

DAZED by WEEKS: ***A Dense and Dazzling History*** ***of the Weeks Brick House***

Fascinating Facts ~ Fuzzy Folklore ~ Flabby Fluff

Weeks Brick House & Gardens Annual Meeting
Sunday, September 11, 2016

(1) Title Page. *Dazed by Weeks: A Dense and Dazzling History of the Weeks Brick House*, featuring ... etc.

(2) Early settlement of Portsmouth & Greenland, N.H., including the explorations of Capt. Francis Champernowne (1614-1687), Greenland's "first permanent settler" Samuel Haines (1611-1686), former Champernowne servant (and later Haines neighbor) Leonard Weeks (1633-1707), and the 1670 *Map of Maine & New Hampshire* by John Sellars.

(3) Dates & Places in Town History. A listing of town "firsts", plus a map of the Weeks farmstead indicating the location of the Town Landing (1663), the first mills on the Winnicut River (1660s), and the tide mill (1757), all in the context of the Great Bay region.

(4) Weeks Brick House Periods of Ownership. Ownership periods have ranged from two years to 48 years. Leonard Weeks & Descendants in America, Inc. have owned the house for 41 years.

(5) 300 Years at the Weeks Brick House. A timeline of dates important to the fortunate survival and proactive preservation of the Weeks Brick House, 1710 to the present.

(6) Favorite Photos. Early 20th-century postcard view showing the ell and connected barns. (No leaves on trees.)

(7) Favorite Photos. Early 20th-century colorized postcard view showing the ell and connected barns. (Leafy splendor.)

(8) Favorite Photos. Winter scene from 1904, with a long utilitarian sledge drawn by a team of two horses.

(9) Favorite Photos. Late 1930s postcard view. Ell has been removed, but curved driveway at side of house remains.

(10) Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). Seven photos from the 1935 Works Progress Administration (WPA) project. (On U.S. Library of Congress website.)

(11) Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). Elevation drawings and floor plan diagrams from the 1935 Works Progress Administration (WPA) project. (On U.S. Library of Congress website.)

(12) Where the 'ell is "the ell"? Two photos indicate the long-gone but oft-referenced "ell" at the rear of the house.

(13) Favorite Photos. Two photos that were included with the 1975 application for designation on the National Register of Historic Places, plus an image of the first page of the detailed multi-page application.

(14) Speaking of preservation ... The real preservation heroes were in the 1970s. They stepped up when the house was for sale and the property was slated for commercial development and residential subdivision. The 1974 real estate ad and two newspaper articles from 1976 tell the story.

(15) Favorite Photos. The current Weeks Brick House postcard photo was taken in 2009, and the postcard was designed in 2010 in time for the Tercentennial celebration.

(16) Favorite Photos ... of more than a building. Photos of the Memorial Brick Walkway, walking trails, conservation land, and gardens showcase the property.

(17) Fact, Fiction, Folklore, & Fabrications. True or false? Test your grasp of Weeks Brick House "facts" taken from books, magazines, newspapers, and armchair historians.

(18) Fact, Fiction, Folklore, & Fabrications. Here are the answers. How did you do?

(19) Peter Tufts House & MacPheadris-Warner House. The all-brick Peter Tufts House (1678) still stands in Medford, Mass. Generations of the Tufts family were in the business of brick-making, and the house was located not far from the clay deposits on the family's land near the banks of the Mystic River. The brick MacPheadris-Warner House (1716) in Portsmouth, N.H. was a tour destination for attendees at the Weeks Brick House Tercentennial in 2010.

(20) Fact, Fiction, Folklore, & Fabrications. Brush up on history knowledge with these multiple choice questions.

(21) Are you dazed by Weeks? Check out the photos and see if you can pick out the Weeks family cousins.

(22) Did you see any family resemblance? How did you do? Instant recognition and affection? Or something else?

(23 & 24) Two excellent books still available! To learn more about Weeks Brick House history, consult these books.

(25) 3½ Centuries in Greenland: The Weeks Brick House Farm of Greenland, N.H. This research report by Dr. Neill De Paoli was compiled in 2003 in preparation for the 2007 archaeological dig. The report was redesigned in 2010 with improved photos and graphics. The book can be purchased at the Weeks Brick House online gift shop.

(26) The Visitor's Guide to the Weeks Brick House & Gardens. This book was compiled by R.W. Bacon (*your presenter*), and includes self-guided tours of the house (exterior), gardens, and walking trails. The book is available at the Weeks Brick House online gift shop, at www.Amazon.com, or directly from the publisher at www.VarietyArtsPress.com.

(27) That's all, folks! Thank you for your kind attention to *Dazed by Weeks: A Dense and Dazzling History of the Weeks Brick House*, featuring ... etc.

About the presenter. R.W. Bacon is a museum/history professional with specialties in 17th-century New England architecture and life – and early 20th-century American music, vaudeville, and circus. A graduate of Syracuse University and the Harvard Museum Studies program, he is the author of eight books on multifarious non-fiction topics. For more than you ever wanted to know, visit www.VarietyArtsEnterprises.com.



The Weeks Brick House & Gardens

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