

# ARCHITECTURAL RARITIES IN OLD NEWBURY

By John F. Cole



This late first period dwelling has a touch chamfered frame and two rare quartered oak log stairs. A later period great 18th-century balustrade graces the central hall.



Facing south along the Merrimac, the window placement along the front wall indicates an original one room over one dwelling. The rectangular chimney dimensions further indicate a pre-1720 period.



A sharp pitched roof and windows tucked under the eaves indicates a late first period dwelling (pre-1720). An auction held here many years ago included a sword carried at Bunker Hill.



“The Old House Whisperer” once managed this fine “brick ender” for Historic New England. Now privately owned, it has an exquisite 1733 Georgian stairway and fine raised field paneling in the parlor.

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.

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