



Dennis Historical Society Newsletter November 2024

Volume 47, No.11

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**The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12th, 2:00 pm at the Dennis Memorial Library
1020 Old Bass River Road, Dennis Village**

Members Welcome

Please send information & stories for the newsletter to Dave Talbott at the DHS Website email address: info@dennishistoricalsociety.org

The Apple Pie Contest Makes A Triumphant Return

After a four year hiatus commencing with the corona virus cancellations in 2020 and 2021, and continuing for two more years because of the restoration project at the Jericho Historical Center, this beloved autumn classic resumed on October 12, 2024.

In honor of its return, this month's newsletter begins with an article written by Sarah Lougheed-Gill, and sent to me by Jericho Chair Dawn Dellner. It is accompanied by photos taken by Dee Collins. You can see more of Dee's wonderful pictures of the event, all in full color, by typing – <https://photos.app.goo.gl/JHTdte3jrTBkdbq69> in your browser.



Jericho's Apple Pie Baking Contest: A Slice of Community Spirit

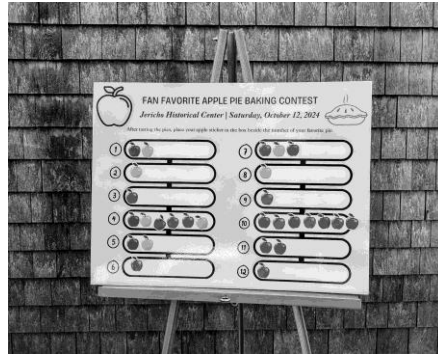
As the leaves turn golden and the air grows crisp, the annual Jericho Apple Pie Baking Contest brought together bakers from around the Cape for a delightful celebration of autumn flavors. Held at the Jericho Historical Center, the event attracted twelve enthusiastic bakers and an estimated forty eager public tasters.

This year's contest showcased an impressive array of creativity, with eight bakers putting their unique twist on an apple pie in the "Anything Goes – Use Your Imagination" category. The competition was fierce in the "Just Like Mom's – Classic Apple Pie" category, with four entries vying for the coveted title. Our panel of judges, comprised of Friends of Jericho and food enthusiasts, had their work cut out for them!

After much deliberation, the winners were announced. "Most Photogenic" went to Paula Laliberte of South Dennis and her golden, evenly baked classic pie. Mary Kuhrtz impressed with her "Bourbon Pecan Apple Pie" in the "Anything Goes" category. The judges praised Mary's flaky, melt-in-your-mouth crust and the well-balanced flavors in this unconventional recipe. Sarah Martin, whose "Classic Apple Pie" wowed the judges with its delicate flavors and tantalizing crust won the "Just Like Mom's" category after entering for the past six years. Sarah has been tinkering with her great-grandmother's recipe and the "Fan Favorite" category was also bestowed upon Sarah this year! Sarah's dedication to creating a pie that everyone could enjoy made her a standout this year.

The Jericho Committee is especially grateful to Red Cottage and Captain Baker's Donuts for providing this year's prizes. Please thank these two generous Dennis restaurants by patronizing them with your family's business and tell them how much we appreciate their support of the Jericho Historical Center.

Congratulations to our winners and all participants for making this event a delicious success! We can't wait for next year's contest!



Thank you Sarah & Dee

With A Little Help From My Friends

Shortly after the delivery of the October Newsletter, I received emails from Board Members Bo Durst and Kevin Keegan. Bo, as you remember is one of our authorities on the history of East Dennis and seemingly related to almost anyone of importance in its history, particularly Quivet Neck. Bo's email read –

Loved the article on my great grand aunt - sister to my great grandfather Edwin. I have that picture hanging on my dining room wall. Persis & John were married on 1/1/1865 so this was their honeymoon voyage! Jim got the cemetery location wrong (& he obviously knows where it is!) as it's on South St. There is no cemetery on Sea Street. They are to the left in the first driveway--the large pink granite marker for Prince & Polly Crowell. Keep the good stuff coming!

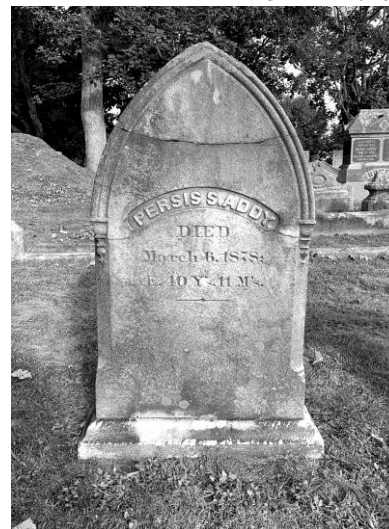
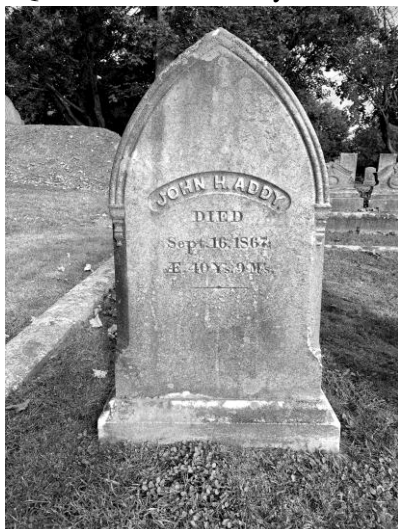
Thank you Bo for both the amplifying information about Persis and John, and the correction on the location of the Quivet Neck Cemetery. Sometimes there is just no substitute for local knowledge!

Kevin, who has become the Society's local equivalent of *Find a Grave* sent two emails. The first - *I loved reading more about Persis Crowell Addy - another 19th century Dennis woman who lived a life of major hardship. And the second - I was walking in Quivet Neck Cemetery yesterday and saw these two gravestones just inside the first entrance.*

These two photographs accompanied the second email. The stones appear side by side in the Quivet Neck Cemetery.



Image Courtesy of Google Maps



Photos by Kevin Keegan

Thank you Bo and Kevin!

More from the Newsletter File

In late August, I received an email from longtime DHS member and lifelong Dennis resident Joel Crowell. I wondered why Joel hadn't asked his older brother Josh who has been a raconteur of local history for years. In fact, I recall Joel once telling me in words to the effect – *if it's Dennis history, ask my brother; if he doesn't know, he'll make it up!* I subsequently learned that Josh, now recovered, wasn't well at the time.

Joel wrote - *Dave: I was asked to speak at a recent Sesuit Neck Property Owners Association relative to the past. Many members are relatively new. Using Nancy Reid's book and Admont Clark's book on the Shipyard I got by. I field two questions which I said I would follow up on. Is there any history on who Stephen Phillips was that the road connecting Bridge Street to Harbor Road was named for? Does anyone know the history of naming Sesuit and Quivett? No hurry I will get back to those who asked by email. Thanks, Joel*

To Joel's first question, I emailed our Treasurer Diane Rochelle. Diane is also Chair of the Dennis Historical Commission. Frequently in the past, I have directed queries about historic homes in Dennis to her. The DHC is the source of such records for the Massachusetts Historical Commission. I thought it was a long shot seeking information about a road and was amazed at the results! The following is condensed from a 6 page pdf.

If anyone would like the entire pdf, email info@dennishistoricalsociety.org and I will be pleased to send it to you.

The answers to Joel's other questions were found in the *Gazetteer of Dennis* –

Sesuit Neck - Bounded on the north by Cape Cod Bay, on the east and south by Sesuit Harbor and Creek. It has been variously called Suet and Sesuet, the Indian name's meaning now uncertain. First settlers of the Neck were primarily Crowells. See also Hen Neck.

Hen Neck - Another name for Sesuit Neck, for the many chickens and poultry that were raised there.

Quivett Neck - A neck of land in the northeastern most portion of the town. The land was at first settled by the Sears family, later by Howes and Crowells. Settlement was toward the west end of the neck, near what is now Sesuit Harbor, which served both Sesuit and Quivett Necks. The eastern portion of the neck was used for pasture, later cranberry bogs and saltworks.

And finally, a quotation written by Col. Thacher; from the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. XIV, Issue No, 1", published in 1860 – "*Sissuit was the Indian name of a portion of the northeasterly part of what is now the town of Dennis.*

Beginning at the West was Nobscusset, next Sesuit or Sissuit, now contracted to Suit, and Quivett."

When I emailed Joel to ask if I had his permission to share his email in a newsletter, he responded - *Dave: The Board of the Sesuit Neck Property Owners Association has discussed reprinting the answers in our semi-annual newsletter. We are also thinking of having a history section when we update our Website in the future. The next follow-up our group asked for is a discussion of the diorama of the Shiverick shipyard. So go ahead.*

Ed. note – interest in our history is alive and well in Dennis!

FORMA - AREA

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this relates to the historical development of the community.

The deed sequence for Stephen Phillips is confusing as he owned a large amount of land, but it appears that his home was at 30 Stephen Phillips Road.

INVENTORY FORM A CONTINUATION SHEET TOWN NAME OF AREA MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL COMMISSION Area Letter Form Nos. 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125
Continuation sheet 3

Capt. David^{as} Porter Howes (E. Dennis 3/14/1815 – E. Dennis 3/4/1897 age 82 Dennis Village Cem.) son of William^{as} Howes & wife #1 Lydia Howes (1783-1815); Capt. of Boston & E. Dennis Packet, Dennis representative from 3rd Barnstable district 1872-73 & connected to customs house

Temperance Lewis Lothrop (7/27/1815 - E. Dennis 9/27/1896 age 81 Dennis Village Cem.) daughter of Ebenezer Lothrop II & Temperance Lewis; wife of David P. Howes

1870 Dennis Census –

Stephen Phillips, age 41, farm laborer; lived between David & Temperance Howes and David W. & Mehitable Sears

Lucy A. " , age 38, keeping house
Leucietta " , age 17, at home
Estella F. " , age 15, at school
Effie M. " , age 2
Lindsey Moody, age 21, mariner
Emma F. " , age 20, no occupation
Lindsey E. " , age 1

Genealogy:

Stephen Phillips (Harwich 1801 – Harwich 5/28/1870 age 68 First Congregational Church Cem.) son of Stephen Phillips & Elizabeth J.

Laurana Baker (Dennis 3/12/1805 – Harwich 4/13/1862 age 57 First Congregational Church Cem.) daughter of Henry Baker & Jedidah Kelley; wife #1 of Stephen Phillips, married 11/17/1825 in Dennis

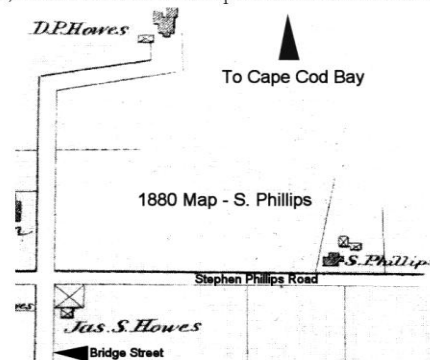
Rosa Robbins wife #2 of Stephen Phillips, married 1866

Stephen Phillips, Jr. (Harwich 5/27/1829 – Dennis 2/23/1914 age 84 First Congregational Church Cem.) son of Stephen Phillips & Laurana Baker; lived most of his life in East Dennis (obituary 5/4/1914 Hyannis Patriot)

Lucy A. Parker (Brewster 12/27/1832 – Dennis 2/20/1877 age 44 First Congregational Church Cem.) daughter of Charles Parker & Lucinda Newcomb; wife #1 of Stephen Phillips, Jr., married 4/11/1850 in Brewster

Eliza Olis Baker Chase (Harwich 8/28/1835 – Falmouth 9/5/1910 age 75 N. Harwich Cem.) daughter of Luther Chase & Data Chase; wife #2 of Stephen Phillips, Jr. married 9/28/1879; widow of Calvin Baker (1833-1877)

Effie Mae Phillips Bowman (Brewster 3/2/1868 – Falmouth 1952 age 83 Oak Grove Cem.) daughter of Stephen Phillips, Jr. & Lucy A. Parker; wife of Charles E. Bowman (1861-1927), carpenter



**Dennis Historical Society
P.O. Box 607
South Dennis, MA 02660-0607**

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Coming Next Month

The December issue will feature a very special article by Nancy Thatcher Reid's daughter Katharine Peace. Kate is writing a tribute to the life and memory of a truly remarkable person.

"Yes, I will definitely be honored to write a tribute to my wonderful mother."



***Happy Thanksgiving Everyone
Wishing you a wonderful day!***

