

# CUMBERLAND PATRIOT

*Cumberland County Historical Society*



*Holiday House & Lights*



**December 11th**  
**Open Houses 2-6pm**  
**Tree Light 6pm**  
**Lights Tour 5-8pm**  
**Pick Up Tickets at**  
**981 Ye Greate Street**  
**Greenwich, NJ 08323**  
**\$10 / \$5 - 18 & Younger**

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*Changing the Recipe: Rag to  
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By Brittney Ingersoll

*A Glimpse into the Past:  
Reviewing the First Newsletter*

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## OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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 Linda S. Hruza-Jones, Vice President  
 Ian Hughes, Secretary  
 Jacqueline Gates, Treasurer

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Warren & Reba Lummis Genealogical & Historical Library  
 856-455-8580  
 Wednesday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.  
 Closed mid-December to first week in January

c. 1730 Gibbon House  
 856-455-4055  
 Tuesday through Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.  
 Closed mid-December, January, February and March

The Alan Ewing Carman Museum of Prehistory of Cumberland County  
 856-455-8141  
 Saturday and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.  
 Closed mid-December, January, February and March

1852 John DuBois Maritime Museum  
 856-455-1774

Due to maintenance repair, the Maritime Museum is temporarily closed and will reopen in April of 2023

# Good News for the Cumberland County 1783 Log Granary

*By Joe Mathews*

The Cumberland County 1783 Log Granary is well known to most visitors to the Gibbon House Museum in Greenwich, New Jersey. The rustic-looking structure, which was donated to the Cumberland County Historical Society in 1975, stands in a field directly behind the Gibbon House. It was formerly called the Swedish Granary because it was believed by architectural historians to have been built by colonial-era Swedes in the seventeenth century, perhaps as early as 1650, potentially making it the oldest log building in the country.

In 2017, after several years of intensive tree ring research funded by project grants from the NJ Historical Commission (NJHC), the dendrochronologists Cook and Callahan determined it was built in 1783/4. This result led to my decision to write another project grant application to fund new research on the structure so as to generate new data that would make possible a new and comprehensive interpretation of the building. Four specialists would be engaged. Douglass Reed, a Historic Structures Consultant

and log building expert, would investigate the building in detail and in relation to the whole. He would also visit several other local historic log buildings for the purpose of comparative analysis. Dr. Lu Ann De Cunzo, professor of Anthropology at UDEL, would undertake an archaeological survey at the original site of the building on the Fralinger farm in Lower Hopewell, NJ. Joan Berkey, an architectural historian, would conduct new research in property records, wills, and inventories and would also work to place the building in its local and regional historic contexts. All three consultants would summarize their findings in reports. Finally, Dr. James Turk, Museum Consultant, would consolidate and synthesize their research into an interpretive master plan to be vetted by the Society's Trustees and ultimately presented to the public.

The inclusion of the Granary within the updated and revised Greenwich National Register Historic District in 2021 qualified the building for grant funds from the New Jersey Historic Trust. I submitted a new application for a Historic Site Management grant from the Preserve New Jersey Historic

Preservation Fund of the NJ Historic Trust and the application was successful. The overall project will cost slightly less than \$16,000, a sum which will cover the fees of the consultants. The NJHT will contribute 75% of the total or \$11,750 while the Society will contribute 25%. Work for the project will begin in Spring 2023 and most likely conclude in the Fall. Check these pages for progress reports.

## Return to Jeddys Pond: Requesting USGS Map Changes

*By Robert Brewer*

Jeddys Pond is a picturesque feature along the raceway in Bridgeton City Park. Dating back to the early 1800's, its tranquil water helped give rise to the old canoe houses across from the west end of Washington Street at Mayor Aiken Drive. It forms the backyard boundary of my house, and I canoe and fish it.

Having a natural interest in maps and a degree in geology, I hold the maps of the United States Geological Survey in high esteem. So it was ironic that literally right in my backyard, what everybody referred to as "Jeddys" Pond in the Bridgeton City Park was shown as "Eddy" Pond on the USGS topographic maps for



the Bridgeton Quadrangle. For years I was mildly annoyed by what I assumed was a typographic error, but I could not find the time or energy to try and correct a federal agency.

When I finally did an internet search for "how to correct a USGS map" I found that the USGS had anticipated my move with a straightforward process for reporting map errors. Right there on their website was "I found an error on a map. How can I report it and when will you fix it?" Instead of the time-consuming task of taking on a faceless bureaucracy that I avoided for years, USGS appeared to be welcoming my input. The website provides basic guidelines for reporting map errors. To start the process USGS has a brief fill-in-the-blank form asking for the map title, state, date, description of error, location of error, and any other supporting documentation. This information is submitted via email to [tnm\\_help@usgs.gov](mailto:tnm_help@usgs.gov)

I emailed this information on December 27, 2021, and quickly forgot

about it over the holidays. To my pleasant surprise I received a response on January 6, 2022, from a cartographer in the USGS National Geospatial Technical Operations Center. Not only did she acknowledge my email, she also researched the matter and confirmed that the Geographic Names System Database (GNIS) listed the water feature as Eddy Pond with no variants such as Jeddys noted. She provided me with the USGS data sheet on the pond. Taking it a step further she provided guidance on how to pursue an official name change, directing me to The Board on Geographic Names (BGN) Domestic Names Committee Proposal Form. There was a standard disclaimer that the BGN was not proactive in changing existing names but would consider proposals by any interested party but "changing a name merely to correct or re-establish historical usage is not in and of itself a reason to change a name" and also "there must be a compelling reason and evidence of support for the change."<sup>(1)</sup> The process would take at least six months.

I let the matter rest until March 16, 2022, when I sent an email with the completed five-page fill-in-the-blank Domestic Names Committee Proposal

Form, along with a photo of the 1862 Map of Cumberland County hanging on the wall of the Lummis Library and a close-up photo showing the pond as Jeds Pond. I intended to follow-up with additional research of records in the Lummis Library. However, again to my pleasant surprise I received an email response on March 20 from USGS acknowledging my proposal to change the name of Eddy Pond to Jeddys Pond. USGS research staff would prepare a brief case for the name change and place it on the next Quarterly Review List of the Bureau of Geographic Names. They had continued their research and noted that "Despite the evidence of local and historical use of Jeddys Pond (or Jeds Pond), we can add that Eddy Pond has been published on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps since 1953, and as such, we presume that was the name found in local use when that first map was compiled." This was their only resistance to the name change;, however, they would continue the review process and forward the proposal to the New Jersey State Geographic Names Authority and the local governing bodies of Bridgeton and Cumberland County. They welcomed any additional information and support.

(1)"How Do I?" USGS Science for a Changing World, <https://www.usgs.gov/us-board-on-geographic-names/how-do-i>

USGS research staff quickly followed-up in an email March 22 reporting that the State Geographic Names Authority had no issue with the name change and would defer to the local governments. The Authority also provided additional information about the history of the pond: it was named after a local surveyor Jedediah Davis (1765-1829) involved in the construction of the raceway and was always known as Jeddys pond. This was supported by the Bridgeton City tax map, City of Bridgeton 1876 map, a Bridgeton bird's eye lithograph of 1886, and a 1915 Sanborn Fire Insurance map. The origin of the name is contained in The West Jersey History Project (<http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/books/cumberlandnames/>).

The Authority added that Jedediah Davis was buried in a cemetery just four miles from the pond. Consulting with members of the Cumberland County Historical Society, it was suggested that the dates and last name of Davis pointed to the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church as a likely resting spot. In April, after a day and a half of walking the cemetery and fortuitously bumping into a cemetery administrator, Jedediah's grave was located but only after finding

Jeremiah Davis, Zebediah Davis and a host of other Davis's.

By mid-summer the governing bodies of Bridgeton and Cumberland County consented to the name change. On July 14, 2022, the U.S. Board of Geographic Names approved the name change from Eddy Pond to Jeddys Pond in the Geographic Names Information System, the nation's official geographic names repository. The decision reads as follows:

"Jeddys Pond: reservoir, 5.5 acres; in the City of Bridgeton at the mouth of Muddy Run; named for Jedediah Davis (1765-1829), a surveyor who constructed the nearby Tumbling Dam and Raceway which forms the pond; Cumberland County, New Jersey; 39.4331545 - 75.2397116; USGS map - Bridgeton 1:24,000; Not: Chrystal Lake, Eddy Pond, Eddy's Pond, Jeds Pond, Jedly Pond, Jedly's Pond, Silver Lake."

In reality there was no name change. The pond was always known as Jeddys Pond almost from the time of its creation except for short-lived references as Chrystal Lake and Silver Lake. Eddy Pond was a typo in a federal agency's record that carried on for at least 70 years. Existing maps and documents created during that time will not be changed but going forward USGS records will refer to it as Jeddys Pond. When the typo was identified the USGS, in a very

efficient and conscientious effort to maintain accurate records, effectuated the change within six months.

## Changing the Recipe: Rag to Wood Pulp Paper 1843 to Now

By Brittney Ingersoll

The Cumberland County Historical Society possesses newspapers ranging from the eighteenth to the twentieth century, housed at the Warren & Reba Lummis Genealogical & Historical Research Library. The best-preserved newspapers were printed in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries because they were printed on rag paper. The emergence of wood pulp paper in 1843 aided in fulfilling high publication demand. By the mid-1860s, wood pulp paper largely replaced rag paper. The shift in paper type helped meet the demand but affected the long-term sustainability of the publication due to the inherent fragility and deterioration of wood pulp paper. (1)

Many institutions have microfilmed their newspaper collections and others are digitizing their holdings to preserve and make accessible their collections.

Although the *Bridgeton Evening News*, *Washington Whig*, *Bridgeton Pioneer*, *Bridgeton Chronicle*, and *Dollar Weekly* are on microfilm, we have many other newspapers and special editions such as *The Woman's Edition of the Daily Pioneer* that are physical copies. Over the years, we have encased newspapers in plastic to preserve them and to be able to handle them without fear of further damage, which will ultimately ensure their longevity. The preservation of newspapers is important due to their connection to the past and the information that they contain. Reading newspapers allow us to step into the past and see not simply what was occurring but how society felt about political and social events. Ensuring that newspapers continue to survive is incredibly important for current and future historical research and understanding of the past.

Newspapers from the eighteenth and some from the early nineteenth century are made of soft paper material that feels similar to fabric called rag paper. Rag paper makes these older newspapers easy to handle, and are in overall excellent shape due to their material. Stemming back to the Middle Ages, rag paper was invented sometime between the eleventh and

(1) "Paper" *Preservation Self-Assessment Plant*, <https://psap.library.illinois.edu/collection-id-guide/paper>; "What is 'Acid Free Paper' and why is it important?" *Preservation Equipment Ltd*, <https://www.preservationequipment.com/Catalogue/Conservation-Materials/Paper-Board/What-is-acid-free-paper>; "The Wooden Press is Replace by Iron Hand Presses," *Graphis Design History*, [http://www.designhistory.org/BookHistory\\_pages/Letterpress.html](http://www.designhistory.org/BookHistory_pages/Letterpress.html)



fourteenth century and was made from a variety of different types of fibers, primarily cotton, flax, hemp, and linen, and was manufactured from discarded fabric at paper mills. The use of rag paper allowed newspapers to deteriorate at a much slower rate. (2)

The sustainability of newspapers was shaken in the mid-nineteenth century with the invention of wood pulp paper which allowed paper manufacturers to meet the high demand for publications emerging in the first half of the nineteenth century. Although wood pulp paper helped manufacturers produce larger quantities, the longevity of the new paper was vastly shorter compared to that of rag paper due to its heightened levels of acidity. The acidity of the wood pulp paper derived from a protein of the wood called lignin, "...which generates acid as it deteriorates and which causes yellowing and embrittling as the lignin reacts to light and heat exposure."(3) Acid caused by the lignin is why most of the mid to late nineteenth- and twentieth-century newspapers are yellow and crumbling, and why microfilming and digitizing newspapers is necessary for both

(2) "Paper" *Preservation Self-Assessment Plant*, <https://psap.library.illinois.edu/collection-id-guide/paper>

3)Ibid.

(4)Ibid.

(5)"Buffered vs unbuffered storage?" *Preservation Equipment Ltd.* <https://www.preservationequipment.com/Blog/Blog-Posts/Buffered-or-unbuffered-storage>

(6)Ibid., "What is 'Acid Free Paper' and why is it important?" *Preservation Equipment Ltd.*

<https://www.preservationequipment.com/Catalogue/Conservation-Materials/Paper-Board/What-is-acid-free-paper>

preservation and accessibility. (4)

Preserving newspapers entails both caring for the document and ensuring that it does not damage other resources. Interestingly, newspapers, papers, documents, and items that possess acid can share their acid and potentially affect the condition of the resources they cohabitate with. This can be prevented by housing acidic paper and items in special "buffered" folders and boxes. Buffered paper/folders/boxes isolate the item and prevent acid from spreading. Buffered paper is created by the addition of calcium carbonate - chalk - to the paper which:

...raises the pH level... to the alkaline side of the scale...the addition of 3% calcium carbonate provides a pH of approximately 8.5 in [the] paper, making it non-acidic. The reserve of calcium carbonate also helps neutralise [sic] other acids in the environment that would normally make any paper become acidic over time.(5)

The buffered housing isolates the acidic material, ensuring it does not spread to other resources. (6)

The need for manufacturers to meet the high demands for more publications for a massively growing population led to the move from rag to wood pulp



paper. The acidity of the wood pulp paper resulted in a product that did not possess the same stability and lifespan as its predecessor, and the new paper would shortly yellow and crumble. Although the wood pulp paper presented long-term preservation problems, it fulfilled the publication demand of the time.

## A Glimpse into the Past: Reviewing the First Newsletter

The first Cumberland County Historical Society newsletter was printed in the Spring of 1968 - 54 years ago. Below are some articles from that initial newsletter!

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### *DAYS AND HOURS*

Beginning Sunday, April 7th, the museum will be open on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays until the end of October. Admission is 25 cents for adults and 10 cents for children who are not members.

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### *Candle Light Concert*

A candle light concert is in the planning stage. It will be held this spring in the Old Broad Street Church, Bridgeton. The Historical Society is co-sponsor of this with "Friends of Old Broad Street." The proceeds will be used to restore the church. Watch the newspapers for the date and hour.

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### *Dr. Livingston*

The lecture committee chairman, Richard King, has secured Dr. Marius Livingston to lecture on New Jersey history on Sunday, April 28th, at 3:30 P.M. in the lecture room of the new Free Public Library in Bridgeton. Everyone is welcome.

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### *Annual Meeting*

Reserve the date of Saturday, October 5th, for our annual meeting to be held in the Vineland Methodist Church on Landis Avenue.

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### *BUS TRIP*

Mrs. Jonathan Moore is chairman of a bus trip to historic buildings and sites on Wednesday, May 1. The bus will leave at 8 A.M. from Freitag's parking lot on Giles Street and return at 6:30 P.M. Places to be visited are the restored Ferry Inn at Washington's Crossing, the Memorial Building, the famous painting of "Washington Crossing the Delaware" by Emanuel Leutze, Pennsbury Manor, the Thompson-Neeley House of Decision and New Hope. Tickets which are \$4.00 include the bus and admission. Call 451-2190 for reservations.

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### CCHS ANNOUNCEMENT

The Cumberland County Historical will close for the season after the Holiday Event on December 11th. The Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical & Historical Research Library will reopen on Saturday, January 4th, 2023, and the John DuBois Maritime Museum, The Gibbon House, and The Alan Ewing Carman Museum of Prehistory in Cumberland County will reopen on Saturday, April 1, 2023. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Speaker Series

Taylor Cavanaugh

Maritime History/John DuBois Maritime Museum

January 29th, 2023 at 2pm

Lummis Library

Speaker Series

Patricia Martinelli

Spiritualism in Vineland, NJ

February 26th, 2023 at 2pm

Lummis Library

### CCHS BLOG

For additional historical articles and CCHS updates check out our blog at:  
<https://cchistsoc.org/blog/>

### CCHS YOUTUBE CHANNEL

If you missed our last Speaker Series or want to re-watch them, check out our YouTube Channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNbd72gbS7IjcOOhIrpMbRg>

### 2023 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The Cumberland County Historical Society greatly appreciates your interest, dedication, and support. Your membership helps the Society in fulfilling its mission “to preserve and promote the history and

heritage of the county through acquisitions, collections, exhibits and research, educational programs and publications for the benefit of current and future generations.” As we wrap up 2022 and this being the last Cumberland Patriot of the year, we would like to send a friendly reminder that it is time to renew your membership. Any membership purchased prior to October 1st will need to be renewed for 2023. If you are unsure whether you are a lifetime member or not, please contact us at 856-455-8580. The form below is to be used to fill out and mail back with a check payable to CCHS to PO Box 16, Greenwich, NJ 08323 by January 31, 2021. Dues that are not paid in January will result in a lapse of membership. Thank you again for your continued support!

### THANK YOU FOR BECOMING A MEMBER!

Thank you for your interest in the preservation of your community’s history and joining the Cumberland County Historical Society! Your membership helps the Society in fulfilling its mission “to preserve and promote the history and heritage of the county through acquisitions, collections, exhibits and research, educational programs and publications for the benefit of current and future generations.” Your membership is valid for one year and is up for renewal every January.

The fee for the membership is tax deductible. Password to read the newsletter online is:  
 20cchs22

### Membership Application

If you are interested in the preservation of your community’s history, then we invite you to become a member of the Cumberland County Historical Society. Your membership helps the Society in fulfilling its mission “to preserve and promote the history and heritage of the county through acquisitions, collections, exhibits and research, educational programs and publications for the benefit of current and future generations.”

Your membership is valid for one year and is up for renewal every January. The fees for the membership are tax deductible. Those who join late in the year will receive past copies of the Cumberland Patriot newsletter of that year. Letters and emails will go out notifying you when your membership needs to be renewed.

#### Benefits:

- \*Member must present membership card
- Periodic issues of The Cumberland Patriot newsletter
- Free photocopies at the Lummis Library
- Discount for Hearthside Dinners (Except January)
- Members receive Hearthside Dinner dates prior to non-members
- \$2.00 discount to Annual Craft Faire admission
- Discount for the Annual Dinner
- Member-only events with 1 Free Pass for a non-member
- 10% discount on merchandise (books/t-shirts, etc.)
- Discount on workshops (3 workshops per year)

#### Membership Fees:

- Individual \$25
- Couple \$35
- College Student (w/ID) \$20
- Under 18 years of age \$10
- Digital Membership \$10

\*Digital membership gives members access to digital copies of the Cumberland Patriot newsletter; no other membership benefits are included in the digital membership

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\*Please Print

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: : \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me. I wish to volunteer.

Cumberland County Historical Society  
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