

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Reuben Cuff's Domestic Landscape, Part III: Tying the Cuffs to the Padgetts in Lower Alloways Creek, 1739-1798

By: Janet Sheridan



Reuben Cuff's grave in Canton.

My previous articles in this newsletter tied Reuben Cuff (1764-1845), son of a slave, preacher, and one of the founders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, to a surviving colonial stone house in Lower Alloways Creek Township, and drew conclusions about Cuff's everyday life and relative economic standing from both his house and archival records.¹ This article will look at the Cuff family legend and attempt to verify it with documentary evidence.

Reuben Cuff's heritage is legendary in Salem and Cumberland County. The genealogists of Gouldtown in Cumberland County, William and Theophilus Steward, gave an account of it in their 1913 history of Gouldtown, Cumberland County, though "it properly belongs to Salem County."² There are other versions of the story with very different details; all seem to rely on oral tradition.³ The Stewards' version is the earliest published account, and derives at least in part from the Cuff family bible and Reuben Cuff's descendents in 1913. This article will consider the Steward version:

The Cuff family was of slave origin, though in a time quite remote; Cuff, a slave, was owned by a man named Padgett. Padgett had three daughters, and he, by some means, got into the Continental Army, in the French and Indian War, and was killed. Cuff took care of the widow, and she finally married him. He was called "Cuffee Padgett"; they had three sons....The names of these sons were Mordecai, Reuben, and Seth....These three brothers, sons of Cuffee Cuff, became farmers; but later, Reuben became a preacher in the Methodist Society, and organized a church in Salem, and was one of the founders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in America....Reuben kept a Bible record of his own family....his record shows that he was born in Salem, March 28, 1764.⁴

Other versions share the essential tale of the marriage of a slave Cuffee to a Padgett widow. Who were these Padgetts who had a slave named Cuff? Did a Padgett serve in the French and Indian War and die? Did Cuffee marry a widow Padgett? Two eighteenth-century wills in the New Jersey Archive lend credence to the Cuff-Padgett story, but also add questions.

(continued on page 39)

(continued from cover)

Inside this issue:

Acquisitions.....	44
Alexander's Annals.....	37
Annual Dinner.....	35
Become a Member.....	47
Board of Trustees.....	47
Calendar of Events.....	35
Civil War Letter from Camp.....	46
Collections Spotlight.....	45
Corporate and Business Members.....	45
Genealogically Speaking.....	43
Gift Items.....	37
John Rock Memorial Lecture.....	35
Memberships.....	47
Message from Administrator/Curator	34
Reuben Cuff Featured Article.....Cover, 39-43	
Society News.....	36
Salem High School Band of 1901.....	38
Volunteers.....	45

The *Quarterly Newsletter* is published by the Salem County Historical Society Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

This publication may include historical materials that contain language or stereotypes reflecting the culture or language of a particular period or place. These items are presented as part of the historical record.

Research Library & Museum Hours

Tuesday through Saturday
12 Noon - 4 PM
Admission Fee \$5.00
Free for Members

www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com

Address Correspondence to:

Salem County Historical Society
83 Market Street
Salem, New Jersey 08079
Tel. (856) 935-5004
Fax: 856-935-0728

Mission Statement: The mission of the Salem County Historical Society is to seek, document, preserve, interpret and perpetuate Salem County's heritage, and to enhance the awareness and appreciation of that heritage, through its research, collections, functions, exhibits, educational programs and publications, for the benefit of future generations and for the betterment of the community.



Message From Administrator/Curator

Greetings Society members! As usual, there has been a great deal of activity here at the Salem County Historical Society. Since we last spoke with you, significant progress has been made addressing some long standing physical issues here at the Society. The most significant of these problems has been a structural problem in the floor of the second story of the Grant House that has prevented us from allowing visitors into our exhibit spaces up there. In the past month, we have moved all of the collections materials out of the room in question, as well as the room beneath, and had the floor boards removed so the problem can be examined in detail. We have had a structural engineer come in and look at the problem, and we are awaiting his recommendations before we proceed. We are optimistic that in the near future we will have this problem repaired, and that we will be able to re-open our second floor to visitors, greatly expanding our exhibit space.

In addition, we are also hopeful to soon have our back vault fully ready to receive archival materials. This would greatly assist with our archival storage issues and also allow us to reorganize the material in our Library vault in order to make more efficient use of our archival materials. Projects such as these are frequently faced by Historical Societies of our size that inhabit old houses as we do. The nearly constant need to repair and maintain our buildings is a big part of why the support of our members is so important to us. The Alexander Grant House and the other buildings of the Society are as much a part of our historical interpretation as the objects inside, and we are pleased that our continuing member support allows us to make repairs and improvements as needed.

Speaking of support, the Salem County Historical Society was very pleased to receive word that we had been awarded \$32,122.00 from the New Jersey Historical Commission from the 2013 General Operating Support Grant. As a private non-profit that receives no taxpayer dollars from the state or county government, the continued support of the New Jersey Historical Commission is both a great help to us in our operations and a validation of the hard work that the staff, volunteers and Trustees do here. We will all certainly do our best to keep moving the Society forward.

Finally, as part of the process of taking up the floor to examine our structural problem, we had to close the *Farmer Feeds Them All* exhibit somewhat earlier than originally anticipated. However, a new exhibit is being planned with a target opening of Spring of 2013. A lot goes into planning a new exhibit, and much of it is unseen in the final result. The first step is research, and that process has already begun. In the next few months, we will be reaching out to our members and to the general public to find out what materials are out there in our community for use in the new exhibit. I look forward to meeting with people from all around the County to discuss this exciting project. Keep checking our website and our Facebook page for more information.

Thanks,

Andrew Coldren, Administrator/Curator

Calendar of Events

- ◆ **Friday, September 21, 2012:**
Annual Dinner @ Washington Club in Penns Grove, NJ
5:30 PM Social Hour
6:30 PM Dinner Program
- ◆ **Friday, October 26, 2012** Salem County Ghost Tour
- ◆ **Sunday, October 21, 2012** John Rock Lecture 3 PM
9th John S. Rock Memorial Lecture, at Mt. Pisgah
A.M.E. Church. Presenter: Professor Timothy Hack
- ◆ **Sunday, December 9, 2012** December Quarterly Meeting

Holiday Closings: Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Years Day.

Salem County Historical Society Annual Dinner and Silent Auction



Mrs. Helena Hubbell by: George Conarroe

The Salem County Historical Society will hold its Annual Dinner Friday evening, September 21st, at the Washington Club, 72 North Virginia Avenue, in Penns Grove. At this year's dinner we will host another lively evening with an encore presentation of our locally-themed "History's Mysteries" audience participation quiz game. In addition, our silent auction, Chinese auction and raffle will feature unique items with a Salem County flavor. Our raffle item scheduled this year is a framed reproduction of George Conarroe's "Miss Helena Hubbell." The original 1840's oil painting is part of the Society's permanent collection. Helena Hubbell was the last resident of the Grant House at 83 Market Street in Salem. Upon her death in 1929, the house became the headquarters of the Salem County Historical Society.

The dinner will also be a chance for those who have not already done so to meet our new Administrator/Curator, Andrew Coldren, who joined us this Spring. Social hour will begin at 5:30 PM followed by dinner and our program at 6:30 PM. The dinner is a key fundraiser that enables the Society to continue its mission to document and preserve Salem County's rich history for future generations.

Dinner sponsorship opportunities are available. Also, members are invited to donate items appropriate for our silent and Chinese auctions. For more information on tickets, sponsorships or donating silent auction items, please contact the Historical Society at (856)935-5004 or via e-mail adminassist@salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com.

The dinner is open to the public, please contact the Society to purchase tickets.



9th John Stewart Rock Memorial Lecture

PROFESSOR TIMOTHY HACK

Presents...

"The Cradle of Liberty: West Jersey and Early Abolition"

Assistant Professor of Political and Social Science
Salem Community College

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2012 @ 3:00 P.M.

MT. PISGAH A.M.E. CHURCH
15 Yorke Street
Salem, New Jersey



Society News

As usual, the summer heat has brought no slowing down of activities here at the Historical Society. Here is what's been going on:

On June 21st, The Society hosted local china expert Peggy Suitor, who assisted us in examining some of our china dishes, cups and vases to determine their historical significance. This was a great help to us in terms of documenting and evaluating materials in our collection.

Sickler Construction was at the Society on July 13th to take up the floor boards in the Grant Bedroom so that an engineer could check into a structural problem we have had there for some time.

Structural Engineer Rick Ortega was in the Society on July 17th to look at the aforementioned structural problem. He gave us background on the techniques used to build the house and did some detailed drawings of the bones of the old house. We will soon act on his recommendations.

On August 10th, another longstanding problem was finally completed. With the installation of vapor-lock insulation in our back vault, we will finally be able to put archival materials in storage there. We have had new heating/air conditioning/dehumidification installed in the vault, and are excited to see this project completed.

The Master Gardeners of Gloucester County have done an excellent job of keeping our courtyard looking beautiful. They, along with our groundskeeper Bill Jackson, have been challenged by the severe storms and sometime drought conditions. We appreciate their efforts.

Richard Guido joined the Society as a Museum intern and will be helping us with the inventory project. Richard recently completed coursework in History at Rowan University.

Renovations at the Salem County Historical Society

There is some major work going on here at the Historical Society. It is a result of an effort to fix a longstanding structural issue in our main building, the Alexander Grant House. The issue manifests itself in a noticeable bounce in the floor. As anyone with an old house (ours was built in 1721) can tell you, this means the beams in the floor are losing integrity. It also created a significant crack in the plaster of the room below.

We're happy to say that a fix is now underway. The first step in the process is to see how bad the problem is. To do that we had to get an engineer in here to look at the internal structure of the floor and give us recommendations on what to do to alleviate the problem. Of course, that involves removing the floor and exposing the beams. With the floor up, Structural Engineer Richard Ortega came in to look at the structure of the floor. It is fascinating to get such a look at the internal construction of our building and listen in as an engineer worked through how it was built. What we learned is that the beams supporting the floor were far too thin to support the 19 foot span of the room.

After looking it over thoroughly, the engineer will get to work on putting together some plans for what to do to solve the problem. In the meantime, the public should feel free to stop by during open hours at the Society and ask us to see the floor structure. It's certainly interesting and we would be happy to take you up to see it. Keep checking in to see what happens next.



ALEXANDER’S ANNALS

50 YEARS AGO

Pennsville Progress, September 1962.

- Penn Beach Site Picked for New Lower Neck School.
- New Diner placed off North Broadway, near Deepwater overpass.
- Public invited to preview homes at Fort Mott Village—LPN.
- Salem First Assembly of God—Lay Cornerstone.
- *What Ever Happened To Baby Jane*—Grove.

75 YEARS AGO

Penns Grove Record, September 1937

- Elmer Theatre celebrates 10th Anniversary.
- Iles & Shimp adds oil burners to their Sales and Service.
- The snow goose is uncommon and rare.
- By-product of DuPont Dye Works—Dry Ice.
- U. S. Navy Band Concert—Penns Grove-Carneys Point—Re-Hi.

100 YEARS AGO

Salem Sunbeam, September 1912

- All wagons must carry at least one lighted lamp at night in Salem.
- Gas lights turned on at night in Pedricktown.
- First Baptist Church installs electric motor to pump organ.
- First Automobile Races in Salem at Race Track.
- Glass linings for milk cans being made by Gayner Glass Co.

Gift Memberships



What a great gift idea for family or friends with ties to Salem County!

A gift membership to the Salem County Historical Society includes many special features available only through the end of the year.

Gift memberships come in a special gift package that can be sent to you, or directly to the recipient.

Simply fill in the membership form on the page 47 and attach a note with contact information for you and the individual or family receiving the gift.

For the same cost as regular memberships, your gift membership package will also include:

- **Charming personalized gift package**
- **A copy of *Place Names of Salem County***
- **A set of 6 Grant House note cards**
- **3 postcards of the Salem Oak**
- **A \$5 coupon towards program fees**



Ron LeHew and Other Prints for Sale

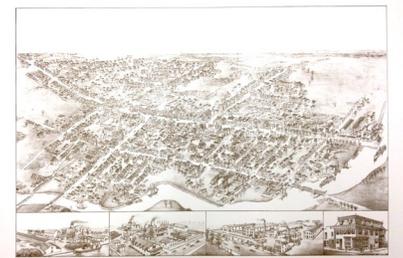


When rose the Eastern Star...the birds came from afar...
With one melodious voice, they sweetly did rejoice...
—And sang that Woodhouse song!

Local artist Ron LeHew, 1945-2006, carried the same sense of wonderment and curiosity about Salem County that he had as a child into his adult life. He relished his role as Salem County’s official town crier, making friends wherever he went.

A 1963 graduate of Salem High School, he went on to study at the Hussian School of Art in Philadelphia and was recruited to work at Hallmark Cards, followed by a teaching stint at Hussian. Ron contributed to many publications including *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Reader’s Digest* and *Highlights for Children*. He illustrated for the Fortress Press and the United Methodist Publishing Company, along with many others. In 1989 he became a bi-weekly columnist for *Today’s Sunbeam* newspaper. He fulfilled a life-long dream to compile his columns in a book “Mist Over the Meadows” before passing away too soon at age 61.

“Mist Over the Meadows” (\$20) along with Ron LeHew prints, such as “Birds” (\$25), “Christmas Carousel” (\$25) and “Carousel” (\$45), are now being featured and are on display in our library. These items would make great gifts this holiday season. “Birdseye Pictorial View of Salem City 1886” (\$20) is also available for purchase.



Top Left: “Birds” by Ron LeHew, black and white print - \$25.
Bottom Left: “Carousel” by Ron LeHew, color - \$45. **Bottom Right:** “Birdseye Pictorial View of Salem City 1886” by O.H. Bailey Co. Pub. Boston, black and white - \$20.

THE SALEM HIGH SCHOOL BAND OF 1901



By: Noel Kemm

The 20-piece band pictured in the photo is the Salem High School Band of 1901. This band, under the direction of “Professor” Charles E. Glaspey, was formed probably in the spring of 1900, and made its “first public appearance” in April 1901.

According to *The South Jerseyman* of April 16, 1901, the band “elicited much favorable comment on account of its excellent playing.” The same report also noted that Salem had “the only high school band in New Jersey.”

The South Jerseyman photo caption listed 18 of 20 young bandsmen and Professor Glaspey. Of the listed musicians, however, Wilmer Parker and Grover Stretch were not shown in the newspaper photo due to a printing error. The “missing” two bandsmen in the 1901 newspaper photo appear in the 1901 photo of the Band found in the Salem Co. Historical Society’s files. In this photo the “missing” bandsmen are found at the left end of the middle and back rows.

As listed in *The South Jerseyman* the 1901 bandsmen were: (back row from left) Professor Charles Glaspey, Richard Glaspey, Walter Bell, George Miller, Warren Parker, George Ernest, and Irvin Rocap; (middle row) Walter Miller,

Clarence Penton, Oakford Acton, Norman Whitesell, Alfred Wagg, John Passwaters, and Clarence Robinson; (seated) Thomas Powers, Norman Hand, and Richard Griscom. Several of the 1901 bandsmen continued playing as adults in the area bands of their era like Salem’s 12th Regiment Band and the Tall Cedars Band.

On April 24, 1901, the Salem *National Standard* reported that a benefit program had been held recently for the Pastoral Aid Society of the Salem Presbyterian Church at the Salem Opera House. Among the performers was the Salem High School Band. Was this the “first public performance” of the SHS Band reported by *The South Jerseyman*?

The 1901 photo of the SHS Band was taken in front of what was then the Salem High School on Market Street adjacent to the Presbyterian Church. That building had been the Salem Academy, a private school, since 1787.

Salem did not have a public high school prior to 1873. Prior to that education beyond the elementary grades was obtained at the Academy or some other private institution.

However, public sentiment led the Board of Education to create a high school. The Board obtained the lease and later purchase of the Academy from its Trustees, the Board of Associators, and

the Academy thus became the Salem High School in 1873.

By 1904 the Academy building was considered unsuitable, and a new high school was built on the Academy site in 1905. The sidewalk along the north side of the Presbyterian Church led to that school. By 1912, however, overcrowding had become a problem. The high school building was deemed unfit by State inspectors, and State funding was to be withheld until the State Commissioner of Education was satisfied that Salem would take appropriate action.

Thus in 1912 a new high school site—on the present Salem Middle School site—was chosen, plans drawn up, and bonds sold. Ground was broken on October 23, 1912, and the first commencement at the new high school was held on June 19, 1913. The 1905 high school then became the Grammar School. It was demolished in 1974. The sidewalk from Market Street to the old High School site remains.

On August 9, 1739: "I, John Pagett of Alloways Creek precinct in the County of Salem & Province of New West Jersey, Husbandman" set down his will. Among John Pagett's many provisions for leaving property to his wife Ann and to a number of nephews and a niece was this item:

It is my Will that my Negroe Man Cuff Serve My Wife faithfully & truly four years or else pay her Thirty Pounds for his Freedom & he the said Servant Shall be free from all people at the four years End & further Whenever my Wife Dyes he the said serv:t shall be free from all people any thing above Express to the Contrary notwithstanding.⁵

Though making a key connection between a slave (as a servant who was not free) named Cuff and Pagetts/Padgetts, and revealing a widow Padgett, there are also conflicts between the legend and the facts of this record. First, John Pagett's death in 1739 could not have been due to the French and Indian War (1755-1763), nor even King George's War (1744-1748), both of which drew upon New Jersey militia. When John Pagett put down his will on August 9, he was "sick and weak of body," and his witnesses, Jonathan Waddington, Richard Bradford, and Joseph Hancock were local people. So, John Pagett was not off fighting when he died, sometime before December 4, 1739, the date of his inventory. Also, the statement that Padgett was in the Continental Army is erroneous. The provincial regiment was known as the "Jersey Blues," not the Continental Army, which formed after the outbreak of the American Revolution.⁶ The story doesn't work if he fought in the Revolution; the three Cuff sons were born in the 1760s. Unfortunately, records of colonial military enlistments before the Revolution are scant, but thus far the name Pagett/Padgett is not in any surviving record.⁷

The second conflict is that John and Ann Pagett apparently had no children; he willed items only to nephews and a niece, so they were not the parents of the three Padgett daughters in the story. Thirdly, Ann Pagett died the following year, so she could not be the mother of Reuben, Mordecai and Seth Cuff.

Cuff's manumission was a relatively early example of a Delaware Valley trend that gained momentum as the eighteenth century wore on. The trend of freeing slaves in wills began in Philadelphia in 1735 among more prominent Quakers responding to the antislavery agitation of their time.⁸ Friends were feeling the inconsistency between the practice of slavery and their religious beliefs, but were not ready to outright divest themselves, at least in their lifetimes, of their significant investment in human chattel and its role in their economic prosperity. A willed manumission was a compromise. This practice was also noted in Monmouth County, New Jersey among Quakers.⁹

Quakers led the way in all manumissions in both urban and rural areas around Philadelphia, though it was a minority of

Quakers who acted. Smaller numbers of other religions, especially Anglicans but also a few Presbyterians and Baptists, also manumitted slaves.¹⁰ Was John Padgett a Quaker? The Padgetts were descended from French Huguenots, Calvinistic Protestants similar to Presbyterians. Their ancestor John Pagett, a weaver of Stow Creek Township, purchased 500 acres on Stow Creek in 1703. A clue to their affiliation was found in Ann Pagett's account of her estate after her death in 1740. In it were listed "moneys paid to Abraham Reeves for a Subscription of John Pagetts the Building a Meeting House at Cohansie," and more to Thomas Pagett, executor of John Pagett "for building a Pew & Glazing a Window in Cohansie Meeting House." The term "meeting house" in the eighteenth century was universal across religious sects, versus its modern association with Quakers. Both John and his brother Thomas were contributors to the building of a new Presbyterian meeting house in Greenwich 1735.¹¹ Thomas Padgett, Jr. was involved in the Logtown Presbyterian Church, founded around 1750 in Harmersville.¹² So John Pagett's act was a more unusual example of Presbyterian manumission, and shows the influence Quaker reformers were having on non-Quakers in the region.

Nevertheless, John Pagett's will of 1739 proves a connection between a freed slave named Cuff and a widow Pagett, and locates them in Lower Alloways Creek where Reuben Cuff lived in 1798.¹³ Cuff had the choice of buying his freedom in 1739 or serving the widow Ann Padgett until 1743 when he would be "free from all people."

Ann Pagett died sometime before March 6, 1739/40 without a will, and her "only son" William Murdoch applied to the county surrogate to act as her administrator.¹⁴ Ann had been the widow of bricklayer John Murdoch of Mannington, whose 1723 will mentioned his wife Anne, son William and two daughters—Margrett married to Robert Conneway, and the other unnamed.¹⁵ Therefore Ann Padgett, but not John, was the mother of three children, but only two daughters, not the legendary three. Ann Pagett's probate account failed to reveal a third daughter by payments Murdoch made to Robert Conway and John Smith, her daughters' husbands who made claims on her estate in 1740.

Cuff was not the only Pagett slave. Among the items willed to Ann Pagett by her husband John were all of his "White and negroe servants." His probate inventory of December 4, 1739 listed among his belongings "White Servants and Negros" valued at a combined 60 pounds, a bit more than his seven beds and furniture valued at 58 pounds, and roughly ten percent of his net worth of 585 pounds. There is no accounting, however, of how many individuals this amount of money stood for. The value of the white servants would be the time owed on what were probably seven-year indentures to their master, John Pagett. The value on the "Negros," who were enslaved, would have been the market value of their bodies. But we cannot discern the values of

Item it is my Will that my Negroe Man Cuff serve my Wife faithfully & truly four years or else pay her thirty pounds for his freedom and he the said Servant shall be free from all people at the four years end And further when ever my Wife dyes he the said Servant shall be free from all people any thing above- except to the contrary notwithstanding Item I give & devise unto my Nephew John Pagett the Elder

Above: The terms of Cuff's freedom in John Pagett's will, 1739/40.
Source: NJ Archive, Salem County Wills 675Q.

willing all of his lands to his wife, Rebecca, who he identified as a Quaker.²⁰ This was six years after the French and Indian War ended and five years after Reuben was born, so this rules out the widow Rebecca Pagett as Reuben's mother.

each from this aggregated record of 60 pounds. Murdoch's inventory of his mother's estate dated March 8, 1739/1740, however, included "2 white Servants Time & three Negroes" all valued at 20 pounds.¹⁷ In just three months the value of her servants and slaves were reduced by two-thirds, suggesting she had fewer bondsmen by then. The difference of forty pounds may be partly accounted for by the absence of Cuffee, whether he purchased his own freedom right away or was liberated by Ann Pagett's death. There was no evidence of that transaction. And how Cuff alone among the Pagett slaves gained the favor of his freedom is not answered in these documents.

Cuff's age in 1740 is not apparent. It is likely that he was young, because the majority of male manumissions in the region were teens or men in the prime of their productive years, mostly under the age of 30.¹⁸ Such men could more easily take care of themselves than an elderly person, who would need support. If he was in his twenties, he would have been in his forties when Reuben was born, in 1764. Thus this freedman Cuff could easily be the legendary ex-slave father of Reuben Cuff.

There is no record of a marriage between Cuff and a Padgett woman, however. This event would have taken place between 1756, the beginning of the French and Indian War, and 1764, when Reuben was born. A racially mixed marriage was not illegal at that time, but no church authority would have sanctioned it—therefore it would not have been recorded. However, mixed race couplings did occur, but would have been regarded more like a common-law marriage not validated by a church or state.¹⁹ So this point is possible, but not confirmed.

Missing also is the identity of Cuffee's wife, the mother of Reuben. What white woman of child-bearing age in 1764 entered the picture a generation after the John and Ann Pagett story? Was she a Padgett at all? The time is just right for a French and Indian War widow to be bearing children. But she is still a mystery.

There are more Padgett-Cuff connections, however. In 1739, John Pagett willed all his lands to his nephew John Pagett, eldest son of his brother Thomas, and to his wife Ann "the use of my Place & all my Lands During Her Widowhood." The nephew John Pagett died in 1769,

But Cuff emerged later in relation to Rebecca Padgett. Widow Rebeccah Padgett of Lower Alloways Creek, recorded a will on March 28, 1780. She died shortly before August 1, 1789, the date on her inventory. She left her lands and estate to three sons—Amos Street Padgett, Clement Street Padgett and Ephraim Padgett, two daughters—Sarah Street Padgett and Rachel Street Padgett, and a grandchild Hannah Padgett. To her eldest son Amos she willed "Fifty Acres of Land where I Now Dwell..." and to her second son Clement, "Sixteen Acres of Land Where Cuffeth Padgett now Lives."²¹ He was on their land and he had their name in 1789. This Cuffeth was likely Reuben's father, and may be the same who was freed in 1740. The exact location of this land is not yet known, but at this time Reuben was 25 years old, and one year from being married to Hannah Pierce, so he may still have been in his father's household on the Padgett's sixteen acres.²²

In Rebeccah Padgett's Quaker parlance, Cuff was "Cuffeth" and she knew him as a Padgett. Was this because of a marriage, did he take the name of the people who freed him, or was he a Padgett by blood? Miscegenation, or mixing of the races, was not unusual among slave owners and slaves, but usually between a slave-owning man and a female slave, who was coerced into a sexual liaison. The practice was not restricted to southern plantation culture; there is a Salem County example in Lewis Dubois, whose 1784 will mentioned a son, Peter, "a Negro."²³ The will seems to confirm that this widow Padgett was not in a liaison with Cuffeth, at least as far as the record is concerned, because she lived on a fifty-acre parcel and Cuffeth lived on a separate parcel of sixteen acres. And, Cuffeth did not inherit the sixteen acres he occupied. Though free, as a man of color, he could not legally own land at that time.²⁴ He may have been a "cottager." It was common in the region for freed slaves to remain on their former master's land in a cottage provided by the landowner, together with rights to use a plot of land during their lifetimes without holding legal title to it.²⁵ This appears to be the case with Cuff and the Padgetts.

These Pagett probate documents confirm kernels of the Cuff legend. They contain the idea of an enslaved Cuff in a Padgett family, and of a widow Padgett who Cuff may

have served prior to “being free from all people.” It also places Cuff on Padgett land in Lower Alloways Creek, in a continuing relationship with the Padgetts.

The Stewards’ story continues into the lifetimes of the sons of Cuffee:

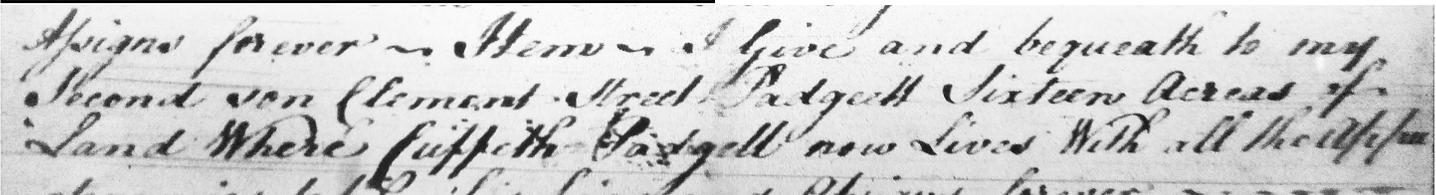
... and when these went to school they were taunted by the other boys as being the sons of "Old Cuffee Padgett;" so they would have their father drop the Padgett and take the name of Cuffee Cuff. The names of these sons were Mordecai, Reuben, and Seth....

Indeed, “Cuffee Padgett” was counted in the 1774 Lower Alloways Creek tax list.²⁶ In 1789, “Cuffeth Padgett” appeared in Rebecca Padgett’s will. But in 1793, Cuffee did not appear in the military census of the township, so he must have died between 1789 and 1793. The military census of 1793 counted Reuben, Mordecai and Seth in close proximity to each other, but as Cuffs, not Padgetts.²⁷ Their embrace of the name Cuff is confirmed in the 1798 Direct Tax List, where both Reuben Cuff and Mordecai Cuff are listed among landowners in Lower Alloways Creek Township.²⁸ The shift in surname from Padgett to Cuff reported by the Stewards lends truth to the story of the school house taunts. But why were they taunted? This may have been an indication of the tightening of racial lines in Salem County and their realization that, as mixed race, they could not integrate into white society. Choosing their African name may have been a rejection of their whiteness and a commitment to their blackness.²⁹ The concurrent rise of black Methodism, with its embrace of black autonomy and self-development, and Reuben’s ultimate role in organizing national and local black institutions, lend credence to this idea.

The taunt, “Old Cuffee Padgett” also hints that their father was elderly in their youth, which supports the idea that the Padgett’s freed Cuff of 1740 is their father. He may have been in his 50s or older by the time the boys were in school.

Other records have a different view point of Cuffee’s

Below: Rebecca Padgett's will of 1780. Source: NJ Archive, Salem County Wills 1916Q.



name, however. *The Christian Recorder*, the newspaper of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia and a voice of the black community since 1854, reported in the obituary of Rev. Burgoyne Fremont Cuff that his grandfather Reuben was the son of “Padgett Cuff.”³⁰ Here, the Padgett linkage was affirmed, but in reverse, revealing a different memory of his name. What did Cuffee call himself? Stewards’ account further said:

The grave of Cuffee Cuff is in the colored burying ground at Canton, N. J., the land for which was given by his oldest son, Mordecai, and his is the first grave in it. Mordecai dug the grave himself for his father....

The Cuff Cemetery exists in Canton, but there is no marker from Cuffee’s grave to indicate what name he was known by among his people in his time. However, a map of the cemetery recently given to the Salem County Historical Society shows the location of Cuff, as “Cuffie Cuff” not far from his son Reuben.³¹ According to this, the Steward story rings true. This location is not far down the road from the house Reuben Cuff occupied in 1798, reinforcing the early presence of the Cuff family in this neighborhood of Lower Alloways Creek.

The Stewards also told us that the Cuff sons went to school. This would have occurred between 1770 and 1780 for Reuben. As free sons of a white woman, the boys would have had a better chance of getting schooled. Education for blacks in Salem County was very lacking in 1797, as reported by the county Abolition Society, despite a 1788 law that required slave owners to teach their slaves to read and write, and despite Quaker advocacy to educate blacks in the late eighteenth century.³² Further, literacy among Salem County free blacks in the nineteenth century was rare.³³ But Reuben Cuff was unusual among blacks of his time in that he was literate: he signed his name on public documents, versus making a mark, a signifier of illiteracy. Another part of the Cuff story is true.

Thus records verify several aspects of the Cuff history as told by William and Theophilus Steward in 1913. The relationship between a slave named Cuff and the Padgett family, from his liberation to the land he occupied, is proven, as is the shift in surname from Padgett to Cuff, the education of the sons, and the location of Cuff’s grave. But

there are still outstanding questions: a Padgett dying in the French and Indian War, the identity of Cuff's wife, the location of Cuff's cottage, and whether it is the same as the previously discovered home of Reuben Cuff in 1798. But in all likelihood, the enslaved man Cuff conditionally freed by John Padgett in 1739 and finally freed by Ann Paget's death in 1739/1740 is Reuben Cuff's father.

¹ "Reuben Cuff's Domestic Landscape, Part I: The 1798 Connection," *Salem County Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter*, Vol. 54, No. 1 (Spring 2009); "Reuben Cuff's Domestic Landscape, Part II: The House and the Shifting Landscape of Home," *Salem County Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter*, Vol. 56, No. 1 (Winter 2011).

² William Steward and Theophilus G. Steward, *Gouldtown, A Very Remarkable Settlement of Ancient Date*, Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1913, 66.

³ "Cuff family is among the county's oldest," Sally Salem's Notebook," *Today's Sunbeam*, September 29, 1975.

⁴ Steward and Steward, *Ibid* 113-114.

⁵ Will of John Pagett, Salem County Wills, 675Q, B4 P210, Microfilm, NJ Archive.

⁶ Mark Edward Lender, *One State in Arms: A Short Military History of New Jersey* (Trenton: New Jersey Historical Commission, 1191 repr 2001), 19.

⁷ Timothy G. Cutler, personal communication, August 7, 2012.

⁸ Gary B. Nash and Jean R. Soderland, *Freedom by Degrees: Emancipation in Pennsylvania and its Aftermath* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1991), 62.

⁹ Graham Russell Hodges, *Slavery and Freedom in the Rural North: African Americans in Monmouth County, New Jersey, 1665-1865* (Madison, Wis.: Madison House, 1997), 74.

¹⁰ Nash and Soderland, 64.

¹¹ John Warner Barber and Henry Howe, *Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey Containing a General Collection of the Most Interesting Facts, Traditions, Biographical Sketches, Anecdotes, Etc. Relating to Its History and Antiquities; with Geographical Descriptions of Every Township in the State* (Newark, N.J.: B. Olds, 1844), 144.

¹² Thomas Cushing and Charles E. Sheppard, *History of the Counties of Gloucester, Salem, and Cumberland New Jersey: with Biographical Sketches of Their Prominent Citizens* (Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1883), 421-427.

¹³ Janet L. Sheridan, "Reuben Cuff's Domestic Landscape, Part I: The 1798 Connection," *Salem County Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter*, Vol. 54, No. 1 (Spring 2009).

¹⁴ Account of William Murdoch Admr of Ann Pagett, Salem County Wills, 674Q, B4 P223, Microfilm, NJ Archive.

¹⁵ *Documents relating the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey, Vol XXXIII, Calendar of Wills, 1690-1730* (Patterson, NJ: The Press Printing and Publishing, 1901), 333.

¹⁶ Inventory of John Pagett, Salem County Wills, 675Q, Microfilm, NJ Archive

¹⁷ Inventory of Ann Pagett, Salem County Wills, 674Q, Microfilm, NJ Archive.

¹⁸ Nash and Soderland, 165.

¹⁹ Timothy Hack, Ph.D. candidate in History, University of Delaware, and Assistant Professor, Salem Community College, personal communication, March 4, 2008.

²⁰ Will of John Padgett, Salem County Wills, 1517Q, B13 P542, Microfilm, NJ Archive.

²¹ Will of Rebeccah Padgett, Salem County Wills, 1916Q, B31 P345, Microfilm, NJ Archive.

²² Steward and Steward, 114.

²³ Elmer T. Hutchinson, *Documents relating to the Colonial, Revolutionary and Post-Revolutionary History of the State of New Jersey, First Series—Vol. XXXV, Calendar of New Jersey Wills, Vol VI—1781-1785* (Trenton, NJ: McCrellish & Quigley, 1939), 125.

²⁴ Paul Axel-Lute, comp., "The Law of Slavery in New Jersey: An Annotated Bibliography," (2005, rev 2012), <http://njlegallib.rutgers.edu/slavery/bibliog.html>. In New Jersey, a 1713/14 law banned free blacks from owning land until it was repealed in 1798.

²⁵ Nash and Soderland, 188.

²⁶ NJ Tax Lists Index 1772-1822, August Tax List, 1774, 141. From Ronald V. Jackson, Accelerated Indexing Systems, comp. *New Jersey Census, 1643-1890* [database on-line] (Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc, 1999).

²⁷ James S. Norton, *New Jersey in 1793* (Salt Lake City: n. p., 1973), 366. Proximity is assumed by the order of names in the list, which is not alphabetical, so may indicate the travel path of the delineator, much as it does in Federal censuses of 1850 and later.

²⁸ United States Direct Tax, 1798, "A" List. Salem County, New Jersey: Lower Alloways Creek Township, New Jersey State Archive Record Series New Jersey General Assembly / Tax Ratables (Duplicates), 1786-1846, Book 1520.

²⁹ Thanks to Timothy Hack for this insight into historical race relations, personal communication, 15 August 2012.

³⁰ *The Christian Recorder*, January 8, 1891.

³¹ Items related to the Cuff Cemetery Association, Salem County Historical Society Library (2011.031).

³² Abolition Society for the County of Salem, "Salem County Return of Blacks," 26 April 1797 (Salem County Historical Society, 2003.MSS.255).

³³ Author's observation from reading public documents such as deeds, incorporations, wills, etc. signed by African Americans in Salem County as well as Federal Census.

“Reuben Cuff’s Domestic Landscape, Part I: The 1798 Connection,” *Salem County Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter*, Vol. 54, No. 1 (2009); “Reuben Cuff’s Domestic Landscape, Part II: The House and the Shifting Landscape of Home,” *Salem County Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter*, Vol. 56, No. 1 (Winter 2011).

William Steward and Theophilus G. Steward, *Gouldtown, A Very Remarkable Settlement of Ancient Date*, Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1847.

“Cuff family is among the county’s oldest,” Sally Salem’s Notebook,” *Today’s Sunbeam*, September 29, 1975.

Will of John Pagett, Salem County Wills, 675Q, B4 P210, Microfilm, NJ Archive.

Genealogically Speaking....

1817 Non Performance of Militia Duty

Mark Edward Lender, *One Step in Arms: A Short Military History of New Jersey* (Trenton: New Jersey Historical Commission, 1191 reprint) that the following persons have been returned for non-performance of Militia Duty for the year 1817—and if the sums opposite their respective names be not paid on or before the fourth Tuesday of September next, they will be returned to a Justice for collection. RICHARD CRAVEN
Timothy G. Cutler, personal communication, August 7, 2012.
“Paymaster of the 1st Battalion and 2^d Reg. of the Salem Brigade.
Salem, August 30, 1817. [West-Jersey Gazette, Salem, NJ, September 24, 1817]

Gary B. Nash and Jean R. Soderland, *Freedom by Degrees: Emancipation in Pennsylvania and its Aftermath* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2013), 104.

Samuel Hoger	Samuel Snode	Daniel Nicholson	Thomas Cochran
Thomas Weaver	George Dancer	Josiah Fowler	Sheppard Ferron
James Peterson	Morris Goodwin	Job Black	Eli Sinnix
Nathan Wright for ap	William Kelley	Peter Shaw	Benedict Reneh
Jacob Gibson for ap	Joseph Thompson	David Dole	Mark Goodman
John Madison House, 1997), 74.	Josiah Nicholson	Clayton Whistor	Samuel Miller
Ezekiah Robinson	Job Ridgeway	Casper Whistor	Thomas Hancock
Jonathan Caulley	Edward Cane	James Amith	William Snode
Thomas Mofeth	Darkin Nicholson	Clement Smith	Adna Bradway
Elisabeth Soderland, 64.	Jonathan S. Davis	Jedediah Allen (Man)	Mark Stewart
Joseph Allen	Samuel F. W. Giffin	Chambless Allen	Ebenezer Fogg
Morris Hall	Cornelius Cossoboone	Samuel Allen	Mark Bardway
David Bassett	Harris B. Madison	Benjamin Tylor	Samuel Stewart
John Warner Barber and Henry Howe, <i>Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey Containing a General Collection of the Most Interesting Traditions, Biographical Sketches, Anecdotes, Etc. Relating to Its History and Antiquities; with Geographical Descriptions of Every Town and Village</i> (Newark, N.J.: B. Olds, 1844), 144.	Joseph Townsend	Job Tylor	Edward Fogg
Abina Wood	Ethan Reed	Samuel Hillyard	Ebenezer Fogg, Jun.
William M Kinna	Samuel Townsend	Joseph Hillyard	Ezra Bradway
Joseph Harman	John Fowler	William F. Miller	John Bradway
Job Sullivan	Samuel Applegate	Thomas Bacon	John Powell
Benjamin Whitacar	John Lindsey	Samuel Reeve	Joseph Thompson
James Thompson	John Sheppard	Ebenezer Wright	Joshua Bradway
Edward Waddington	Jonathan Woodnutt	Benjamin Wright	William Denn
Edward Bradway	James Prickett	Jonathan Freedland	Elisha Fogg
George Robertson	Edmund Weatherby	William Abbott	
John G. Holmes	Joseph Test	Richard Tylor	
Janet L. Sheridan, “Reuben Cuff’s Domestic Landscape, Part I: The 1798 Connection,” <i>Salem County Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter</i> , No. 1 (Spring 2009).	Elisha English	Thomas Hunter	
William G. Ward	John Stennett	William Shoards	
John Bogs	David Hickman	John M. Stout	
Josiah Townsend	Charles Councillor	James H. Biddle	
George Davis of William Murdoch	John Woodside, Jr.	Washington Smith	
Richard Jerman	Noah Jones	Daniel Stout	

Will of John Pagett, Salem County Wills, 675Q, B4 P223, Microfilm, NJ Archive.

Library Acquisitions

- Acton, James N. Jr.**, Salem, NJ. Vessel license, under 20 tons, built 1886. (2012.012)
- Bowen, Joseph**, Pennsville, NJ. Volunteer Manual from Salem Hospital 1957. (2012.009)
- Bunting, Dorothy**, Pennsville, NJ. Funeral cards for Mary Elizabeth Davis 1910, Bertha S. Link 1910 and Isabella Hancock 1913. (2012.013)
- Carpenter, John S. and Emilie W. Jr.**, Salem, NJ. Salem Memorial Hospital publications, Follies of 1958 and 1959, Pointers News 1958 and 1959, patient Handbook 1958. Letter and certification regarding Bicentennial re-enactment of General Anthony Wayne's Great Cow Chase 1976. (2012.008)
- D.A.R., Oak Tree Chapter, via Trudy O'Hare**, Salem NJ. Book: *John Barry, An American Hero in the Age of Sail*. (2012.023)
- Ellison, Debbie**, Pennsville, NJ. Postcard of *The Cove, River Shore, Near Salem*. (2012.014)
- Estes, Kenneth**, Pittsgrove, NJ. Silas Green birth record, Methodist tickets 1869 & 1870, 27 photos mostly of Brace family, funeral cards for I. Nelson Smith, Tamson B. Smith, Ella S. Newkirk, and candidate notice for Miss Virginia Brace. (2011.074)
- Flinchpugh, Mark**, Springfield, MO. Book, *Letters Home From Civil War* letters and picture. (2012.018)
- Green, Sally**, Palmer Lake, CO. CD of Charles H. Morrison Civil War letters and picture. (2012.007)
- Griscom, James C. Jr.**, Sewell, NJ. Quaker marriage certificate for John Stewert Jr. and Hannah Butcher, both of Alloways Creek, 1770. (2012.020)
- Hathaway, Trudi**, Woodstown, NJ. 1799 Deed, Monmouth Township, Thomas and Prudence Roberts, Abner and Mary Beesley to Joseph and Margaret Harris. (2012.015)
- Maltman, Jane**, Pennsville, NJ. DVD recorded by donor of 2012 DAR Road Rally. (2012.021)
- Miller, Lee White**, Stockton, CA. Book, *A Family History of the Descendants and Ancestors of Frankliin White and Delilah Duell* by Lee White Miller. (2012.005)
- Morris Marks**, Salem, NJ. DVD made from VHS tape filmed by Morris Marks, narrated by the late Bill Waddington in 1985. (2012.017)
- Owen, Lawrence B., M.D.**, Pilesgrove, NJ. 1930 Calendar Wriggins & Son, Woodstown. (2012.004)
- Pierce, Donald L.**, Salem, NJ. 1963 Supply catalog distributed by Morton's Radio, 219 E. Broadway, Salem. (2011.076)
- Price, Barbara**, Wenonah, NJ. Book, *Descendants of George Avis of Woolwich Township, Gloucester County, NJ. Part 1 and 2*. By Barbara Price. (2012.024)
- Salem High School Alumni Association via Barbara Peterson**, Salem, NJ. Salem High School Yearbook 2012. (2012.025)
- Stout, Ivan L.**, Dover, DE. School reports made to William H. Reed, Superintendent, primarily 1874-1877. (2011.079)

Museum Acquisitions

- Theresa Smith**, Pennsville, NJ. Two glass bottles; one milk bottle from Casper Hitchner Company, one 1971 Salem High School commemorative bottle made by Anchor Hocking. (2012.026)
- Diamond Pottery Jar**, featured in the last newsletter, the Society is still soliciting donations for the acquisition of this important piece of Salem County history.
- Ruthanne Wright**, Salem, NJ. Asparagus buncher, canning jar, cloth balls, VHS tape and four photographs of George Wright's pepper operations. (2011.003)
- Wayne Gotwals**, Salem, NJ. Vegetable and strawberry baskets. (2011.001)

Volunteers

Carol Bautista	Ronald E. Magill
Ricardo Ben-Safed	Margaret Maxwell-Mood
Gretchen Buzby	Tom Miller
J. Harlan Buzby	Ellen Morrissey
Michael J. Cooke	Trudy K. O'Hare
David A. Culver	Lawrence B. Owen
Sue Dolbow	Jim Paras
Barbara Smith Duffy	Donald L. Pierce
Brian M. Duffy	Frank Powell
Dottie Fisher	Craig Schneeman
William J. Gallo, Jr.	Maggie Vaughan
Wayne Gotwals	Diane Wohlrab
Dolores P. Gralley	Ruthanne Wright
Charlotte Harrison	
Katherine Heverin	
Peggy Kavanaugh	
Noel Kemm	
Ralph Magill	

USED BOOK SALE

The Society continues to add to our used book sale list on our website (www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com). Members and non-members alike have been actively purchasing donated, used, damaged and duplicate books in support of our Library's future collection and conservation efforts.

We thank everyone for their continued interest and support.

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Oak Tree Chapter-NSDAR

The Society is grateful for the support of our corporate and business members. For more information about our "Partnership with History" program Call 856-935-5004 or visit www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com

Collections Spotlight

The Society's museum inventory project has made its way outside and into the barn! We are coming across a wide variety of objects in the barn, including carriages, blacksmith tools, agricultural implements and an array of items we need your help to identify! If you have any ideas about this quarter's artifact please e-mail info@salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com.

What we know: This item is some type of an industrial press. The press is mounted onto a four legged wooden stand. There is a flat vertical metal plate joined to the press handle. When the handle is pushed upward, this plate moves forward and comes into contact with two freestanding slots which would assumedly hold some unknown object. Additionally, as the press handle is pushed upward, a flat, circular metal plate located on the other side of the press rotates.

What we would like your help with: We know that this object is a press, but what sort of press? Also, what is the function of the rotating circular plate?



CIVIL WAR LETTER FROM CAMP

Dottings by the Way

From the Diary of a member of Co. K, 4th N. J. Vol.

[Continued by another member of Co. K, following the death of the former correspondent, "Young America".]

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, June 20, 1862

Camp on Gaines' Farm, Va.

May 30 [1862]—A very hot day; lying idle in camp. A very serious accident happened this morning. As the artillery horses belonging to Battery D, were being rode down to water, a tree fell upon one of the men, killing him instantly, knocking his brains out with a limb; but as death is such a common thing it is looked upon by soldiers as a small thing. His name was Parker and he leaves a wife and two children to mourn his loss.

May 31st—All quiet in camp; but a battle commenced about 12 o'clock; we can hear the musketry plain. The rebels were driven back; the firing ceased at dark; what forces were engaged I have not learned.

June 1st—A battle appears to be raging; can hear the booming of heavy artillery; prospect of our getting into a fight; the battle raged until noon; the victory was ours; our regiment not engaged; repulsed the enemy wherever met.

June 2d—Very hot morning; drilled one hour and a half; all quiet except a few shells thrown by us; two balloons are up; paymaster arrived, also Col. Cooke; commenced to pay off the 4th N. J. Reg't.

June 3d—Very hot; all quiet in camp; went on fatigue duty to build a bridge over the Chickahominy River; the rebels threw a few shells at us; they burst in the air but done no harm; they were answered by our batteries and soon the firing stopped.

June 4th—Raining this morning; all quiet in camp; plenty of money among the boys.

June 5th—All quiet along the lines.

June 6th—Marched 4 miles, to Mechanicsville, within 5 miles of Richmond; can see the rebels as thick as hail on the opposite side of the river; went out on picket; employed as telegraphers; a rebel camp within a mile of us; two rebels within a hundred yards of us, on picket; they appear to be friendly

toward us; no firing among the pickets, although they are close enough at night to talk to each other; they have a battery on the opposite side, in the middle of the road; we are throwing one up on this side, and planting a few siege guns, en barbette, to shell them out; the rebels have destroyed a portion of the bridge at this point.

Mechanicsville, our present encampment, is a small village, about 3 miles from Richmond, in an air line; it contains a blacksmith shop, a wheelwright shop, and 3 or 4 houses.

Your attentive correspondent, "Young America," departed this life, yesterday, in the hospital; his sickness was short but severe,—Peace to his ashes. J. D. D.

SALEM SOUP SOCIETY

This Society commenced operations on the 4th of December last, and up to the 17th instant has been opened 14 times; during which time 750 quarts of soup and 115 loaves of bread have been distributed. It has received in donations from different persons; onions, cabbages, potatoes and turnips to a considerable amount; four dollars in meat, and six dollars and ten cents in cash.—There has been expended in the mean time eight dollars and six cents. Many cases of destitution have come to notice, where a few potatoes given now and then, in addition, would afford great relief.

Donations of vegetables, of meat, flour and spices, would be at all times gladly received at the Society's rooms under Smashey's shoe store.—Let everyone who is disposed, send in his mite, and the aggregate will no doubt enable the Society not only to continue, but extend its operations.

National Standard, Salem, NJ, January 22, 1862

Membership Report

Individual

Ms. Dorothy Davis
Ms. Nancy DeGuire
Ms. Corin Diane
Ms. Catherine M. Flaherty
Mr. Scott Greenwald
Mr. Bob Hicks
Ms. Kate Hinele
Ms. Jean J. Kuhn
Mr. Richard Schrader
Mr. Alan Seagrave
Mr. David Smart
Ms. Beata Quindlin

Student

Ms. Leslie Wood

Family

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Mr. & Mrs. Roy and Louise Roseberry
Candy Oakford Curry
Mr. & Mrs. Sandra & Bruce Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Frank & Jackie Jones

In Memoriam

Reverend James F. Barry
Doris M. Finlaw
Hazel E. Marinelli
John Paul Patrick
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Diane Wohlrab, *Trustee*.....2013
Dr. Robert A. Brooks, *Trustee Emeritus*

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Librarian : Beverly Carr Bradway
Museum Staff : Kimberly Steiner
Administrative Assistant : Jesse Blake
Bookkeeper : Wanda Hofbauer
Groundskeeper : William Jackson
Newsletter : J. Harlan Buzby, Ellen Morrissey, Danielle Polonczyk, Andrew Coldren

Salem Hospital Gets First Patients

“...On Labor Day the hospital was thrown open to patients, the first being Mrs. Gilbert Barr, of DuPont City, Lower Penns Neck township, who the following morning presented to her husband a son the first child to be born in the hospital. The little fellow is hale and hearty and will answer the name of Gilbert Barr, Jr. ...”
Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, September 5, 1919

Yes, I would like to become a member of the Salem County Historical Society!

Name _____ New Member Renewal
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

Please check your desired category

- Student \$10
- Individual \$25
- Family/Household \$40
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- Contributing \$250
- Lifetime \$500

We also have Business & Corporate Membership Opportunities!

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- Pedersen Providers \$250-\$499
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- Fenwick Benefactors \$1000+

For more information on how your business can become members of the Society, please call 856-935-5004

Please make checks payable to the Salem County Historical Society. The Society now accepts credit card payments for new memberships, renewals, and upgrades through our secure website: www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com

RETURN TO: SCHS, 83 Market Street, Salem, NJ 08079

**REMINDER
CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY**

If you are a supporter of the Society, check with your employer to see if they will enhance your support through a Matching Gift or other type of philanthropic program. We know of several employers who support employee giving through payroll deductions. And, one of our retiree members earns an annual \$1,000 grant for the Society from her former employer for her volunteer work with us.

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THANKSGIVING—The celebration of this good old fashioned autumnal festival will be observed more extensively than usual the present year. The times fixed for its observance are in Maine, 30th November—New-Hampshire, 16th—Massachusetts, 30th—Rhode Island, 30th—Connecticut, 16th—Vermont, 30th—New York, 6th December—New Jersey, 7th December—Ohio, 30th November.
Salem Messenger, Salem, NJ, November 22, 1826

Thanksgiving—Governor Dickerson has issued his proclamation appointing Thursday the 15th day of December next, as a day of public prayer and thanksgiving.
The Union, Salem, NJ, November 29, 1836.

The Salem County Historical Society receives general operating support grants and project grants from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of the County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Delaware River and Bay Authority. Additional funding has been made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, through the Salem



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