



Introducing the "1803 House Church Baby and Angel"



During the American Revolution War, toys, as well as many other household supplies, were scarce. Mothers made dolls from handkerchiefs, giving their children something to play with any time. This doll was at first called a "Church Doll," as it was used during those very long church services and, most importantly, if they were dropped, not a sound was heard.

Another name was a "Sugar Baby"...mothers would put sugar cubes or candy in the head portion and give the doll to the children to suck on during those long Sundays. They were also the only toy the children were allowed to play with on Sundays. Other names were "handkerchief doll," "pew doll," "pew baby" and "prayer doll."

At the turn of the century, around the time the 1803 house was built, these dolls were probably modified with now available lace, ribbon and silk flowers, to look similar to our

"1803 House Church Baby or Angel."



Each Church Baby was created by a "Friends of the 1803 House" board member...



I am a little "1803 House Church Baby" doll,
made from a hankie and tied in knots, so small.
On the way to the Moravian church,
little ones carry me holding me so carefully
and when settled in the pews, we play together oh, so peacefully.
At times I may be dropped on the floor, but do not fear
I do not make any sound, which I want to make perfectly clear.
Of course babies love me as well,
When my head is filled with sugar cubes or candy, do tell.

