

A PRESERVATION PROJECT FOR THE AGES

By John F. Cole

The *Something to Preserve* project was directed by John F. Cole, and Abbott Cummings was the principal consultant. This pioneer preservation covenant project was sponsored by the Ipswich Historical Commission in cooperation with the Ipswich Heritage Trust and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 1975.

Below is a sample of houses included in this important project.



This house was built “around a corner” (an obtuse angle) in 1737. The end of a large lintel appears in the hall, indicating a large (possibly late first period) fireplace is hidden behind. An early frame may exist within the boxed and beaded framing.



This dwelling has one of the largest arched chimney bases in Essex County. It supports a massive chimney with exquisite paneled mid-18th-century raised field paneling in the walls.



This handsome third quarter 18th-century center chimney house has fine raised paneled walls and stopped fluted pilasters embellishing the fireplace walls. 17th-century reused framing exists in the cellar, indicating there was an earlier house in the area.



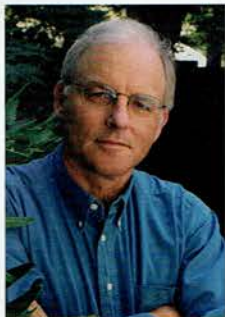
This is one of the most important houses in New England (1728), with its marvelous wall cupboard detail.

Sixteen early house owners signed the preservation covenant agreement, which was designed and developed to protect exterior and interior features. Most of the original detail in wood framed houses is on the inside. A town-wide project of this type is unique in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The book *Something to Preserve* is available at the Ipswich Library.

John Cole, also known as the “Old House Whisperer”, was Property Manager for the SPNEA (now Historic New England). He worked extensively with Abbott Cummings, foremost American architectural historian. John has overseen countless preservation projects in New England as well as Arkansas. He founded Shaker Workshops, Inc. and taught Historical Preservation at the Harvard School of Design and at the University of Arkansas, Graduate School of Architecture. Today, he shares his expertise through lectures and consulting and by writing books and dating documents for private homeowners.

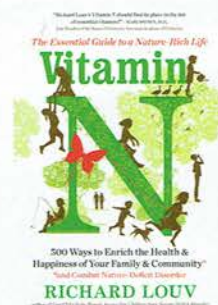
For more information on John Cole, visit oldhousewhisperer.com or email info@oldhousewhisperer.com

Do you have an article about Newburyport history that you'd like to share? Email ntrudel@bestversionmedia.com.



BROOKWOOD SCHOOL'S 4 TO 14 SPEAKER SERIES

with BESTSELLING AUTHOR
RICHARD LOUV



Tuesday, September 27, 2016 | 7 p.m. at Brookwood School

For tickets and more information, visit brookwood.edu.

BROOKWOOD SCHOOL. It starts here.

PreK-8 | One Brookwood Road, Manchester, MA | 978.526.4500 | brookwood.edu