

August 31, 1992

Dear Betty:

I keep thinking about the Homestead and the nice summers I spent there. It is so wonderful that the Historical Society has purchased it.

I have thought of two money making ideas and wanted to pass them on to you. Remember they are only suggestions.

(1) The University of Central Florida, located in Orlando, has a Memory Walk. It was financed by selling bricks to anyone who wanted to pay homage or lasting memory to someone they admired or loved. Three initials of the person honored were in each brick. I imagine this was done in its pre-hardening stage. These bricks were then made into a walk from one building to another. Any price could be charged from \$10.00 on up. A friend of mine lost her husband. He belonged to a small organization and to raise money this group sold bricks for \$25.00 each. These bricks were then made into a veranda and down to a pond. In Riceville you could put a walk on the south side to go by the gristmill wheels or on the north side to that huge tree. My father, Lucius Cozzens Rice, planted that tree when he was six years old (1874) Then as you received more donations you could add by making a patio.

(2) Another idea is the cookbook. Ask everyone to donate one or more of their favorite family receipes and a dollar to cover the cost — part way. They could submit as many as they wished for the dollar.

These could then be typed and xeroxed. Through some store you

could purchase small three ring binders and sell them at Christmas time for four or five dollars. Remember these are only suggestions.

Another item that I think should be corrected. Oliver Rice was no Colonel. He was a messenger boy on horseback running between camps in Connecticut. He came as a young man three years after the peace negotiations (1785) with Ebenezer, his younger brother, to buy land and make the first dwelling for them. This was in 1788 or 1789. Ebenezer settled in Stump City, married a Johnstown girl and is buried in the Gloversville cemetery at the end Kingsboro and State Streets. I think I have the streets named correctly, anyway it is just after you enter Gloversville from Riceville on the west or right side. Oliver then bought his land a few acres at a time until he had 41 acres.

Remember these ideas are just to help, certainly not anything more.

Thanks for the wonderful job you are doing.

Best of luck to everyone.

*Mary Rice Buckmore*