The first Jacob settler in America was named Nicholas. He may have been born in the Norfolk portion of East Anglia (England) in 1597. It is likely that the Jacob family was of the, what we'd call, middle class. Nicholas, who married Mary Gilman in 1629 and had already two children by her by emigration time, sailed to Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1633. He traveled with his wife, son John, infant daughter Elizabeth, and a cousin named Thomas Lincoln, who was a weaver by trade, and may have been the brother of an ancestor of President Lincoln who was named Samuel. At first the Jacob family settled in Watertown, but soon moved to Hingham of Massachusetts Bay Colony. Nicholas was made a "freeman" or voting member of the colony by the standard used by Town authorities. In order to be such, one had to own some property, be a member of a Puritan congregation, an adult male, and deemed a person of sound moral character, that is, one of the "elect" of God for salvation. He served as a selectman for the Town of Hingham from 1637 to 1640, during the religious/political war in England between King Charles I and Parliament. As a selectman, he divided the Conohasset lands, now Cohasset, with eight other selectmen. However, much of these lands would eventually be granted to others. Nicholas also served during the years 1648 and 1649 in the Massachusetts Bay General Court (colonial legislature). He would die on 5 June 1657 at age 60, having fathered eight children, all but one surviving him.

Nicholas' son, John, his first, was the only son to survive both parents and inherit the family's assets. He married Margery Eames on 20 October 1653 in Hingham, but she died after six years leaving two sons and two daughters. In 1661, John married Mary Russell. She would live thirty years and give birth to 5 sons and 6 daughters, though still not outlive her husband. John controlled much land on both sides of today's Main Street comprising much of the current Glad Tidings Plain Historic District in Hingham. While he worked as a surveyor, he was also a captain of militia, later called the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company. His eldest son, John, was killed by Indians on their land in King Philip's War (c1676). John Sr. constructed a lumber mill on Cushing Pond near Crooked Brook in 1692. There were competitors, among them Matthew Cushing's lumber mill on Triphammer Pond in 1670, now within Wampatuck State Park.

One of John's sons, David (1664-1748), would marry Sarah Cushing (1671-1723) in 1689. David had purchased land in Scituate from a relative, George Russell, in 1688. Russell had run a mill with the Stockbridges for many years. David was familiar with this grist mill. He also served as a church deacon and schoolmaster for Scituate's only school. By age 36 in 1700, David owned land around Third Herring Brook; as a Town surveyor, he laid out a road where Indians had traveled on a path from Winter to Summer camp sites. This road is documented as existing in 1704 between the Greenbush area where David lived and running west to the Assinippi area over the Third Herring Brook (the road being today's Main St., Norwell). This brook, along its long course, had seen duty in the 17th century for powering at least a couple gristmills. Sometime between 1700 and 1720, probably with much assistance, David cleared trees, and dammed up the stream to form what has become known as Jacobs Pond. Two of his sons, Joshua (b1702) and Dr. Joseph (b1707) are given credit for building a grist mill and saw mill there by about 1725 (though they would only have been 23 and 18 respectively), each mill with its own flume. The grist mill was just west of the saw mill. Reference was made to the mills in the incorporation papers of Hanover in 1727. Both mills were built originally within the bounds of Scituate, but the brook became a boundary when Hanover separated. Except

for southwest of the pond and west of the course of the brook south of it, the pond and land would be called part of the Town of Scituate until 1849.
When Joshua Jacob (b 1702), married Mary James (b 1704) on 7 April 1726, the couple became the first to occupy the newly constructed two story house built 60 rods to the east north east of the family grist and saw mills, which were powered by the water flowing beneath the main road from the Jacobs Pond.
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Eventually, the Jacob family would be well represented in houses on what is now Jacobs Lane, Main Street, and Prospect Street in what is now Norwell and along Washington Street in Hanover and Norwell. In short, mostly around the Pond. Joshua's brother, Dr. Joseph, was a physician. He would be the father of Elijah (1735-1779), whose brick house, known as "The Line House," is still standing on today's Assinippi Avenue.

"The Line House" striding the town lines of Hanover and Norwell and near the Pond, was built c1759-69, constructed of brick made from the owner's kiln on the property. Brick making would be a trade for him and for subsequent generations, though perhaps more for chimneys and fireplaces than entire dwellings. His youngest son would also raise a family in that house. He was Edward Foster Jacobs (1774-1853), pictured below, who served as a Scituate selectman, and on the Governor's Council, and as a State Representative for both the Towns of Hanover and Scituate. He was a sponsor of the nearby Universalist Church.

At the death of Joshua in 1784, what is called the Jacobs Homestead or Farmhouse passed to James (b 1742), who would marry Deborah Richmond (b 1742) and have three children.

When James died in 1827, the Farmhouse was owned for about a decade by his son, Richmond Jacobs (1808-1838, who died on a trip to New Orleans, which was a very important port for shipping goods.

Richmond, having no heirs, the youngest son of James, Ichabod Richmond Jacobs (b1774) inherited the Farmhouse and his brother's mill shares. Ichabod had married Clarissa Richmond (b 1778) in 1805. He served as a Scituate selectman in the years 1840-1841. While the families could make a living from their farms, the mills provided important supplemental income shared among the male heirs.

According to historian, L. Vernon Briggs, there were two other grist and saw mills belonging to other families further south on the swift-flowing five mile stream of Third Herring Brook in 1829.

Ichabod's eldest child, Mary Sheffield Jacobs (1806-1883) would marry the Rev. Massena Berthier Ballou (1800-1881) on 21 December 1825. Massena was the son of the famous Universalist preacher, Rev. Hosea Ballou, who had spoken at the local Universalist Church and who would end his career at the Society's headquarters in Boston. His portrait remains at the Farmhouse.

The story is related by local historian, Margaret Dumas-Crowell, that a great grandson of the first Joshua Jacob, a grandson of the 2nd Joshua, a son of the 3rd Joshua, by the name of Bela Tower Jacob (1806-1886), age 22 around 1830, was loaned money by the wealthy and soon to be bank owner, Ebenezer T. Fogg, enough funds to travel to

Chile to make his fortune. Needless to say, this was much to the dismay of his relations who had seen him grow up at his father's Cape house on Prospect Street and who refused to invest in his adventure. In Chile he made coffins for the many victims of yellow fever and did other carpentry, and, after having made $40,000, had to smuggle his gold in the hold of his returning ship. It was against Chilean law to take much gold out of the country. He succeeded and lived in a two story house two houses east of the Jacobs Homestead. For many years Bela was a farm laborer for relatives. By the end of his life, he lived in the east side of Jacobs Homestead and work in fields for Benjamin Jacobs (b 1815).

In 1839, Ichabod's son, Benjamin (b 1815), married the local Universalist pastor's daughter, Maria M. P. Killam (b 1820), and they needed a place of their own. Then, there were four children of Ichabod's large family still living at the Farmhouse. So, Ichabod obtained a house of somewhat inferior quality, and had it moved and attached to the old Homestead around 1840. The exact age or former location of that house remains a mystery. The attached house was made to appear as though it had always been a part of the original Homestead, at least as it was seen from the road (now Main St.). Benjamin had two children, a son who would grow up to live in New York and a daughter who remained a spinster schoolteacher and inherited her uncle's house in Hanover where she lived most of her life. Benjamin's first wife died in 1846, and he married Sarah Hatch two years later. By her he also had a son who left for New York after his marriage and a daughter who was a schoolteacher. Benjamin's second wife also preceded him in death, dying in 1886. Benjamin himself would die in 1891, leaving his daughter, Sarah Barton Jacobs (b 1853) alone in the east side of the Farmhouse until she married and went with her husband, Frank Edgar Swift (b 1853), to Brockton four years later.

In the 1840s, Ichabod decided to divide his house between his sons Barton and Benjamin, but continued to live with them. In 1855, Ichabod's youngest son, Barton Richmond Jacobs (b1823), married Frances Almira Ford (b1828), and at his father's death on 6 November 1856, lived in the older section of the Homestead. Benjamin and his family continued to live in what was always called "the other house."

During the Civil War (1861-1865), there were Jacobs in the military, but they were not from the Homestead. However, there is an interesting genealogical link to the Jacobs clan. A direct descendant of one of the first mill builders and his wife, Joseph Jacob and Mary Foster, was Relief Jacob (b 1785). She was their great granddaughter, and was the mother of the famous anti-slavery United States Senator from Massachusetts, Charles Sumner, who was a close friend to President Lincoln and his family.

Barton would buy most of the remaining "mill shares" from Benjamin, who had many debts, from about 1875 on. The farm and the mills thrived under Barton Richmond Jacobs. According to a diary entry of Harwood Smith (age 16) of Hanover, who with his brother, Percy (age 14), ice-fished on Jacobs Pond. On the clear and cold Saturday December 17, 1887, Barton came out to give them a friendly warning that his mill would be operating for a couple hours that afternoon. Specifically, he told them "not to be alarmed at what would seem to be a general cracking up of the ice, which he said might occur due to drawing down the pond with his water wheel." He went on to explain the origin of the mill and his family's connection to it. Harwood characterized Barton as "pleasant" and "talkative." Barton stated that of about 35 to 40 families in this Assinippi area, fully half were Jacobs at that time. The boys, who were successful catching twenty

pickerel by setting traps and lines, gave Barton two of them. In fact, on their way home, they stopped at the general store in Assinippi to weigh a pickerel a trap had caught that "topped five and three-quarter pounds." This was a local record. It also saved them a scolding from their worried parents when they got back late for their supper. Like everyone the boys showed the fish to on their way home, they were astonished at its size. But by the time of Barton's death in 1895, it is likely that neither the farm nor the mill was quite the same. The grist mill had ceased operation by then; the saw mill continued to function, but probably did its last work not long after 1900.

According to Perez Simmons, referring to the sawmill, he thought (though he was only age six at the time) that the mill was very busy after the November 1898 Blizzard had uprooted many white pines. He thought the pond looked "wine-colored," and were it not for the Pond, a boy's life would have been dull. It provided skating, sail skating, ice-fishing, hockey and watching the harvesting of ice during the winter and swimming and fishing in summer. The sawdust from the mill was used to pack the ice. Perez said that as a boy he remembered "an abandoned up-and-down sawmill, a circular sawmill with edger, and a long-unused gristmill."

Perez remembered, "the noise of the sawmill was music to my ears.
The different notes and uneven cadences of the circular log saw and the edger rang out above the rush of the water, rumble of wheels, swish of belts, and banging of the carriage. Under the older part of the sawmill there was a cavernous place where one could walk on narrow planks among the driving machinery. Strangely exciting odors were enjoyed there, like the smell of wet wood, of dust in the grist mill, of decaying bark, of fresh sawdust, of pine logs and tarred string used for tying bundles of edgings. The liking a boy has for these odors has something instinctive about it." Unfortunately, the mill succumbed to children celebrating the 4th of July in 1920, when it burned down, a year before widow Frances died at the Farmhouse. She had witnessed the sad deterioration and end of a long tradition.

There had only been two children, both sons, born of Barton and Frances. The elder was Henry Barton Jacobs (1857-1939) and the younger, Frederick Boyden Jacobs (1863-1896). Of these, the first to die was the younger, and, his elder brother would be the last of this family.

While both of these sons, from records we have, were very intelligent and personable, the one more likely to be voted "Mr. Personality" was Frederick. According to Henderson, Fred "went to dancing school every Saturday night." His girl friend who went with him lived just to the east on the road. Her name was Grace and she was the daughter of his cousin Edwin Jacobs. She gave "nut candy" parties. There were many dances and balls held at a hall in Assinippi, and socials and other festivities at the local church as well. The time was likely 1883 when Fred was 19 (turning 20 in December) as that was the year of one of his diaries.

Quoting Henderson's monograph on Fred, based on his now lost diaries, "In the winter there were skating parties on the pond and sleigh rides in Fred's sleigh. In springtime, the young people went to Valley Swamp for Mayflowers and Mountain Laurel. There were rides to the Third Cliff, Peggoty Beach, and the Glades. Fred repaired Hattie's boat and put it in the pond. During the summer, all enjoyed it. Besides various trips with the girls, Fred wrote that he took his mother rowing."

“Fred was a very attentive, attractive escort for this group of girls, adding much to their enjoyment. Grace seemed to be his special favorite….” He apparently had a sense of humor as he wrote that with a couple girls “dressed as boys, I as a girl,” they had “made calls around the village.”

Fred regularly awoke at 5:30am and studied until 7am and studied again from 8 to 9:30pm. At high school in Rockland he wrote many essays, and had examinations in “Caesar, French, Greek, and Spelling.” He later attended Exeter Academy about 1884 as a preparatory school for a year before his entry to Harvard University in 1885. He graduated from Harvard, Phi Beta Kappa, in 1889, and as class secretary from its law school in 1892.

Fred’s diary showed he was willing to work physically. Quoting Henderson, “During the long summer vacation, Fred was busy about the farm, planting seeds, specially for his mother’s flower garden, picking strawberries at 4:30 in the morning and at another time 5 quarts of blueberries. He seemed very close to his mother often writing of doing things about the house for her such as moving out the stove in the spring and putting it back in the fall, taking up the sitting room carpet one morning before going to school and putting it back at night. In haying time, he helped his father and Uncle Ben with the work at the various fields which he called by name: the Jones field, Meadow, Old Orchard, Damon pasture, and Turner lot. There were the long days work when they went with the oxen for the marsh grass at Stoney Brook, Wills Island, and Bare Island.”

In the same year he graduated from law school, Fred was elected to the Norwell School Committee. After much persuasion, his greatest achievement was to unite Hanover, Hanson, and Norwell under a single superintendent of schools to form a united school district. By February 1894, Fred had opened a law office in Boston, but by August he was stricken by tuberculosis, a disease that would soon end his promising life. He sought treatment in Atlanta, Georgia and Saranac Lake, New York, but to no avail. Henderson wrote of the touching concern of the Assinippi village for Fred’s welfare. Mrs. Jacobs would be stopped on her way to the Universalist Church or the post office by neighbors inquiring of Fred. She would suffer the loss of her husband Barton on December 19, 1895, followed by her youngest child on September 2, 1896. Fred, probably sensing the futility of the recovery attempt, had returned to the Homestead from Saranac Lake before he succumbed to the disease.

While sources thought to have disappeared may reappear, there is no evidence that Fred’s elder brother, Henry Barton, kept a diary. He did, however, write letters. Most of the ones that were found date from his mother’s widowhood years. It may be presumed that as a young man he shared in the work of the farm with his father and uncle. We know little about his early social life, but know that he attended Hingham High School, Exeter Academy as a preparatory school, Harvard University, and finally, its Medical School. While at Harvard, he rarely returned home except on a few weekends or vacations. On those occasions he would socialize at functions with his brother and others. After he graduated from medical school in 1887, he visited home seldom. He was on the staff of Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, but decided about 1890 that it would be more profitable to become the private physician to Mr. Robert Garrett of Baltimore, who had retired in 1887 as president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad due to mental difficulties. In doing so, Henry approach an opulently wealthy client, but not without a price. Since Mr. Garrett believed himself to be the English Prince of Wales,

his wife had decided that rather than place him in an asylum, all those around him would serve as courtiers and flatter his notions. Living in three huge connected buildings with fourteen servants, with a summer mansion in Newport, Rhode Island, this pretense would appear completely natural to the delusional patient.

Apparently missed by Henderson when she reported that no one in the Jacobs family was known to have expressed feelings about the destruction by fire of the Universalist Church on June 21, 1893, a Church that the family had patronized since its founding in 1766, was a letter written by Henry to his mother dated Sunday June 25th of that year. He wrote:

> I was so sorry to hear the news of the burning of your little church that I almost cried. I don't see how you had the courage to start right out to get subscriptions for a new one, of course there is no use in crying over spilt milk and your method of acting was very wise and philosophical. It does seem hard though that just as everything had been gotten into such a beautiful condition it should have needed to burn up….. I will gladly give you something toward the new church and will send you a cheque when necessary covering my subscription and that of father's. I should think you might possibly get some money from the headquarters of this denomination toward rebuilding. They must have certain missionary moneys which could certainly be put to no better use than aiding you.

Henry's willingness to make contributions for both his father and himself was not only indicative of a philanthropic spirit but also of a new economic stability. This permitted Henry to make sure his parents were cared for in their declining years, and to assist his ailing younger brother, Fred, so that he could have access to the best medical centers then available from 1894 to 1896. After the death of Mr. Garrett, however, in July of 1896, Henry proceeded to look for other employment. This turned out to be the opportunity to serve as an instructor at John Hopkins University. He became a specialist on lung diseases like tuberculosis, undoubtedly in honor of his ailing brother, and about the turn of the century, had published a couple monographs on treatments for tuberculosis and American practitioners of them. His collection of rare books and the medical tools he collected remain a legacy to that university to this day.

Apparently, the widow Mrs. Garrett, born Mary Sloan Frick (1851-1936), often felt the need for medical attention, and so developed a relationship with Dr. Henry Jacobs, having him accompany her on her annual trips to Paris to search for quality art works. She had long felt prevented from these trips during her husband's long illness. She made her connection with Dr. Jacobs permanent by marriage on April 2, 1902, in Baltimore. Mrs. Jacobs was reported to be worth twenty million dollars at this time. The couple made a sort of pre-nuptial contract where neither could claim the property of the other, even if one survived the other in death. It was in 1902, that Mrs. Jacobs decided to have a mansion she called "Whiteholme" constructed in Newport for her summer social season. She was already socially prominent in Baltimore, but wished to join the Vanderbilts in sharing company among the Newport, Rhode Island elite. It provided another venue for her art collections. Henry accompanied her wherever she went, whether in Baltimore, "Uplands" her Maryland country estate, Newport or Paris, undoubtedly keeping close tabs on her health. Their nuptials caused a stir in their social circles.

Henry wrote often to his widowed mother back home in Norwell,

and she would stay at a nearby Baltimore hotel during Winter months, sometimes with a female companion. A housekeeper and companion were with her back at the Norwell farm for other seasons. By 1897 cousin George Turner and his family lived in "the other house" to help with the farm chores. There was probably a regular crew employed at the sawmill until maintaining and operating it was no longer a family economic necessity. There was also growing competition as mills no longer depended on water power but could place a power source wherever needed. For example, Lyman W. Lincoln operated a sawmill in the Mount Blue section of town using a Diesel engine about 1913.

While George Turner was more a carpenter than a farmer, he found farming agreeable enough, even inventing a means of lifting hay into the upper part of the barn without having to pitch it up. He installed hardwood floors in "the other house." and as soon as about 1900 had an ornate metal ceiling taken from the demolition of a commercial building, cut up, and placed in the front sitting room, the most formal room of "the other house." When his son, Harold, had been ill with scarlet fever around 1910, he took a spare outside window and installed it in the wall of a storage room used for Harold's convalescence so that his son could see the dining room and the rest of the family as he was considered somewhat contagious. Later, Henry Jacobs would pay for Harold to attend Tufts University where he learned engineering. Harold Turner made frequent trips to Toronto, Canada, where he was usually employed. When he returned to Norwell, he was often asked to assist his father, but he was much less interested in farming. By 1930, George Turner was a widower and lived with Edith, Mrs. Irving Young, in Hanover. We know his son, Harold, spent some time at the farm between business trips to Canada because his only son, Harold Jr. (b 1927) left a detailed monograph to the Society about his childhood at the Farmhouse. According to Harold Turner Jr.'s recollections, Dr. Henry Jacobs visited to check on the place on rare occasion, though his attentions were not appreciated by his cousins, who were disappointed when he forbade them to use electricity in the house that was meant for use in the barn.

The remaining Turners may have left the farm in 1936 when Harold Jr. would have been nine. It was also the year that Dr. Henry Jacobs became a member of the new Norwell Historical Society (est 1935), and, when the Society was first allowed to use some rooms at the Farmhouse. It would be fair to say that Henry knew, after his mother's death in 1921, given the age of George and the unreliability of Harold (due to his absences), that he would need help in keeping the stone walls in place, the grass mowed, etc. Agnes McNaught, his mother's companion, survived five more years than Frances and was allowed to remain at the farm. Even when no one lived at the house, Henry saw to it that a housekeeper came at least twice per month to keep the place neat. He decided to hire a neighbor, Patrick Gammon, living in the house east of the farm. In the U.S. Census of 1930, Gammon called himself "farm manager." Ten years earlier, he had listed his prior occupation as "work, poultry farm." Patrick would have been about 50 in 1922. To assist him, Henry Curtis Hines, age 26, from Hanover was hired. Neither appeared to have occupied the Farmhouse.

Meanwhile, back in Baltimore, Dr. Henry Barton Jacobs showed leadership and support for many medical organizations and charities. He was a trustee of John Hopkins

Hospital, and first president of Maryland's Society for the Prevention and Relief of Tuberculosis. He wrote numerous articles for medical journals. He was considered very knowledgeable on 19th century French medicine, tuberculosis, and small pox. He donated a complete collection of books of the writings of Laennae on respiratory diseases. In fact, a room with stain-glassed windows houses his book collection at the Welch Medical Library of the John Hopkins School of Medicine.

In Newport, Henry was governor of the Newport Casino, president of the Redwood Library, and president of a beach association.

After the death of Mrs. Jacobs in Newport in 1936, Henry published an illustrated book showing the works of art she had gathered. Most of these would be donated to the Museum of Art in Baltimore. It is not known whether or not her death impacted the Turners as occupants of the Farm. It may have been necessary for Henry to figure what would happen given the pre-nuptial agreement. Fortunately, little changed for him.

Henry, the last of his part of this Jacobs line, died at age 82 at his deceased wife's Baltimore mansion of a heart attack on December 18, 1939. The philanthropy shown, especially to children's and medical causes in Baltimore, made the residents feel the great loss they suffered from the death of this generous couple.

While "Whiteholme" in Newport was torn down in 1963 by Salve Regina University, the Mount Vernon Place Mansion in Baltimore was saved by its purchase in 1962 by The Engineer's Club. It is today (2014) called the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion, and is one of several structures designated as Mount Vernon Historic District, a national historic landmark. The original architect for the mansion was the well-regarded John Russell Pope, who also designed the National Archives and National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and the Museum of Art in Baltimore. The ballroom-theatre of the mansion complex continued to be used by citizens of Baltimore for cultured entertainments in the spirit of Mrs. Garrett-Jacobs.

While the Jacobs were childless, and a pre-nuptial agreement forbade that one would inherit the wealth of the other, nevertheless, Henry Barton Jacobs, having been a vice-president of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (today called Historic New England), and aware of an interest developing in local history by the organizing in 1935 of the Norwell Historical Society, Henry provided in his will that his family's farm estate in Norwell could go to either the Society of which he had been an officer or to the Town government. Therefore, his Society (SPNEA) controlled the estate from 1939 until 1988. In that time, it rented the older portion of the House to an overseer to protect the property from vandalism. It also invited the Norwell Historical

Society to supervise those rooms not being rented, and to see if it could make the area one of local history exhibits for public viewing. It was not until around 1966 that the realization of an exhibit area was fully developed by the local volunteer group. Many donations were made to the Homestead by Society members.

However, while not excluding the possibility of other furnishings original to the house, there has been general agreement that the following are Jacob family pieces that occupied the Homestead:

In the 1727 rooms: Red painted desk dating from 1800, the stand up desk for a short man made by Elijah Damon, the portrait of Rev. Hosea Ballou (c1825), and pictures of Dr. Henry Barton Jacobs and his wife's Newport mansion.

In the 1840 rooms: The dining room table and chairs, the cast iron stoves throughout the various rooms, the straw matting on bedroom floors, the red painted chest in the second floor corridor, the trunk in the tool shed, the pull-down desk in the kitchen (probably used in tool shed for farm business), and mill pictures.

So, in conclusion, while there were many Jacobs homes built around the pond, certainly one of the earliest was built by Joshua Jacobs and companions for his new wife, Mary James, in 1726. It was uncommon in that it was a two story dwelling, and common in the sense that the main entry faced south as did most homes built in that century. Of course, not everyone had convenient access to a grist and saw mill complex. Some of the hardwood floor boards being about two feet wide would indicate the availability of enormous trees.

When Henry Barton Jacobs placed the Farmhouse in his will as a property to be preserved for future generations, he was well aware of the legacy he had received from his forbears. He left behind framed documents of his heritage showing he descended from John Alden and Priscilla Mullens and was a member of the Mayflower Society. Another showed descent from Colonial War veterans. He had a photograph made of himself in colonial costume. His ancestors arrived in Puritan Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1633 and married with those who had arrived at similar early dates, including the Stetson family, one of the earliest in this area. Members of various branches of this family, had a major impact in American history. They fought for the patriot cause in the Revolution. Henry himself socialized with second generation Vanderbilts, and was a Harvard-educated physician of some renown, still remembered as a cofounder of John Hopkins Hospital of Baltimore, Maryland.

His pride in this heritage, however, went beyond familial relationships, military exploits and friendships. He was vastly proud of the industriousness of his ancestors whose resourcefulness allowed them to be virtually self-sufficient, a requirement for survival and prosperity. This he clearly saw in the farmhouse and mills of his youth, which he treasured and wanted preserved, not only for others to admire but also so that citizens might go and do likewise. The visitor to the Homestead may not be able to see more than pictures of the mills, but they can see the tools used to cook, wash, make clothes and shoes, build houses, make apple cider, cultivate the land, tools to allow horses to stay upright in the marshes when gathering Winter hay, to make the wide floor boards, and to provide heat that were used by generations from the 18th to early 20th centuries. The Jacobs Homestead is symbolic of the independent and self-reliant spirit that created the industrious nation we call the United States of America. It represents the beginnings of the entrepreneurial ambitions of a family that with many other similar families created the fabric of a people and nation, and, therefore, is worthy of the preservation that Henry Barton Jacobs had envisioned for it.

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