit of service are inspiring.

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In April the DAR Museum opens its newest exhibit, “19th-Century Samplers and Silk Needlework.” Our National Treasures department gives you a sneak peek at the Museum’s bounty, showcasing two young sisters’ beautiful needlework samplers stitched more than 200 years ago.

Linda Gist Calvin
TUDYING ABROAD FOR MOST STUDENTS MEANS SPENDING A SUMMER IN SPAIN OR A SEMESTER IN ENGLAND. NOT FOR ANNE BRADLEY FURR, A MEMBER OF THE MECKLENBURG DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE CHAPTER, CHARLOTTE, N.C. SHE HAD SOMETHING MORE ADVENTUROUS IN MIND WHEN SHE APPLIED TO STUDY ABROAD DURING HER JUNIOR YEAR AT APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY IN BOONE, N.C.

Instead of studying French in France like most students, she chose Réunion, a French island in the Indian Ocean just east of Madagascar.

When it was time to return home to North Carolina, Ms. Furr says the departure was bittersweet. “I was excited to come home, but I was so sad to be leaving such a beautiful region,” she says. “As soon as I left, I knew I’d be back someday.”

It didn’t take long for Ms. Furr’s prediction to come true. Her grandmother told her about a friend’s experience in the Fulbright Program, an international exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government that provides grants to young adults to study, teach and increase understanding between U.S. citizens and those of other countries.

Ms. Furr decided to further her study of marine conservation, an interest she first developed in high school and honed in college, earning degrees in sustainable development and French and a minor in biology. In 2005, Ms. Furr submitted a lengthy proposal to work for 10 months with a nonprofit organization specializing in marine conservation in southwest Madagascar. Less than a year later, she moved into her thatched beach hut.

Getting used to the living arrangements and not being able to converse with the local villagers who spoke Malagasy took some adjustment.

“If we were lucky, we had electricity four to six hours a day and running water for an hour or so,” she recalls. “But I got used to it. Plus, I just kept telling myself, I’m living on the beach in a tropical paradise. It’s hard to complain about that.”

Six days a week for 10 months, Ms. Furr woke up and walked down the beach to the dive site. She dove daily with full-time researchers to conduct fish and coral surveys. She also helped the group set up marine-protected areas for the village fishermen and assisted doctors and nurses in educating locals on family planning and general wellness.

When she wasn’t working, Ms. Furr enjoyed exploring the village of about 1,500 people, walking around the open-air markets and dancing to Malagasy music with friends. When her program ended last summer, she wasn’t ready to come home just yet, so she spent three months traveling around mainland Africa, working her way up the eastern coast—sometimes by hitchhiking—from Capetown, South Africa, to the Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania.

Ms. Furr plans to start graduate school in the fall of 2009 to further her studies in sustainable development, which she wants to turn into a career someday. But not until she sees more of the world. Recently, she returned from a trip to Australia and New Zealand with her mother and grandparents, and she’s looking for a job abroad until grad school starts.

“I sold my car when I was in Africa, and it’s very hard to live here without one,” she says. “I miss the open markets, where you can buy everything you need, whether it’s a toothbrush or a goat. I really miss all of that.”

To nominate a Daughter for a future issue, e-mail a description to americanspirit@dar.org.
Today’s Gift is Tomorrow’s Future
You can secure your future and ensure the enduring values of our beloved Society by creating a Charitable Gift Annuity with NSDAR.

When you create a Charitable Gift Annuity, you are eligible for tax savings and a fixed income for life. Your contribution will benefit future generations of Daughters in their passionate service to God, home and country. In return, the National Society will provide a lifelong support system for you.

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*These calculations are for illustration purposes only and should not be considered legal, accounting or other professional advice. This chart reflects rates for a single annuitant based on a $10,000 CGA. Your actual benefits may vary depending on the date and amount of the gift.

For more information, please contact the NSDAR Office of Development at (800) 449–1776 or giftplanning@dar.org.
Don’t miss even one issue of this great publication. Discover new ways to reconnect with your past, learn about great destinations across the country, and read about fellow Americans who share your values of heritage, history and family.
Two young sisters’ charming needlework samplers stitched more than 200 years ago share a home at the DAR Museum. In 1997 the Museum purchased a canvas needlework picture made in Philadelphia and signed “Mary Gray June the 6th 1775.” This small floral still life joined a sampler made by Mary’s sister, Martha, dated “June ye 7th 1779,” and held in the Museum collection for almost 60 years.

Both young girls filled their canvas with double-handled bowls overflowing with tulips, jonquils, roses, carnations and irises. Eleven-year-old Mary’s needlework is more polished than Martha’s example, stitched when she was only 8 years old. Their efforts were most likely patterned after an identical source, perhaps the work of their sister, Elizabeth Coultais Gray. In the classic 1921 volume American Samplers by Ethel Stanwood Bolton and Eva Johnston Coe, Elizabeth’s work was described as “Design, bunch of flowers in basket, fills entire sampler.”

The sisters were daughters of prominent and patriotic parents, Martha Ibbetson and George Gray. George was a member and speaker of the Philadelphia General Assembly and author of The Treason Resolutions.
{Letters to the Editor}
Spirited comments from our readers

SALUTING GENERAL KNOX
I enjoyed the November/December 2007 issue of American Spirit immensely. The article on General Knox’s epic cannon haul is marvelous, and the illustrations are new to me. (I particularly fancied the colored engraving at the beginning of the article.) What a journey—and what a wonderful magazine!
Barnabas McHenry
Co-chair, Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

Thank you for the article about the Henry Knox Cannon Trail. I was reading 1776 by David McCullough when my November/December 2007 issue arrived. It was exciting to read the article and learn that the trail has been marked by 56 granite and bronze markers. My hope is that all Daughters read the article. I enjoy the magazine each and every issue and usually pass it on to others.
Wanda Mowry
Katahdin Chapter, Scottsbluff, Neb.

REMEMBERING POPLAR FOREST
The November/December 2007 American Spirit issue was great. Loved it! I enjoyed the story about Henry Knox quite a bit. Really fascinating. I enjoyed the story about Poplar Forest even more. I grew up in Lynchburg, Va., and when I saw the picture of Poplar Forest on the cover, it really took me back. My father was one of the “local residents and history buffs” that started the corporation to restore Poplar Forest, so I can’t wait to show him the issue. I can remember walking through the home and grounds at various stages of repair and disrepair during the 1980s. Pretty awesome.
Larry Washington
Creative Director, Shelton Group, Knoxville, Tenn.

FAMILY TIES
I was so excited to see that my fifth great-aunt Jemima Wilkinson was included in the story “Petticoats in the Pulpit” in the November/December 2007 issue. I have enjoyed researching my family history and was rewarded to find such a character! She is the older sister of my Patriot, Stephen Wilkinson, who fought in the Battle of Rhode Island during the Revolution. Thank you for providing such a variety of stories in this great magazine!
Dana Nelson Muret, Recording Secretary
Liberty Hall Chapter, Charlotte, N.C.

A LONG-LOST RELATIVE?
I was delighted when I received my November/December 2007 American Spirit magazine. In particular, the story “Penning your Family Narrative” has a picture of a gentleman standing by the cornfield holding a photograph of himself as a young man. This photo page is fascinating as I think the gentleman looks like me. I think there might be a family resemblance, as he just might be a brother of mine unknown to me living in Kokomo, Ind., where I was born and raised.

I searched the magazine for some identification, but found no printed reference for him. I would be very happy to correspond and communicate with him if I knew how and where I might contact him, and if it would be agreeable with him.
Helen M. Powell, Massachusetts Member at Large
Pittsfield, Mass.

Editor’s Note: The image was purchased from Getty Images. For privacy reasons, it is not the policy of stock houses to reveal the identity of models. However, if the gentleman happens to see your letter, we’ll do what we can to connect you.

A BEACON FOR WOMEN
How inspiring for women to recognize their potential as written in Nadine Goff’s “Eliza Pinckney’s Indigo World” (January/February 2008). With Goff’s background on the
plant and Eliza’s fortitude and wisdom in preserving her letters for posterity. [it proves that] one’s home and business records are true historical bookkeeping.

It reminds me of Dr. George W. Carver’s wisdom to “Cast down your buckets where you are,” for he found in the clays and soil of Alabama the true deep blue color used in artworks of ancient Egypt. An amazing man and dedicated genius with a goal and determination, he pointed out how the one crop “King Cotton” had worn out the soil, and taught the rotation of crops that replenish the soil.

Eliza Pinckney’s ability, her motherhood and business capability were like a beacon for future women’s pioneering efforts, as Dr. Carver’s morals, patience, intuitive intelligence and discoveries were a beacon for the entire world.

_Geraldine D. Rasmussen_
Major William Lauderdale Chapter, Plantation, Fla.
Rites of Spring

The oldest seaside resort town in America and a picturesque hub of Victorian architecture, Cape May, N.J., is a distinctive historical city—and a great place to celebrate the first signs of spring.

To welcome spring flowers and warmer weather, Cape May and the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts will host the annual Spring Festival April 25 to May 4.

Featuring more than 20 unique events, the festival gives visitors the opportunity to tour beautiful Victorian homes in this quaint seaside town. During festival week, private homes that aren’t usually available to the public open their doors, offering a glimpse into modern-day life in Cape May.

Or maybe you’d like to experience “the other side” of the cape by taking one of several ghost-themed tours or strolling through “The Other Side: The World of Victorian Spiritualism,” a new exhibit that explores the Victorian fascination with mediums and psychics. This exhibit at the Carriage House Gallery opens the weekend of the Spring Festival and will be on display until November.

If being spooked isn’t your thing, consider participating in a vintage dance event, kicking up your heels as residents did in Cape May 100 years ago. Attend daytime workshops, or put on your finest Victorian garb and make a grand entrance at the Vintage Ball on April 26.

Proceeds from the festival help preserve and promote the history of Cape May, including the 1879 Emlen Physick Estate. Cape May’s only Victorian house museum, the estate boasts 15 restored rooms and changing seasonal exhibits.

For more information, visit www.cape maymac.org or call (609) 884-5404 to make reservations.

Calendar

Test your calendar knowledge and then turn to page 31 to learn about the Gregorian calendar’s history.

1. Who is the month of July named after?
2. How much money does the U.S. calendar industry generate annually?
3. When was Presidents Day moved to the third Monday in February?
4. When will our calendar be one full day ahead of the true solar year?
5. Where does the word “calendar” come from?

Answers on page 14.
The World War II generation is often known as America’s “greatest generation” because of the fortitude and sacrifice that characterize those who fought to end the Nazi reign of terror in Europe. But most Americans have to learn about the locations of famous WWII battles like D-Day and the Battle of Normandy through old photos and movie representations rather than seeing firsthand the places where history happened. In an effort to make World War II history come alive, the History Channel Traveler is offering a two-week tour of Europe, complete with education sessions at major battle sites.

The trip begins in Paris and travels to the most famous World War II sites, museums and memorials, including the D-Day Memorial Museum of Caen, the footpaths of American troops in Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge Museum in Bastogne, the Berlin Wall and other important historical sites. The tour offers four-star hotel accommodations, deluxe travel between cities, and breakfast and dinner each day. In 2008, tours will depart May 14, June 18, July 2 and 9, September 17 and October 1. To learn more about the itinerary, visit www.historytravel.com or call (877) 238–6877.

On This Day
In History

March 3, 1820: Henry Clay’s Missouri Compromise takes effect, forever ending slavery in the territory north of the 36° 30’ line of the Louisiana Purchase territory.


March 5, 1770: The incident now known as the Boston Massacre takes place when British soldiers fire on a mob of American colonists in Boston.

April 3, 1860: The first rider of the Pony Express leaves St. Joseph, Mo., to carry important mail to California. The Pony Express kept California connected with the other Union states for two years until the telegraph replaced it.

April 18, 1775: Paul Revere takes his famous ride to Lexington, informing Samuel Adams and John Hancock that British Redcoats were mobilized and ready to attack.

April 25, 1898: The Spanish-American War begins as an American effort to help Cuba secure independence.

April 29, 1805: Meriwether Lewis kills a grizzly bear that charged more than 200 feet after being shot.
Defiant Daughters?

Last year while on a tour of St. Augustine, Fla., the tour guide stated that the old Spanish gates to the city, one of the last remnants of the original Spanish structures, were to be torn down, and a group of DAR ladies stood around the gates, refusing to move until the town agreed to save them. I didn’t see a DAR marker at the gates and wondered if the story was true. — Bonnie Bergeron, Illinois Member at Large

According to Dianna Isam, historian of the Maria Jefferson Chapter, St. Augustine, Fla., the story is true. Dating back to 1808, the old city gates were once the only entrance into the city, standing to protect its inhabitants from intruders. Today the ancient stone landmark stands as a testament of the turbulent times faced by the original inhabitants of St. Augustine. However, in the early 20th century, the city almost lost the protective gates.

When trees began to grow through the entryway, city officials decided to tear them down rather than repair the damage. Horrified that such an integral part of the city could be destroyed, members of the Maria Jefferson Chapter came together to protest.

Hoping to save their history, the ladies went to the gates every day to protest their removal, wearing funeral attire to mourn the potential loss of the great symbol of St. Augustine. Lobbying hard to keep the gates, these DAR members contacted their U.S. senator and called upon the ladies of the Colonial Dames to help demonstrate against the city.

As a result of their protests, city officials chose to keep the old city gates standing where they remain today as a reminder of the Spanish influence that still permeates St. Augustine culture.
Jamestown, Quebec and Santa Fe: Three North American Beginnings

Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, until March 16

Featuring Native American and European artifacts, maps, documents and ceremonial objects, this traveling exhibition examines the twists and turns of the conflicts between European empires (England, Spain and France) and native North Americans through the perspectives of the Jamestown settlement; Quebec, Canada; and Santa Fe, N.M., all of which were settled by Europeans 400 years ago. The installment, which can also be viewed online, is presented in three languages.

View the exhibition and find out its next stop at americanhistory.si.edu/exhibitions.

Rarity Revealed: The Benjamin K. Miller Collection

The National Postal Museum, Washington, D.C., until January 12, 2009

After being locked behind closed doors for three decades, Benjamin K. Miller’s famous stamp collection is now on display. Known as the crown jewel of stamp collecting, Miller’s collection was displayed at the New York Public Library from 1925 until 1977, when it was locked away after a theft. The exhibit will feature stamps from 1894 to the 1920s. For more information, visit www.postalmuseum.si.edu/millercollection.
What’s in a Name?

Discover the meanings behind some of the DAR chapters’ interesting names.

The Apache Trail Chapter, Apache Junction, Ariz., commemorates the distinction of the Apache Trail as America’s oldest roadway, evolving from the rough pathway followed by the Apache Indians through the Superstition Mountains hundreds of years ago. In later years the trail became an early stagecoach route and, eventually, AZ SR 88, a scenic route that traverses Lost Dutchman State Park, Tonto National Forest and Roosevelt Dam. The chapter, formed in 2004, chose the name to celebrate the historic importance of the trail in American and Arizona history.

Charter members of the Fort Defiance Chapter, Defiance, Ohio, formed in April 1926, chose the name in honor of the fort established by Mad Anthony Wayne during the Northwest Indian War in 1794. During a session of the 1925 Ohio State Society Conference, the Jane Washington Chapter, Fostoria, Ohio, chose the site of Fort Defiance to erect a historic marker. A granite monument with a bronze tablet commemorating the achievement of General Anthony Wayne was installed. At a celebration following the installment, Ohio State Regent Mrs. Lowell F. Hobert asked how many of the attending women from Defiance thought they could become members. More than 20 stood up, and these ladies became the nucleus of the organizing group.

The Irondequoit Chapter, Rochester, N.Y., honors the Seneca Indians and the name they gave to the bay on Lake Ontario near the mouth of the Genesee River. Irondequoit means “where the lake turns aside.” The name was chosen by the chapter founders because of its historic association and for the significance of its meaning: The small body of water opens into a larger one, just as the Irondequoit Chapter feeds into the National Society.

The namesake of the Maria Jefferson Chapter, St. Augustine, Fla., was the daughter of Thomas Jefferson. Her granddaughter, Maria Jefferson Epps Shine, founded the chapter in 1896 while living in St. Augustine. Maria Shine’s death delayed the actual charter date until 1898, when Maria Jefferson Chapter officially became the second DAR chapter in Florida.

Archiving 101

Think those family documents are only useful to you? When it comes to genealogical records, what’s important to you could be a gem for someone else, too. But how would you ever know if the documents are stored in your basement?

Find out how to properly preserve and archive your historical records by signing up for PreservationDirectory.com’s online course.

Developed with help from the Council of State Archivists, the Michigan Historical Center, the New York State Archives and the Ohio Historical Society, the course will cover the basics of archiving, including acquiring collections, processing, providing access, housing and preservation.

The 20-hour course runs from June 2 to July 7, and registration opens April 28. The cost is $85 for Preservation Directory members and $95 for nonmembers.

To learn more or sign up for the class, visit www.preservationdirectory.com or contact Tim Cannan at (503) 223-4939.

Calendar

Answers to the quiz on page 10: 1. July is named after Julius Caesar, who was born in this month. 2. The calendar industry makes $1.2 billion each year. 3. In 1968, many federal holidays were moved to Mondays to better accommodate employees. 4. In A.D. 4909, the Gregorian calendar will be one day ahead of the solar year. 5. The name comes from the Romans, who kept their books in a ledger called a “kalendarium.”

{QuickQuiz}
The Day After

If humans suddenly disappeared from the face of the earth, what would happen next? Would our mighty works remain for centuries or be buried in a geologic blink of the eye? What about animals, forests, the sea?

These fascinating questions form the basis for *The World Without Us* (St. Martins’ Press, 2007), journalist Alan Weisman’s highly readable and sometimes harrowing exploration of an Earth after humanity. In projecting a possible future, Weisman has to delve into the past to trace what we have done to, and for, this world.

His research—including interviews with engineers, atmospheric scientists, marine biologists, zoologists, paleontologists—often focuses on the New World, where humans are a relatively recently introduced species. We learn that Manhattan’s soaring architecture and concrete canyons overlay numerous diverted brooks and streams and depend on more than 700 pumps to keep groundwater and seawater from flooding subway tunnels and other underground structures. One benefit of our passing: Cockroaches would vanish from the unheated buildings.

In another section, Weisman explores the phenomenon of New England’s forests today covering more territory than they did when European colonists arrived. In doing so, he notes that, far from Longfellow’s “forest primeval,” pre-Colonial American forests underwent considerable management and shaping by native peoples. Tribes selectively burned undergrowth and stands of trees to create and improve hunting grounds and to plant crops.

Naturally, much of the book focuses on changes we have made in the environment, especially through the introduction of man-made fertilizers, petrochemicals and, most recently, plastics. The latter may be our most enduring contribution to the world, he notes, because no one knows how long plastics will take to biodegrade.

For history buffs and preservationists, the book holds much useful information about the processes that tear at our venerable structures. For those who like a good mental exercise, it’s a full-scale workout.

—BILL HUDGINS

Quick Reads

When they aren’t writing about genealogy, preservation or early American history in the pages of *American Spirit*, the following regular contributing writers have been busy creating new books of note.

In March, Hawthorne Books will publish Gin Phillips’ debut novel, *The Well and the Mine*. Set in a 1930s Alabama coal-mining town, the story begins when a 9-year-old girl witnesses a baby being thrown into a well. Chosen as a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers title, the novel touches on death, race, hard work and family in the Depression-era South.


Maureen Taylor’s work with photographs was recently profiled in *The Wall Street Journal*. She’s the author of several books, including *Capturing Memories: Your Family History in Photographs* (Ancestry, 2008) and *Uncovering Your Ancestry Through Family Photographs* (Family Tree Books, 2005). She is currently working on a pictorial history of the Revolutionary War generation.

{Spirited Adventures}

CINCINNATI
CITY OF FREEDOM

BY LORI MURRAY
Cincinnati has always represented freedom. From the earliest settlers who looked for a new home in the Northwest Territory to the German immigrants who settled there in the mid-1800s to fugitive slaves who made their way across the Ohio River, this river city has always been about new opportunities.
It's amazing how quickly the flat plains of middle Ohio vanish when today's traveler approaches the state's southern border. Steep hills take over as the descent to the Ohio River begins. It was much the same for the early pioneers who floated down the Ohio River in search of a new home. They found uninviting hills along the banks of the Ohio; that is, until they reached a small basin where the hills turned away from the river, creating low, level plains. They explored this land in the Great and Little Miami River valleys, which not only provided easy water access to the Ohio country, but also spread out into a flat-bottomed area perfect for farming.

But these weren't the first people to discover what this land had to offer. The Folsom People wandered into the Ohio Valley about 7,000 years ago. Although they left little evidence of their civilization, the Moundbuilding Indians that followed did. Collectively, the Adena People, the Hopewell Indians and the Fort Ancient People left about 300 earthworks in Hamilton County, and many are filled with objects that document how they lived.

The early pioneers who settled in the area following the acquisition of the Northwest Territory knew they had found something special. Today we know it as the beginnings of what is now Cincinnati. In 1788, they named their settlement Losantiville, a name with an unusual combination of Latin, Greek, French and Delaware Indian roots, meaning “town opposite the mouth of the Licking River.” The following year, General Arthur St. Clair, governor of the Northwest Territory, renamed it Cincinnati after the Society of Cincinnati, an organization of Revolutionary War officers founded by George Washington. At the same time, St. Clair gave Hamilton County its name, in honor of Alexander Hamilton, the Secretary of the Treasury of the new U.S. government.

Fort Washington was built in the area in 1789 as a fortification against the Indians, but it wasn’t until 1794 that General Anthony Wayne and his army defeated the Ohio at the Battle of Fallen
Timbers. Finally the area was secure for settlement, and Cincinnati became a town in 1802 and a city in 1819. Paddlewheelers appeared on the Ohio River after the War of 1812, quickly transforming Cincinnati into a center of river commerce and trade.

More significant growth took place when the Erie and Miami canals were joined with the Ohio River in 1827, attracting a mass migration of German immigrants to the city. Initially, the Germans settled in the lower parts of the city, but after 1830, cheaper land and housing lured them beyond the canal. The new German community grew, and residents called it the “Rhine” to acknowledge this settlement shift. Soon after, the area became known as “Over-the-Rhine.” Cincinnati’s population quadrupled between 1830 and 1850 as this wave of German immigrants made it their home. Their mark is still visible in many of the city’s churches, theaters, breweries, bakeries and markets.

A CITY OF PROSPERITY

By 1850, Cincinnati was the pork-packing capital of the world, and in 1852,
more than 8,000 steamboats docked there. In 1860, it ranked third as a leading industrial center in the country. As tensions with the South increased during this time, Cincinnati became a major stop on the Underground Railroad, a secret network that helped fugitive slaves—and several Cincinnati residents played a role in the abolitionist cause.

After the Civil War, Cincinnati prospered and grew. A suspension bridge connected Ohio and Kentucky in 1867, and the city built its own railroad line in the 1870s. A political dynasty was established when Cincinnatian William Howard Taft was elected president of the United States. Taft’s son, Robert A. Taft, was elected to three Senate terms, and his grandson, Robert Taft Jr., was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Cincinnati experienced some major rejuvenation in the 1920s—at least until the flood of 1937, which resulted in the building of protective flood walls.

Today, Cincinnati is the second-largest city in Ohio and the 24th largest region in the country, and the hills that once daunted early settlers are now home to many. It may have been more than 200 years ago that the early settlers arrived on their flatboats and settled along the banks of the Ohio River, but Cincinnati still has much to offer—making its future brighter than ever.

**THE NEW CINCINNATI**

Cincinnati has seen many positive changes to its landscape in the last decade. Paul Brown Stadium, home to the Cincinnati Bengals, opened in 2000, and the Great American Ball Park opened its doors to the Cincinnati Reds in 2003. The Cincinnati Reds, three-time winners of the World Series, are America’s oldest existing professional baseball team. Tours of the Great American Ball Park are available year-round, and tickets include admission to the Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame and Museum, which is jam-packed with Reds’ memorabilia from baseball legends like Johnny Bench and Pete Rose.

In 2004, the Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art, a pioneer in the art world, welcomed visitors to its new location. Not to be overlooked, the Zagat Survey rated both the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens and the Newport Aquarium in the nation’s top 25 attractions.

Another recent addition is the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, a museum that emphasizes the importance of the past and present struggle for freedom around the world. The center is both sobering and uplifting, located appropriately in the city that served as a major hub of activity on the Underground Railroad.

**COMMEMORATING HISTORY**

Capture history at several Cincinnati venues, including the Museum of Natural History and Science and the Cincinnati History Museum, both located at Union Terminal. Originally built in 1933 as a train station, Cincinnati’s 10-story Union Terminal is an attraction in its own right.

Cincinnati native William Howard Taft has been the only person to serve as both president and chief justice of the United States. His restored birthplace home, located at the William Howard Taft National Historic Site, includes exhibits that highlight his life and career.

Another Cincinnati citizen, Harriet Beecher Stowe, is the author of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. The Harriet Beecher Stowe House takes a look at her family and friends and the abolitionist, women’s rights and Underground Railroad movements in which they participated.

Lori Murray is a writer in Columbus, Ohio.
Mind Your Manners

~ Courtesy Books in Colonial America ~

By Leslie Albrecht Huber
Thirteen-year-old George Washington copied this down as No. 4 on a list of 110 rules now published as *Rules of Civility & Decent Behaviour in Company and Conversation: a Book of Etiquette* (Beaver Press, 1971). Other rules gave directions on how to eat, dress and speak to others. They even contained detailed instructions on how to walk, stating: “Go not shaking your arms, stamping, or shuffling, nor pull up your stockings in the street. Walk not upon your toes, nor in a dancing or skipping manner, nor yet with measured steps.”

Washington’s personal notebook of copied rules provided him with instructions on how to behave properly. Other aspiring gentlemen and women in the 18th century relied on a variety of similar books. Known as courtesy books, these manuals provided their readers with an earnest guide on how to conduct themselves in “polite society.” For us, the books provide unique, and sometimes surprising, glimpses into Colonial America’s high society.

**The Adoption of Courtesy Books**

Courtesy books were certainly not an American invention. The books had been used in classical European royal courts and even further back in history. Washington likely copied his rules from a translation of a French text published in 1595 by Jesuits entrusted with educating the nobility. Written for princes, courtesy books didn’t find an immediate place among the American colonists.

Richard Bushman writes in his book, *The Refinement of America* (Vintage Books, 1992), that Americans didn’t become interested in adopting genteel behavior until 1690. It was around this time that a class emerged that began building larger homes with intricate decoration, dressing in expensive clothing—and reading courtesy books.

At first, the influence of courtesy books reached only a small portion of society. Five percent or less of the population fell into the exclusive genteel category at the beginning of the 1700s. This group expanded to include about a fourth of the population by 1750. But courtesy books affected much more than the gentility.
Courtesy books were first read by the gentry and then gradually spread down the scale, Dr. Bushman explains. By the mid-1700s, the books had become best sellers. But even those who never saw a courtesy book may have put some of its advice into practice.

“Ordinary people observed the gentility in action in court, in horse races, as servants, so they knew something about genteel life,” Bushman says. “These middling people would borrow a tiny fragment and try to dignify their lives with a touch of gentility.”

A few courtesy books became particularly popular. One of these was *The School of Good Manners*, published by Eleazar Moody, a Boston schoolmaster, in 1715. Moody’s book contained an unusual combination of wisdom for children ranging from directions on wiping their mouths to warnings of grave consequences that befell those who broke God’s commandments. In 1693, the influential philosopher John Locke first published *Some Thoughts Concerning Education*, a volume that was distributed throughout the Colonies. Locke centered his discussion on developing character with topics such as self-denial, virtue and courage.

The Rules

Courtesy books tackled a wide range of subjects. Many dealt with table manners, like Moody’s book, which advised: “Make not a noise with thy Tongue, Mouth, Lips or Breath, either in eating or drinking.” Personal appearance was also stressed as Washington’s book advised fellow Americans: “Wear not your clothes foul, ripped or dusty, but see to it that they be brushed once every day at least.” Locke even provided specific instructions on diet, explaining that melons and grapes should be avoided, strawberries and cherries were acceptable with some cautions, and apples could be “safely eaten at any time and in pretty large quantities” since they “never did anybody hurt that I have heard after October.”

But the books also addressed broader themes of treating others with respect and exercising personal restraint. Much of John Locke’s book encouraged children to develop “general good will and regard for all people” and “to make those with whom we converse easy and well pleased.” There was no place for contention or even impetuousness in the calculated, tranquil world of courtesy books.

Many of the rules found in these Colonial courtesy books have a familiar ring to them—even to the modern ear. One rule on Washington’s list began by stating, “Drink not, nor talk,
with thy mouth full.” Similarly, most mothers today would agree with Eleazar Moody’s instructions, although they might phrase it differently: “Stuff not thy Mouth so as to fill thy Cheeks, be content with smaller mouthfuls.” The similarities extend to other subjects. Moody cautioned children, “Interrupt not any one that speaks, tho’ thou be his Familiar.” Most people would agree this advice is still appropriate today.

Other rules, with their emphasis on formality and gravity, would seem out of place in today’s world. Moody’s book included an entire section of how children should behave toward their parents, which included suggestions such as “Approach near thy Parents at no time without a bow.” Moody also recommended, “Laugh not aloud, but silently smile upon occasion.” He summed up his beliefs on the subject when he explained, “Let thy Recreation be Lawful, Brief and Seldom.”

Although George Washington’s rules contained few religious references, other books had strong links to religion. The first group of rules in Moody’s book deals with children’s behavior at meeting houses. The entire second half of his book focuses on religion with section titles such as “Containing Eight Wholesome Cautions of Taking God’s Name in Vain.” Locke’s book had a short section on God where he tells parents, “There ought very early to be imprinted on his mind a true notion of God.” Religiosity was a fundamental characteristic of proper people in Colonial society.

Perhaps the most surprising aspect of courtesy books to modern readers is their focus on rank and class. Washington’s rules are full of class-conscious advice such as, “In writing or speaking, give to every person his due title, according to his degree and the custom of the place.” Many rules caution readers how to behave in the presence of “betters” or “those of higher quality than yourself.” Readers were instructed to allow their superiors to walk on the right side, not to stop before their superiors did and not to take longer to eat than they did. Courtesy books made it plain that not all people were equal. And while everyone should be treated with respect, they shouldn’t be treated the same.

In Practice

Courtesy books dealt mostly with behavior in formal settings and entertainment. Yet these types of large-scale social events were relatively rare in most places in the Colonies. Cities offered some grand events, but in rural America, where most people lived, these events were few and far between. Even wealthy Americans spent the majority of their time in hard, labor-intensive work—not at formal balls. Yet they bought and read courtesy books, embracing a culture they couldn’t practice.

Perhaps the greatest importance of courtesy books lies in what they tell us about the colonists believed and wanted. First, the books tell us that Americans longed for gentility. They wished to be distinguished, to separate themselves from the group. This yearning for social division seems to contradict our picture of the American way. But as Dr. Bushman writes, for the colonists, “the lure of the aristocratic past was as important as the visions of the future.” He also reminds us that their society was “less egalitarian in principle than it was in fact.” Even this social division was partly illusionary.

THE EVOLUTION OF Etiquette

While nobody today reads The School of Good Manners, courtesy books didn’t die with the Revolution. In the early 1900s, Emily Post brought etiquette books to the masses with Etiquette in Society, in Business, in Politics and at Home (Funk and Wagnalls, 1922). Her descendants at The Emily Post Institute, as well as other etiquette experts such as Judith “Miss Manners” Martin and Martha Stewart, reach a growing number of people with their advice.

Etiquette books of today have lost the referrals to rank and class as well as the emphasis on being religious and somber. They discuss situations George Washington could have never imagined—such as when to turn off your cell phone and how to behave at the gym. But some of the underlying tenets remain the same. “The principles of etiquette haven’t changed,” explains Peter Post, the great-grandson of Emily Post and the director of the Emily Post Institute. Etiquette teaches people the characteristics they need to build positive relationships. “Emily Post called it ‘charm.’ Today we might call it kindness, respect or consideration,” Post says. John Locke called it “general good will and regard for all people.”

Leslie Albrecht Huber is a freelance writer in Belchertown, Mass.
“In writing or speaking, give to every person his due title, according to his degree and the custom of the place.”
The Hanging of Henry Gale

By Lisa Saunders
ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL 18, 1775, Paul Revere rode through the dark back-country to spread the news—700 British soldiers were approaching Lexington to capture rebel leaders John Hancock and Samuel Adams. Church bells rang and guns fired to call in the minutemen. Among the more than 50 who responded was a 24-year-old farmer named Henry Gale. On that night—and into the next morning—Gale boldly rose to the challenge and helped launch the American Revolution. A decade later, Captain Gale rose to the challenge again—only this time against the very government he had jeopardized his life to create—as a leader in what would become known as Shays’ Rebellion.

A 19th-century colored engraving illustrates the armed confrontation between Daniel Shays’ rebels and government troops before the arsenal at Springfield, Mass., on January 26, 1787.
AN INSURGENCY IS BORN

Revolutionary War soldiers had been paid in scrip (in effect, an I.O.U.), redeemable after the war. But Gale’s brother, Abraham, like other cash-poor veterans and farmers, needed money before the note matured, so he sold it to Boston investors for a fraction of its worth. In order for the Commonwealth to pay off the mature scrip, it taxed real estate—the bulk of a farmer's holdings. Short on cash, Abraham borrowed money from a storekeeper. Unable to meet the due date, the debt ballooned with fees. Now Abraham was threatened with the loss of his land and a jail sentence until the debt was paid. Merchants were desperate to collect on these debts because they, too, owed money. A post-war credit crisis gripped the nation.

Farmers petitioned the government for relief with no result. So in September 1786, the Gale brothers—with help from several hundred comrades armed with clubs and bayonets—blocked a Worcester County judge from holding court. The insurgents, calling themselves the “Regulators,” listened for two hours while the judge expounded the meaning of treason, referring to the gallows as punishment. When it began to rain, the judge concluded dramatically, “May the sun never shine on rebellion in Massachusetts,” wrote Marion Starkey in *A Little Rebellion* (Knopf, 1955).

The Gale brothers and nine other leaders were indicted on the charge of being “disorderly, riotous and seditious persons.” They were wanted men.

In Boston, government leaders hired a band of vigilante merchants, lawyers and doctors to raid homes late at night to capture the ringleaders. They awoke families and attacked some of the leaders, badly wounding one across the knee with a sword. The vigilantes ordered farmers to help them along the way, and, if uncooperative, they threatened to brutally kill them.

In *Shays’ Rebellion: The Making of an Agrarian Insurrection* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1980), author David Szartmary suggests that Gale wholeheartedly regretted this violent outcome of his defiance against the courts and considered “returning to the duty of his allegiance,” but it was too late. In January, Governor James Bowdoin called more than 4,000 militia soldiers from Boston to oppose the insurgents. Daniel Shays, whose service as a Revolutionary War captain had been distinguished, led the Regulators in their attack against the Springfield arsenal. Shays called on the rebel farmers to arm themselves and march against the militia.

But Gale had never intended to overthrow his government and was desperate to avoid the upcoming clash. As the state soldiers marched closer, Starkey wrote, Gale told mediators that he “would sign any paper, take any oath unconditional.”

“Though he had flung himself into the insurgent movement while Shays was still hesitating, like Shays he was a man of divided heart,” Starkey wrote.

General William Shepard, guarding the Springfield arsenal with 900 soldiers, knew the Regulators were on their way. On January 25, Shepard and his men watched Gale and 1,200 others march in columns toward them through the snow. As the insurgents, wearing sprigs of hemlock in their hats in memory of their days fighting in the Revolution, drew ever closer, Shepard, “picking out the faces of others with whom he had served during the Revolution, wondered how it would be possible to give the order to fire... His men, like him, were spotting old friends,” Starkey wrote.

So there Gale stood, on June 21, 1787, blindfolded upon the gallows, noose around his neck and seconds away from death.

The Regulators were warned and given a chance to retreat, but they continued their march. At first, cannons fired grapeshot over their heads. Yet on they came. Then the shots were fired right into Gale and his comrades. Three insurgents lay dead with 30 more injured. The Regulators, never firing a musket, scattered and fled, shouting “Murder! Murder!”

The insurgents regrouped in Pelham, Shays’ hometown. Gale, however, left his post, returned home and prepared to throw himself on the mercy of the government. But at a town meeting a few days later, he was arrested by the sheriff and jailed in Boston. Shays eluded capture by escaping over the New Hampshire line. Gale’s brother, Abraham, though badly wounded by a kick from Shays’ horse, escaped with him. But 150 other insurgents were not so lucky.

Popular support of the insurgents and their cause brought pardons for most of the captured. But examples had to be made of the traitors. Sam Adams insisted, “The man who
dares rebel against the laws of a republic ought to suffer death."

The least rebellious counties would only need one hanging instead of two. Henry Gale, it was decided, would hang for Worcester.

PARDONING THE PATRIOT

Gale’s indictment read that he “traitorously did devise and conspire to levy war against this Commonwealth ... with a great number of rebels and traitors ... armed and arrayed in a warlike and hostile manner with drums beating, fifes playing and with guns, pistols, bayonets, swords, clubs.” Despite court testimonies in his defense, Gale was found guilty of high treason and rebellion—and was sentenced to be hanged.

Gale’s father, Josiah, a veteran of the French and Indian War, pleaded with the governor for his son’s life, but the execution date was set.

Frantic, Gale’s wife, Betty, pleaded with Gov. Bowdoin to spare her husband’s life and save their children from ruin. The townspeople also rallied to Gale’s defense. But, luckily, it wasn’t up to Gov. Bowdoin. Gale’s execution date fell under the administration of the new governor—John Hancock.

Writing from jail, he begged for mercy, promising that if his life was spared, he would live quietly, stay loyal to his government and instill in his children the same sense of loyalty. Hancock was sympathetic to Gale’s cause, but the council insisted there must be a show of the state’s power against those who resorted to arms.

So there Gale stood, on June 21, 1787, blindfolded upon the gallows, noose around his neck and seconds away from death. The clergy offered solemn prayers for his soul. His wife had watched Gale survive the war as a respected patriot, but now perhaps she was among the crowd below him and would watch him die a traitor.

But suddenly, moments from execution, the sheriff withdrew a piece of paper from his pocket. Reading it aloud, he announced to Gale and the stunned crowd that Hancock had granted him a temporary reprieve. On September 12, he was fully pardoned and released.

Several months later, Gale’s seventh child, Justus, was born. Perhaps he was named this because his parents wanted to honor what his father had so gratefully received—justice.

In addition to pardoning Gale and other nonviolent rebels, Hancock lowered taxes and required merchants to pay their fair share. Court fees were lowered, and eventually imprisonment for debt was outlawed.

THE TREE OF LIBERTY

George Washington came out of retirement to join Benjamin Franklin and others in attending the convention that crafted the Constitution of the United States of America. Addressing many of the root causes of the rebellion, the Constitution was formally adopted on March 4, 1789. Speaking of Shays’ Rebellion, Thomas Jefferson wrote, “I hold it that a little rebellion now and then is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical ... The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants.”

True to his word, Gale lived a quiet life, eventually settling in upstate New York. Instead of tearing down courthouses, he was one of two masons who helped build one in Lyons, N.Y.

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Reckoning

Days of Reckoning

A HISTORY OF OUR CALENDAR

BY BILL HUDGINS

A brass portable Roman sundial found among the ruins of Aphrodisias, an ancient Greco-Roman city in the Anatolian uplands of Turkey.

© JONATHAN BLAIR/CORBIS
It’s March, so Happy New Year!

At least, we would celebrate New Year’s Day in March if we still measured our year according to the calendar that Julius Caesar imposed on his empire in 46 B.C.

Speaking of celebrations: Because this is the magazine of the Daughters of the American Revolution, it’s appropriate to note that we recently celebrated the birth of George Washington. Only ... when was he actually born?

According to the Washington family Bible at Mt. Vernon: “George Washington, son to Augustine and Mary his wife, was born ye 11th day of February 1731/32 ....” Astronomer Duncan Steel, in *In Marking Time: The Epic Quest to Invent the Perfect Calendar* (Wiley, 2000), says that Washington always celebrated his birthday on February 11, although our calendars (and history books) say it was February 22. And both dates are correct, Steel says.

We’ll explain this later. However, it illustrates a problem that many genealogists, historians and others encounter: Our history spans at least two major calendar systems—the Julian and the Gregorian—which can cause confusion or outright errors in their research.

**Turn, Turn, Turn**

Today, we take accurate calendars for granted and have no idea of the science required to provide that accuracy. If we think about it at all, we may wonder how “they” determine the seemingly erratic dates for Mardi Gras, Easter or Passover, or the less variable dates for the equinoxes and solstices.

The approach of the new millennium (scholars debate whether the year 2000 was actually 2,000 years after the birth of Christ) generated a spate of books about how and why we have sought a perfect calendar:

**Religion:** Calendars not only help record the past, they also “predict” the future. Priests needed to know when to celebrate important events in their culture’s religion—solstices, equinoxes, saints’ days, deities’ birthdays, feast days. In fact, the need to accurately date Easter played a central role in fashioning the calendar we use today.

**Agriculture:** When do important seasonal events—the Nile floods, Asian monsoons, first and last frosts, best time to sow millet—occur? Although not requiring to-the-minute precision, farmers need some means to reliably anticipate these events.

**Business:** From contracts to shipping schedules to navigation, trade and transport depend on accurately monitoring the passage of time.

**Power:** For most of history, control of a society’s calendar facilitated control of that society. As long as priests and rulers held the means to create (and alter) a calendar, they exerted considerable control over their subjects.

**Curiosity:** After thousands of years and uncounted attempts to create a perfect calendar, no one has yet succeeded. That hasn’t stopped anyone from trying.

**Starting Time**

Why is making a calendar so difficult? A calendar requires a reliably predictable starting point, the ability to measure the time it takes to reach that reference point again—not just once but many times—and a system for dividing that time into useful segments. There also must be some way to offset inaccuracies.

We have used the moon, stars and sun in our attempts to fix the exact length of the year. But each reference point comes with its own set of challenges.

The tropical (solar) year itself varies slightly as lunar gravity causes the earth to wobble, while the sidereal year (based on a distant reference point such as a faraway star) changes because the earth is gradually...
slowing its orbit around the sun. The moon’s orbit is changing as well. Steel notes that 1.5 billion or so years ago, a 14-month lunar calendar would have perfectly measured a year.

Since then, however, the length of the year has stubbornly resisted neat division and subdivision. Virtually every calendar created so far requires inserting one or more days at regular intervals to bring it back into sync with its reference point.

For example, the Gregorian calendar we use today originally measured the length of a year at 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 20 seconds. Our “leap years” are an example of “intercalation,” the insertion of a day every four years to account for those extra six-ish hours a year.

The Gregorian calendar replaced and corrected the Julian calendar, imposed in 46 B.C. to fix Rome’s older, even less accurate calendar. Caesar’s calendar replaced an ancient, 355-day calendar that obviously required frequent addition of days to bring into line with the actual passage of time.

The Julian calendar borrowed heavily from an Egyptian system created in 283 B.C. by Ptolemy III, with a year of 365 1/4 days. The Emperor’s calendar added a leap day every four years and had alternating 30- and 31-day months, except for February, which lasted 29 days, except in leap years when it was 30 days long.

At the time of Caesar’s reform, the old Roman calendar had drifted around 80 days off beam. Caesar solved this by inserting two months between November and December in 46 B.C.

After his death, the Roman Senate modified the calendar by taking a day from February to give August 31 days (so the month honoring Augustus would be as long as July, which honored Julius). To restore the 30/31 day pattern, the Senate rearranged the lengths of the next four months. Moreover, the inaccuracies inherent in Rome’s measurement of the year caused the calendar to run several minutes slow against the actual passage of time.

One Calendar to Rule Them

This drift became important during the reign of Constantine as Holy Roman Emperor. He had embraced Christianity as the official religion of the empire and sought to unify the religion’s various beliefs and practices, especially when to celebrate Easter.

Why wasn’t Easter set to a fixed date like Christmas? Scripture didn’t give many specifics for the date of the resurrection, however, it did specify that the crucifixion occurred during Passover, the date of which is based on the lunar calendar.

During the Council of Nicea in 325, a compromise eventually emerged to use the solar calendar instead of the lunar calendar and link Easter to the spring equinox. This ultimately became the rule: Easter occurs on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the equinox, but never on the start of Passover.

But the solution created a set of new problems. The Julian calendar was already off by about three days and drifting at 11 minutes a year, or about 1 day every 128 years.

Also, the science of the day was inadequate for computing the date of the equinox. To show how difficult this is, David Ewing Duncan in Calendar: Humanity’s Epic Struggle to Determine a True and Accurate Year (Harper, 2001) presents a 14-step algorithm that modern Catholic astronomers use to calculate the spring equinox. He notes that even this formula isn’t precisely correct because the earth and the rest of the solar system interact, causing tiny unpredictable changes in their movements that affect the true moment of the equinox.

The council made changes to the calendar—it declared Sunday as the Christian Sabbath and made weeks seven days long—but it did not attempt to
fix its inaccuracies. The church had other challenges, which soon became overwhelming. The final collapse of the Roman Empire under the weight of barbarian invasions pressed Europe into the centuries-long struggle for survival we know as the Dark Ages. The church’s own distrust of science further deterred the will and ability to address the calendar’s problems, Duncan notes.

**A Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven**

As scientific inquiry returned to Europe, pressure to fix the calendar increased. By the late 16th century, the Julian calendar was 10 days behind, creating confusion in nearly every walk of life. Determined to rein in time, Pope Gregory created a calendar commission of scholars and ecclesiastics to find a solution.

Duncan and Steel each give detailed accounts of the complex mathematics and astronomy employed to carry out Gregory’s wish. They also recount the tension between scientific inquiry and entrenched church doctrine. The church had long claimed authority over reckoning the calendar, and did not yield easily to those who claimed it was mistaken.

Nevertheless, the commission succeeded. It set the mean length of the year at 365 days, 5 hours, 49 minutes and 12 seconds. That is still 26 seconds fast each year, or about 3 days every 400 years. It also determined a means for calculating the spring equinox and thus the date of Easter. The new calendar preserved Caesar’s seven-day weeks and January 1 as New Year’s Day, and provided an extra “leap” day in February every four years.

To take care of those extra 26 seconds a year, the Gregorian calendar designated “leap century” years. Only century-mark years evenly divisible by 400 would have a leap day. So, 2000 had a leap day, but 1900 did not, and 2100 will not.

Pope Gregory signed the charter announcing the new calendar in February 1582 and decreed it would take effect on October 4, 1582. At that point, the Gregorian calendar jumped ahead 10 days to correct the drift in the Julian calendar. Many people understandably felt their lives had been shortened by the stroke of a pen; others feared the consequences of having incorrectly celebrated uncounted religious observances. There was tremendous confusion over the impact of the lost days on wages, taxes, schedules, contracts, interest and so on.

Alas, the reform did not eliminate confusion. While Catholic countries hurried to adopt the Gregorian revisions, Protestant Europe rejected it, as did the Eastern Orthodox Church, which still uses the old calendar to calculate its Easter. So, instead of unifying time, the reform forced people to juggle two calendars.

**Time Bandits**

Great Britain and its American Colonies did not accept the Gregorian calendar until 1752, when people “lost” 11 days to catch up. England had flirted with reform under Elizabeth,
but anti-Catholic feeling was so strong against the “papist” calendar that the matter died.

However, Steel raises the intriguing possibility that England’s establishment of American Colonies was related to its own scheme for Protestant calendar reform. The linchpin to this plan was to occupy land astride the 77th meridian of longitude west of Greenwich, England. By a quirk of nature, the spring equinox always falls on the same day along this line. The line ran through Spanish colonies in South America—and it also passes very close to Roanoke Island and Jamestown. Since the equinox varies on the Gregorian calendar, an English calendar based here would have a distinct advantage.

If Britain planned to hijack time, its scheme fizzled out. However, its Colonies did not, which leads us back to George Washington’s birthday.

Steel notes that February 11 on the Julian calendar (then still used in the American Colonies and Great Britain) correlated with February 22 in countries using the Gregorian system. The reference to “1731/32” is called “double dating.”

At the time of Washington’s birth, the Julian calendar pegged March 25 as New Year’s Day. So February 1731 was actually very late in the year, about six weeks before New Year’s Day on March 25, 1732. However, on the Gregorian calendar, Washington’s birth occurred in early 1732.

Twenty years after Washington’s birth, some 170 years after the Gregorian reform, Great Britain finally accepted the reform in September 1752. As their European ancestors had done in October 1582, Americans went to bed on Wednesday, September 2, and woke up on Thursday, September 14.

After nearly two centuries of heated debate about changing the English and Colonial calendars, the public reaction on both sides of the Atlantic was a collective shrug. Steel describes it by paraphrasing T.S. Eliot’s “Hollow Men”: “This is the way the calendar changes: not with a bang, but a whimper.”

Parliament went to great lengths to address anticipated difficulties relating to contracts, monetary interest, seasonal fair days, even soldiers’ enlistment terms. Naturally, it couldn’t cover every base. So, Steel says, the people made their own adjustments and went about their business.

The loss of 11 days was perhaps felt more by tradespeople and the gentry, who had the means and needs to accurately track the passage of days and hours. For the larger mass of working people, the change of date was less relevant, because their work tended to follow the demands of the seasons. Steel says they paid more attention to church calendars and almanacs; the fact that Wednesday was still followed by Thursday ensured less disruption in their patterns.

Almanac printers, such as Benjamin Franklin, had been accustomed to print two columns of dates—one “English” and the other “Foreign” or “Roman”—before 1752. In 1753, they printed almanacs with just one column. But this caused confusion so they went back to printing double columns—one labeled “New Style” and the other “Old Style.”

Duncan notes that the 1752 edition of Poor Richard’s Almanack contains a detailed explanation and endorsement of the calendar reform. Franklin understood the reasons for the changes, and, as a scientist, thought they were long overdue.

One unintended and uncontrollable effect of the change that bedevils genealogists today is that a number of people added 11 days to their birth dates—without amending their birth certificates. “Genealogists need to pay close attention to calendars and date notation,” warns professional genealogist and author Maureen Taylor.

“For instance, in Quaker records [and in the Julian calendar until 1752] the first month is March, not January,” she says. “So when you see an event recorded as the third month it refers to May, not March.”

Further, “if a family document has a slash such as 1720/21 it doesn’t mean your ancestor didn’t know the year in which the event occurred,” Taylor says. “It’s the calendar change again.” A date may also be followed by O.S. (Old Style) or N.S. (New Style), to be more specific.

“It’s important to remember that while England and the American Colonies didn’t adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1752, many other European countries made the switch in 1582,” Taylor says. “But Russia and Greece didn’t accept the calendar until the 20th century. Even experienced genealogists can be caught off guard by this calendar shift.”

Bill Hudgins is a contributing editor. He wrote about the historic National Road for the July/August 2007 issue.
The International Preservation Trades Workshop teaches HANDS-ON TECHNIQUES AND METHODS for preserving historic structures

Photography by John H. Sheally II
One of the demonstrators at the International Preservation Trades Workshop 2007, Dent leaned across a worktable, clutching a wooden window frame in one hand and a scraper in the other. Sliding a half dozen silver bangles up her arm, she hitched her skirt, hiked a knee to brace the frame—and, still gesturing with the scraper, never missed a word to the eager listeners surrounding her.

Beyond her soft Alabama drawl and the pearls she’s never without, Dent is the ultimate craftsman who has for 30 years authentically restored historic structures, one blade stroke at a time. She’s also one of more than 70 craftsmen who gathered in October in Frederick, Md., to share their trade secrets with contractors, architects, restoration specialists, students, homeowners and other craftsmen dedicated to preserving history with the most authentic materials and techniques.

Sponsored by the Preservation Trades Network, the workshop was a homecoming for many of the artisans who had attended the first gathering in Frederick a decade ago.

The most recent workshop was held at the National Park Service’s Historic Preservation Training Center, a spacious facility converted from a circa 1892 cannery. The workshop is, according to PTN President Lisa Sasser, unique in North America in bringing together the most well-respected want to reglaze a vintage window? Hilda Dent can show you how.

This page: Hilda Dent of Old House Specialists in Montgomery, Ala., demonstrates how to reglaze a vintage window. Brick carver Gerald C.J. Lynch from Milton Keynes, England, shows off his painstaking craftsmanship.

Opposite page, clockwise: Gerald Boggs’ blacksmith work was on display at the workshop. Angelique Bakalyar of Hayles & Howe, Inc. works in scagliola.

A pair of maul tools.
traditional tradesmen. About 350 people attended last year.

“Since the first preservation trades workshop, we’ve developed a track record of producing an annual conference based on networking and education,” she says. “We’ve worked with other organizations and nonprofits to expand educational opportunities and provide a network for individuals involved in the trades.”

**LEARNING THE CRAFT**

Three days of hands-on demonstrations and individual workshops about skills and techniques nurture the time-honored construction trades—from timber framing to brick carving.

The craftsmen, bound by their shared enthusiasm for conserving our built environment, also know how to have a good time. These are people who find joy in discovering the recipe for the lime mortar used by Colonial masons, in finding the perfect slate to restore an 1850s roof or in creating a faux marble finish using techniques dating from the ancient Egyptians.

They come from diverse backgrounds—the military, business, construction—and include at least one person who was a locomotive engineer. Some have grown up in their craft, like Jeff Price, who works with his father, Jimmy (the former railroad man who developed an authentic lime mortar formula), in their family business, Virginia Limeworks. The restoration of Thomas Jefferson’s retreat, Poplar Forest, is one of the firm’s projects. Other craftsmen simply happened to be in the right place at the right time and met a mentor who encouraged them to learn a trade working with their hands, Sasser says, even though society typically believes that “smart” kids go to college and “dumb” kids learn a trade.

The event included the first-ever Preservation Trades Career and Education Fair, with 22 companies and higher-level education programs meeting with students and prospective employees to discuss careers in the traditional building trades.

Dent graduated from Sweet Briar College and earned an MBA from Auburn University. She worked in banking and publishing, but always had a hand in home remodeling from the time she built tree houses in fifth grade. She learned to do it herself from her mother, who became a military widow when Dent was only 5, and from her own experiences rescuing threatened vintage homes.

After college, she moved back home to Montgomery, Ala.

“I saw all the fabulous old houses torn down, and it was gut-wrenching,” she says.

She was 23 when she bought her first distressed house—an 1888 cottage across from a flophouse in a transitional neighborhood, a newly declared historic district.

From there she moved on to restore a big pink Queen Anne she and her husband owned. When that house burned she restored it again, gaining what she calls her “Ph.D. in restoration” from the project. She plastered, rewired and reroofed while her sons were in day care.

After working with other commercial contractors, Dent branched out on her own with Old House Specialists LLC in 1998. She specializes in repairs, prep and painting, especially on windows and doors.

Thrilled to be part of the workshop, Dent viewed the event as a validation of her own skills as well as a valuable learning experience.

“I didn’t come up through the trades,” she says. “So watching hands-on techniques from people I respect in this business is invaluable.”

**MARBLE OR FAUX?**

The next time you admire a marble column in a historic building, take a
closer look. That glossy, variegated finish might be scagliola, a faux marble fabricated from plaster, pigments and glue as it was in the 16th century.

According to David Hayles, one of the leading experts on the art, there are only two dozen craftsmen in the world—including Hayles and his wife, Angelique Bakalyar—who work with scagliola.

“I’m the queen of scag,” Bakalyar says, grinning as she described the art as what happens when “plastering meets auto body work.”

No power tools used, just patience, she said as she packed, patted and polished globs of plaster into a brilliant marble-like shaft.

A Maryland farm girl and aspiring artist who was a cook, cartographer’s assistant, cabinet maker and fabricator of body casts, Bakalyar started working as a plasterer with Hayles & Howe, an ornamental plasterwork firm in the United Kingdom and Baltimore, Md. In 1998, when she was assigned to the restoration of the palatial Allen County Courthouse in Fort Wayne, Ind., her mentor was Hayles, who had worked for four different royal families and helped restore numerous U.S. state capitol.

As her scagliola skills grew, so did her respect and love for Hayles. Although the couple, who live in Oxford, N.Y., rarely schedule public appearances with their art, the IPTW is always an exception.

“It’s more fun to show, tell and teach when everyone there is having fun,” she says. “Everyone is very approachable—no one in suits—so it’s a very open learning environment with everyone’s guard down.”

Other artisans at the workshop demonstrated traditional methods of making and using limewash (“the other white paint”), carving stone, renewing antique wood finishes, repairing ornamental plaster and more. They shared expertise on topics such as historic preservation in densely populated urban areas, restoring wrought-iron bridges and building small-scale lime kilns.

“The international preservation trades workshops are a vehicle for people to meet kindred spirits and hopefully get a new generation of emerging tradespeople interested in learning these trades,” PTN’s Sasser says.
'THE ROLLS ROYCE OF PRESERVATION'

A muscular man in a black tank top with sparks flying from his anvil, Gerald Boggs looked like the archetypical blacksmith. Even his anvil, a 1919 Fisher, reflects his respect for tradition in his craft. But his work—graceful garden gates and flowers blooming in metal—is pure artistry.

“Blacksmiths traditionally have the forge in the darkest part of the shop,” the Afton, Va., Smith told spectators, “so they can better see the metal and judge its heat and readiness.”

Gerald C.J. Lynch, from Milton Keynes, England, demonstrated historic brickwork technology, carving likenesses of the steeples of Frederick, Md., into a brick medallion he donated to the city to be included in a new visitors center.

“I try to fly the flag for my craft by using traditional methods—chisels and brushes,” he says. “Students would be massively disappointed if they came into my workshop and saw lots of electrical leads.”

When Lynch, the guest of honor, addressed the entire conference, he told them they needed to “control developers or lose historic preservation,” adding that the workshop was a positive force in preservation.

“What you have here is very special; you have the Rolls Royce of preservation.”


THE PRESERVATION TRADES NETWORK, a nonprofit organization of around 350 members, sprang from an informal discussion in 1995 between educators, contractors and preservationists who felt that conservation of our built environment and stewardship of our cultural heritage is dependent upon the quality and availability of skilled trades.

From the first International Preservation Trades Workshop, co-sponsored with the National Parks Service Historic Preservation Training Center in 1997, the network has fostered educational opportunities and networking for skilled tradespersons. Collaborating with other nonprofits and preservation agencies, the network represents the trades as a key part of the preservation movement.

The annual gathering of the trades has visited Harrisburg, Pa., Mobile, Ala., Fairmont, W.Va., and several sites in Maryland, focusing on preservation and architecture, community, partnerships and international collaboration. An open call to tradesmen brought scores of skilled craftspeople to the IPTW 2006 in New Orleans to help rebuild the flood-ravaged Holy Cross neighborhood.

In its infancy the workshop had a more internal focus—to provide a networking forum so “we wouldn’t be lone voices crying in the wilderness,” PTN President Lisa Sasser says. “Now we’ve evolved to include architects, engineers, historic properties managers and interested members of the public.”

The network is open to anyone interested in traditional building skills—especially those who believe passionately in their vitality and relevance.

An architect by training, Sasser has worked for the National Park Service for 30 years, learning that the qualities people most admire in old buildings are the skill and care of the builders, their understanding of the materials and their cultural environment.

“Tradespeople have the knowledge and tools not just to maintain and preserve old buildings,” she says, “but also to construct new ones that will be as much loved and valued by future generations as the historic structures we preserve today.”
THE COLONEL JAMES BARRETT FARM

RESTORING THE HOME OF THE COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION’S FIRST BATTLE

By Sharon McDonnell · Photography by David Carmack
The 303-year-old saltbox house in Concord is empty now, but remains full of stories. It’s a key reason why British troops, hearing that guns and munitions were stored here, came to Concord on April 19, 1775, the first day of the American Revolution. Its owner, Colonel James Barrett, commanded the Middlesex Militia during the Revolution’s first battle at the North Bridge, forcing the British to retreat. And it’s where Barrett’s teenage granddaughter is said to have taught Concord’s young women to make powder cartridges, after a British officer unknowingly showed her how.
IT PLAYS THE STARRING ROLE in a historical novel about the American Revolution, *A Little Maid of Concord Town 1775* (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Co., 1898) by Harriett Lothrop, founding Regent of the Old Concord DAR Chapter, Concord, Mass., and founder of the National Society Children of the American Revolution. Concord’s first guns for the Revolution were made here on Barrett’s Mill Road. The property is still actively farmed.

But the final chapter of Colonel James Barrett Farm is still being written. It’s called “the most important unrestored Revolutionary War landmark in Massachusetts, and perhaps anywhere” by Save Our Heritage, the nonprofit group leading the effort to restore it. The group’s ultimate goal is to annex it to the nearby Minute Man National Historical Park to help interpret the full story of the Revolution’s earliest days.

“So many stories can be told on Barrett’s Farm,” says Anna Winter, executive director of Save Our Heritage. “Its walls speak to us, and they’re full of wisdom. These were very thoughtful people who did everything possible to avoid conflict, took self-determination very seriously and wanted representation. That day was what no one had wished for on either side.”

Winter formed the group to protect the Concord area as the birthplace of the American Revolution, the cradle of the American Environmental Movement and the home of the American Literary Renaissance—thanks to distinguished residents like Barrett, Emerson, Henry David Thoreau and Louisa May Alcott. Save Our Heritage’s advisory board includes documentary filmmakers, actors, historians and politicians, such as Ken Burns, Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward, David McCullough, Doris Kearns Goodwin and former presidential candidate Michael S. Dukakis.

Concord and Lexington boast one of the richest concentrations of historic sites in America. Yet with more than 1,000 sites within a three-mile radius either on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, it was named one of the “11 most endangered historic sites in America” by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 2003. During the announcement by Wendy Nicholas, director of the trust’s Northeast office, Dukakis, a former governor of Massachusetts and history professor at Northeastern University and UCLA, said, “It is embarrassing that the NTHP needs to remind us in Massachusetts about the value and importance of preserving our history.”

**Making and Hiding Munitions**

James Barrett, a farmer, lived in the saltbox farmhouse built in 1705 by his father, Benjamin Barrett. He was nearly 65 when asked to accept the rank of colonel to command Concord’s regiment and supervise the gathering and storage of military supplies. He reluctantly agreed. Renowned for his courage, Barrett had captured a militia during the French and Indian War at Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point in Oswego, N.Y., and supported forming a Provincial Guard to...
defend against French and Indian attacks in 1757. This was the idea behind minuteman companies—men prepared to serve with minimal notice. He later became one of Concord’s earliest legislators, first representing the town in 1768 in Boston, and then serving as Concord’s delegate to the Provincial Congress in 1774.

When warned on April 16, 1775, that the British planned to march to Concord to uncover and destroy its weapons and supplies and take Col. Barrett prisoner as punishment for advocating the patriots’ cause, he supervised the hiding and moving of supplies. His sons buried weapons in furrows on his farm, hid bullets under feathers in barrels in the attic and moved the stolen brass cannon to the spruce hollow behind the house. After soldiers unwittingly passed by fields where deadly “crops” had been sown, they asked the colonel’s wife, Rebecca Barrett, to serve breakfast. She replied, “We are commanded to feed our enemy if he hunger,” and refused to accept the shillings they gave her for payment, saying, “This is the price of blood.”

**Meliscent’s Story**

The story of Meliscent (also spelled Milliscent) Barrett Swain, the colonel’s teenage granddaughter, is described in *A Little Maid of Concord Town 1775*, which Lothrop wrote under the pseudonym Margaret Sidney. After a young British officer came to the Barrett House and joked that the colonists didn’t even know how to make cartridges, he showed her the simple steps required. First, he whittled a pine stick with his pocketknife, and then cut paper to fit it with scissors she supplied.

“At least, if you are to slay us all, do it, I pray, in a civilized manner ... not like so many wild beasts of the forest,” the British officer said in Lothrop’s account. The book’s charming illustration of Meliscent on the stoop of the Barrett House peering carefully down at the British officer blithely helping the colonists win the war is by Frank T. Merrill, the illustrator of Alcott classics like *Little Women*. Today, Meliscent’s scissors are on display at the Concord Free Library. They were donated by her son, James P. Swain, together with his 1875 letter relating the anecdote—its only written documentation.

When Lothrop interviewed Augusta Barrett, the colonel’s great-granddaughter, at Barrett Farm in 1886, she’d heard the story about Meliscent. (An 1831 account by Mrs. Peter Barrett, wife of one of the colonel’s sons, says eight men were making cartridges before the 1775 battle at the farm.) Lothrop lived nearby at a Concord home with its own Revolutionary history: The Wayside, now part of Minute Man Park. At the time of the Revolution, the future childhood home of Louisa May Alcott and Nathaniel Hawthorne was a
farmhouse where Samuel Whitney, the Muster Master of the Concord Minutemen, lived with his wife and 12 children.

Rescue and Recovery Efforts

The McGrath family purchased the home in 1905. Though continuously occupied and lived in by only the Barrett and the McGrath families, Colonel James Barrett Farm was deteriorating when Save Our Heritage bought it in 2005. Its rear wall was hanging from the attic, windows were broken, vines were growing inside the house, the steam heating and plumbing were nonfunctional, and the electrical system was obsolete.

“It's one of the best-preserved houses I've worked on, despite all the decay and changes on the outside,” says Frederic C. Detwiller of New England Landmarks, the historic architect and preservation planner conducting the restoration for Save Our Heritage. “In the interior, 90 percent of original material is left, some covered with later plasterwork. Colonel Barrett's house remains an excellent example of a mid-18th-century home. You'd never know from its remodeled exterior how old it really was on the interior.”

The facade remains an early 18th-century two-story saltbox, with a later 18th-century west ell addition and an upper roof and chimney added around 1810. Emergency repairs to stabilize the back wall were done by Traditional Framers in Worthington, Mass., who chopped and finished white oak logs by hand.

“We're not only preserving the house but the craftsmanship of the period as well with hand-hewing,” Detwiller notes.

Inside, most original floors and interior trim of first- and second-floor front rooms, fireplaces, staircases, a brick chimney, posts and studs still remain.

The parlor's late-18th-century fireplace masonry, remarkably intact, displays hearth stones of King-of-Prussia, Pennsylvania marble typical of the Revolutionary period. In the muster room, a trefoil cutout—ornamental details with a three-lobed leaf in the center—survives. In its
fireplace, the oven in the left wall, which typifies the early-to-mid-18th-century, was eventually filled in with brickwork, but was reopened recently, revealing its arched opening and wrought-iron reinforcement arch.

Since 1808, carpets have preserved three 18th-century staircases. The kitchen’s white pine wallboards, plastered over in the early 20th century, retain their original natural color with a smoked finish. Several historic First Period chamfered posts survive, according to Detwiller. The main changes were to the exterior clapboards, doors and windows, which had all been replaced or covered.

Aiding the detective work involved in the restoration is the existence of 19th-century photographs of the house found in several books, detailed furnishings inventories left by Barrett family members and records from an archaeological dig. The earliest view of the house appears in Field Book of the Revolution (1848) by Benson Lossing, when he visited and interviewed Meliscent’s brother, Major James Barrett, about driving the ox carts away from the house as the British approached. The archaeology dig conducted by the University of Massachusetts, Boston, has uncovered artifacts from redware mugs and pipe bowls to shoes found between walls and a lock from the muster room.

Furnishings are dispersed in museums, family collections and antiquarian societies. Col. Barrett’s desk, crafted from a black cherry tree near the North Bridge, is displayed in Putnam Cottage in Greenwich, Conn., a property managed by the Putnam Hill DAR Chapter. During the American Revolution, the red house was known as Knapp’s Tavern, an establishment from which General Israel Putnam narrowly escaped by riding down “Put’s Hill” when the British came looking for him. Experts don’t know why the desk, made by Concord cabinetmaker Joseph Hosmer, ended up at the Connecticut house.

The colonel’s sword, four bulls-eye glass panes from the front doorway transom and the anvil from Barrett’s Mill, where Concord’s first guns were forged, are in the Concord Museum. Muskets belonging to the colonel’s grandson, Prescott Barrett, are in the National Heritage Museum in Lexington and in family collections.

Jim Cunningham, Save Our Heritage project manager for the Barrett Farm restoration, says, “Some of this is a search for Barrett descendants and artifacts to piece together the whole story of this house, which was a center of Revolutionary activity.” Some Barrett family members have visited the house where their family hasn’t lived for more than 100 years and are “ecstatic” it’s being restored, he adds. Cunningham has also compiled a history and genealogy of more than 2,800 descendants of the Barrett family.

The Future Of the Barrett House

Despite local efforts that began nearly 40 years ago to buy the Barrett Farm from the McGraths, the McGraths refused to sell. However, its last occupant, Michael McGrath, agreed to sell under the condition that he continue to live on the land. Save Our Heritage bought 3 1/2 acres surrounding the house in 2003 for $800,000, then the house and its surrounding acre in 2005 for $790,000 through private loans, and built a new house for McGrath behind it.

Save Our Heritage wants to raise almost $2 million to restore the house and hopes the National Park Service will reimburse its purchase costs. So far, the nonprofit has obtained $400,000 in Concord’s Community Preservation Act funds, a $220,000 federal “Save America’s Treasures” grant and a $50,000 challenge grant from a Barrett family member.

Carolyn Holbrook, Regent of the Old Concord Chapter, notes that the chapter placed a historic marker on the Barrett farmhouse in 1961. Its inscription reads, in part: “The British march from Boston, which resulted in the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, ended here with a search for military stores,” and that weapons were successfully concealed in the house and grounds.

“I think it’s key for the DAR to provide recognition to groups like Save Our Heritage, due to the fact that one of our missions is historic preservation,” Mrs. Holbrook says. “The Colonel James Barrett Farm Project will allow future generations to better visualize what transpired on April 19, 1775.”

For more information on the restoration, visit SOH’s Web site at www.saveourheritage.com.

Sharon McDonnell visited Massachusetts’ Royall House for the July/August 2007 issue.
Innovative Entertainment

Records vinyl and cassette to CD

Preserve your entire music collection with this CD Recorder.

This high fidelity system plays your favorite albums and cassettes then records them to CDs

By John Fleming

They have been stored away for years, gathering dust in your attic or on the top shelf in your closet. You would never dream of getting rid of them, but you’re not sure what else to do with your vintage vinyls and cassettes. You would love to be able to listen to them again, but pulling out the old record player (which may or may not still work) is not worth the hassle. In addition, you don’t have a cassette player any longer.

Allow us to offer you a solution to this dilemma in the form of the CD Recorder.

This music system will play your record albums, cassettes, and CDs. It can also bring your vinyl LPs and cassettes into the world of modern music by recording them onto CDs! This ingenious system needs only the push of a button to record your old albums and cassettes to CDs. Once on CD you can listen to this crisp, clean sound in your vehicle, or anywhere you’d like.

This beautifully designed, all-in-one system combines the most modern of components with a retro-style design. The cherry finish cabinet has old-fashioned speaker panels on the front. Also located on the front is an antique brass front panel that contains the LCD display and all the buttons and knobs necessary for each of the three components.

Located at the top of the system, under the lid, is the three-speed turntable that plays 33 1/3s, 45s, and 78s. Place the stylus on your favorite album, sit back, and enjoy the old style and sound of all your long unplayed favorite records.

The side-mounted cassette deck will enable you to listen, once again, to the ton of cassette tapes that you have packed away, or you can record them onto a CD in a digital audio format for high quality sound.

The CD player, when not being used to record music from the other media, is capable of playing CD-R/RWs as well as store-bought CDs. This player also has repeat and shuffle options so you can listen to a specific song as many times as you’d like, or you can mix up the order of your mixed CD.

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