



Progress Report On Building

Having reached the nadir of mess and unsightliness, the Academy Building is beginning to show a semblance of the fine Historical Museum and Library that will soon be our permanent home.

We hope to start moving in within a few months; and can already start visualizing how we will utilize our great wealth of historical material and information to better tell the story of Historic Quincy—the exhibition of many items never before seen by the public, again holding school classes in the old schoolhouse, and undertaking other educational and cultural programs for children and adults; all things that used to be just dreams.

The roof has been made tight and serviceable for many years to come. An entirely new electrical system has been installed that will be safe and provide the best of lighting for our uses.

Fire protection features have been added that exceed the regulation requirements. The most modern fire and entry detection systems are being installed. Carpentry work has been in progress, and plastering has started. Then will follow the painting, cleaning and refurbishing that will again reveal the original beauty of the fine woodwork and other interior features.

Outside, pointing, cleaning

[Cont'd on Page 4]



POURING PUNCH at the Quincy Historical Society's annual open house and tea at the Presidents Adams birthplaces is Mrs. H. Hobart Holly, wife of the society's president. From left are Harry Belcher and John Benoit, past presidents of the Weymouth Historical Society, Mr. Holly, Gordon Nelson and Fred Bergfors Jr., members of the Board of Curators and Mrs. Nelson.

[Photo courtesy of *The Quincy Sun*]

Charles Francis Adams Honorary Chairman

\$150,000 Fund Drive Underway

The conversion of the Adams Academy building for use by the Quincy Historical Society is rapidly nearing completion.

It is urgent that the funds be raised now to pay for this project.

Our goal for the fund drive is \$150,000 and to achieve it will take the concerted effort and generosity from all our members and friends.

Honorary chairman for the drive is Charles Francis Adams.

Presently the advance gifts are being solicited under the direction of Brooks Robbie, assisted by Chester Weeden, H. Hobart Holly and Gordon D. Carr. A team from the State

Street South will contact the business community, while the civic organizations are to be solicited by Roger Hamel.

The fund drive is developing according to the plans of our fund raising consultant, Mr. Robert Corcoran of Hingham. The next phase of the drive will concern itself with the general membership.

To date, we have received pledges and gifts ranging all the way from \$100 to \$3,000. We are grateful for these gifts yet, we have only started. Most gifts are pledged over a three year period, but we welcome cash.

We have obtained a matching grant which gives us \$150 for

every \$1,000 we raise, up to a total of \$15,000, so that your gift is increased 15%.

There are many ways of giving which include checks, pledges payable over a three year period, gifts of stock, bequests, and trust agreements which offer a donor and his family important tax benefits. Of course all gifts are tax exempt. Gifts as memorials will add to the significance of our building.

Your committee welcomes not only your gifts but also your help in solicitation of these funds. If you would like to help in this effort please contact Gordon Carr at 472-2031 or Hobart Holly at 843-3084.

Officers Elected

At the annual meeting of society, H. Hobart Holly was re-elected president, William A. O'Connell first vice president with Gordon F. Hall as second vice president.

Mrs. Hall D. Carpenter was elected recording secretary, succeeding Miss Helene D. Johnson.

Also re-elected were the following officers: Mrs. Robert W. Justis, corresponding secretary; William P. Farrar, treasurer; Mrs. Rudolf O. Oberg, librarian and James R. Cameron, Historian. George R. Horner was elected Archeologist.

Named to the Board of Curators for a three year term were, Mrs. Louise S. Meredith, James D. Asher Jr., Fred E. Bergfors Jr., Henry W. Bosworth Jr., and Robert W. Gardiner.

Curators whose term expired at the annual meeting were, Mrs. Edward G. Hines, Miss Maude F. Wheeler, Mrs. Frank C. Wiot, G. Fred Ashworth and James L. Keelon.

George H. Bonsall, Heslip E. Sutherland and Chester Weeden were re-elected to the Board of Trustees.

Continuing on the Board of Curators are Mrs. Nelson E. Bernier, Mrs. Alfred T. Knapton, Harold R. Davis, William T. Flavin and Frank Holzer whose terms expire in 1975 and Miss Eleanor G. Brown, Mrs. W. Robert Kilburn, Gordon D. Carr, Paul D. Harold and Anthony Losordo whose terms expire in 1976.

Whitwell St. Property Hearing

With our move to the Adams Academy, we want to turn the Whitwell Street property over to the City, the logical purchaser, and apply the building funds invested there to the current building project.

The Whitwell Street property has served two valuable purposes for the society. It was purchased when no better site was available to us. Its purchase got the long-delayed building project off the ground, for it let every body know that we really meant business. Further it permitted us to acquire some large historical items that we then had no other

[Cont'd on Page 4]



MOSWETUSSET HUMMOCK has remained unchanged over the years. This photo was taken from Quincy Shore Drive, with Squantum on the right.

Moswetuset Hummock - - Part II

By DR. JAMES R. CAMERON

Dr. Cameron is professor of history and head of the History Department of Eastern Nazarene College, and our Historian.

Continued from last issue.

Linguists have tried to determine what the word Massachusetts may have meant to the Indians. Daniel Neal, writing in 1720, stated that Massachusetts gets its name from Moswetuset which in the Indian language meant hill in the shape of an arrow head.*7. In the Algonquin Language Massachusetts means great hill or peoples of the great hill. It has

also been claimed on Etymological grounds that Moswetuset meant "site of the great house" or "site of the great chief's house".*8

Most authorities have attributed the name of this group of Indians to their occupation of the area which included the Blue Hills rather than to the fact that their sachem held council at Moswetuset Hummock. It is also true, however, that through the years the hummock was usually referred to as Massachusetts Hill, Rock, or Hummock, rather than as Moswetuset.

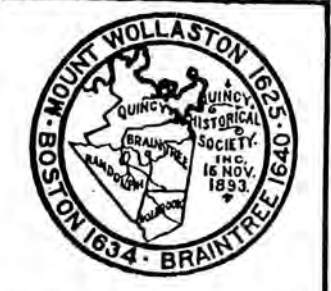
Chicatabot was sachem of the Massachusetts Indians from the time of the arrival of the first English settlers until his death in 1633. During the last years of his life, he lived on the Neponset River. On a map drawn by William Wood and published in London in 1634, "Chicatabot Sagamor" is indicated by three triangles located at the beginning of the neck of land that connects the peninsula now called Squantum with the mainland. Wood's symbols are located on the south side of the "Neponset River" at precisely the point where Wollaston Bay reaches its farthest inlet at Moswetuset Hummock. This is the earliest exact reference to this historic site.*9

In the Dorchester Town Records, there is a crude map stated to have been made not later than 1637 which shows

"the meadows beyond the Naponset river and how yt is allotted out." The map is now faded beyond ability to read even with the most advanced techniques of infrared photography. A copy of this map was printed in 1883 on which Moswetuset is labeled as "matachusetts Rock". H. Hobart Holly has traced the title to this property from the Dorchester Town Records of March 1634/5 to the present time. With variations of title, its identity has been maintained in the land records for about three and a half centuries. The land record is one of the most conclusive arguments for the historical significance of this particular piece of land.*10

The other important argument for the preservation of Moswetuset Hummock as an historic site is the fact that scholars have recognized it as such in every age. I have already referred to Captain John Smith and William Wood who both noted Moswetuset Hummock early in the seventeenth century. John Winthrop records in his Journal several visits from Chicatabot, "sagamore of the Naponsett", and it is from Winthrop that we learn that Chicatabot died from smallpox.*11

In March, 1631, Thomas Dudley, Deputy Governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, wrote a letter to "The Lady



Vol. 1 No. 3

Published quarterly by the Quincy Historical Society, Adams Academy, 8 Adams Street, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169. Telephone 773-1144.

Paul D. Harold Editor
William A. O'Connell Advertising

President's Annual Report New Tasks, Decisions

One year ago on this occasion, I noted that, along with many notable achievements in growth and activity [which have continued this year], we had reached a milestone in our building project; a point that made all the past planning and preparation prologue to the realization of a long-held dream.

We have now left that milestone behind us, we have crossed the one-way bridge, and are on our way toward our objective. Decisions of the past are now being implemented. We now face further decisions and new tasks to carry us on to our goal.

Our immediate challenge is to raise the money necessary to pay for the construction work now in progress. This is absolutely necessary if we are to conserve and increase our capital funds to provide income to carry out activities in the building. Our aim is a first class operation in a first class building. The latter without the former would indeed be a hollow victory. We ask your full support in our fund-raising effort.

Secondly, we must advance our planning for the use of the building, and start dealing in specifics rather than generalities. On technical matters such as equipment, staffing, and project planning, we will seek the best professional advice available - as has been our practice in the past.

But we need your good ideas too. This project belongs to the whole society; not to just a few. It is the duty of every member, not to merely keep informed and watch what is going on; but to be a participant, contributing both your ideas and your active assistance.

Our society is in its 82nd year. We are the fortunate ones to whom has fallen the opportunity for service to the society and its community that to our predecessors was only a dream. Let us do our job well.

H. HOBART HOLLY

More Items Donated

Within a few months, the dust and confusion caused by the renovations at the academy building will end and the library committee can begin to gather and organize the society's collection for display.

Besides fireproofing, renovations at the academy will provide the maximum

protection and atmospheric conditions for preserving our valuable possessions.

Mrs. Rudolf Oberg, chairman of the Library Committee is happy to report the following donations to the society's collection since the last issue of our newsletter.

- Thorpe Babcock - Letter about Adams Academy.
- South Shore Tile - Old business records of F. H. Crane & Sons.
- William Small - Yacht Club Records.
- Mrs. Beatrice V. Nicholas - Photo of Yacht Resolute.
- Mrs. James Coady - 3 books of war records of Mass.
- Miss Marion Rogers - Patch work quilt.
- Mr. Warren Spencer - 3 books.
- Miss Dorothea M. Hannon - Study of Thomas Morton.
- Miss Dorothy Newton - Data about West Point Cadets visit to Quincy 1821.
- Miss Gertrude Miller - Collections of letters, objects and newspapers.
- Violet B. Artis - Quincy Daily Ledger June 28, 1913.
- Robert Schurch - Booklet of Commodores Club of America, Inc.
- Miss Gertrude Miller - Copy of photos and diary of Abner Packard.
- Mrs. Hattimay Thomas - Picture and newspapers.



SOCIETY ARCHEOLOGIST, Dr. George R. Horner, supervises the excavation at the site of the Hancock Well on Adams Academy property. Director of the dig is North Quincy High School teacher Dick Riley [right] assisted by Daniel Lutts a teacher at Quincy High School [center]. Quincy students have also assisted at the dig.
[Photo courtesy of The Quincy Sun]

John S. Atwood - Geneological chart of Adams Family May 1798.

Mrs. Edmund Ritter - Ash tray of the Dorothy Quincy Homestead.

Mrs. Edna Nicoll - Illustrated map of Quincy framed.

Research Is Our Business

Research is an important activity of any real historical society.

Whether a project be large or small, the results constitute a real contribution to our historical records. All members are urged to engage in research in their own particular fields of interest and make their findings part of our library resources.

For the benefit of those who may wish to participate with others in larger society projects, we list below some historical, archeologic and genealogical, that are now in progress and the names of those heading them.

General Palmer and Germantown - Dr. Cameron.

The function of the southwest room in the John Quincy Adams Birthplace when John and Abigail lived there - Mrs. Knapton and Mrs. Holly.

Some Quincy Family lines - Mrs. Holly.

Capt. Wollaston and his expedition of 1625 - Dr. Cameron and Mr. Holly.

The Hancock Well - Dr. Horner and Mr. Riley.

Mount Wollaston sites - Dr. Horner.

Yacht and small boat building in Quincy - Mr. Holly.

Moswetuset Hummock - - Part II

[Cont'd from Page 2]

idget, Countess of Lincoln" in which he related, "Upon the river of Naponset, near to the Massachusetts fields, dwelleth hicatalbott, who hath between fifty and sixty subjects." *12

Fifty years later William Hubbard wrote a General history of New England from e Discovery to 1680. This work was recognized and awarded by the General Court of the Massachusetts Bay colony. Used in manuscript form by both Thomas Hutchinson and Cotton Mather, his work was not published until the early nineteenth century. Hubbard tells of the general rendezvous of all the Massachusetts Indians at the seat of the great sagamore.*13. Although Hubbard did not name Moswetuset Hummock, that was the seat of the sachem and the nearby Massachusetts Fields was the cleared area where large Indian gatherings were held.

Cotton Mather in his Magnalia Christi moralizes on the plague that destroyed the Massachusetts Indians, but adds nothing to the origins of the name of the Commonwealth. Daniel Neal wrote in 1720:

*The Sachem or Sagamore, who governed the Indians in this Part of the Country, when the English came first hither, had his seat on a small Hill or Upland, containing perhaps an acre and a half about two Leagues to the Southward of Boston, fronting Mount Bay, and back'd with a large Tract of Salt Meadow; which Hill or Hummoth is now in Possession of Capt. John Billings....**14

Harvard's great librarian of the nineteenth century, Justin Winsor, has called Thomas Hutchinson's work the first general history of Massachusetts Bay, John Stetson Barry's the second, and John Gorham Palfrey's the best.*15. All three of these writers maintain the significance of Moswetuset Hummock.

*7 Daniel Neal, *The History of New England*, 2 vols. [London: 1720], vol. II, p. 580.

*8 George Q. Hill, "What Does Moswetuset Mean?", paper presented before the Quincy Historical Society, October 27, 1961.

*9 New England's Prospect.

*10 See appendix for record of possession.

*11 James Kendall Hosmer [ed.], *Winthrop's Journal: History of New England, 1630 - 1649*, 2 vols., *Original Narratives of Early American History*, ed. by J. Franklin Jameson [New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1908], vol. I, pp. 59, 62, 111.

*12 Alexander Young, *Chronicles of the First Planters of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay from 1623 to 1636* [Boston: Charles C. Little and James Brown, 1846], pp. 303 - 341.

*13 [Cambridge: Massachusetts Historical Society, 1815], p. 32.

*14 Neal, loc. cit.

*15 Thomas Hutchinson, *History of the Colony Province of Massachusetts-Bay*, ed. by Lawrence Shaw Mayo, 3 vols. [Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1936]; John Stetson Barry, *The History of Massachusetts*, 3 vols. [Boston: Phillips, Sampson, and Company, 1855 - 57]; John Gorham Palfrey, *History of New England During the Stuart Dynasty*, 5 vols. [New York: A.M.S. Press, 1966].

*

The story of Moswetuset Hummock will be concluded in the next newsletter.

Flavin Announces Two Programs

William T. Flavin, chairman of the Program Committee, announces the first two programs for the upcoming year.

On Oct. 24, John Graham, executive director of Quincy Heritage will speak on projects planned for the city's 350th Anniversary and Bicentennial celebrations.

The second program on Nov. 21, will feature Atty. Robert Hagopian whose subject will be the Boston Tea Party.

A total of seven programs are scheduled this year on a variety of subjects. The program card for the coming season will be distributed in the near future.

Progress Report On Building

[Cont'd from Page 1]

and painting are the major jobs remaining. And, of course, the side window closures which, in their rough state, have caused some concern will be finished in a manner that will not detract from the appearance of our Building.

Remarkably little changed inside or out to suit its new function, the old Adams Academy Building now has an assured future and a new useful purpose. It will be a handsomer Quincy landmark than it has

been for many years. It will not just be a relic but as a new Historical Museum and Library Building, it will be a viable living asset to Quincy and its area. Here we will at long last have the opportunity to provide a real historical, educational and cultural center for Historic Quincy.

A first class operation in a first class building is our objective. To fulfill these purposes, we ask your generous support of our Fund-raising Campaign.

Whitwell St. Property Hearing

[Cont'd from Page 2]

place to house. Thus it has played an important role in the progress that now has made it expendable.

On Tuesday, Sept. 3, at 7:30,

the Quincy City Council will hold a hearing on the taking of land for the City Hospital.

Since this includes the society's property on Whitwell Street, members are urged to attend and show their interest.

Membership Reaches 986

Membership in the Quincy Historical Society has reached 986 - an increase of 56 since the second newsletter in June.

The membership effort is well ahead of schedule - 1,000 this

year. The members committee would like to take this opportunity to express its appreciation for the cooperation it has received from society members.

SOUTH SHORE NATIONAL BANK

FOURTEEN HUNDRED HANCOCK STREET QUINCY MASS. 02169

 Serving the County of Presidents

The Quincy
Co-operative
Bank



479-6600 — 826-2374

OFFICES: QUINCY - QUINCY SQUARE • HANOVER - ROUTE 53



The Money Tree Bank

HANCOCK BANK

Main office in Quincy Center, with 14 branches south and west of Boston
Quincy 773-0500 Norwood 769-1300

Member F.D.I.C.



QUINCY OIL CO.
56 FEDERAL AVE., QUINCY
Ocean Terminals - Boston - Quincy



Distributors, Wholesale-retail Of Quality Gasolines
And Heating Oils. Telephone 773-2500