

VALENTINE WHITEMAN HOUSE
Great Road
LIMEROCK, RHODE ISLAND.

HABS NO. RI-8

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Rhode Island

Historic American Buildings Survey
Philip D. Creer, District Officer
14 College Street, Providence, R.I.

HABS
RI.4
LIMRO.1-

VALENTINE-WHITMAN HOUSE
Great Road
LIMEROCK, RHODE ISLAND

Owner: Estate of Frank Whalen

Date of Erection: About 1694

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

Materials of Construction: Frame construction, end chimney of stone, top now brick. Four room plan, two rooms deep. Especially fine frame work; all intact—chamfering all preserved and no beams cased.

Other Existing Records: "Early Homes in Rhode Island"—Downing, with drawing P.4, showing widened house with end chimney. Ref. Page 43. Drawing P.44, drawing of frame (by Historic American Buildings Survey). Drawing P.166 (d) showing two-panel door, butterfly strap hinges.

250th Anniversary of Providence. Reference P.397, by Welcome A. Greene, printed in 1886.

Early Rhode Island Houses—Isham & Brown, printed in 1895.

Rhode Island Historical Society, "History of the Descendants of John Whitman of Weymouth, Mass XIV. Printed in 1889.

Also Vital Records of R.I. 1636-1850 Vol.2-3, Providence County, James M. Arnold, pages 199-257-278.

Transcript of Records
City Hall, Providence

April 26, 1678

Valentine Whitman sold to Ephram Pearce, 60 acres upland for L15. Book 1, P. 8. (This shows how deeds in Book 1 gave only a brief account in a few words land to be conveyed) In the Deeds very little information. The house is not mentioned in any deed.

There were several Valentine Whitmans. Much land was owned by the Whitman family in Providence and North Smithfield.

King Philip's War in 1675-1676. Valentine Whitman called out to serve with the troops near his house, son only 7 years old. The house was burned by the Indians.

Reference is made in the 250th Anniversary of Providence by Welcome A. Greene published in 1886. Quote: "The first Town Meeting in Smithfield was held at the House of Capt. Valentine Whitman, Jr. on March 17, 1730-1, when Jonathan Sprague, Jr. was chosen Moderator and Richard Sayles, Town Clerk."

June 20, 1755

Urania Whitman of Smithfield, widow of John Whitman, sold all estate in Providence and Smithfield, all lands and tenements, to David Harris, July 11, 1754-Dec. 12, 1754. Recorded June 20, 1755.

August 14, 1936.

John C. Whalen owned the land and house.

March 3, 1938

It is now the estate of John C. Whalen. The house is occupied by his son.

Philip D. Greer

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District Officer for
Rhode Island.