Not only was the Triangular Commons used for militia drills in the colony days but...as reported in \textit{Greenleaf’s New-York Journal and Patriotic Register}, a “Liberty Tree” was planted right on the Commons on December 19, 1798.

After the tree was in the ground, the celebrated song “Liberty Tree” (written by Thomas Paine in 1775) was sung, slightly altered to fit the times.

A rally formed, toasts were made, 16 in all, favoring Thomas Jefferson (who ultimately won the presidency in 1800), Republicanism, and our freedoms secured to us by the Constitution of the United States.

It is said that Aaron Burr, who became Jefferson’s Vice President in 1800, was in the anti-Federalist audience, as was David Frothingham, the publisher of the \textit{Long Island Herald} (1791-1798) in Sag Harbor, Long Island’s first newspaper.

Photo at right, 2015. Courtesy of Southampton Town.