

Old Town Hall
Mamaroneck, N. Y.

HABS No. NY-4114

HABS
NY
60-1114

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 4
New York State

Historic American Buildings Survey
Wakefield Worcester, District Officer
25 West 44th Street, New York, N. Y.

HABS
NY
60-MAMA

OLD TOWN HALL
Mamaroneck, Westchester County, N. Y.

Owner:

Town of Mamaroneck, N. Y.

Date of Erection:

1845

Architect:

Unknown

Builder:

Unknown

Present Condition:

Good

Number of Stories:

One story with high basement

Materials of Construction:

Exterior walls - frame

Interior walls - plaster

Floors - wood

Roof - Shingle

Other Existing Records:

None

Additional Data:

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Record:</u>	<u>Reference:</u>
1625	The wide area of country which included what later became the Township of Mamaroneck was originally owned by a sub-clan of Indians, the Siwanoy, a branch of the Mohegan Tribe.	Bolton, "Hist. of the County of Westchester" (1905 Ed.), I:464
1640	Through Cornelius Van Tienhoven, Governor Kieft bought from the Siwanoy for the Dutch West India Co. the Indian land title with full sovereignty covering the entire area of south-eastern Westchester and of Connecticut as far east as the Norwalk Islands inclusive.	Ibid.,
1661	September 21. John Richbell, an Englishman from Oyster Bay, L.I., bought from the Indian occupants, Wappaquewam and Mahatahan, the area of the present Town of Mamaroneck. He then began developing the Town by building along the Westchester Turnpike (the Boston Post Road) near the shore now called Orienta Point.	Scharf, "Hist. of Westchester County," I: 846 and 848
"	October. A rival Englishman, Thomas Revell, undertook to buy the same lands or part of them from Indians, including Wappaquewam, at an increased price.	Ibid., I: 848-849
<p>Richbell, however, having procured his deed on September 23, applied to the Dutch Government at New Amsterdam for a "Ground Brief" and subsequently a "Transport". The Dutch license to buy Indian lands and the patent for them were so called, respectively. The account continues: "Governor Stuyvesant and his Council thereupon had the purchase as well as Revell's claim thoroughly investigated and testimony taken, and full deliberation decided in Richbell's favor and issued to him both the Ground Brief and the Transport. After the English conquest and the order directing the confirmation of the Dutch Grants to their proprietors and before his English Patent of the 16th of October, 1668, was obtained, Richbell recorded these instruments, and he also had recorded the evidence taken before the Dutch Council, his Indian deed of June 6, 1666, confirming that of 1661, and an affidavit of another witness of the original purchase sworn to in 1665."</p>		
1669	April 23. John Richbell and wife Ann sold land to John Rider. Deed recorded June 5, 1696	Liber B of Early Deeds, p. 275

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Record:</u>	<u>Reference:</u>
1669 May 4.	John Richbell and wife conveyed part of his Mamaroneck land to his mother-in-law, Margaret Parsons.	Bolton, I:471
1670	John Richbell set apart this parcel of land, north of the Westchester Path or Boston Post Road for what he called "allotments or house lots".	Scharf, I:855
1684 July 26.	John Richbell died leaving his estate to his widow, Ann Richbell.	Scharf, I:854
1684 August 8.	Mrs. Ann Richbell gave this piece of land to her daughter, Mrs. Mary Mott and the latter's husband, Capt. James Mott. All the rest of her estate in Mamaroneck was reserved in her deed to Col. Caleb Heathcote.	Scharf, I:854, citing Liber A of Early Deeds, p. 34
1697 December 23.	Mrs. Ann Richbell sold her entire estate and her late husband's land to Col. Caleb Heathcote for the sum of £ 600, Deed recorded March 22, 1698.	Scharf, I:854, citing Liber B, p. 371
1701 March 21.	Col. Caleb Heathcote obtained a Manor Grant and became Lord of the Manor of Scarsdale.	Scharf, I:95-96; 658 & 854; Bolton, II:212 & 217
" June 11.	Col. Caleb Heathcote, Capt. Joseph Theal, Lieut. John Horton and Joseph Purdy of Mamaroneck and Rye, obtained deeds for this section from the Indians, thus extinguishing the titles or claims of Serrinqua, Quarrarroquash, Wyapora and Patthunke who were the Indian proprietors of the town.	
" July 4.	Col. Caleb Heathcote, Capt. James Mott, Robert Lockard, Gresham Lockard, Nathaniell Sellock, Richard Scofield, Gresham Lockard (Jr.), and Henry Desbrow bought land from three Indians, Sorringo, Raresquash, Washpakin Ramhome and Packanecin. Deed recorded Aug. 6, 1701.	Liber C, p. 96
1716 December 26.	Col. Heathcote bought a piece of land for £ 50 from Thomas Penoyer of Stamford to add to his vast estate. Deed recorded Jan. 7, 1717.	Liber E, p. 183
1721 February 28.	Col. Heathcote died, leaving his estate to his heirs. Dixon Ryan Fox, in his biography of Heathcote (1926), p. 279, finds	Bolton, II:227

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Record:</u>	<u>Reference:</u>
1721 (cont'd)	he died early in the morning of March 1st.	
1721 1785	Between these dates, records are incomplete to regarding this property, but after 1785 they are fuller.	
1785	May 25. The County Sheriff, John Thomas, sold to the highest bidder, Gilbert Budd, a farm of 223 acres, which included this site, for £ 952. Deed recorded Aug. 8, 1785.	Liber I, p. 359
1805	October 14. Col. Gilbert Budd died.	--
1805 to 1811	No records found relating to this property.	
1811	April 1. Gilbert Budd (another of the same name as the Colonel - see 1805) sold land known as the Hadley Farm and the Homestead to Bartholomew Ward. Deed recorded May 5, 1855.	Liber 303, p. 5
"	July 25. Gilbert Budd Horton made a bid at Sheriff's sale for this property which included a few stores on the Boston Post Road. His deed for six acres recites that, in 1809, a debt was due to John Guion and Jane Merritt, Executors of the Estate of Edward Merritt, by John Merritt, Jr. The sale helped to defray the debt.	Liber 305, p. 204
"	October 13. John Guion and wife sold land to the President and Directors of The Westchester County Manufacturing Society. Deed recorded May 5, 1855.	Liber 303, p. 62
"	October 26. Bartholomew Ward sold this farm to the President and Directors of The Westchester County Manufacturing Society. Deed recorded May 5, 1855.	Liber 303, p. 68
"	The Westchester County Mfg. Co. was a company for the manufacture of cotton goods. They owned a mill on the Sheldraka River. The Company was incorporated under a special act of the Legislature. The incorporators, named in the act, were Daniel Pelton, William Palmer, Jasper Ward, George Downing, Nathaniel Wells, John Mason, Henry Fanning, Samuel Tooker, Ichabod Prall, and Jonathan Ward. The Directors for the first year	Laws of N.Y., 1811, Chap. 17

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Record:</u>	<u>Reference:</u>
1866	September 28. The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church sold this building and property to Rachel S. Rogers, the first individual owner after the decision to sell. Deed recorded Dec. 26, 1866.	Liber 614, p. 348
	December 20. John W. Mills and wife released their interest in the building and lot to Rachel S. Rogers. Deed recorded Oct. 5, 1867. A paragraph in the deed states that a Trustee's meeting of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Mamaroneck was called on September 17 to discuss a proposal to sell the property, and that a resolution was passed to sell for not less than \$2,000.	Liber 652, p. 303
1869	September 8. Rachel S. Rogere and husband sold this building and land to Stephen S. Marshall. Deed recorded September 9, 1869.	Liber 723, p. 250
1870	May 31. Stephen S. Marshall and wife sold this building and land to Rachel S. Rogers. Deed recorded June 2, 1870.	Liber 745, p. 212
1871	October 16. Rachel S. Rogers sold the building and land to Stephen S. Marshall. Deed recorded November 28, 1871.	Liber 791, p. 172
1876	December 30. A Referee, Charles W. Cochran, appointed by the Court in an action between John W. Mills, Trustee and Executor of the Estate of Philip R. Paulding, Plaintiff, and Rachel S. Rogers, Defendant, conveyed the estate to the Executors in an action on foreclosure. The Estate held a mortgage on the property and thus acquired title. Deed recorded December 16, 1879.	Liber 973, p. 368
1879	December 15. The Town of Mamaroneck bought this building and lot from John W. Mills, Executor of the Estate of Philip R. Paulding. Recordsd on December 16, 1879.	Liber 973, p. 370
1894	The first set of specifications submitted by a contractor for alterations in the Church Edifice were not used by the Town.	
1897	Specifications submitted to the Town in this year for the addition on the rear and other alterations were used. The Townholds the receipted bill to the amount of \$870. from the carpenter who did the work.	
1902	May 3. An Agreement between the Trustees of the	

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Record:</u>	<u>Reference:</u>
1902 (contd.)	Methodist Episcopal Church and the Board of Trustees of the Town of Mamaroneck makes final determination of boundary lines. Agreement recorded in the Register's Office May 14, 1902.	Liber 1611, p. 402
1934	September 1. "The Daily Times," a local newspaper of Mamaroneck, makes several historical mentions of the Town Hall at different times. An article appeared on this day reporting that the Town Clerk, Mr. Marvin, found the old safe with a lot of valuable documents in its.	"Daily Times," Mamaroneck, Sept. 1, 1934
"	September 11. A group of C.W.A. workmen started to paint the Town Hall as a Government project.	Ibid., Sept. 11, 1934
"	December 10. A brief history of the Town Hall was published.	Ibid., Dec. 10, 1934
1936	The Old Town Hall, called Richbell Hall on early maps, is situated north of the Boston Post Road, on Prospect Avenue near Mt. Pleasant Avenue, only one block west of the main shopping centre of the Town of Mamaroneck. It overlooks Long Island Sound.	"Monthly Bulletin," of Westchester County Historical Soc., Apr., 1937, p. 52

Acquired by the Town in 1879, the building and the land where it stands have been owned by the Town of Mamaroneck for the last 57 years. During this period, it has been used as a storage place for records and in recent years has housed the Welfare Department of the Town. The Town Clerk (who in 1936 is Mr. Marvin) has in his keeping the deed and other important papers pertaining to the purchase of the land and building, all of which are entered of record in the Register's Office, in White Plains, N. Y.

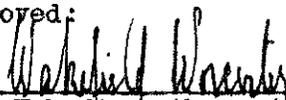
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Approved:



 Wakefield Worcester, District Officer

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