

# **PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

**PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

**Records For**

**1 HOLLYWOOD ROAD  
(Formerly 9 Waterloo Street)**

**Plat 32 Lot 291  
(Formerly part of Lot 197)**

**MARY CAROLINE PHILLIPS CLARKE HOUSE**

**Built 1896**

**By Henry Clinton Clarke**

Providence Preservation Society

Records For

1 Hollywood Road

Plat 32; Lot 291;  
Formerly part of Lot 197

Mary Caroline Phillips Clarke House

Built 1896

By Henry Clinton Clarke

1824 This lot was part of the original land donated to the Town of Providence by Ebenezer Knight Dexter.

Note: Waterloo Street became Hollywood Road in 1935. High Street became Westminster Street in 1893.

1832 The Town of Providence was incorporated as a city.

1843 November. Much of the area, including this section, was platted for James G. Cooke by Atwater and Schubarth, Civil Engineer. It was legally recorded in Plat Book 2:7 and on Plat Card 52. Most of the lots were laid out to measure 50' x 100'.

1854 Sterry Clarke was a coal dealer at 64 Dyer Street and he lived at 48 Point Street. His son, Henry C. Clarke was associated with the same business and lived at 136 Benefit Street. (City directories) Henry C. Clarke and Martha Clarke had a son, Harry C. in 1857 at the Benefit Street address.

August. Sterry Clarke purchased Plat Lots 32:198 and 199, which were located at the corner of High and Dexter Streets. The lots extended back to the area which became Waterloo Street. Lot 198 contained a large house fronting on High Street, which was valued at \$5,000.

Warren Greene owned the adjoining lots which were numbered 195, 196 and 197. Greene had a small house at the rear of lot 197 which also faced High Street. (Tax Ledger 1:238, Series A)

1857 See area map by Walling, attached.

1860 Sterry Clarke moved to the High Street property and his business offices moved to Brookfield, Massachusetts. Henry C. Clarke remained with the coal business on Dyer Street and moved into his father's former home at 48 Point Street. (City directories)

1867 September 17. Sterry Clarke died leaving the High Street property to his son, Henry C. Clarke. (Index to Death 12:32) Henry C. Clarke and his family moved to the High Street property. (City directories)

1868 July 1. Henry C. Clarke who now owned lots 198 and 199 purchased from Warren Greene lots 196 and 197, thus doubling his land on High Street. Mr. Greene sold Clarke the two additional lots, but did not include the house in which he lived located at the rear of lot 197. This purchase agreement was made on February 21, 1863, but was not recorded until October 12, 1866 and taxes were not transferred until 1868. (Tax Ledgers 4:255; 1:320, Series A, and Tax Ledger 1:423, Series B, and Deed Book 175:461)

The Greene family, Warren and later his son, William Henry Greene, remained at this home until 1895 when William Henry moved to Boston, Massachusetts. (City directories)

1875 See area map Plate J, attached.

The Clarke residence was located at 716 High Street. Note the two houses on the property.

1882 See area map of Providence, Plate 15, attached.

Waterloo Street was surveyed and accepted as a city street. It was officially recorded in Street Plat Book 10:5.

1888 December 8. Martha Eddy Field Clarke, wife of Henry C. Clarke died at 64 years of age. She left no will or estate inventory and cause of death was "unknown." (Death Book 17:123)

1892 Henry C. Clarke is listed as owner of the Providence Coal Company with offices located at the corner of Weybosset and Custom House Streets and the Reliance Mill located at 214 Dyer Avenue. His home address was still listed at the High Street property, 716 High Street. (City directories)

1893 High Street was renamed Westminster Street. The Clarke residence at 716 High Street became 1362 Westminster Street. William Henry Greene's address became 1380 Westminster Street. Greene was associated with the Brown Brothers Mill Supply

Company with offices located at 37 Exchange Street. In 1895, Greene moved to Boston, Massachusetts.

1893 A bronze statue was presented to the citizens of Providence by Henry C. Clarke, Esquire, in honor of Ebenezer Knight Dexter who gave his property for the benefit of the public and the homeless. The statue was designed by H. L. Hubert and executed by Gorham Manufacturing Company. See attached information from Hidden Treasures by Robert Freeman and Vivian Lasky.

1895 See area map Plate 48/49, attached.

February 21. Deed Book 419:281-283. Henry C. Clarke and Mary Caroline Phillips entered into a legally recorded pre-nuptial agreement by which Mary Caroline received a life-estate in a dwelling house. See copy attached. Mary Phillips, age 41 and Henry C. Clarke, age 72, were probably married out of Providence as no certificate of marriage can be found in Providence records.

On November 19, 1891, the father of Mary Caroline Phillips, Nathaniel Phillips, died at 68 years of age, leaving Mary Caroline to care for her two younger brothers whom she placed in the small dwelling house at the rear of the Clarke property formerly occupied by Mr. Greene.

1895-1898 The city directory shows John F. and George Phillips living at 9 Waterloo Street. No. 9 Waterloo Street was the only house on the street. The Phillips brothers were both clerks at the Henry Lippit Company, cotton goods manufacturers with offices at the Board of Trade Building.

1896 April 14. Building Permit No. 329 was issued to Henry C. Clarke of 1362 Westminster Street to build a 2½ story dwelling at No. 9 Waterloo Street. Willmarth and Mackillop are listed as builders. The building cost was estimated at \$6,000.00. See permit copy attached.

Mr. Clarke had the house built, but, by pre-nuptial agreement, the house belonged to Mary Caroline Phillips Clarke.

1898 March 3. Certificate #4405 recorded the death of Henry Clinton Clarke at 75 years of age. His Probate Proceedings are located in W.B. 41:97. Harry C. Clarke was appointed executor of his father's estate. Estate appraisers were Myron Fuller, William Kelly and Theodore Francis Green. See copy attached.

1898 April 15. Surveyors Book 12:14 and Memo Book 5:90. Lot 291 was created from lot 197 at the request of Harry C. Clarke. In order to create lot 291, 4,420 square feet were taken from the 11,766 square feet contained in the Clarke Estate Lot. See 1902 tax map, attached.

1898 May. Tax assessor cards show the Waterloo Street land and dwelling house passed to Mary Caroline Clarke for her life time.

1899 - 1901. Occupants at 9 Waterloo Street were:

John F. Phillips, clerk  
George F. Phillips, clerk  
Mary Caroline Clarke, widow

1902 Occupants at the Waterloo Street property:

John F. Phillips  
George F. Phillips

Mary Caroline Clarke was not listed. Probably in 1901, Mary Caroline married Walter E. Farnam, a carpenter who lived on Carpenter Street. The marriage most likely took place out of Providence as no marriage certificate can be located. (Vitals Index 1890-1935)

1905-1916 City Directories show Mary Caroline Farnam, widow, at 9 Waterloo Street along with her brothers John F. and George F. Phillips.

1917-1924 City Directories list Mary C. Farnam, widow, and her brother John F. Phillips, as living at 9 Waterloo Street.

1939 June. Deed Book 807:485. Industrial Trust Company, under the Will of Henry C. Clarke, and Harry C. Clarke sold the property to Eugenio Mollicone and Angelina, his wife.

1945 January. It became the property of Angelina Mollicone.

1966 December. Will Book 13:336. The property passed to Mario Mollicone and Giuseppe Mollicone.

1968 August 16. Deed Book 1149:143. No. 9 Hollywood Road became the property of Giuseppe Mollicone.

1983 April 29. Deed Book 1243:972. The names of Anna F. and Jean Mollicone were added to that of Giuseppe Mollicone.

1987 December. Deed Memo Book 79:104. This property became that of Anna F. Mollicone and Jean Mollicone.

1988 November 20. Deed Book 1932:63. The property was transferred to Steven M. Nappa and Leonard T. Guglielmi.

1992 April 7. Deed Book 2542:83. Citicorp Mortgage, Inc. obtained the property.

1992 September 30. Deed Book 2635:240. The property was purchased by Richard W. Robbins.

- 1993 June 29. Permit No. 1964 was issued to make exterior renovations to this 2-family, 2½ story dwelling. Estimated cost was \$9,000.
- 1993 July 22. Permit No. 134 was issued to repair the porch and replace stairs on front and rear porch. Estimated cost was \$6,500.
- 1994 September 12. Permit No. 474 was issued to repair gutters.

CBP  
November 1996

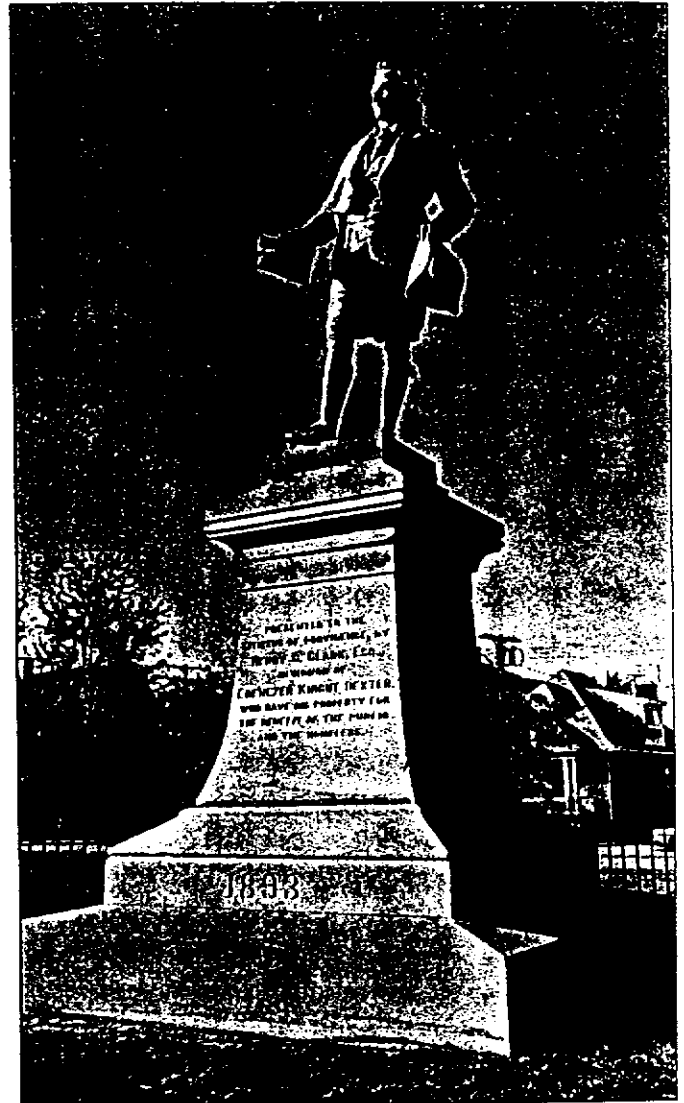
### 3. EBENEZER KNIGHT DEXTER *Dexter Training Ground*

Ebenezer Knight Dexter was born in Providence in 1773 and became one of its wealthiest citizens in the prosperous years that followed the American Revolution. His place in the city's history derives from two major public gifts: the property and funds for the Dexter Asylum, and the Dexter Training Ground, where this statue stands.

The statue was the gift in 1893 of Henry C. Clark, president of the Providence Coal Company. Clark was anxious both to celebrate Dexter's generosity and to ensure the maintenance of the Training Ground by transferring it to the jurisdiction of the park commissioners. Originally Clark offered to donate a statue of Columbus (undoubtedly inspired by the success of the Chicago World's Columbian Exposition) if the city would contribute \$5,000 to the maintenance of the Training Ground. Because another Columbus monument was under way, the statue's subject was changed to Dexter and the sum to \$3,000.

Clark's correspondence to the city council reveals the interrelationship of art and commerce, history and pride, that characterized the late nineteenth-century laissez-faire society whose patrons had both pride and a material interest in a democratic government. "Accepting this offer," Clark wrote, "will tend to beautify the city, honor . . . the memory of Ebenezer Knight Dexter, encourage home talent, and recognize those who have given our city a world-wide notice by the manufacture of their wares."

In 1893 this eight-foot-high bronze statue was erected at the north end of the Dexter Training Ground adjoining the Cranston Street Armory. One of very few known works designed by the local sculptor Hippolyte L. Hubert, the statue portrays Dexter in Continental costume, with a walking stick in his left hand and a partially opened parchment scroll in his right. The nine-foot-high pedestal was designed by Richard H. Deming, the energetic president of the Board of Park Commissioners, and is inscribed: "Leaving nothing but a headstone to mark our passage



*Ebenezer Knight Dexter*

through life does not make the world better. They live best who serve humanity the most."