

10 of

America's
Oldest Eateries

Serving hearty fare and history for 150 years or more

// BY MARTI ATTOUN, CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

FROM YANKEE POT ROAST to oysters Rockefeller, the entrees come with heaping sides of history at some of America's oldest eateries. These 10 taverns, inns and restaurants have been serving hearty fare for at least 150 years.

Old '76 House, Tappan, N.Y.

"The oldest dining room in America" is how owner Robert Norden, 49, describes the Dutch tavern, built in 1686. Diners savor blueclaw crab cakes, roast duckling and Yankee pot roast in the same spot where Continental Army Commander-in-Chief George Washington met with his generals, and colonists took the first steps toward American independence. Originally known as Mable's Tavern, colonists gathered at the eatery on July 4, 1774, to adopt the Orangetown Resolutions protesting British taxation and occupation of Boston Harbor. In 1780, the tavern was used as a jail for British Maj. John Andre after he was caught conspiring with Continental Army Gen. Benedict Arnold to gain control of the fort at West Point, N.Y.

King George II Inn, Bristol, Pa.

In 1681, Samuel Clift began ferrying wagons across the Delaware River between Bristol and Burlington, N.J., and opened the Ferry Inn where travelers could eat and stay overnight. In 1735, a grander King George II Inn was built on the site, attracting famous guests such as President James Madison and his wife, Dolley. Today, the inn boasts five elegant dining rooms and a varied menu that includes seafood, steak, meatloaf and mushroom ravioli. A riverside view while dining inside or outside remains one of the landmark's attractions.

The Pirates' House, Savannah, Ga.

A 1734 brick gardener's house, built soon after James Oglethorpe and his colonists arrived in Savannah, serves as two of the restaurant's 15 dining rooms in the historic restaurant one block from
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PHOTOS BY FAYE MURMAN

// Paco Sanchez presents a platter of Old '76 House entrees, including blueclaw crab cakes and Yankee pot roast, at the historic Tappan, N.Y., tavern.