

# History of Holland's 18th century pottery kiln explored

By Paula Ouimette  
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STURBRIDGE – At its final meeting of the year last month, the Sturbridge Historical Society presented a program about the John Hinds pottery kiln site, led by Doug Lyon and Mike Forand.

Lyon said Hinds was a previously unknown potter in the town of Holland, whose kiln site was discovered in the 1980s by himself and Forand.

"We came across his site looking for bottles in the woods," he said.

While searching through a cellar hole, they discovered pottery, including flat pieces of fired clay which he said were a bit of a mystery. Lyon brought these pieces to his friend, a curator at Old Sturbridge Village, who had them identified by the late John Worrell, the archeologist at the museum.

Worrell had identified the pieces as kiln furniture, which is only found in kilns. Kiln furniture is also known as saggars, supports or shelves, and was used to stack pottery inside the kiln to keep the pieces from sticking together.

In an article Worrell printed in the Society for Industrial Archeology, New England Chapters, he described the findings: "Thousands of artifacts were excavated and recorded stratigraphically from the Hinds site, the bulk of them being vessel sherds and stacking furniture...Hinds' vessels display some variation, especially in decoration, than do the other potters whose sites have been thus far investigated...In addition to the usual undecorated utilitarian wares, Hinds was producing various slipped wares (painted, trailed, dipped), and some very thin-walled, etched hollowware having metallic black glaze."

"It's just pieces of clay shaped differently to allow the heat to get between the pieces as being fired," Forand said.

"Different types of kiln furniture worked for different vessels."

Lyon said anything could be used as kiln furniture, and Hinds used pressed clay which contained his fingerprints.

"It doesn't look like much," Lyon said of a piece he held up. "And yet I think it's one of the more important pieces that we found because it identified the site as a kiln site."

Lyon said according to records, Hinds was born in 1714 and was originally from Cambridge. In 1750, he held his first deed in Holland (known at the time as South Brimfield) where he is listed as a potter from 1750-1793.

"Now that's significant because John Worrell said that we would probably never see him listed on paper as a potter because people of the time, they were farmers," Lyon said. "Everybody was a farmer... if they did something on the side (like a sawmill, or potting or blacksmithing) you would still see them listed as a farmer."

In 1754-1763 Hinds served in the French and Indian War with his oldest son, and there are several mentions of Hinds in Martin Lovering's book, "History of the Town of Holland Massachusetts".

Until recently, Lyon believed that Hinds had died in 1793 due to a deed which mentioned him as "recently deceased" and his wife, Judith, as a widow. He said Holland's online town records list Hinds, Judith and one daughter as "paupers" as late as 1815, which places his death much later.

Hinds' kiln site was located close to Sturbridge, along the Connecticut border. Now, the kiln site is part of the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary.

While excavating the kiln site, Forand said they discovered countless pieces of pottery sherds, which have been stored at Old Sturbridge Village.

Lyon said they never discovered any intact pottery pieces, as most of them were discarded or broken. Beside the kiln fur-

niture, they discovered kitchenware and tableware.

"We try to guess what it was," he said of the pieces.

A special type of pottery they found at the site was black incised, which they believe could have been Hinds' experimental attempts to create something similar to stoneware or porcelain. This pottery was black, like it had been overfired (intentional or not), thin and carved into.

"It's thin, it's tea cup-like... we only found a few pieces. We've not found it anywhere else other than John Hinds," Lyon said.

He said some of the common pottery items they didn't find at the site included tiles, bedpans, flowerpots and tobacco pipes. He said the lack of tobacco pipes led them to believe that Hinds was probably not a smoker.

Lyon said they also discovered the fieldstone base of the kiln, and were able to determine the kiln's wall by the way the heat altered the rocks, as well as where the fire box and loading door were located.

"Heat would, like it does with clay, it would turn it red," he said.

The kiln itself was more than likely made from brick and Forand said there were many bricks found at the site.

Lyon described Hinds' pottery style as "simple and modest" in decoration, which would have been used for everyday use. His pottery ranged in color from brown to black to yellow and red.

Hinds also used slip to decorate his pieces, which is a white "watery" clay that turned yellow when fired. He would embellish the pieces with loops and dots.

"His slipware is simple and two-color," Lyon said. "Decorative, but simple."

Forand said the kiln site hasn't been fully explored yet, but there have been two separate excavations including the original one in the 1980s with Old Sturbridge Village, and a more recent one with the

permission of the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary.

"There's a lot more there that could be explored and a lot of questions still to be answered," Forand said.

Forand asked the audience to check their records of general store purchases from this time period, to see if there is any reference to Hinds selling his pottery. Forand and Lyon have not found any record of Hinds selling or distributing his pottery.

For more information about the Hinds kiln site, people may visit the Hinds Site Facebook group or read Worrell's article "John Hinds Pottery Kiln" in the Society for Industrial Archeology, New England Chapters, Volume 7, Number 3 from 1987 at <https://nec-sia.org/ne>. Information can also be found on Old Sturbridge Village's website, [www.osv.org](http://www.osv.org).

## Upcoming programs

The Sturbridge Historical Society will continue its monthly programs in 2025 at the Publick House on the third Thursday of each month, starting at 7 p.m. All programs are free to attend, and the meeting room and refreshments are provided courtesy of the Publick House.

On Jan. 23, Bob Arnold will present about a trip his grandparents took in 1927 in a Model A across the country; on Feb. 27, Rich Paradise will present about covered bridges in New England; on March 27, Bill Reid will present "Notables and Notorious" depicting characters from the Last Green Valley; April 24, Doug Quigley will present on the Revolutionary War; and May 22, Walter Hersee will present on Sturbridge's 1938 celebration of its 200th anniversary.

For more information about Sturbridge Historical Society and its programs, people may join its group on Facebook.

# Quabbin Middle School lists sixth grade honor roll

BARRE – Quabbin Middle School announces the sixth grade honor roll.

## Grade Six, High Honors

Nevaeh Andrews, Ava Blanco, Jaysen Cassano, Ayla Clark, John Cook, Anna Coomey, Grayson Eddy, Colby Hill, Madilyn Houle, Brady Malin, Theodore Minton, Catheryn Racine, Liam Shaw, Zachary Thompson and Brady White.

## Grade Six, Honors

Destiny Aiken, Lyric Alves, Aubrianna Babineau, Elijah Baptiste, Zachary Barre, Julianna Bienvenu, Talasyn Boissoneau, Alistair Bombfield, Caleb Caban, Josie Castell, Cameron Charpentier, Charley Chauvin, Ryan Colgate, Ella Critelli, Joey DeMalia, Hannah Dias, Ethan Donaldson, Matthew Flamand, Andrew Fuller, Jude Gomes, Brynneley Gould, Lincoln Graves, Afina Griffith, Joseph Haley, Silas Howe, James Jackson, Adrian Johnson, Colin Kania, Nathan Kearchner, Levi Kniskern, Ryan LaRange, Walker Larson, Marishao Lee, Ilyanna Lynch, Adalyn McHugh, Kayla McHugh, Lucy Merrill, Sawyer Minton, Annaleigh Moncoeur, Nolan O'Connor, Chey O'Shea, Evelyn Palladino, Ximena Palomera-Espinoza, Bryce Pariseau, Bentley Parker, Chloe Phillips, Deegan Pope, Oliver Poulin, McKenna Rengo, Lillian Roohan, Cooper Sampson, Ava Sherblom, Andie St. Clair, Brayden Surprenant, Landon Swindlehurst, Kenzie Thorpe, Regan Toohill, Hana Mae Tousignant and Everett Weisman.

# Four local agencies benefit from HCC's 23rd annual Giving Tree campaign

HOLYOKE – For the 23rd year, the Holyoke Community College community collected hundreds of holiday gifts for consumers at four nonprofit agencies through its annual Giving Tree campaign.

On Dec. 12, representatives from the four agencies – Homework House, the Holyoke Veterans Home, WestMass ElderCare, and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children – attended a closing celebration where 302 gifts were distributed.

"Without community partners like you, we wouldn't be able to create moments of joy for our veterans," said Colleen

Strunk-Ackerly, volunteer coordinator for the Veterans Home, formerly the Holyoke Soldiers' Home.

Each year during the annual campaign, Giving Trees are set up in designated areas around campus. Participants choose tags from one of the nonprofit agencies based on the age of the recipient and their wish for a gift.

The wrapped gifts are then piled on tables for the closing celebration, when HCC faculty, staff, and students join with representatives from the agencies to share food and stories.

"This is an amazing tradition and

always brings out the best of HCC," said Giving Committee chair Michelle Vigneault.

Brittani Bey, prevention programs supervisor, for the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, noted that a lot of the agency's consumers can't afford to buy gifts for their children.

"Many of our families are homeless, don't have family support, and are struggling with their day-to-day needs," she said, "so being part of the HCC Giving Tree allows them just a little peace during this time of year, so thank you."

"This support of Christmas gifts defi-

nately keeps our kids spirits high," said David Haslam, executive director of Homework House, an after-school program in Holyoke. Roseann Martocchia, executive director of WestMass ElderCare, read a letter from one of the agency's care managers, who has been distributing holiday gifts from HCC for 11 years:

"The Giving Tree program is a blessing," she said. "When gifts arrive and are delivered, the appreciation the consumers have is heartwarming. Some are surprised. All are grateful. It's a wonderful feeling, knowing they were thought of and the community cares."

# St. Aloysius Catholic School lists honor roll

HARDWICK – St. Aloysius Catholic School in Gilbertville lists students named to the first trimester honor roll.

## Honors

Sophia Adams, Hannah LaRochelle, Rose Theriault, Jackson Boudreau, Alex Velez and Connor Shunaman.

# public notices

## Hardwick Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Hardwick Planning Board per Hardwick Zoning Bylaw, Sections 3.2.6.1.3 and 5.0 will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 6:45PM** at the **Municipal Office Building, 307 Main Street, Gilbertville, MA**. This Hearing is regarding the application for Site Plan Approval by Bright Planet Solar to install a residential ground-mounted solar energy array of 26 panels at 9.84 kW/DC (7.6 kW/AC) at 78 Ridge Road, Hardwick. A complete copy of the application can be inspected at the Municipal Offices in the Town Clerk's office during posted business hours. All interested parties are asked to attend.

Interested parties may also view this Legal Notice at <http://masspublicnotices.org>  
Hardwick Planning Board  
Jenna Garvey, Chair  
12/19, 12/26/2024

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage Deed, Security Agreement and Assignment of Leases and Rents, given by Alycar Investments, LLC, to Bluedog Capital Partners, LLC, dated May 31, 2024, and recorded on June 3, 2024 at the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15147 Page 174 (the "Mortgage") of which Mortgage Bluedog Capital Partners, LLC is the present holder, for breach of conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **1:00 p.m. on January 9, 2025**, on the mortgaged premises located at 22 Church Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082, a portion of the premises described in the Mortgage.

TO WIT:  
**22 CHURCH STREET, WARE, MA**

A certain tract of land, together with the buildings thereon, situate at the corner of Church and Pleasant Street in Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, more particularly bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the intersection of the westerly side of Church Street with the northerly side of Pleasant Street; thence N. 47°8' W. 86.18 feet along the northerly side of said Pleasant Street to an iron pipe driven in the ground; thence N. 45°40' E. 59.72 feet along land now or formerly of one Grise; thence S. 44°39' E. 84.29 feet along the southerly line of land of said Grise to the westerly line of Church Street as laid out by the County Commissioners in June, 1882; thence S. 3°51' W. along the westerly side of said Church Street, 56 feet to the place of beginning.

Containing more or less and subject to the rights of the public in the sidewalk abutting said premises on the east.

For reference, see deed recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds herewith.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of recorded entitled to precedence over the Mortgage, and subject to all with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

## TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Fifteen Thousand (\$15,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The high bidder will be required to sign a Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Saulino & Silvia, P.C., 550 Locust Street, Fall River, Massachusetts 02720, or by mail to 550 Locust Street, Fall River, Massachusetts

02720, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said Mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

BLUEDOG CAPITAL PARTNERS, LLC, Present holder of said Mortgage Deed, Security Agreement and Assignment of Leases and Rents,

By its Attorneys, SAULINO & SILVIA, P.C. PETER A. SAULINO, ESQUIRE Saulino & Silvia, P.C. 550 Locust Street Fall River, MA 02720 PH: (508) 675 - 7770 12/19, 12/26/2024, 01/02/2025

## Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE

This is a revised Notice of Public Hearing. Pursuant to MGL Ch. 40A, Sec. 5, the Ware Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, January 16th, 2025** during their normally

scheduled meeting starting at **7:00pm** in the Town Hall meeting room, 126 Main Street, Ware MA. The purpose of this hearing is to consider amendments to the Zoning Map of the Town of Ware, to change parcels 57-0-167 (Lot 167), 57-0-166 (Lot 166), 57-0-168 (Lot 168), 57-0-169 (Lot 169), 57-0-205 (Lot 205), 57-0-206 (Lot 206) from Highway Commercial zoning to Commercial Industrial zoning.

Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means as a courtesy in accordance with the applicable law. Should there be technical issues, the meeting will proceed at the scheduled time. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in Town Hall Meeting room, 126 Main Street, Ware MA. It is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of the public. The meeting may be accessed remotely via Zoom. Go to

<https://zoom.us/join> or join by phone. Phone Number: 929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 784 604 1861; Password: 01082.

A complete copy of the proposed changes can be found at the Planning & Community Development Department Office and on the department web page at [www.townofware.com](http://www.townofware.com). Anyone interested or wishing to be heard should appear at the time and place designated. All interested parties are invited to attend. Please contact the Planning and Community Development Director with any questions. (413) 967-9648, ext. 118. [psmith@townofware.com](mailto:psmith@townofware.com).

WARE PLANNING BOARD  
Kenneth Crosby, Chair  
12/26/2024, 01/02/2025

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Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted in person and via remote means as a courtesy in accordance with the applicable law. Should there be technical issues, the meeting will proceed at the scheduled time. This means that members of the Planning Board as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be held in Town Hall Meeting room, 126

WARE PLANNING BOARD  
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12/19, 12/26/2024

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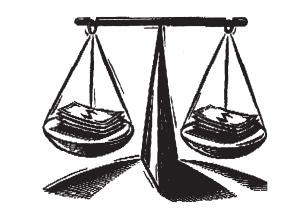
In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law 105A, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of Troy Atherton, Kara Kilian and Alexis St. Laurent will be auctioned off at Secure Storage 167 West St Ware, MA at **9:00 a.m. January 11, 2025**. Any questions or inquiries call 413-800-6278. 12/19, 12/26/2024

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WARE PLANNING BOARD  
Kenneth Crosby, Chair  
12/19, 12/26/2024

## NOTICE OF AUCTION

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## EARLY DEADLINE

In observance of **NEW YEAR'S PUBLIC NOTICES** WILL HAVE AN **EARLY AD DEADLINE** Place your public notice no later than **Fri., Dec. 27 Noon**

A TURLEY PUBLICATION

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## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

*Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.*

**visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)**

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**