

Massachusetts Research

Class 1: 17th-Century Massachusetts Research

David Allen Lambert, NEHGS Chief Genealogist

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



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Meet today's presenter



David Allen Lambert
Chief Genealogist



A MAP OF
NEW-ENGLAND,
Being the first that ever was here cut, and done
by the best Pattern that could be had, which being
in some places defective, it made the other less
exact: yet doth it sufficiently shew the Situation
of the Country, and conveniently well
the distance of Places.
The figures that are joyned with the Names of
Places are to distinguish such as have been af-
flicted by the Indians from others.

A Scale of forty Miles.
10 20 30 40



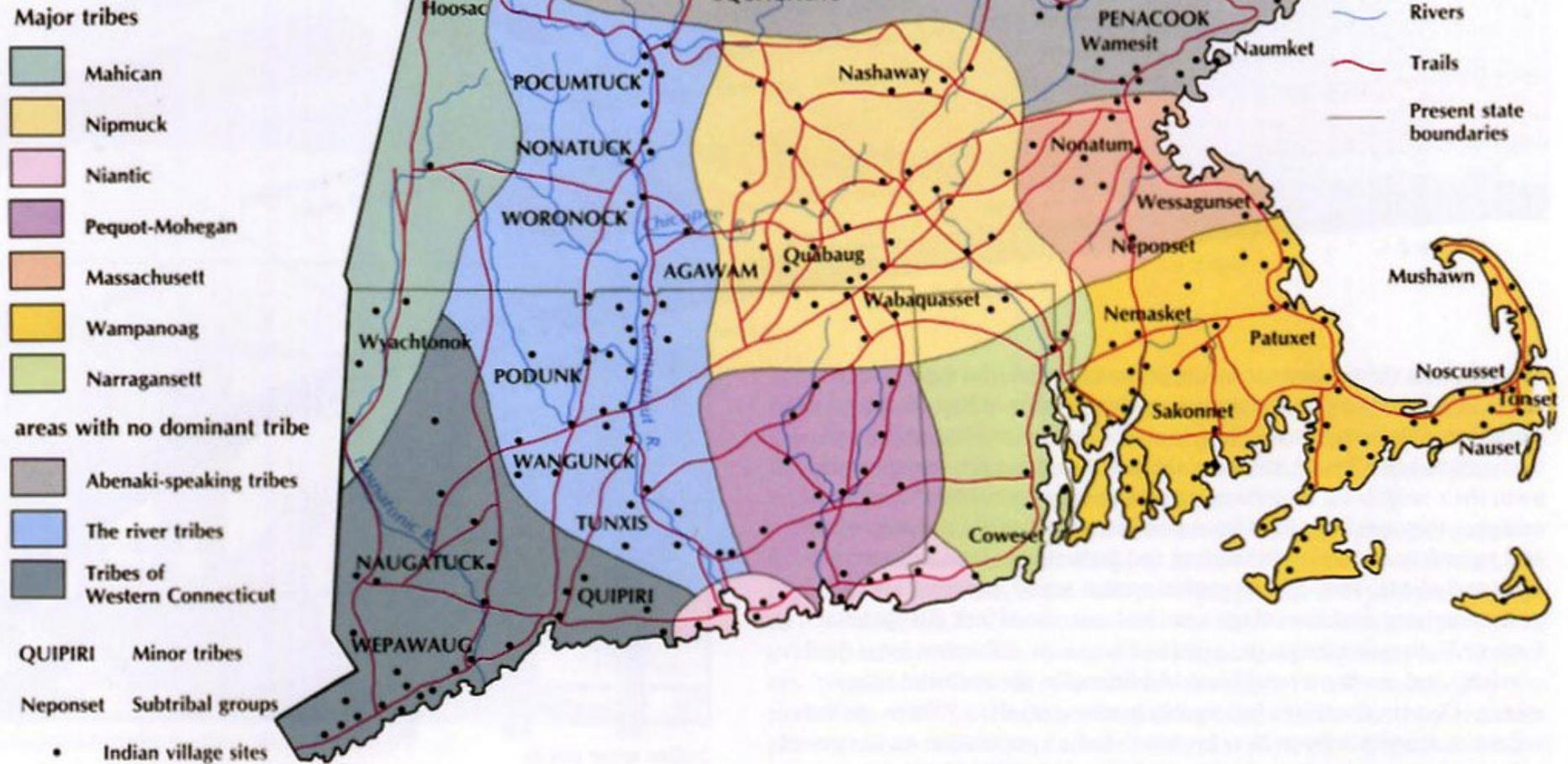
Voice of
David Allen Lambert
Chief Genealogist

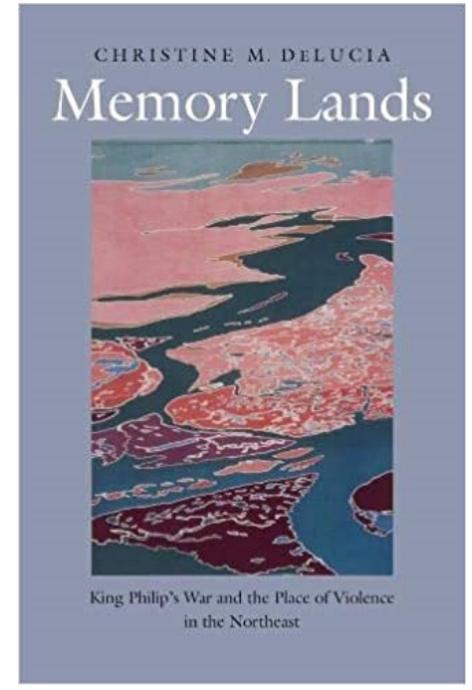
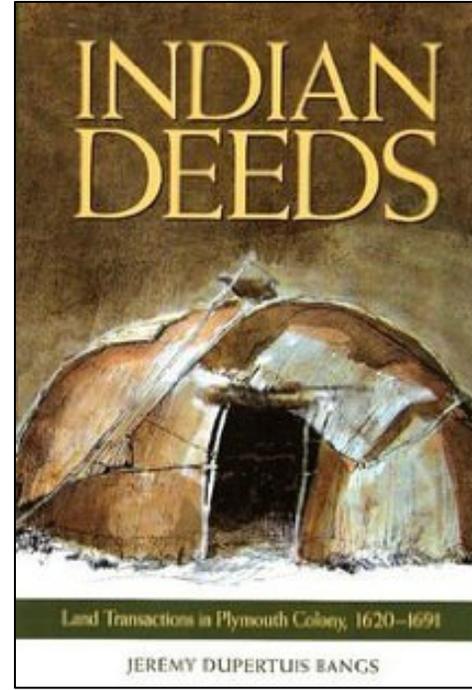
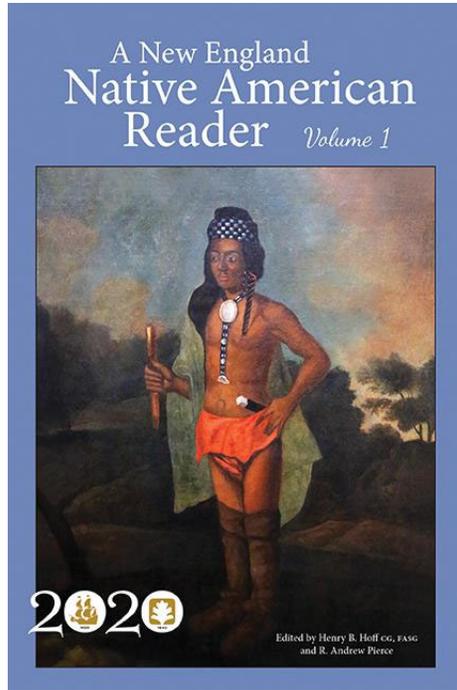
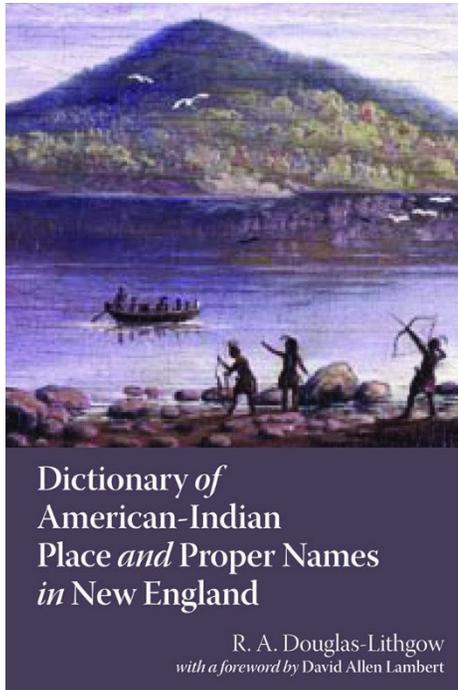
History



Indian Settlement in SE New England

NATIVE SETTLEMENTS AND TRAILS c.1600–1650





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Native Nations of New England

Introduction

The history of the Native Nations in New England, particularly their relationship with European settlers is often clouded and distorted by myth. Centuries of conflicts and disease drastically reduced the population of the original inhabitants and contributes to the myth that all Native peoples in New England perished long ago. There are, however, many rich and thriving Native Nations in New England today and their history is one that can be explored through many traditional and perhaps unfamiliar genealogical sources.

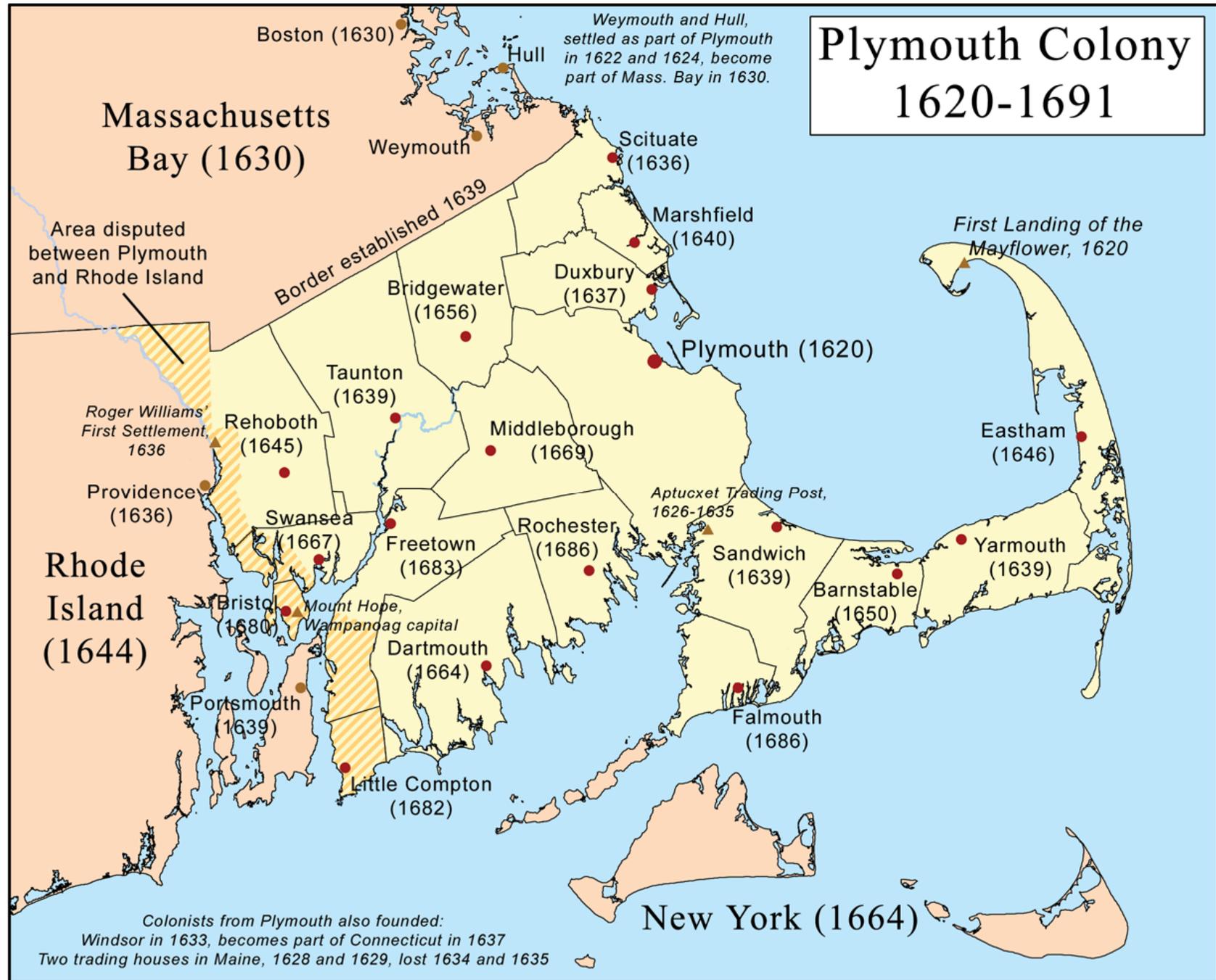
The biggest challenge in Native research is that Native nations did not record their history in the same manner as Europeans. Keep in mind that the paper trail you will follow while conducting your research will often be made by the colonizers (European and American) and may not come directly from the native nation itself. Additionally, working with the nation will help provide you with a better sense of what sources they have regarding their history.

If you believe you are eligible for membership in a state of federally recognized Native Nation contact the Nation directly to determine their enrollment procedures and requirements.

AmericanAncestors.org/tools/native-nations-new-england

Plymouth Colony

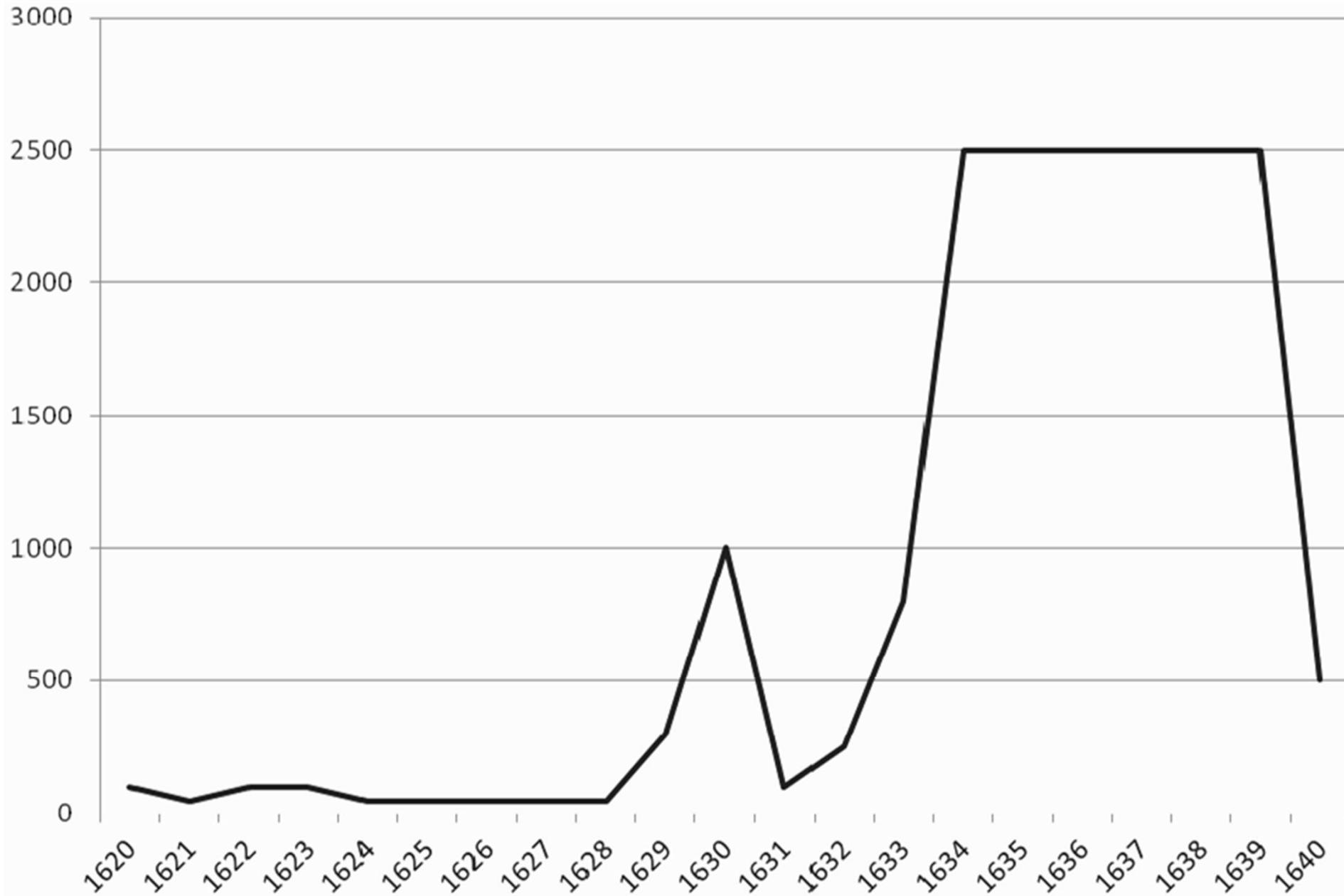
- Established 1620
- Encompasses SE Mass., Cape & Islands
- Core group were Separatists who had first fled to Leiden, Holland
- Small in population and grew slowly
- Friendly relations with Mass. Bay
- Emigration to Berkshire Co., MA;
Dutchess Co., NY; Cape May, NJ; coastal Maine



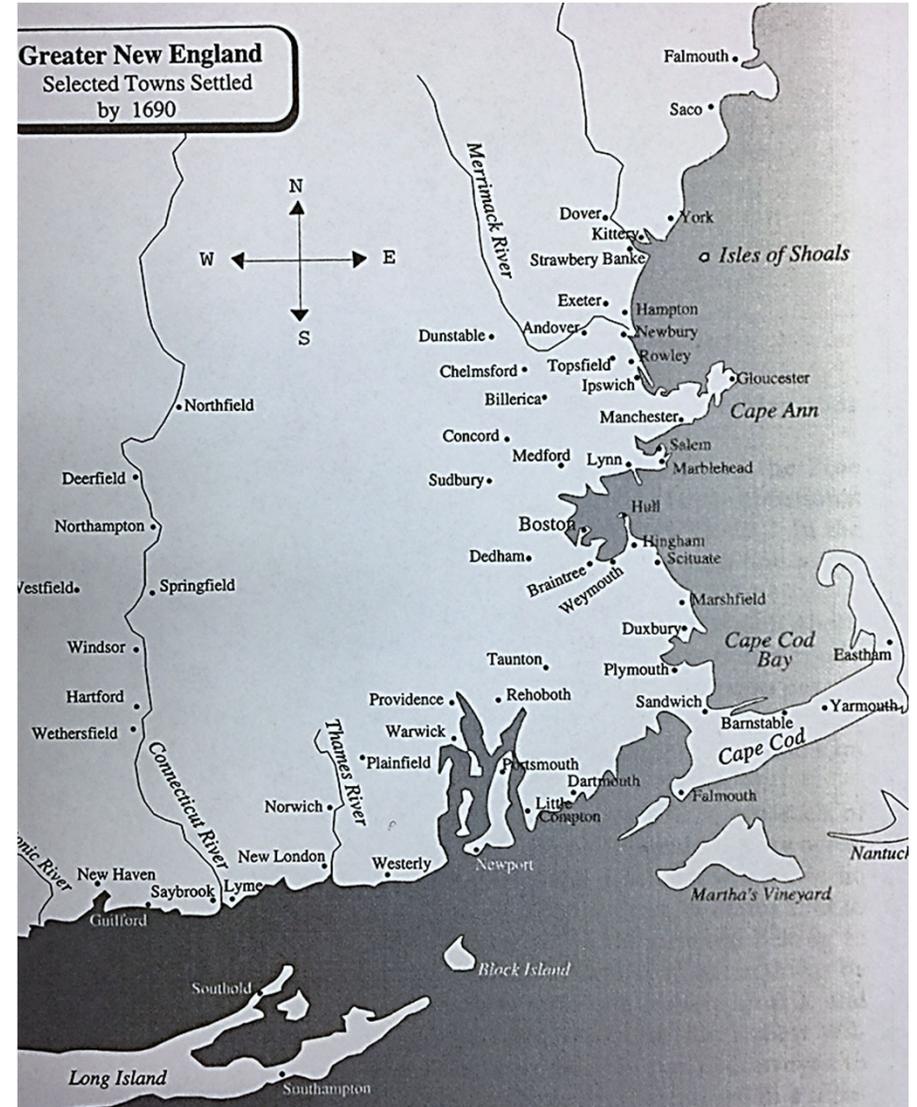
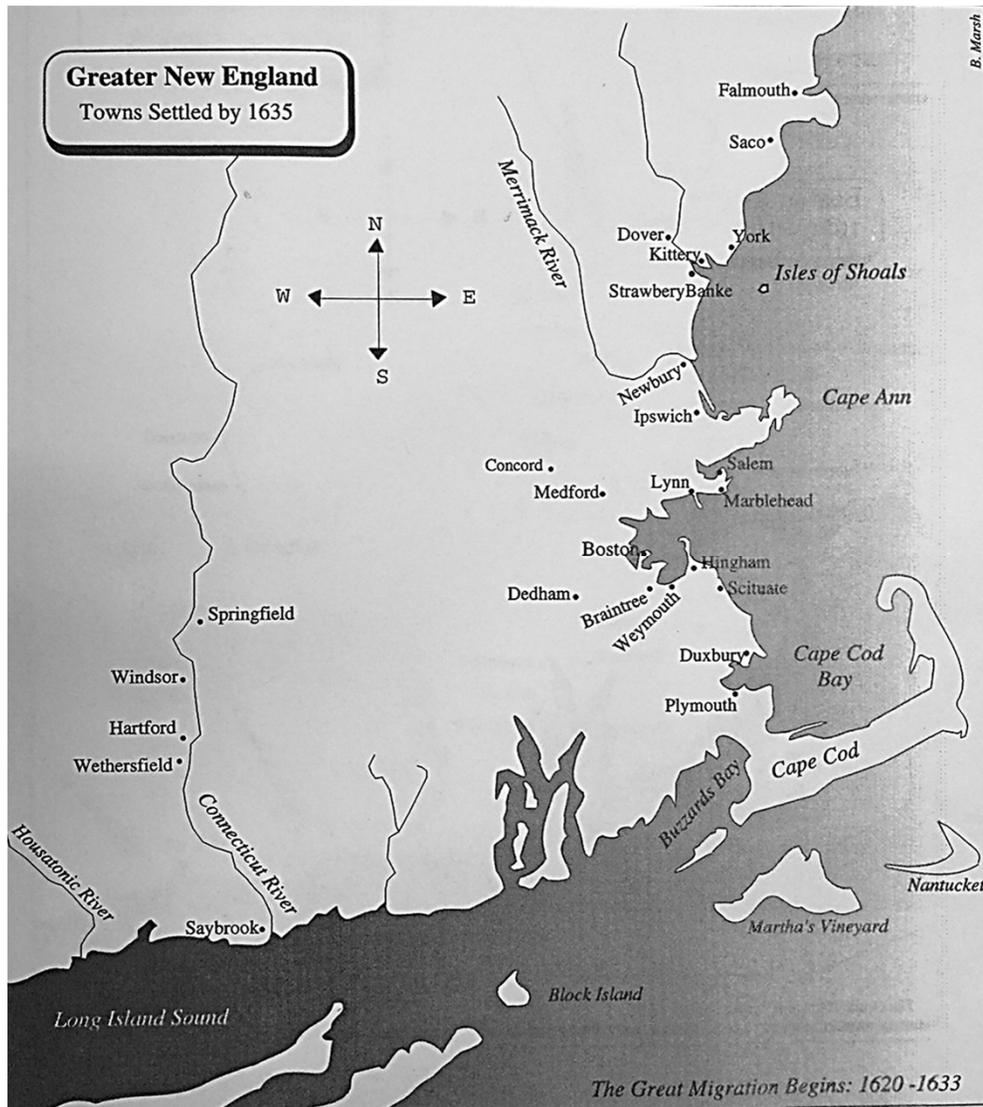
Source: Wikimedia Commons

Massachusetts Bay Colony

- 1620s scattered settlements on Cape Ann
- 1628 Endicott group to Salem
- 1630 Winthrop Fleet to Boston
- Established and led by Puritans
- By far the most populous and influential colony in New England
- Dissidents soon founded NH, Providence, Conn, and New Haven Colonies



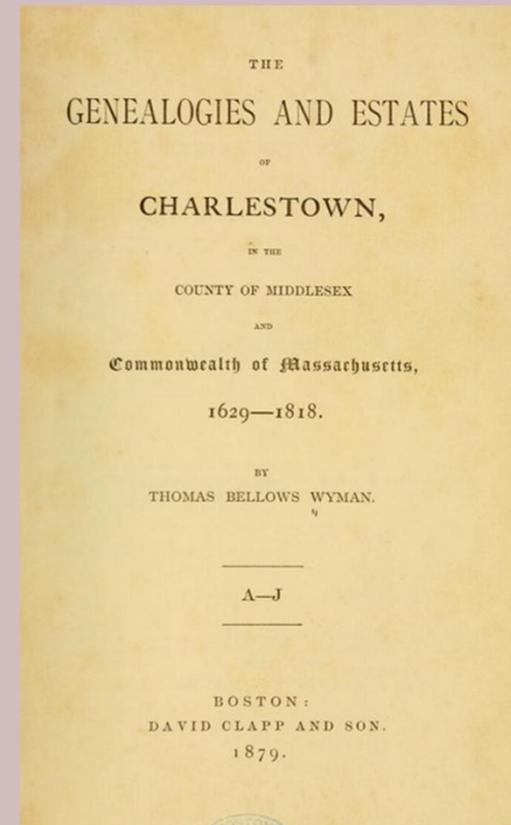
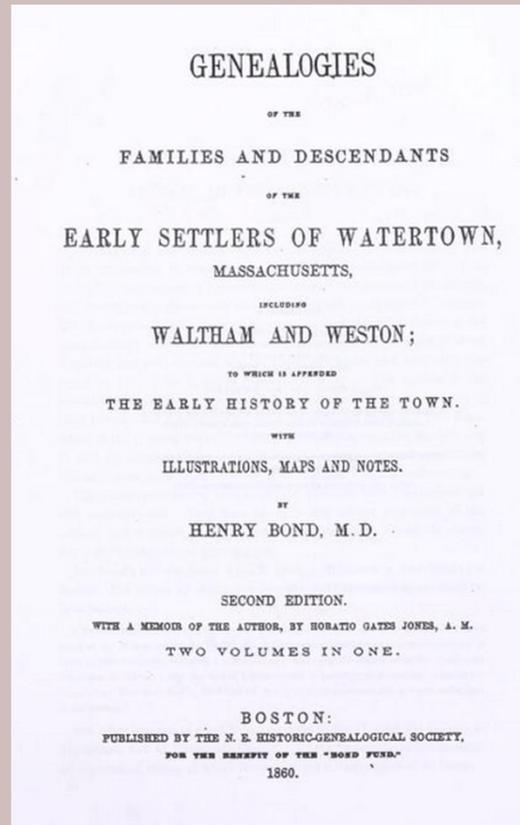
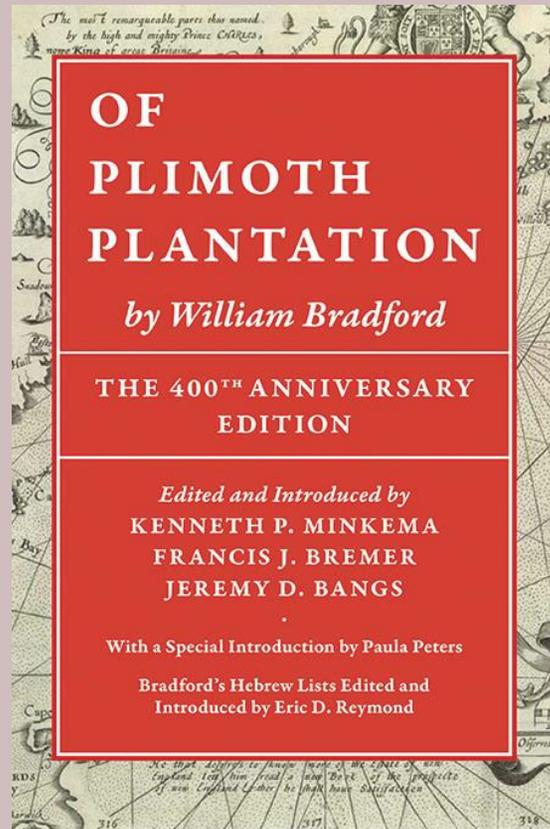
Immigrants to NE, 1620–1640



History of Colonization

- Always the largest and most influential New England colony
- Plymouth Colony and Massachusetts Bay Colony merge in 1691
- Maine part of Mass. until 1820
- Major location point for migration north, west, and south

Histories and Genealogies



Published Guides and Resources

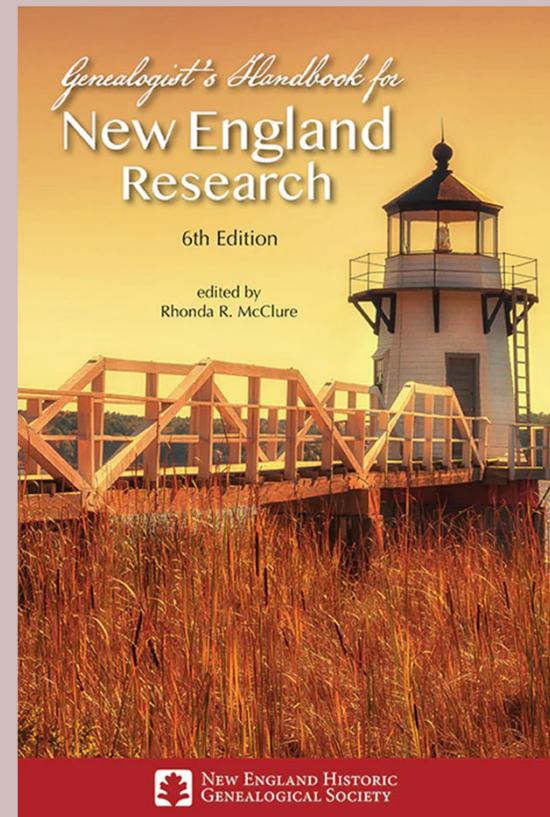
Types of Published Resources

- How-to guides
- Finding aids
- Study projects
- Record compilations
- Genealogies
- Local histories
- Journals and periodicals



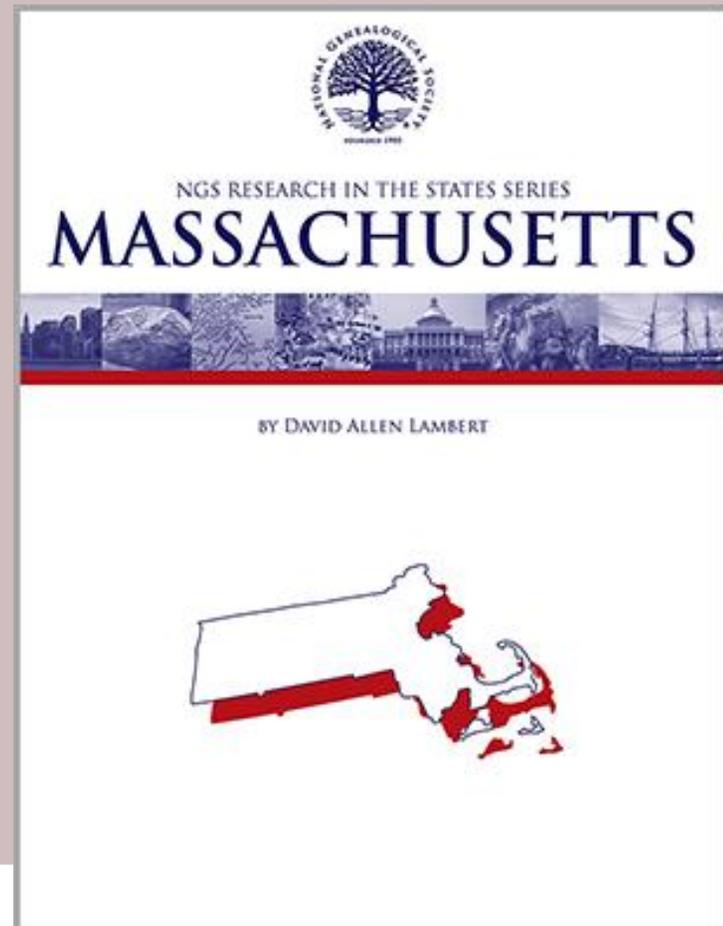
Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research

- Town and County Lists
- Detailed Maps
- Court Houses
- Library and Archives
- 6th Edition



NGS Research in the States: Massachusetts

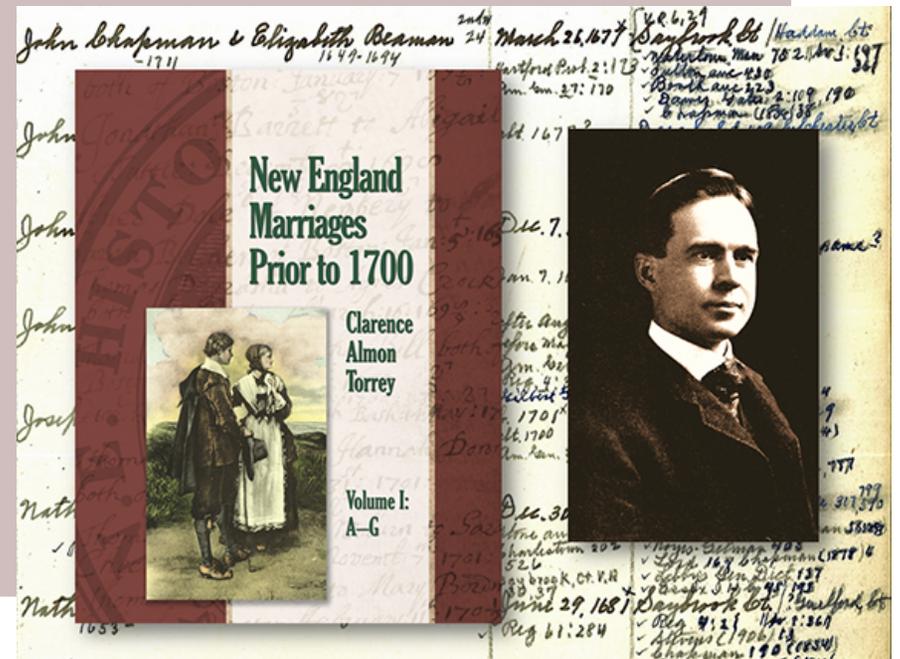
- Bibliography of resources for various topics
- Websites and databases of primary resources for Massachusetts



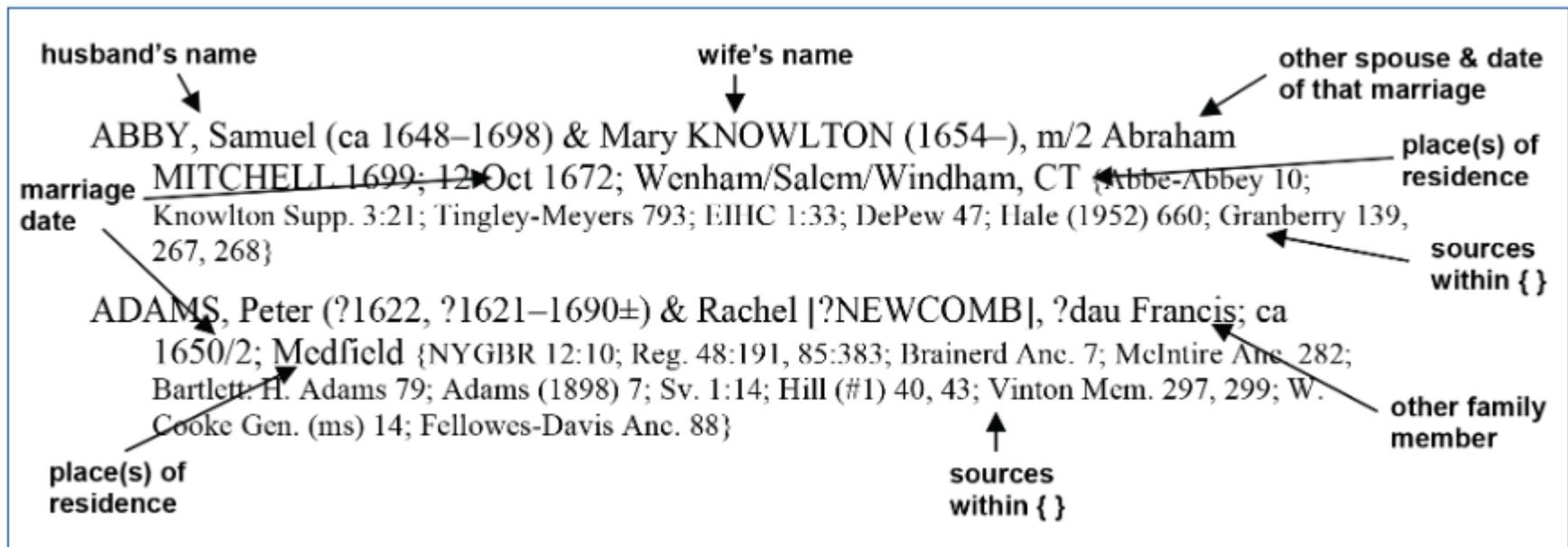
New England Marriages Prior to 1700

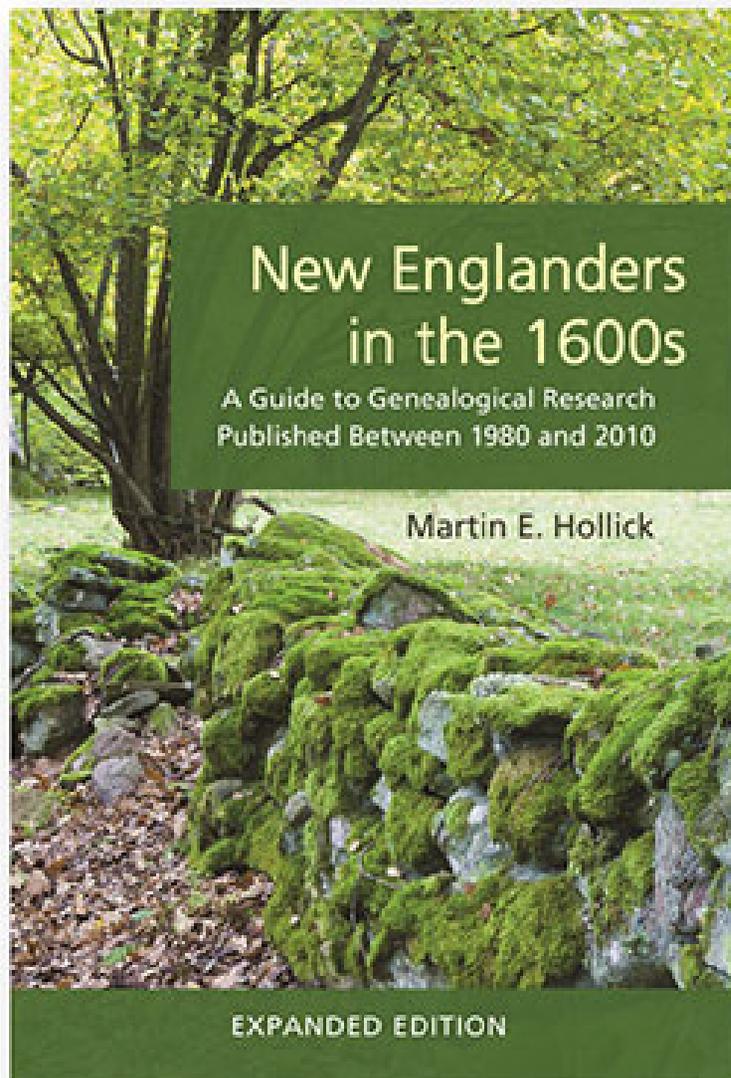
- Enumerates approximately 99% of all pre-1700 marriages of New Englanders
 - includes marriages in Europe prior to migrating

- ★ • Searchable database on AmericanAncestors.org



Torrey's New England Marriages prior to 1700





CALL, THOMAS, b. ca. 1597, d. Malden, Mass., May 1676. Goodman, pp. 139-45.

CALLENDER, ELLIS, b. ca. 1639, d. Boston, Mass., 18 May 1728. NEHGR 144:195-210, 319-30, 145:31-43 (five generation study); NEHGR 145:373 (correction).

CALLUM, JOHN, d. Haverhill, Mass., 25 February 1693/4. TAG 70:1-8, 104-11.

CALLUM, MACKUM, d. Lynn, Mass., after 26 February 1677. TAG 70:1-8, 104-11.

CAMP, EDWARD, b. ca. 1603, d. New Haven, Conn., before 22 September 1659. CA 32:140-44.

CANE, CHRISTOPHER, b. ca. 1613, d. Cambridge, Mass., 9 December 1653. GM2 II:2-6; son Jonathan² at Sex, pp. 87-88.

CANEDY, ALEXANDER, d. Plymouth, Mass., after 1688. Jessup, pp. 251-53.

CANNEY, THOMAS, b. ca. 1600, d. Dover, N.H., after June 1681. NHGR 19:1-7; Jessup, pp. 253-57.

CAPEN, BERNARD, b. ca. 1562, d. Dorchester, Mass., 8 November 1638. GMB I:309-11; NEHGR 158:110-11 (Hannah³ John²); MJ 17:25-27.

CARD, JOHN, b. ca. 1620, d. York, Me., 25 January 1691/2. Probable English origins at MG 19:22-30.

CARD, RICHARD, d. Jamestown, R.I., before 1 July 1674. John² at TAG 58:40-42.

CARDER, RICHARD, b. ca. 1615, d. Newport or Warwick, R.I., not long after 29 November 1675. GM2 II:6-10; Johnson, pp. 66-68; TAG 79:100-8 (Richard³ John²).

CARGILL SEE GREGG

CARLETON, EDWARD, b. 1610, of Rowley, d. before 27 November 1678, possibly in England. RD600, p. 220; PA, p. 189-90; MCA, p. 173. Wife Ellen (Newton) at PA, p. 547; RD600, pp. 395-96; MCA, p. 624.

CARLISLE, JOSEPH, b. ca. 1663, d. York, Me., 17 March 1717/8. Donald Bradford Macurda, *Joseph Carlile of York, Me. (York and Lincoln County Descendants) and the Antiquity of the Carlyle Name* (n.p., the author, 1986). Reviews: CN 20:141-42.

Founders of Early American Families

Emigrants from Europe 1607-1657
Revised Edition

Meredith B. Colket, Jr., A.B. (cum laude), A.M., Litt. D.,
Phi Beta Kappa, F.A.S.G. (Honorary President),
F.S.A.A., F.S.G. (London)



Published by
The General Court of the Order of
Founders and Patriots of America
Cleveland, Ohio 1985

ROBERT Born ca 1604. (According to *Hale-House*) came on "Elizabeth" 1634, Cambridge (Mass.) 1634, Hartford 1636. d. Hartford by 14 Oct 1648. Freeman. *Genealogical appendix to chronicle of the Day family* (pamph.) 1900; *Genealogical register of descendants of Robert Day of Hartford* 2nd ed 1848 (reprint with Ohio Supplement 1913); tag 29:205 n, 30:80 n; *Additions to Robert Day* 1972.

ROBERT Born ca 1605. (According to *Hale-House* came on the "Hopewell" 1635), Ipswich 1641. d. Ipswich by 25 Sept 1683. Brickmaker. Pillsbury, v 2.

DAYTON

RALPH Born ca 1588. Ashford, co. Kent, Eng., 1618. New Haven (Conn.) 1639, East Hampton 1650. d. East Hampton by 22 Sept 1658. Shoemaker. *Seversmith* 2:880 (son Robert); tag 38:224 (son Samuel); *Descent from Ralph Dayton* (pamph.) 1931; *Early Daytons* 1959.

DEAN, DEANE For brothers John and Walter: *Genealogy of the Deane family* 1903; *Supplement* 1957; *Register* 51:432, 60:93 (anc). See also DANE.

JOHN Born ca 1600. Of Chard, co. Somerset, Eng. Dorchester (Mass.) 1637, Taunton 1638. d. Taunton by 7 June 1660. Surveyor of highways. McArthur-Barnes 1964.

SAMUEL Stamford (Conn.) or Fairfield or Jamaica 1656. Founder's lineage application #4011.

WALTER Bapt. Chard, co. Somerset, Eng., 13 May 1612. Came in ship from Weymouth 1637 with 6 servants. Dorchester (Mass.) 1637, Taunton 1638. d. Taunton after 25 Aug 1693. Tanner. Freeman. Selectman. tag 23:174 n, 59:227 (children); *Register* 80:336; N.G.S.Q. 71:176.

DEARBORNE, DEARBARNE orig DAREBARNE

GODFREY Exeter (N.H.) 1639, Hampton 1649. d. Hampton 4 Feb 1685/6. Weaver. Selectman. *Descendants of Godfrey Dearborn* (pamph.) 1893; *Register* 68:71 (anc); *Maine &*; Dow, *Hampton*.

DEARING, DEERING (For George and Roger see *Maine &*)

SAMUEL Braintree (Mass.) 1647, Block Island ca 1663, Braintree 1670. d. Braintree 23 Oct 1671. Planter. *Ancestry of Annis Spear* 1945 shows one male-line grandson who m in 1736. This line may have died out in male line.

DEBLE v. DIBBLE

DECKER

JOHANNES DE Came over on "Swarte Arent" 1654, Beverwyck (Albany, N.N.). Living 1670. Governor's council. *St. Nicholas Society genealogical records* 2 v, 1916.

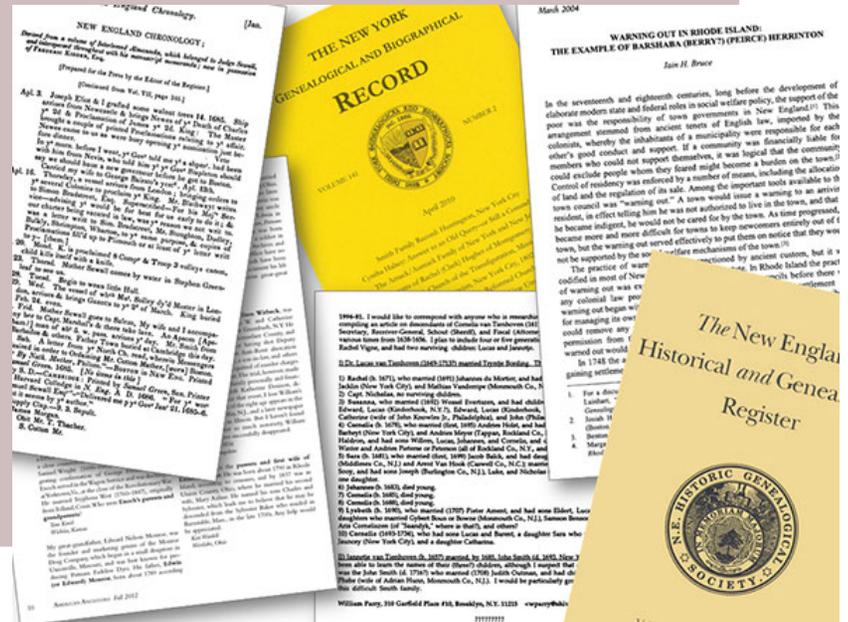
DEE v. DAVOL

DEEBLE v. DIBBLE

Periodicals

- ★ • New England Historical and Genealogical Register
- ★ • The American Genealogist
- ★ • The Mayflower Descendant
- ★ • The Essex Antiquarian
- ★ • The Essex Genealogist

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 1853.] *Early Settlers of Essex and Old Norfolk.* 83

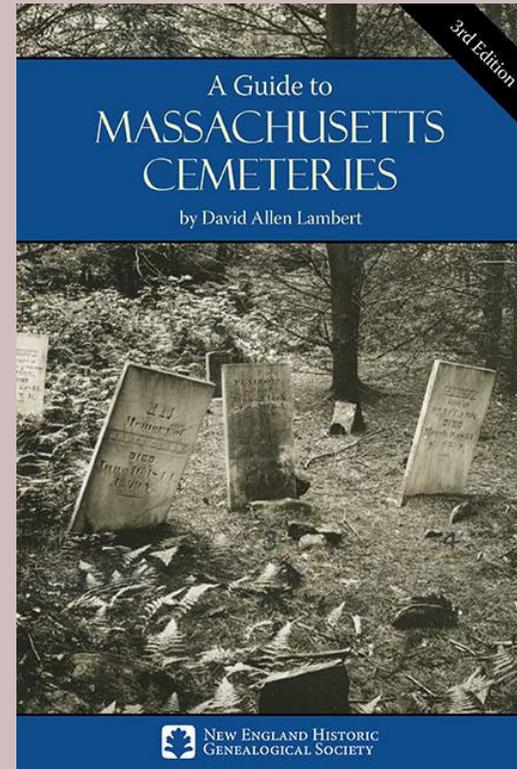
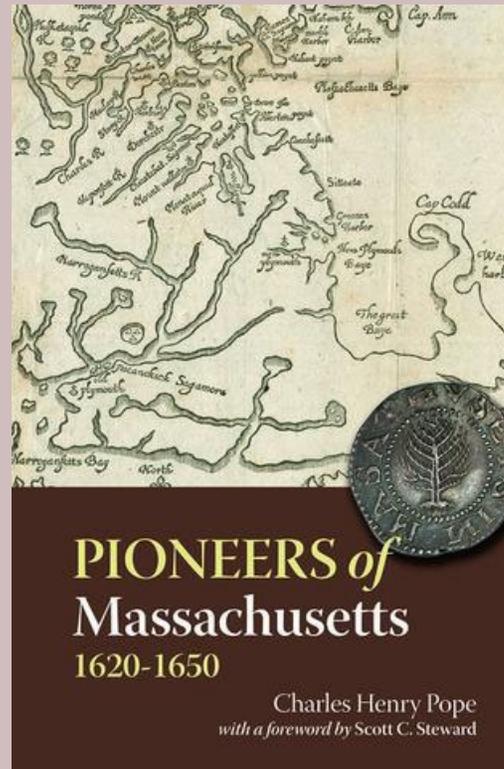
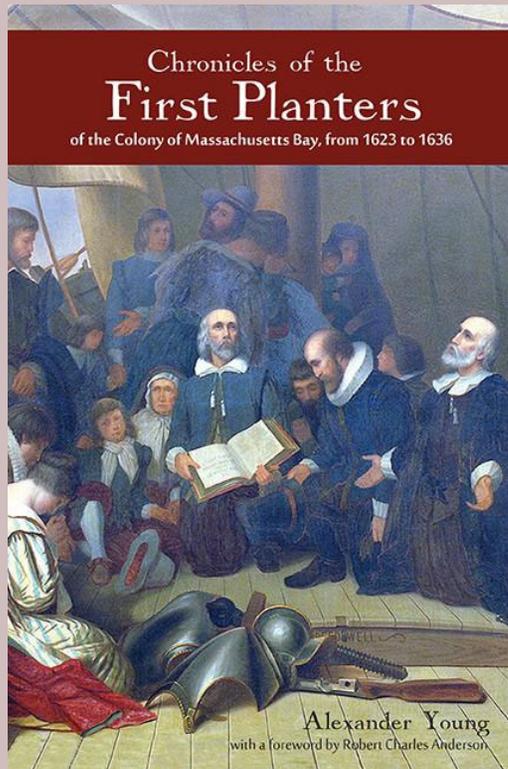
EARLY SETTLERS OF ESSEX AND OLD NORFOLK.

[Continued from p. 346, Vol. VI.]

- LEGAT.—*John*, Hampton, 1649.—*John*, m. wid. *Ann Wilson*, mother of *Deborah*.—*John* and *Elizabeth*, witnesses, 1652.
- LEGG.—*John*, Marblehead, 1654, ac. 68, in 1666.—*Samuel*, Marblehead, 1666.—*John, sen.*, ac. 60, in 1670.—*John*, Marblehead, wf. *Elizabeth*, 1650.
- LEIGHTON, *Richard*, Rowley, will 1682; wf. — Ch. *John, Ezekiel, Mary* and *Sarah*.
- LEIGH.—*Joseph*, 1665.—*John, Jun.*, ac. 24, in 1668.
- LEMON.—*Robert*, wf. *Mary*, will provd. June, 1667.
- LEONARD.—*Henry*, wf. *Mary*, 1650.—*Henry*, ac. 40, in 1660.
- LETFORD.—*Thomas*, wf. *Elizabeth*, 1651.
- LEVERICH.—*Caleb*, m. *Martha*, widow of *Francis Swain*.—*Caleb*, wf. *Martha*, of Middleboro', of Long
- cie.*—*Timothy* (Lyndall,) Salem, 1677.
- LINFORTH.—*Francis*, ac. 60, in 1662.—*Thomas*, (or Lulford,) d. in 1673.
- LINKHORN.—*William* (or Lincoln), ac. 23, in 1666.
- LINSEY.—*Christopher*, will 10 April, 1669; ch. *Eleazer, John* and *Nami*.
- LISSION.—*Nicholas*, Exeter, 1656.—*Id.* 1661 and 1668.
- LITTLEFIELD. — *Edward*, Exeter, 1651.
- LITTLEHALE. — *John*, killed with Capt. *Lothrop*, 18 Sept., 1675, was of Haverhill.
- LOCKER.—*George*, ac. 36, in 1694.
- LOCKWOOD.—See BELCHER.
- LONG.—See BLANFORD.
- LONGHORNE.—*Richard*, ac. 45, in 1662; ac. 49, in 1667.
- LORD.—*Robert*, ac. 57 in 1659.—

AmericanAncestors.org

... and so many more!



Great Migration Study Project

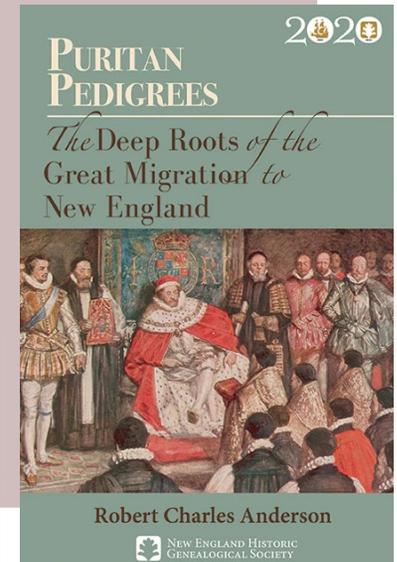
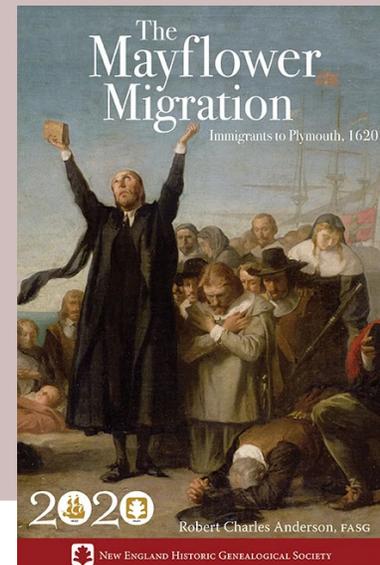
Great Migration Study Project

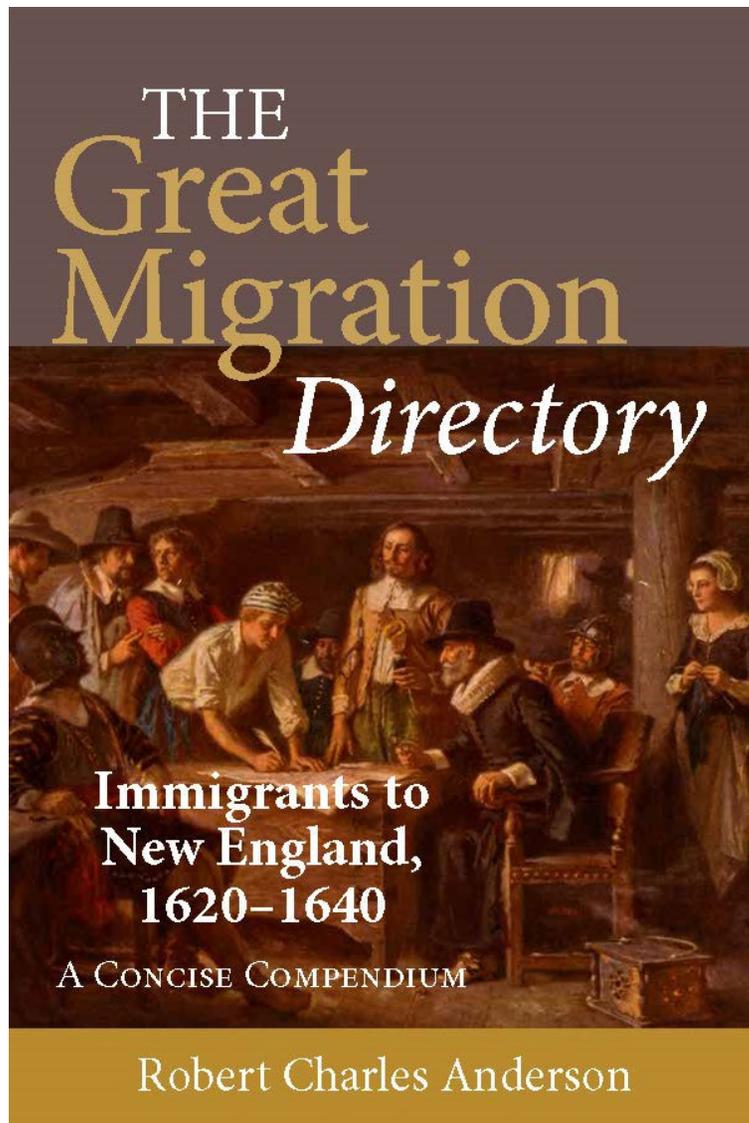
- Directed by Robert Charles Anderson, FASG
- Started in 1988
- Genealogical and biographical sketch for immigrants to New England from 1620 to 1640
- Thirteen published volumes
- Newsletter (bound versions available)
- Tours and other educational programs
- ★ Searchable online databases on AmericanAncestors.org



Great Migration Volumes

- ★ • *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England 1620-1633 (3 vols.)*
- ★ • *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England 1634-1635 (7 vols.)*
- *The Pilgrim Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth Colony 1620-1633*
- *The Winthrop Fleet: Mass. Bay Company Immigrants to NE 1629-1630*
- *Puritan Pedigrees*
- *The Mayflower Migration*
- ★ • *The Great Migration Newsletter, vols. 1-25*
- *The Great Migration Directory, 1620-1640*





Carpenter, William: Amesbury, Wiltshire; 1635 on *James*; Salem, Providence [Drake's Founders 56 (as "Thomas Carpenter"); NEHGR 159:54-68, 164:36-40, 296-97].

Carpenter, William: Wherwell, Hampshire; 1638 on *Bevis*; Weymouth [Drake's Founders 60; WP 4:232; MBCR 1:313, 377; ReTR 1:2; TAG 70:193-204; NEHGR 159:54-68]. (Some of these records are probably for William Carpenter, son of the immigrant, who soon moved to Rehoboth.)

Carr, Caleb: Unknown; 1635 on *Elizabeth & Ann*; Newport [GM 2:2:11-16].

Carr, George: Unknown; 1634; Ipswich, Salisbury [GM 2:2:17-22].

Carr, Richard: Unknown; 1635 on *Abigail*; Ipswich, Salisbury [GM 2:2:23-24].

Carr, Robert: Unknown; 1635 on *Elizabeth & Ann*; Portsmouth, Newport [GM 2:2:24-27].

Carrington, Edward: Unknown; 1633; Charlestown, Malden [GMB 315-18].

Carrington, Thomas: Unknown; 1632 on *Lyon*; passenger list only [GMB 318].

Carsley, William: Unknown; 1637; Hingham, Barnstable [HiBOP 97v; MBCR 1:206, 373; PCR 1:125, 137, 141, 8:176, 193, 200; NEHGR 9:285, 286, 10:41; Otis 147].

Carter, Joseph: London; 1639; Newbury; returned permanently to England soon after 1640 [WP 4:114; ITR 73; EQC 1:386; NEHGR 35:373-74; Abandoning 75-76].

Carter, Joshua: Unknown; 1633; Dorchester, Windsor [GMB 318-20].

Carter, Martha: Unknown; 1635 on *Hopewell*; passenger list only (with caveat) [GM 2:2:27].

Carter, Richard: Unknown; 1639; Boston [BTR 1:41, 49, 53; Lechford 228; MBCR 1:317; NEHGR 18:156; SPR 3:201; TAG 40:82-84].

Carter, Robert: Unknown; 1620 on *Mayflower*; Plymouth [GMB 320; PM 95].

Carter, Thomas: Unknown; 1635 on *Planter*; Ipswich, Salisbury [GM 2:2:27-30].

An entry from *The Great Migration Directory*

Name

English origin

Year of arrival in
New England

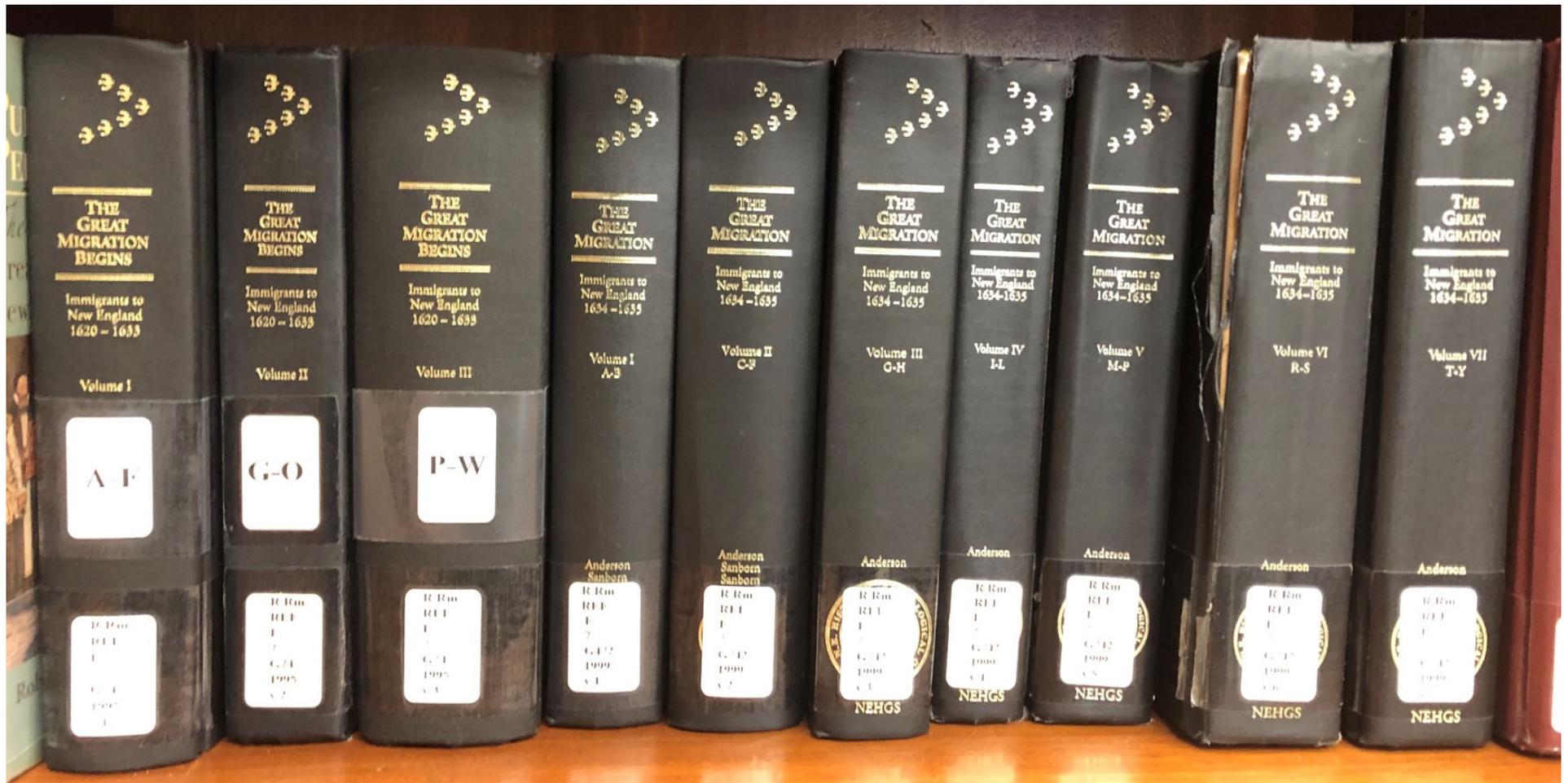
New England
residences

Norris, Edward: Horsley, Gloucestershire; 1639; Boston, Salem [BChR 24; WP 4:168; SChR 9; EPR 1:34; MBCR 1:377; WJ 1:197, 2:78; TAG 84:200-11]. (His daughter Mary preceded him to New England by 1635 [GM 2:5:266-67].)

Citations: *The Records of the First Church in Boston, 1630–1868; Winthrop Papers, 1498–1654; The Records of the First Church in Salem, Massachusetts, 1629–1736; The Probate Records of Essex County, Massachusetts, 1635–1681; Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, 1628–1686; John Winthrop, The History of New England from 1630 to 1649, James Savage, ed.; and The American Genealogist*

Additional comment with a citation to *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635*.

Great Migration Series



Who is included?

- If person appeared in a record
- Direct or indirect implication of arrival
- Appearance of an immediate family of a person known to have arrived

ALICE ASHBY

"Alice Ashbey," aged 20, maid servant to William Holman, was enrolled at London on 20 June 1635 as a passenger for New England on the *Defence* [Hotten 89].

COMMENTS: Not found in any New England record.

In the London port book, Alice Ashby's name comes between that of WILLIAM HOLMAN's wife and his five children. As a result the indexer of Hotten fell into the error of giving to the five Holman children the surname Ashby.

JOHN ASTWOOD

ORIGIN: Little Hadham, Hertfordshire

MIGRATION: 1635 on the *Hopewell*

FIRST RESIDENCE: Roxbury

REMOVES: Milford by 1639

RETURN TRIPS: To England by 1654

OCCUPATION: Husbandman [Hotten 46].

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: Admitted to Roxbury church as member #132, among the 1635 arrivals [RChR 81].

FREEMAN: 3 March 1635/6 [MBCR 1:371]

EDUCATION: Signed his will [NEHGR 38:421, citing PCC Alchin 505]. The inventory of his widow's estate included two Bibles valued at £1 1s., "one parcel of books" valued at £1 7d. 6d., and a pair of spectacles.

OFFICES: Deputy for Milford, 27 October 1643, 3 April 1644 [NHCR 1:112, 129]. Arbiter, 8 October 1649 [NHCR 492].

Captain, 1646-53 [NHCR 1:263, 332, 467; NHTR 1:169].

ESTATE: In the 1646 inventory of Milford land John Astwood held six parcels: a seven-and-a-half acre home lot, twenty-one acres and one rood at the west field in creek shot, twenty-one acres and one rood at west field in fence shot, ten acres at Stubby Plain, twenty-three acres at the Great Meadow and "for his half division twenty acres ... on Eseck Plain" [Milford LR 1:78, 82, 87, 92, 95, 100].

In his will, dated 27 June 1654 and proved 31 August 1654, John Astwood of Milford bequeathed to "my loving wife Sarah Astwood" all

the estate in New England; "of my estate here in England in Abutley" to "my brother William Astwood ten pounds"; to "my loving mother five pounds sterling and the use of two rooms of my house"; to "my brother Robert Astwood" five pounds; to "John Rute" 10s.; residue to executor "my son Samuel Astwood" [NEHGR 38:421, citing PCC 505 Alchin].

In her will, dated 9 November 1669 [no date of proving recorded], "Mrs. Sarah Astwood of Milford, widow," bequeathed to "my daughter-in-law Hannah Freeman wife of Stephen Freeman" a pair of sheets "formerly Capt. Astwood's"; to "my grandchild John Baldwin" livestock, pewter, household goods; to "my grandchild Mary Woodruffe" her choice of goods; to "Reverend Pastor Mr. Roger Newton" 20s.; to "my grandchild Sarah Burwell" 5s.; to "my grandchild Mehetabel Fien" 5s.; to "my grandchild Martha Newton" 5s.; to "my daughter Elizabeth Baldwin, widow," all household goods not spoken for; to "my grandchild Mathew Woodruffe my great Bible"; to "my son John Baldwin" 20s.; to "my grandchild Sarah Rigson" a pewter platter; to "my grandchild Temperence Baldwin" a hat; to "my grandchild Mary Baldwin" a petticoat; to "my great-grandchild Sarah Burwell" a pewter platter; to "my beloved daughter Mary Plumb" a book called *The Soul's Conflict*; "my beloved brothers Richard Platt & Thomas Wheeler" overseers [NHPR 1:2:33-34].

The inventory of the estate of "Mrs. Sarah Astwood of Milford" was taken 20 November 1669 and totalled £108 2s. 9d., of which £56 5s. 8d. was real estate: "10 acres of land in the Indian side in the old field" [NHPR 1:2:34].

BIRTH: About 1609 (aged 26 in 1635 [Hotten 46]).

DEATH: "Abutley," England, between 27 June 1654 (date of will) and 31 August 1654 (probate of will) [NEHGR 38:421]. ("Abutley" has not been satisfactorily identified.)

MARRIAGE: (1) 13 February 1633/4 Missenden, Hertfordshire, Dinis Stallworth. She was buried at Little Hadham, Hertfordshire, on 26 December 1634 (not long after the baptism of their only child).

(2) By 1635 Martha _____. "Martha Astwood the wife of John Astwood" was admitted to Roxbury church as member #135, among the arrivals of 1635, and shortly after the admission of her husband [RChR 81]. (Possibly she was the Martha Carter, aged 27, on the *Hopewell* with John in 1635 [Hotten 46].)

(3) By 2 August 1640 Sarah (_____) Baldwin, widow of Sylvester [TAG 16:29, citing Milford Church Records, p. 1]. She was buried at Milford on

13 November 1669 [TAG 16:29, citing Milford Church Records, p. 1].

CHILDREN:

With first wife

- i SAMUEL, bp. Little Hadham, Hertfordshire, 19 December 1634; no further record.

With second wife

- ii HANNAH, b. say 1636; m. (1) by 1653 Stephen Freeman [Parke-Gildersleeve 69, citing Milford church records in which Hannah is called "wife of brother Stephen Freeman and daughter of Capt. Astwood"]; m. (2) after 1675 Robert Porter [Parke-Gildersleeve 69, citing Milford LR 1-2:58, 3:7 (correct date for which is 23 November 1685)]; m. (3) after 1689 [John?] Clark (on 10 March 1690[1] Hannah Clark is called "now widow formerly the wife of Robert Porter" [Milford LR 3:57]).

ASSOCIATIONS: Brother James Astwood came a few years later and settled in Roxbury, leaving a 1653 will bequeathing £5 to "brother John Astwood" [SPR Case #132].

On the same day and in the same parish, John Astwood married Dinis Stallworth and William Fowler married Grace Stallworth. Astwood and Fowler were long associated in New England, and it is apparent that Parke and Jacobus, who noted this pairing of familiar names, but denied they were the New England immigrants, did not see the baptism of Astwood's son Samuel or the burial of his first wife Dinis in Little Hadham [Parke-Gildersleeve 71].

COMMENTS: On 3 April 1635, "Husbandman Jo: Astwood," aged 26, was enrolled at London on the *Hopewell* as a passenger for New England [Hotten 46]. Enrolled at the same time were "Jo: Ruggells," aged 10, "Martha Carter," aged 27, and "Marie Elliott," aged 13 [Hotten 46].

"Captain Ashwood" performed the marriage between Joseph Pecke and Widow Burrill at Milford 12 September 1650 and was still performing marriages in 1652 [NHVR 1:2, 103].

On 5 July 1653, Susan Clarke, daughter of James, charged Ellis Mew with indecent assault. During the course of the case, Susan's mother stated "that the girl should have gone to Milford to dwell with Capt. Astwood," but her good disposition had caused John Jones to keep her in his service instead [NHTR 1:182-83]. It is probable that John Astwood was still in Connecticut at this date. It seems likely that he went to England,

planning to return after a brief visit, since he calls himself of Milford in his will, implying he had not changed his residence to "Abutley."

BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE: In 1959 Nathan Grier Parke and Donald Lines Jacobus compiled a brief account of the family of John Astwood [Parke-Gildersleeve 71-72].

JOHN ATHERSON

"Jo[h]n Atherson" was enrolled on 18 April 1635 at London as a passenger for New England on the *Susan & Ellen* [Hotten 63].

COMMENTS: Not seen in any New England record.

THEODORE ATKINSON

ORIGIN: Unknown

MIGRATION: 1634

FIRST RESIDENCE: Boston

OCCUPATION: Feltmaker, hatter, beavermaker [SLR 6:337-38]. On 17 December 1652, Theodore Atkinson recorded a number of legal documents, including deeds and debt instruments, most of which were probably related to his business activities. In one of these records, on 7 October 1652, "Thomas Webber, master of the good ship called the *Mayflower* ... now riding at anchor in the river at Boston" sold to "Theodore Atkinson of Boston feltmaker" one-sixteenth of the ship and its furnishings [SLR 1:258-59].

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: "Theodorus Atkinson servant to our brother John Newgate" was admitted to Boston church on 11 January 1634/5 [BChR 19].

FREEMAN: 18 May 1642 [MBCR 2:291].

EDUCATION: Signed his deeds.

OFFICES: Boston constable, 12 March 1648/9 [BTR 1:94]. Clerk of the market, 12 March 1654/5 [BTR 1:122].

ESTATE: On 31 August 1640, "Theodor Atkinsone is granted his Great Lot, for two heads at Muddie River, if it be there to be had after others are served that had their grants before him" [BTR 1:55].

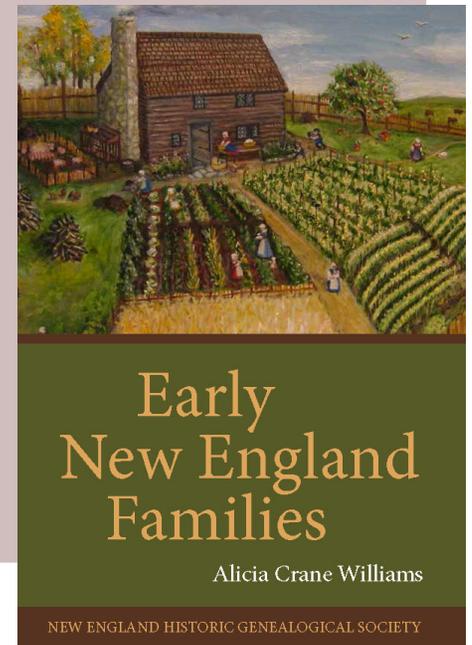
Sources Used

- Passenger lists
(original, published,
and reconstructed)
- Lists of Freemen
- Colony and court
records
- Notarial records
- Town records
- Vital records
- Land records
- Church records
- Journals and letters
- Citation in brackets
with abbreviated
source; see *Key to Titles*

Early New England Families

Early New England Families

- Directed by Alicia Crane Williams
- Genealogical and biographical sketch for those who married in New England from 1641 to 1700 (uses Torrey as guide)
- Grouped by year of marriage
- Two published volumes
- ★ • Searchable at AmericanAncestors.org
- New sketches posted online



What information is included?

- Name of groom
- Migrations/residences
- Parentage/family
- Birth/baptism
- Death/burial
- Land
- Community
- Married
 - Name of bride
 - Bride's parentage/family
 - Bride's death/burial
- Church
- Military
- Court
- Occupation
- Personal
- Estate
- Children
- Resources
- Commentary

JOHN ALLEN

MIGRATIONS/RESIDENCES: John was in Weymouth, Massachusetts, by 1643. His father, step-mother and siblings George, 16, William, 8, and Mathew 6, are recorded as having sailed for New England on 20 March 1634/5 in an unnamed ship from Weymouth, Dorsetshire. There is no record of emigration for John (age about 25) nor of his full brothers Robert (about 21) and Ralph (about 18), sister Rose (about 14), nor half-brothers Henry (about 4) and Samuel (about 2), but the passenger list may be incomplete or the youngest children were left with the older ones to come at another time. Gideon born say 1635, may have been a nursing infant who could not be left behind or was born in New England. John and Ralph went from Weymouth to Rehoboth and later John settled in Swansea.¹

PARENTAGE/FAMILY: Son of GEORGE ALLEN (*GM2*, I:27-35) and his first wife based on the Weymouth land inventory listing "John Allin" who owned land "first granted to George Allin."²

BIRTH/BAPTISM: Born about 1610 (age given in will of 12 March 1689/90), "in the eighty year of my age".³

DEATH/BURIAL: Died Swansea, 3 May 1690.⁴

MARRIED: Say 1638 (daughter Deborah born say 1639, son John born about 1640 based on age at death).

BRIDE: CHRISTIAN ____.

DEATH/BURIAL: Living when husband wrote his will on 12 March 1689/90.

LAND/PROPERTY: The inventory of land owners in Weymouth taken about 1643 describes the land of John Allin: "Five acres on the plaine first granted to Thomas Applegate bounded on the East by a lot of Joseph Shawes on the East & South with on the West by Ralph Allins lot the sea on the north two acres at the same bounded with the sea Eygth acres on the wester necke the land of Henry Kingman on the East Thomas Holbrooke on the west the common on the north first granted to George Allin. Two acres and a quarter twelve Rod of meddow in the Wester neck first given to George Allen bounded on the East with the marsh of Richard Silvester on the west with the marsh of William Frie the sea on the north the land of Henry Kingman on the South."⁵

In 1643 the inhabitants of "Sea-conk alias Rehoboth" were ranked according to their "person and estate" for division of the land granted by the Plymouth court. John Allen (£156) and Ralph Allen (£270) were ranked numbers 44 and 45 out of 58 proprietors. In June 1644, John Allen drew Lot #42 in the division of "woodland between the plain and the town." Lots on the great plain "beginning upon the west side; and he that is first upon the west side shall be last upon the east," were drawn in June 1645 with John Allin in Lot No. 53. In February 1646/7, John Allin was Lot No. 44 of 46 in the drawing for the new meadow. In the June 1658 drawing for "the meadows that lie on the north side of the town," John Allen had Lot No. 27, and a drawing in May 1668 for "the meadow lands in the North Purchase," not numbered, included John Allin, sen., and John Allin, jun.⁶

COMMUNITY: John Allin was chosen constable of Rehoboth in 1648 and was a rater in 1652 to raise £20 for the town to buy "a barrel of powder and two muskets, 4 swords, match and lead, bandoleers or porchers." On 6 April 1653, John Allen of Rehoboth took the oath of fidelity. He served as a Deputy from Rehoboth in

1653. In November 1663 "John Allen, sen." was on a committee to either buy Joseph Peck's house and lot and "to set up an addition to it, to make it fit for the ministry," or to build a new house on the town's lands.⁷ In March 1667 John Allen was among the settlers authorized to establish the town of "New Swansea," and in February 1669 he was a first signer of those admitted to the town. In 1669 he was on the committee to lay out land in Swansea known as Papasquash Necke to the towne "that it may be graunted unto them for the promoting of a way of trade in this collonie...." He served as a deputy from Swansea 1669, 1670, 1677 and was a selectman of that town 1679, 1684, 1686. In July 1682 he was appointed to a committee to run the bounds with the town of Rehoboth.⁸

CHURCH: He was likely the John Allen who was a member of John Myles' Baptist church in Swansea.⁹

COURT: At the Plymouth Court in July 1667, the Treasurer of the Colony sued Steven Paine and John Allin of Rehoboth for £100 and damages of £200; the complaint was withdrawn, but the charge paid. In March 1671/2, the Plymouth Court settled a controversy regarding taxes on meadow land that belonged to Rehoboth but was within the bounds of Swansea, and ordered John Allen of Swanzey to pay 30 shillings. In July 1673 John Allin and Hugh Cole of Swanzey complained against "Phillip, allies Metacomb" to the damage of £200 for refusing to acknowledge a deed Phillip gave to Allin and Cole on 7 March 1672, but this was withdrawn.¹⁰

In March 1667/8, John Allin of Rehoboth sued William Blackston to the damage of £20 for "pulling up his fence, and destroying his hog." The defendant did not appear. In October 1668 John sued Blackstone again for £30 damages for "pulling up and burning his fence, and destroying his hay, and molesting of him, that hee cannot enjoy his land in peace," but the action was withdrawn. Finally, in July 1669 John sued Blackstone once more "for molesting him in his just rights, by spoyling of his grasse, pulling up of his fence, and destroying of his hay upon his land,... lying on the westerly syde of the western plaine from the said William Blackstone, which was done in the latter end of November, in the yeare 1667." The jury found for the plaintiff £6 damages and the cost of the suit.¹¹

OCCUPATION: Farmer.

ESTATE: The will of John Allen of Swanzey, dated 12 March 1689/90, proved 27 May 1690, "being in y^e eighty year of my Age," gave to eldest son John Allen "all upland & swamp... on Pheebe's neck in Swanzey lying to y^e Southward of y^e longline which runneeth on y^e north side of y^e Dead Swamp except Six Acres on y^e [head?] of y^e Lotts that was Cap^t Peter Hunts & the Paines... all that meadow lying about that little Neck whereon his house stands & all my right of meadow which was y^e proper Alottment of Will^m Palmer of Rehob^o being five Acres... on the [Tonng?] of Marsh in Swanzey & also half my Commonage in Swanzey, also... use of y^e Timber & wood of that Lott & land that lyeth between y^e Chafee's & house lott of John Medbury... [but if John dies without lawfully begotten issue, then the property would go to] my Grandson John Allen y^e son of Daniel Allen... but the lawful wife of John Allen shall have & enjoy y^e full benefit & improvem^t of one half of s^d Lands & meadows during her Natural Life."

"I give & bequeath that my land that lyeth between y^e Chafee's & John Medbury's house lott unto my Grandchild Samuel Allen son of Daniel Allen... to possess and enjoy after my son John his Decease also... that piece of meadow adjoining to fors^d Land called [illegible] Leonard's meadow." To son Isack Allen "All that part of y^e Farme that I bought of major Josiah Winslow lying about M^r Blackstones, which is not yet by me sould... all my Tract of Land called y^e North side purchase & all that Lott upland & meadow lying at a place called Palmers River near s^d Jonathan [Blisse's?] house & all that Lott of Salt Marsh lying upon y^e [Tonng?] in Swanzey which was y^e meadow of Will^m Cheesbrooke as also half my Commonage in Rehob^o as also a lott lying in Rehob^o of thirty acres & twelve more to be added thereunto out of my common rights in Rehob^o in & by ye Cartway that leads to Broad Cove." To son Daniel Allen "my now Dwelling house barne & all my other outhouses orchards land meadows improved or not improved with all common rights in both Swanzey and Rehob^o" not otherwise disposed of. "Unto my Grandchild Elizabeth Daughter of Daniel Allen five pounds... unto all & every of my Grandchildren ten shillings a piece... one cow to

¹ Robert Charles Anderson, George F. Sanborn, Jr., and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634-1635*, 7 vols. (Boston: 1999-2009) [hereinafter *GM2*], I:27-35; additional information by Richard LeBaron Bowen, Jr., "Notes on George Allen of Weymouth and Sandwich," *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, vol. 1+ (Boston: NEHGS, 1847+) [hereinafter *NEHGR*], 1:155:212-14.

² *GM2*, I:30; George Walter Chamberlain, *History of Weymouth, Mass.*, 4 vols. ([Boston: Wright & Potter Co.], 1923) [hereinafter *Weymouth Hist*], I:184, 188.

³ Bristol County, Massachusetts, Probate Records (microfilm NEHGS) [hereinafter Bristol Co PR], 1:19-20; *The Genealogical Advertiser*, vols. 1-4, (1898-1901, reprint 4 in 1, Baltimore: Genealogical Publ. Co., 1974) [hereinafter *Gen Adv*], 3:121.

⁴ H.L. Peter Rounds, trans., Jane Fletcher Fiske and Margaret F. Costello, eds., *Vital Records of Swansea, Massachusetts, to 1850*, (Boston: NEHGS, 1992) [hereinafter *Swansea VR*], 27.

⁵ *Weymouth Hist*, I:184.

⁶ Leonard Bliss, Jr., *The History of Rehoboth, Bristol County, Massachusetts; Comprising a History of the Present Towns of Rehoboth, Seekonk, and Pawtucket, from Their Settlement to the Present Time; Together with Sketches of Attleborough, Cumberland, and a Part of Swansea and Barrington...* [hereinafter *Rehoboth Hist by Bliss*], 25-28, 31, 34, 38-39, 48-49, 67-68.

⁷ *Rehoboth Hist by Bliss*, 40, 43, 59; *PCR*, 3:24, 26.

⁸ Nathaniel B. Shurtleff and David Pulsifer, eds., *Records of the Colony of New Plymouth in New England*, 12 vols. in 10 (Boston: 1855-1861) [hereinafter *PCR*], 5:19, 24, 230, 279, 6:10, 94, 129.

⁹ *NEHGR*, 139:46, 49.

¹⁰ *PCR*, 5:84-85, 7:137, 169, 180.

¹¹ *PCR*, 7:143, 150, 155

Grandchild Deborah Cole.” To sons John & Isaack Allen “my two Negroe’s Joseph & Matte each of them one as they shall agree & I give & bequeath [Hackarry?] Negroe to my son Daniel.”

Sons John and Daniel were to make annual payments of £6 a year to their mother: John 40 shillings (5 shillings in butter, 15 shillings in meat and 20 shillings in corn); Daniel £4 (10 shillings in butter, 30 shillings in meat and £2 in “Indian Come & English”).

“To my beloved Wife Christian Allen my bed above in y^e Chamber with all y^e Furniture thereto belonging & all my Linnen, & all my Silver money I have in my house with all y^e silver money Debts due...” Christian was made executrix with friend John Peck and son John Allen as overseers. All remainder of the estate was to be divided among his four children: John, Isaac, Daniel Allen and Deborah Buckland, with Deborah “to have y^e Bed in y^e lower Roome....” A memorandum added before signing adds that “Bethiah y^e wife of my son John shall have y^e house wholly unto her use during her life Also it is my Will that Deborah Cole shall have... a Bed & Rugg & Boulster.” Witnesses were John Peck and Israel Peck.¹²

The will of John Allen [Jr.] of Swansea, dated 1 January 1722/3 and proved 1 November 1723, makes bequests to “John Farewather, James Farewather, Elizabeth Winslow & Christian Simson children of my sister Elisebeth Farewather of Boston ded.; children [not named] of “my Kinswoman Sarah guin that was the Wife of Thomas Guin of boston Deceased”; Daniel, Ebenezer, Samuel & Joseph Allen “sons of my brother Daniel Allen”; “James Addoms son of James Addoms of Barrington”; James Bucklin, Joseph Bucklin, Baruch Bucklin, Isaac Bucklin & Lydia Barrow children “of my sister Deborah Bucklin”; Nehemiah Allen & Deborah Hopkins children of “my brother Isaac Allen ded.”; “grandchildren of my brother Isaac Allen ded., namely his daughter Bethia’s two children & his daughter Sarah’s one child”; “Kinswoman Deborah Cole wife of Hugh Cole of Swanzey”; “James Cole son of Hugh Cole”; “daughters of my kinswoman Deborah Cole, namely Deborah Cole, Christian Kingsley, Mary Cole, Lidia Sisson, Bethiah Luther, Anna Cole & Hannah Cole.” His kinsman Hugh Cole of Swanzey, house carpenter, and Joseph Bucklin of Rehoboth, yeoman, were named executors along with kinsman Ebenezer Allen of Barrington.¹³

CHILDREN of John and Christian (----) Allen:¹⁴

- i. **DEBORAH¹⁵ ALLEN**, b. say 1639; d. Rehoboth, 27 Nov. 1690¹⁵; m. Rehoboth, 5 Nov. 1659,¹⁶ **JOSEPH BUCKLAND**, son of WILLIAM and MARY (BOSWORTH) BUCKLAND (*GM2*, 454-56, 356-57), b. prob. England, about 23 June 1633 (calc.)¹⁷; d. Rehoboth, 26 Mar. 1718, bur. 28 Mar., age 84y9m3d.¹⁸ He m. (2) 17 Oct. 1693, **Deborah (Pratt?) Barrows**.¹⁹
- ii. **JOHN ALLEN**, b. abt. 1640; d. Swansea, 22 Sept. 1723 in 84 yr.²⁰; m. bef. 22 Dec. 1673,²¹ **BETHIAH PENNIMAN**, dau. of JAMES and LYDIA (ELIOT) PENNIMAN (*GMB*, III:1426-30), b. prob. Braintree, ca. 1643²²; d. bet. 9 Nov. 1698 and 1 Jan. 1722/3.²³ No issue.
- iii. **DANIEL ALLEN**, d. aft. 12 March 1689²⁴; m. Swansea, 12 Oct. 1670,²⁵ **MARY DEXTER**, dau. of Thomas and Elizabeth (—) Dexter, b. Sandwich, 11 Aug. 1649.²⁶

¹² Bristol Co PR, 1:19-20; *Genealogical Advertiser*, 3:121.

¹³ L. Peter Rounds, comp., *Abstracts of Bristol County, Massachusetts, Probate Records, 1687-1745* (Baltimore: 1987, repr. 1993, 1996), 97.

¹⁴ Bristol Co PR, 1:65; *NEHGR*, 62:231-32 (John’s will and probate of son Isaac Allen’s estate).

¹⁵ *NEHGR*, 166:123; James N. Arnold, *Vital Records of Rehoboth, 1642-1896*, 2 vols. (1897) [hereinafter *Rehoboth VR*], 2:805.

¹⁶ Mary Bosworth Clarke, *Bosworth Genealogy, A History of the Descendants of Edward Bosworth who arrived in America in the year 1634...*, 6 vols. (San Francisco: 1926) [hereinafter *Bosworth*], 146; *NEHGR*, 166:123.

¹⁷ *Bosworth*, 146; *NEHGR*, 166:123.

¹⁸ *Bosworth*, 146; *NEHGR*, 166:123.

¹⁹ *NEHGR*, 166:122-23; *The Mayflower Descendant*, vol. 1+ (1899+) [hereinafter *MD*], 26:37.

²⁰ *Swansea VR*, 219.

²¹ *The American Genealogist*, vol. 9+ (1932+) [hereinafter *TAG*], 71:17 (her mother’s will).

²² *TAG*, 71:17; Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620-1633*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1995) [hereinafter *GMB*], III:1429.

²³ *TAG*, 71:17, not named in husband’s will.

²⁴ Father’s will.

²⁵ *Swansea VR*, 22.

²⁶ *MD*, 3:176-77; *GMB*, I:543.

iv. **ISAAC ALLEN**, d. bet. 3 Oct 1692 and 5 Jan. 1693²⁷; m. (1) Rehoboth, 30 May 1673,²⁸ **MARY BOWEN**, dau. of Obadiah and Mary (—) Bowen, b. Rehoboth, 18 Jan. 1652/3²⁹; m. (2) **CATHERINE/KATHERINE BALCOM**, dau. of Alexander Balcom and his first wife, b. abt. 1661³⁰; d. 1729.³¹ Catherine m. (2) abt. 1693, **Daniel Jenks**.³²

v. **ELIZABETH ALLEN**, b. abt. 1647; d. 10 Feb. 1689, age 42³³; m. (1) Swansea, 6 Nov. 1668,³⁴ **JOHN DIXEY**, son of William and Anna (—) Dixey, b. 19 Dec. 1639³⁵; d. 1673, age 34³⁶; m. (2) Swansea, bet. 13 and 24 Nov. 1674,³⁷ **JOHN FAYERWEATHER/FAIRWEATHER**, son of THOMAS and MARY (—) FAIRWEATHER (*GMB*, I:650-51), b. Charlestown, 20 Sept. 1634³⁸; d. 14 April 1712.³⁹ He m. (1) **Sarah Turner**; (3) **Mary Hewes**.⁴⁰

COMMENTARY: John Allen’s daughter Elizabeth died before he made his will but she left a number of children who are not named therein although they are mentioned in the will of her brother, John Allen, Jr., as seen above. John Sr.’s will mentions a number of grandchildren with great specificity (children of son Daniel, etc.). The only non-specific bequest reads “unto all & every of my Grandchildren ten shillings a piece....” This clause would cover grandchildren who were not named individually. Unless the copy of the will (the original no longer exists) is deficient, this would indicate that John felt Elizabeth’s children would be taken care of by her second husband, John Fayerweather. In a prenuptial deed before his marriage to their mother, he had pledged his warehouse in Boston against payment of £100 each to his step-daughters as legacies from their father’s estate.

²⁷ *NEHGR*, 62:231-32.

²⁸ *PCR*, 8:52; *MD*, 19:69.

²⁹ *Rehoboth VR*, 545.

³⁰ Frank W. Balcom, *A First Boat of the Balcomb Family* (Peabody, Mass.: 1942) [hereinafter *Balcomb Family*], 27-28

³¹ *Balcomb Family*, 28.

³² *NEHGR*, 62:231-32; *Balcomb Family*, 28.

³³ *NEHGR*, 144:9.

³⁴ *Swansea VR*, 23.

³⁵ Walter Goodwin Davis, *The Ancestry of Sarah Stone, wife of James Patten of Arundel (Kennebunkport), Maine* (Portland, ME: The Southworth Press, 1930), 30.

³⁶ *NEHGR*, 144:9; *MD*, 25:120-21.

³⁷ *Swansea VR*, 408; *PCR*, 8:51 (“were married and not recorded”); *NEHGR*, 144:9; *Suffolk Deeds, Volumes 1 through 14* ([Boston]: Rockwell & Churchill, 1880), 13:275-79 (prenup and agreement).

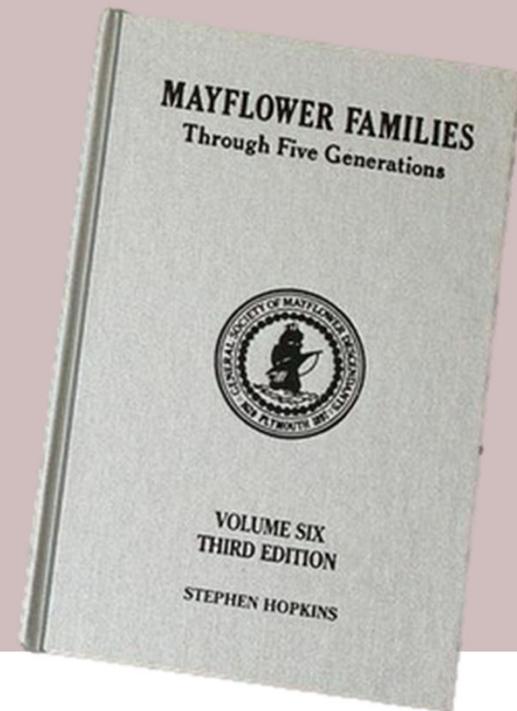
³⁸ *GMB*, I:651; *NEHGR*, 144:8-9.

³⁹ *NEHGR*, 144:8.

⁴⁰ *NEHGR*, 144:8-10.

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He m. Duxbury 25 May 1704 **LYDIA DELANO**, his first cousin, b. probably Duxbury ca. March 1680; d. there 23/24 Nov. 1763 ae 83y 8m; daughter of John and Mary (Weston) Delano.

The will of Josiah Soule of Duxborough, yeoman, dated 5 Nov. 1762, proved 14 Feb. 1764, names wife Lidia Soule; eldest son Jonathan Soul; sons Abisha Soul and Jonathan Soul; my youngest son Nathaniel Soul; eldest daughter Mary Soul, youngest daughter Lidia Simmons, wife to Ichabod Simmons. He named Nathaniel Sole sole executor, with witnesses Nehemiah, Thaddeus and Jonathan Peterson.

Children of Josiah and Lydia (Delano) Soule, b. Duxbury:

- i **JONATHAN^d SOULE**, b. 23 June 1705; d. Duxbury 4 April 1776 ae 70; unm. On 2 July 1768 Jonathan Soul of Duxboro, yeoman, deeded all lands to nephew Consider Simmons for taking care of him for the rest of his life.
- ii **MARY SOULE**, b. 5 Dec. 1706; d. Duxbury 3 Jan. 1781; unm. No PR
- 92 iii **ABISHAI SOULE**, b. 25 Nov. 1708
- 93 iv **MICAH SOULE**, b. 12 April 1711
- 94 v **NATHANIEL SOULE**, b. 4 Nov. 1714
- 95 vi **LYDIA SOULE**, b. 2 Oct. 1719

References: MD 11:107-8 (will). MQ 46:57-9. VR DUXBURY pp. 161 (b. Abishai), 163 (b. Jonathan, Lydia), 164 (b. Mary, Micah, Nathaniel), 312 (m.), 422 (d. Josiah, Lydia, Jonathan, Mary). NEHGR 71:47. Plymouth Co. PR #18825 (Josiah Soule).

19 **JOSHUA³ SOULE** (John², George¹) b. Duxbury 12 Oct. 1681; d. there 29 May 1767 ae 85y 7m 6d (g.s.); buried Old Cem. South Duxbury.

He m. Duxbury 15 Feb. 1704/5 **JOANNA STUDLEY**, b. ca. 1686; d. apparently before 8 May 1767 since she was not mentioned in her husband's will; apparently daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Brooks) Studley.

On 31 Dec. 1718 Henry Culifer, "Taylour," sold 8 acres in Duxborough to Joshua Soule of Duxborough, coaster; neighbors were named as: Stephen Samson, deceased, and Samuel Sprague.

Joshua Soule acquired land in North Yarmouth ME 30 Dec. 1734 and was active as a shipbuilder and trader. On 19 Feb. 1734/5 Joshua Soule of Duxborough, yeoman, bought 2 ½ half shares of salt meadow, being ½ of Lot 18; the sellers were Palatiah West and Ichabod Samson, both of Duxborough, coaster.

On 26 July 1744 Joshua Soule of Duxborough, yeoman, gave land to son Ezekiel Soule of Duxborough, coaster.

On 13 May 1752, Amos Samson of Duxborough sold rights in two pieces of salt meadow in Duxborough to Joshua Soul of Duxborough, yeoman; witnesses were [son] Joseph Soul and Marcy Soul.

The will of Joshua Soul of Duxborough, yeoman, dated 8 May 1767 and proved 20 Oct. 1767, names sons Ezekiel, Joseph and Nathan Soule; grandson Samuel Soule; daughter Zurviah wife of Ebenezer Samson; daughter Abigail wife of Perez Drew; granddaughter Lidia wife of Jedediah Simmons; grandson Samuel Soule, sole executor, with witnesses Joseph and Elizabeth Cushman and Judah Delano.

Children of Joshua and Joanna (Studley) Soule, b. Duxbury:

- 96 i **ZERUIAH^d SOULE**, b. 2 Nov. 1705
- 97 ii **JOHN SOULE**, b. 4 March 1708/9
- 98 iii **EZEKIEL SOULE**, b. 17 Feb. 1710/1
- iv **JOSHUA SOULE**, b. 30 May 1713; prob. d.y. (not named in will)
- 99 v **ABIGAIL SOULE**, b. 30 April 1716
- vi **JOANNA SOULE**, b. 18 April 1719; prob. d.y. (not named in will)
- 100 vii **JOSEPH SOULE**, b. 15 March 1721/2
- 101 viii **NATHAN SOULE**, b. 12 July 1725
- 102 ix **SARAH SOULE**, b. 25 July 1728

References: MD 9:108 (m.); 11:133-7 (will). VR DUXBURY pp. 160 (b. Joseph, Nathan, Sarah), 161 (b. Abigail), 162 (b. Ezekiel), 163 (b. John, Joshua, Joanna), 165 (b. Zerviah), 311 (m.), 422 (d. Joshua). York Co. ME LR 17:132 (Joshua Soule). Plymouth Co. PR #18822 (Joshua Soule). Plymouth Co. LR 14:231 (Henry Culifer); 37:24 (Joshua Soule); 41:236-237 (Amos Samson). SAVAGE 1:263 (William Brooks). GREAT MIGRATION (1995) 1:407-15 (William Brooks).

20 **NATHANIEL³ SOULE** (Nathaniel², George¹) b. Dartmouth 12 Jan. 1681; d. there before 26 May 1766 (warrant to appraise his estate).

He m.(1) Dartmouth (also rec. Portsmouth RI) 20 July 1708 **MERIBAH GIFFORD**, b. Sandwich 31 Oct. 1687; d. Dartmouth ca. 1732; daughter of Christopher and Deborah (Perry) Gifford.

He m.(2) Dartmouth 13 Feb. 1732/3 **HANNAH MACOMBER**, b. Dartmouth 8 Nov. 1703; d. there after 3 June 1740 and before 17 July 1759; daughter of William and Elizabeth (Randall) Macomber. The will of William Macomber of Dartmouth dated 17 July 1759 names daughter Hannah Soule, deceased, and grandson Weston Soule, son of daughter Hannah.

On 30 Jan. 1733/4 Nathaniel Soule of Dartmouth, yeoman, sold land in Dartmouth to Bethiah Macomber of Dartmouth, widow. Wife Hannah also signed. On 5 Sept. 1738 Nathaniel Soule of Dartmouth, yeoman, sold land in Dartmouth to Holden Slocum.

On 3 July 1744 Nathaniel Soule of Dartmouth, yeoman, deeded land in Dartmouth to son Jonathan Soule of Dartmouth. On 4 July 1761 Nathaniel Soule of

Periodicals

- ★ • New England Historical and Genealogical Register
- ★ • The American Genealogist
- ★ • The Mayflower Descendant
- ★ • The Essex Antiquarian
- ★ • The Essex Genealogist

... and many more



Records

Early Massachusetts Records

- Vital and church records: birth, baptism, marriage, death, burial, divorce, gravestone
- Land records: grants, deeds, mortgages, gifts
- Probate records: will, inventory, guardianship
- Civil records: lawsuits, individual vs individual
- Criminal records: prosecution by authorities
- Military records: Colony, town militia

Overview of Colonial Government

- Colony – Records of General Court, laws, appeals, border disputes, diplomacy, war
- County or Jurisdictional Courts – Criminal and Civil actions
- Towns – Selectmen, elected officers (Town Clerk), vital records, town grants of land

Access to 17th century original records

- Originals not often available to the public
- Microfilm images
- Digital images online – replacing microfilm
 - [Americanancestors.org](https://www.americanancestors.org)
 - [Familysearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org)
 - [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)

A Guide to Massachusetts Public Records

- List all town and church records available as of 1884
- Invaluable tool to determine when records were lost or destroyed
- Reprinted in 2014



A Guide to
Massachusetts
Public Records
Parishes, Towns, and Counties

Carroll D. Wright
with a foreword by David Curtis Dearborn

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Events

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Signature Projects

Centers & Initiatives

Town Guides

Research towns throughout New England and New York

Town guides will help you in identifying research strategies for towns throughout New England and New York. They includes information on name changes for towns, settlement and incorporation dates, parent towns or counties and much more. Villages, smaller sections of towns, are not included in these guides.

RESEARCH GUIDE



RESEARCH GUIDE



AmericanAncestors.org/tools/town-guides

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A



Name	Detailed Information	Established	County	Parent Town(s)	Other Names	Related Database
Abington	Town Profile	1712	Plymouth	Bridgewater		Massachu Plymouth
Acton	Town Profile	1735	Middlesex	Concord		Massachu Middlese
Acushnet	Town Profile	1860	Bristol	Fairhaven		
Acushena	Dartmouth				Dartmouth	
Adams	Town Profile	1778	Berkshire	East Hoosuck Plantation		
Agawam	Town Profile	1855	Hampden		Ipswich	
Alford	Town Profile	1773	Berkshire	Great Barrington		Massachu
Amesbury	Town Profile	1668	Essex	Salisbury		Massachu Essex Cou

AmericanAncestors.org/tools/massachusetts-town-guide

Vital Records

- Mass. has the most complete set in the nation
- Kept by towns beginning in 1620s
- Generally are well-kept, but not always complete
- VRs up to 1850 published for over 200 towns, the majority in eastern Massachusetts
- For other towns, use the Corbin Collection, Rollin H. Cooke Collection, Holbrook microfiche, or manuscripts (all available at NEHGS)

Vital Records to 1850

- Systematic History Fund series = “Tan Books”
- Births, marriages, deaths arranged alphabetically
- May include VRs from church, cemetery, Bible or private records



- Most online at [AmericanAncestors.org](https://www.AmericanAncestors.org)



VOLUME ONE.

DEDHAM.

- 1635** A Register of the Births, Marriages and Deaths in this Towne, in which the yeare is accounted to begin the first day of the first m^o. called March.
- Mary, Daughter of Jn^o. & Hana Dwight, borne 25 of y^e 5 m^o.
- 1635** John, the Son of John Balden & Joana his wife, was borne the 24th of the 4 m^o.
- 1637** Ruth, the Daughter of John & Annis Morse, was borne 3^d of 4 m^o.
- Mary, the Daughter of Joseph & Millicent Kingsbury, was borne the 1 of 7 m^o.
- 1638** Sarah, the Daughter of John & Hana Dwight, was borne the 17th of y^e 4 m^o.
- Elizabeth, the Daughter of Joseph & Millicent Kingsbury. was borne the 14 of y^e 7 m^o.
- Elizabeth, the Daughter of Francis & Amy Chickering, was borne the 26th of the 7 m^o.
- Mary, the Daughter of Richard & Mary Euerard, was borne the 28 of the 7 m^o.
- Elizabeth, the Daughter of Thomas & Mary Alcock, was borne the 14th of y^e 8 m^o.
- Isaac, the Son of John & Prudence Fray, was borne the 29th of the 10 m^o.
- 1639** Rachell, the Daughter of John & Alice Roper, was borne the 18th of the 1 m^o.
- Samuell, the Son of Richard & Mary Euerard, was borne the 31 of the 1 m^o.
- Samuell, the Son of John & Joanna Gay, was borne the 10th of the 1 m^o.
- Joseph, the Son of William Barstow & [An] his wife, was borne the 6th of the 4 m^o.
- Obadiah, the Son of Daniell & Lidia Morse, borne the 8 of the 6 m^o.
- Mary, the Daughter of Edward & Susan Richards, was borne the 29th of y^e 7th m^o.
- Abigall, the Daughter of Ferdinando & [Ann] Adams, was borne the 15th of the the 7th m^o.
- John, the Son of John & Annis Morse, was borne the 8 of the 4th m^o.
- Daniell, the Son of Henry & Elizabeth Smith, was borne the 13 of the 8 m^o.
- John, the Son of James & Ann Allen, was borne the 4th of the 10 m^o.
- Sarah, the Daughter of Thomas & Marger[ett Al]cock, was borne the 28th of the 10 m^o.
- Barnabas, the Son of Rob^t & Ann Hinsdell, was borne the 13th of the 9 m^o.
- Benjamin, the Son of Ralph & Rebecka Wheelock, was borne the 8 of the 1[0 m^o.]
- Samuel, the Son of John & Rebecca Bachelor, was borne the 8th of the 11 m^o.
- Abigall, the Daughter of John & Abigall Eaton, was borne the 6 of the 11 m^o.
- Samuell, the Son of Thomas & Alice Wight, was borne the 5 of the 12 m^o.
- Samuell, the Son of Joseph & Hannah Morse, was borne the 10th of the 11 m^o.
- Eliezer, the Son of John & Prudence Fray, was borne the 14th of the 12 m^o.

Vital Records to 1850

198 CAMBRIDGE BIRTHS.

DEANE (see Dean), Annie Williams, June 16, 1790. G.R.3.
 Cathcart Randolph, Dec. 27, 1822. G.R.3.
 Charles, Nov. 10, 1813. G.R.3.
 Helen Waterston [—], w. of Charles, Mar. 6, 1819. G.R.3.
 James R., Dr., —, 1833. G.R.2.
 Martha Andros [—], w. of John K., Apr. 26, 1828. G.R.3.
 Miranda Anne, Apr. 19, 1818. G.R.3.
 Nehemiah Wasburne, June 11, 1791. G.R.3.
 Sarah M. Jones [—], w. of John K., Oct. 7, 1828. G.R.3.
 Vesta I. [—], w. of Dr. James R., —, 1838. G.R.2.

DEARBORN, Arabella McGregor [—], w. of George F., Jan. 23, 1830. G.R.3.
 Charles Edward, May 14, 1843. G.R.3.
 Isaac, June 1, 1812. G.R.3.
 Susan Coolidge [—], w. of Isaac, Feb. 17, 1815. G.R.3.

DEBLOIS, Charles, s. of John B. and Lydia, May 29, 1844.
 Elizabeth A., —, 1800. G.R.3.
 John Amory, July 28, 1797. G.R.3.
 Louisa D. [—], w. of Thomas Amory, —, 1842. G.R.3.
 Mary N., —, 1804. G.R.3.
 Nathaniel James, Feb. 28, 1806. G.R.3.
 Stephen Grant, Aug. 1, 1816. G.R.3.

DE BYE, John D., —, 1845. G.R.2.

DECKER, Addie A. Orcutt [—], w. of Levi, Mar. 9, 1840. G.R.2.

DEDRICH, Frederick, Apr. 22, 1829. G.R.2.

DEE, Kate, —, 1849. G.R.3.

DEECHAN, Daniel, s. of Thomas and Susan, Mar. 9, 1844.
 Francis, s. of William, May 15, 1845.
 Francis W[illia]m, s. of John and Ann, Dec. 3, 1848.
 William P., s. of William, Apr. 15, 1848.

DEELEY, Caleb, in Eng., Oct. 31, 1799. G.R.3.
 Henry S., s. of Caleb and Mary Ann, in England, Aug. 6, 1821. G.R.3.
 Mary Ann, in England, Jan. 3, 1798. G.R.3.

ABBREVIATIONS.

a. — age; aged
abt. — about
b. — born
bp. — baptized
bur. — buried
ch. — child

C.R.1. — church record, First Congregational, Unitarian
 C.R.2. — church record, Christ Church, Episcopal
 C.R.3. — church record, First Baptist Society, Cambridgeport
 C.R.4. — church record, First Church in Cambridge, or Shepard Congregational Society
 C.R.5. — church record, Harvard Street Methodist
 C.R.6. — church record, Old Cambridge Baptist Society
 C.R.7. — church record, St. Peter's Episcopal Church
 C.R.8. — church record, Trinity Methodist Church, East Cambridge
 C.R.9. — church record, Cambridgeport Parish, now united with Third Congregational
 C.R.10. — church record, Third Congregational, Unitarian
 C.R.11. — church record, Evangelical Congregational Church, East Cambridge, now extinct; records in possession of Congregational Library, Boston
 C.R.12. — church record, Second Baptist Church, East Cambridge, now extinct; records in possession of City of Cambridge

d. — daughter; died; day
Dea. — deacon
dec. — deceased
dup. — duplicate entry
 G.R.1. —grave record, cemetery at Harvard Square

5

Search Database

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Saved Searches 

Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620-1850

Exact Search Soundex

 SEARCH

First Name

John

Last Name

Poore

Years

1642

1650

Record Type

Birth 

Location Exact Location

Newbury

Keywords

Enter terms or words

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-All- 

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Volume

-All- 

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- Record type
- Location
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AmericanAncestors.org/search/databasesearch/190/massachusetts-vital-records-1620-1850

Search Results

1 - 50 of 78943 records for Name: John Poore, Location: Newbury, Record Type: Birth (exact), Years: 1642 - 1650, Database: Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620-1850

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John Poore

Newbury

1642 - 1650

Birth

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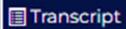
Name	Events	Relationship
<p>John POORE </p> <p>Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620-1850</p> <p>Vital Records (incl. Bible, Cemetery, Church and SSDI)</p> <p>View Image</p>	<p>BIRTH: 1642</p> <p>LOCATION: Newbury, Essex, Massachusetts, United States</p> <p>TOWN PAGE: Newbury</p> <p>URL</p> <p>VOLUME: Newbury - V1</p> <p>PAGE: 428</p> <p>TEXT: John, s. John, June 21, 1642.</p>	
<p>John POORE </p> <p>Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620-1850</p> <p>Vital Records (incl. Bible, Cemetery, Church and SSDI)</p> <p>View Image</p>	<p>BIRTH: 1683</p> <p>LOCATION: Newbury, Essex, Massachusetts, United States</p> <p>TOWN PAGE: Newbury</p> <p>URL</p> <p>VOLUME: Newbury - V1</p> <p>PAGE: 428</p> <p>TEXT: John, s. John, jr., June 26, 1683.</p>	
<p>John POORE </p> <p>Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620-1850</p> <p>Vital Records (incl. Bible, Cemetery, Church and SSDI)</p> <p>View Image</p>	<p>BIRTH: 1668</p> <p>LOCATION: Newbury, Essex, Massachusetts, United States</p> <p>TOWN PAGE: Newbury</p>	

AmericanAncestors.org/search/databasesearch/190/massachusetts-vital-records-1620-1850

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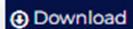
Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620-1850

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 Image

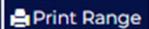
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Volume

Newbury - VI

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428

NEWBURY BIRTHS

POOR, Wendell, s. John, jr. and Hannah, at Reading, Dec. 27, 1799.

William, s. Jonathan and Polly, Aug. 23, 1805.

William, s. Jonathan and Elizabeth, Aug. 1, 1830.

—, ch. Joseph, —, 1683.

—, Sam[ue]ll and Hannah, bp. Dec. 9, 1716. c. r. 2.

—, d. John, 3d and Lydia, Aug. 17, 1769.

—, d. Capt. Jonathan and Sarah, July 17, 1775.

—, s. Charles, bp. Mar. 27, 1828. c. r. 1.

—, ch. Eliphelet, bp. May 11, 1834. c. r. 5.

POORE (see also Poor), Abigail, d. John, Mar. 26, 1660.

Abigail, d. Henry, Sept. 9, 1680.

Abigal, d. John, Aug. 5, 1661.

Benjamin, s. Samuel, Feb. 22, 1666.

Edward, s. Samuel, May 27, 1656. [May 22. ct. r.]

Edward, s. John, Apr. —, 1658. [Apr. 5. ct. r. and S. dup.]

Elizabeth, d. Samu[el], Jan. 20, 1658.

Elizabeth, d. John, jr., July 26, 1674.

Hanna, d. John, Mar. 25, 1649.

Hannah, d. John, Oct. 14, 1645.

Hannah, d. John, jr., Aug. 16, 1677.

Henry, s. John, Dec. 13, 1650.

Jeremiah, s. Henry, Jan. 10, 1683.

John, s. John, June 21, 1642.

[Jo. ct. r. and S. dup.]hn, s. John, jr., May 27, 1668.

John [Jonathan. S. dup.], s. John, jr., Feb. 25, 1678.

John, s. John, jr., June 26, 1683.

Judith, d. John, jr., May 22, 1681.

AmericanAncestors.org/search/databasesearch/190/massachusetts-vital-records-1620-1850

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Place

United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury

Newbury

United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury

Newburyport

United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newburyport

West Newbury

United States, Massachusetts, Essex, West Newbury

3 Results

Other Catalogs to Consider:



OCLC WorldCat

WorldCat is the world's largest network of library content and services. WorldCat libraries are dedicated to providing access to their resources on the web, where most people start their search for information.



ArchiveGrid

ArchiveGrid is a collection of nearly two million archival material descriptions, including MARC records from WorldCat and finding aids harvested from the web.

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Availability

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 Family History Center

- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Church history (1)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Church records (3)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Directories (2)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Genealogy (2)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Genealogy - Periodicals (1)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Genealogy - Societies - Directories (1)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - History (18)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - History - Civil War, 1861-1865 (3)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - History - Revolution, 1775-1783 (3)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Land and property (5)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Military records - Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775 (1)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Taxation (1)
- ▶ United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Town records (3)
- ▼ **United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Vital records (13)**

Boxford and Newbury Massachusetts vital records with genealogical notes on families from Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts; slave records from Massachusetts	Add
Genealogical notes on familes from Massachusetts and New Hampshire; Vital records for Greenland, Lancaster, Stratham, Suncook, Pembroke, Durnham families in New Hampshire; Hamilton, Danvers, Townsend, Wenham, Beverly, Haverhill families in Massachusetts; Bridgeton family in Maine; Vital records from Rye Plains, Essex, Line Brook, Newbury, Methuen, Georgetown, Boxford (Mass.), Charlestown (Boston, Mass.); Reading (Vt.)	Add
Ipswich Court records and files	Add
Newbury vital records, abstracts deaths ; Newbury, Massachusetts death certificates and registers of births, 1852-1882	Add
Newbury, Massachusetts birth records 1716-1830	Add
Newbury, Massachusetts births, 1831-1851 and Newburyport, Massachusetts births, 1740-1829	Add
Newbury, Massachusetts death records 1635-1882 and Newburyport, Massachusetts death records 1789-1863	Add
Newbury, Massachusetts marriage records, 1695-1900	Add
Records of births, marriages, intentions, and deaths, 1635-1915 Author: Newbury (Massachusetts). Town Clerk; Newbury (Massachusetts). Town Clerk	Add
Various vital records from Newbury and West Newbury, Massachusetts regarding allied Haseltine families	Add



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[PRINT](#) [Catalog Print List \(0\)](#)

Records of births, marriages, intentions, and deaths, 1635-1915

[Add to Print List](#)

Authors: [Newbury \(Massachusetts\). Town Clerk \(Main Author\)](#)
[Newbury \(Massachusetts\). Town Clerk \(Repository\)](#)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1971, 2006

Physical: 4 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Notes

Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records are available online, click [here](#).

Microfilm of records in the Town Hall, Newbury, Massachusetts.

[View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations](#)

Subjects

Locality Subjects

[United States, Massachusetts, Essex, Newbury - Vital records](#)

Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
Records (1635-1736) of marriage, intention, and death; birth records (1635-1832)	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor	886202	7009724	
Records of death (1732-1844), birth (1734-1745), marriages and intentions (1728-1819)	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor	886203	7009725	





Refine your search:

Deceased Ancestor's Information

First Names

John

Last Names

Poore

Alternate Name

Alternate First Name

Alternate Last Name

Search with a life event:

Birthplace

Birth Year (Range)

1642 1642

Marriage

Residence

Death

Any

Search with a relationship:

Spouse

Father

Mother

Other Person

Records

Collections

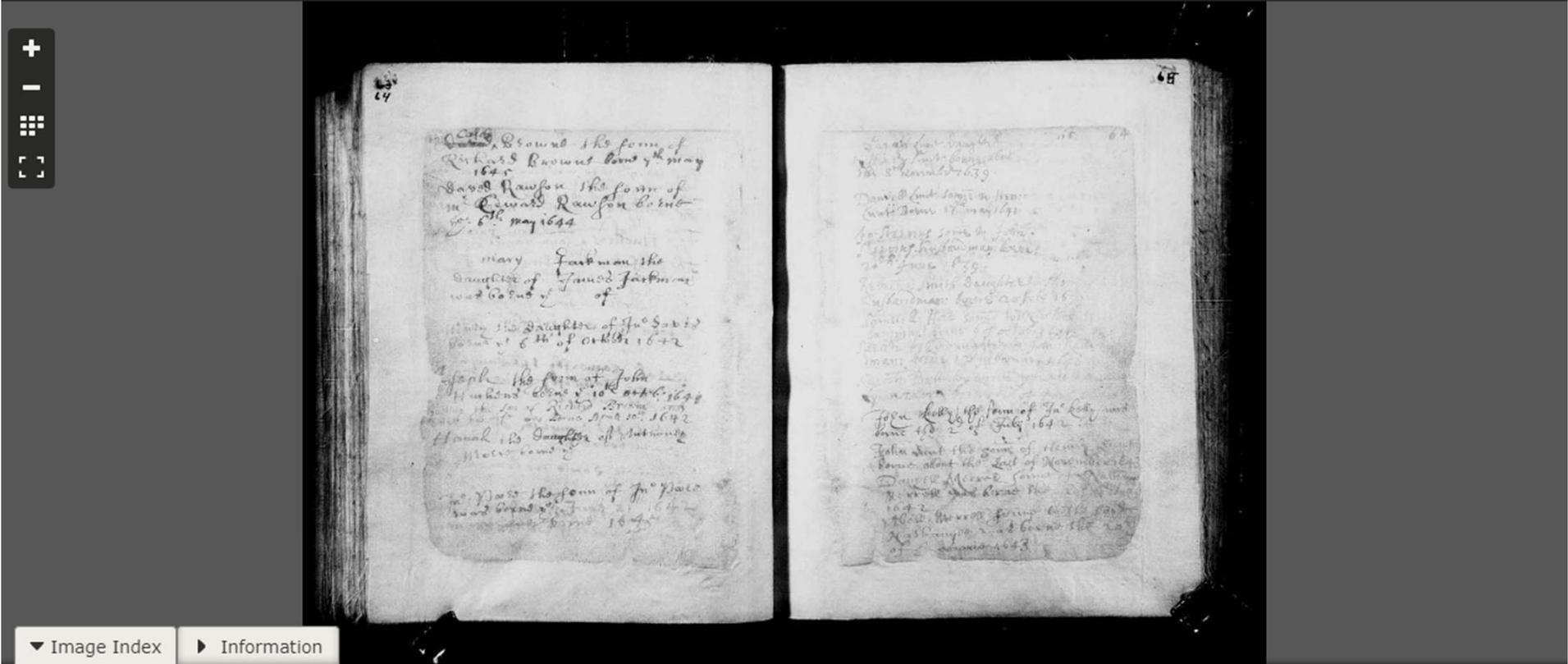
Search Results from Historical Records [Filter by collections](#)

1-20 of 45 Results for Name: **John Poore** Birth Year (Range): **1642 - 1642** Film Number: **7009724**

Number of results to show:

[Export Results 1-20](#)

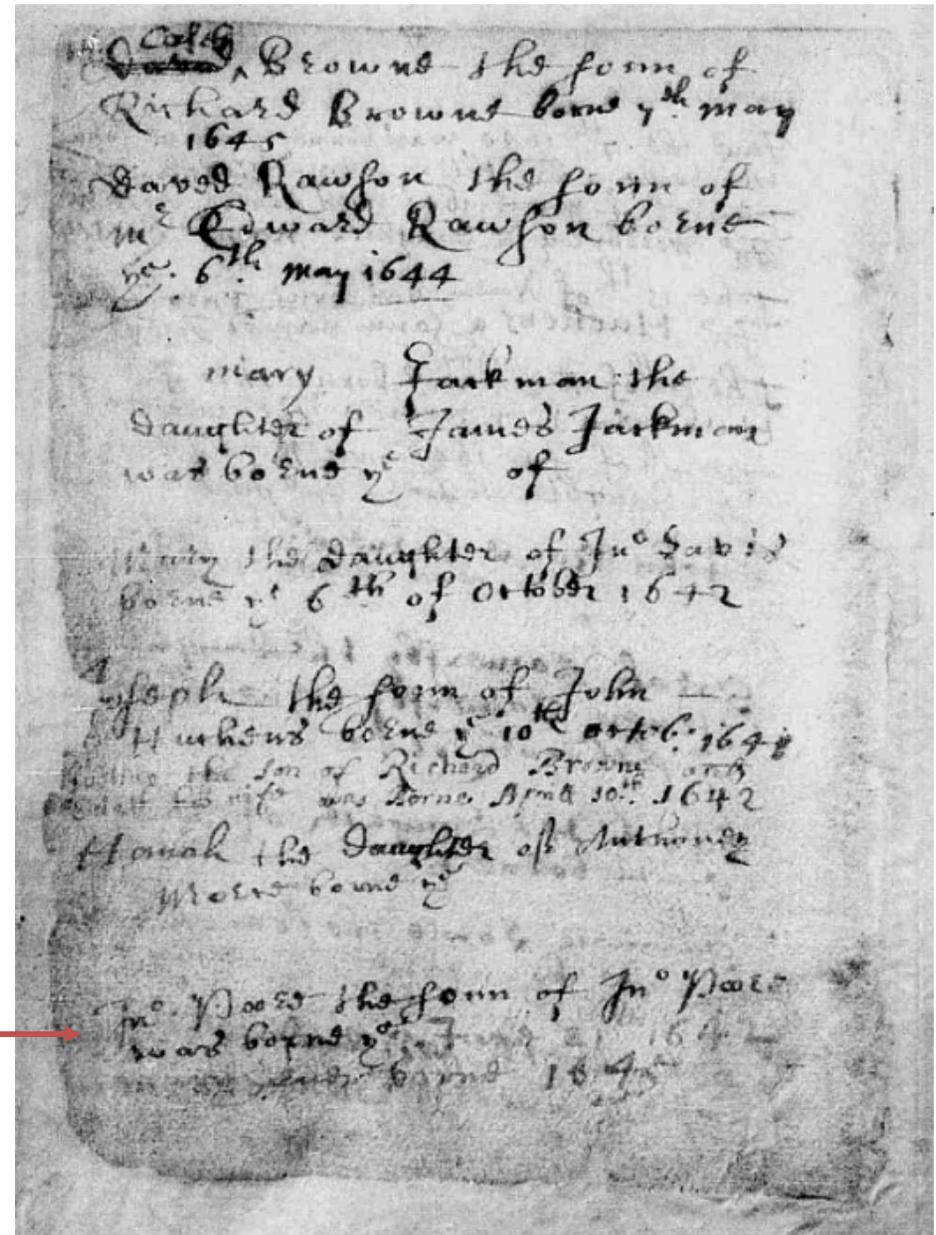
Name	Events	Relationships	View
John Poore Father Massachusetts Births and Christenings, 1639-1915		children: Edward Poore	
John Poore Father Massachusetts Births and Christenings, 1639-1915		children: Jonathan Poore	
Jno Poore Principal Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001	birth: 21 June 1642 Newbury, Essex, Massachusetts, United States		
John Poor Principal Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001	birth: 21 June 1642 Newbury, Essex, Massachusetts, United States		
John Poor Principal Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001	birth: 21 June 1642 Newbury, Essex, Massachusetts, United States		
John Poore Principal Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and	death: 4 October 1668 Newbury, Essex, Massachusetts, United States	father: John Poore	



	Name	Titles and Terms	Event Type	Event Date	Event Place	Residence Place	Sex	Age	Marital
	Jno Poore		Birth	21 Jun 1642	Newbury, Essex, Massachusetts, United States		Male		

FamilySearch.org

- POOR, Wendell, s. John, jr. and Hannah, at Reading, Dec. 27, 1799.
 William, s. Jonathan and Polly, Aug. 23, 1805.
 William, s. Jonathan and Elizabeth, Aug. 1, 1830.
 —, ch. Joseph, —, 1683.
 —, Sam[ue]ll and Hannah, bp. Dec. 9, 1716. c. r. 2.
 —, d. John, 3d and Lydia, Aug. 17, 1769.
 —, d. Capt. Jonathan and Sarah, July 17, 1775.
 —, s. Charles, bp. Mar. 27, 1828. c. r. 1.
 —, ch. Eliphelet, bp. May 11, 1834. c. r. 5.
- POORE** (see also Poor), Abigail, d. John, Mar. 26, 1660.
 Abigail, d. Henry, Sept. 9, 1680.
 Abigal, d. John, Aug. 5, 1661.
 Benjamin, s. Samuel, Feb. 22, 1666.
 Edward, s. Samuell, May 27, 1656. [May 22. cr. r.]
 Edward, s. John, Apr. —, 1658. [Apr. 5. cr. r. and S. dup.]
 Elizabeth, d. Samu[el], Jan. 20, 1658.
 Elizabeth, d. John, jr., July 26, 1674.
 Hanna, d. John, Mar. 25, 1649.
 Hannah, d. John, Oct. 14, 1645.
 Hannah, d. John, jr., Aug. 16, 1677.
 Henry, s. John, Dec. 13, 1650.
 Jeremiah, s. Henry, Jan. 10, 1683.
 John, s. John, June 21, 1642.
 [Jo. cr. r. and S. dup.]hn, s. John, jr., May 27, 1668.
 John [Jonathan. S. dup.], s. John, jr., Feb. 25, 1678.
 John, s. John, jr., June 26, 1683.
 Judith, d. John, jr., May 22, 1681.
 Lydia, d. [John. cr. r. and S. dup.], Dec. 5, 1656.
 Mary, d. Samuell, Mar. 21, 1650.
 Mary, d. John, Mar. 6, 1651.
 Mary, d. John, jr., Aug. 9, 1669.
 Mary, d. Samuell, Oct. 21, 1671.
 Rebecca, d. Samuel, Feb. 7, 1648.
 Rebecca, d. Samuell, jr., Jan. 18, 1680.
 Samuell, s. Samuell, Oct. 14, 1653.
 Sara, d. Samuel, June 4, 1664.
 Sara [Poer. S. dup.], d. John, Oct. 27, 1671.
- PORTER**, Abner W., s. John B. and Sophia, Apr. 16, 1836.
 David, s. John B. and Sophia, June 27, 1834.
 Jeremiah W., s. John B. and Sophia, Mar. 12, 1844.
 Mary Little, d. Moses and Judith, Aug. 23, 1810.



Published and Manuscript Source

Vital Record Pitfalls

- Not all VRs were recorded
- Events may have occurred in one town, but were recorded in another
- Don't assume that if you can't find a VR, that the event must have happened in a different town
- Event may not have been recorded at all

Tip:

Can't find a VR?
Use substitute sources!

Church Records

- Baptisms, deaths, and burials
- Admissions of church members
- Disciplinary records
- Letters of dismissal



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HARVARD THEOLOGICAL STUDIES XXV

AN INVENTORY OF
THE RECORDS OF THE
PARTICULAR
(CONGREGATIONAL)
CHURCHES OF MASSACHUSETTS
GATHERED 1620-1805

HAROLD FIELD WORTHLEY



CAMBRIDGE
HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS
LONDON: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
1970

1 / 1

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BOSTON, Third (C).

The church was gathered by persons seceding from Boston's First Church on May 12, 1669; its Society was organized in 1735. The church was incorporated as the Old South Church on March 26, 1845; the Old South Society was incorporated in 1859.

Ministers: Thomas Thacher (inst. 1669/70; d. 1678)
 Samuel Willard (inst. 1678; d. 1707)
 Ebenezer Pemberton (ord. 1700; d. 1717/18)
 Joseph Sewall, D.D. (ord. 1713; d. 1769)
 Thomas Prince (ord. 1718; d. 1758)
 Alexander Cumming (inst. 1761; d. 1763)
 Samuel Blair, D.D. (inst. 1766; dism. 1769; d. 1818)
 John Bacon (ord. 1771; dism. 1775; d. 1820)
 John Hunt (ord. 1771; d. 1775)
 Joseph Eckley, D.D. (ord. 1779; d. 1811)

Ruling elder: Deacon Edward Raynsford¹ (e. 1669; ord. 1669/70; d. 1680)

Deacons: Deacon Jacob Eliot (e. 1669; ord. 1669/70; d. 1693)
 Peter Bracket (e. 1669; ord. 1669/70; d. 1688)
 Capt. Theophilus Frarye (e. 1684 ?; ord. 1685; d. 1700)
 Nathaniel Williams² (e. 1693; d. 1714)
 Capt. James Hill (e. 1693; d. 1720/21)
 Capt. Samuel Checkley (e. 1693; refused; e. 1700-1703; d. 1738)
 Bartholomew Green (e. 1719; d. 1732)
 Daniel Henchman (e. 1719; d. 1761)
 Jonathan Simpson (e. 1733; d. 1763)

1. Raynsford was summarily dismissed from the diaconate of Boston's First Church in 1668/69 for his opposition to the settlement over that church of Rev. John Davenport, as was Deacon Jacob Eliot.

2. Described as "Captain" by Sewall, "Diary," cited in Hamilton A. Hill, History of the Old South Church (Third Church) Boston 1669-1884 (Boston and New York, 1890), II, p. 296. Apparently Williams received the title some time before 1694, but after election to the diaconate.

CR I - "Old South Church." 1669-1766. The back of the book contains records of the church-and-congregation (the Society); see SR I below.⁴

CR I COPY - "Records of O.S. Church Copy of First Volume." (Flyleaf: "The Records of the Old South Church, in Boston. A copy of the first volume, comprising from 1669 to 1766. Containing also, the first Records of the Church and Congregation, being from 1735 to 1767. 1858.") Copy of CR I - SR I, made in 1858.

CR II - "Church Minutes." 1768-1816.

CR II COPY - "Record O.S. Church Copy of Second Volume." (Flyleaf: "Records of the Old South Church in Boston Volume 2. 1768 to 1816. Copied from the original volume 1860.") Copy made in 1860.

CR III - "Old South Church Records." 1817-1854.

CR I - II - III INDEX - "Index to Records. Vols. 1. 2. 3." (Flyleaf: "Index A to the First three volumes of the Records of Old South Church in Boston.") Topical index, undated.

CR IV - "Records" (binding title), "Old South Church" (cover title). 1855-1888.

CR V - "Old South Church." 1888-1907.

CR PUB - Hamilton A. Hill. History of the Old South Church (Third Church) Boston 1669-1884. Boston and New York, 1890. Two vols.

In first volume, "Preface," v-vi, Hill notes that his History contains a complete publication of all church records and society records through 1821, and excerpts therefrom, 1821-1884. It should be noted however that Hill occasionally omits naming the subjects of disciplinary proceedings, and that he omits the vital statistics which were published elsewhere in 1883 (cf. VS PUB).

VS BAP I - "Old South Church." Baptisms, 1669-1875; some minor lacunae.

1. Some miscellaneous marriage records were published by Jeremiah Colburn, "Marriages in Boston, Mass. from the Original Certificates of the Clergymen Officiating," NEHGR, XXXIV (1880), 94-96 (covers 1702, 1742-1743).



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Boston, Mass. Old South Church

Collection History

The Old South Church originated when twenty-eight members of the First Church in Boston separated in 1669 to found the Third Church of Boston. These separatists disagreed with the minister's insistence that adults must have "a regeneration experience of God" before their own children could be baptized. These members instead believed that childhood baptisms assured young adults they were full members and could baptize their children, a belief consistent with the Half-way Covenant.

In 1670, the congregation met for the first time in a building known as the Cedar Meetinghouse, which soon became known as South Church due to its location in the south end of town. The "Old" moniker was added in 1717 to distinguish the church from a newly-formed New South congregation. Prominent members of the Old South congregation included Benjamin Franklin, who was baptized at Old South in 1706, Phillis Wheatley, the renowned black female poet, and writer Elizabeth Vergoose, better known as Mother Goose for her nursery rhymes.

During the Unitarian Movement of the early 19th century, Old South was the sole Congregational church in Boston to adhere to the doctrine of Trinitarianism. In 1816 Old South Church joined with Park Street Church to form the City Mission Society, a social justice mission



CongregationalLibrary.org



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Other Catalogs to Consider:

OCLC WorldCat

WorldCat is the world's largest network of library content and services. WorldCat libraries are dedicated to providing access to their resources on the web, where most people start their search for information.

ArchiveGrid

ArchiveGrid is a collection

FamilySearch.org

Church minutes, 1840-1876	Add
Author: Bowdoin Square Baptist Church of Christ (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1630-1847	Add
Author: First Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1636-1845	Add
Author: First Church (Dorchester, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1665-1879	Add
Author: First Baptist Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1669-1875	Add
Author: Old South Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1676-1816	Add
Author: Second Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1703-1844	Add
Author: Kings Chapel (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1714-1799	Add
Author: New Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1722-1776	Add
Author: New Brick Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1723-1851	Add
Author: Christ Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1723-1917 [Boston, Massachusetts]	Add
Author: Christ Church (Boston, Massachusetts : Episcopal)	
Church records, 1732-1887	Add
Author: Hollis Street Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1737-1896	Add
Author: Trinity Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1742-1787	Add
Author: Second Baptist Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	
Church records, 1769-1881	Add
Author: Baldwin Place Baptist Church (Boston, Massachusetts)	

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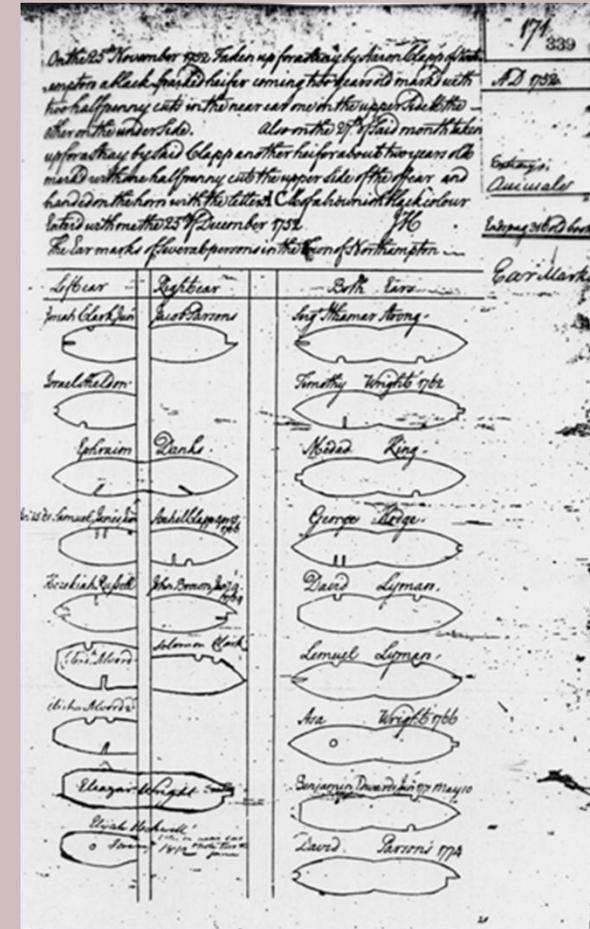
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- Germany (2)
- Ireland (2)
- Northern Ireland (2)

			Attleboro, MA: Church Records of Old Town Church, Attleboro First Church, 1740-1856
			Boston, MA: Church Records, 1630-1895
			Attleboro, MA: Church Records of the Second Congregational Church, 1748-1851
			Killingly, CT: Church Records, 1711-1775
			Preston, CT: First Congregational Church Records, 1698-1898
			Germany: Baden, Church Book Duplicates, 1810-1869
			Italy: Waldensian Evangelical Church Records, 1693-1941
			South Africa: Dutch Reformed Church Registers, 1660-1970
			Hartford, CT: Historical Catalogue of the First Church, 1633-1885
			Milford, CT: Records of the First Church, 1640-1829

AmericanAncestors.org

Town Records

- Comprised of many different types of records: town meeting, selectmen's records, tax rolls, proprietors' records, cattle marks, warnings out, pauper records, etc.
- Ann Lainhart's *Digging for Genealogical Treasure in New England Town Records* (1996)



Why are town records important?

- They are one of the most underutilized resource from 17th to 19th century Town Clerks
- Offer clues to when an ancestor arrived in a town and often when they leave
- Learn about town offices your ancestor held and military service
- Valuable resource for female ancestors

Where are they located?

- Often not indexed and occasionally in print
- Local town & city clerk's offices, or historical societies have originals
- Some have been imaged on microfilm or digitally from the FHL Library

Freeman Lists

- Lists establish date of residence
- Free of indenture
- Church membership required prior to freemanship in Massachusetts Bay
- Freemen were allowed to vote for colony officers
- Abstracted in Great Migration series

Colonial Freeman Lists

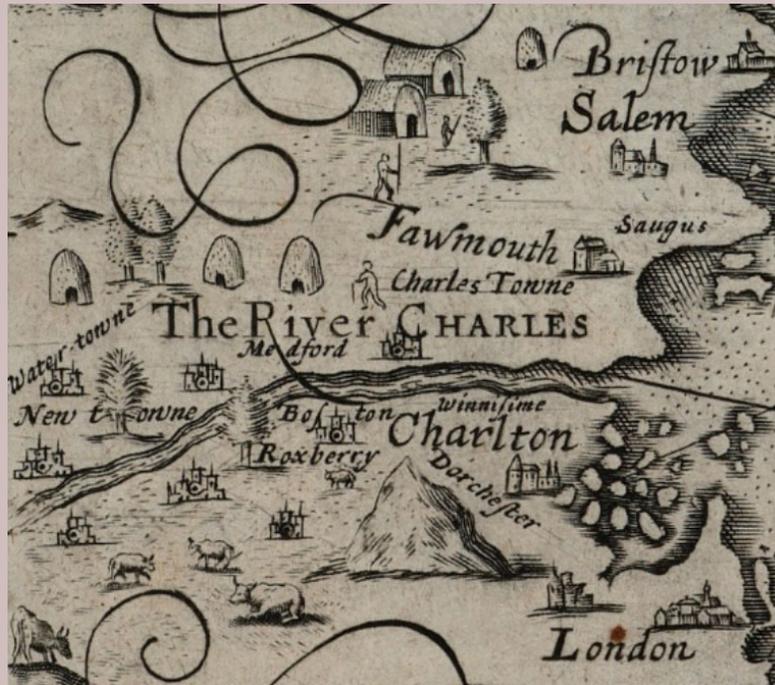
- Massachusetts Bay Colony
 - Records started May 19, 1631
 - Freeman admitted at the General Court
 - You had to be free and clear of indenture
 - You had to be a member of the Church
- Plymouth Colony
 - Part of Colony Court proceedings
 - Surviving lists are from: 1633, 1637, 1639, 1658, 1670, 1684

584	MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS.		
1669.	Jn ^o Roote, Tho: Farnum, Jn ^o Steephens, Jn ^o Fry, Steven Osgood, [*630.] Georg Abbat. W ^o Chandler, Andi. Andrew Foster, Jn ^o Maxwell, Lawrenc Willis, W ^o Greenough,	Benj: Gage. Jn ^o Bayly, Newb. Nath: Hancock. Jn ^o Bayly, of Rouley, Mathew Edwards. Jn ^o Keepe, Spr. Isack Graues, sworn, Henry Jacquish, Benj: Kelly, Jn ^o Hastings, Boaz Broune,	Ezek: Jewet, Antho: Austin, Jn ^o Kelly, Benja: Rolfe, Thomas Wiggim, *John Hastings, Ezekel Jewet, Antho: Austin, Benj: Gage, John Kelly, Benj: Rolfe.
1670.	*The names of such persons as were, by this Court, admitted to freedome, [11 May, 1670.]		
11 May. [*651.]	Chars.: M ^r Jn ^o Chickering, Daniel Edmonds, Tho: White, Abraham Smith, Sam: Peirce, Joseph Frost, Tho: Chadwell, Sollomon Phipps, Ju., Joseph Kettle, Sam: Kettle, W ^o Symonds. Woo.: Roger Kemicot, Tho: Green, Bill: Jn ^o Baldin, Samuell Maning, John Bracket,	Bost.: M ^r Jn ^o Oxenbridge, Henry Tompson, Adam Nicolls, Groton: M ^r Sam: Willard, W ^o Lakin, Mathyas Farnworth, Tho: Patch, Bev'ly: Henry Bayly, John Black, John Gally, Jn ^o Woodbery, Tho: West, Conc.: M ^r Peter Bulkley, John Haywood, Thomas Mason, North Hamp ^o : Tho: Bas- come,	W ^o Webster. Had.: Joseph Baldwin. Newb.: Joseph Plumer, Benj: Rolfe, John Poore, Jun., Franc Thurlo, Nicho: Batt, Job Pillsbury. Dov.: John Gerrish. W ^o Bartol. Dorc.: Benja: Leeds. Henry Haggit, Dani: Gott, W ^o Rayner, Jn ^o Batchiler, W ^o Fiske, John Abbye.
1670.	*The names of such persons as, by this Court, were admitted to be freemen, [11 October, 1670.]		
11 October. [*660.]	John Sandford, John Gipson,	John Warren, David Cop,	Samuel Worcester, Nicholas Wallington.
1671.	*Persons admitted by y ^e Court to the freedom of this colony [31 May, 1671.] were, —		
31 May. [*676.]	Giles Fyfeild, Charls. Ric: Asting, Tho: Hale, Nath: Frothingham,	Joseph Lynd, Abr: Smith, John Call, Sam: Frothingham,	M ^r Alexand ^r Nowell. Tho: Parkes, Camb. Jn ^o Tutle, Lyn. M ^r Josiah Flynt, Dorch.

List of Freemen Mass. Bay Colony

Pearce John ^o Jun. Pearley Allen Pearly John " Tho. Pearse Benjamin " Danl. " Robt Pease Henry " Jno. Peaseley Joseph Pebody Franc. " Jno. " Joseph " Wm. Peck Mr. Joseph " " Robert Pecocke Rich'd Peelsbury Wm. Peerce John Peirce Anthony " Daniell " John " " Joseph " " sen. " Math. " Nathaniel " Robert " Sam. " Samll " Tho. " Mr. Willm Peirse Tho. Peirson John " Sam. Pell Joseph " Willm Pelham Herbt " Mr. Willm Pellet Daniel " Thomas Pemberton Benjamin " James Pembrton James Pemerton John Pen James Pendleton Bryon Pencilley Jno. Penniman Jno. Peniman Jos. " Sam. Pennyman James Penticus John Pepper Rich. " Rob't Perkins, see Purkins and Perkis. " Abra. " Isaack " John " " John " Tho. junr " Mr. Tim. " Tobyau " Willm " Mr. William Perkis Joseph Perly Sam Perram John Perrun Jno. Perry Arthur " Isaack " John " Obadiab " Samuel " Seth Person John " Joseph Peters Mr. Hugh Pettingill, see Pattengell. Phileabrowne Tho. Phileabrowne Phelpes George	March 1637-8 July 22 1674 May 18 1642 Mar 22 1689-90 Oct 1690 May 23 1677 Apr 18 1690 May 27 1663 May 22 1650 Sept 3 1634 Apr 29 1668 June 22 1642 May 18 1642 May 27 1674 Oct 1690 July 21 1685 Mar 13 1638-9 Mar 13 1638-9 May 22 1639 Apr 29 1668 May 10 1648 Sept 3 1634 May 2 1638 May 18 1631 Apr 18 1690 July 9 1684 Apr 18 1690 Oct 31 1684 Oct 15 1673 May 18 1642 May 11 1670 May 7 1684 May 6 1635 Apr 1 1634 May 23 1666 May 26 1647 May 11 1681 Mar 14 1638-9 May 6 1635 May 1645 Oct 19 1630 Mar 22 1689-90 Mar 22 1689-90 May 15 1690 May 10 1648 Oct 19 1630 Apr 1 1634 Oct 19 1630 Sept 3 1634 Oct 12 1678 May 31 1671 May 8 1678 May 8 1678 May 6 1631-2 May 13 1640 Mar 4 1634-5 May 10 1643 May 13 1640 May 18 1642 May 18 1631 Apr 17 1637 July 21 1685 Mar 22 1689-90 July 21 1685 Sept 3 1634 Mar 22 1689-90 May 19 1669 Apr 18 1690 Mar 11 1689-90 May 13 1640 May 6 1631 May 4 1632-3 May 8 1678 Apr 18 1690 May 23 1696 May 30 1690 May 3 1676 Mar 3 1635-6 May 23 1666 Apr 29 1666 May 6 1635	Pemaquid Boxford Newbury Watertown Salem Topsfield Boxford Topsfield Newbury Woburn Woburn Woburn Boston Charlesto'n Woburn Dorchester Woburn Woburn Woburn Concord Boston Ipswich Brant. " " " " " " Topsfield " " Tpsf'd Chlmsf'd Roxbury Chlmsf'd Billerica Boston N'hampdon N'hampdon Cambridge " "	Phelps Willm Phelps, see Felpes. " Edward " Isack " William Phelph Nath. Phese Willi. Philbrick Tho. Phillips, see Fillips. " Eleazr " Tim. " Mr. George " " " " Henry " John " " " " Jno. " Rich. " Tho. " " " " Walter sen " Wm. Phippen Jos. " " Phippin David Phips Solomon Phipps Sol'm'n jun " Sr. William Pickard Jno. jun Pickering Jno. Pid Richd Pidg John Pierce, see Peerce and Peirce. " Tho. Pierpoint Jno. " Robt Pierson Jno. jun. Pigg Tho. Pike James " Jno. " Robert " Mr. Rob't jun Pilsbury, see Peelsbury. " Job " Moses Phillips John Pinchen Mr. Willi. Pinney, see Pynny. Pinney Tho. Pinoz Jno. Pitcher Andrew " Sam. Pitman Capt. Jno. " Tho. Pitts Edmo. Pitty Joseph " " Place Peter " Thom. Platt Samuel Plumer Frances " Joseph " Samu. Plumr Silvanus Plunton John Poget Tho. Pole Mr. John Pomrey Joshua Pomry Joseph Pond Danil " Robert Poore John junr. " Sam. Pope John " Joseph Porsune Bartho. Porter, see Poter. " Abell jun. " Edward " Hezekiah " Israel junr. " Mr. Israel " John	Oct 19 1630 Apr 18 1691 May 31 1671 May 30 1690 May 11 1681 May 10 1643 Apr 29 1668 Mar 22 1689-90 Mar 22 1689-90 Oct 19 1630 May 18 1631 Mar 13 1638-9 Aug 7 1632 July 13 1658 May 23 1677 May 8 1678 July 22 1674 July 22 1674 Apr 18 1690 July 22 1674 May 29 1644 May 19 1680 Mar 3 1635-6 May 18 1642 May 11 1670 May 16 1683 May 19 1669 June 22 1642 May 15 1690 Oct 10 1677 May 26 1652 Feb 25 1675-6 Oct 12 1681 May 14 1634 May 26 1647 Feb 21 1675-6 Apr 17 1637 Apr 18 1690 May 11 1670 May 7 1673 Oct 19 1630 Aug 2 1642 May 15 1672 May 24 1682 June 2 1641 Feb 7 1682-3 Apr 18 1690 May 16 1683 May 13 1640 May 19 1680 Oct 12 1681 May 6 1646 May 13 1640 July 9 1684 May 14 1634 May 11 1670 June 2 1641 May 30 1690 May 10 1643 May 26 1647 May 7 1673 M-y 19 1680 May 19 1680 May 15 1690 May 18 1642 May 11 1670 May 7 1673 Sept 3 1634 Apr 17 1637 Apr 18 1690 May 10 1648 May 15 1672 Apr 17 1637 May 30 1690 Sept 10 1684 Apr 18 1690 Nov 5 1633	Andover Westford N'hampdon N. Hamp. Hampton Charlston Charlston Charlsto'n Weymouth Pemaquid " " Salem VII. Pemaquid Lynn Charlsto'n Rowley Rowley Dedham Woburn Ipswich Rowley Salisbury Salisbury Newbury Newbury Gloucester Northfield Milton Salem VII. Marblehead Ipswich Weymouth Rowley Newbury Newbury Boston North Weymouth Dedham Newbury " " Salem VII. Boston Hadley " " Salem VII.
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Proprietors' Records



17th – 18th century

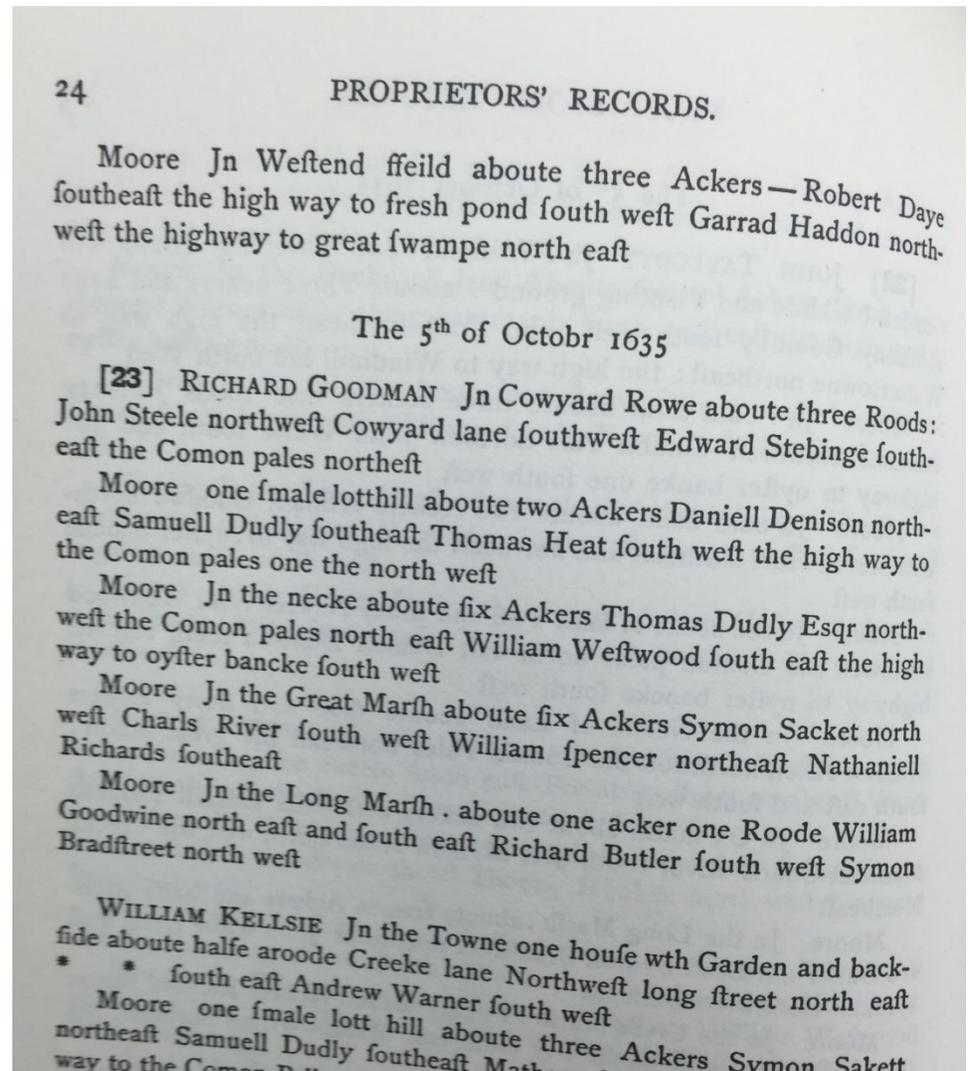
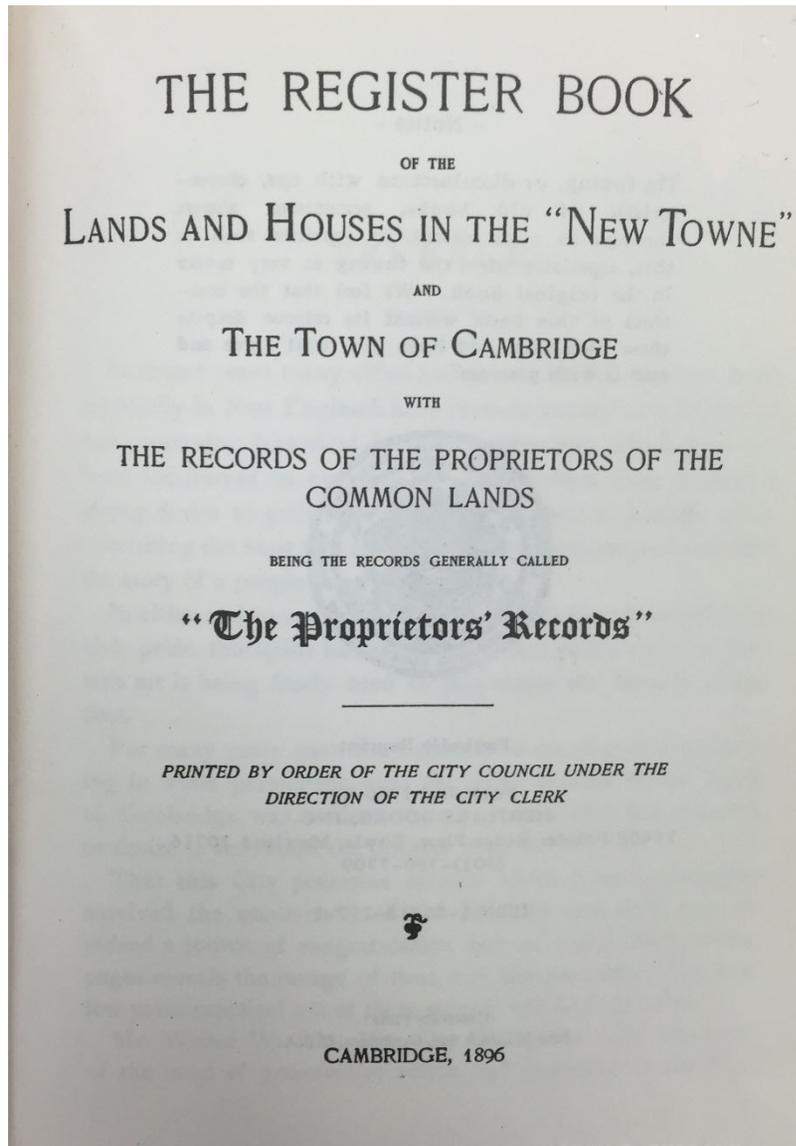
- General Court assigns grants of land to groups of settlers
- These settlers form Proprietorship Committees to distribute land to settle towns

Proprietors' Records

- Proprietors were responsible for the improvement of the land and were required to enlist settlers and newcomers, assigning lots, building highways, and subdividing land/meadow/forest
- Early record of community
- Can include land grants and early deeds

Where to locate Proprietor Records

- Town Halls: Town clerk, tax office or assessor
- County Registry of Deeds
- Libraries and local historical Societies
- FamilySearch.org microfilm and online
- Published transcriptions of Proprietor records



Cambridge, Mass Proprietors' Records

Massachusetts Land Deeds

- Organized by county
- Berkshire, Bristol, Essex, Middlesex, and Worcester have multiple deeds registries
- NEHGS has microfilm for some counties to 1800s or later
- For married male grantors, wife usually signs as well
- Usually lists occupations
- Barnstable County deeds burned in 1827 (only partially reconstructed)
- Be aware of changing county boundaries



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Records of deeds, 1639-1885; indexes to deeds, 1639-1920

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Authors: [Suffolk County \(Massachusetts\). Register of Deeds \(Main Author\)](#)
[Suffolk County \(Massachusetts\). Register of Deeds \(Repository\)](#)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1969

Physical: 1128 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

References: (Digital Collection) [Massachusetts, land records, 1620-1986](#)

Notes

Massachusetts, Land Records are available online, [click here.](#)

Microfilm of original records in the Registry of Deeds, Boston Massachusetts.

Includes indexes to grantors, 1639-1920; indexes to grantees, 1639-1920; and an index to persons other than grantors and grantees, 1639-1799.

[View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations](#)

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Film/Digital Notes (This family history center has 1128 of 1128 films/fiche.)

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
Index-Grantor A-By v. 1-4, 1639-1799	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579922	7453721	
Index-Grantor Ca-Dy v. 5-7, 1639-1799	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579923	7453722	
Index-Grantor Ea-Gy v. 8-9, 1639-1799	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579924	7453723	
Index-Grantor Ha-Ky v. 10-12 1639-1799	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579925	7453724	
Index-Grantor La-Ox v. 13-15 1639-1799	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579926	7453725	
Index-Grantor Pa-Ry v. 16-18 1639-1799	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579927	7453726	
Index-Grantor Sa-Us v. 19-21 1639-1799	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579928	7453727	
Index-Grantor Va-Zu v. 22-23 1639-1799	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579929	7453728	
Index-Grantor A-Al v. 1-4, 1800-1899	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579930	7453729	
Index-Grantor Al-Az v. 5-8, 1800-1899	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579931	7453730	
Index-Grantor B-Bar v. 9-12 1800-1899	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579932	7453731	
Index-Grantor Bar-Bea v. 13-16 1800-1899	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	579933	7453732	

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These witnesses the day of my death my heirs Executors and Administrators shall have full satisfaction for the above mentioned Money and interest that shall become due on the above said Bond according to the tenor hereof and according to the tenor of the said Deed of Bargain and Sell and also the Bond shall be void and of none effect in default thereof shall stand firm and abide in full force power and value in witness whereof the said Stephen Greenleaf and Mary his wife in token of their free consent and full Relinquishment of their Right of Power and Child in the before granted Demises have hereunto set their Hands and Seals the Day and Year above written
 Stephen Greenleaf and a Seal Mary Greenleaf and a Seal
 Signed sealed Delivered in presence of Jacob Hurd Anne Culler. Suffolk Boston October 5. 1722. Mr Stephen Greenleaf
 Many his wife personally appearing acknowledged the foregoing Instrument to be their Act and Deed before me Joshua Winslow Just Peace. January 17 1722 Record according by Entree
 Exam. J. Ozek. Goldthwait Reg^r

Stephen Greenleaf for myself my Heirs Executors and Administrators Do hereby Covenant Promise and Agree from Time to Time and at all Times forever hereafter to WARRANT Secure and Defend the said granted and bargained Demises with the Appurtenances unto the said James Bowdoin his Heirs and Assigns forever against the Lawfull Claims and Demands of all and every Person Persons whomsoever Provided always and these Presents upon condition nevertheless any thing beforewritten to the contrary notwithstanding that if the said Stephen Greenleaf his Heirs Executors or Administrators shall and do well and truly say or cause to be paid unto the above named James Bowdoin his Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns the Principal Money and Interest that shall become due on the above said Bond according to the tenor hereof and meaning thereof and according to the tenor hereof admitted and all without any Fraud Cover or other Delay then the above written Deed of Bargain and Sell and also the Bond shall be void and of none effect in default thereof shall stand firm and abide in full force power and value in witness whereof the said Stephen Greenleaf and Mary his wife in token of their free consent and full Relinquishment of their Right of Power and Child in the before granted Demises have hereunto set their Hands and Seals the Day and Year above written
 Stephen Greenleaf and a Seal Mary Greenleaf and a Seal
 Signed sealed Delivered in presence of Jacob Hurd Anne Culler. Suffolk Boston October 5. 1722. Mr Stephen Greenleaf
 Many his wife personally appearing acknowledged the foregoing Instrument to be their Act and Deed before me Joshua Winslow Just Peace. January 17 1722 Record according by Entree
 Exam. J. Ozek. Goldthwait Reg^r

21
 Jenner

To all People to whom these Presents... shall come having Knowledge That I Thomas Jenner of that County in the County of Middlesex and Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Esquire Son and in Consideration of the Sum of Seven Hundred and Seventy two Pounds 10/10/00 to me in hand before the Enacting hereof will and truly said by Edward Hutchinson and James Bowdoin both of Boston in the County of Suffolk in New England aforesaid Esquire the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge and myself therewith fully satisfied and contented and thereof and of every Part and Parcel thereof Do Exonerate Acquit and Discharge them the said Edward Hutchinson and James Bowdoin their Heirs Executors and Administrators forever by these Presents Have given granted bargained sold Aliened conveyed and confirmed the said twenty four lots and parcels of Land to me and my Heirs and Assigns forever the said Edward Hutchinson and James Bowdoin their Heirs and Assigns forever Moreover Piece or Parcel of Land being a Popwalk now in the Improvement of Thomas Hawding Situate lying and being in the Northwesterly part of Boston aforesaid and Northerly of Beacon Hill being Ruled & Bounded as followeth Viz Southwesterly on the Land of John Wheelwright measuring there twenty four feet Northwesterly on Land of Nicholas Buttolph measuring there Six hundred & Forty feet being the whole Length of said Lot let it be longer or shorter Northeasterly... on Cambridge Street there... measuring twenty four feet bounded Southerly on Sunday Lane Lot laid Out and belonging to the Heirs of Abigail Peckham and there measuring the whole Length of said Lot which is Six hundred & Forty feet more or less together with the House and Lot Over it and all the Posts Posts Gates

Massachusetts Probate Records

- Proof of death (between date of will and probate)
- Family relationships, widow, legatees
 - Personal bequests
- Financial status, land ownership
- Be sure to confirm the accuracy and completeness of published records

Published Abstract

Mayflower Descendant, 5:238

[GOVERNOR THOMAS HINCKLEY'S WILL.]

[II : 192²] In the Name of God Amen
The 16th of october 1700 I Thomas Hinkley Barnstable
in y^e County of Barnstable in his Mag^{ties} province of y^e Massa-
thusetts bay In new England tho under some bodyly weakness
& Infirmityes yet throw y^e Great Goodness of God of disposing
mind & memory Calling to mind the uncertainty of this transi-
tory life and that all flesh must yeild not only to y^e decays
of nature but allso to death it self whensoever it shall please
God to send it and being desirous to be in a readiness for y^e
same as in greater and higher respect & Cheifest Concerns
so also in setting things in order respecting my temporall estate
(according to my duty) as those I leave behind me may with
peace & quietness Endeavor to serve God and one another
in love i do theirfore by these presents make ordeyn & declare
this to be my last will & testament herby revoking & adnulling



Probate Indexes

Massachusetts Probate Files Papers AmericanAncestors.org

- Barnstable 1685-1789
- Bristol 1686-1880
- Essex 1638-1881
- Hampshire 1660-1889
- Middlesex 1648-1871
- Plymouth 1686-1881
- Suffolk 1630-1841 *
- Other counties available for later years

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<p>John WINTHROP </p> <p>Suffolk County, MA: Probate File Papers</p> <p>Court, Land and Probate Records</p> <p>View Image</p>	<p>PROBATE : 1649 RECORD</p> <p>LOCATION : Suffolk, Massachusetts, United States</p> <p>CASE TYPE : inventory</p>	



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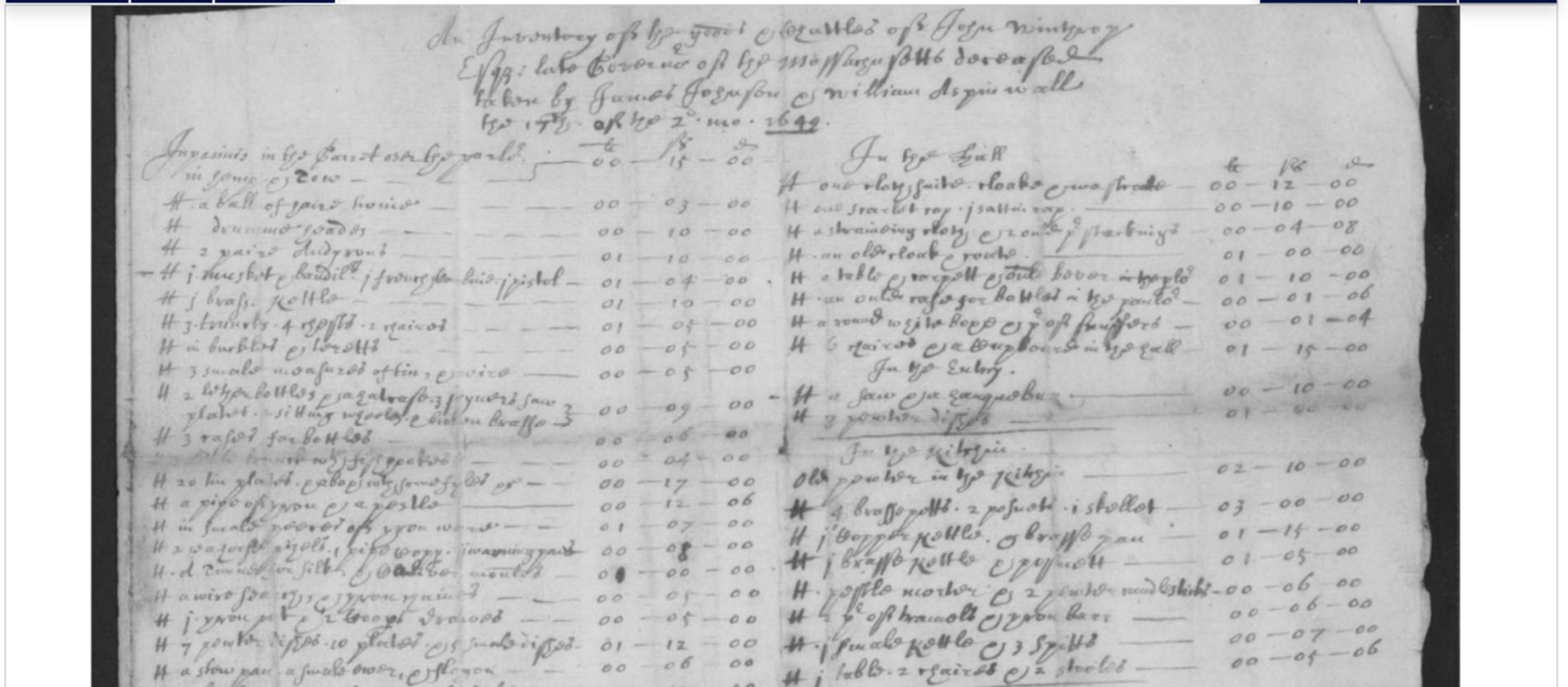
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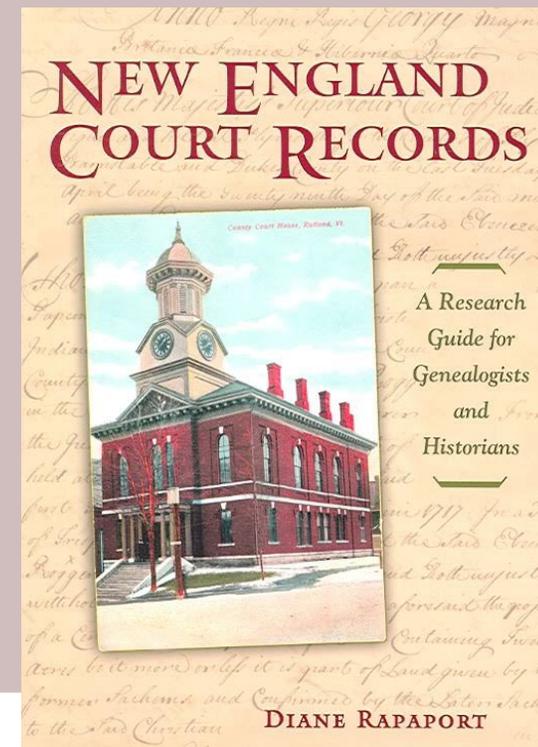
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Court Records

- Criminal activity by or against an ancestor
 - Infractions against town or colony rules
- Civil actions by or against ancestor
 - Property, real, animal
 - Relations with neighbors
 - Social and financial status
- Few images available; FHL Microfilm



Criminal Abstracts

Essex County Quarterly Court

provisions, to be severely whipped. |

Guido Baly* admonished for beating his wife. ‡

Thomas Tuck* fined for drunkenness and common tippling. §

John Peach sr * fined 20s for giving Trustrum Dolliver oppro

Plymouth County court – Warning Out

Constable Edward Hobbs of Bridgewater reported that by warrant from Brantree selectmen Nicholas Byram, Joseph Hayward and David Perkins he warned Samuel Gurney "an inhabitant of the Town of Brantree now being at the house of Goodman Bayley Intending to Reside there," to depart the town of Brantree, 1 March 1698.

Civil Abstracts

Plymouth County, Common Pleas

2. Thomas Macomber v. Ephraim Wood, "alias Atwood," Case, for spoiling a pair of cart wheels which deft. was hired to repair. Deft. pleaded that "he did the Work to the Utmost of his Capacity, as well as the Streeks and Wheels...would bear." Jury verdict for pltf., £3 and costs, taxed at £4.13s.3d. Appealed by deft. [No further record.]
3. Gershom Ewell v. Joseph Green. Debt, on bill for £3. Deft. pleaded not indebted. Jury verdict for deft., costs, taxed at [blank]. Appealed by pltf. [No further record.]
4. Thomas Jenkins v. Humphrey Turner. Debt, on bill. Default by deft. Judgment for £4.3s. and £1.15s.5d. costs.

Divorce Records

- 1639-92 – county courts, General Court, Court of Assistants (40 known cases)
- 1692-1786 – Governor & Council (229 cases at Judicial Archives at Mass. State Archives)

Massachusetts Archives Collection 1629–1799

- 328 volumes about early Massachusetts history (also called the Felt Collection)
- Access the collection at the Massachusetts Archive or browse on [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org)
- Some of the volumes pertaining to the 17th century:
 - Volume 9: Domestic Relations, 1643-1774
 - Volume 10: Ecclesiastical, 1637-1679
 - Volume 11: Ecclesiastical, 1679-1739
 - Volume 15A: Emigrants, 1651-1774
 - Volume 30: Indian, 1603-1705
 - Volume 112: Towns, 1632-1693
 - Volume 113: Towns, 1693-1729
 - Volume 303: Petitions, 1659-1786

FamilySearch Family Tree Search Memories Indexing Activities

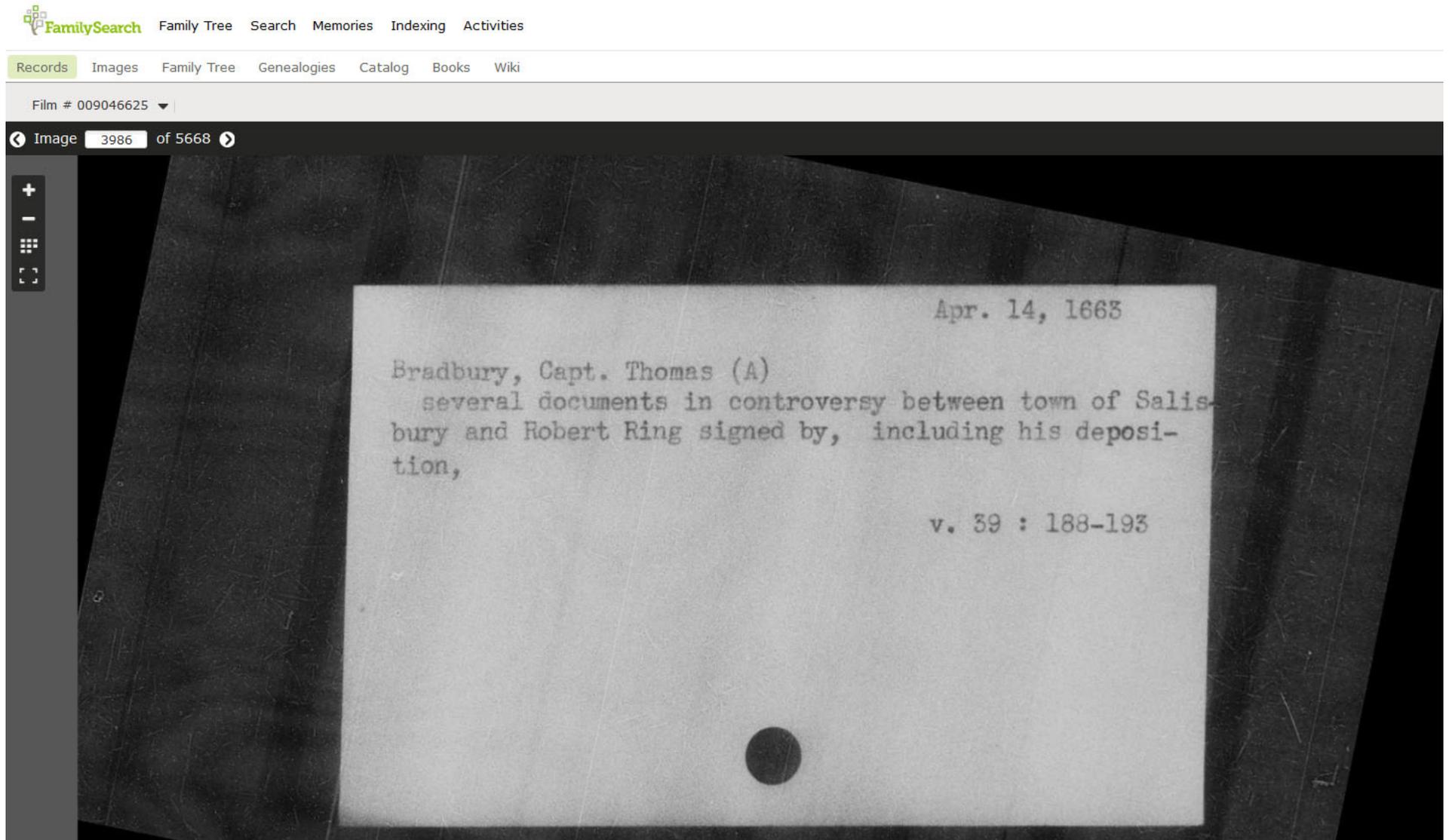
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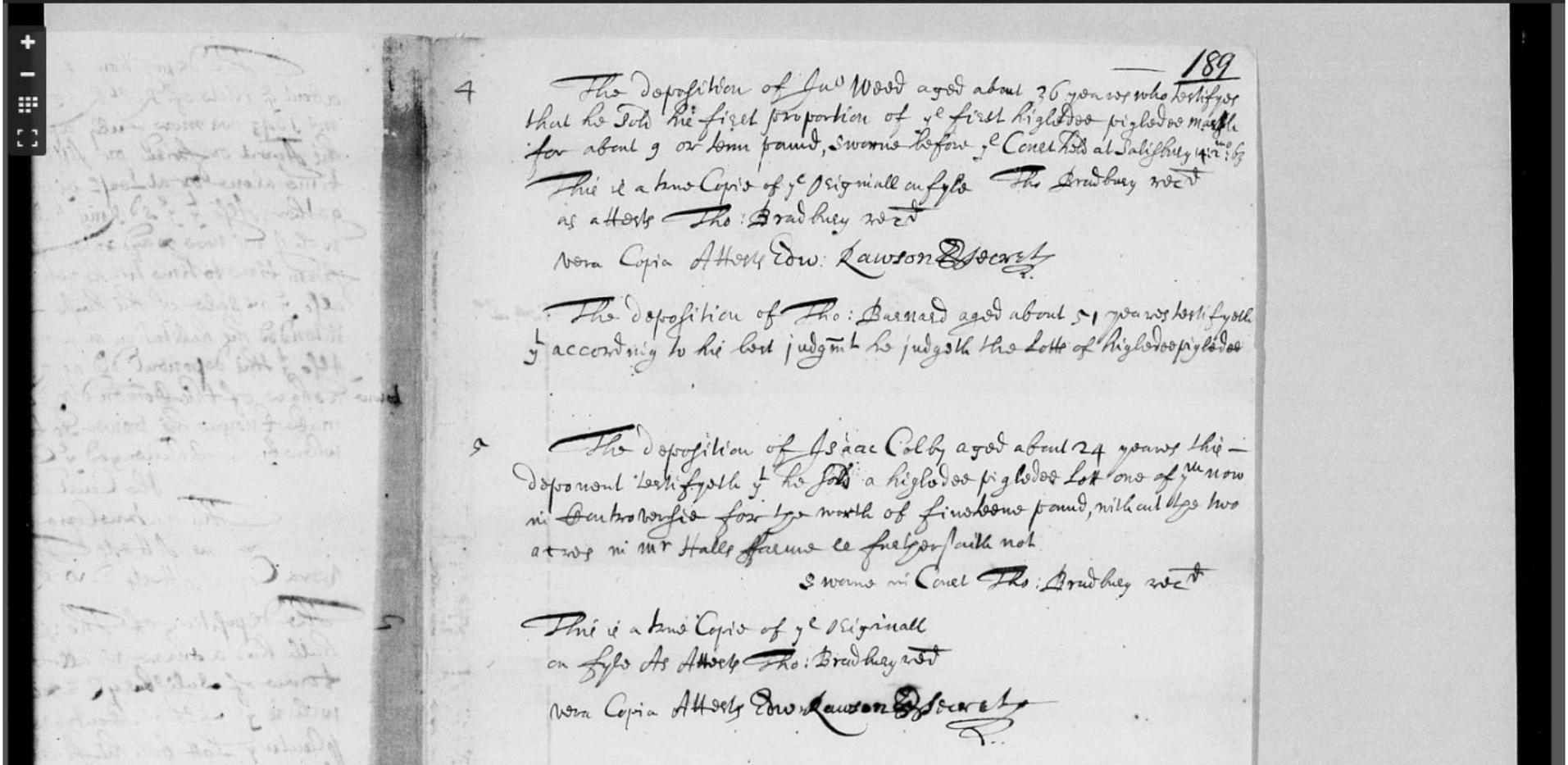
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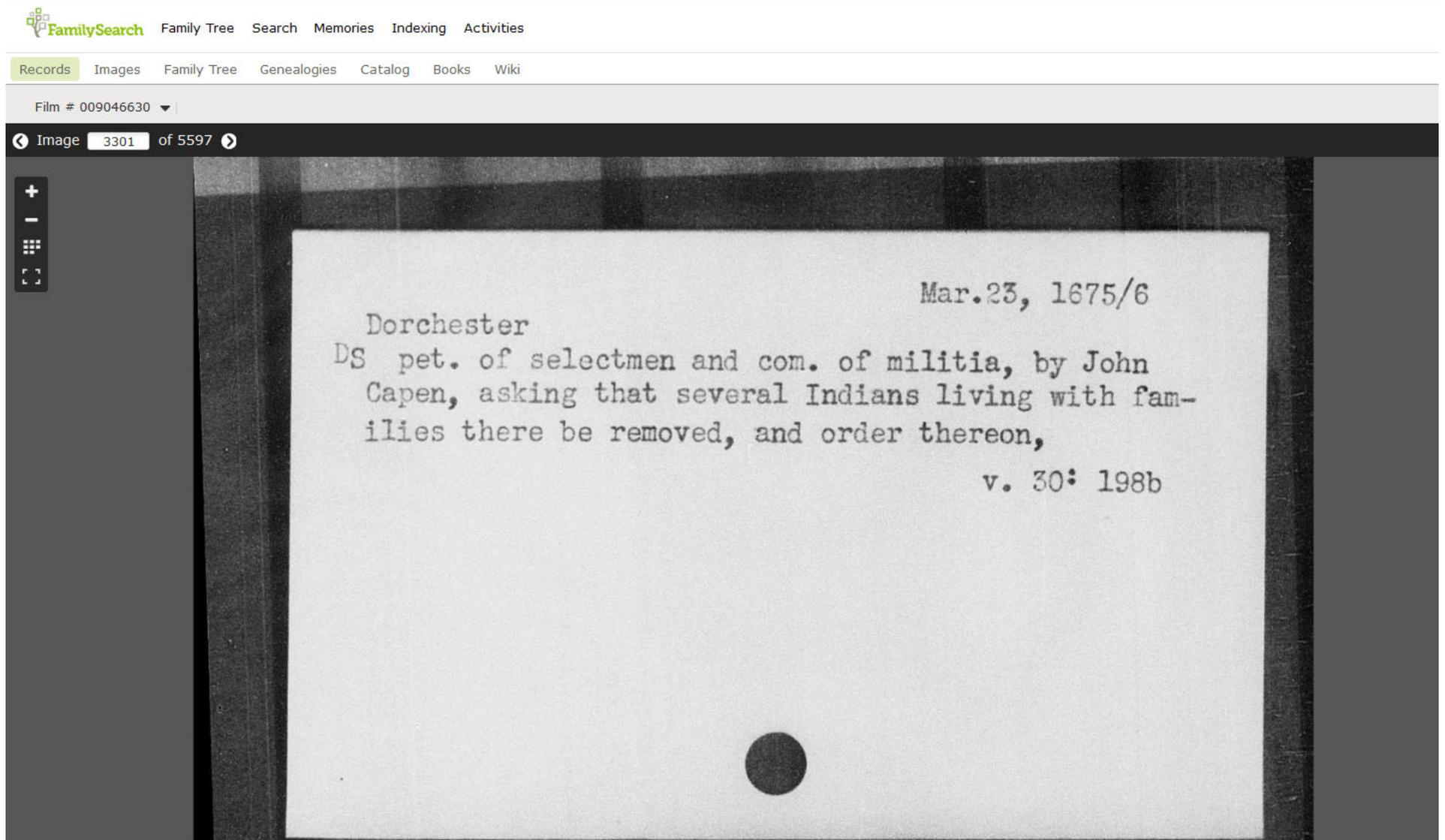
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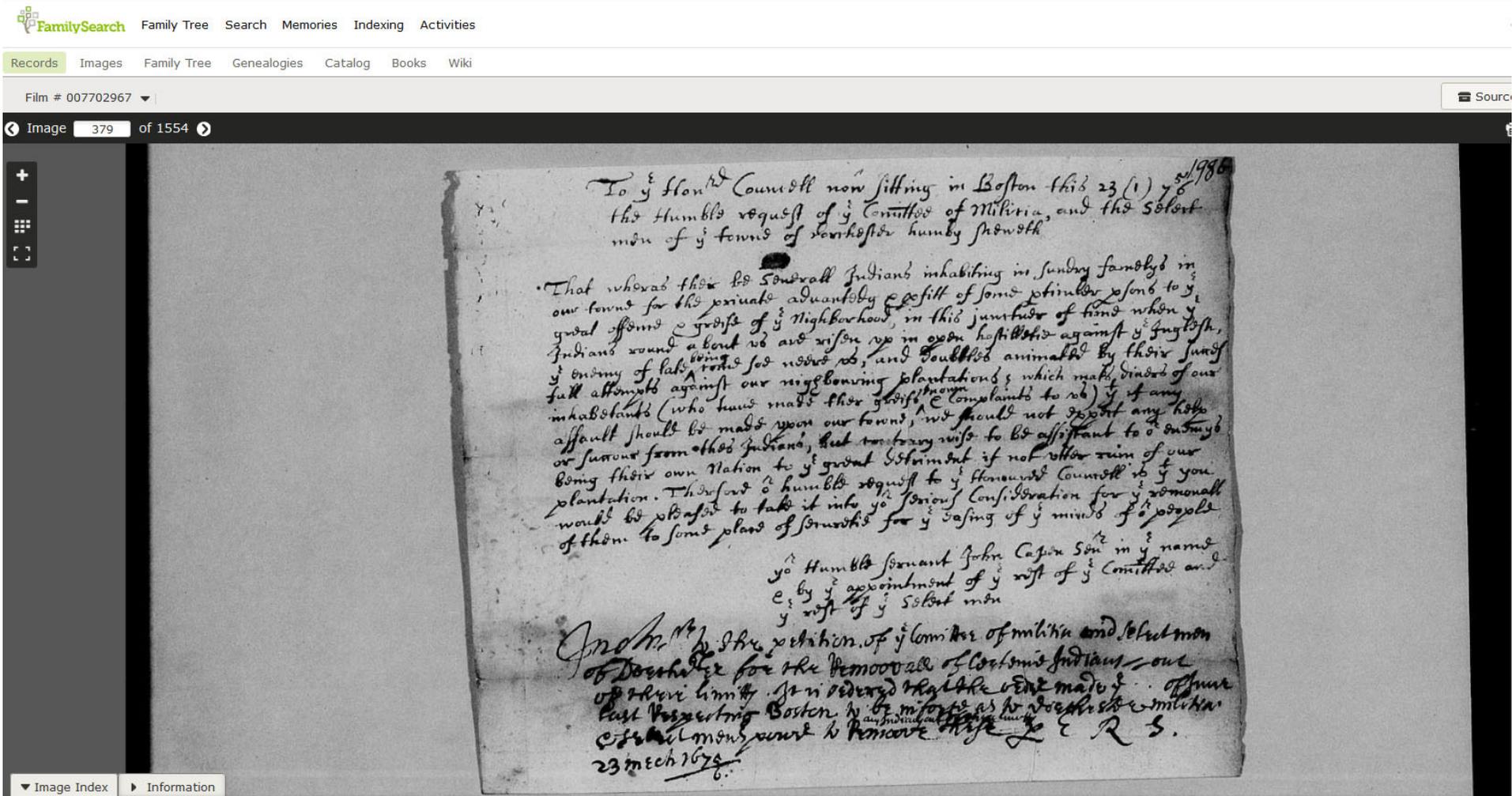


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Military Records

- Few details for 17th century muster rolls
 - Mostly Colony records, originals at State Archives
 - Town records – local militia
- Military history chapters appear in many published town histories



Soldiers in King Philip's War

George Madison Bodge
with a foreword by David Allen Lambert



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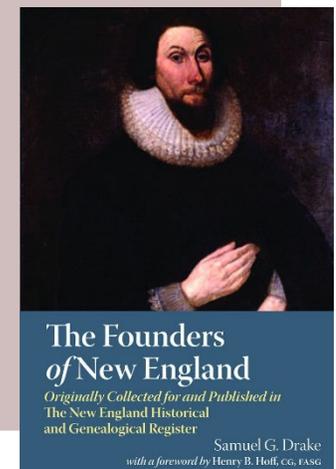
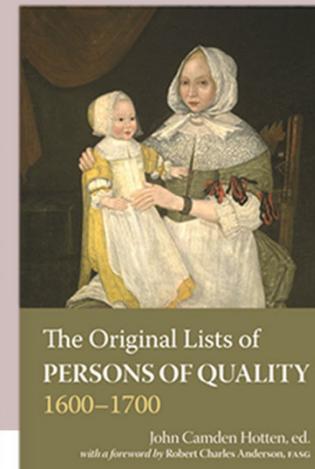
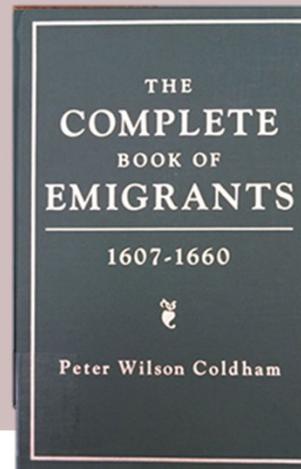
Marlborough the 1. of October 1675

At A meeting of the inhabitants in order to take care for the safety of our town
 these following proposals were agreed upon and voluntarily chosen that in case of
 Salt these places here After mentioned should be defended by the persons that are expressed
 by name that is in:

<p>of the town soldiers: 2 or soldiers allowed to the town</p>	<p>William Farley's house John How senior Thomas Hga John Wetherbe John Fay Joseph Wait John Mainard Thomas Marton Thomas Graft John Bergham</p>	<p>for John Johnsons house: 9: and of the town soldiers: 3 or soldiers allowed the town</p> <p>for Doan's woods house of the town soldiers - 3 - his own family 3 Abraham Hall William Bay for Gersham Gagnon Samuel Ward</p>
<p>of the town soldiers - 2-6 of the Newtown or soldiers allowed to the town</p>	<p>for Samuel woods his house John woods junior James woods George woods</p>	<p>for Abraham Williams his house of the town soldiers - 3 - or soldiers allowed to the town</p> <p>Richard Barnes John Piddat senior John Piddat Junior Samuel Bergham John Pook</p>
		<p>for Thomas Piers house of the town soldiers - 2 - or soldiers allowed to the town</p>

Earliest Passenger Lists to Mass.

- *Mayflower* from Bradford's account 30 years later
- *Fortune* (1621), *Anne* and *Little James* (1623) from land records
- Surviving London port book 1632 and 1635
- Post-1636 very limited
- Rely on published sources



THE list of the Names of passengers intended to ship themselves in the *Bevis*, of Hampton, of Cl. Tounes, ROBERT BATTEN, M^r, for New England, and thus by virtue of the Lord Treasurer's Warrant of the second of May, which was after the restraynt, and they some days gone to sea before the King's Mat^{es} proclamacon unto Suthton.

- Ages—JOHN FREY, of Basing, his wife,
 05—and 3 children.
 40—RICHARD AUSTIN, tayler of Bishopstoke.
 05—his wife and 2 children.

-
- 37—CHRISTOPHER BATT, of Sarum, Tanner. }
 32—ANN, his wife. }
 20—DOROTHIE BATT, there sister, and 5 children.
 10 and under—under 10 years.
 24—THOMAS HODD }
 22—ELIZA BLACKSTON } servants.
 18—REBECCA POND }
-

- Ages.
 26—HENERY BYLEY, of Sarum, tanner.
 22—MARY BYLEY.
 THOMAS REEVES, servant.
 20—JOHN BYLEY.
 4—RICHARD PUND, of Newengland.
 35—ALICE DUM^r.*
 19—THO. DUM^r.
 19—JOANE DUM^r.
 10—JANE DUM^r.
 29—STEPHEN DUM^r, husbandman.
 06—DOROTHY DUM^r.
 04—RICHARD DUM^r.
 02—THOMAS DUM^r.
 30—JOHN HUCHINSON, Carpenter }
 26—FRANCES ALCOCKS, Virg. }
 19—ADAM MOLL, tayler..... }
 22—WILL. WACKFEILD }
 20—NATHANIEL PARKER, of London, Baker, }
 18—SAMUEL POORE } Servants.
 14—DANYELL POORE }
 20—ALCE POORE }
 15—RICHARD BAYLEY }
 20—ANNE WACKFEILD }

Hotten's, *Persons of Quality* (1880)

The list of the names of passengers intended to ship themselves, in the *Bois de Hampton* of Lt. Comdr. Robert Batten M^{rs} for New England; And also by virtue of the Letters Warrant of the Council of May. 17th 1733 after the return they some days gone to sea before the King's Majesty's Parliament came into Scotland

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<p><i>Ages.</i></p> <p>05 — John Grey of Basing walewite. his wife & three children.</p> <p>40 — Richard Nuttin Taylor of Bishopstoke. his wife & two children.</p> <p>05 — Robert Knight his servant Carpenter: 3.</p> <hr/> <p>37 — Christopher Batt of Sarum Cambr. } 32 — Anne his wife. }</p> <p>20 — Dorothy Batt there sister. & five children under some years.</p> <p>24 — Thomas Good }</p> <p>22 — Eliza Bartlett } sorb^{ts}</p> <p>18 — Roberta Spore }</p> <hr/> <p>62 — William Carpenter }</p> <p>33 — William Carpenter of Torwell Carpenter }</p> <p>32 — Abigail Carpenter }</p> <p>10 & under & four children. }</p> <p>14 — Tho: Baulthall Sorb^t.</p> <hr/> <p>38 — Annis Littlefield & six children }</p> <p>John Knight Carpenter: 2 }</p> <p>Lough Dundal } sorb^{ts}</p> <hr/> <p>26 — Henry Byley of Sarum Cambr. }</p> <p>22 — Mary Byley }</p> <p>Tho: Reeves Sorb^{ts}.</p> <hr/> <p>20 — John Byley</p>	<p><i>Ages</i></p> <p>Richard Bunt of New England.</p> <p>35 Mrs. Dunn</p> <p>19 Tho: Dunn</p> <p>19 Joane Dunn</p> <p>10 Jane Dunn</p> <p>09 Stephen Dunn husbandman</p> <p>06 Dorothy Dunn</p> <p>04 Richard Dunn</p> <p>02 Tho: Dunn.</p> <hr/> <p>30 John Lymbinson Carpenter</p> <p>26 Francis Albrooke wright</p> <p>19 Adam Moll Taylor</p> <p>22 Will: Marks fork.</p> <p>20 Nathaniel Spore of London Barber. } sorb^{ts}</p> <p>18 Samuel Spore }</p> <p>14 David Spore }</p> <p>20 Thos Spore }</p> <p>15 Richard Bayley }</p> <p>20 Anne W. Taylor }</p>
---	--



See numb of the passengers above mentioned, but Sir John's one Foulst,

For: *Comptroler* Cust. *Shodwell* (over)

D. Dinotey Compt^r

Strategies

Common Challenges

- Distinguishing between people of the same name in the same community
- Determining parentage when multiple marriages are involved
- Finding women's maiden names
- Origins

General Considerations and Suggestions

- You may not find one “smoking-gun” record; you may need to rely on a number of records to build a case
- Some records may be less reliable than others
- May have several working theories
- Know when your town was established and if there are any parent/daughter towns that would affect record keeping

General Considerations and Suggestions

- Create a complete timeline with probate, land records, military, or any possible record
- While not culturally consistent, some families used naming patterns
 - Surnames as first names or less common first names can be clues of earlier kinships and origins
- Do not assume a woman's name at marriage is her maiden name; could be a first married name

And keep in mind . . .

- Terms of kinship may have different meanings in 17th-century Massachusetts:
 - Nephew and nieces may be referred to as “cousins”
 - Sometimes “brother” or “sister” can be indications of brothers and sisters within a faith
 - “Father” and “Mother” could refer to in-laws
- Use of “Jr” and “Sr” don’t necessarily mean kinship

Summary

- Don't rely on just one record set
- Don't reinvent the wheel - look at published sources in combination with originals
- Keep up with scholarly publications
- More and more records are being indexed and digitized everyday



THANK YOU!

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NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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