DAZED by WEEKS:
A Dense and Dazzling History
of the Weeks Brick House
Featuring
Fascinating Facts ~ Fuzzy Folklore ~ Flabby Fluff
Early settlement of Portsmouth & Greenland, N.H.

- Capt. Francis Champernowne (1614-1687)
- Leonard Weeks (1633-1707)
- Samuel Haines (1611-1686)
**The Weeks Brick House & Gardens**

www.WeeksBrickHouse.org

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**Dates & places in town history**

- 17th-century economy based on farming, fishing, timber harvesting, & coastal trading
- 1660 - Town’s first sawmill
- 1663 - Town landing
- 1671 - North Church of Portsmouth established
- 1671 - First burial ground
- 1675 - Town’s first tavern
- 1710 - Weeks Brick House
- 1711 - First bridge across Winnicut River
- 1757 - First tide mill

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**Early Greenland, N.H. and the World Beyond**

From the Weeks Brick House – to the Atlantic Ocean

(R.W. Bacon, 2008)

- **First tide mill & dam**
  - (John & Winthrop Johnson, 1757)
  - (In operation until destroyed by fire in 1830s)

- **First dam, millpond, & sawmill**
  - (Philip Lewis & Isaac Cole, 1660s; sold to Samuel Haines 1670
  - (In operation until destroyed by fire in 1860s)

- **Sawmill**
  - (Samuel Weeks & Tobias Langdon, 1697)
  - (One mile south on Winnicut River at Winniconic Brook)

- **Grist Mill**
  - (Nathaniel Huggins, 1685)

- **Grist Mill**
  - (Philip Lewis, 1685)

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**Connecting to the world beyond**

Boston & Maine R.R. (1852)

Conservation Easement (1992)

(30.55 acres of original farmstead)

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**Map:**

- North
- Scale: 3 Miles
- Center (1/3 mile) of early Greenland (meeting house, school, cemetery, etc.)
- 1710 Historic House Gardens • Trails
- Conservation Land
- Greenland, New Hampshire, USA

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**Note:** Locations of mills below are approximations based on early maps and documentary text evidence.
Weeks Brick House Periods of Ownership

Farmstead:
1656-1707... Leonard Weeks (1633-1707) ......................... 53 years

Brick House & Farmstead:
1710-1746... Samuel Weeks (1670-1746) ......................... 36 years
1746-1774... Walter Weeks (1706-1774) ......................... 28 years
1774-1813... William Weeks I (1743-1813) ..................... 39 years
1813-1849... William Weeks II (1779-1849) .................... 36 years
1849-1897... Robert B. Weeks (1818-1897) ..................... 48 years
1897-1935... John W. Weeks (1848-1935) ..................... 38 years
1935-1965... Thornton N. Weeks, Sr. (1882-1965) .......... 30 years
1965-1968... Thornton N. Weeks, Jr. (1921-1998) ........... 3 years
1968-1973... Dr. William C. Amman ............................. 5 years
1973-1975... Greenlands Heights Realty ......................... 2 years
1975-present... Leonard Weeks & Descendants in America, Inc. . 41 years
The Weeks Brick House & Gardens

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Favorite photos of the Weeks Brick House
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Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)
— 1935 WPA Project —
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Greenland, New Hampshire, USA
Favorite photos of the Weeks Brick House

Where was “The Ell”?

The Weeks Brick House & Gardens
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Favorite photos of the Weeks Brick House

Photos at right were included with the WBH application to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.

The Weeks Brick House & Gardens
www.WeeksBrickHouse.org
FOR SALE!
Portsmouth Herald, Feb. 22, 1974

The real preservation heroes were in the 1970s ...

Speaking of preservation ...

Weeks Brick House to be presented
Portsmouth Herald
April 6, 1976

Weeks Descendants hold meeting
Portsmouth Herald
Sept. 29, 1976

The Weeks Brick House & Gardens
www.WeeksBrickHouse.org
Favorite photos ... of more than a building

Memorial Brick Walkway  |  Walking Trails  |  Conservation Land

Gardens ... and more gardens ...

The Weeks Brick House & Gardens

www.WeeksBrickHouse.org
Fact, Fiction, Folklore, & Fabrications

The following “facts” come from unsourced books, magazines, newspapers, and armchair historians, and they continue to multiply on the Internet. Which ones can be confirmed as fact?

T  F  True? Or false?:

☐ ☐ The Weeks House, built in 1638, is the oldest house in New Hampshire.

☐ ☐ At the Weeks House, the 18-inch thick brick walls were expressly built to repel the flaming arrows fired by marauding Indians.

☐ ☐ The Weeks House was built to be a “garrison house,” and in the fireplace it had a secret hiding place to jump in during an Indian attack.

☐ ☐ The Weeks House, built in 1710, is the oldest brick house in New England.

☐ ☐ The Weeks House, built in 1710, is the oldest brick house in New England made of native brick.

☐ ☐ The Weeks House, built in 1710, is the oldest brick house in New England made of native brick ... fired on the premises ... by a local craftsman ... from clay dug within 300 feet of the building site.

☐ ☐ The Weeks House is among the oldest brick houses in New England.
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As of May 2016, the Peter Tufts House is FOR SALE by the Medford Historical Society! (Deed restrictions in place ensure its preservation.)

This house was a tour destination for Weeks Brick House Tercentennial attendees in 2010. (“The oldest urban brick house in northern New England.”)
Fact, Fiction, Folklore, & Fabrications
Brush up on history with multiple choice questions:

Capt. Francis Champernowne (1614-1687) was known for:
(A) His wealth inherited from his father.
(B) His timidity as a sailor.
(C) His prodigious appetite.

Leonard Weeks (1633-1707) was known for:
(A) His easygoing, gentle, and pious nature.
(B) His swearing, brawling, and trespassing.
(C) His 134-mile round-trip trek on foot to Boston.

Samuel Haines (1611-1686) was known for:
(A) Surviving the wreck of the Angel Gabriel off Pemaquid Pt.
(B) Surviving as the first “permanent” settler of Greenland.
(C) Surviving as a neighbor of Leonard Weeks.
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Are you DAZED by WEEKS?
Can you find your Weeks family cousins?

The Weeks Brick House & Gardens
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Ah, Yes!  Oh, No!
Ah, Yes!  Oh, No!
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Greenland, New Hampshire, USA
Two excellent books still available!
Excellent book still available!

Dr. Neill De Paoli’s 2007 archaeological dig (with L.J. Newton in the pit)

The Weeks Brick House & Gardens
www.WeeksBrickHouse.org
Excellent book still available!

The Visitor's Guide to the Weeks Brick House & Gardens
A historical guide of the Weeks Brick House Repertory Greenlund, New Hampshire, USA
A guide to the 1719 house, gardens, grounds, and trails, and the 360-year history of the Weeks family
By Reginald W. Bacon

R.W. Bacon's midday scything ... and midnight web-wrangling.

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1710 Historic House
Gardens • Trails
Conservation Land
Greenland,
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