



## **Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's *Annual Meeting***

Wednesday, October 18, 2017  
Russell's Mills Schoolhouse  
5:30 to 8 p.m.

### **Meeting Agenda**

- I. Call to Order by President [Diane Gilbert]**
- II. Approval of Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting**
- III. Nominations and Vote on Slate of Officers and Directors [Dan Perry]**
- IV. President/Treasurer's Report [Diane Gilbert]**
- V. Featured Presentation: Michael P. Dyer  
Curator of Maritime History, New Bedford Whaling Museum**  
  
**Topic: *O'er the Wide and Tractless Sea: Original Art of the Yankee Whale Hunt***
- VI. Reception and Book Signing**



**Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's *Annual Meeting***  
**October 18, 2017**

**II. Approval of Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting**

**III. Nominations and Vote on Slate of Officers and Directors**

**DHPT's OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**For Nomination and Ratification**

[term expiration in brackets] *new term if approved*

**President and Treasurer: Diane M. Gilbert [2017] 2020**

**Vice President: Daniel C. Perry, Esq. [2017] 2020**

**Clerk: Margaret E. "Peggi" Medeiros 2018**

**Robert Barboza [2017] 2020**

**Brenda Dias [2017] 2020**

**Susan Guiducci 2019**

**Eileen "Ellie" Marland, Ph.D. [2017] 2020**



## **Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's *Annual Meeting* October 18, 2017**

### **IV. President/Treasurer's Report**

#### **Balances as of January 1, 2016**

DHPT Cash (Ops) Account	\$ 6,109.06
DHPT Fundraising Account	\$ 4,537.75
The Wamsutta Club Preservation Fund	\$ 3,685.41
Akin House Account	\$ 2,812.62
Preservation Restriction Endowment	\$ 10,054.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 27,198.84</b>

#### **Balances as of December 31, 2016**

DHPT Cash (Ops) Account	\$ 11,917.97
Fundraising Account	\$ 0.00
The Wamsutta Club Preservation Fund	\$ 0.00
Akin House Account	\$ 0.00
Preservation Restriction Endowment	\$ 10,054.00

**Total    \$ 21,971.97**

**Net change  
\$ 5,226.87**

DHPT Fiscal Year is Calendar Year.

Fundraising and Akin House Accounts closed in September 2016 with balances transferred to DHPT Cash (Ops) Account.



**Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's *Annual Meeting***  
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**IV. President/Treasurer's Report**  
**January 1 through December 31, 2016**

***Revenue: Contributions, gifts, grants, memberships***

DHPT Cash (Ops) Account	\$	5,164.65
DHPT Fundraising Account	\$	2,309.35

***Total Revenue:***           \$ 7,474.00

***Expenses:***

DHPT Cash (Ops) Account		
Akin House: Alarm System, Eversource El.	\$	522.46
Akin House: Lawn and property	\$	990.00
Banner Environmental for garage demo, etc.	\$	6,905.00
Printing, publishing, postage	[in-kind donation]	
Other expenses: P.O. Box, filing fees,		
Website hosting fees	\$	598.00

***Sub-Total*** \$ 9,015.46

**Wamsutta Club Preservation Fund [final grant]**

***Sub-Total*** \$ 3,685.41

***Total Expenses:***           \$ 12,700.87

***Net change***  
***\$5,226.87***



**Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's *Annual Meeting***  
**October 18, 2017**

**IV. President/Treasurer's Report**

**Balances as of September 30, 2017**

<b>DHPT Cash (Ops) Account</b>	<b>\$ 11,793.70</b>
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<b>Preservation Restriction Endowment</b>	<b>\$ 10,054.00</b>
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*The endowment is restricted for use to protect historic preservation interests for the Dartmouth YMCA historic barn and the Russell's Mills Village schoolhouse.*

***Total*    \$ 21,848.70**



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**IV. President/Treasurer's Report**

**1762 Akin House Update**

**Phase III Restoration Has Begun!**

August 2017: Contractor Thomas J. Figueiredo, (Figueiredo Carpentry & Builders, Marion, MA) started Phase III. Scheduled Completion in Spring 2018.



**Deconstruction Before Reconstruction!**

Site preparation to store vehicles, construction of ADA access deck, lift, and parking.

Interior: Historically significant materials were carefully removed and stored for reinstallation or for future interpretative displays.

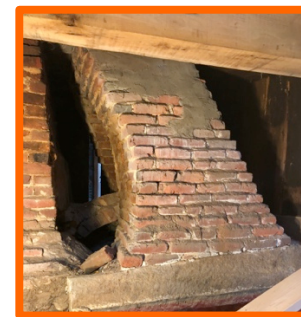


## Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust's *Annual Meeting* October 18, 2017

### IV. President/Treasurer's Report

#### 1762 Akin House Update

#### **Preservation & Restoration Strategy**



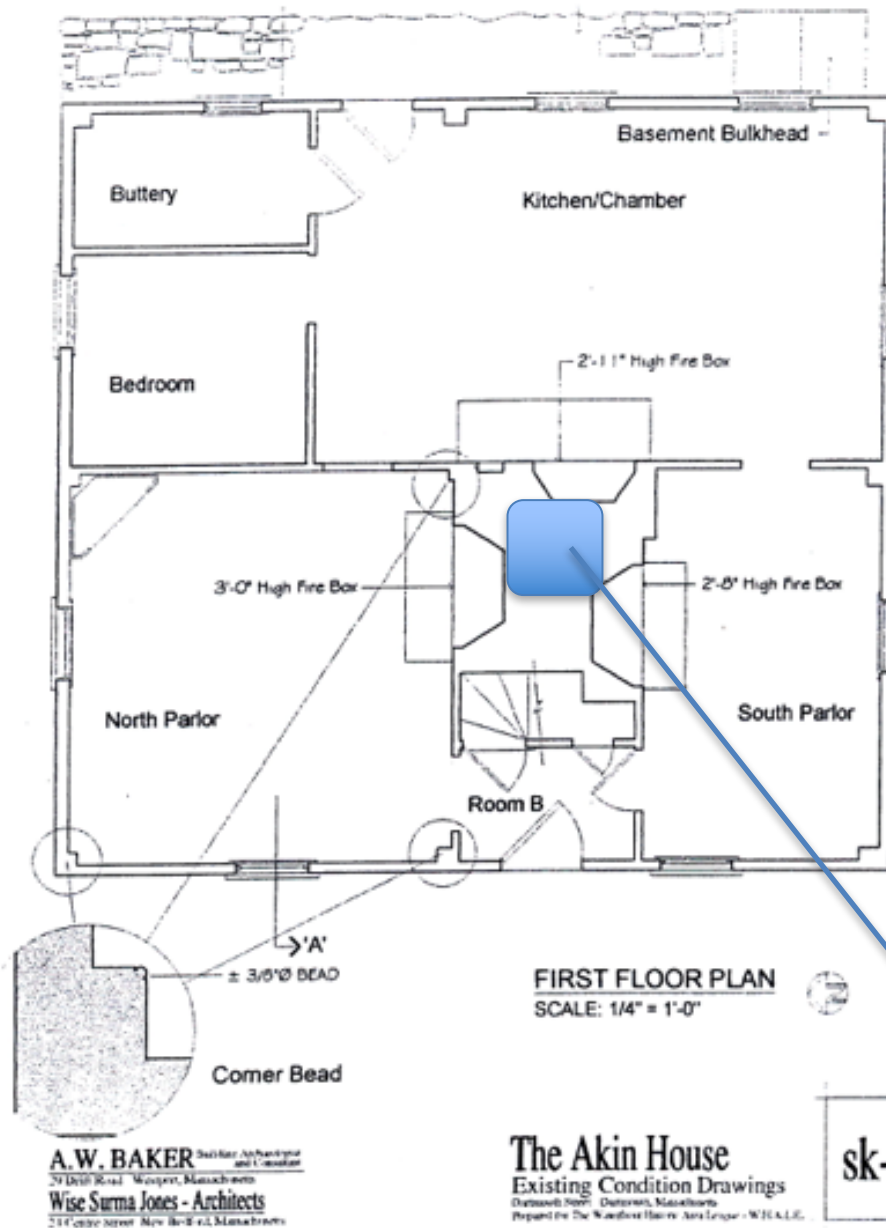
The *Department of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* states the importance of selecting a "historic period." Our plan is to restore the house \*selectively to its colonial pre-Revolutionary period [1762] through the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century materials, such as late wallpaper, wallboards and plaster/laths, removed, discarded or stored to expose the structure of the early house.

What did we find?—Remarkable and well-preserved architectural features. These discoveries spoke loudly about the historic periods most significant to this house, both in its rarity and historical connections. The property's context to the pre-Revolutionary period, and thereafter following the War of Independence, speaks volumes to the experiences of the entrepreneurial Akins and other inhabitants who started life in the colonies as British subjects, became "patriots" and supported independence from the British, largely for economic reasons. [This history including the lives of the Akins up to the 20<sup>th</sup> century is well-researched and well-documented. Visit [dhpt.org](http://dhpt.org).]

It is impossible to state with certainty which architectural features are truly "original", or added shortly after 1762, or perhaps date to the "early" or mid-1800s, or even the late 1800s. As a general rule for the purposes of describing this house, any improvements, repairs, or additions made in the 20<sup>th</sup> century is considered "new."

\**selectively* refers to reuse based upon the conditions of the early materials that are still viable.





Akin House  
 First Floor Plan  
 Drawn in 2004

another firebox





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1762 Akin House Update

**Structural Systems**

Guided by the *Department of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, we identified and tried to retain and preserve "structural systems and visible features of systems that are important in defining the overall character of the building."

***Walking the fine line between fealty to preserving the "original" [as built] and "new" structural post-and-beam additions to guarantee longevity.***

Sound structural systems are essential to an old house to ensure its longevity and viability going forward. Due to considerable structural deficiencies such as failing beams and posts, through aging and insect/rodent infestation, future structural integrity took priority to prolong the life of this house for another 250 plus years.



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### IV. President/Treasurer's Report

#### 1762 Akin House Update

##### ***Newly Installed White Oak Posts, Beams, Joists, and Other Timbers (21<sup>st</sup> century)***



White oak joists were added during the 2005 and 2009 restorations to keep the house stable and secure. Temporary steel posts were installed to compensate for structural weaknesses.

Has been replaced with new beam with steel post eliminated. [shown in the formal parlor]



The new (2009) and original joists will be retained to compare 21<sup>st</sup> century repairs to 18<sup>th</sup> century construction. The steel post and supporting beam configuration will be removed and replaced with new white oak beam. [shown in the kitchen/great room/gathering room]



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**IV. President/Treasurer's Report**  
**1762 Akin House Update**

**The Formal Parlor**

***Newly Installed White Oak Posts, Beams,  
Joists, and Other Timbers (21<sup>st</sup> century)***

**Phase III, new installation in progress.**





## 1762 Akin House Update The Formal Parlor



Top: discarded corner post

Far right: new corner post

Middle: original corner post near doorway  
on left and early wide wall panels on right

Below: knee wall installed on second floor  
for strength and long lasting stability





## 1762 Akin House Update



Top: The formal parlor. Left: Early pine wall boards covering original whitewashed pine or oak boards much like these shown on the top right wall, later used as 20<sup>th</sup> C kitchen. Visitors will remember the ca.1960s-70s simulated wood paneling, now discarded. Left: The formal parlor. Embossed wallpaper fragment; applied directly over wall boards; age of this wallpaper TBD.



## 1762 Akin House Update



### Sitting Room/Small Parlor

Upper left corner: wall board with wallpaper over plaster and lath; removed.

Above top and to the left: the early decorative wall coverings applied over original pine & oak wall panels. Will be preserved and remain in situ.



# 1762 Akin House Update



Above left: Cooking hearth in Kitchen/Great Room  
Above middle: what lies behind the fireplace? Another, original.  
Above right: the elaborate brickwork configuration showing diagonal courses of repair  
Left: closer view of the original beehive oven. This style with oven in the rear of the firebox fell out of favor by the mid-18<sup>th</sup> C due to unintended fires.

*This hearth will be demolished to rebuild the original fireplace and firebox. The fireplaces in the sitting room and formal parlor will be repaired and restored.*





## Newest discovery

Wallpaper fragments found beneath the stairwell to the second story, exposed by a cupboard above the fireplace in the sitting room. This finding creates another research project.





**Frame from Elmer Clifton's 1921 silent film, "Down to the Sea in Ships" to illustrate the east side (or rear entry) of the Akin House. Note the deck and stairway with boardwalk towards barn and outbuilding. This entry configuration is likely at least 100 years old.**





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**1762 Akin House Update**

And so ends the latest installment of  
"A little house with a big story to tell."

And now.....

**V. Our featured speaker, Michael P. Dyer.**

Mike Dyer is Curator of Maritime History at the New Bedford Whaling Museum. He was the inaugural U.S.A. Gallery Fellow at the Australia National Maritime Museum in 2008 and the 38<sup>th</sup> voyager onboard the Charles W. Morgan in 2014. Mike has served in various capacities at the Whaling Museum in Sharon and at the NBWM. His recently issued book on which his lecture is based has been a labor of love for over twenty years.