

NOTES ON THE STONE ACADEMY AND IT'S HISTORY OF OWNERSHIP-FELUMLEE

Built in 1809 by Dr Increase Mathews#, Levi Whipple\* and Ebenezer Buckingham\* Purpose- for use as State Capital but becomes Academy and Public Building for Putnam (Court, Church, School)

1828- Sold to Henry Mathews# (Son of Increase)

1829- Sold to Milton B. Cushing\* Milton again used it as a School but it is at this time it may begin to become a private residence. The frame addition, at it's earliest possible construction could be from the 1829-1838 period. T.Weld refers to a public room in 1835 (the upstairs) of the stone structure at the time of the State Abolition Convention.

1838- Sold to John Potwin During this period, public use declines though the 1839 State Abolition Convention meets at the Academy. Potwin divides the upstairs and one of the Potwin men paints the mural all around one of the divided bedrooms.

1858- Sarah Robins (Elizabeth's Grandmother) buys the Academy. Elizabeth Robins (writer, actress, activist for women) spends part of her preteen and teen years living there. (1870's)

1891- Sold by Sheriff to settle estate of Sarah Robins. Highest bidder: Elizabeth Robins Parks by her agent. She asked it be deeded to Charles G. Dillon.

1895- Sold again by Sheriff to Jas. M. McHenry. His daughter, Lydia McHenry Taylor, left it to the Society in the 1970's.

From; The Open Question, concerning the ghost:

"Yaffti Makafti, here I am, you see, I'll be good to you, if you'll be good to me." (to address ghost under stairs)

Unusual House Features: Crawl Space, Space behind Shelves, Wall Insulation in Library, Additional Hidden Crawl Space under stairs, Trap Door under stairs, Tunnel?

Some of the oldest windows occur in the frame structure. Were they borrowed from the Stone Structure? most likely, though some have suggested the frame structure could be as old, or older than the stone structure. The garage is a 20th Century Structure.

\* A Founder of the local Antislavery Society  
# Abolitionists in family (known)

Relationships; Mathews, Whipple, Putnam families related by marriage I believe, can all be traced back to New England and knew each other while there.