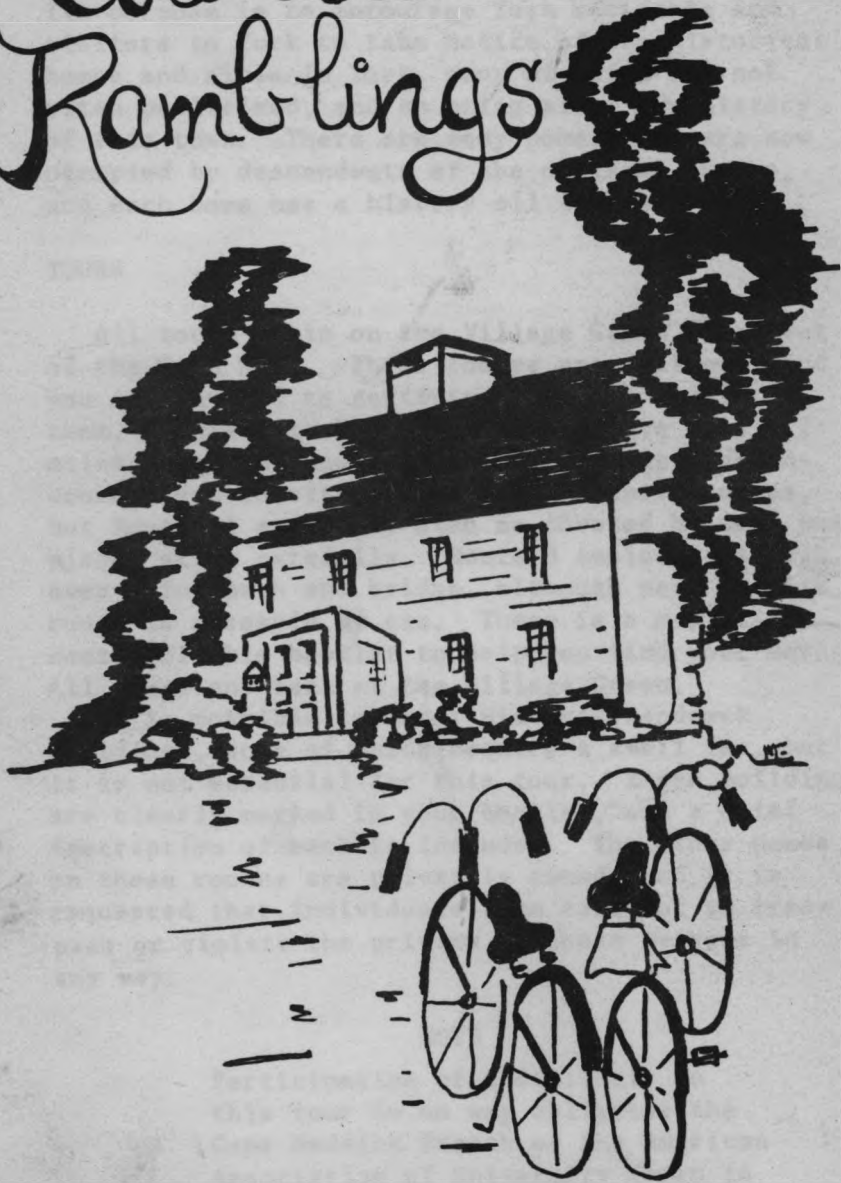


# Colonial Ramblings



A HIKING AND BIKING TOUR OF HISTORIC YORK

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EXCERPTS FROM

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

## PURPOSE

This booklet is a bicentennial project completed by the Cape Neddick Branch of the American Association of University Women in July, 1975. Its purpose is to encourage York residents and visitors to York to take notice of the historical homes and sites in York, many of which are not often publicized, and to bring alive the history of this town. There are many homes that are now occupied by descendants of the original owners, and each home has a history all its own.

## TOURS

All tours begin on the Village Green, in front of the Town Hall. Three routes are outlined, and you are invited to participate in any or all of them. Route 1 is 1.6 miles long, Route 2 is 2.2 miles long, and Route 3 is 4 miles long. We encourage you to either hike or bike these routes, but Routes 1 and 2 may also be covered by car, but please drive carefully. Route 3 includes passage over a footpath and bridge, although part of this route is passable by car. There is a map at the center of this booklet to help you find your way. All tours end back at the Village Green.

It is possible to enter Historic Landmark buildings, some of which require a small fee, but it is not essential for this tour. These buildings are clearly marked in your booklet, and a brief description of each is included. The other homes on these routes are privately owned, and it is requested that individuals take care not to trespass or violate the privacy of these persons in any way.

## NOTE

Participation of individuals in this tour in no way obligates the Cape Neddick Branch of the American Association of University Women in the case of accident or injury.

## PARKING

Parking is available in the Historic Landmarks parking lot next to the Old School-house on Lindsay Road, in the parking area behind the Town Hall, and at the Village Green.

## AWARDS

Awards are optional and not a requirement of the tour. The award consists of an embroidered patch, which can be obtained by completing the tour and answering the observation questions for your route at the end of this booklet. Points of interest that are used in the observation questions are noted as you visit them. When you have completed these requirements, send your answers, \$1.25, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

### COLONIAL RAMBLINGS

c/o Mrs. D. K. Rocray

RFD #2 Box 13A

York, Maine 03909

4803

"Our Grand Old Town, with honest pride,  
From sea-girt shore to forest wide,  
We would proclaim thy glory.  
Ye men of York with purpose strong  
The Wheel of Progress roll along,  
And neither pause nor falter;  
But freely each his offering bring,  
The best he has of everything,  
To lay upon the Altar".

Edward C. Moody

February 14th, 1914

York Village, Maine

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All routes begin here.  
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### VILLAGE GREEN

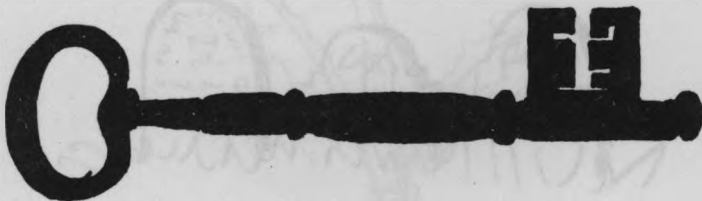
Our trail starts at the Revolutionary Marker between the Town Hall and the First Parish Church. This is the place where York militia men gathered after the Battle of Lexington and Concord. They marched down Lindsay Road, ferried across the Piscataqua River, and were the first from Maine to join the Revolutionary forces. (Answer Question #1.)

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The following buildings are all in the Village Green area.  
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### OLD GAOL (Open to the Public)

Across the street from the Revolutionary Marker and on your left is the Old Gaol. Construction of the Gaol was started in 1653 by order of the General Court of Massachusetts, and, at that time, it had one stone cell. The building was completed in its present form around 1806. Although there were murderers and counterfeiters held here at times, most of the prisoners were sent to prison for debt. There was a special women's cell, and a baby was born here.

In 1868, the county sold the Gaol and the Town took it over. It was used as a lock-up, a warehouse, a schoolhouse, and a private dwelling. This building is believed to be the oldest English government building in the United States.



## EMERSON-WILCOX HOUSE (Open to the Public)

Built in 1740 by George Ingraham, this house was bought by Edward Emerson in 1752. He operated a general store and tailor shop here. In 1757, Emerson moved a second structure and grafted it onto the original building.

The first post office in York was operated in the triangular addition on the North side, the building being shaped according to the last line of gravestones in the cemetery bordering it.

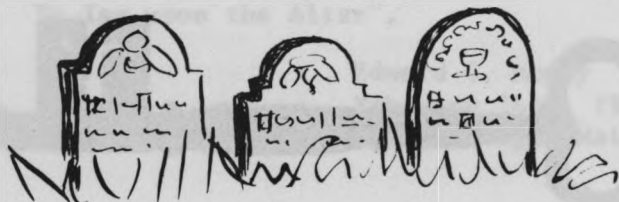
In 1817, the house was sold to David Wilcox and was occupied by the Wilcox family until 1954.

## OLD BURYING GROUND

This cemetery is located behind the Emerson-Wilcox House, and is probably the second church cemetery in York. Victims of the Candlemas Day Massacre may be buried here in unmarked graves. One grave is known as the "Witch's Grave" and is covered by a stone slab, supposedly to keep the witch from returning. Actually, it is the grave of Mary Masson, and the stone was placed there by her husband to keep the cattle from damaging the grave, not to ward away evil spirits.

Many of those who shaped the destiny of York in the 1600's and 1700's are buried here. (Answer question #2).

Notice the sassafras trees growing here. These trees were the basis of many English fortunes amassed from the sale of sassafras roots, bark, leaves, and blossoms. Different parts of the sassafras tree were used to make perfume, skin lotion, medicine, and a new beverage called saloop and sold to the British working class instead of ale.





## JEFFERD'S TAVERN (Open to the Public)

Jefferd's Tavern stood on the King's Highway in the Township of Wells. It was a stop for the stage-coach travelers between York and Kennebunk, and served as a neighborhood "Publick House". The sign out front depicts a troop of Revolutionary War soldiers who camped nearby.

In 1939, the building was in great need of repair. It was dismantled and moved to York, where it was reconstructed and restored.

## OLD SCHOOLHOUSE (Open to the Public)

This school was built in 1745 near York Corner, and, before being moved to its present site, was used for 16 years as a three-room home by a descendant of the Moulton family. The windows were originally covered with brown paper, which gave a dull yellow light. The first book was the horn book. The children used goose quill pens and home-made books to write in, and the ink was made by boiling the bark of swamp maple and diluting it with copperas. The water bucket and gourd cup were kept on a bench in the schoolhouse. Girls seldom were allowed to attend school, but occasionally one or two did attend, and sometimes Indians were given lessons.

On entering the schoolhouse, you will notice the colonial costumes on the models. These costumes were all made by a woman who still resides in York today, and who also worked on the figures on the Mayflower in Plymouth, Mass.

-----  
Cross York Street back to the Revolutionary Marker.  
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## TOWN HALL

To your right you will see the Town Hall, built in 1811 to replace an original court building condemned as unsafe in 1809. In the 1820's the shire town for the county was changed from York to Alfred, but until that time the County Court was held here.

Town meetings were held here for many years, and the building served as a court house and an office for town officials. The building held a grammar school for six months each year. Perhaps over the years damage was done to the building, for in 1852 the Town voted to close off the "middle room" to prevent access from the schoolroom to the rest of the building. The school agent was allowed to cut a door opening to the room on the side of the building.

## FIRST PARISH CHURCH AND PARISH LANDS

This church was built in 1747. The cornerstone was laid by Rev. Samuel Moody, who became pastor at York in 1698, and held that influential position for almost 50 years. Originally, all the citizens of the Town were members of this church, and the building was owned by the Town and used for public gatherings and business. The townspeople were also required to provide land and income for the pastor. The church was given an original grant of 60 acres of land on both sides of The Scituate Men's Row (York Street), and this land was leased to townspeople to provide revenue for the church.

Father Moody was known for his lengthy sermons, and every church service was attended by a beadle, who walked among the congregation with a tithing stick with which he tickled the ladies and prodded the gentlemen lest anyone fall asleep. The services were also attended by a soldier who kept guard at the door against attack by Indians.





## FIRST PARISH CHURCH AND PARISH LANDS (CONT.)

There is an interesting story of one lady of York who violently opposed the introduction of music into the church service, and threatened to dance if such an event should ever occur. When at last a violin was used to accompany the congregation in singing their hymns, this lady danced out of the church and never came back. (Answer Question #3.)

-----  
Proceed west down York Street.  
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### YORK STREET

York Street was originally called The Scituate Men's Row because four men from Scituate, Massachusetts, received grants of land from the Town in 1642, on condition that a lane should be kept open through their lots. As you travel, imagine this street as a cow path. Animals walked this route every day. Lumber for the homes, and granite and big rocks for foundations were pulled by oxen along this path to their destination. Children played games along the way, interrupting their play to watch the York Militia train in fields across the street.



**GREEN DRAGON INN (Abraham Preble House)**  
**(142 York Street)**

This house was built by Abraham Preble in 1642, and was converted to a garrison by his son during the Indian Massacre of 1692. It was the only private dwelling left standing on the main street after that tragedy. The garrison protected over a hundred people who escaped death.

In the 1700's, the house was known as the Green Dragon Inn, and was the central gathering place for the people of York. When this house was restored recently, the front staircase was so worn down by passing feet that it had to be switched with the rear staircase. Notice that many of the windows have the 9 over 6 panes of glass. You will see this style of window in quite a few of the homes on our routes.

The men of the York Militia would gather at the Green Dragon Inn to train in the fields across the street. This field was also the location of the first well that was the center of activity on the Village Green.

**JOSEPH HORN HOUSE (130 York Street)**

Next to the Green Dragon Inn is the Joseph Horn House. In 1745, this half-acre of land was bought by Joseph Horn, who built this home. Originally the floors in this house (as in most others of this period) were made of boards nearly two feet across.

Because for a period of years the doctors in town lived in one or another of the next few houses you will see, this area of York Street became known as "Doctors" Row". Dr. Josiah Gilman was one of these physicians, and his house is just past the entrance to the new York Elementary School.



### DR. JOSIAH GILMAN HOUSE (118 York Street)

Dr. Gilman's home was built in 1800, but he probably came to York much earlier. Dr. Gilman's Day Book is preserved in the Old Gaol Museum, and it shows that between 1803 and 1813 he made 17,200 house calls, at an average charge of 25¢ per visit. His records show that he charged \$3.00 to deliver a baby boy into the world, and only \$2.00 for each girl.

### LT. JOSEPH BANKS HOUSE (112 York Street)

This house, built in 1696, is an example of the early American center-chimney plan. In this home many local affairs were discussed, as Lt. Banks was a leading citizen of York for many years. In 1699, he served York as one of its selectmen. He was actively involved in the building of the grammar school, the damming of Meeting House Creek, and the building of a county road through York.

### CHARLES BANE HOUSE (106 York Street)

It is believed that this home was built in three stages: 1690-1710 when it was a small salt-box; 1780 when five rooms were added; and 1815 when the roof was raised and other rooms added. This home still has the original boot scrape on the front doorstep. People who walked the cow path in muddy weather used the scrape before entering the house. This house also has Indian shutters, which close from the inside, either folding or sliding into the wall.

The trees that hang down over the sidewalk here are tamarack trees.



## THE MOULTON PROPERTIES

The next house, which is on the east corner of Raydon Road and York Street, is the Judge Jeremiah Moulton House, built in 1759. This is the edge of a large tract of land which the Moulton family from the Folly Pond area purchased in the 1600's. The next few houses were built by various Moulton descendants for their children. The land to the right was farmed by the Moultons, and extended from Route 1 to Little River and from York Corner to the York River and Organug Road area.

The next home of interest is several houses down York Street, and sits up on a hill. There is a red barn next to the house. This was the home of Henry Moulton, and here he established and operated the Henry Moulton Ladder Company. His horse-powered factory produced one ladder from each oak tree, and the ladders are still in use today. Mr. Moulton had two peddler's carts on the road, and in good weather he sold his ladders, chairs, settees, ironing boards, outdoor revolving clothes dryers, and indoor clothes racks.

The tamarac trees that line this route were not native to the Moulton Farm, but were transplanted from the Barrell Farm located further up the York River. These unusual trees, also called English Larch Trees, are fir trees, but they lose their needles in the winter.

The next home, also a part of the Moulton property, is the Brigadier General Jotham Moulton House, built in 1770.

### EBENEZER COBURN HOUSE (62 York Street)

Ebenezer Coburn purchased a tract of land from the Moultons after the original Moulton tavern was burned in the Indian Massacre. The Coburn house, built in 1719, has had a few additions, but you can still see the original lines. The house was sold back to the Moulton family in 1758.

## LT. DANIEL SIMPSON HOUSE (36 York Street)

This home is on York Street, just after you cross Hilltop Drive. When this house was built in 1720, a stone hideout was included in the cellar for the protection of children in the event of any danger. Members of Mr. Simpson's family were killed in the Indian Massacre of 1692, and this fact probably prompted him to provide for the safety of his loved ones. Although the hideout is now inaccessible, it is possible to look into it and see an old hatchet.

Another interesting fact concerning the Simpson family is that Daniel Simpson's grandparents were wed in the first marriage ceremony performed in York.

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Retrace your steps along York Street to Organug Road. Turn right down Organug Road at the York Street Baptist Church. All routes are still together.  
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## YORK STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

The York Christian Church was organized in 1808, after an Act of the General Court permitted people to pay their church tax to the Church of their choice. There were 26 members: 13 men and 13 women. The original church was situated on the corner of Routes 1 and 91 and was completed in 1816. It was financed through assessments to members and sale of church pews. In 1867, an acre of land was purchased for a parsonage on Organug Road, just down from York Street. In 1890, the York Christian Society decided to abandon the original church and build a new church on land adjacent to the parsonage on Organug Road. This new church was dedicated in 1891 and cost \$10,000 to construct. You have probably noticed the hinges on the front door which are typical of the Victorian period in which the church was built.

In 1967, the original parsonage on Organug Road was torn down to provide for the expansion and remodeling of the church.



## ORGANUG ROAD

As you proceed down Organug Road (originally called Padlock Lane because all the homes had padlocks on their front doors), you are passing through part of the old Moulton Farm. It was across this land that Edward Emerson attempted to channel water from Folly Pond near Mount Agamenticus for an ice-cutting operation at Barrell Mill Pond. Mr. Emerson lined a channel cut into the earth with barrell staves and hoops to direct the fresh water from Folly Pond. Mr. Emerson went to great expense in this attempt, and, while it was never successful in producing ice for the Boston market, it is a testimony to the ingenuity and perseverance of York men.

## JOB LYMAN HOUSE

Your next stop is further down Organug Road. At the right-hand corner of Organug Road and Indian Trail is the Job Lyman House. Dr. Lyman came to York in 1759. His brother was the Rev. Isaac Lyman, pastor of the First Church in Lower Village. Dr. Lyman was born in Northampton, Mass., and was in the class of 1756 at Yale. He practiced in York for over 30 years, and his son followed in his footsteps and practiced until 1822. In 1761, Dr. Job Lyman bought the original Arthur Bragdon farm extending from the Indian Trail to Bass Cove on the York River. In 1785, he purchased the Card farm and mill, and he built the present house in 1785.

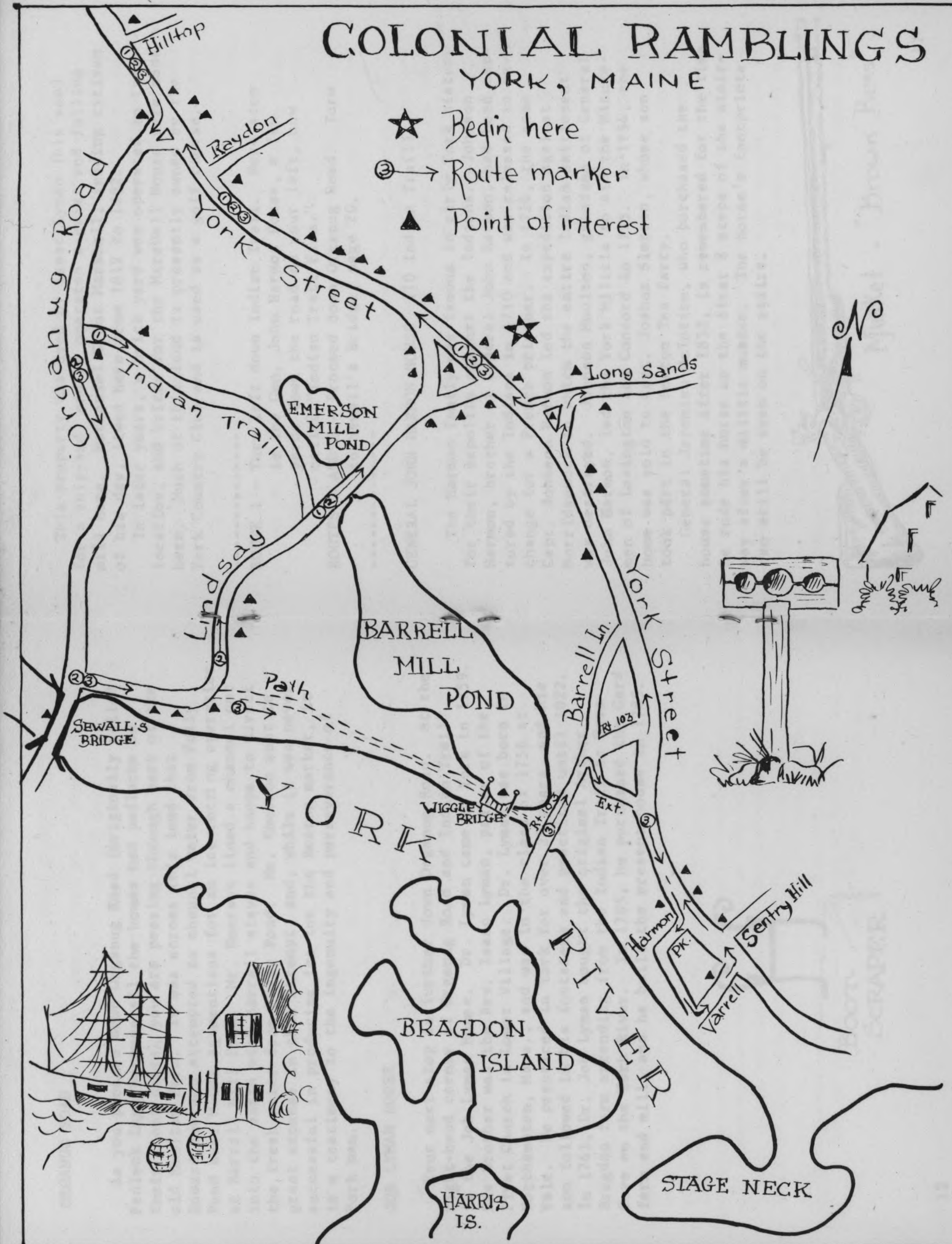




# COLONIAL RAMBLINGS

## YORK, MAINE

- ★ Begin here
- ③ → Route marker
- ▲ Point of interest



## INDIAN TRAIL

As you travel this road, you are going on the original path used by the Indians on their way to the sea before the settlers arrived. There was once a great Indian nation living in southern Maine and New Hampshire, and Indians used to come to the York area to fish and grow vegetables. In 1616, a great plague nearly eliminated the Indian nation, and after this time they no longer visited the York area.

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ROUTE 1 - Turn left on Lindsay Road.

ROUTE 2 joins us here.  
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## LINDSAY ROAD

This road is one of the original cartways used by the settlers of York. Edward Godfrey built the first house in York on Point Bolleyne, the land between Barrell Mill Pond and the York River. The second church to be built in York was built on the east side of this road in 1667, and settlers travelled over it going back and forth to church and from The Scituate Men's Row to Sewall's Ferry at the York River. Lindsay Road was officially laid out in 1699, and in 1744, the Town voted to build a road from the proposed bridge to Scituate Men's Row. After Sewall's Bridge was completed, Lindsay Road became a major thoroughway for travellers between Boston and Falmouth. At this time, it was known as the King's Highway. The Maine volunteers under Johnson Moulton marched down the King's Highway and over Sewall's Bridge after the battle at Lexington and Concord. When English warships blockaded the coast, food and goods were sent to and from Boston over this road. It later became part of the Post Road which connected Boston and Falmouth. With wharves and warehouses on one end, a tavern in the middle, and the gaol and church at the other, much of the activity of Colonial York passed over this road.

## BARRELL MILL POND AND EMERSON MILL POND

As you walk across the bridge on Lindsay Road, to the left you see Emerson Mill Pond, which was created in 1884 when Edward Emerson attempted to establish an ice-cutting operation and dammed the water at Lindsay Road.

On the right side of Lindsay Road you can see Barrell Mill Pond. This pond was created in 1726, when 21 York men decided to dam Meeting House Creek where it met the sea to provide power for a saw and grist mill. In time, all the shares to the mill were acquired by the elder Joseph Sayward. The pond was named for Jonathan Sayward Barrell, who inherited the mill and surrounding property in 1797.

## NICHOLAS SEWALL HOUSE

Further up Lindsay Road and on your right is the Nicholas Sewall House. Nicholas Sewall came to York in 1708 with his brother Samuel. Nicholas built a house and tannery next to the old church. In 1712, he purchased the "ruins of the old meeting house" and two acres, which he added to his tanyard. In 1725, he accompanied Jeremiah Moulton on the first expedition to Norridgewock, and in 1735 he was thrown from his horse and killed, leaving 10 children. (Answer Question #5.)

## HUGH HOLMAN HOUSE

Hugh Holman built this house behind the Gaol in 1727, and in 1737 the Parish sold him the half-acre of ministerial land on which his house was standing. Hugh Holman was one of the "Snowshoe Men" of Capt. John Harmon's Company on the expedition to Louisburg in 1744.

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ROUTES 1 and 2 - Turn to Page 29 for a few last items.  
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Continuation of ROUTES 2 and 3. Proceed down  
Organug Road to Sewall's Bridge at the York River.  
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### SEWALL'S BRIDGE

The York Town Meeting of 1742-43 voted to allow persons that would undertake at their own expense to build a bridge over the York River to do so somewhere between Col. Harmon's Wharf and Mr. Donnell's Point of Rocks, provided there be sufficient way for sloops to pass and the inhabitants of York would have free liberty to pass without anything to pay. The engineering plans for this bridge were devised by Major Samuel Sewall and his assistant, Capt. John Stone. The original draft is preserved in the Old Gaol. Sewall's Bridge was the first pile drawbridge in this country. The piles were cut and joined into sections of four, and then driven into the riverbed by a heavy oak log rigged as a trip hammer.

The 1771 Town Meeting fixed rates to be collected at two-thirds of a penny for every man, two pence for every horse, four pence for every four-wheeled carriage, and four pence a dozen for sheep or swine. The passage of the bridge was kept open free for all persons travelling to or from public worship, and for inhabitants going to or from public meetings. The bridge has been maintained and repaired from time to time, and although it is no longer operated as a drawbridge, the original structure still remains.



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Turn left and proceed down river on Lindsay Road.  
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### MARSHALL STORE (Open to the Public)

This store was built by George Marshall in 1870, and was considered very modern for its day. It was constructed so that the hogsheads of molasses could be rolled from the wharf into the cellar of the store. Groceries, hardware, cloth, cement, and fertilizer were sold here, and very often farm people brought their produce to exchange for goods.

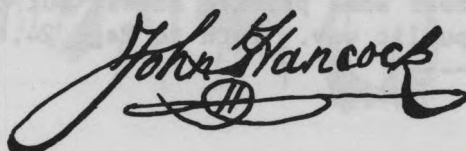
When George Marshall died, his sister Katherine Marshall operated the business. In 1966 the Society for the Preservation of Historic Landmarks bought the store, and it is now operated as a museum store.

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Down a small land next to the Marshall Store is John Hancock's Wharf.  
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### JOHN HANCOCK'S WHARF (Open to the Public)

This property was originally owned by Capt. Thomas Donnell, who had built his house and wharf here. At the time of the Revolution, John Hancock owned one-half interest in the wharf, and, in the months before the Revolution, one might have seen his ships unloading cargoes of tea and rum that had been smuggled past the British authorities to avoid the hated taxes.

The most active years for shipping trade in York were between 1760 and 1800. However, as early as 1734 Nathaniel Donnell Jr. carried on an active trade between York and Annapolis Royal in Nova Scotia.

A stylized, handwritten signature of John Hancock in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive script, with the first name 'John' and the last name 'Hancock' clearly legible. There is a circular flourish or seal-like element at the bottom center of the signature.



The shipping industry grew steadily after 1763, when England dominated the seas. During the Revolution, shipping slowed due to the British blockade, but it later flourished and reached its peak around 1800. After 1800, embargoes and the demand for deeper harbors attracted merchants to other ports, and shipping in York declined.  
(Answer Question # 4.)  
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ROUTES 2 and 3 - Return to Lindsay Road.  
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### SAMUEL LINDSAY HOUSE

This land originally belonged to Capt. Thomas Donnell, who was the first operator of the middle ferry in the location where Sewall's Bridge now stands. He sold a small piece of land to Capt. Daniel Bragdon, who built a house and wharf for his son. Capt. Samuel Lindsay acquired the land in 1795, and built this house. He was lost at sea on his first ship, and his mother continued to live here for some time. The home was later owned by the Marshall family. The son of George Marshall, who owned the Marshall Store, was Customs Officer for the Port of York, and lived in the Samuel Lindsay House. His office was in the Marshall Store, and freight ships would stop there for clearance papers on their way to Nova Scotia.

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ROUTE 2 - Turn at the bend of the road and continue on Lindsay Road. Next stop, a few houses up the road on your right, is the Stephen Lovejoy House.

ROUTE 3 - Follow Lindsay Road to the bend in the Road. There is a footpath on the right going into the woods. Follow this path to the Wiggley Bridge. You will pass near some private homes, but this is a public way. Turn to Page 24.  
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## STEPHEN LOVEJOY HOUSE/MATTHEW LINDSAY TAVERN

Stephen Lovejoy built this house in 1753. The land was purchased from Benhamin Holt, who began what was probably the first real estate development in York when he subdivided his land along Lindsay Road into small lots in 1746. This house was later owned by Capt. Abraham Adams, and then by Matthew Lindsay, whose wife conducted a tavern here for a short time after his death.

## ALEXANDER MCINTIRE HOUSE

Alexander McIntire was very active in town politics, and at one time or another held practically every office to which he could be elected or appointed. He built this home in 1811, on land bought from William Stacey's heirs, and this is part of the original Godfrey tract of land. The house was at one time taken over by the U.S. government, and later owned by the Emerson and Brooks families.

An unusual feature of this house was an indoor smokehouse, with a special flue from the oven opening into the room. This innovation made smoking a part of the cooking process and eliminated special fires and trips out into a cold smokehouse in winter (and Maine winters can be cold).

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ROUTE 2 - Continue down Lindsay Road. Turn back to  
Page 18, Lindsay Road.  
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## JOSEPH TAPPAN HOUSE

As you walk up Varrell Lane, this house is on your left. Joseph Tappan was a cordwainer (leather craftsman) in Newburyport, Mass. He left Newburyport because it was too dull, and came to York Harbor. History does not record whether he found York to be a "swinging" place.

His home is a center-chimney style, typical of this period.

-----  
When you come to York Street, turn left. Cross over to the other side of the street. You are now heading back the way you came.  
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## BAKER AND CASWELL HOUSE

This house stands on a small hill on the left-hand corner of York Street and Sentry Hill. It has been newly shingled, but if you look closely, you will see that it is an older home. This is one of the houses moved from the Isles of Shoals. The front part of the house is the original. While working on the house, the owners have found many wooden pegs used instead of nails. The original fireplace is still in use, and some of the inside glass appears to be the original.

## DANIEL DILL HOUSE OR VARRELL HOMESTEAD

On the same side of the street, you will notice a small brown house. This home is the Daniel Dill House, or Varrell Homestead, and is also a Shoals' home. It was purchased in 1782 by John and Rachel Varrell, who came from the Isles of Shoals. The "L" at the back of the house is a newer addition. In the oldest portion, the ceiling is about six feet high, and hides the original beams. The present owner reported that a tiny white doll's cup and a 1732 penny were found on the property.

## JOB WELLS HOUSE

Next door to the Varrell Homestead is the Job Wells House. The actual origin of this house is in question. One theory says it was built by Job Wells in 1755, bought by Col. Nathaniel Donnell, and sold in 1765 to his nephew, Capt. Donnell, who was a hero of the Revolution, and probably saw more action than any other soldier of York.

The other theory is that the house is the Tuck Parsonage, originally built on the Isles of Shoals in 1732 for John Tuck, a minister. The two theories illustrate clearly the problem historians have with being "sure" of what happened.

-----  
Continue up York Street and go around the bend.  
You are now heading toward York Village.  
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As you proceed toward York Village, you are again travelling a route used so often by the early families of this area.

## JOB YOUNG (JACOB CURTIS) HOUSE (301 York St.)

This home is on the left side of the street, with a green fence and many shrubs in front. Job Young owned this house in 1714, and sold it to Jacob Curtis in 1724. It was sold to Joseph Weare in 1725. All these men were active in the early affairs of this town.

## JOHN KINGSBURY HOUSE

This house is now used for offices by a law firm, and is on the right side of York Street. John Kingsbury returned home from the Louisburg Expedition with a wooden leg, and built his house about 1760 on the site of the present Realty Building in the center of York Village. His blacksmith shop was located there. The house was greatly enlarged when it was moved to its present location, and then restored to its original size in 1962.  
(Answer Question # 8.)

## POWDER HOUSE

Next to the Kingsbury House is an attractive house of questioned ancestry. It is believed to be the original Powder House which stood next to the Preble Garrison (Green Dragon Inn), and was used to store war materials. In about 1831 it was moved to the Little Parade to serve as a law office for Charles Emerson. Later it was moved to its present location.

## SOLDIERS' MONUMENT

As you arrive in the center of the Village, you will notice the Soldiers' Monument. In 1916, the Civil War Soldiers' statue was erected in memory of the men of York who lost their lives on the field of battle.

The small triangle of land on which the monument stands was once much larger, and was known as "The Little Parade". This shape was created by early York settlers when, instead of remaining on Long Sands Road until it met York Street, they took a short-cut across town land to turn to the Harbor. The resulting triangle of town-owned land was loaned through the years as a place for a blacksmith shop, a lawyer's office, and a public hay scale. In 1880, a Liberty Pole stood on the point towards the Town Hall. The size and shape of the triangle was greatly changed in 1955, when the highway department cut it back to widen the road.

-----  
Turn right at the Soldiers' Monument, and walk down Long Sands Road for just a few yards.  
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## EMERSON HOMESTEAD

A short walk down Long Sands Road brings you to the Emerson Homestead on your right, and Coventry Hall on your left. In the late eighteenth century these homes were the center of the elite social activities that took place in York.

Part of the Emerson Homestead is believed to have been the Norton Garrison, built about the time of King Philip's War in 1675.

## COVENTRY HALL (SEWALL MANSION)

Coventry Hall was built in 1794 by Judge David Sewall, a distinguished gentleman whose career as a judge in the colonial and national courts spanned 41 years. While at Harvard, Judge Sewall was a classmate of John Adams, our second president.

It was at Coventry Hall that Judge Sewall entertained President James Monroe. He was also one of the earliest benefactors of Bowdoin College, and a "Sewall Prize" is awarded annually in his honor.

If you look closely, you will see that the main doors of both Coventry Hall and the Emerson Homestead do not face directly on the street. (Answer Question #9.)

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Go back to York Street and turn right.  
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## BENJAMIN STONE TAVERN

Benjamin Stone built this house in 1719 on land bought from his brother-in-law, Caleb Preble. It was the first tavern started on York Street after the Indian Massacre. In 1729, the house was sold to Dr. Alexander Bulman. Dr. Bulman's practice extended from Kittery to Biddeford, and he and his wife endeared themselves to all who came to know them. Dr. Bulman enlisted to serve as a physician on the Louisburg Expedition under Sir William Pepperrell in 1745, and he died of a fever as he was about to return home.

Frank Phillips Emerson remodeled the house in early 1865, completely rebuilding the exterior.

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ROUTES 1 and 2 join here.  
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## VILLAGE GREEN

You are now back at your starting point on the Village Green. Before you leave, there is one more point of interest. Behind the Parish Hall there are three very interesting trees, ginkgo trees, which date back to prehistoric times. These trees were planted here in the 1920's, but they are not a common tree. (Answer Question #10.)



## OBSERVATION QUESTIONS

Answer the questions that pertain to the route or routes that you covered.

1. How many men were in the York Militia band that marched to Lexington and Concord?
2. There is a large stone commemorating the people killed in the Candlemas Day Massacre. How many people does it say were killed by the Indians on this day?
3. What material was used for the cornerstone of the First Parish Church?
4. What is written on the plaque at John Hancock's Wharf?
5. What style of window was used on the Nicholas Sewall House?
6. Do you see any remains of the old mill that used to be situated where the Wiggley Bridge now crosses?
7. What is inscribed on the stone marking the site of the old "Chapell or Oratory"?
8. What is the object on the front porch of the John Kingsbury House?
9. Why do you think that the front doors of Coventry House and the Emerson Homestead are not facing the street?
10. Draw a picture of the leaf of the gingko tree.

