

Muse

July 19, 1960

Mr. Donald Miller
The Berkshire Eagle
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Miller:

Now that it has been made public, may I offer my congratulations on your going ahead with the Hancock Shaker Project. As you know I have long favored this disposition of the property and I feel that it is now in very safe hands. My only reservation is that I think it is unfortunate that John Williams was not able to see his way clear to make his magnificent collection available for this project. If it were not for my position as Trustee of the Chatham Museum, I would have actively participated in promoting the acquisition of the property for the purposes which you have announced. However, I do not feel that this would militate against my co-operating in any way that you feel I can in furthering your plans and purposes.

Perhaps we can feel that our teen-agers can be sort of "Junior Partners" in your project. Please feel free to call on me, if I can be helpful. With all good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count
Director

JC:ll

~~Public Rel~~

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

September 15, 1960

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Count;

This letter formally launches the capital campaign to buy, restore and operate as a museum the Shaker community at Hancock, Massachusetts.

The amount sought is \$250,000, which will purchase the 900 acre property with its 16 buildings, take care of restoration, install the celebrated Andrews collection of Shaker furniture and materials which has been given to this enterprise, open and maintain the community for visitors as a museum and educational institution.

Structures, groups of buildings, tracts of land and museums dedicated to the study and appreciation of early American history and the national past are many, varied and impressive. This project, however, lays some claim to being unique. Here is an original, complete and integrated community dating to the founding days of the Republic.

As a result of this uniqueness there has been considerable interest shown by foundations since a small group were successful in interesting the surviving Shaker Ministry in Canterbury, New Hampshire, to sell the Hancock Community as a unit for the purposes outlined above. However, foundations are more rapidly impelled to help substantially if they can be shown a lively interest in the area where the project is located, an enthusiasm among the academic community concerned in the field involved, and a disposition among individuals of spirit, affection and understanding to help in this exciting preservation.

Therefore, on behalf of the board, I am proud to ask you to help in this endeavor in any way you can. I have been advised by counsel that financial contributions are deductible for tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code.

We hope you will join with us in making possible the re-creation of a fascinating chapter of American cultural history.

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence K. Miller

Issuing
fund

10/3/60 \$250,000 etc

Please address correspondence to Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller, Secretary
500 Williams Street, Pittsfield, Massachusetts

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS

May 15, 1961.

Dear Mr. Court:

Thank you so much for your card of May 1st. I have been so busy as you can imagine, or I would have answered before this.

It is very kind of you to bring the Hancock manuscript to my attention and I will find out if the information

exists in the Andrews Collection. May
I let you know later? I am going to see Mr.
& Mrs. A. at Hancock this eve & will ask
them. The map sounds interesting, too -

Isn't this work fascinating? It's work
all right, but not tedious. We are getting
the rooms on the first floor of the brick
dwelling ready for the Andrews Collection.
Painting the dairy & weave shop & work-
ing on the lawn - trees - etc. Our dead
line is July first, but it now looks as if
we will make it. Many thanks for
your thoughtfulness - Congress Miller

1731 - Collected by

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS

December 28, 1960

Dear Mr. Court:

The name of the young man
I spoke to you about is Daniel
Hahn of Teaneck, New Jersey.

He says he belonged to your
group last year, he will be

7-73/11

16 years old in March, 1961 - and
would like to work for us in
Hancock.

H12/1767

What can you tell me about him
and can he afford to volunteer as
so far I am not hiring any one
that age and have 2 good vol-
unteers engaged to date.

Again many thanks for your
contribution - Regards - ~~Wm~~ Miller

THE BERKSHIRE ATHENAEUM
PITTSFIELD'S PUBLIC LIBRARY
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

ROBERT G. NEWMAN
LIBRARIAN

July 19, 1961

Mr. Jerome Count
P.O. Box 1149
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Count:

Your inquiry about the Shaker round barn, has been referred to me.

In Field: History of Berkshire County, in the section on Hancock p. 420 the following is stated:

....For simply laying the stone of this building the masons were paid 500 dollars and boarded.

We hope that this answers your question.

Very truly yours,

Janet M. Edwards

Janet M. Edwards, Curator
Local History and
Genealogy

(Mrs. H.W.)

Shaker Community

September 25, 1961

Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller,
500 Williams St.,
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Miller:

Mrs. Count and I finally had the opportunity of visiting Hancock on Saturday and it was an inspiring experience, indeed. The amount of work done is truly impressive as well as the ~~overall~~ concepts in planning and design. The placing of each piece as a work of art, with a sensitive regard for its setting, is exceptional and exciting. With the amount of space you will eventually have available, this principle ought not to be sacrificed to mere quantity of exhibits.

We are happy to enclose a further contribution to your project.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

September 26, 1961

Dear Mr. Count,

Thank you so much for your letter and very generous contribution to Shaker Community. Your sensitive appreciation of what we are trying to accomplish here is most gratefully appreciated and I, personally, have wanted to thank you for your friendliness and neighborliness ever since we started working here. With your background and knowledge of the Shaker way of life, your praise for what we are doing is most gratifying.

I am sorry that I was not here when you and Mrs. Count visited on Saturday but I shall look forward at some other time to being here when you make another visit. Donald Miller and I were most impressed with your Shaker Village and what you are doing for your young people. I hope that our groups will always feel a kinship and that there will be opportunity in the future for us to work together.

Dr. and Mrs. Andrews join me in thanking you on behalf of our Trustees for your generous and thoughtful support. With very kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Laurance K. Miller

Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
President

Mr. Jerome Count
Shaker Village Work Group
Post Office Box
Pittsfield, Mass.

*Please address correspondence to Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
500 Williams Street, Pittsfield, Massachusetts*

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

Date September 26, 1961

Mr. Jerome Count

Address Shaker Village Park Group, P.O. Box
125, Pittsfield

This will acknowledge with appreciation your
contribution of one hundred dollars

Gary Ross Miller

SECRETARY

TREASURER

Contributions are Tax Deductible

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

July 11, 1961

Dear Mr. Count:

It was nice of you to visit us and I would like to tell you again how much I appreciate your friendliness. I am asking Bob Kimball to stress Hancock Shaker Community in our publicity and hope this will aid in avoiding confusion with your "Mount Lebanon Shaker Village". I appreciate the fact that numerous tourists would interfere with your program and I hope that our signs and also stressing the Hancock aspect of our program will be helpful.

With very kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence K. Miller

Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
President

abm/ec

Mr. Jerome Count
Shaker Village Work Group
Post Office Box
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

July 2nd, 1962

Mrs. Amy Bess Miller,
Shaker Community, Inc.,
500 Williams St.,
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Miller:

I notice in the first issue of the Berkshire Week that Hancock is announced in the advertising prominently as "Shaker Village". This, as you know, is very confusing to people and contrary to what I thought was an understanding that the words Hancock and "community" would be stressed in your material. In the editorial material in the Berkshire Week this has been done, but in the paid advertising the contrary has been done --which is all the more confusing.

As I wrote you last year, we can only handle a very limited number of people without interfering with our program and educational purposes. Even the problem of turning people away, as we found last year, is a serious one, since once they are here they want to go through the project and we cannot be unpleasant about it and create ill-will against our project. It is therefore very injurious and a serious problem, since we have become definitely known in the area and in other parts of the country as the "Shaker Village". I am sure that with all the wonderful progress you have made and the wonderful potential that Hancock is going to enjoy, you will want to do everything possible to assure that people who want to find Hancock can do so and that there is certainly no need to confuse them and in any way to capitalize upon the wide reputation of a teen-age project which has used

the term "Shaker Village" for all these years.

Please be assured that this is all written with the utmost good will for the success of the Hancock project, but we must also insist that we not be injured either by people coming here who do not wish to and people getting here also not be confused and misdirected to Hancock.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count

P.S. I would also like to add that it was I who originally urged the Miller family, through Don, to see that something be done about preserving Hancock. I think that Pete was also in on one of the sessions that I had with Don.

copy

Shaker Community, Inc.

July 7, 1961

Dear Mrs. Miller:

Congratulations on the opening of the project. I was sorry that other commitments did not make it possible for me to attend the ceremonies.

One problem has arisen which you can no doubt do something about. As you probably know, as a result of our fifteen years' operation we have generally become known as the "Shaker Village restoration. Your use of the title "Hancock Shaker Community" has helped to distinguish the two projects. However, The Eagle in its news stories, headlines, etc. often refer to Hancock as "Shaker Village". As a result, we have already had a number of visitors come to us who actually want to go to Hancock. When they find out that they can see Mt. Lebanon without charge, they tend not to want to go to Hancock, although we encourage them to do so. Actually, we can only handle a very limited number of people without interfering with our educational objectives and program. Aside from the use of the terms "Shaker Village" as confusing to people, it presents a real problem to us of having (I expect in the future) far too many people coming here due to the excellent publicity which you are receiving.

I would therefore suggest that it will be helpful to both of us --getting people to Hancock and limiting the number of people coming here-- if you could use your good offices to try to avoid publicity coming out which refers to your project other than as "Hancock Shaker Community." We will begin to use "Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village" as a further effort to avoid confusion, although we are partly located in Hancock ourselves.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count.

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

11 Whittier Ave.
Puttfield, Mass.
Oct. 2, 1961

Dear Mr. Coont

We want to thank you for the interest you have shown in Hancock Shaker Village and the appreciative letter you wrote after your visit here.

If a duplicate stereograph of the tramp house at the South family ever shows up I shall be happy to donate it to your work camp. I am sorry I have only one.

As to the so-called "West family" I had always thought it consisted of the stone mill (1819?) which still stands off Route 22, and the millers' (?) house nearby. It was not, I believe, an organized family as such, but probably a branch of the Church family, something like our "North family" or "North house" here, which consisted mainly of a fulling and saw mill up on Shaker Mountain (Mt. Sinai) to which members of the Church family went to work by the day. There is no record of a dwelling there.

As I understand it the New Lebanon community, at its height, was made up of the following families: the Church (two Orders, First and Second, the latter called at one time the Center family); the North (the Novitiate or Gathering family); the Upper and Lower Lanaan families, affiliated with the North; the East, Hill or Brickyard family, associated with the Church; the Second family; and the South family.

With best wishes,
Sincerely yours,
Edward D. Andrews

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

October 4, 1962

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Count:

It is most gratifying to be able to report another successful season at Hancock Shaker Village. The mechanics of getting started occupied us the first year, but after a winter of planning we had great expectations for our second season. Good friends like you transformed our hopes into realities, and we were able to extend our preservation and restoration work.

The enclosed summary will bring you up to date and outline for you what we hope to achieve in the coming year. To sustain our initial accomplishments and underwrite the continued development of the Village, we need a minimum of \$40,000 for our 1963 budget. This amount would cover essential wages and salaries, the regular maintenance, a modest measure of restoration, and the interest on a bank loan, which should be retired as soon as possible.

To raise this much money, we must also call on foundations and national philanthropists. To interest them, we first need your help. They will ask about the number and amount of individual contributions in assessing interest in Hancock Shaker Village. We ask you again to provide the figures which will help us get outright gifts and matching funds.

Also important is broadly based community backing; its growth here is encouraging and is of special concern to foundations. In addition to the lengthening roll of Berkshire-area donors, attendance figures reflect greater local support as well as the spread of interest in the Village to people in other areas. Attendance in 1961 ran to 4,000 while as of this writing we are 40% ahead of last year.

The solid backing of these thousands seems more eloquent than any words of mine in suggesting that you contribute generously toward the 1963 Village program. But I am making this appeal a personal one, and I am making it early so that this fall we may schedule the winter work vital to carrying the 1963 projects to completion. I hope you will be among our donors.

Sincerely,

Laura K. Miller

Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
President

October 13, 1962

Mrs. Amy Bess Miller,
Shaker Community, Inc.,
500 William St.,
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Miller:

This will again supplement prior requests that the names of our organizations be kept clearly separate. We recently had still another occasion when a supplier, Carr Hardware, charged an item of yours to our account, because even your help is confused about your title. The item in question was signed for by your employee and charged to "Shaker Village". Naturally, the item appeared upon our monthly statement, because we have had an account in that name for seventeen years.

In another instance, we were deprived of the use of a specially ordered and badly needed item, because your employee accepted delivery of it at the store, although it was marked for "Shaker Village Work Group." It was not returned to Carr Hardware for many weeks and in the meantime another part was ordered, with additional delay.

It would seem to me, while the confusion occasioned by your continued use of the name "Shaker Village" in your promotion material is understandable on the part of the public, at least your own employees ought to be apprised of your correct title, which I understand to be Shaker Community, Inc.

JC
Director

f →
SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

October 15, 1962

Dear Mr. Count:

Again I can only say that I am sorry that still another occasion has confused the names of our two organizations. As far as the public is concerned, we try to keep the two names separate, but I suppose they will always confuse the issue since the Shakers have lived here for 150 years, * the place has always been known as the Shaker village.

I will circulate your most recent letter among our staff so that there will be no further confusion there and trust you will have no further trouble. It might be worthwhile for you to remind Carr Hardware of our two separate organizations.

Sincerely yours,



Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
President

abm/ec

Mr. Jerome Count, Director
Shaker Village Work Group
Post Office Box
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Handwritten signature

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

July 12, 1962

Dear Mr. Count,

Enclosed is a letter which came to our box by mistake. I feel there is bound to be continuous confusion among the three organizations which have Shaker in their titles -- last week we had fourteen boy campers dropped off by a bus which should have taken them to Old Chatham. They were marooned for a while but eventually it all shaped up.

Our signs say Hancock - a Shaker Village, and that seems to be the best way in the opinion of our staff and Trustees to direct the public. We stress Hancock and of course we are Massachusetts. We will always be a Shaker Village in the public mind as that is precisely what we are.

We do not capitalize upon the splendid reputation of your project, but are busy creating our own reputation and wish to live harmoniously with our neighbors. I am sure the inconvenience caused us both is minor.

With very kind regards and best wishes for a splendid season,

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence K. Miller

Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
President

abm/ec

Mr. Jerome Count
P. O. Box 1149
Pittsfield, Mass.

SHAKER VILLAGE WORK GROUP

DATE: July 7, 1962

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mrs. Amy Bess Miller

FROM:
Jerome Count

The enclosed letter is an example of the confusion in the minds of even such experienced local people as the Berkshire Eagle and the post office employees. The letter (statement) is obviously intended for Hancock Community, Inc., since we have had no advertising in the Eagle. However, it was addressed to "Shaker Village, Richmond, Mass." Then it no doubt was returned by the Richmond Post Office to Pittsfield and someone in the post office marked it "Try Miller". Next, apparently, it was marked by the post office help, "Hancock, Mass." Yet, it wound up in our post office box and was opened by our office help, thinking it was intended for us.

With this kind of thing happening to experienced local people trying to locate you and us, imagine what is happening to visitors?

This is by way of a footnote to my recent letter to you.

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

October 14, 1963

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Count:

Many different publics have been served by Shaker Community, Inc., during the three years since its organization in 1960. Through its operation of Hancock Shaker Village as an outdoor museum, enjoyment and education have been provided to 16,806 visitors.

Our publics include:

- ▷ Historians, antiquarians
- ▷ Artists, architects
- ▷ College people, graduate students
- ▷ School children, campers (2000 strong)
- ▷ Teachers, researchers
- ▷ Casual tourists, serious viewers

Hundreds of dedicated men and women have studied our collections and have been assisted in their work by our director and staff. This year, alone, more than 1,000 attended lectures given by staff members; the story of Hancock Shaker Village reached still broader groups via radio and television.

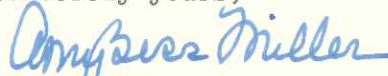
Our progress year by year in carrying out a program of serious historical preservation has been supported by people such as you who realize the value of this project for today and tomorrow. In the not-too-distant future, we are confident that — as with older, similar museums — our receipts from attendance will completely carry our normal operating expenses. The way was pointed during the month of August, when attendance more than carried our weekly payroll.

Until the day when all our months soar like August, we again ask our friends in the Berkshires and elsewhere to see us through another growing year, when preservation and restoration are mandatory to fulfill the prime reason for which this organization was created.

I do not hesitate to appeal to Berkshire pride for support of the only Western Massachusetts museum village. In order to grow, we have to live through these early years, building from local interest and strength to the point where national renown assures us ample financing of the kind given by the possessors of great fortunes to museum villages like Greenfield Village, Colonial Williamsburg, Shelburne, and Old Sturbridge.

With all this in mind, we are keeping our sights high and our horizon broad.

Sincerely yours,



Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
President

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

October 28, 1965

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Count:

Five years ago our Village was saved. As you and other Friends of Hancock Shaker Village know, this emergency action was only the first event in preserving Shaker landmarks and the rare spirit of the Shaker people.

All who have accepted a responsibility for the future of Hancock will be heartened by the enclosed report, which summarizes major events in the 1965 season. As we move ahead with vital projects of restoration and education, let us all be confident that "the best is yet to be."

Hancock as a Living Restoration, faithfully presenting an American Heritage, is a valuable addition to the life and to the economy of the Berkshires. Nearly all the annual operating budget of \$50,000 is spent in this area. Further restoration and the proposed expansion of Village activities and programs will benefit Berkshire County, both in the near future and for many years ahead.

A strong, knowledgeable committee begins this month to present specific Proposals for Grants to a number of foundations. The Proposals include several restoration projects, and also programs in research, publication, and education in various categories.

Probably you know that a foundation, when it surveys a possible grant of funds, studies the support that a cause is receiving from other sources, particularly those in the organization's own community. Our Proposals are certain to be weighed by such factors as the number, regularity, and amounts of the gifts we receive from the Friends of Hancock Shaker Village.

Because we have such Friends as you, our requests for foundation grants are the more likely to win approval. However, let me urge that you consider giving a larger sum this year, if indeed you have not already decided to do that. Increased contributions now will stimulate aid to Shaker Community, Inc. from sources outside the Berkshires.

Thank you for all you have done, and will do, to help.

Sincerely yours,



Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
President

Hancock Shaker Village has become, in five years, a Living Restoration

*From a Proposal
of August, 1960*

"The plan is to make this Community, in its physical appearance and historic functioning, a *living* organization. The property is located in a beautiful countryside, where visitors will be inspired by the creation of a simple, communal way of life which has always attracted visitors from far and wide.

"In such a setting an educational program will be conducted which is a major justification of Shaker Community . . . Through seminars, lectures, exhibitions, guided tours, publications and other means, the Community will encourage and provide facilities for a broad program in the humanities."

Five years later, the re-awakening of Hancock to new life and new usefulness is a reality.

This long lived Shaker Village is now serving many thousands, the outcome of careful planning, devotion to detail and tradition, and generous contributions. The number of visitors grows, and important events center here.

In 1965 nearly sixteen thousand people visited the partially restored original Shaker Village, and became familiar with eight of its nineteen buildings and the furnishings which are constantly being acquired. In both structures and contents, even the casual visitor finds clear evidence of the character and abilities and spirit of the Shakers.

"Put your hands to work and your hearts to God." - - Mother Ann Lee

For many decades, Shaker brethren and sisters of Hancock maintained a farm-and-shops community, which was distinguished by its order, harmony, and prudent use of God-given resources.

In bringing new life to their lovely Village, we have restored the famous Herb Garden that was so important to Shaker "kitchen sisters" as an industry in producing income. Croplands and pasture are again in use. A neighbor's cows graze near the 1826 Round Stone Barn.

When Berkshire County 4-H youth came this year to the Village for exhibitions and fellowship, they were glad to become acquainted with this farm center, suited to present and future gatherings.

Thirty-five young men worked on Village preservation and improvements for eight weeks in 1965.

During thirty-five hours each week they learned simple carpentry, painting, re-forestation and the building of an 18-ft. footbridge, use and care of light machinery, and marketable crafts.

Their work-and-learn schedules, administered by the Neighborhood Youth Corps (NYC), included an hour a day of practical classwork. The subjects taught included mathematics and English utilized in semi-skilled occupations, American history, and the place of the Shakers in American history.

A similar type of instruction and practice in *transferable skills* is planned for the future.

Beginning with our visitors, more Americans learn to value the work and spirit of Shakers

The 1965 program included Mario DePillis's lecture to the John Hay Fellows on historic utopian societies, a conference and tour of the Catholic Art Association, and numerous visits and use of our educational services by classes of private and public schools and by educational and character-building organizations. A grant for an annual series of lectures is now available.

Fourteen "World's People Dinners" introduced delicious Shaker foods — and the Village — to Berkshire County families and many others.

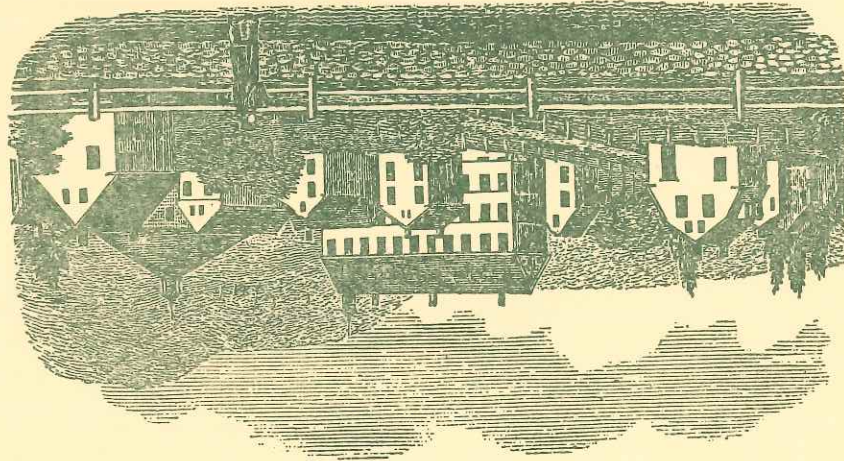
A *New York Times* feature article in early summer was often mentioned by visitors as having awakened their keen interest in Hancock's re-creation.

The "kitchen sisters" of today's Hancock continue Shaker culinary tradition, aided by a modern General Electric kitchen. A Shaker setting for an electric kitchen is presented in the Fall 1965 issue of *Home Modernizing Guide* (Holt, Rinehart & Winston).

Many pages of the October *Better Homes and Gardens* (circulation, 6,500,000) present "twenty favorite Shaker recipes." The large colored photographs show in Hancock settings the foods that Shakers hoped would "create contentment, joy and satisfaction to those who partake of them."

The Officers and Trustees deeply appreciate all that is being done by the gifts of Friends and the pooling of many talents, for restored Hancock.

Shaker Village in Hancock.



SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE . . . an American Heritage

BOX 29, PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

TELEPHONE: (413) 443-0188

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ROBERT G. WHEELER, KENNETH M. WILSON.

Many opportunities are offered to donors of important restorations and improvements and to our growing programs of research, publication, and education at many levels and in several disciplines. A Restoration Memorial opportunity is available for each of several building restorations, with a range from \$1,000 to \$350,000, the latter being for restoration and a publication, based on further research, pertaining to the Round Stone Barn. Contributions to an Endowment Fund are also vital in realizing Hancock's potential values.

Any person or group interested in giving for a specific purpose is invited to communicate with us at any time. Shaker Community, Inc., Box 29, Pittsfield, Massachusetts

A growing number of contributors now give annually toward the support and continuing restoration of Hancock Shaker Village. Our name for these donors is *Friends of Hancock Shaker Village*. Throughout the year, these membership privileges are gratefully extended to all Friends: An annual event by invitation, at the Meeting House. A discount on items in the continuing publication program. An invitation to previews of acquisitions. Free admission to the Village. Advance notice of special services provided by our "kitchen sisters". The opportunity of participating in the interesting work of Committees.

As one by one our familiar landmarks disappear we urge you to help save this treasured Village in the Berkshires

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

May 1, 1966

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Count:

You may have seen recently in the news from Boston that Hancock Shaker Village has been granted recognition as an official Massachusetts historic landmark, along with such other places as the State House and Bunker Hill Monument.

This is a tremendously buoyant note on which to prepare for the start of our sixth season as a public museum, but of course it does not solve all our problems - nor does it hint at our accomplishments.

We can, in fact, look forward to our opening day, June 1, as one of our most important, because of new installations and acquisitions. As highlights, a pharmacy, a Brethren's retiring room and a Deacons' room have been furnished, and will be opened for the first time. Windows in the 1830 Brick Dwelling are being replaced with small-paned sash of the original style - a project which is only one-fourth completed but already is reflecting the charm of the earlier period and will be continued as funds permit.

Preservation is the purpose behind the state's designation of historic landmarks. Since public funds do not accompany the recognition, we must repeat private appeals.

If you have in previous seasons been a donor, please renew your contribution as a Friend of Hancock Shaker Village. If you have never contributed, consider the values in helping maintain both the buildings and the philosophy of the Village's former Shaker occupants who demonstrated here from 1790 to 1960 the virtues of a life devoted to the pursuit of excellence.

A foundation has recently pledged a generous grant for three years on a matching contingency and so the Village will especially benefit from whatever amount you can contribute now.

A calendar of Village events for 1966, headed by a Friends Day, is being prepared and will be mailed in May. We hope very much that you will join us on many of these occasions, for your continuing interest in Hancock Shaker Village is vital to its development.

Sincerely yours,

Amy Bes Miller
Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller, President
For the Trustees

ABM/md

Mr. Dodd
447-7284

HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

13 July 1966

Betsy
① SV should pay the 10¢ each
② Ask Mr. Dodd for refund for
last trip + you will pay each
③ Thank him for arrangements
④ Return letter to me

Mr. Jerome Count
Director
Shaker Village Work Group
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Count:

Since our phone conversation this noon I have had a chance to discuss the matter of admitting your boys and girls with Mrs. Miller, who tells me that our Trustees decided last winter that, inasmuch as we are almost entirely dependent on our gate for our operating expenses, the Village's policy must be that of insisting that all visitors pay an admission fee.


The Trustees decided, however, that groups like yours should be required to make only the merest token payment, and so we ask of such groups that they pay only 10¢ per person. We require that there be one accompanying supervisor for each group of ten, and the supervisors are admitted without charge.

I do so wish that we could waive the admission fee altogether for groups like yours - most especially for yours - and I hope that another year we will find an organization willing to underwrite the costs of such a procedure. But at the moment we have no funds which can be channelled in this direction.

You must know that I very much hope that this nominal fee will not prevent your group from coming to the Village, for we greatly look forward to having you here.

This brings my best regards and the hope that I'll have the pleasure of making your acquaintance in the very near future.

Yours sincerely,


Eugene Merrick Dodd
Curator

f
~~Adm. office~~
Hancock Shaker Community

July 15, 1966

Mr. Eugene Merrick Dodd
Curator
Hancock Shaker Village
P.O. Box 29
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Dodd:

We greatly appreciate the arrangements you have made so that it will be possible for our teen-agers to continue to visit Hancock. They very much enjoy and profit from seeing Hancock, and we are very pleased that trips will still be possible.

We hope there will be further opportunities for mutual co-operation among the "Shaker Communities."

My best regards to you and Mrs. Miller.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count
Director

The New York Times

TIMES SQUARE NEW YORK N Y 10036

February 23, 1967

Mr. Charles Glendening
N.W. Ayer & Sons, Inc.
West Washington Square
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

Dear Mr. Glendening:

At the suggestion of your New York office, we address the following matter to you:

We have received a letter from Charles R. Crimmin, an attorney in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, who represents Shaker Community, Inc., a non-profit educational corporation which operates a community museum in Hancock and Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Mr. Crimmin has written in part as follows:

"It has been called to our attention that one Jerome Count, proprietor of an organization sometimes known as Shaker Village Work Group just over the State line in New Lebanon, New York, has been running advertisements in The Times which have resulted in considerable confusion between the two organizations."

Mr. Crimmin says this results in continuing inquiries as to whether the corporation he represents has extended its activity beyond those authorized by its corporate charter. More particularly: 1) the only address listed by Mr. Count is Pittsfield, Massachusetts; 2) his advertisement does not state that his establishment is in fact located in New York State; 3) he no longer uses the distinctive name of "Shaker Village Work Group" by which his enterprise formerly was well-known, he uses only the name "Shaker Village."

Mr. Crimmin says that the organization he represents is and always has been known as Hancock Shaker Village. He goes on to say that many road maps have for many years designated the location of "our establishment" on the Hancock-Pittsfield town line as "Shaker Village." Mr.

The New York Times

TIMES SQUARE NEW YORK N Y 10036

- 2 -

Crimmin says that this is not the location of the Count enterprise. He has added that his client has been receiving Mr. Count's mail addressed to Shaker Village, which requires remailing.

Mr. Crimmin has asked that the Count advertisements be clarified. We'd appreciate having your comments.

Sincerely yours,



THE NEW YORK TIMES
Advertising Acceptability Department

VRedding:C

Philadelphia · New York · Chicago · Detroit
Boston · San Francisco · Los Angeles · Honolulu

N·W·AYER & SON INC.

West Washington Square, Philadelphia 6
Area Code 215, Telephone 925-0100

Mr. Jerome C. Count
SHAKER VILLAGE WORK GROUP
P. O. Box 1149
Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01203

Dear Mr. Count:

We are enclosing stats of a letter received today from the NEW YORK TIMES which is self-explanatory. This advertisement is scheduled to appear each week through June 4, and we are wondering what your suggestion would be to meet this objection.

You will recall we had the "Shaker Village" set in this special antique type, and if it is advisable to add "Work Group", we would have to have it reset in a smaller size.

We have acknowledged the letter from the TIMES, stating that we are referring the matter to you.

Sincerely yours,


Charles E. Glendening

February 28, 1967
Enclosures

March 2nd, 1967

Mr. Charles Glendening,
N. W. Ayer & Sons,
Philadelphia, Penn.

Dear Mr. Ayer:

In response to the correspondence from the Times concerning Shaker Community, Inc., you may make the following points to the Times:

1. Shaker Community, Inc. has no proprietary rights whatever in the term Shaker Village. Its incorporated name uses the term "Community" and not "Village." This was done when the organization was set up some six years ago, to distinguish their project from ours, which was known since 1947 by the name Shaker Village.
2. An agreement was made between us and the Shaker Community, Inc., whereby they were to stress Community and Hancock in their material, and they have continually violated this arrangement. Confusion has been caused by their ambivalence in using for publicity purposes "Community," "Village," "Shaker Community," "Shaker Village", "Hancock Shaker Community", "Hancock Shaker Village", "Shaker Village at Hancock," etc.
3. We have two incorporated bodies since 1947 which utilize the words Shaker Village.
4. Mr. Grimmins in his letter to the Times falsely states that we are located in New Lebanon, N.Y., whereas we are also located in Hancock, Mass. He also falsely stated that we used "only" the Pittsfield address, whereas we use P.O. Box 1149. The "Community" is actually located in Hancock, Mass., but uses a Pittsfield address in its publicity.
5. We have acquired propriety rights since 1947 in the use of the terms Shaker Village for our project.

Under the circumstances, we decline to agree to a change in our copy for the reason that Shaker Community, Inc. has caused and continues to cause us considerable damage due to its in-

vasion of our rights in the matter.

Yours very truly,

Jerome Count,
Director

HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

17 March 1967

Mr. Jerome Count
Director
Shaker Village Work Group
Box T-1149
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Count:

You have already heard, I believe, from our attorney, Mr. Charles R. Crimmin, that considerable confusion is resulting from your current advertisements in The New York Times Magazine. Because these omit the second half of the official and recognized title of your organization, Shaker Village Work Group, and mention only a Pittsfield address without reference to the fact that the project is located in Lebanon Springs, New York, a wide public has been led to believe that the Work Group is now being conducted by Hancock Shaker Village.

The result is a terrible inconvenience for both Mrs. Miller and me, for we are being deluged by phone calls and visitors mistaking this organization for yours. Today, for instance, two parties were here in this connection, while another of your prospective clients phoned Mrs. Miller (at great inconvenience to her) at her house. Naturally, we have referred all these inquiries, along with those which we have received by mail, to you.

Inevitably, though, the individuals coming and calling here have asked me about your project, and this, for lack of accurate information, I have not been able to provide. In my files, however, I find memoranda dating back to last July indicating that, because your Group is mainly attended by teen-agers from under-privileged families, they

HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. Jerome Count - II

would not be able to meet our regular group admission fee of 35 cents (which, as you will recall, I reduced to a mere token in order that they might see our Village). In the future, if you wish, I should be pleased to inform those inquiring here about the Work Group that it is intended primarily for under-privileged children, though this seems to me to be rather inconsistent with your present Times advertisements.

Indeed, these advertisements strike me as quite misrepresentative of the Work Group generally, and certainly they are misleading the public into thinking that your project is really ours. You mentioned to me in one of your letters the hope that there will be "further opportunities for mutual cooperation among the 'Shaker Communities.'" You must know that I share this hope with you wholeheartedly. But at the same time our two organizations have well-defined and very different purposes, and it seems to me that these advertisements, by blurring our separate identities, are detrimental to each of us.

I do hope that you will alter your advertisements in such a way that the distinct identities of our two projects will be maintained.

Yours sincerely,



Eugene Merrick Dodd
Curator

EMD/h

March 23, 1967

Charles R. Crimmin, Esq.
Berkshire County Savings Bank Bldg.
28 North Street
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Crimmins:

Since my last letter to you, I have learned that Shaker Community, Inc., is using materials, such as a letterhead, which neither mentions its correct name, nor gives its correct address. That is, a letterhead used by Mr. Dodd in writing me a letter recently reads "Hancock Shaker Village, Pittsfield, Mass."

As you know, the Hancock project is not located in Pittsfield, but simply maintains a post office box there, as we do. The use of materials in this form also directly violates an agreement which was made with Mrs. Miller some years ago and is an invasion of the rights we have acquired through more than twenty years use of the designation, Shaker Village.

It is therefore requested that this practice be discontinued. I also renew my earlier suggestion that the entire subject be discussed.

Yours truly,

Jerome Count,
Director

JG:mr

February 16, 1967

Charles R. Grimmin Esq.
Berkshire County Savings Bank Bldg.
28 North Street
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Grimmin:

Your letter of the 13th would never have been written if Shaker Community, Inc. had adhered to its original intention to designate its project by the title "Community". It would also not have been necessary if Shaker Community, Inc. had adhered to our agreement with Mrs. Miller (I have written evidence of this) that the Hancock project would stress and use its original wisely chosen title of "Community". In the beginning of the Hancock project, Mrs. Miller and her staff, as well as her family newspaper, followed this original title and the understanding with us. Subsequently, over our repeated protests, the Hancock project changed their practice and publicity, sometimes using "Community", "Shaker Community", "Shaker Village", "Hancock Shaker Village", "Shaker Village at Hancock", etc. This ambivalence and self-induced confusion has caused us very severe damage and continues to do so, has disrupted our program with young people and causes us continuous difficulty.

As you see from the designation above on this letterhead, we have used the Shaker Village title since the inception of our project twenty-years ago, and we have been known as such among thousands of people throughout the nation since 1947. Two incorporated bodies involved with our project have been designated by the title "Shaker Village" since 1947.

Two items need to be corrected in your letter: the address you refer to is not "only" Pittsfield, Mass., but P. O. Box 1149; and we are not only located in New Lebanon, but also in Hancock, Mass. and Canaan, N. Y. Nevertheless, we refrain from using the Hancock designation so as to avoid confusion and carry out the arrangement, which Shaker Community, Inc. has continuously disregarded for the past five years, in spite of our protests.

If any purpose will be served, I will be glad to meet with you and Mrs. Miller to see whether any suitable arrangement can

be arrived at by our two non-profit educational organizations to resolve the situation. I regard very highly the exceptional achievements that have been accomplished by Mrs. Miller and her organization since its inception and its brief career. Having personally been one of the inspirers of the project and made financial contributions to it, I would like to be helpful, at the same time preventing further injury to our own organization.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,
Director

JG:mr

CHARLES R. CRIMMIN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
BERKSHIRE COUNTY SAVINGS BANK BUILDING
28 NORTH STREET
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01202

February 13, 1967

Mr. Jerome Count
New Lebanon
New York

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that I am attorney for Shaker Community, Inc., a duly incorporated Massachusetts nonprofit educational corporation which operates a community museum located in Hancock and Pittsfield, Massachusetts. President and chief moving force of the corporation is Amy Bess Williams Miller, wife of Lawrence K. Miller, editor of The Berkshire Eagle published in Pittsfield.

It has been called to our attention that you have been running advertisements in The New York Times which have resulted in considerable confusion between our organization and your Shaker Village Work Group, resulting in continuing inquiries to our various officers as to whether our corporation has expanded its activities into certain fields of activity beyond those authorized by our corporate charter. More particularly:

1. The only address listed for you in your advertisements is Pittsfield, Massachusetts.
2. Nowhere in your advertisements do you state that your establishment is in fact located in New Lebanon, New York.
3. You no longer use the distinctive name of "Shaker Village Work Group" by which your enterprise was formerly well known, but use only the name of "Shaker Village", which results in considerable confusion with our organization, which is and always has been known as Hancock Shaker Village.

Robing

*Hancock
+ Carraau*

Mr. Jerome Count
February 13, 1967

Page 2

Indeed, many road maps have for many years designated the location of our establishment on the Hancock-Pittsfield town line as "Shaker Village". This is clearly not the location of your enterprise.

Thus the advertisements being run by you are extremely misleading. Shaker Community, Inc. has been placed in a position which is most annoying, ambiguous and embarrassing. For example, we have even been receiving some of your mail addressed to Shaker Village, creating a nuisance whereby we are required to re-mail same. Only if our organization counters with a greatly expanded public relations and advertising program, which we can ill afford, can the negativism of this be counteracted. Thus your advertising in its present form is a great expense to Shaker Community, Inc. in terms of both time and money. We must insist that your advertisements in their present form be discontinued or in any event be so clarified that the aforementioned confusion between our enterprises will cease forthwith. Otherwise it will be necessary to institute appropriate legal proceedings. I trust that such drastic action will not be required.

Very truly yours,



Charles R. Crimmin

CRC:mmd

cc: Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller

March 23, 1967

Mr. Eugene M. Dodd,
Shaker Community, Inc.,
P. O. Box 29,
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Dodd:

The enclosed mail from Marimokko, Cambridge, Mass. came to us through our post office box. You will note that it is addressed to you at "Hancock Shaker Village, Pittsfield, Mass."

This is another example of the confusion which the Hancock project has caused by failing to stress both Hancock and Community, as was agreed with Mrs. Miller long ago. As I pointed out in my last letter, you now actually are using a letterhead that not only does not stress it, but does not even mention "Community". Furthermore, it does not even give your post office box number, even though you are not located in Pittsfield---- the only address shown on the letterhead.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,
Director

June 2, 1967

Mr. Lawrence K. Miller,
Berkshire Eagle,
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Peter:

I am continually being surprised to read in Eagle headlines that certain events are to take place at "Shaker Village". The issues of May 31 and June 1st, for example, carry such stories as the holding of meetings of the Berkshire Museum Auxiliary and the Western Mass. Library Club. This practice of the Eagle is a source of continual confusion to the public, although I am aware that, following the headline, you usually refer to "Hancock Shaker Village," in the body of the story. As you know, the bulk of the readers never get any further than the headline of a news item.

As you no doubt are aware, we have been threatened with a law suit by an attorney for Shaker Community, Inc. because we have continued the practice, initiated since 1947, of referring to our project as "Shaker Village". Although I have offered in a friendly spirit to discuss this subject, there has been no response to this suggestion by either the attorney or Amy Bess. As you may also be aware, at the inception of the Hancock project, I was assured by Amy Bess, both verbally and in writing, that announcements of the project would stress "Hancock" and "Community." As you will see from a perusal of past stories which have appeared in the Eagle, Hancock is not usually referred to in the headlines and "Community" rarely is either in the headline or the body of such stories. This contributes to the public confusion caused by the initial headlines in your stories which usually refer only to "Shaker Village." As a result, we receive many telephone calls, much mail and many visitors who come to us as the Shaker Village they have known for many years --even generations-- although they may be looking for Hancock and wish to communicate with Amy Bess's project or attend events there.

In view of the fact that the Eagle's editorship and ownership is so closely related to the Hancock project, I feel that ethically and otherwise a strong public obligation exists to keep the two projects clearly and separately identified. For example, I would suggest that initial headlines of all stories refer to either Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village, or to Hancock Shaker Community, as the

case might be. This could go a long way to identify the two separate projects in the public mind. Otherwise, I do not see any hope of avoiding the continual embarrassment and confusion for both projects.

I think the Eagle could be helpful in resolving this situation in accordance with the assurances which Amy Bess originally gave us when Hancock was started.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,
Director

JC:mr

June 2, 1967

Mr. Eugene M. Dodd, Curator
Hancock Shaker Community, Inc.
P. O. Box 29
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Dodd:

We have received no reply to our answers to you and Mr. Grimms concerning the subject of the confusion caused by the failure of Hancock to clearly identify itself as "Hancock Community", as originally assured us and incorporated. As you may know, in my correspondence I suggested that the two organizations confer in a friendly spirit in order to try to resolve the problem, but there has been no response to this suggestion.

In the meantime, I am writing to inquire whether the policy of last summer concerning the admission of our teenagers will be continued. I might add that the splendid job which Hancock is doing in presenting Shaker material has been a source of great inspiration to our young people, and I would like to see them continue to have this advantage. As you recall, we usually bring about ten teenagers once a week. Some of them are usually beneficiaries of our scholarship program, including some who pay no tuition whatever for their eight-week experience with us.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,
Director

JC:mr

March 21, 1967

Mr. Eugene M. Dodd, Curator
Hancock Shaker Community, Inc.
P. O. Box 29
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Dodd:

I will not answer in detail your letter of March 17th, since the subject is in the hands of the attorney for your organization and he has my reply.

However, although we have used the "Shaker Village" designation, alone and in various forms since 1947, we have been subjected to years of inconvenience and damage caused by Hancock's recent failure to adhere to its original intention and agreement with us to stress "Hancock" and "Community" in its materials and publicity. Originally this was done and there was little difficulty, but this changed in spite of verbal and written assurances from Mrs. Miller that it would not be done. It is worth pointing out that the letterhead on which you wrote me does not even mention Hancock "Community", much less stress it as Mrs. Miller had agreed would be done. It also gives your address as Pittsfield, where you are not located, without giving your post office box.

At no time did we indicate to you that our group was mainly attended by teenagers from under-privileged families and if this is the information you intend to give to inquirers, it will be false.

Finally, you make a serious charge in your letter --that our advertising is "misrepresentative" generally. The most charitable interpretation I can place upon this, in the absence of any amplification from you, is your earlier statement of your "lack of accurate information." If you will point out any actual misrepresentations, general or specific, in our copy, you may be sure they will be corrected. I know of none and unless you point out the nature of them, I trust you will retract this serious charge.

I again assure you and Mrs. Miller of our desire to cooperate and have friendly relations with our neighbors. You may not know that I was one of the original inspirers of the Hancock project to the Miller family and contributed to it. I am also an admirer of the

fine achievements that have been accomplished in the short period of its existence. We cannot continue, however, to ignore the damage being caused by the continued confusion in identity which the Hancock project is causing by its failure to stress "Hancock" and "Community", as agreed in writing several times by Mrs. Miller. The confusion you now complain of is self-induced rather than a result of our continued use of the term Shaker Village for over twenty years.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,
Director

JC:mr

CHARLES R. CRIMMIN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
BERKSHIRE COUNTY SAVINGS BANK BUILDING
28 NORTH STREET
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01202

June 7, 1967

Mr. Jerome Count
New Lebanon
New York

Re: Shaker Community, Inc.

Dear Mr. Count:

I suggest that Mrs. Miller, you and I meet at my office at 11:00 A.M. on Monday, July 10, 1967, for the purpose of discussing our various "disputes."

Please advise as to your availability at the suggested time and place.

Very truly yours,

Charles R. Crimmin

Charles R. Crimmin

CRC:mmd

6/9 - "Yes"

- ① Use P.O. Box 29 on letterhead*
- ② Use Community in all releases*
- ③ " " instead of village*

July 26, 1967

f →
Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
Shaker Community, Inc.
P.O. Box 29
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Miller:

At the conclusion of our conference at Mr. Crimmins' office, I said that I assumed that I would hear from you or your staff concerning the continuation of your policy with reference to admitting our villagers at Hancock for a token admission of 10¢ each.

I have not been advised concerning this, but I am informed that a group visited Hancock this week and were charged 35¢ each. Unfortunately, this is excessive for many of our villagers who come from severely deprived backgrounds. So as to avoid embarrassment to these boys and girls, I would appreciate knowing whether this is a policy established officially with your approval.

Perhaps, you may be interested in these comments of our staff member who accompanied the group. She said: "It is interesting for our kids to compare this museum restoration with our lived-in restoration, also to talk to their guides and compare their respective jobs. Everything is very well-labeled and they can get a lot out of it by themselves; the guides can sometimes offer additional information."

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count
Director

JC:kc

15
→ SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

Novmeber 1967

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Count
P. O. Box 1149
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Count:

At the close of the Village's 1967 season I am delighted to send you our third Newsletter. As you will see from reading it, the year has been an extremely active one in each of the various departments of the Village's operation. The year has also been by far our most successful, with attendance, new acquisitions, and educational programs all climbing to new levels. In this record those of us associated with the Village take considerable pride, which we want you to share with us, for your generosity as a Friend has made it possible.

We are now planning our program for the Village's eighth season, for which we have outlined a yet more ambitious calendar of activities. These will allow us more fully to carry out the chief objective for which Shaker Community, Inc., was formed - the creation not only of a depository for the material remains of the Shakers' heritage but also an active educational center serving the interests of antiquarians, historians and other scholars in addition to the general public. Side by side with this enlarged program we are confident that the restoration of new areas of the Village will go forward at an accelerated pace.

For specific restoration and publication projects several foundations have most generously contributed, but for the Village's operating expenses we are almost wholly dependent on our Friends and some 20,000 annual visitors who have paid admission. Our Friends' generous response to our work through the years has enabled us continually to expand our operations, and indeed your support has allowed the Village to grow, in the Shaker tradition, as something of a communal enterprise - an undertaking whose responsibility is shared by many. It is individual donors like you who furnish the lustre of personal contact and interest which will enable our organization to flourish.

I do so hope you will renew your membership as a Friend. So much of the success of Hancock has resulted from your interest in its recent accomplishments and your confidence in its potential.

Yours sincerely,

Louise K. Miller

Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
President

and 9/23

SHAKER COMMUNITY, INC.
HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS
AN AMERICAN HERITAGE

9 September 1968

Mr. Jerome Count
Shaker Village Work Group
Box 1149
Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201

Dear Jerry:

*9/23
list + prices*

I find that the man who makes the Shaker miniature furniture is Mr. Gus Schwertfeger (little wonder I couldn't remember his name!); his address is Box 56, Poland Spring, Maine 04274. We don't seem to have a list of what he does, but I know he would send you one if you write him.

It was most pleasant chatting with you and Mrs. Count yesterday, and I hope that you will drop by again.

NO

We are running low, I find, in some of our stock which I've been buying from your shop this summer, and if it's not a terrible inconvenience to you I'd like to pick up a new supply sometime soon. I'll give you a ring.

Sincerely,

Eugene

Eugene Merrick Dodd
Curator

*SORRY ABOUT
THIS DELAY, JERRY.
THIS NOTE GOT
BURIED ON MY DESK*