

Custom House Notes

Old Manse

Was **Chief executive officer** in a custom house. Lived in **Salem**, in the days of **King Derby**
Brick house was custom house, from it's top was a vertical American Flag, and an Eagle with shield and barbed
arrows and thunderbolts in claws. **Custom house officers were seated like Matthew**

Room looking down upon **Derby Street, Acts of Congress and Digest of the Revenue Laws** on the shelves

Loco Foco Surveyor – dude who got ran outta office by reforms

Gallows Hill and New Guinea at one end, a view of the **alms house** at the other, “disarranged checkerboard”

Last name Briton, Charter Street Burial Ground, Puritans, Salemite – someone who has roots in Salem

General Miller – New England's most distinguished soldier, radical conservative,

Most of his officers were Whigs, Inspector was father of the Custom house, appointed by Revolution Colonel

Inspector had no heart, soul, but liked to eat, tried to eat a **goose** that couldn't be cut with a knife, but with axe

Collector – old general, **Ticonderoga – Old Fortress, ruins, compared Collectors character**, led charges at

Chipewa and Fort Erie,

Surveyor – as much outta place as an old sword, Niagra Frontier

Brook Farm, lived for 3 years. Wild, free days on the Assabeth, with Ellery Channing. Talking twith Thoreau
about Pinetrees, in his hermitage at Walden. **He considered this life as a transition**

Burns and Chaucer – a custom house officer in his day

Naval Officer – went into office with him, left later, liked to talk about Napoleon and Shakespeare

Second floor contained documents, but also manuscripts, old merchants such as Derby, Billy Gray, Simon

Forrester, can be discovered. Before revolution, the documents were stored in **Halifax**

Found manuscript **with Gov Shirley's name**, in favor on a **Jonathan Pue**, as Surveyor of Majesty's Customs

His remains were dug up in front of **St. Peter's Church**, give whole thing to **Essex Historical Society**

Found cloth with letter A, along with the manuscript of whole affair written by the Surveyor

Hester Prynne – main “character” of the manuscript, Pue's **ghost** told him to write the story?, Pue had
immortality wig?

Afraid that his intellect was dwindling away

People who fill the position lose their self strength and the capability of self support

Uncle Sams Gold is like the Devil's Wages,

3rd year, adopted name P.P, General Taylor to President

He was a Democrat, kept like **Irving's Headless Horseman**

Story could be considered as the **Posthumous Papers of a Decapitated Surveyor**

Memorable site in town was the **town pump**

Did he find the manuscript while he was Surveyor or later when he went back?