

Jason Russell, continued

Some years later, Jason was one of the Precinct Committeemen (a representative from Menotomy to Cambridge Selectmen) for four years, and Precinct Assessor for the same period (1758; 1761-1763).

It seems that there was some rift between relatives, mainly his aunt, Martha Dunster, over religious matters which he tried several times to make a conciliation. But did not resolve it.

Jason's original house started out as a simple, two rooms, one above the other with a chimney and stairs. As his family increased, he made additions. He turned his house into a characteristic New England farmhouse with five windows in the front and the door in the center.



Jason Russell was reportedly a fairly prosperous farmer. He was not wealthy according to the inventory of the house at the time of his death, but they lived comfortably.

Jason's house in Menotomy which is now a museum. Dianne Schmidt Hurley is pictured here with her two sons.

“Jason (1716-1775) was the famous Jason Russell, an invalid (from palsy), who was barbarously butchered in his own house by the British troops on their retreat from Lexington and Concord on the 19th of April 1775.”

Earlier, they had been warned that the British were coming. Dawes, and Prescott, friends of Paul Revere had tried to warn people of the coming troops.



Bronze statue of Paul Revere on his famous ride

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Many people ran for safety. Jason's wife and little ones went to safety in the cellar out back. It was on this same street that the British came down to battle in Lexington, then back down the same street in retreat.