

Tide Mill Farm  
New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail  
100 Tide Mill Lane  
Salem Vicinity  
Salem County  
New Jersey

HABS No. NJ-994

HABS  
NJ  
17-SAL.V  
7-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS  
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TIDE MILL FARM

HABS No. NJ-994

Location: 100 Tide Mill Lane  
Mannington Township,  
Salem, Salem County, New Jersey 08079

Owner/Occupant: George Abbott and James E. Abbott.

Present Use: Residence/bed and breakfast.

Significance: Built in 1845, the Tide Mill Farmhouse and its landscape of about 53 acres represents the prosperity and ideology of a South Jersey Quaker family that reclaimed and farmed the nearby marsh. The brick house is built of high-quality materials, yet the exterior and interior ornamentation represents the simple ideals of the Quaker religion. Despite the plain surroundings, the Abbotts, like other South Jersey Quakers, did not hesitate to improve the marshy landscape of the area. Through the drainage, ditching, and diking of the marsh, the Abbotts were able to create sowable fields and solid pasture while increasing their economic stability. It was through the manipulation of the landscape that the Quakers and other prosperous farmers were truly able to display their wealth.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Farmhouse, 1845. In 1798 a two-story brick structure was on this site, as well as another dwelling and kitchen. During recent repairs to the kitchen ell, the exposure of a hand-hewn support beam suggests that the 1845 structure was appended to a portion of John Denn's original houses.
2. Architect: None, although a near-identical version of this house was erected nearby, also in Mannington Township in 1845; no information is available about this dwelling, which is currently owned by John Seabrook.
3. Original and subsequent owners: Reference is to the Land Records of Salem County, located at the Circuit Court, Salem, NJ; much of this chronology was provided by the Abbott family. The property, 53-1/5 acres, is currently known as Block 64, Lot 7 of Mannington Township in Salem County. Historically, the tract was larger, compiled by uniting several parcels; the difficulty in tracking consistent acreage is in part due to the ephemeral nature of the tidal marsh land, which is submerged unless maintained to be farmable.

1791 Indenture February 18, 1791, Whitten Cripps, Esq., and sheriff of Salem  
TO

John Denn, Salem, at debtor's auction, when he acquired "90 acres and 62 square perches of marsh, meadow cripple [?] and swamp land" in Lower Penn's Neck from on the "edge of Salem Creek." The property was divided into two farms at the time.

- 1843 Deed November 15, 1843, recorded in Book 22, Page 410.  
John Denn, Jr., Mannington; inherited from his father  
TO  
George Abbott, Mannington; The selling price was \$8,000 for two tracts, the first encompassing ca. 55 acres of meadow and the second, 45 acres plus 16 square perches.
- 1843 Deed December 14, 1843, recorded in Book 22, page 478  
David Stretch  
TO  
George Abbott, who paid \$8,500 for meadowland and plantation
- 1865 Deed February 25, 1865, as recorded in Book 30, page 748  
Edward Bilderback and Margaret (daughter of John Denn)  
TO  
George Abbott; \$1,941 for five acres of meadowland
- 1865 Deed July 15, 1865, as recorded in Book 31, page 552  
Edward Bilderback and Margaret (daughter of John Denn)  
TO  
George Ahbott; \$1,593 for 15 acres of meadowland
- 1908 Will of George Abbott  
TO  
Henry B. Abbott
- 1916 Deed February 9, 1916 as recorded in Book 130, page 1.  
Henry B. Abhott  
TO  
George Abbott (nephew); from this time on the tract is consistently 53-1/5 acres, and this transaction, of \$100, gave George Abbott the right to live in the southwest bedroom of the third floor for life.
- 1928 George Ahhott sold the property to Gladys Campbell for \$1, and it to  
to subsequently passed to a new family member about every 10 years until David  
1986 Fogg willed it to granddaughter Marian Maul Fowler December 9, 1961. For  
the last 26 years of this sequence the house was abandoned.
- 1986 Deed July 10, 1986, as recorded in Book 669, page 733  
Marian Maul Fowler, Tallahassee, FL  
TO

Edward Abbott Jr. (1/2 share w/), George and Emmaline Abbott, Woodstown

1992 Assumption of Mortgage/Contract for Sale, January 27 1992,  
Edward Abbott Jr. and wife, Millville  
TO  
George Abbott et al., Salem

4. Original plans and construction: Tide Mill Farmhouse, which faces east, is a five-bay, double-pile main block with two substantial accretions--or pre-existing adjuncts to the big new block--on its north side. A raised, partial shed-roof porch once existed at the south end of the west/rear wall. An eighteenth-century kitchen ell, and extension to it, is located on the north facade. As of the early twentieth century, there were several outbuildings located north of the main house, including a one-story gable-roof building, the machine shed structure, probably the drive-in corn crib, and at least four related buildings.
5. Alterations and additions: In the nineteenth century, dairy founder George Ahbott built a newer kitchen addition onto the kitchen ell and converted the latter into a hunting room. Today, this space is used as a storage room and the original kitchen ell is once again a kitchen.

Neil Campbell, the owner from 1937-50, removed the southwest porch and built an enclosed sun porch on the south wall; removed the partition between the women's parlor and the men's parlor to form a single living room; replaced the south windows in the living room with French doors that led to the screened sun porch. On the second floor, he expanded the southeast bedroom by moving the wall between it and the southwest bedroom to the west. He also attached louvered doors to the frames of each bedroom door.

Historically the windows featured shutters: the first and second floors with solid four- and three-panel versions, respectively; the third floor with louvers.

Fewer outbuildings remain today than there were originally; these include a stone storage building (NJ-994-B), machine shed, drive-in corncrib (NJ-994-D), and milk house (NJ-994-E).

B. Historical Context:

Prior to the erection of the present farmhouse, the land comprising Tide-Mill Farm had been worked since at least the 1790s. According to a 1798 tax bill, John Denn reported a two-story brick structure measuring 26' x 30' with ten windows, as well as another dwelling and kitchen worth \$1,000 on the same property, near "Claysville Village." The land, too, had been altered. Denn is believed to have lived in the former dwelling, which was on one side of the great loop formed by Salem Creek. He, perhaps with his son, built a canal through the west end of the creek's loop and formed "Denn's Island," about 150 acres in size, as well as a wood drawbridge that raised to allow vessels through: "This lift was made by two triang[ular] platforms which raised in opposite directions, the apex of each resting on the

opposite side."<sup>1</sup> Denn later replaced the bridge with a dam costing about \$3,000 that was used to trap the water used to run a grist mill at the edge of the creek near the house (see page 22); hence the origin of the property name, Tide-Mill Farm. The mill had been abandoned before 1843 due to high water.

Denn's Island "was out to the tide," for a few years, but its banks were rebuilt and maintained--for a time, at least, by the Stopping Company--from the 1850s until at least 1920. The delicate balance and ever-changing waterway is reflected by Henry Abbott's account of the fluctuations:

During the Civil War, the Penn's Neck Meadow Co. (Kate's Creek) opposite and south of the Old Causeway Co. [which was a pre-Revolutionary enterprise], was out to the tide. Soon after, this was taken up (removed). Salem Creek was then confined to its channel. The tides were higher and the strain on the banks greater. After the breakdown in 1878, the Mud Hole Co. up the creek was not reclaimed and its reservoir relieved the strain. The tides were not rising so high.<sup>2</sup>

The Abbott family settled in south Jersey, west of Hancock's Bridge in Elsinboro Township, at the end of the seventeenth century, though there is no mention in family papers of "meadow banks" until the mid eighteenth century.

#### **The house and its occupants**

In 1845, George Abbott (1826-1916), a fifth-generation dairy farmer, built a brick Federal-style house on land in Mannington Township that he purchased from John Denn. Located near Salem Creek, Abbott--along with his neighbors Jonathan Goodwin Woodnutt and Richard Newell--participated in meadow companies that allowed farmers to join together to reclaim the tidal marshlands by digging drainage ditches and constructing earthen banks or dikes. Tide-Mill Farm was largely composed of reclaimed land because of the efforts of George Abbott and his son, also named George Abbott.

In a 1920 letter to the director of the census, another son, Henry Abbott, described the origins of the family meadow company. The younger George (1849-1915) founded the Abbott Meadow Company in 1895 under the state law of 1788 in which the New Jersey state legislature allowed owners or renters of tidal marshes to improve their property through reclamation, or to maintain land that had already been reclaimed. He consolidated the Old Causeway Meadow Company, Wyatt Meadow Company, and Denn's Island Meadow Company to form the Abbott Meadow Company. Abbott, Woodnutt, and others raised herd grass on their meadows; also called red top, this grass adapted well to wet areas and rarely grew upland. To nourish the grass, farmers opened sluice gates and flooded the meadows during the winter. Woodnutt described cutting the herd grass, threshing the seed out, then riddling it. The latter process separated seed from stem, weeds, and other trash. Workers then bagged the seed, which was used for cattle feed, to be sold locally or shipped to Philadelphia.

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<sup>1</sup> Henry Abbott, letter to the Census director, 1920.

<sup>2</sup> Census letter.

### Abbott Dairies

Abbott founded the Abbott Meadow Company to generate additional farm acreage and pasture land on which to grow crops and graze Jersey and Guernsey (collectively, Alderney, or breeds from England's Channel Islands) dairy cattle. By the time he consolidated the surrounding companies, he had already been in the dairy business for 19 years. To forward Abbott's Dairies (for several decades, Abbotts Alderney Dairies), he experimented with ways to ship milk, and devised a means of keeping it cooler longer, and thus travel to more distant markets. His method consisted of cooling the milk in long concrete troughs fitted with paddles, which stirred and aerated it. When the milk's temperature decreased, Abbott placed it in milk cans insulated with surplus wool Civil War army blankets. While traveling in Denmark, he observed a successful corrugated milk cooler, which was eventually manufactured by the Star Milk Cooler Company of Haddonfield, NJ.

Abbott's principle, that "where the health of babies and little children is at stake, no effort and no expense are to great to assure pure, safe milk for them," led the company to become one of the largest dairy companies on the East Coast, employing thousands of employees. The plant on Cohansey Street Bridgeton was a "model of efficiency and sanitation." Initially, milk was delivered to local customers via pushcart, and Abbott filled pails or cans suspended from a window or shutter. This was replaced with a horse-drawn wagon until 1884 when glass milk bottles were invented, after which standardized size and sterilization led to easy and sanitary home delivery. He then shipped larger quantities from Salem to Philadelphia by rail. He also patented a "Safety Can Top" (see page 23) for his milk cans in 1883, which prevented losing the contents or lid itself, as well as pilfering of cream off the top.

Vacationers in Atlantic City and Cape May considered Abbott's milk a treat because of its freshness. Orders from the resort towns grew so large that he had to add his neighbors' milk supply to his own, and thus Abbott's Dairy was born in 1876. The same year, he supplied milk to the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, and Abbott's business boomed. Its unsurpassed quality was marked at the fair according to large sales. As a result, Abbott moved the business to Philadelphia, where the first Abbotts Alderney Dairies Milk Store was located at Sixth and Noble streets; their number quickly rose to 15 all in the central city.<sup>3</sup> By the turn of the century, there were established corporate offices there with branch offices in Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey. In 1885, for example, the family owned 25 herds of Guernseys. Abbott's Dairy thrived in the mid-Atlantic portion of the United States well into the twentieth century. In 1908 the company incorporated to generate \$500,000 capital. A board of nine directors was elected, along with officers: George Abbott, president; George Abbott Jr. and S. Abbott Willits, vice presidents; Walter L. Moore, secretary, and May A. Thomas, Treasurer. A creamery, stable to house 100 horses and wagons, and office was completed in 1911-13 at 31st and Chestnut streets in Philadelphia; this consolidated Abbott's 12 city distribution branches and the office formerly at 1823 Filbert Street. Physical and product expansion continued regularly, such as the 1919 acquisition of an ice cream business, and the 1927 consolidation with Dolfinger Dairies of Philadelphia, which resulted in the

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<sup>3</sup> Walter L. Moore (secretary, Abbotts Dairies), "History of Abbotts (Alderney) Dairies: 1878-1928, Fifty Years' Achievement," typed manuscript, June 11, 1934; 6.

shortened name, Abbotts Dairies.<sup>4</sup> Abbotts Dairies merged with Fairmount Foods of Omaha, Nebraska, in 1950, but the name continued in use until 1984-85, when the company went bankrupt and the dairies closed.

#### **Farming in Salem County, New Jersey**

During the late seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries, farmers in Salem County cooperatively financed the reclamation of marshlands by forming local meadow companies. Memberships in these collectives eased the burdensome cost of building and maintaining the dikes and lack of sufficient hired help to do the work, as well as reducing the risk of damaging a neighbor's land, and encouraging the constant watch for breaches and other problems. Through taxation proportional to the amount of marshland owned, members could rely upon managers and other elected officials to assist with these problems. The officers consisted of managers, clerks, and assessors. The number of managers varied according to the legislation of each company, though as many as three could be elected.

Charged with overseeing the construction and maintenance of the dike, the members allowed a manager to employ and at times pay workers. He was also given specific instructions that earth used to repair the banks was to come from the end of the bank in an area least detrimental to the owner or possessor of that particular tract of marsh. The assessor acted as a check on the manager's power, allowing him to assess the amount of money needed to complete the bank construction and maintenance. By the nineteenth century, the Office of Assessor had been virtually eliminated with the duties divided among other officers and commissioners.

Working with other officers, the collector or treasurer collected funds from company members to pay for construction and repair expenses, an amount proportional to the acreage owned, as determined by the assessor. The collector also paid workmen hired by the manager, and co-authored an annual financial report. The meadow company act of incorporation also gave instructions as to the replacement of officers, length of terms, and compensation received.

To ensure that the officers--especially managers--did not overstep their authority, almost all meadow-company legislation included a clause that allowed members to choose two or three outsiders to act as arbitrators. Most early legislation insisted that arbitrators or commissioners settle disputes such as those dealing with bank maintenance. If a marsh owner or possessor believed that he donated too much mud or soil without proper compensation, he could ask the commissioners to speak to the assessor on his behalf. If the assessor agreed, the treasurer paid the plaintiff for damages. Additionally, the commissioners, working with the managers who hired surveyors to assess the amount of land owned by each member, assessed the properties to make sure the owners paid an equal share.

The power of the meadow companies, however, did not lay just with its officers. Every meadow-company member had the right to call meetings, elect officers, challenge decisions, and make sure all work and debts were distributed fairly. Not only did all members pay taxes based on the amount of land they owned, they were allotted so many votes accordingly. One vote was given for every so many acres owned; the set number depended upon the meadow company by-laws.

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<sup>4</sup> Moore, 15, 17, 21, 30.

In 1883, seventy-one meadow companies existed in Salem County as follows: Mannington Township, 18; Lower Penns Neck Township, 17; Lower Alloways Creek Township, 14; Elsinboro Township, 8; Upper Penns Neck (Carney's Point) Township, 8; Salem City, 5; and Upper Alloways Creek Township, 1. Tide-Mill Farm was one of the properties included in Mannington Township statistics.

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Tide Mill Farmhouse's plain Federal exterior and interior design represents the simple values and traditions of the Quaker population in the area. The house never received any permanent structural changes and the only interior alterations occurred in the mid-twentieth century under the ownership of Neil Camphell.
2. Condition of fabric: Abandoned from 1960-86, the house was abused by vagrants who used it to house livestock, built fires in rooms, and stuffed trash under floorboards. The police also damaged the doors during drug raids on the property. Over the last seven years after reacquisition by the Abbott family, however, the condition of Tide Mill Farmhouse has drastically improved and it has been nearly fully restored.

### B. Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: The house is a three-story, five-bay, double-pile structure with a central hallway. A single-pile ell extends from the north side.
2. Foundation: Stone.
3. Walls: Brick. The main block is eight-course common bond; the kitchen ell is seven-course common bond; the exposed north wall is plaster over brick.
4. Structural system: Load-bearing brick.
5. Porches: The main entry is accessed through a one-story, Georgian-style east/front porch that covers the central three bays. It is raised with a paneled base, has a low-pitch gable-front roof with molded-box cornice, and is supported by four fluted Doric columns.

A raised, one-story screened-in sun porch with an interior access via living room and exterior entry is on the south facade. It has a low-hipped roof supported by five Tuscan columns. It was constructed sometime in the mid twentieth century.

On the north facade, a plain shed-roof porch is attached to the kitchen ell. The northwest corner of this space was closed in to expand the west room of the kitchen.



6. Chimneys: Both the north and south facades of the house have paired end chimneys; an exterior chimney is located on the north side between the kitchen ell and main block.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: The main entrance is centered within the Georgian porch, with molded door surround and decorative pilasters set. The double doors are glazed with three-light glazing above the transom,

The single, north entrance into the kitchen is a wood door. At one time access consisted of two-paneled double doors in a simple surround. The size of the right door was doubled, thus intruding upon the left opening; the remaining portion of the latter is visible on the interior of the house, though it is clad with clapboard on the exterior. On the northwest corner of the house a board-and-batten door leads to the storage room off the kitchen.

Two rear entrances are located on the west/rear facade. One, a plain wood door in a simple surround, enters the storage room off the kitchen; the other, a glazed door in a molded surround, accesses the central hallway.

b. Windows: Most windows are six-over-six-light, double-hung wood sash with molded surrounds and wood sills, although proportionately these are taller on the first floor and diminish in height on the second and third floors.

The kitchen ell has modern one-over-one-light, double-hung wood sash. The basement is illuminated by two-light horizontal fixed windows with vertical, diamond-shaped wood bars. A four-light diamond-shaped window is between the second- and third-floor windows.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: Main block is flat.

b. Cornice: Molded-box cornice on the east and west facades.

9. Decorative features: A stone date marker "1845" is located in the top-center portion of the south wall.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plans:

- a. Basement: A full basement containing five rooms is entered internally from the kitchen and externally on the north facade using a second basement stair.

The kitchen entrance leads to the laundry room, which is directly under the dining room. The washer and dryer sit on a concrete platform that at one time was a trough where dairy-founder George Abbott aerated milk before shipping it to market. During the mid-twentieth century the trough was filled with concrete.

The external entrance to the basement opens into a space that is the full depth of the house, which may be an older section of the basement since the kitchen ell is surmised to be eighteenth century.

Adjacent to this is the room below the dining room, from which a door on the east wall leads to a space that occupies the majority of the east portion of the basement, and a door on the south leads to the space below the hallway. The latter space serves as the laundry room.

An additional stairway originally continued to the basement from the first floor. In the early twentieth century, this was enclosed and converted to a bathroom. The room in the southwest corner is only a portion of the living room above.

The walls are brick finished with plaster; the ceiling is plaster; the floors are concrete.

- b. First floor: The first floor is a modified center-hall plan. The front door opens into a stair-hall that is the full depth of the structure, with two rooms on either side. The northeast room is a study, the northwest room is the dining room; there is a door between them, but it is not currently used. The two-story kitchen ell adjoins the north wall of the dining room and half of the study.

Off the west wall of the kitchen, beyond the dining-room wall, is a one-story brick storage room. The south wall of the kitchen features an eighteenth-century walk-in brick fireplace.

The south half of the house is a single living room the full width of the block, which was once two gender-segregated parlors divided by a folding partition that moved on a track. It was a Quaker custom to separate the sexes not only in their meeting houses, but at home, as well. Off the south wall of the living room, through French doors, is a screened-in sun porch that runs the full depth of the house.

At the rear/west end of the hall, underneath the stairwell, is a half-bathroom that was installed in the early 1900s.

- c. Second floor: The second floor plan is the same as the first: a center hall flanked by two rooms on each side. At the east end of the hall is a twentieth-century bathroom. The southeast space is the largest bedroom today because the wall was moved in the mid-twentieth century, thus shrinking the southwest room. Through the northwest

room is the entrance to what was once servants' quarters above the kitchen. The northeast room is a bedroom; the northwest space is a bathroom.

- d. Third floor: The plan is the same as the original plan of the second floor; a center hall flanked by two bedrooms on each side, and a bathroom at the east end.
- e. Attic: The entrance to the attic is located in the northeast bedroom of the third floor. It is simply an insulated crawlspace.

- 2. Stairways: The main stairway is in the central hall. It is a three-flight, open well with molded banister, turned balusters, and decorative newel posts on each floor. At each floor, the stairway goes up seven steps to a landing where it turns 90 degrees, continues up three steps and turns 90 degrees again before going up another three steps to reach the subsequent floor.

A rear stairway leads from the storage room off the kitchen to the second-floor servants' quarters. In the nineteenth century, before the storage room was added, the stairway opened into both the kitchen ell and the dining room.

The stairway from the third-floor northeast bedroom to the roof is steep, ladder-like, and narrow. The wide stairway connecting kitchen to basement is concrete and curves. A continuation of the center stairway to the basement has been enclosed to make a half bathroom.

- 3. Flooring: Wood floors predominate, with pumpkin or heart pine on the first floor. The kitchen floor is covered with linoleum.
- 4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted or papered.
- 5. Openings:

- a. Doorways/doors: The surrounds vary from room to room with the most decorative in the living room and hall. The door locations are bilaterally symmetrical on each half of the first floor. These doors have three tiers of molded panels with the largest in the middle, a pattern called "cross and Bible." The doors are framed by paneled pilasters carrying an entablature. The same molding and entablature are found along the French doors that lead to the sun porch; these also feature above-transom two-light glazing.

The doors in the dining room and study match those in the living room and hall, but just feature molded surrounds. The door between the study and kitchen has a "drying closet" above it that is accessed through two small single-paneled doors; in the nineteenth century, this space was adjacent to a working fireplace.

The doors on the second floor are paneled and set in molded

surrounds except for those leading to the servants' quarters, which are set in simple surrounds. All doors leading to the hall have louvered and solid panel doors, the former to allow for circulation and privacy. The doors on the third floor, some of which have broken panels and damaged hardware but are set in simple surrounds, are unlike those in the rest of the house; they are scheduled to be replaced.

- b. Windows: Recessed floor-to-ceiling windows are found on the east and west walls of the living room. They are placed in a stepped architraves with paneled reveals, a decorative crown above and paneling below.

The windows in the study are similar to those in the living room, but without a decorative crown; those in the dining room are set in a simple architrave.

Windows on the second floor are set in a simple architrave. Those in the kitchen, first-floor storage room, second-floor servants' quarters, and third-floor rooms are set in plain surrounds.

6. Decorative features: An elliptical arch spans the middle of the central hallway. A slender closet is located in the study beside the door that leads to the dining room. The closet, as deep as the wall, has a two-paneled door.

In the northeast bedroom on the second floor is another slender closet containing a safe, with a two-paneled door set in a simple surround. The safe is wood with a wood door. The closet was adjacent to a fireplace until the latter was closed.

The living room's south wall, flanking the French doors, are identical dark-gray marble mantles. The firebox openings are framed by fluted pilasters, plain frieze, and simple mantle shelf.

7. Hardware: All closets feature original nineteenth-century hardware. During the house's abandonment, door knobs and other hardware were either taken or damaged; these have been replaced with antique knobs.

Meat hooks are still present in the north room of the basement.

8. Mechanical systems:

- a. Heating: Fireplaces can still heat the living room and the kitchen on the first floor, and the southwest bedroom on the second floor. A fireplace was also located in the first-floor study and the northeast bedroom on the second floor. The dining room and third-floor rooms were heated by stoves. A Homer heating grate, which was part of a central furnace, is in the middle of the central hall between the living room and the study. (The exterior chimney on the north side of the house was connected to this central furnace in the basement.) Evidence of radiators is found throughout the house.

Today, an oil furnace heats the two front bedrooms on the

second floor, the living room, study, dining room, and kitchen. Hot-water baseboard heaters warm the rest of the rooms on the second floor. Three of the four rooms on the third floor do not have heat.

- b. Plumbing: There is a large cistern located under the kitchen, a trap-door access to which was discovered during renovation work. According to family legend, this space served as a hideout for runaway slaves being secreted north; south Jersey, with its many accessible waterways and significant Quaker population, was part of the Underground Railroad.

During the early twentieth century, half and full bathrooms, respectively, were installed on the first and second floors; in the mid twentieth century, the full third-floor bathroom was added. The bath in the second-floor servants' quarters, and the half baths on the second and third floor, were added in the late 1980s.

- c. Electric: At the turn of the century, batteries charged with a gas generator were stored in the stone outbuilding off the kitchen. Wires between it and the house provided electric power to the farm.

Electricity may have been installed by the Abbott family or the Campbell family, who bought the house in 1929.

D. Site:

- 1. Historic landscape design: In 1845, George Abbott selected the site for his house and farm because of the potential fertility. South and west of the house is the Salem Creek marsh or Mannington Meadow, where Denn's Island was once created. During the nineteenth and early twentieth century, this land was drained, reclaimed, and served as additional farm and pasture acreage--as part of Abbott's Meadow company. East of the house is a field for growing crops. North of the house, beyond the outbuildings, was an orchard of which only some trees remain.

Although the men of the Abbott family dealt with the majority of the Tide Mill land, the women cared for the Quaker garden on the northeast side of the house. This garden, possibly 100 years old, consists of a stone walk laid in a circular pattern that is open at the north end, where it leads to the orchard. At the south/top of the circle the stones form a triangle around a pedestal that may have been a sundial, and straight path that leads to a rose trellis. The interior of the circular walk is lined with small boxwood. From the trellis, larger boxwood plantings fence the south and west sides of the garden; a white picket fence encloses the east side.

- 2. Outbuildings: All the outbuildings are located north of the house (NJ-994-A) creating a service yard of sorts. The first is a small, gable-front stone building (NJ-994-B) whose historic function is unknown. According to the Abbott family, John Denn supposedly raised a black child, Hetty Saunders,

who later built a small stone dwelling next to the main house, where she died at age 70 in 1862. If true, this could be that structure.

Farthest from the main house, a three-sided frame machine shed was joined to a two-story frame building that served as a stable and servants' quarters; because the adjacent building is gone, the shed is an awkward profile of two-story west facade, with a shingled shed roof that slopes eastward. (See NJ-994-E, milk house, for photograph).

Opposite (north of) the kitchen is a one-and-one-half-story, nineteenth-century frame drive-in corn crib with a shed on its west side (NJ-994-D); it has been modified by the addition of a modern garage door on its front/south side.

In front of the shed is a one-story, rectangular concrete-block milk house (NJ-994-E) with exterior brick chimney on the south gable end, and two entrances and windows on its east/front facade; milk was stored here when the dairy operated at the site. A somewhat makeshift picket fence encloses these buildings as a yard.

Off the southeast corner of the house is a playhouse built by the Campbell family in the mid twentieth century. A barn, which extended toward Mannington Meadows, was torn down in 1991 due to structural problems.

### PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

#### A. Interviews:

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#### PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The project was sponsored by the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail (NJCHT) of the National Park Service, Janet Wolf, director. The documentation was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), Robert Kapsch, chief, and Sara Amy Leach, HABS historian. The project was completed during summer 1992. The project historian was Kimberly R. Sebold (University of Delaware); photography was produced by David Ames, University of Delaware, Center for Historic Architecture and Engineering.



historic photograph  
"Tide-Mill Farm" Mannington. Salem NJ 1845."

courtesy Abbott Family Papers





historic photograph, n.d.  
view looking southwest at east front and north side of house

courtesy Abbott Family Papers



historic photograph, n.d.  
view looking north at east front and south side of house

courtesy Abbott Family Papers



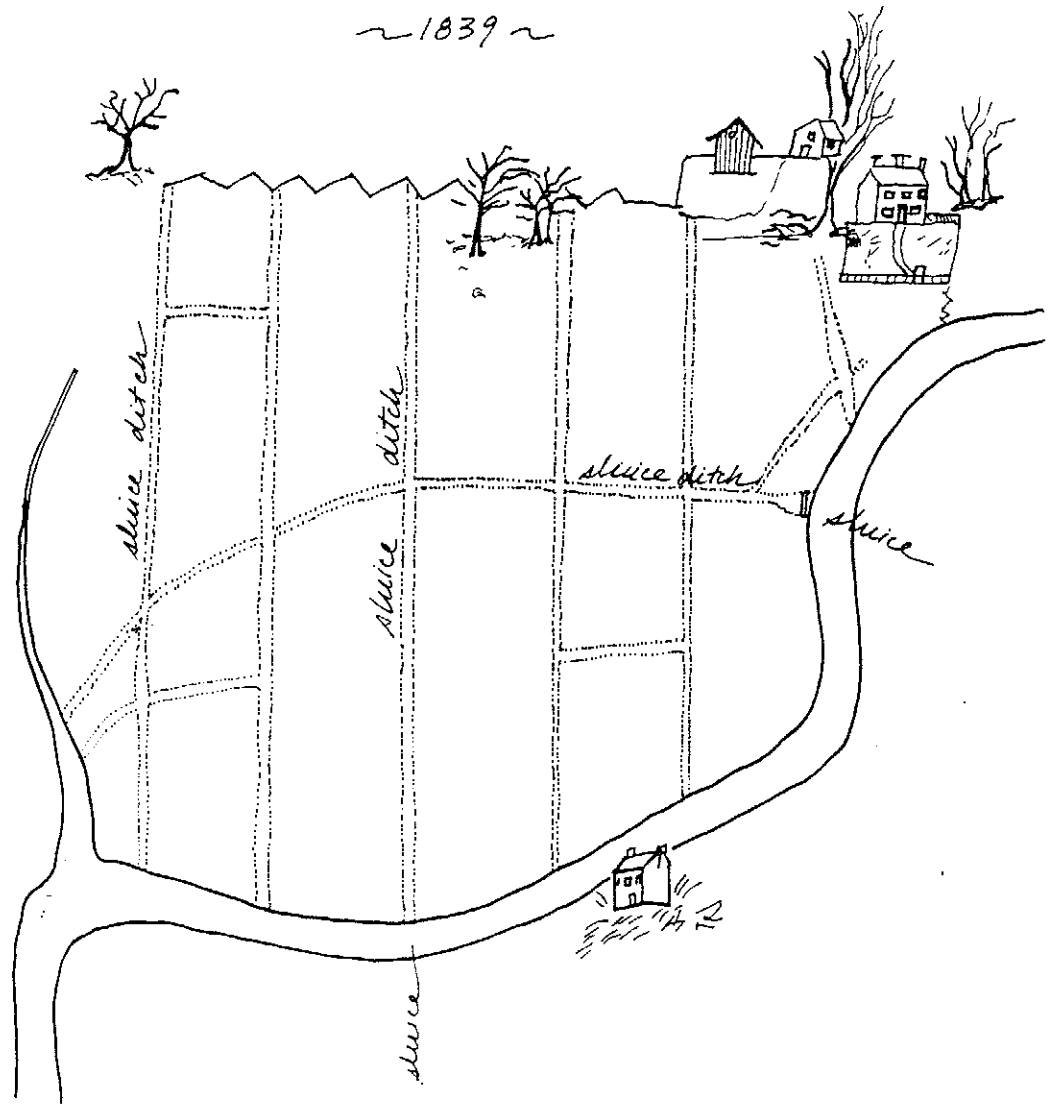
historic photograph, ca. 1900  
southwest corner of the living room

courtesy Abbott Family Papers

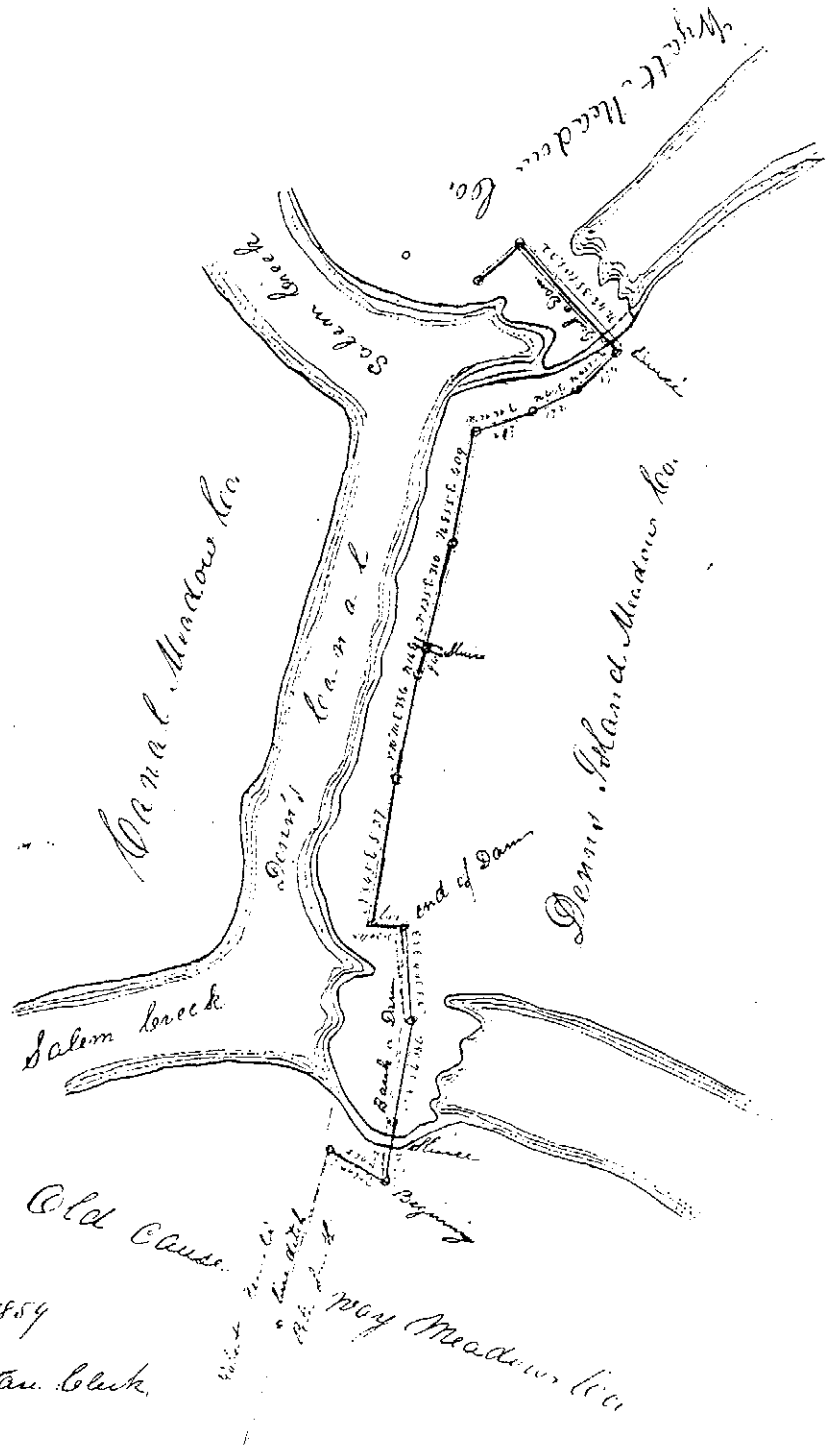


historic photograph, ca. 1900  
dining room

courtesy Abbott Family Papers



Sketch map showing Tide-Mill Farm area, 1839.  
Abbott Family Papers.



Recorded January 1, 1859  
and recorded  
M. W. Clerk

Survey map, recorded January 1, 1859. Salem County Historical Society.

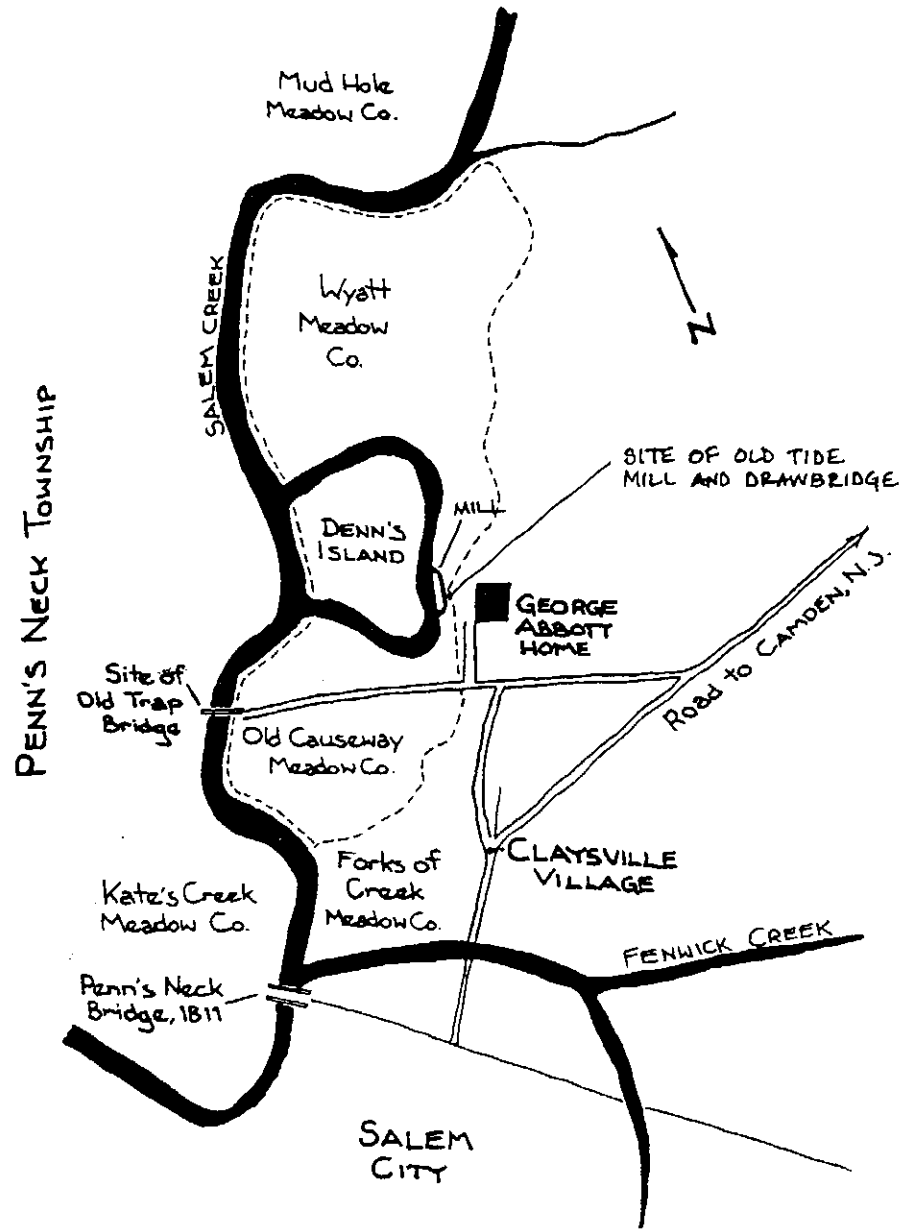


Illustration based on a 1920 sketch map by Henry Abbott, which accompanied a letter he sent to the U.S. Census. Abbott Family Papers.



"THE SAFETY CAN TOP," supplies a long felt need by remedying the defects of the Milk Can Tops now in general use. *Its points of advantage are:—*

1st.—Greater strength and durability. The Safety Can Top being constructed of the best refined malleable iron, is more durable than other parts of the can; while the lid now in use requires one or two renewals before the can is worn out.

2d.—When the can is full, slushing of the contents is prevented, whereby the milk is kept from churning in warm weather, and from freezing on the neck and lid in cold weather.

3d.—The lid being closed and the inner cover turned to position, the contents is secured against loss should the can be overturned.

4th.—The lid is hinged to the can, thereby preventing its loss or exchange, and insuring a close fit in every instance.

5th.—The great annoyance and loss arising from the pilfering of milk during transportation is prevented in a simple and inexpensive manner; the top being so adapted that a lead seal may be attached, securing the cover in the locked position. The expense of thus sealing a can is about one-third of a cent. Small as is this expenditure, it is usually not needful, as the tying of the ends of the tag string or other piece of twine into the position provided for the seal wire, generally furnishes a sufficient protection; as the breaking of the string gives notice that the can has been tampered with and brings an implication upon the parties who have had it in charge.

In short, the use of "THE SAFETY CAN TOP" eliminates from milk furnishing most of its annoying features.

GEORGE ABBOTT, Jr.,

Inventor and Owner,

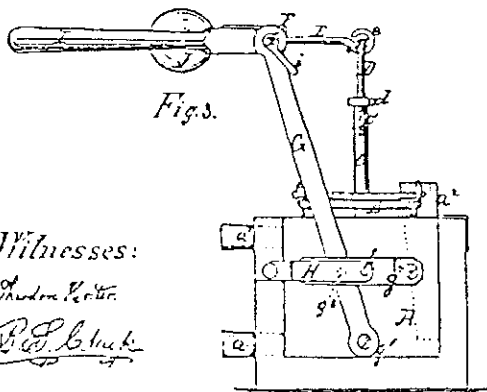
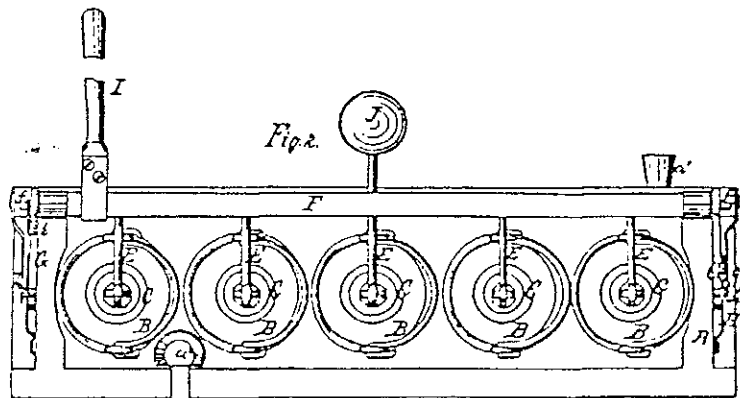
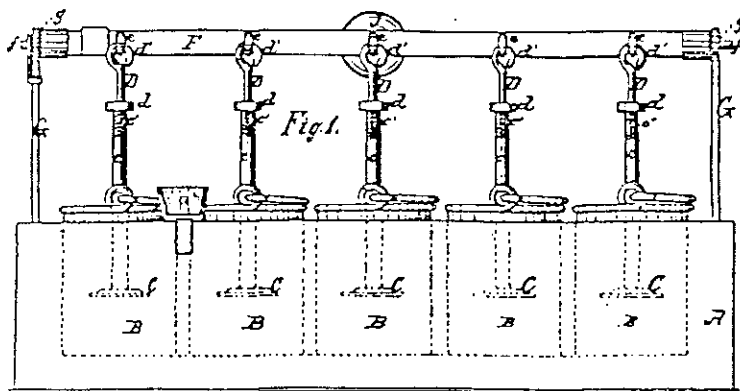
Proprietor of "ABBOTT'S ALDERNEY DAIRIES."

OFFICE, 1439 RIDGE AVENUE,  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

"The Safety Can Top," George Abbott, Jr., Inventor and Owner.  
Abbott Family Papers.



APPARATUS FOR COOLING AND DEODORIZING MILK.  
No. 182,512. Patented Sept. 26, 1876.



Witnesses:  
Theodore K. ...  
P. ...

Inventor:  
George Abbott, Jr.  
P. ...  
A Hyr.