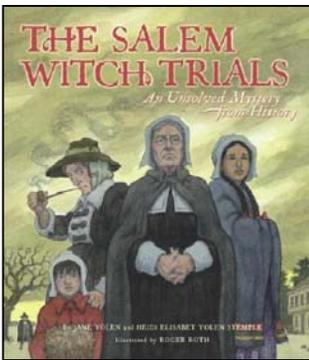


July 2005 NewsLetter



Old Put's Roots in Danvers, MA (Salem Village)

Traveling along US Route 1 in Danvers, Massachusetts, one whizzes by an historical marker that catches the eye. Whoa turn around and go back to that house with the history marker in front! Many of us traveled this section of road many years ago on our way to NH or Maine vacations. Today, interstates are the main thoroughfares, but old Rt.1 is still there and available for the locals. Danvers was called by another name a few hundred years ago – Salem Village. Yep, the same little village that hosted the infamous 1692 Salem Witch Trials in which some young bored village girls started pointing fingers at people they didn't like. End result was 24 men and women, all innocent, were executed.



Historians, anthropologists and clergy still argue, today about how something so terrible could have run its course. Religious superstitions inflamed by senior clergy in the Massachusetts Bay Colony kept the nightmare alive.

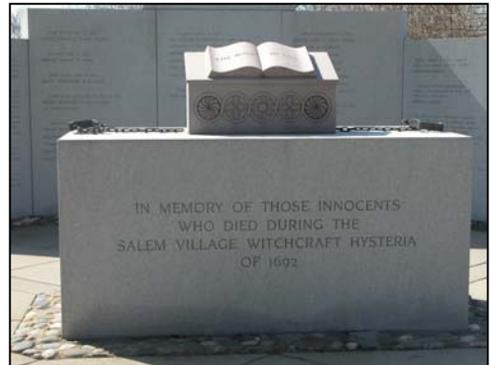
Innocent adults being accused by young girls, including the local minister's daughter.



The troubles in Salem Village went beyond the young girls accusing people. It also involved a feud between the two most powerful families in town, the Putnams and the Porters. Joseph Putnam was right smack in the middle, since he had married a Porter. Joseph turned out to fight the rest of Putnams and the clergy, and helped bring sanity back to the town – and the end of the trials. Joseph Putnam was to become the father of our General Israel Putnam. Israel was born in 1718 in Joseph Putnam's house.



The Joseph Putnam House built in 1648. Birthplace of Maj. Gen. Israel Putnam in January, 1718. Salem Village, now Danvers, MA



The Salem Village Witchcraft Victims' Memorial of Danvers. It was the first such memorial to honor all of the 1692 witchcraft victims, and is located across the street from the site of the original Salem Village Meeting House where many of the witch examinations took place..



The General Israel Putnam House. One of several historical markers on the property.

July FAN's Meeting

The July meeting of the Friends group was held on Monday, July 11th at the Redding Town Hall.



Discussions held included:

1. The recap and accounting of the Living History School Days week was discussed.
2. Nancy Cowles reviewed the plans of the Summer Craftsmen Program. The first craftsman had demonstrated that previous weekend. Other craft persons will be demonstrating their areas of expertise over the next seven weekends. July through August. (**See flyer on back page**).
3. Park Supervisor Nathan Hale gave an update of the 1893 Pavilion and park projects. The Kronenberger crew will be packing up their gear and leaving the park as soon as they complete a few more minor tasks.
4. Harry Gibson led the group through a recap of the 5thCT presentation at the prior meeting. We still want to pursue discussion with the 5th , and plan to go ahead with a December 3rd winter event with them. However, we do not feel a winter time event can replace our warm weather *Living History Weekend*, which is also one of our major sources of income.
5. We discussed the possibility of replicating a soldiers hut in the park. This project on hold pending research.



Updates Needed

One area of immediate need before the opening of the new visitor center is upgrading and revising park maps and brochures. Both categories are now dated and need revising to reflect new infrastructure changes, new road alignments, and historical changes within the park.

One example is the new intersection changes at Rts. 58/107. Another is the archaeological discovery that the old Burial Ground was not a cemetery, but rather a senior officers double-ended log quarters (possibly that of the camp commandant.) The FANs group is working with State Parks management to update these items.

The collage features several items related to Putnam Memorial State Park:

- Site Map:** A detailed map of the park showing various areas like 'YOUTH GROUP CAMPING AREA', 'RESTAURANT FIELD', 'LAKESIDE', 'MAIN ENTRANCE', 'PARK RANGER', 'PARKER LAKE', 'POND AREA', 'UPPER FIREBACK AREA', 'BARLOW CIRCLE', 'OFFICERS BARRACKS', 'MAGAZINE', 'CAMP', 'PAVILION', 'MUSEUM', 'NORTH ENTRANCE', and 'PROBATIONER ENTRANCE'. A legend identifies numbered sites: 1. MUSEUM, 2. ENCAMPMENT SITE, 3. 'MAGAZINE', 4. PHILIP'S CAVE, 5. OFFICERS BARRACKS, 6. CEMETERY, 7. MONUMENT, 8. ENTRANCE AREA (PUTNAM STATUE).
- Historical Map:** A map showing the park's layout with numbered points of interest.
- 'A SELF-GUIDED WALK' Brochure:** A brochure with a list of 10 points of interest and descriptions:
 1. MUSEUM: This building, located on the north side of the park, is the site of the museum.
 2. ENCAMPMENT SITE: This site is the location of the camp of the Continental Army in 1778.
 3. 'MAGAZINE': This site is the location of the magazine, a building used for storing gunpowder.
 4. PHILIP'S CAVE: This cave is named after Philip Putnam, the park's namesake.
 5. OFFICERS BARRACKS: This building was used by the officers of the Continental Army.
 6. CEMETERY: This site is the location of the cemetery, which was used for the burial of soldiers.
 7. MONUMENT: This monument is dedicated to the soldiers who fought in the Battle of Red Bank.
 8. ENTRANCE AREA (PUTNAM STATUE): This area is the entrance to the park and features a statue of Philip Putnam.
 9. POND AREA: This area is a pond that was used for water by the Continental Army.
 10. UPPER FIREBACK AREA: This area is a fireback that was used for heating.
- Historical Brochure:** A brochure titled 'Memorial to the Winter Quarters of Putnam's Division of the Continental Army 1778-1779' from the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Office of Parks and Recreation.

Pavilion In The Home Stretch



Awaiting the final landscaping. The new visitor center is almost completed. The overdue stair railings are now installed. The last remaining window in the rear has been put into place. The floor finishing contractor is due in to sand and coat the floors. Finish carpentry is being completed on the visitor information desk and the Park Supervisor's office upstairs. There are a few little missing elements remaining – like electricity! Can you believe we are still waiting for Northeast Utilities to install the juice? The lower parking lot still needs to be installed now that the Kronenberger office and storage trailers have been removed. Maybe looking at a September grand opening?



Outside looking in the front doors. The information desk is installed and waiting for visitors.



Old Put awaits to be unveiled!



Inside looking out the front doors. The architects kept the open-air effect of the old 1893 Pavilion.

Next Meeting

The next FAN's Meeting will be on **Tuesday Evening September 13th** at the Redding Town Hall. The meeting will start at **7:00pm**. The monthly meetings will now be on the **2nd Tuesday** of each month.

No meeting in August



