



THE COLONIAL VILLAGE

A Guide to the
Buildings of
Historical
Interest

AT A CENTURY OF PROGRESS / CHICAGO 1934

ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY

THE COLONIAL VILLAGE

*A Reproduction of Early
American Life in the
Thirteen Colonies*

**A Guide
to the Buildings of
Historical Interest**

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At A Century of Progress, Chicago
1934



Paul Revere's House

6067
E45T2

21 West Henry



THE COLONIAL VILLAGE



HE COLONIAL VIL-
LAGE ATTEMPTS
TO REPRODUCE
THE FORM AND
THE SPIRIT OF A
TYPICAL AMERI-
CAN COMMUNITY

as it might have been found at about the end of the Revolutionary War. To add to the historic and architectural interest it has assembled about its Village Green and placed along its principal street some of the most famous buildings of Colonial days. In order that the whole may be harmonious many of the buildings have been reduced in size and some changed in form, but in each case it is hoped that the character has been maintained. With only a few exceptions it is the exterior only which imitates the ancient buildings; the interiors are arranged to suit the needs of the different concessionaires who,

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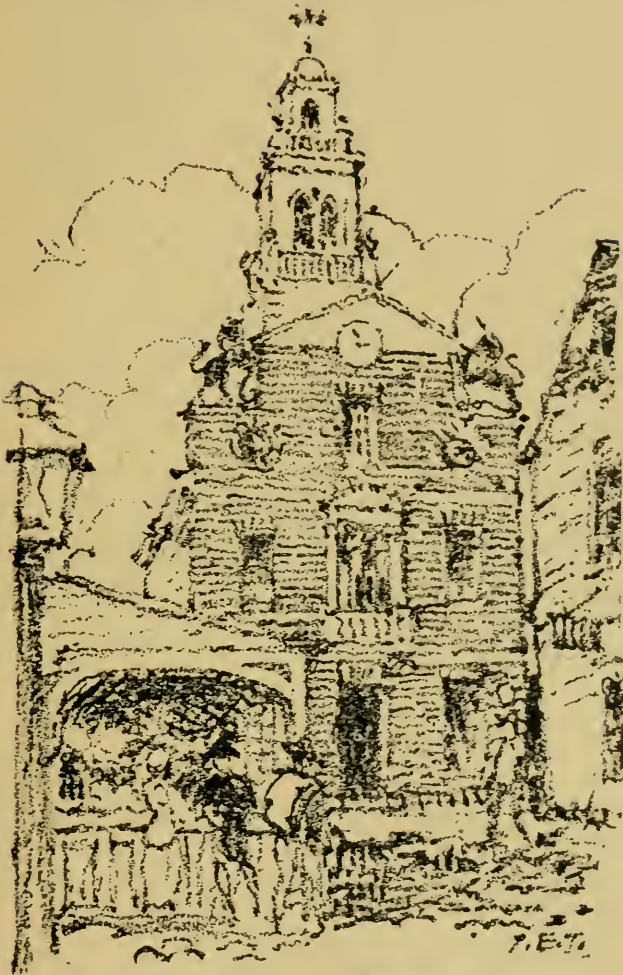
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however, have filled their spaces with entertainment and goods appropriate to Colonial days. To those particularly interested in architecture it should be noted that "Colonial Style" is divided into two progressive divisions—first, Early American from 1630 to 1700, represented by the Pilgrim settlement, Paul Revere House, and House of Seven Gables; and second, the Georgian 1700-1800, which includes all the rest.

Entering the village from Lief Erikson Drive into High Street we pass between great gates surmounted with eagles modeled by Samuel McIntire in Salem. Proceeding and keeping to the left we find:

1. SIGN OF THE BLUE ANCHOR. Late Georgian about 1800 in the style of McIntire. In the second story is the office of the village. Turn left into Meeting Street.
2. PAUL REVERE HOUSE. Early American—1650. Note projecting second story, leaded glass casements, absence of ornament. Occupied by Paul Revere, patriot and silversmith, between 1700-1800. Through its doors he went forth for his famous midnight ride.

3. TURN LEFT INTO MILK STREET
with its booths and we face



Old State House Boston

4. OLD STATE HOUSE. This is a much reduced reproduction of the famous Boston State House built in 1713 and designed in

England—note the Royal Lion and Unicorn.
At the left are

5. STOCKS AND PILLORY,
a favorite method in Colonial
days of advertising the fact that
misbehavior didn't pay.

*The VILLAGE
PILLORY*



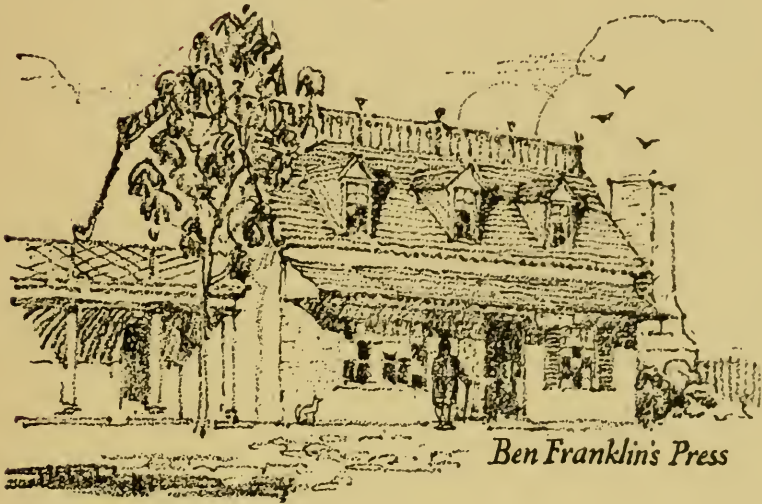
from The Colonial Village

6. PIRATE'S GAOL. The sort of building
that might have stood in the port of New
York and housed Captain Kidd and other
unwilling guests.

7. COCK LOFT LANE, named from an
old locality in Knickerbocker New York,
contains shops of various kinds including a
Grog Shop, over which is a figure of "Uncle
Toby" in the Staffordshire manner. "Wooden
Indians" were not popular until nearly the
Civil War period. Returning to Milk Street
we find on the left

8. THE HOUSE OF SEVEN GABLES,
a reproduction, with liberties, of the Early
American House built in 1668 in Salem and
made famous by Hawthorne's novel. Note
its similarity in style to its neighbor, The
House of Paul Revere.

9. THE SIGN OF THE SUN DIAL—
it is not based on any particular building but
represents the vigorous style of Sir Christo-
pher Wren, whose influence in the Colonies
as architect and scientist was very great.



10. BEN FRANKLIN'S PRESS—This is
not a reproduction of any building that Frank-
lin occupied, but is typical of buildings in
Southern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.



COLONIAL

At A Century of Progress

The Village Guard



South End

Old North Tower

11 Village Smithy

12

13 Betsy Ross

21 Colonial K

14 Pilgr

15

Public Telephone

10 Ben Franklin's Press

7 Cockloft Lane

8 House of Seven Gables

4 Old State House

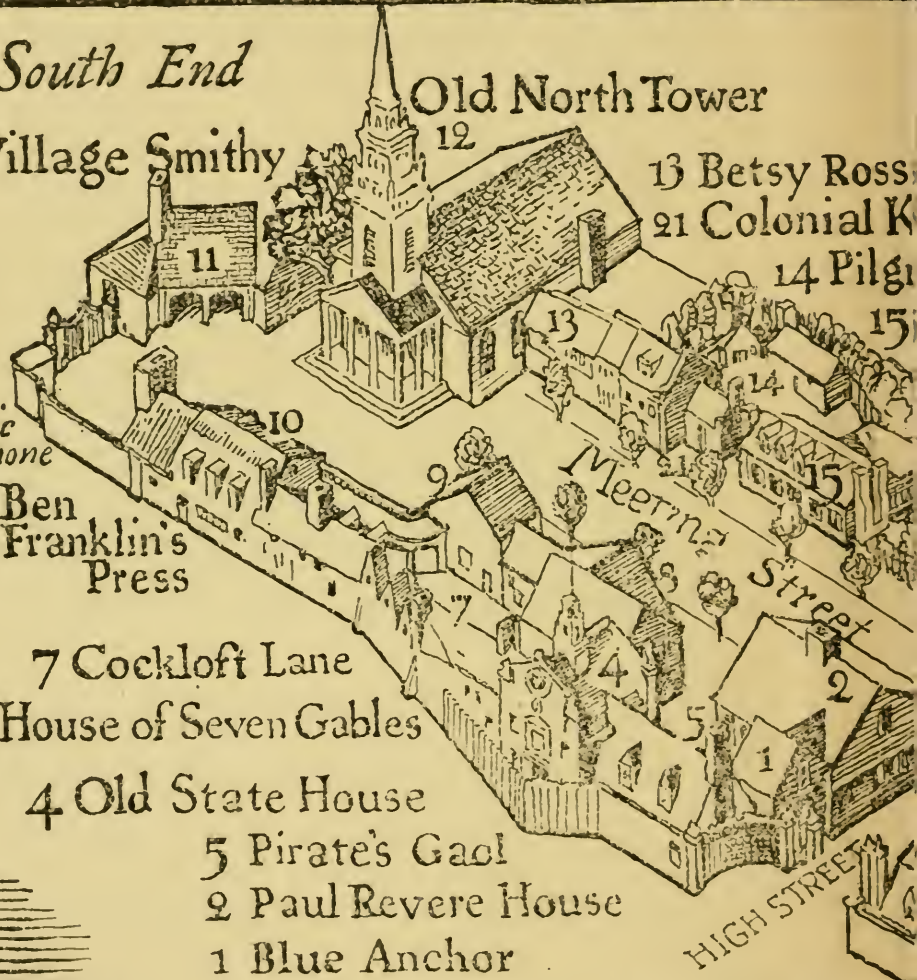
5 Pirate's Gaol

2 Paul Revere House

1 Blue Anchor

21 Virginia Tavern

22 Vi



The Organ Grinder



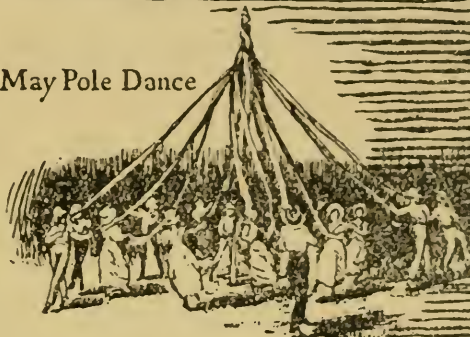


VILLAGE

ress-In Chicago·MCMXXXIV

ouse
chen
Settlement
Washington's Birthplace
Governor's Mansion
16
Old Glory
17

May Pole Dance



Information Booth
The Wayside Inn
18

21
ge Green

Mt. Vernon
19

Colonial Garden
& Artist's Colony 20

The Red Man



The Pillory



The Old Well



The Village Witch



The Drum Corps



11. VILLAGE SMITHY — “Beneath the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy stands.” Longfellow immortally described an institution of romance and necessity—present in every Colonial village.

*Tower of old
North Church*



12. TOWER OF OLD NORTH
(CHRIST'S) CHURCH—Boston. Built in

1723 (reduced). As every one knows, the original has no portico. This was added for convenience and beauty and is typical of churches in the latter part of the century. From the belfry were hung the signal lanterns. "One if by land and two if by sea" that spurred Paul Revere forth in his immortal ride on April 18, 1775.



Betsy Ross House

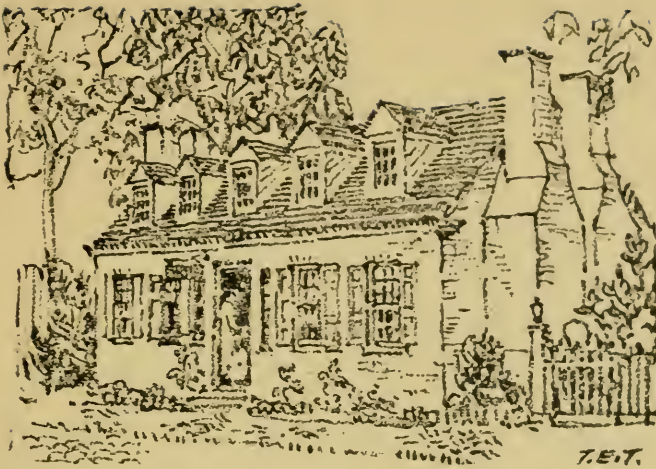
J.E.T.

13. BETSY ROSS SHOP, built about 1700. A copy of the famous house in Philadelphia where Betsy Ross designed and made for General Washington the American flag. We turn left into



Schoolhouse. Pilgrim Settlement

14. PILGRIM SETTLEMENT — 1620. These little houses are highly conjectural. We know from accounts that the colonists everywhere built rough shelters of logs and rough hewn timber until more finished houses could be constructed, but none has survived.

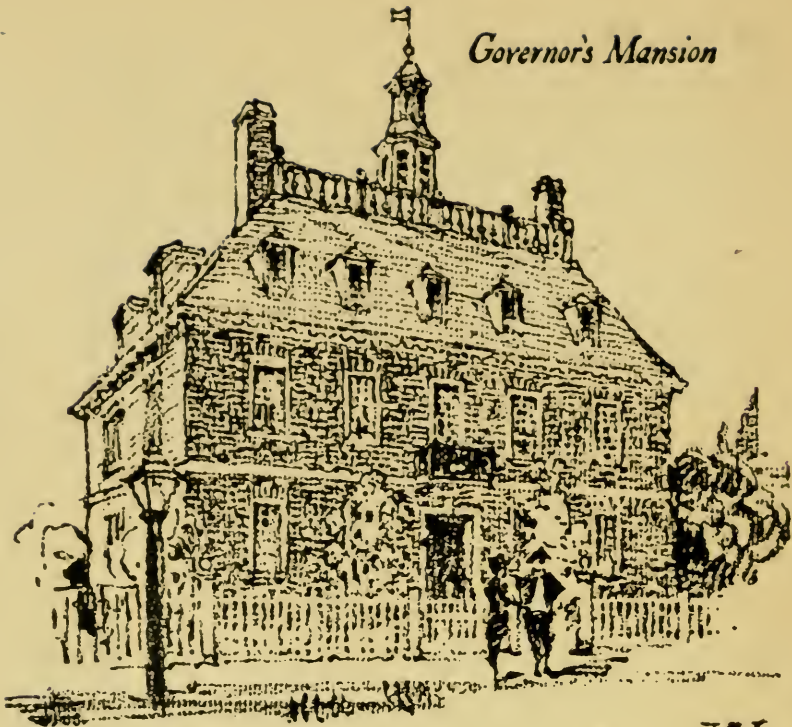


Wakefield, Va. Birthplace of Washington

15. WAKEFIELD — Virginia, the birthplace of Washington, reduced. The original of this building is a conjectural restoration recently completed. The interior is based on the living room only. The Virginia building is of red brick, but brick houses were often white-washed in Colonial days.

16. THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION. The royal Governors before the Revolution lived in considerable magnificence, especially in the South. In Williamsburg, Virginia, now nearly completed, is a splendid restoration of a similar building on much larger scale, with out-buildings and gardens.

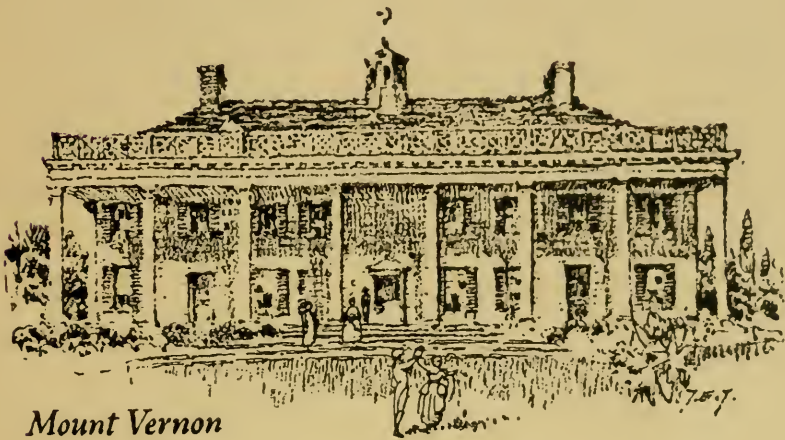
Governor's Mansion



17. THE LIBERTY POLE AND OLD GLORY.

18. THE WAYSIDE INN. This and the Virginia Tavern opposite, owing to the practical exigencies of feeding many people, suggest rather than imitate their models, the Wayside Inn at Sudbury, Mass., built in 1685, immortalized by Longfellow in his "Tales of a Wayside Inn" and recently restored by Henry Ford, and the Raleigh Tavern in Williamsburg, redolent with Colonial history, restored by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. We now

arrive at the Village Green; at its head crowning the village is the nation's most precious shrine.



Mount Vernon

19. MOUNT VERNON. The original building is closely copied at eight-ninths of its size. Here the interior is finished, as well, and except for the absence of the staircase carries out the original arrangement. The building is presided over by the Daughters of the American Revolution, who with the aid of friends have beautifully furnished it, in the style of the period. Most of the furnishings are antiques. The central part of Mount Vernon was built by Lawrence Wash-

ington in 1743. George Washington, his half-brother, inherited it and during the Revolutionary War continued its rebuilding. Here the Father of his Country died in 1799. Back of Mount Vernon are flower gardens laid out in Colonial manner, and from there one can depart from the 18th Century through the

20. ARTISTS' COLONY. Where pictures are made and portraits painted in the styles of the past and present.

ONE must not get from this guide the impression that the pleasures or even the importance of the Colonial Village lie solely in its architecture. Complimenting the architecture and reflecting the spirit of its age is an elaborate entertainment which reflects, as far as possible, the lighter aspects of life in Colonial days. Mount Vernon doesn't really live until the Spirit of '76 marches forth from its portals or until the minuet is danced on the Village Green. The frailties of Colonial life, for they were as human as we, are set forth in Cockloft lane. Here is a little Colonial theatre where at frequent intervals, a very amusing and authentic playlet on the subject of "bundling" is produced. It is curious that the idea of "bundling", so shocking to the Victorians, was approved by the stern moralists of Puritan days.

Reverting finally to the more decorous vicinity of Meeting Street, one will find in the two inns, previously mentioned, excellent cooking done in the Colonial manner. Here on the terraces with the stately facade of Mount Vernon on one side and the vista of the Village street on the other is the best place, perhaps, to digest the contents of this little guide.

