

# Knowing the Neighbors

*How Neighbors Can Help Solve  
Genealogical Mysteries*

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®  
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



# Reasons to Research Neighbors

- Provide clues about migration patterns and earlier origins
- Inform us of our ancestor's immigrant origins
- Supply missing information about our ancestors
- Help us trace women and may reveal maiden names

# What sources identify neighbors?



# Maps



Georgetown, Sussex, Delaware, 1868

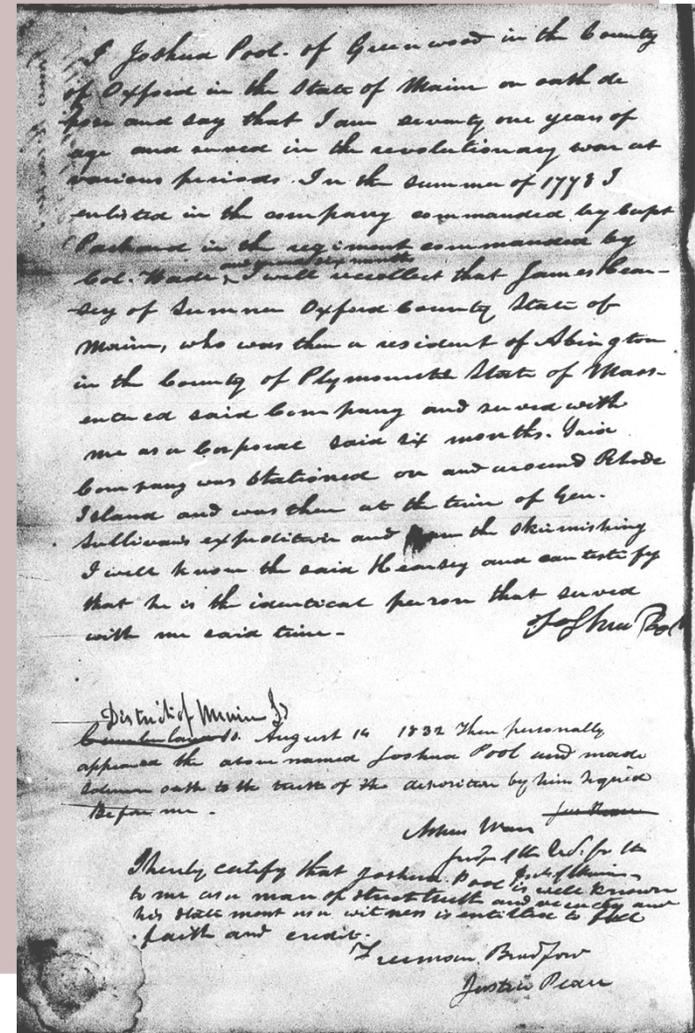
# Sources

- Census records
- City Directories
- Land records
- Maps
- Atlases
- Tax records
- Newspapers
- Societies
- Town records
- Military pensions
- Court records
- Probate records
- Vital records
- Diaries
- Cemeteries
- Church records

# Military Pensions

- Affidavits of fellow soldiers can provide place of birth or place of enlistment
- Additional detail about military service

James Hearsey Rev. War pension,  
Sumner, Maine



Tip

# Search Pensions on Fold3

fold3 by ancestry
+ Create ?

Filter ▾
Clear All Search  Browse

PLACE: United States of America
CONFLICT/WAR: US Revolutionary War
TITLE: US Revolutionary War
TITLE: US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900

Q

"Hearsey" Keywords


---

"Hearsey" Name


---

"Hearsey" Place

Showing 1 - 20 of 249K+ results Sort: Relevance ▾ Any Time ▾  OCR

PLACE	RESULTS	DETAILS
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">United States of America</span> 240K+</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">Canada</span> 36</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">Ireland</span> 36</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">United Kingdom</span> 22</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">Australia</span> 20</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">Uganda</span> 7</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"><a href="#">SEE ALL</a></p>	<p><b>US, Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 180...</b>  <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">NARA M804. Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files.  <a href="#">Search within this publication</a></span></p> <p><span style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">PUBLICATION</span></p> <p><b>Aaron, Copeland</b>  <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900 ▾</span></p> <p><span style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">MULTI-IMAGE FILE</span></p> <p><b>Aaron, Gray</b>  <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900 ▾                      12 pages</span></p> <p><span style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">MULTI-IMAGE FILE</span></p> <p><b>Aaron, William</b>  <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900 ▾                      41 pages</span></p> <p><span style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">MULTI-IMAGE FILE</span></p> <p><b>Aarons, Abraham</b>  <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900 ▾                      20 pages</span></p> <p><span style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">MULTI-IMAGE FILE</span></p> <p><b>Abbe, Eleazur</b>  <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900 ▾                      6 pages</span></p> <p><span style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">MULTI-IMAGE FILE</span></p>	<p>Records: 10,391,154                      Complete: 99%</p> <p>Location: <span style="background-color: yellow;">United States of America</span></p> <p>Conflict: <span style="background-color: yellow;">US Revolutionary War</span></p> <hr/> <p>State: South Carolina                      Service: S.C.                      Pension Number: R. 2,308</p> <hr/> <p>State: Massachusetts                      Service: Continental Mass.                      Pension Number: S. 37,030</p> <hr/> <p>State: Virginia                      Service: Va.                      Pension Number: W. 10287</p> <hr/> <p>State: Virginia                      Service: Va.                      Pension Number: S. 30. 813</p> <hr/> <p>State: Connecticut                      Service: Conn.                      Pension Number: B. L. Wt. 267-100</p>

Tutorials

# Fold3.com

fold3 by ancestry

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?
☰

NAME: james hearsey
PLACE: United States of America
CONFLICT/WAR: US Revolutionary War
TITLE: US Revolutionary War

[Clear All](#)

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Filter
People, Records, Places, Dates, or Service Number...

Add a Date
Add a Place

Showing 1 - 20 of 36 results
Sort: Relevance
Any Time
OCR

<p><b>PLACE</b></p> <p>Countries US States</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> United States of America 36</p>	<p><b>CONFLICT/WAR</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> US Revolutionary War 36</p>	<p><b>TITLE COLLECTION</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> US Revolutionary War 36</p>
<p><b>BRANCH</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> US Army 36</p>	<p><b>PUBLICATION NAME</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900 36</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> US, Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783 6</p>	<p><b>PUBLICATION TYPE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Applications 36</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Military 36</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pensions 36</p>

**Goff, William**

US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900

18 pages

MULTI-IMAGE FILE

State: Massachusetts

Service: Mass.

Pension Number: W. 25,503

- James Hersey
- James Hearsey
- James L Edwards

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**Nash, Jonathan**

US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900

24 pages

MULTI-IMAGE FILE

State: Massachusetts

Service: Mass.

Pension Number: S. 31,273

- James Robinson
- James Hearsey
- James Hersey

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**Hearsey, James**

US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900

39 pages

MULTI-IMAGE FILE

State: Massachusetts

Service: Mass.

Pension Number: S. 31121

- James Hearsey
- James Keen
- James Hersey

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**Crafts, Samuel**

US, Revolutionary War Pensions, 1800-1900

16 pages

MULTI-IMAGE FILE

State: Massachusetts

Service: Mass.

Pension Number: S. 28695

- James Gooch
- James Hearsey

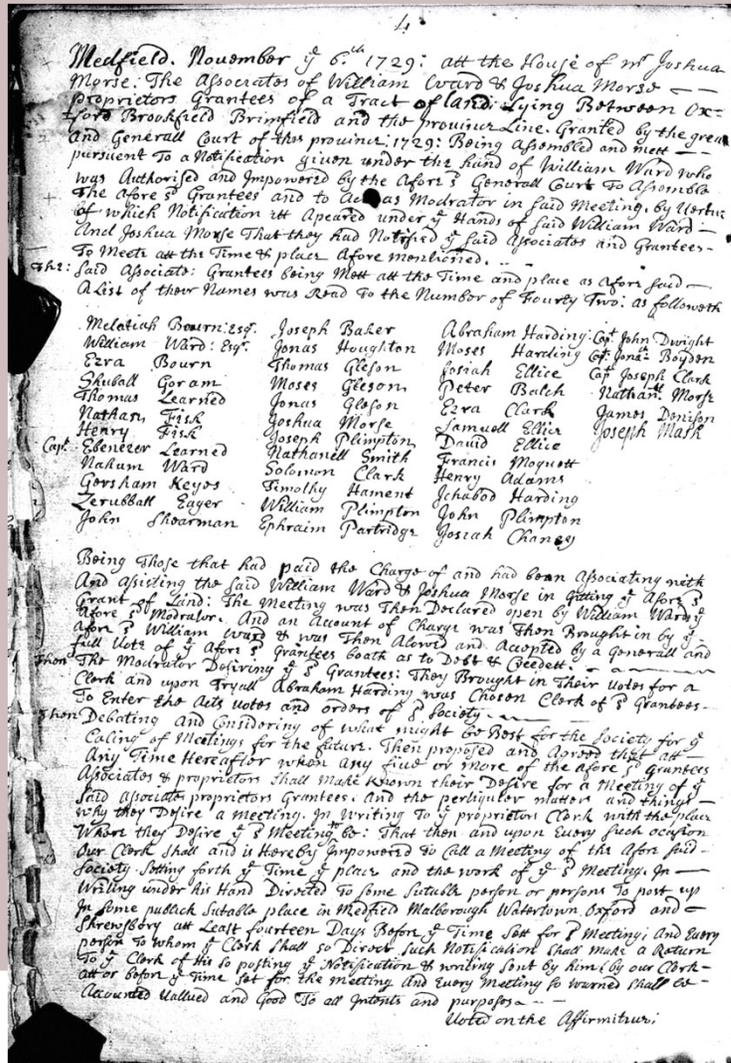
[Tutorials](#)

Fold3.com

# James Hearsey Affidavits

- Served with Jacob Beal in Captain Joseph Trefant's Company - Stationed at Hull
- Stationed with Jonathan Nash at Roxbury in 1775
- Stationed with Jonathan Bates at Hull
- Served with Joshua Poole in Captain Packard's Company

# Town Records: Land Grants



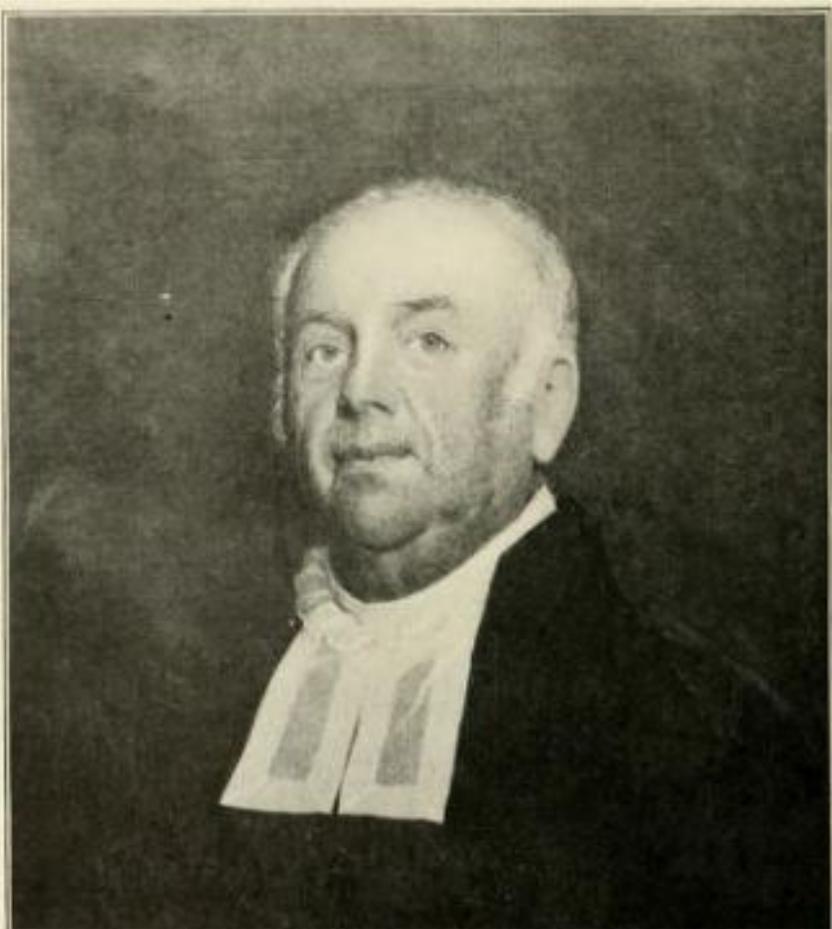
- Can appear in early town records
- New communities
- May reveal a migration pattern

Sturbridge, Mass. Town Records, 1729

# Diaries and Day Books

- Diaries and Day Books can reveal information about the greater community
- Birth, death, and marriage information
- Biographical information
- Movements of neighbors
- Notable events

# Rev. William Bentley



- Born in Boston in 1759
- Graduated from Harvard in 1777
- Pastor of the East Church in Salem, 1783-1819
- Prolific diarist

1785] REV. WILLIAM BENTLEY 19

Mr. Ross, out. Wife and one child. d.  
 Rich. Dyton, out. Wife, no child.  
 Tea & Evening at Chever's James, Wife. 2 children. d.  
 22. Visited Newhall & Hilliard. morn'g.  
*To drink Tea at Lamberts junr Sunday.*  
 Tea at Gunnison's, engaged to be at *Harringtons on Wednesday.*  
 23. died John Hilliard. æt. 33. of Consumption.  
 24. Sunday. Notes for Martha Hodgdon, sick & Brother at Sea. Hannah Bushnel, for Sisters death & Br at Sea. Hannah Archer. death of dr. Foot & fr. at Sea. Mary Whitford.\* death of sister, & fr. at Sea. [12] Nath. Phippen, for safe delivery. I Newhall sick, & son at Sea.  
 25. died Benja Brown, æt. 52, of rheumatism.  
 26. Newhall died.  
 27. Set off for Cambridge.  
 28. Went to Boston, heard at the lectures one Pitman, pres at Providence, Mr. Everet of Dorchester & Mr Skillman, & much preferred the latter. Found political disputes high. Eng to assist my Brother Thomas by advancing within six months for him, which he has borrowed at the premium of a dollr month, & to assist him in his rent which is also 15£.  
 29. returned, & found spots of Snow on the hills bet Boston & Salem.  
 April 30. Engaged at home.  
 May 1, 1785. Sunday. Notes for prayers. David Hilliard, d of his son. Hannah, for d: of Husband Brown & son abroad. Mary, for d: of Husb: Newhall, & Son at Sea. W. Ropes for dery.  
 2. Received of Hazlet, 6 Priestley's Appeal & 6 Views. 6 logues, of Feskwick. 3. Friendly Dialogues bet. Athan. & I Gave 2 Dial: to Col. Carleton.  
 — 1 Ap: 1 View. & 2 Dial: to Mr Watson.  
 — 1 Dial: to Capt White.  
 — 1 App: 1 View. & 1 Dial: to Capt Joseph White.  
 — 1 App: 1 View. & 1 Dial: to Capt Stone.  
 — 1 App. 1 View. to Capt Ward.  
 — 1 App. 1 View. to Capt Fiske.  
 reserved to lend, bound in one volume, a copy of each Pamphlet. Received as a personal present a Volume of Hints & Essays by a Layman & An Appeal to Common Sense.  
 Visited Mr Harrington, wife, one Daughter.  
 — Widow M. Batten, two child. one male.  
 — Mr Seward, not at home, three daughters.  
 — Saml Murray, Wife, five child. 4 males.

\*The name Whitford was formerly Whitefoot, a translation of Biancpied. The family came from the Island of Jersey. At Marblehead the name became Blampsey.

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 25. died Benja Brown, æt. 52, of rheumatism. ←  
 26. Newhall died. ←  
 27. Set off for Cambridge.

## Diary of Rev. William Bentley, 1785

1814]

WILLIAM BENTLEY, D. D.

259

Governour has ordered two brass field pieces & ammunition. Our M[ajor] Gen. has returned from Court & has been upon the height & this night a detachment of the Light Infantry will be upon guard. A body of seamen has passed for Lake Ontario from Portsmouth in carriages. We have from every quarter the most violent threatenings of the British, & the Bulwark, 74, off our port, has announced to some prisoners that the British Government should not any longer admit the lenient mode of warfare, it at first adopted. Much stress is laid upon internal divisions both at home & abroad.

12. Sunday. Notes. Wid. Elsey Ropes, wid. of Daniel, death of her only son Daniel. She was a Chever. The son went on the Montgomery privateer, & was taken April, 1813, & carried to Halifax & thence transported in Sept. last to England & died 9 Feb. at Chatham. He was a youth, aet. 19, of good hopes. Friends at sea. She has one d. married, Upton. Christopher Babbidge & children. He has one son & five daughters left with him, death of his eldest son Christopher, a prisoner from one of the prizes of the Polly as prize master, aet. 21, sent to Halifax & thence to England. Died at Chatham, 19 Jan. last. He addressed a Miss Gerard of the neighbourhood born of foreign parents for whom prayers asked. In looking over the bill of Marriages I find them 457, about 15 to a year.

13. News has reached us of the destruction of Vessels in Sandy Bay, Cape Ann, & of the entire destruction of all the vessels in Scituate. Beverly is not a solitary example. In consequence we have a line of posts along shore from Gloucester to Marblehead. This is a specimen of the evil threatened us for some persons have been treated without mercy or decency. In Beverly, they have a town meeting recommending a guard. The same in Gloucester. In Boston, they have agreed to celebrate the downfall of the French Emperour, & have obtained leave to illuminate the State House on the Occasion. Did I not know the leaders in Boston, I should suppose all this outrage might originate there. Two of the leaders are from Salem, one young Col. Pickman & the other Attorney Putnam, neither of them leaders.

14. Notice was sent me that the Cartel was to sail for Halifax by Mr. Miller, British Agent, & I wrote a letter to Capt. Crowninshield, a prisoner there. Mr. C. has been highly particular for his indulgence to the prisoners & they make high demands upon him. It is probable his consequence will outweigh their gratitude. If gratitude & policy were in the same persons, perhaps not. .... Woodman, formerly of Salem, who has four sisters married in Salem, in town from Poultney, Vermont. He could give us no history. He is a potter & is down to purchase materials for glazing his ware. He is in search of manganese in this quarter. He learnt his trade in Braintree, removed to Connecticut, & thence to Poult-

1814]

WILLIAM BENTLEY, D. D.

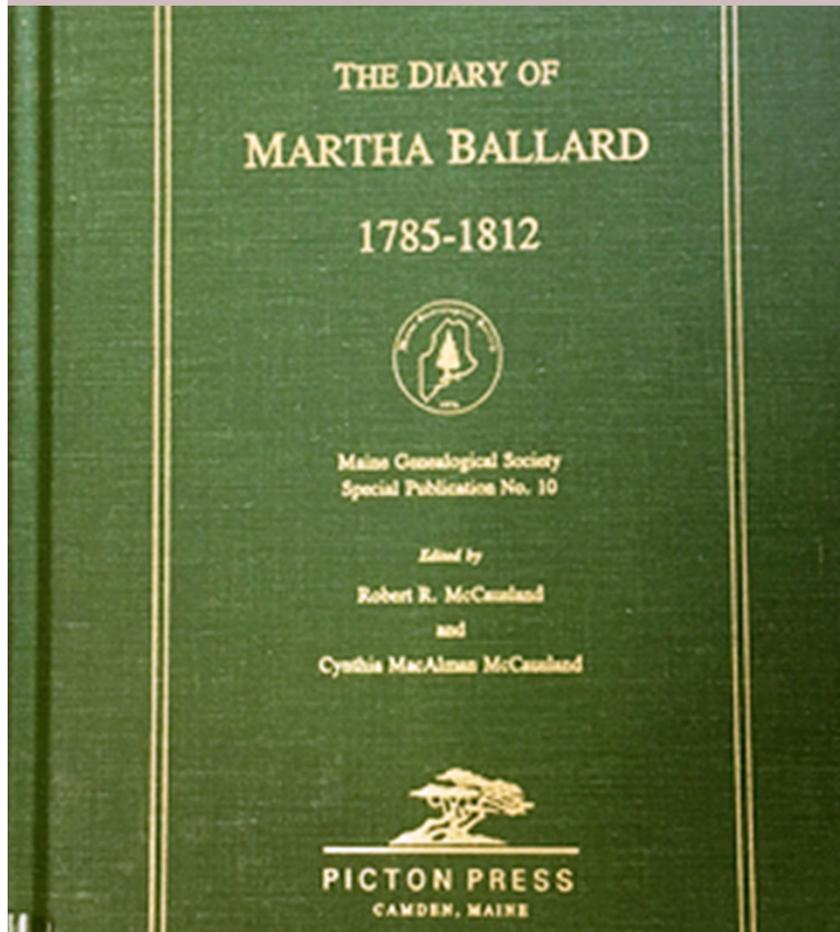
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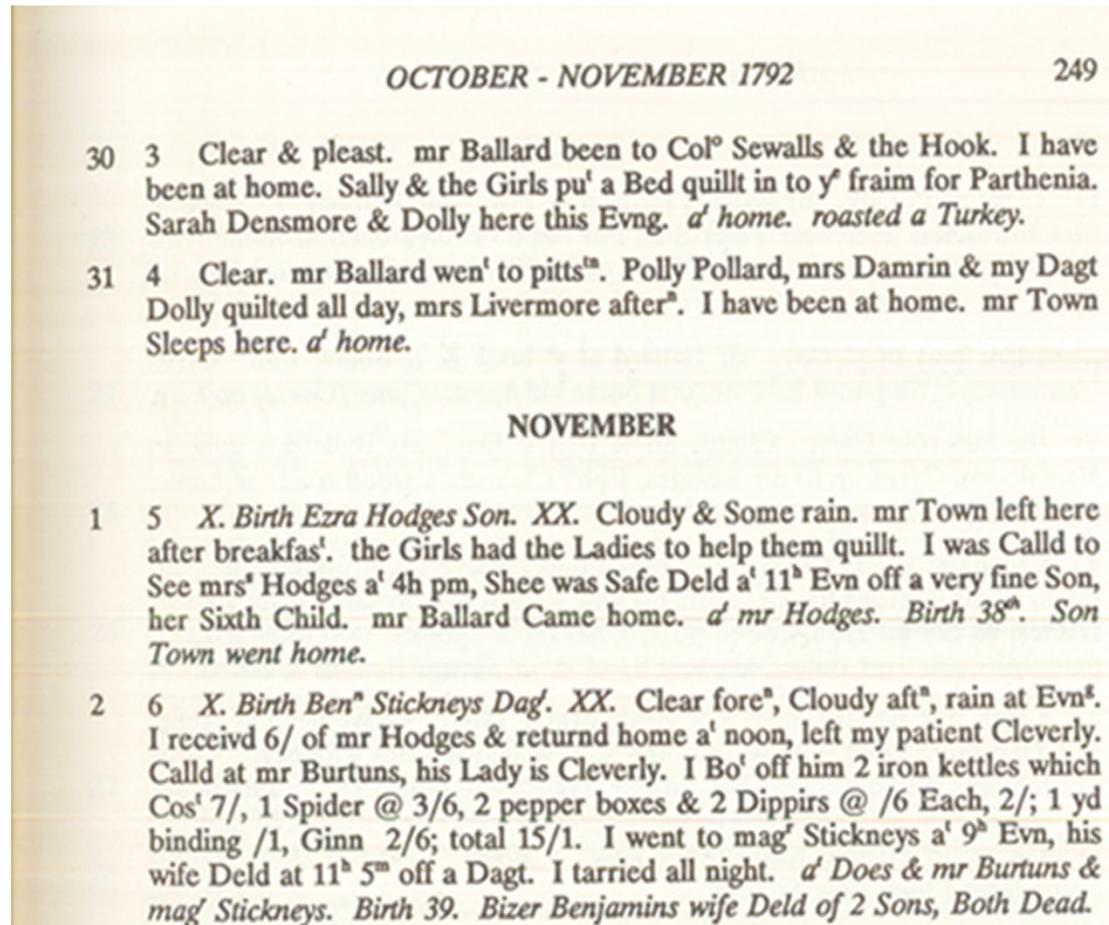
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## Diary of Rev. William Bentley, 1814

# Martha Ballard



- Born in Oxford, Massachusetts in 1735
- Settled in Hallowell, Maine
- Midwife
- Diary spans from 1785-1812



## Diary of Martha Ballard, 1792

Tip

Search local  
repositories for diaries

# Locating Diaries and Day Books

- ArchiveGrid.org and Colleges
- Family papers
- Regional libraries
- State Archives
- State Libraries
- Local Historical Societies
- Archives of Universities



Search for collections, people, organizations, places, events, and more

Search input field with a search button

**FIND ARCHIVES NEAR YOU**

Search for a location or zip

- United States
- ▶ Alabama
- ▶ Alaska
- ▶ Arizona
- ▶ Arkansas
- ▶ California
- ▶ Colorado
- ▶ Connecticut
- ▶ Delaware
- ▶ District of Columbia
- ▶ Florida
- ▶ Georgia
- ▶ Hawaii
- ▶ Idaho

**ABOUT ARCHIVEGRID**

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Some collection descriptions include links to images, sound recordings, or other online materials. You can narrow your search results to those that have links to digital content by adding "has\_links:1" to your search.

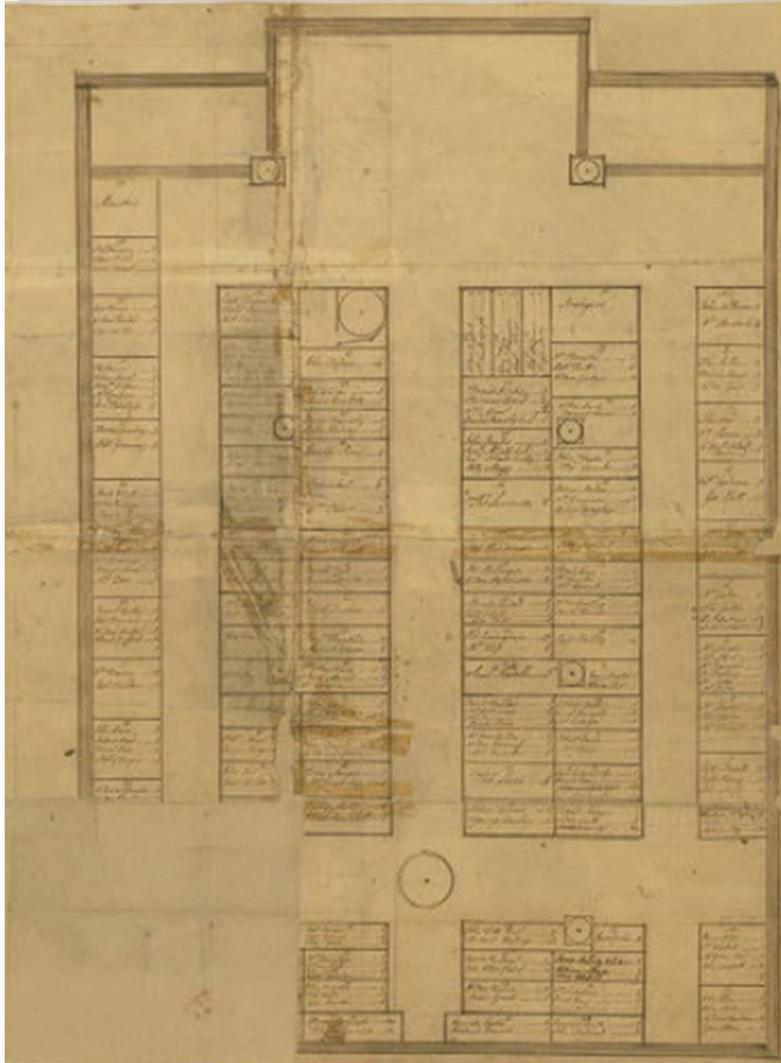
For example: 1918 influenza has\_links:1

**RECENT ADDITIONS**

- Longwood University - Janet D. Greenwood Library
- SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory - Archives, History and Records Office
- Dominican Sisters of San Rafael Archives
- Lincoln Library
- Yale University - Oral History of American Music
- Yale University - Yale Center for British Art, Institutional Archives
- University of Hong Kong

Archivegrid.org

# Church Records



- Church rented pews to generate income
- Pew Rentals and Registers show church community
- Great source to determine neighbors

Christ Church Seating Plan,  
Philadelphia, 1760 (circa)

# Probate Records

- Will
- Administration
- Inventory
- Account documents
- Claims against estate
- Debts owed to the estate

# Important Questions

- Who was the administrator?
- Who was the bondsman?
- Who were the appraisers of the estate?
- Who witnessed the will?
- Which individuals appear on multiple occasions?

# Accounts

The Estate of Mr John Ayres Dec'd, Adm<sup>r</sup> to & Adm<sup>r</sup>

June 1745

To Cash paid to George Harrington	3:0:0
more to Cash paid to William Ayres	2:0:0
<del>to Cash paid to Joseph Hammetton</del>	<del>1:10:0</del>
to Cash paid to John White	6:17:9
to Cash paid Joseph Jennings Esq <sup>r</sup>	0:10:0
to Cash paid the Justice for Swearing appraisers	0:7:6
to Cash paid Daniel Potter for Lime	2:9
to Cash paid Saml Ware	6
August: to Cash paid of Clerk of Probate	2:5:0
to Cash paid Mr Ebenezer Stearns	2:7:0
to Cash paid to Josiah Wood Jr	2:10:0
to Cash paid to Josiah Wood	1:4:0
to Cash paid to Elephalet & William Ayres	1:16:0
to Expense of appraisers at Mr Harringtons	0:7:6
to Cash paid to Steven Davis upon note	1:18:0
to Cash paid for Coulloursing	0:5:0
Nov: to 1 barrell Siver to Stephen Davis	1:0:0
to 2 bushell Corn and some Sundryes to S Davis	2:10:0
March 1746 to Cash paid for making Cart and wheels	10:00:0
and for fire & nails	4:00:0
more to Cash p <sup>d</sup>	47:1:0
Double Adm <sup>y</sup>	20
	53:1
paid of apprais	4 1/2
2 Sherry & Wine	4
a Jarre of the best	2
honey see the ac	
	63

519 12  
63 11 3  
450 10 9  
300 7 2  
150 3 7  
350 3 9

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	53:1
paid of apprais	4 1/2
2 Sherry & Wine	4
a Jarre of the best	2
honey see the ac	
	63

John Ayres probate, Brookfield, Mass., 1745

# Claims against estate

We the subscribers being appointed by the Hon-  
 Elijah Robinson Esq. Judge of Probate for the distric-  
 -t of Windsor. To Receive and examine the claims  
 of the creditors to the estate of Abiel Barney Late  
 of Chester deceased, <sup>having attended to the business of our appointment</sup> find due to the following persons the  
 sum annexed to their respective names (viz)

Peper Perkins	£ 8-4-5
Isaac Church	0-4-3
Abner Smith Estate	0-6-0
John Coryell Estate	0-3-6
John Dolly	£ 9-10-0

Chapin March the 20. 1794 Daniel Heath } (Commissioners  
 John Heath } and  
 George Earll }

April 21. 1794 Examined and approved  
 the foregoing Return  
 Elijah Robinson Esq.

We the subscribers being appointed by the Hon-  
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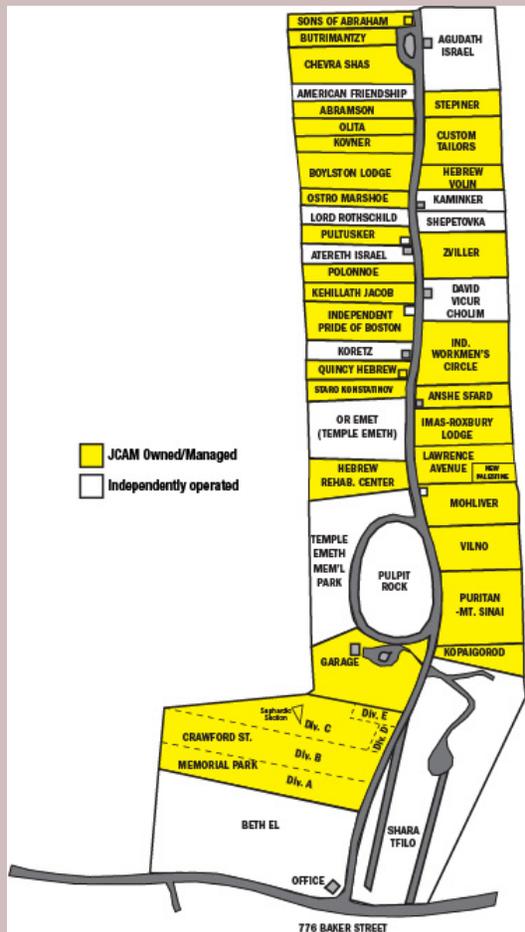
Abiel Barney, Chester, Vermont, 1794

# Cemeteries



- Are there contemporaries of my ancestor buried here?
- What other early families are buried here?
- Can I uncover any patterns?

# Landsmanshaftn



- Established by Mutual Aid Societies and Hometown Societies
- Provided services and social structure to new immigrants
- Place of burial

# Court Records

## Irish Petty Session Registers

ORDER BOOK, as approved of by the Lord Lieutenant (with the advice and consent of the Privy Council),  
County of Galway

1 No.	2 Date of Order.	3 Name or Names of Justice or Justices by whom Order made; and if made out of Petty Sessions, or if entry in this Book made from a Certificate, same to be here stated.	4 PARTIES—COMPLAINANT AND DEFENDANT. (The Christian and Surname, Rank, Occupation, or other addition, and Residence, stating Parish and Township, to be given, and the parties to be distinguished by prefixing their appellation—Complainant or Defendant.)	5 Names of Witnesses examined, and whether for Complainant or Defendant.	6 CAUSE OF COMPLAINT, as set forth in Summons	7 PARTICULARS OF ORDER OR DISMISSAL. If Dismissal, whether with or without provision, and whether with or without Costs, &c. In Ejectment, when to be evicted, and from what and whose Premises, &c. If to be Whipped, whether in or out of Prison, &c. &c. (Where Money ordered to be paid by or to any Person, the amount to be written in words at full length in this Column, as well as to be entered in Figures in the Money Column.)
15	28 Jan 1869	Mr. Lynch Rd. O'Leary John O'Leary	Thomas Joyce Pat Curioffi, Davine	Thos Joyce L. Mitchell Edw. Conrath	That on the 24 <sup>th</sup> January 1869 at Oranmore in said County said defendant did violently assault said complainant by kicking him and by striking him with his fists.	no appearance fine fifteen shillings and five shillings costs or one month imprisonment in Galway Jail Paid 1/11/69
16			Same Mil. Harris, Davine		like offence, at same time & place	no appearance fine fifteen shillings and five shillings costs or one month imprisonment in Galway Jail Paid
17			Laurence Halpin Michael White, Senr.		That you allowed 23 sheep on property of trespass on County of Galway land, namely 5 sheep on the 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 1869, 8 sheep on the 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan, and 10 sheep on the 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan 1869. said land being estate of James O'Connell and a dead ox	Adjourned

Laurence Halpin, Oranmore Court, 1866

# Case Study: Chain of Title

# Objective

- Trace chain of title of a property in Tisbury, Massachusetts to its original owner

*Chain of title:* The sequence of historical transfers of title to a property. The "chain" runs from the present owner back to the original owner of the property.

# What we learned

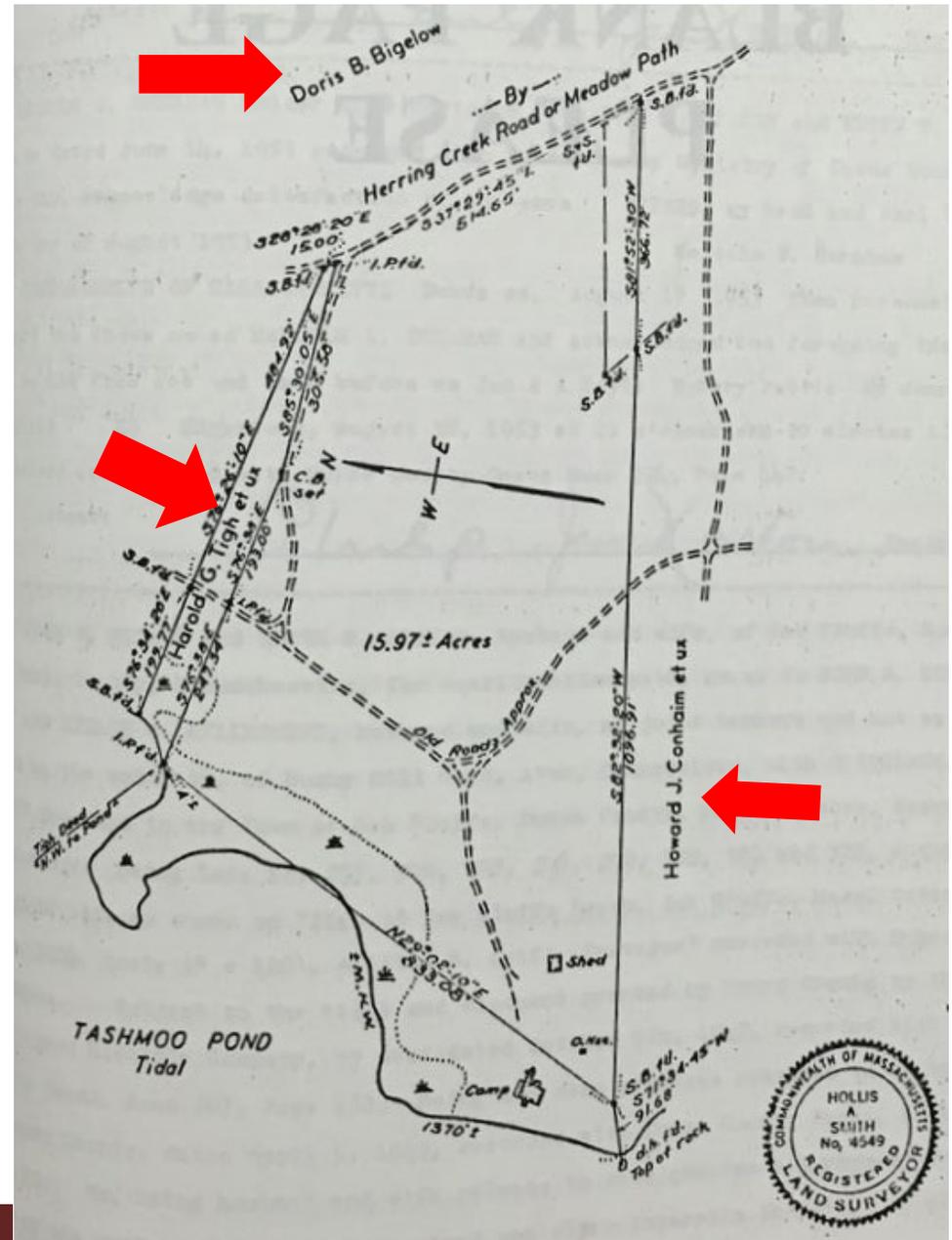
- Successfully traced chain of title to 1962, when Eva S. Birdsall received 25 acres of land and a camp located on Lake Tashmoo in Tisbury
- Willed from her husband, Elmer S. Birdsall upon his death
- Could not find a single instance of Elmer S. Birdsall buying or selling land in Dukes County, Massachusetts



# Why do we research abutters?

- Previous ownership of your property
- Physical location of property
- Family members
- Neighbors from previous community

**Abutters:**  
Doris B. Bigelow  
Harold G. Tigh  
Harold J. Conhaim



1963 Birdsall Survey Plan, Dukes County, MA

Tip

Understand the location  
of your property

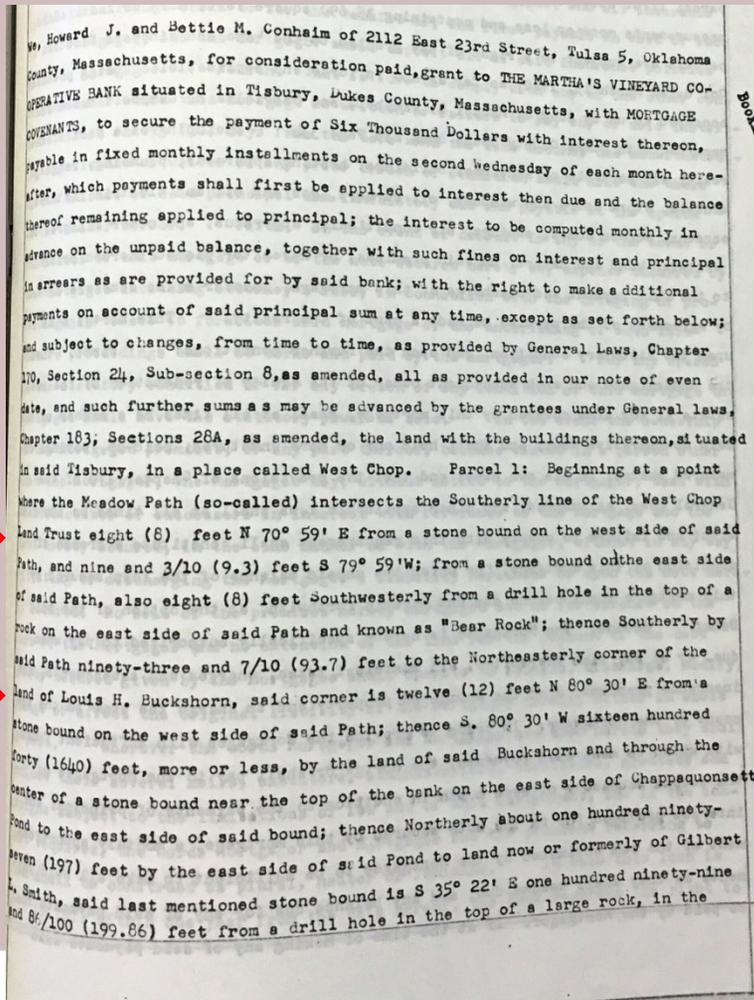
# Tips to Remember

- Make sure you have an understanding of where the property is located geographically
- Take note of roads, buildings, bodies of water, or geographic features
- Atlases and maps can help place parcels
- Keep track of the abutters to the property

# Location of Property



# Harold Conhaim Deed



Howard J. and Bettie M. Conhaim of 2112 East 23rd Street, Tulsa 5, Oklahoma County, Massachusetts, for consideration paid, grant to THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD CO-OPERATIVE BANK situated in Tisbury, Dukes County, Massachusetts, with MORTGAGE COVENANTS, to secure the payment of Six Thousand Dollars with interest thereon, payable in fixed monthly installments on the second Wednesday of each month hereafter, which payments shall first be applied to interest then due and the balance thereof remaining applied to principal; the interest to be computed monthly in advance on the unpaid balance, together with such fines on interest and principal in arrears as are provided for by said bank; with the right to make a dditional payments on account of said principal sum at any time, except as set forth below; and subject to changes, from time to time, as provided by General Laws, Chapter 170, Section 24, Sub-section 8, as amended, all as provided in our note of even date, and such further sums as may be advanced by the grantees under General laws, Chapter 183; Sections 28A, as amended, the land with the buildings thereon, situated in said Tisbury, in a place called West Chop. Parcel 1: Beginning at a point where the Meadow Path (so-called) intersects the Southerly line of the West Chop Land Trust eight (8) feet N 70° 59' E from a stone bound on the west side of said Path, and nine and 3/10 (9.3) feet S 79° 59' W; from a stone bound on the east side of said Path, also eight (8) feet Southwesterly from a drill hole in the top of a rock on the east side of said Path and known as "Bear Rock"; thence Southerly by said Path ninety-three and 7/10 (93.7) feet to the Northeastly corner of the land of Louis H. Buckshorn, said corner is twelve (12) feet N 80° 30' E from a stone bound on the west side of said Path; thence S. 80° 30' W sixteen hundred forty (1640) feet, more or less, by the land of said Buckshorn and through the center of a stone bound near the top of the bank on the east side of Chappaquonsett Pond to the east side of said bound; thence Northerly about one hundred ninety-seven (197) feet by the east side of said Pond to land now or formerly of Gilbert L. Smith, said last mentioned stone bound is S 35° 22' E one hundred ninety-nine and 86/100 (199.86) feet from a drill hole in the top of a large rock, in the

- Harold and Bettie Conhaim purchased land on the west side of the Meadow Path on the east side of Lake Tashmoo in 1958
- Abutters were West Chop Land Trust, Louis H. Buckshorn, and Gilbert L. Smith

← Harold Conhaim deed, 1958, Dukes County, Massachusetts



D.S.  
# 781.

Will of  
Gilbert L. Smith

Entered for probate  
Feb. 21, 1928.

allowed June 22, 1928.

Rec. Gen. Bk., Vol. 37,  
From the office of page 105.

Copy sent Tax Com.  
Nov. 14, 1928.

SCHEDULE OF REAL ESTATE IN DETAIL

	Dollars	Cents
Land and building, Spring Street	13500	—
Norris lot so-called	900	—
North shore lot	300	—
Camp at Tashmoo	3000	—
Land at Tashmoo		
Land on State Highway	400	—
Eight-tenths interest of 30 acres, Jasper County, Missouri	1100	—
House on Emerald St. Boston	3000	—
	22200	—

Gilbert L. Smith probate, 1928,  
Dukes County, Massachusetts

(16) (G. L. 192, §§ 9, 10, 11)  
 (The petitioner should state that he is Executor, if he is so, and if not, how he is interested.)

TO THE HONORABLE THE JUDGE OF THE PROBATE COURT IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DUKES COUNTY

RESPECTFULLY represents ELMER STUART BIRDSALL  
 of St. Petersburg in the County of Pinellas  
 and State of Florida  
 that the last will and testament of Mary E. Cannon  
 late of St. Petersburg in the County of Pinellas  
 and State of Florida, deceased, testate, has been duly proved  
 and allowed by the Court of the County Court in and for Pinellas County  
 according to the laws of said State of Florida  
 a copy of which will, and of the probate thereof, duly  
 authenticated, are herewith produced; that said testatrix <sup>her</sup> at the time of ~~his~~ <sup>her</sup> decease, had estate  
 in said County of Dukes County, on which said will may operate; that the same ought to be allowed  
 in this State as the last will and testament of said deceased; that your petitioner is the execut  
 therein named and is therein exempt from giving a surety on his official bond; that your  
petitioner is the only heir-at-law and next of kin of said  
Mary E. Cannon, being a nephew,  
 and therefore prays, that the copy of said will may be filed and recorded in the Registry  
 of Probate in said County of Dukes County pursuant to the statute in that case made and provided;  
 and that letters testamentary \_\_\_\_\_  
 may be granted thereon to him, without giving a surety on his official bond, and  
 certifies that the statements made in the foregoing petition are true to the best of his knowledge and  
 belief.

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March April A. D. 19 57

Elmer Stuart Birdsall  
 Executor  
 of Pinellas County, ss. Subscribed and sworn to this 9<sup>th</sup> day  
 of March April A. D. 1957

Before me,  
Norma Shaffer  
 Notary Public, State of Florida at large  
 My commission expires Jan. 26, 1960.  
 Bonded by American Surety Co. of N. Y.

SCHEDULE OF PERSONAL ESTATE IN DETAIL (Continued)

	Dolls.	Cts.
SCHEDULE OF REAL ESTATE IN DETAIL		
Lot of wood and pasture at Tashmoo		
25 acres, 22,936 square feet . . .	\$6000.00	
Bungalow . . . . .	1000.00	
Garage . . . . .	100.00	



Mary E. Cannon probate, 1957,  
 Dukes County, Massachusetts

# Chain of Title

Gilbert L. Smith (uncle)



Mary E. Cannon (niece)



Elmer S. Birdsall (nephew)



Eva S. Birdsall (wife)

# QUESTIONS?

# Activity #4

## Meet the neighbors

# F.A.N

- Neighbors
  - Who are the Neighbors enumerated with Annie?  
What do they have in common?
    - Place of birth?
    - Year of Immigration?
    - Occupation?
  - What records for the Neighbors could help to determine place of birth?
  - Update your Research Log with these records.

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

B

State Massachusetts

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

Supervisor's District No. X

Sheet No. 1

County Middlesex

Enumeration District No. 916

Township or other division of county Reading Town

Name of Institution, X

Ward of city, X

Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division.

Enumerated by me on the 1 day of June, 1900, Charles B. Swetson, Enumerator.

Census table with columns: LOCATION, NAME, RELATION, PERSONAL DESCRIPTION, NATIVITY, CITIZENSHIP, OCCUPATION, TRADE OR PROFESSION, EDUCATION, OWNERSHIP OF HOME. Includes handwritten entries for families like Hall, White, and others.



Return to 1900 US Federal Census, Reading, Mass.

# **Group Work- Who are the interesting neighbors?**



# Analyzing a neighborhood

- Are they from the same state or country?
- Did they arrive in the United States at the same time?
- Do they have the same occupation?
- Same religion?

# Reuben White

(PAGE 3)

MARRIAGES REGISTERED in the Town of Reading for the Year eighteen hundred and ninety-five. 343

No.	DATE AND PLACE OF MARRIAGE.	DATE OF RECORDED.	NAMES, SURNAMES, AND COLOR OF GROOM AND BRIDE. <small>( Maiden name of bride, if a widow.)</small>	RESIDENCE OF EACH AT TIME OF MARRIAGE.	AGE of each in years.	OCCUPATION OF EACH.	PLACE OF BIRTH OF EACH.	NAMES OF PARENTS. <small>(Maiden name of mother.)</small>	WHAT MARRIAGE <small>Whether 1st, 2d, 3d, &amp;c.</small>	NAME, RESIDENCE, AND OFFICIAL STATION OF PERSON BY WHOM MARRIED.
37	October 30 <sup>th</sup> Reading	Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Robert Edward Roberts Florence Isabel Cummings	Reading Reading	38 29	Mechanic School Teacher	Charlestown Mechanic Falls	Jacob W. & Sophia P. Parker, deceased & Abbie Ladd, emy,	First First	Frederick H. Upham, Minister in Boston.
38	October 30 <sup>th</sup> Reading	Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Alden R. Davis Lucy W. Roby	Carlisle Reading	35 22	Farmer Teacher	Carlisle So. Boston	John P. & Abneria Stearns, deceased & Emma L. Janes,	First First	Edward F. Manning Minister of the Gospel.
39	November 6 <sup>th</sup> Reading	Nov. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Harry Lilly Dane Grace Simonton Trounby	Reading Reading	26 23	Bookkeeper Cook	Yonia O. Camden, Me.	Albert P. & Emma G. Hoffman, Mrs. W. & Ellen Ankie, Townsend,	First First	Frank S. Adams, Minister, Reading.
40	November 7 <sup>th</sup> Boston	Nov. 9 <sup>th</sup>	James Mc Dawson Ellen Rooney	Reading Boston	24 23	Blacksmith Domestic	Baring, Me. Ireland	Michael & Annie Conroll, Hugh & Ellen	First First	P. J. Walsh, Priest, 6 Allen St. Boston.
41	November 7 <sup>th</sup> Wakefield	Nov. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Daniel H. Downey Margaret Driscoll	Woburn Reading	34 30	R.R. employe Domestic	Sq. Wales Ireland	John T. & Mary Sullivan, Dennis & Kate Kinnegan,	Second First	Rev. Wm. J. O'Connor, Wakefield
42	November 20 <sup>th</sup> Reading	Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup>	William Ernest Brown Anna Belle Kanis	Lyons Reading	22 21	Sailor At home	Reading Weymouth, W. I.	Henry W. & Ella H. Robinson, Oliver D. & Mary J. Lee,	First First	Rev. W. S. Spear, 1st Baptist Ch.
43	November 20 <sup>th</sup> Reading	Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Josiah Green William B. (deceased) McDonald	Charlestown Reading	34 28	Carpenter At home	Hullbrough, N. H. Reading	John & Elizabeth Marjison, John A. & Maria G. Ferguson,	Second Second	Frank S. Adams Minister, Reading.
44	November 20 <sup>th</sup> Wardner	Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Seth C. Cary Jennie Sophia Dunn	Reading Boston	57 33	Wagonman Physician	Belcher, N. H. Wardner	John & Catharine Corley, John A. & Sophia W. Chaffee,	Third First	L. P. Cansey, Stagecoach, Wardner, Mass.
45	November 22 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Webster Ames Jennie C. Schwartztrauber M. J. Jeffery	Reading Reading	39 40	Lawster Tailor	No. Reading Boston	J. Dexter & Caroline Nichols, Thomas & Dina Bull,	Second Third	Frank S. Adams Minister, Reading.
46	November 27 <sup>th</sup> Wakefield	Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup>	William Clifford Brown Agnes Cecelia Morgan	Reading Reading	19 18	Sailor At home	Charlestown Wakefield	Joseph W. & Mary A. Robinson, Hugh & Mary E. Osburn,	First First	Rev. J. E. Hillenrick Wakefield.
47	November 27 <sup>th</sup> Wakefield	Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup>	Reuben White Agnes Leafay	Reading Reading	21 21	Stick fitter At home	Nov. Scotia Nov. Scotia	Joshua & Mary Duncette, Andrew & Kate Muse,	First First	Rev. J. E. Hillenrick Wakefield.

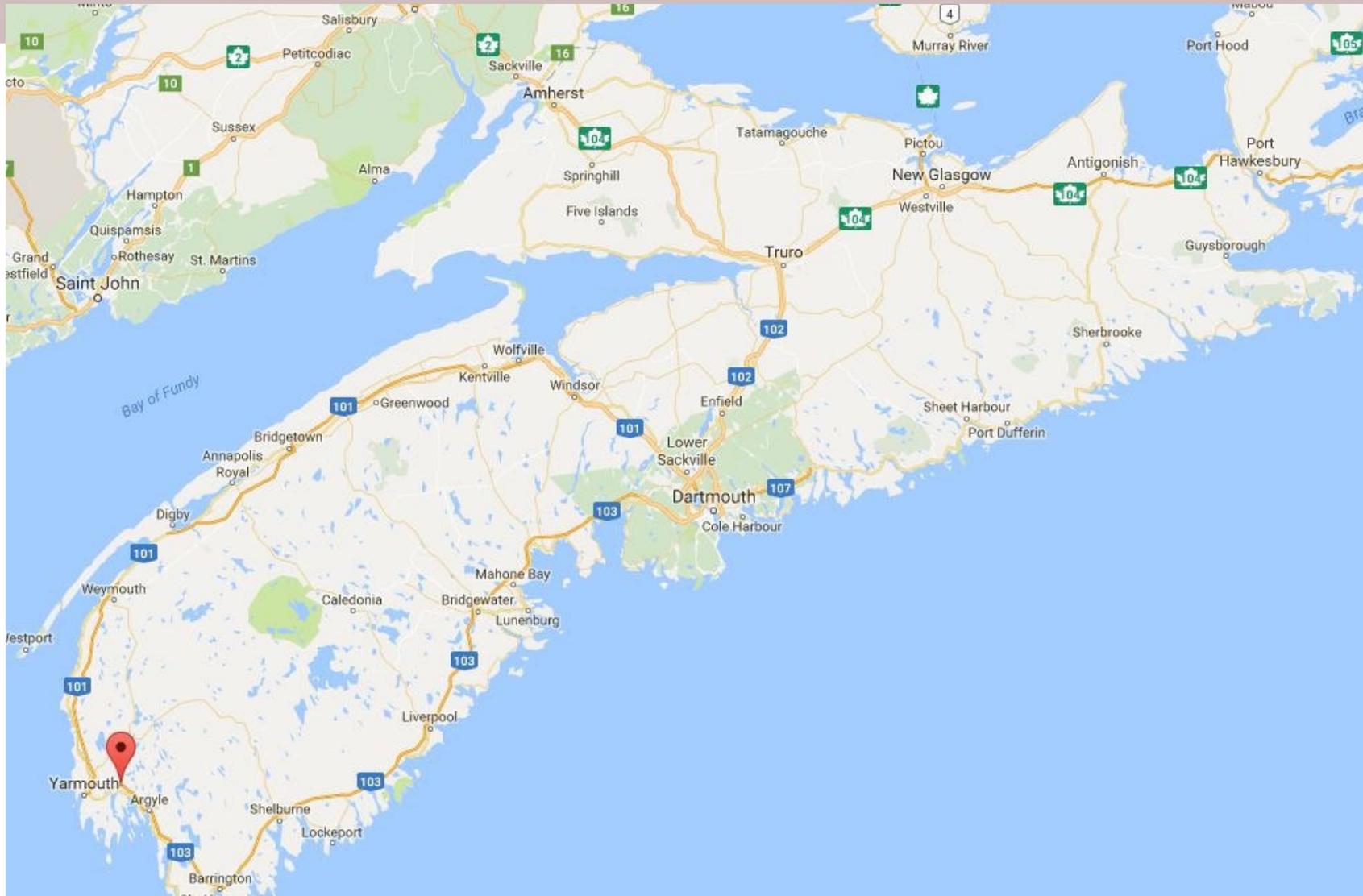
Reuben White marriage, Reading, Mass., 1895

# Reuben White

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
MIDDLESEX, SS.  
*To the Honorable the Justice of the Fourth District Court of Eastern Middlesex, holden at Woburn, within and for the County of Middlesex:*  
RESPECTFULLY represents *Reuben White*, by occupation a *Shoe maker*, an alien and free white person, now residing at No. *Imperial* Street, in *Reading* in said County, and within the District for which said Court is established that he was born at *Tusket*, in the County of *Farmington*, in *New Scotia*, on or about the *fifteenth* day of *August* A. D. 1874, that he emigrated from *New Scotia* and arrived at *Shoreham Inn*, in the United States of America, on or about the *first* day of *November* A. D. 1874. \*that on his said arrival in the United States of America he was a minor under the age of eighteen years; that for two years last past it has been and still is his *bona fide* intention to become a citizen of the United States of America, and to renounce all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State, and Sovereignty whatsoever, and particularly to EDWARD VII, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

Reuben White naturalization, 1905

# Tusket, Nova Scotia



# Update your research log

Source	Name (and variant spellings)	Dates examined	Place	Relevant Record	Notes	Objective
Federal Census-William T. O'Connor	O'Connor	1910	Wakefield	yes	Record indicates probable affiliation with the Catholic Church. His birth shows no connection with Nova Scotia (enumerated as born in Mass, both parents born in Ireland)	Census record may show a connection to Nova Scotia- quick google search shows that the William O'Connor's church, St. Joseph's is a Catholic church. This may be the connection to Ellis family.
Federal Census-Thomas R. McCoy	McCoy	1900	Wakefield	yes	Record does not indicate religious denomination, nor does his birth point to connection with Nova Scotia (enumerated as born in Mass, both parents born in Ireland)	Census record may show a connection to Nova Scotia- quick google search shows that the Thomas McCoy's church, St. Joseph's is a Catholic church. This may be the connection to Ellis family.
<b>City Directories</b>						
Cambridge City Directory	Hunning Jacobson	1898	Cambridge	yes	Hunning Jacobson was the pastor at the Swedish Lutheran Augustana; however, it is important to note that the Louise Sjoblom was of Finnish descent and may explain the Swedish church affiliation.	City directory may show a connection to Nova Scotia or provide more information about his religious affiliation
<b>Immigration Records</b>						
Reuben White	Reuben/Ruben White	1905-1910	Massachusetts	yes	Naturalization record indicates that Reuben White was born in Tusket, Nova Scotia	As immigration records are often the best source for birth place information, we hope to examine Reuben's naturalization record for a specific place of birth.

# QUESTIONS?



# THANK YOU!

[AmericanAncestors.org/Education](https://AmericanAncestors.org/Education)



NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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