

= Alden Tavern Site =

Alden Tavern Site is a historic site in Lebanon , Connecticut . The tavern was originally built in 1738 and owned by Captain Alden . By 1850 , it had passed to Alden 's descendent , Mr. Wattles . The Alden Tavern is well known for being the site of the horsewhipping of a captive General Richard Prescott , commander of the British troops of Rhode Island , by the tavern 's owner Captain Alden when he dined at Alden 's tavern . The site was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1998 and listed under the " Event " and " Information Potential " criteria . It was listed as only having fieldstone foundations remaining . A parking lot was paved over the site in 2010 , adding 26 paved spaces and 70 spaces in overflow parking on a grass field . It is now known as the Alden Tavern Parking Lot by the town of Lebanon .

= = Owners = =

In the American Revolutionary War the tavern was run by Captain Alden . Around 1850 , it was owned by Mr. Wattles , a descendant of Captain Alden . The tavern 's last owner or date of destruction is unknown , but it was part of the town green by the 1903 publication of Butterworth 's book , Brother Jonathan .

= = Historical significance = =

The Alden Tavern is well known for being the site of the horsewhipping of a captive General Richard Prescott , commander of the British troops of Rhode Island , by the tavern 's owner Captain Alden . Several days after Prescott 's capture , he was escorted to General George Washington 's headquarters , but on the trip came to dine at Alden 's tavern . Several books detail different accounts and portrayals of the exchanges which led to Prescott 's whipping , all involving the Prescott being served " the common dish of corn and beans " and throwing the food on the floor . Three of Benson Lossing 's books recount this tale , in The Pictorial Field @-@ Book of the Revolution Volume 1 (1852) , Our Countrymen (1855) and Lives of Celebrated Americans : Comprising Biographies of Three Hundred and Forty Eminent Persons (1869) . It also appears in similar wording in The Boys of ' 76 : A History of the Battles of the Revolution by Charles Coffin in 1876 , with Prescott 's line being : " Do you give me the pigs ' feed " . The story has persisted and a fictional account was referenced in 2010 in Martha Finley 's Elsie Yachting with the Raymonds .

= = Fate = =

The site was added to the National Register of Historic Places on April 13 , 1998 and it was noted that fieldstone foundations remained . It was listed under the " Event " and " Information Potential " criteria with a period of significance between 1700 @-@ 1874 . The property is also listed as a contributing property for the Lebanon Green Historic District . The Alden Tavern site is now a parking lot on town @-@ owned property adjacent to Lebanon 's Community Center . Prior to the project , a phase 2 archaeological survey had to be completed , a notice for this survey was published in 2003 . The town received a Small Town Economic Assistance Program grant for \$ 250 @,@ 000 to construct the parking lot . Coit Excavating won the contract with the lowest bid of \$ 193 @,@ 000 and began construction in April 2010 and was expected to be completed by May 31 , 2010 . The paved parking lot has 26 spots with 70 more for overflow in a grass field . On December 6 , 2011 , the Selectmen 's Meeting the Board dissolved the committee because the project was successfully completed . It is now known as the Alden Tavern Parking Lot .