

The Hancock-Clarke House*



The Hancock-Clarke House was built in 1737 by the Reverend John Hancock, minister to Lexington. In 1755 it served as the home of the Reverend Jonas Clarke until his death in 1805. This house was the destination of Paul Revere and William Dawes on the night of April 18, 1775, as they rode from Boston to warn Samuel Adams and John Hancock of the coming of the British. (This John Hancock, grandson of the Reverend John Hancock) was the first signer

of the Declaration of Independence.

Herbs played a very important part in the daily lives of the Colonists. The herb garden, at the doorway of the house, shows typical herbs of the 1775 period. They were used for both medicinal and culinary purposes. In addition, aromatic and herbs used to dye fabrics are also cultivated.

Today, this herb garden is thoughtfully tended by the Morning Group of the Lexington Field & Garden Club. They have maintained this herb garden since 1958.



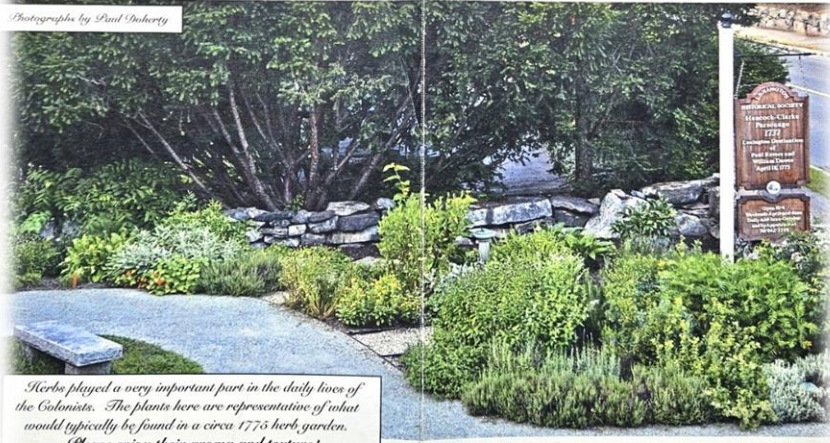
The Hancock-Clarke House was built in 1737 by the Reverend John Hancock, minister to Lexington from 1698 - 1752. It then served as the home of his successor, the Reverend Jonas Clark, who served Lexington from 1735 to his death in 1805.



In 1896 the Lexington Historical Society saved the historic building by moving it across the street. In 1974, the parsonage was restored to its original location in time for the nation's Bicentennial celebration. In 2008 a one million dollar restoration was completed.

*Traditional Herbs of the 1775 Period
at the
Lexington Historical Society's
Hancock-Clarke House*

Photographs by Paul Doherty



Herbs played a very important part in the daily lives of the Colonists. The plants here are representative of what would typically be found in a circa 1775 herb garden. Please enjoy their aroma and texture!

*86 Hancock Street - Lexington, Massachusetts
Planted and Maintained by the
Morning Study Group of the
Lexington Field & Garden Club*



The Lexington Field & Garden Club was founded in 1876 and is the oldest garden club in the nation. The Morning Study Group, the first subgroup within the Field & Garden Club, was founded in 1934. In the spring of 2010, working with the Society, Morning Study researched, designed and created this teaching garden for school children and visitors.

**Text excerpted from several brochures of Hancock-Clarke House by MSG.
Photos courtesy of Paul Doherty and Regina Sutton.*