

# Researching Connecticut Ancestors

## *Class 1: 17th-Century Research*

Melanie McComb  
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THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®  
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# Meet today's presenter



Melanie McComb

Senior Genealogist

# Overview

## History

Indigenous nations  
First settlers  
First colonies  
Consolidation  
Wars

## Published Resources

Finding aids  
Compilations of records and genealogies  
Study projects  
Journals and periodicals

## Records

Vital  
Church and cemetery  
Land  
Probate  
Town and Colony  
Military

## Strategies

Understand time and place  
FAN Club / Cluster Research



*Voice of  
Melanie  
McComb, Senior  
Genealogist*

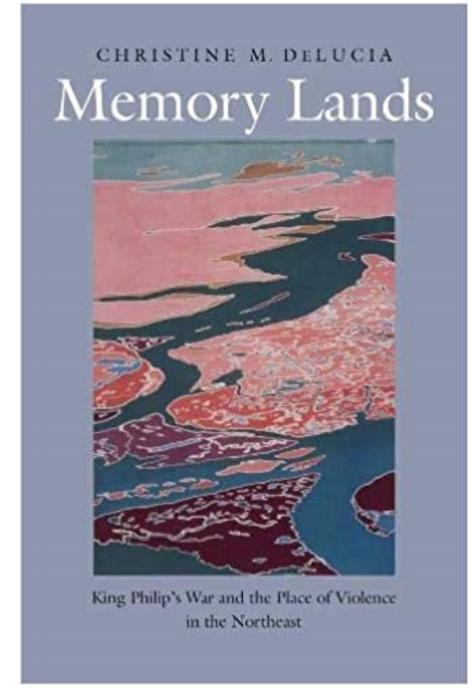
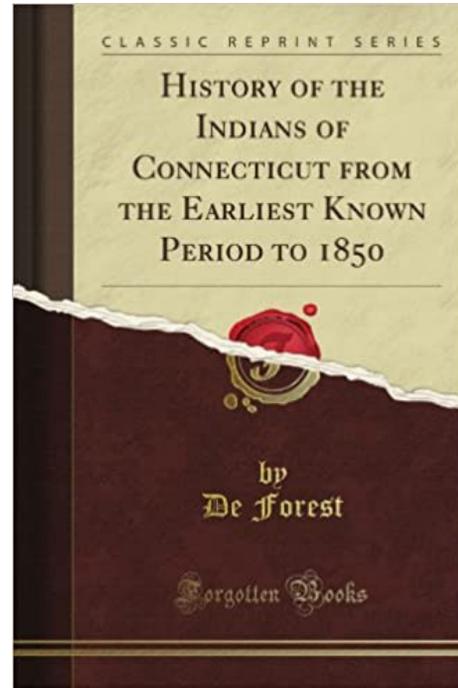
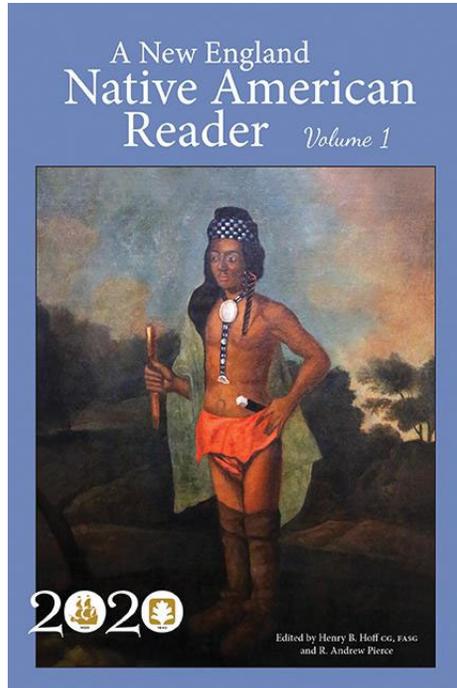
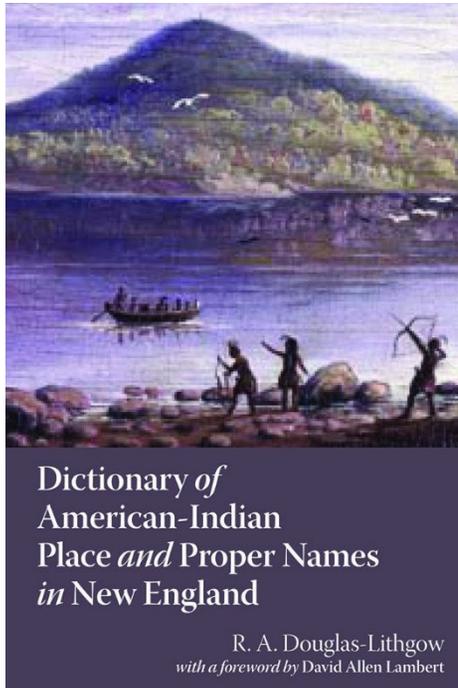
# History



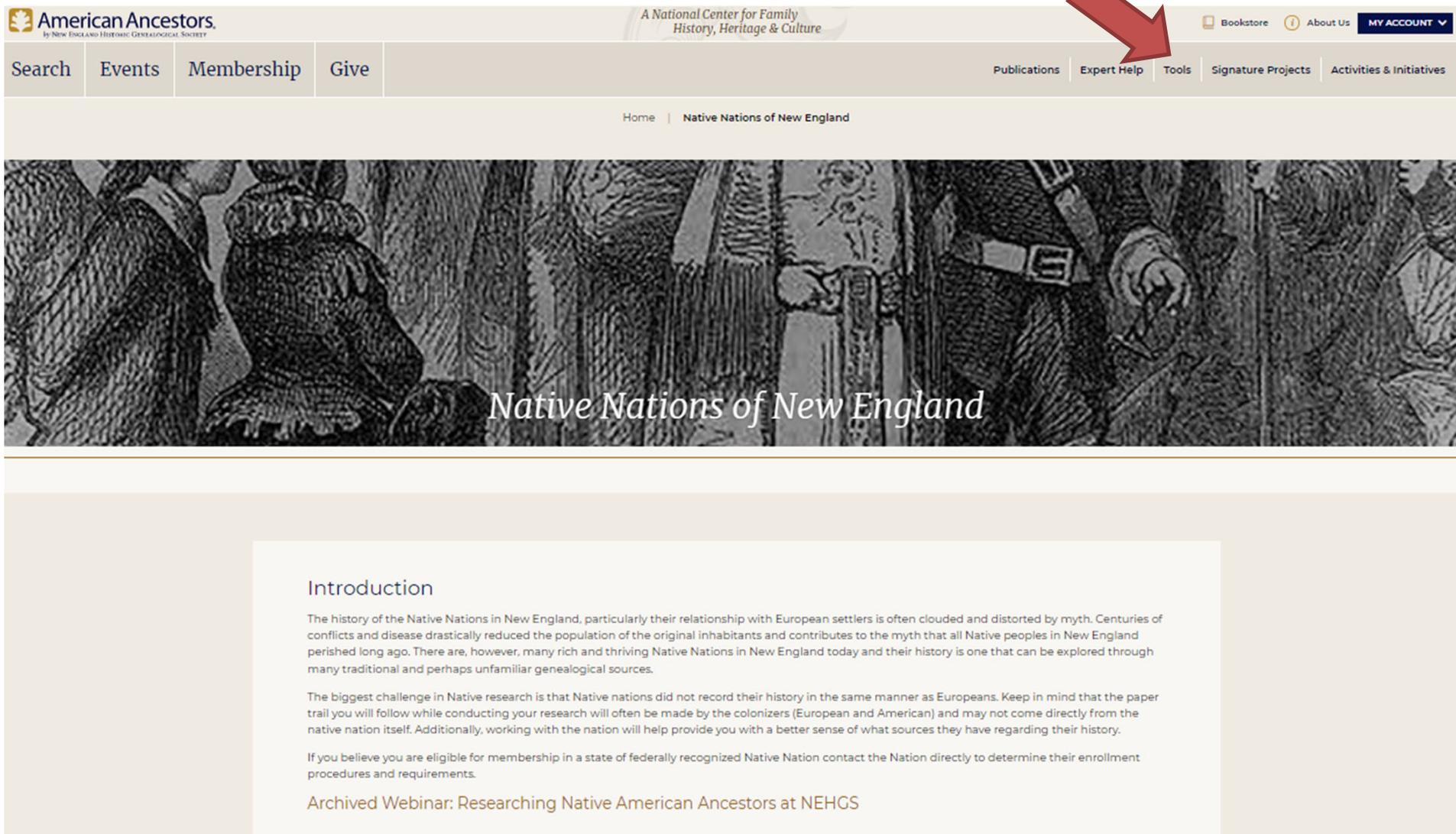
Indigenous Settlement in SE New England

Source: Wikimedia Commons - Tribal Territories Southern New England





## Resources for Researching Indigenous Settlements



AmericanAncestors.org  
A National Center for Family History, Heritage & Culture

Search Events Membership Give Publications Expert Help Tools Signature Projects Activities & Initiatives

Home | Native Nations of New England

## Native Nations of New England

### Introduction

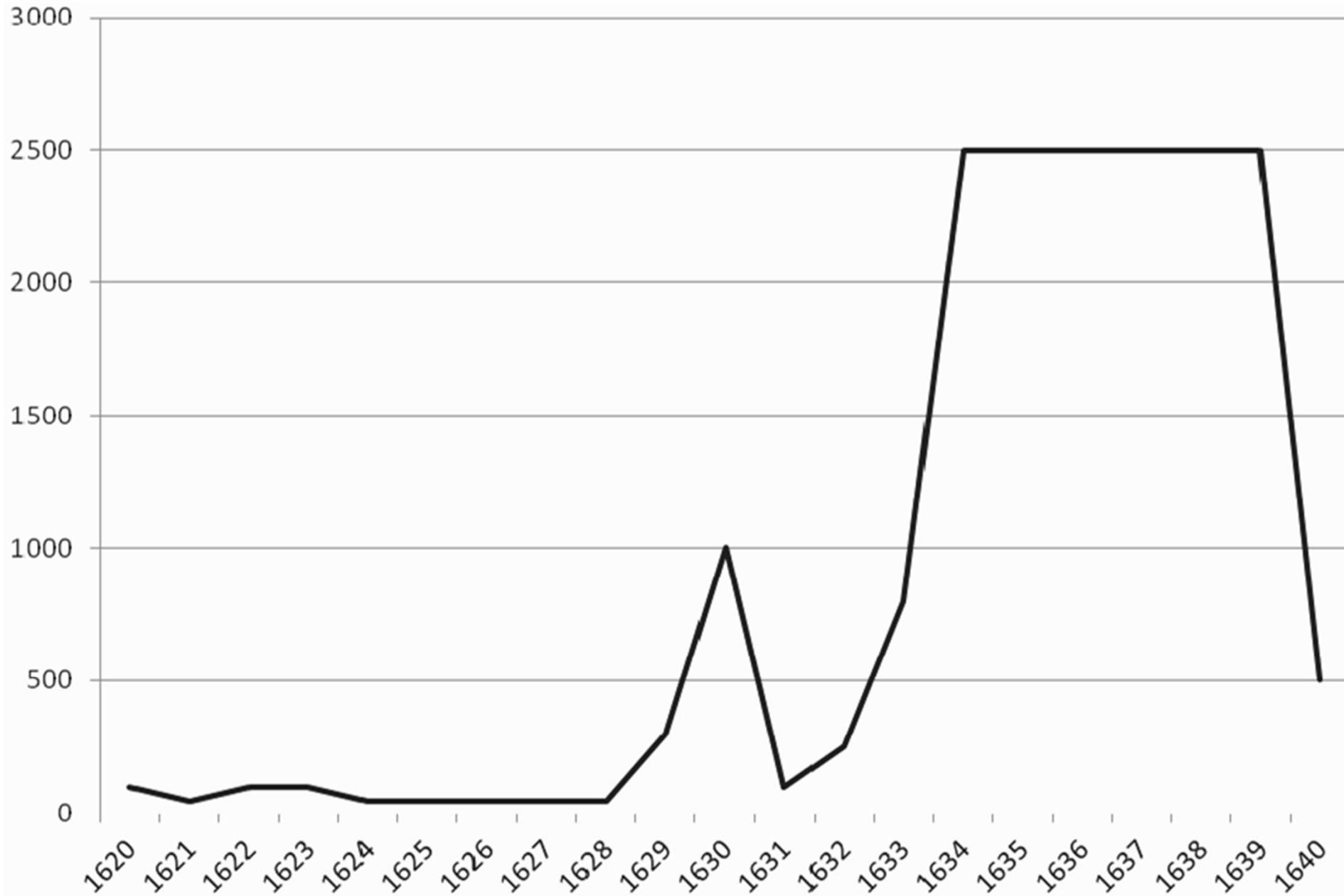
The history of the Native Nations in New England, particularly their relationship with European settlers is often clouded and distorted by myth. Centuries of conflicts and disease drastically reduced the population of the original inhabitants and contributes to the myth that all Native peoples in New 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.

[Archived Webinar: Researching Native American Ancestors at NEHGS](#)

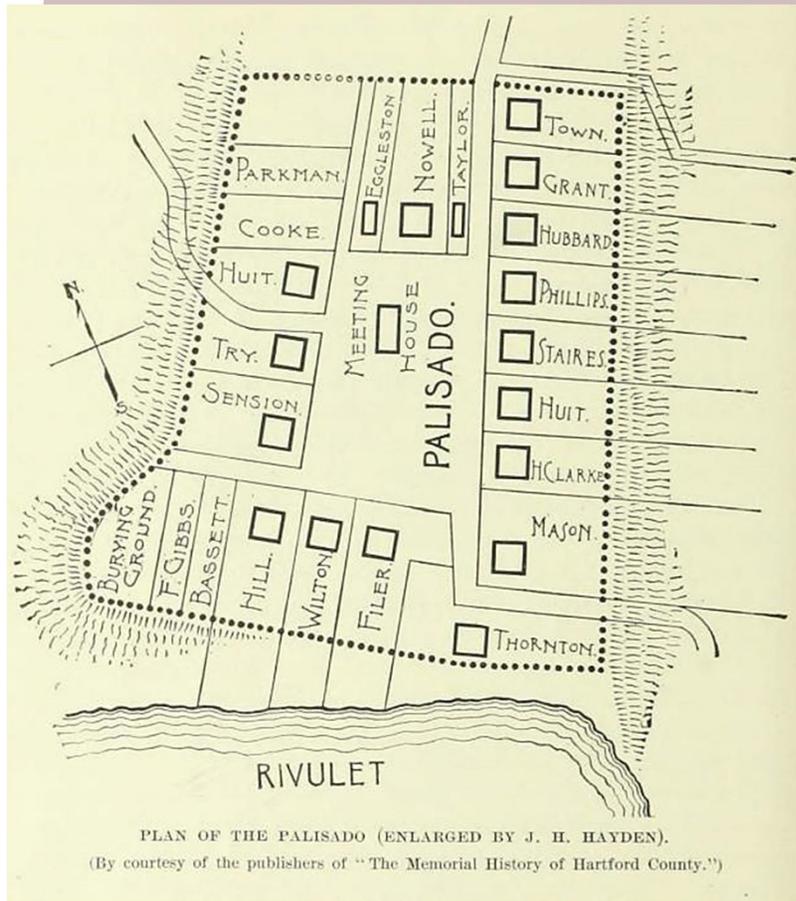
[AmericanAncestors.org/tools/native-nations-new-england](https://AmericanAncestors.org/tools/native-nations-new-england)



*Immigrants to NE, 1620–1640*



# First Connecticut Settlement - Windsor

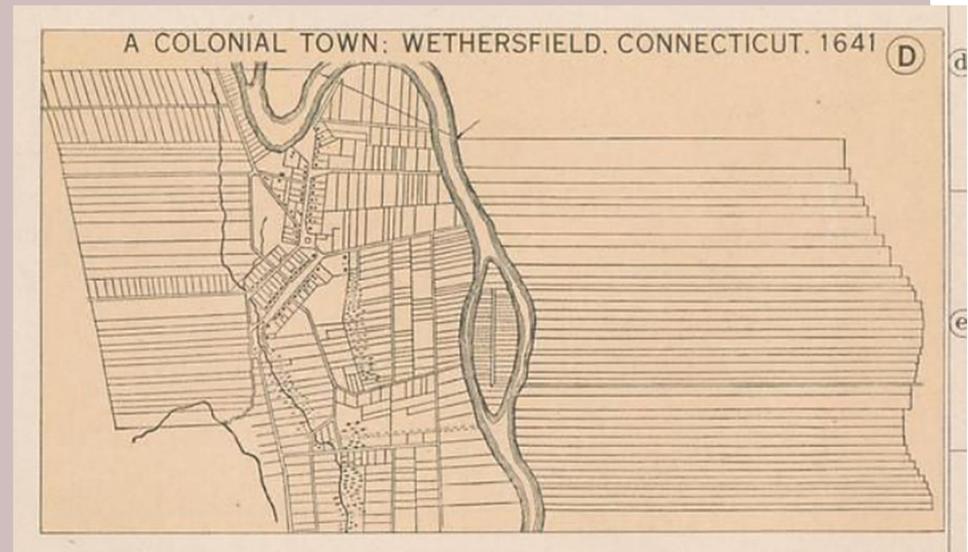


- William Holmes establishes trading post 1633 near junction of Farmington River and Connecticut River
- English counterbalance to the Dutch settlement at Hartford
- Permanent settlers from Dorchester arrive in 1635

*Ancient Histories and Genealogies of Windsor*, viewed at HathiTrust.org, page 140.

# Founding of Wethersfield

- John Oldham and others from Watertown, MA 1634
- Welcomed by the Wangunk desirous of trading beaver pelts
- Merged with Hartford and Windsor by 1637



Paullin, *Atlas of Historical Geography*

# Early Connecticut

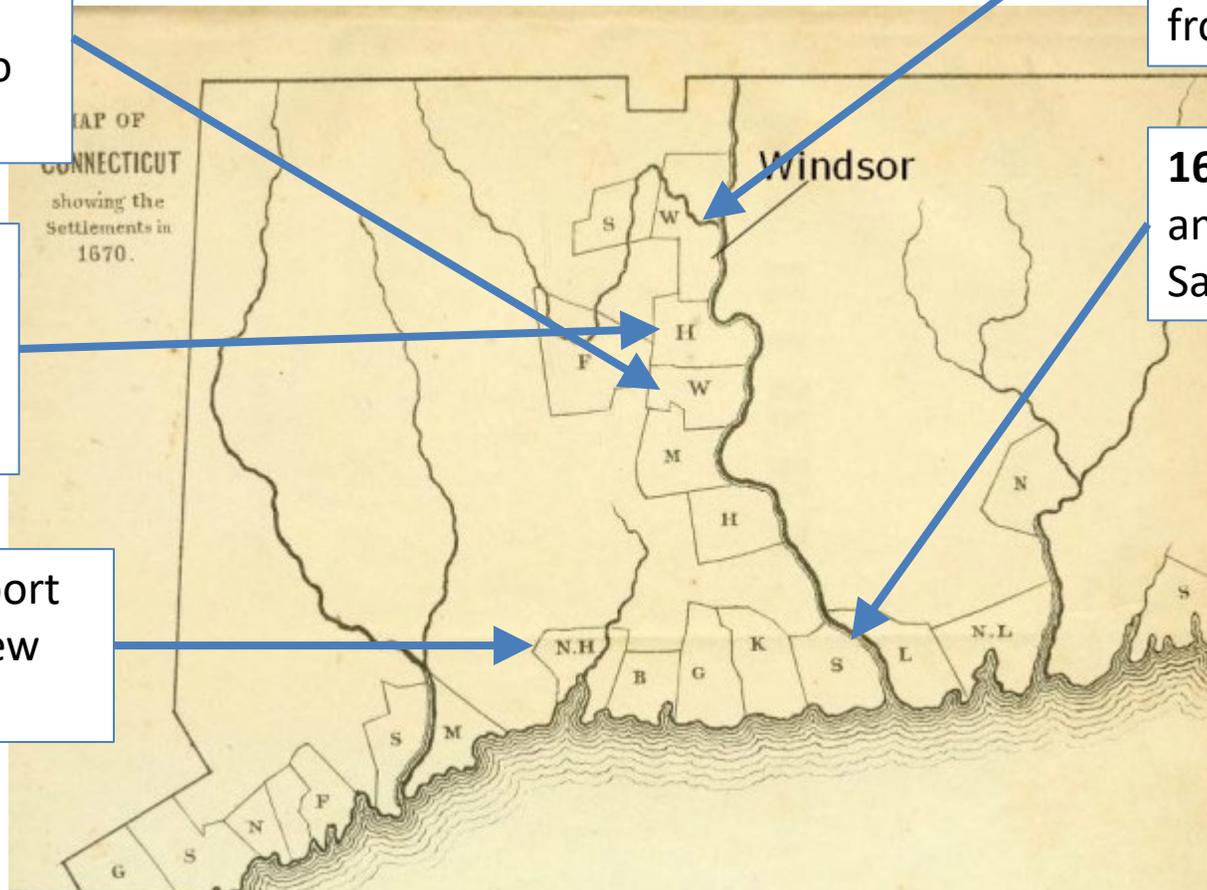
**1634:** Oldham & Co. from Watertown to Wethersfield

**1633:** Holmes from Plymouth to Windsor –  
**1635:** settlers from Dorchester

**1635:** Winthrop and Gardiner to Saybrook

**1636:** Hooker & Co. from Cambridge to Hartford

**1637:** Davenport & Eaton to New Haven



## Connecticut's Oldest English Settlement

Map of Connecticut showing the settlements in 1670 from *Historical Sketches of Meriden* by G.W. Perkins

# First Colonies



## Saybrook

- Founded by Winthrop and Gardiner, 1635

## Connecticut River Colony

- Merger of Hartford, Windsor and Wethersfield towns - 1637

## New Haven

- Founded by Davenport and Eaton, 1637

National Geographic: Connecticut ca 1645, accessed 21 Dec 2021

# Consolidation

- 1639: River Colony adopts Fundamental Orders
- 1644: Connecticut River Colony merges with Saybrook Colony
- 1662: Connecticut Colony receives Royal Charter and absorbs New Haven Colony

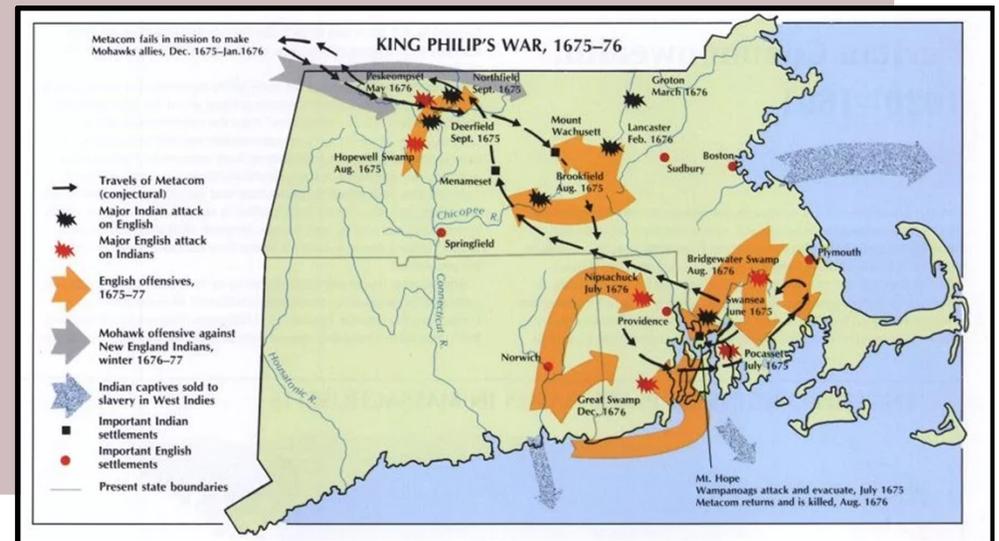


# Pequot War

- Pitted the Pequot who were allied with the Dutch against the three colonies in 1636 and 1637
- Pequot allied with the Dutch
- Colonists allied with Mohegan and Narragansett tribes
- Pequot tribe was decimated

# King Philip's War

- Metacom, a member of the Wampanoag, was known as King Philip
- Connecticut settlers fearing the Narragansett would join with Metacom joined an attack near South Kingston, Rhode Island
- No major battles fought on Connecticut soil

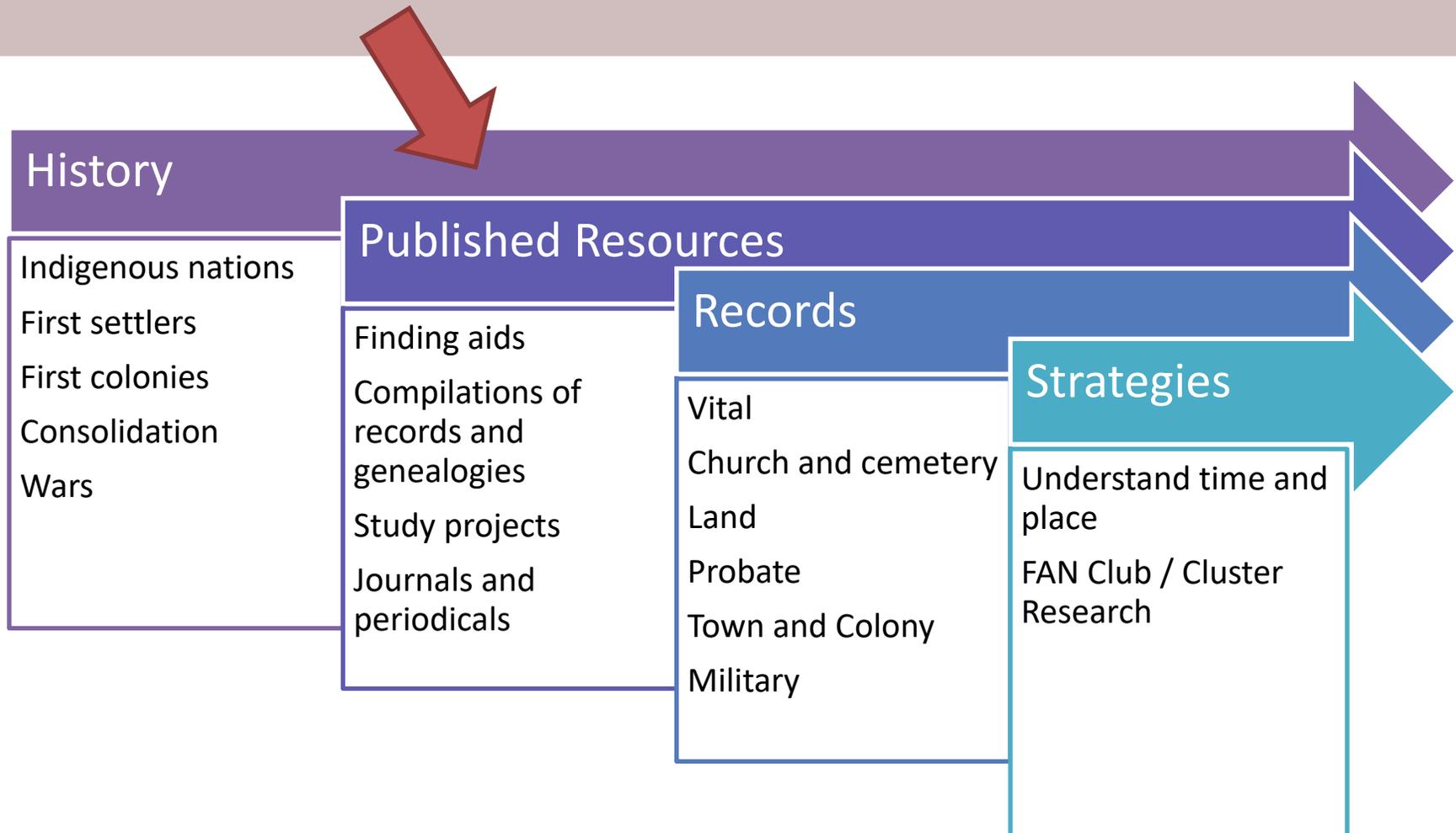


# 17<sup>th</sup>-Century Connecticut Towns

- 1633 Windsor
- 1634 Wethersfield
- 1635 Saybrook
- 1635 Hartford
- 1637 New Haven
- 1639 Branford
- 1639 Fairfield
- 1639 Guilford
- 1639 Milford
- 1639 Stratford
- 1640 Farmington
- 1640 Greenwich
- 1641 Stamford
- 1646 New London
- 1649 Stonington
- 1651 Derby
- 1651 Middletown
- 1651 Norwalk
- 1659 Norwich
- 1662 Haddam
- 1665 Lyme
- 1667 Killingworth
- 1670 Simsbury
- 1670 Wallingford
- 1673 Woodbury
- 1674 Suffield
- 1674 Waterbury
- 1683 Enfield
- 1685 Danbury
- 1686 Mansfield
- 1686 Preston
- 1686 Windham
- 1686 Woodstock
- 1689 Plainfield
- 1690 Canterbury
- 1693 Glastonbury
- 1697 Lebanon
- 1699 Colchester
- 1699 Durham

Dates of Settlement from Office of Connecticut Secretary of State : Accessed 23 Dec 2021

# Overview



# Types of Published Resources

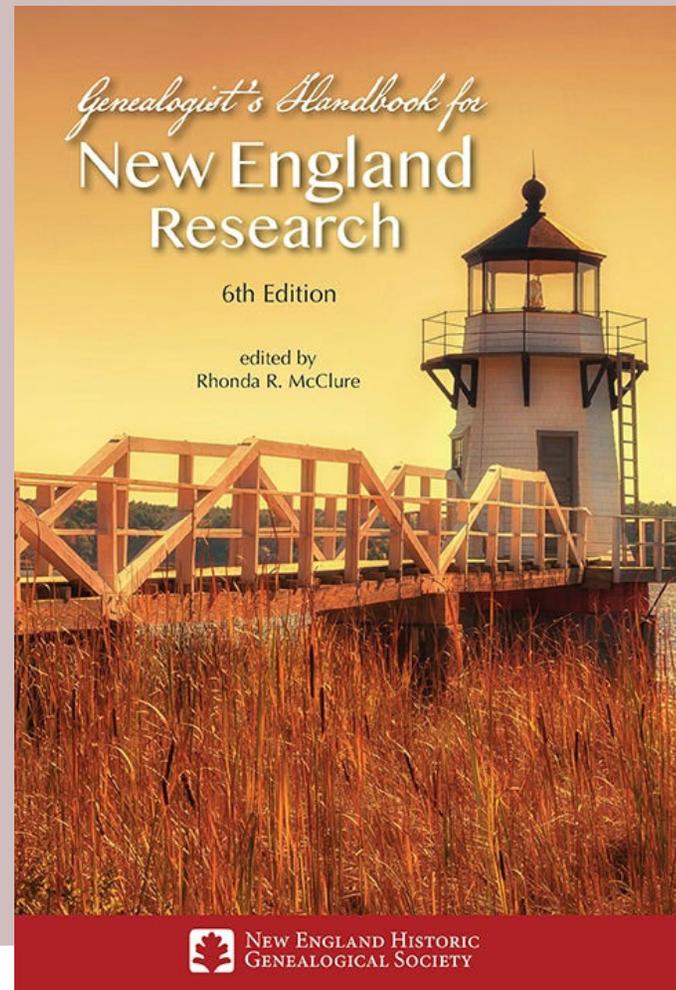
- How-to guides
- ★ • Finding aids
- ★ • Study projects
- ★ • Compilations of records and genealogies
- ★ • Journals and periodicals
- Genealogies and Local Histories

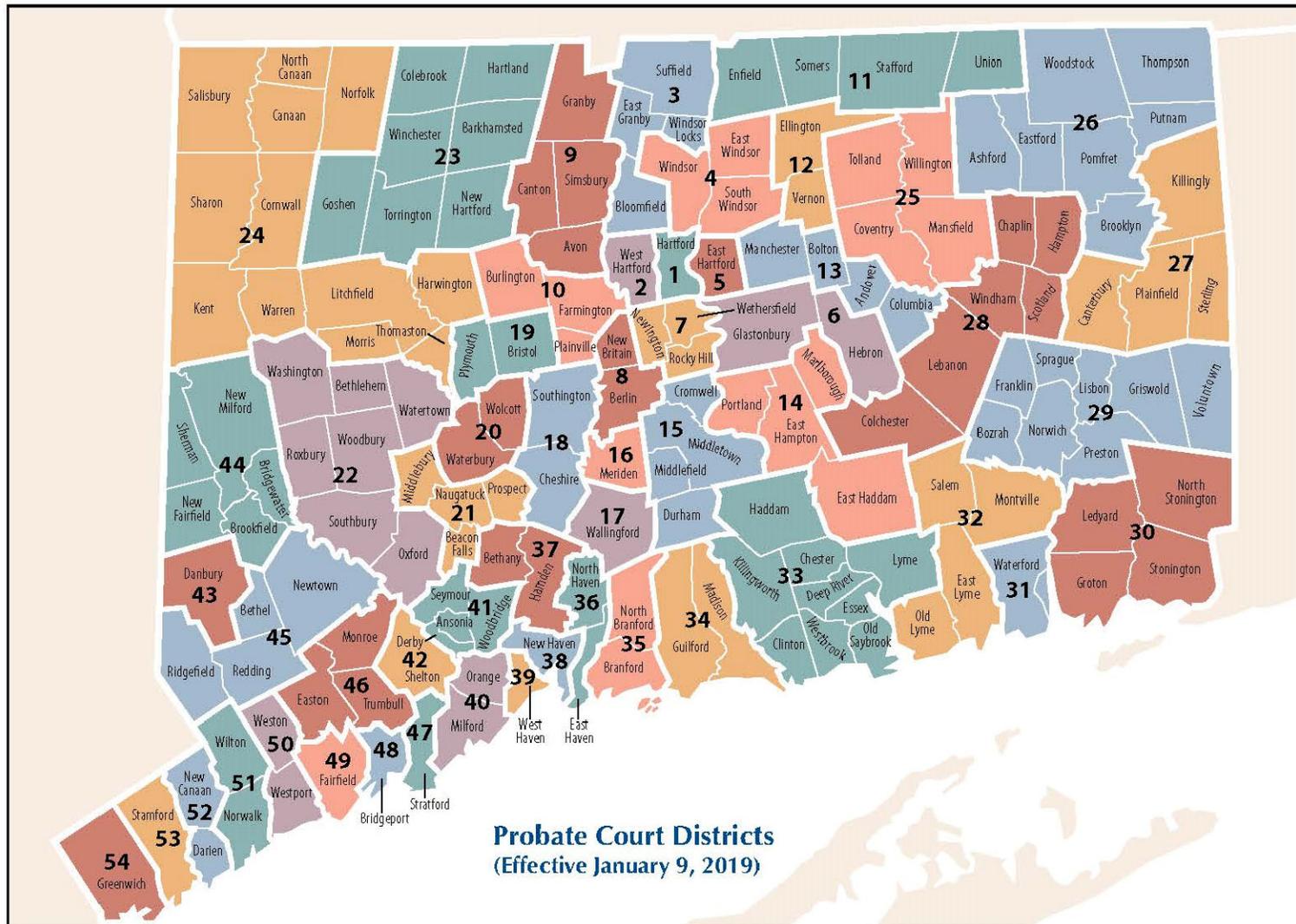


# Finding Aids

# Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research

- Town and County Lists
- Detailed Maps
- Court Houses
- Library and Archives





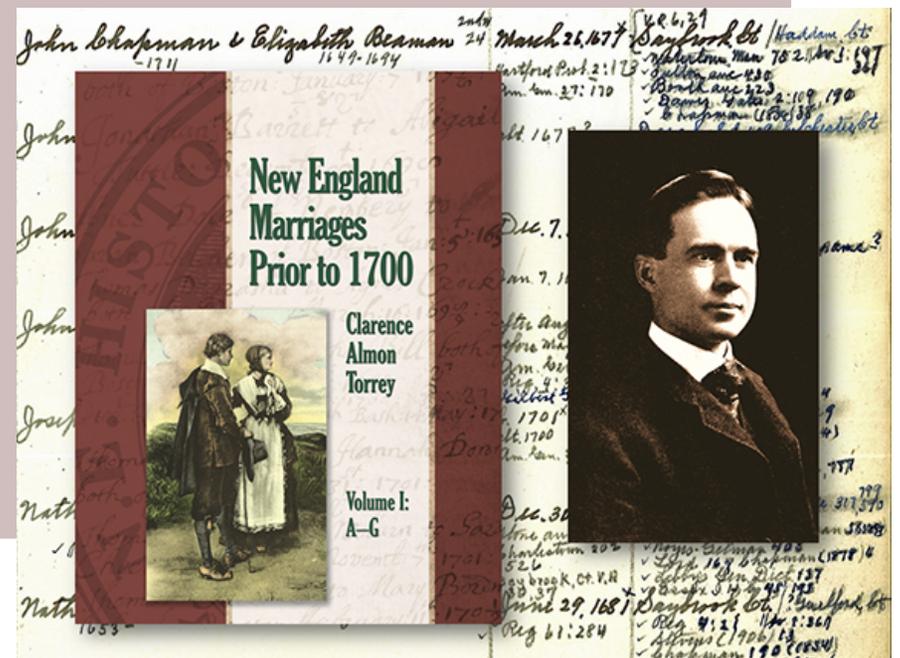
Connecticut Probate Districts; *Handbook*, p. 18

# New England Marriages Prior to 1700

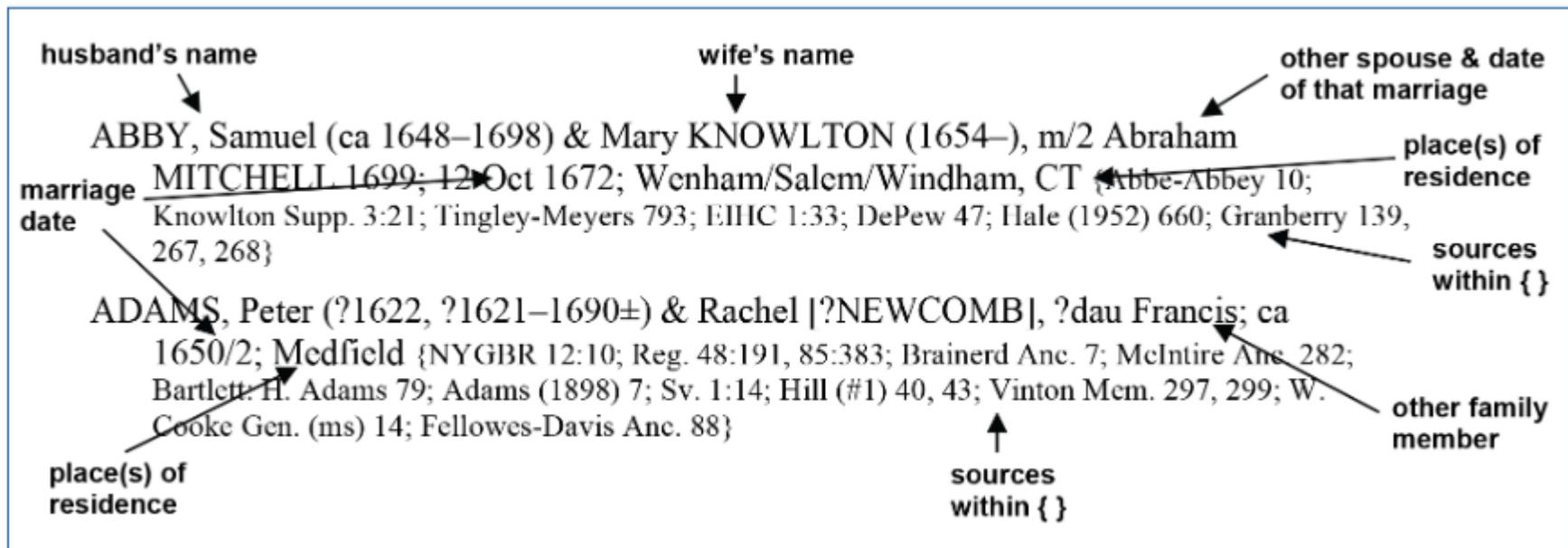
- Enumerates approximately 99% of all pre-1700 marriages of New Englanders
  - Includes marriages in Europe prior to migrating
  - Found 70% of maiden names



- Searchable database on [AmericanAncestors.org](http://AmericanAncestors.org)



# Torrey's New England Marriages prior to 1700



# Torrey's Source List

ADAMS, Peter (?1622, ?1621–1690±) & Racl  
 1650/2; Medfield {NYGBR 12:10; Reg. 48:15  
 Bartlett: H. Adams 79; Adams (1898) 7; Sv. 1:14  
 Cooke Gen. (ms) 14; Fellowes-Davis Anc. 88}

**Adams (1861):** Adams, George, *Genealogy of the Adams Family of Kingston, Mass.* (Boston: privately printed, 1861)

**Adams (1881):** Appleton, William Sumner, *Some Descendants of William Adams of Ipswich, Mass.* (Boston: D. Clapp & Son, 1881)

**Adams (1895):** Adams, Smith, *Genealogy and History of a Part of the Newbury Adams Family, Formerly of Devonshire, England, Being the Descendants of Robert Adams and Wife Eleanor* (Calais, Me.: The Calais Advertiser Office, 1895)

**Adams (1898):** Adams, Andrew N., *A Genealogical History of Henry Adams of Braintree, Mass. and His Descendants; also John Adams, of Cambridge, Mass., 1632–1897* (Rutland, Vt.: Tuttle, 1898)

**Adams (1900):** Adams, Andrew N., *A Genealogical History of Robert Adams of Newbury, Mass., and His*

**Alden (ms):** *Alden Genealogy* (published under auspices of the Alden Kindred of New York and Vicinity, 1935)

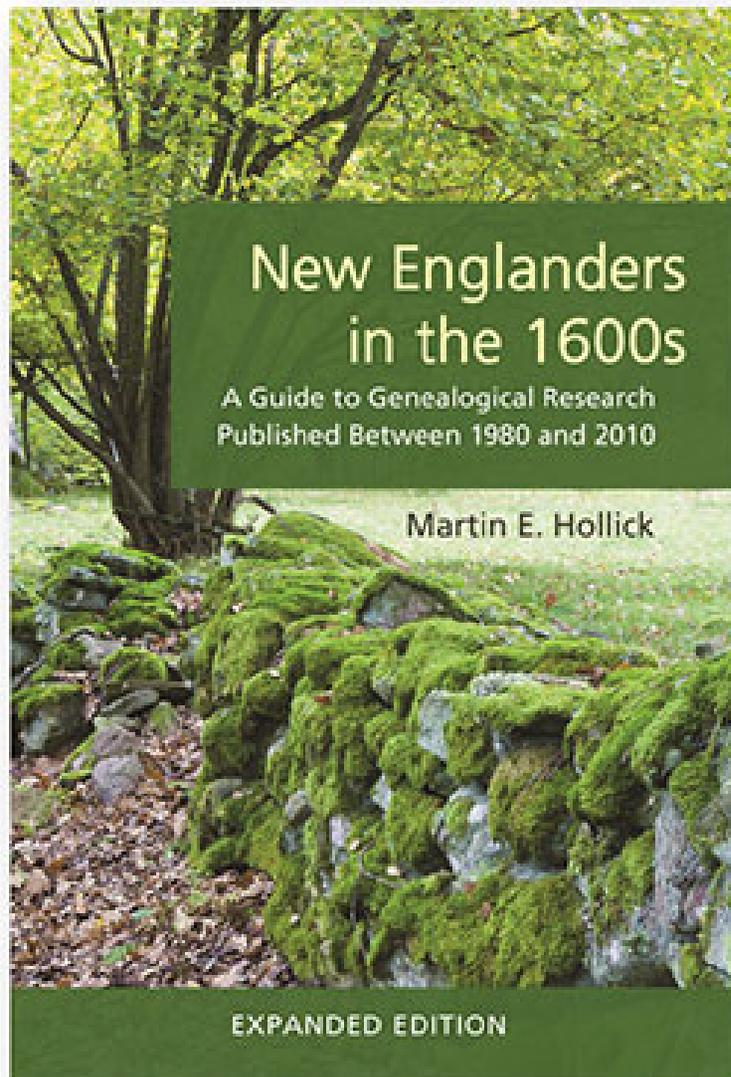
**Alden Chart:** *see* Daniel Alden Gen.

**Alden Mem.:** Alden, Ebenezer Alden, *Memorial of the Descendants of the Hon. John Alden* (Randolph, Mass.: Samuel P. Brown, 1867)

**Alden-Pabodie:** Alden, Mary Lonford (Taylor), *Elizabeth (Alden) Pabodie and Descendants* (Salem: E. Putnam, 1897)

**Alden-Snell-Long:** Long, Hallock Porter, *Alden-Snell-Long Ancestry: Being the Compiler's Line of Descent from John Alden Who Arrived at Plymouth, Massachusetts, on the Mayflower, in 1620 . . .* (Washington, D. C., 1925)

**Aldis:** Whitin, Frederick H., *The Aldis Family of Dedham, Wrentham, Roxbury and Franklin, Mass.* (Dedham: Dedham Transcript Press, 1905)



**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 Jonathan<sup>2</sup> 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 (Hannah<sup>3</sup> John<sup>2</sup>); 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. John<sup>2</sup> 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 (Richard<sup>3</sup> John<sup>2</sup>).

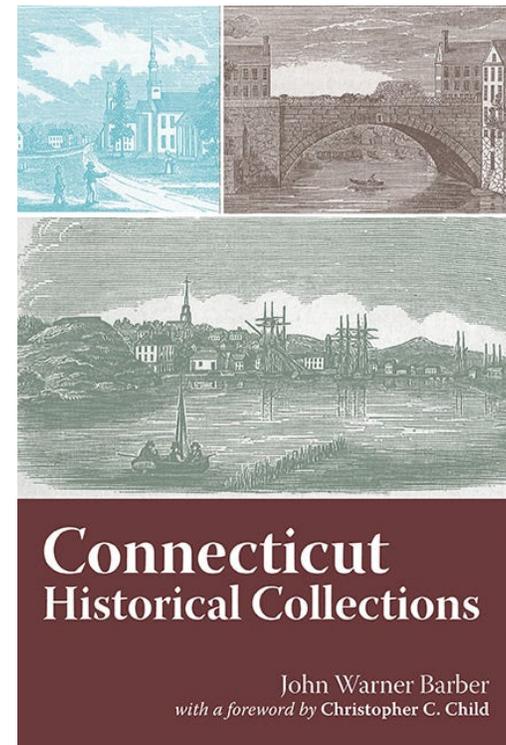
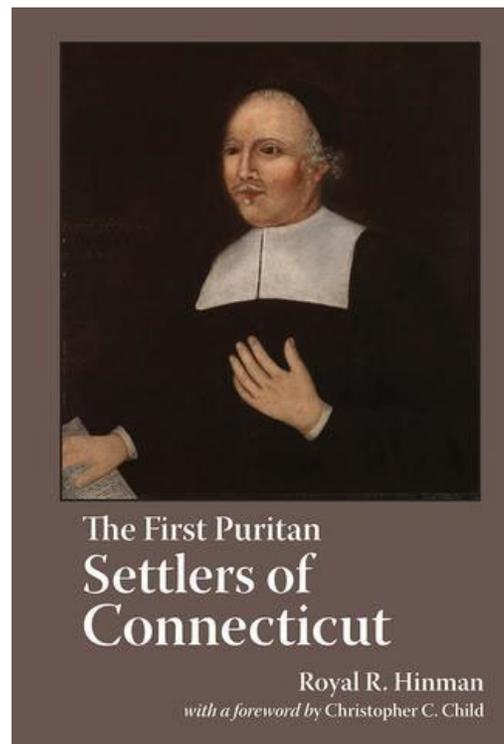
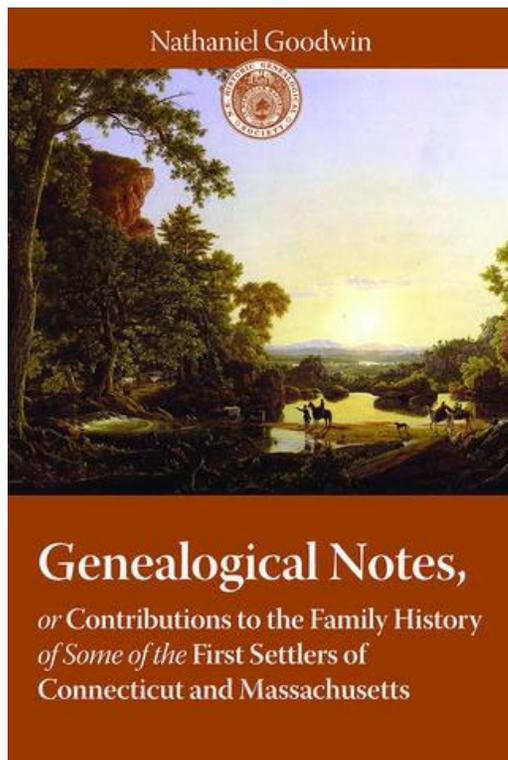
**CARGILL** SEE GREGG

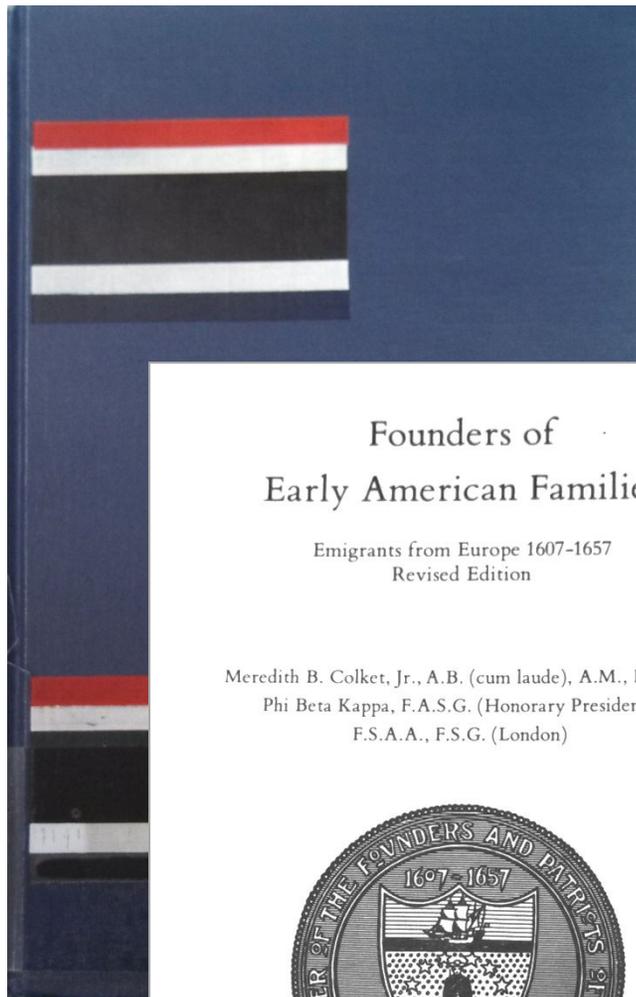
**CARLETON, EDWARD**, b. 1610, of Rowley, d. before 27 November 1678, possibly in England. RD600, p. 220; PA, p. 189-90; MCA, p. 173. Wife Ellen (Newton) at PA, p. 547; RD600, pp. 395-96; MCA, p. 624.

**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.

# Compilations

# Important Compilations





## 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**

# Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society

- From 1860 to 1930, Connecticut Historical Society published a series of key early documents from their collection
  - Archive.org has digitized
  - AccessGenealogy has index

## COLLECTIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY: VOLUME 1

- [Rev. Thomas Hooker's Letter to Governor Winthrop, 1638](#)
- [Abstracts of Two Sermons by Rev. Thomas Hooker, in the Years 1638, 1639](#)
- [Trial of Ezekiel Cheever before the New Haven Church, 1649](#)  
An account of the trial of Ezekiel Cheever, before the Church at New Haven, is printed from a contemporary manuscript, supposed to be by Cheever himself.
- [Letter from Governor Winthrop Respecting the Charter of Connecticut, 1662](#)
- [The People's Right to Election, by Gershom Bulkeley, 1689](#)
- [Their Majesties Colony of Connecticut Vindicated, 1745](#)
- [Connecticut Officers at Louisbourg](#)  
A List of the officers in the Connecticut Regiment, under the command of Lt. General Pepperell, at the Reduction of Louisbourg and Territories depending, to the obedience of his Britannick Majesty, and garrisoned the same until relieved by the British troops.
- [Papers Relating to the Ticonderoga Expedition, 1775](#)



# 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
- ★ • Searchable online databases on [AmericanAncestors.org](http://AmericanAncestors.org)
- Trace early Connecticut settlers



# Who is Included in the Series?

- If person appeared in a record before 1636
- Direct or indirect implication of arrival by the end of 1635, even if the record was of a later date
- Documentation of an immediate family of a person known to have arrived before 1636

vice, and acquired land. Since William Honywell does not appear in the 1643 list of men able to bear arms, or in any other Plymouth Colony record, the William Honywell who appears in the unfortunate incident of 1665/6 is almost certainly a different person than the immigrant of 1633.

### JOHN HOOKE

John Hooke came on the *Mayflower* as a servant boy to Isaac Allerton and "died with the first" [Bradford 441,444].

### THOMAS HOOKER

*ORIGIN:* Rotterdam

*MIGRATION:* 1633 in the *Griffin* [WJ 1:129]

*FIRST RESIDENCE:* Cambridge

*REMOVES:* Hartford 1636

*OCCUPATION:* Minister.

*CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:* On 11 October 1633 Winthrop reported a "fast at Newtown, where Mr. Hooker was chosen pastor, and Mr. Stone teacher, in such a manner as before at Boston" [WJ 1:137]. When Hooker moved to Hartford the church went with him, and he remained pastor there until his death.

*FREEMAN:* 14 May 1634 [MBCR 1:369].

*EDUCATION:* Matriculated at Cambridge from Queen's College 1604, migrated to Emmanuel, B.A., 1607-8; M.A., 1611 [Venn 2:403; Morison 382-83]. His inventory included "books in his study" valued at £300.

*OFFICES:* Arbiter, 7 May 1640 [RPCC 11].

*ESTATE:* Granted one acre for a cowyard at Cambridge, 4 November 1633 [CaTR 6]. Granted five acres of land and another three acres of land, 5 January 1633/4 [CaTR 7]. Granted "five acres of meadow ground in the mead next Watertown weir" and "thirty acres of salt marsh on the south side Charles River," 2 April 1635 [CaTR 12]. In the division of meadow land on 20 August 1635 granted a proportional share of zero [CaTR 13]. Granted three acres, 8 February 1635/6 [CaTR 17]. In the 8 February 1635/6 list of "houses" in the town, "Mr. Tho[mas] Hooker" held four [CaTR 18].

In the Cambridge land inventory on 1 May 1635 Thomas Hooker held four parcels of land: "in the town one house with garden and backside about one rood"; "in Cowyard Row one cow house and yard about one acre"; "in Wigwam Neck about five acres"; and "in the Long Marsh about

three acres" [CaBOP 3-4]. On 2 May 1636 "Thomas Hooker of the New Towne" sold to Nicholas Danforth "about one acre of land being the lot of Edward Hopkins" [CaBOP 38].

There is no entry in the Hartford land inventory of 1640 for Thomas Hooker, but his name is mentioned frequently as an abutter in other entries [HABOP *passim*].

In his will, dated 7 July 1647 and proved apparently in 1649, "Thomas Hooker of Hartford" bequeathed to "my son John Hooker my housing and lands in Hartford, aforesaid, both that which is on the west, and also that which is on the east side of the River, to be enjoyed by him and his heirs forever, after the death of my wife, Susanna Hooker, provided he be then at the age of one and twenty years, it being my will that my said dear wife shall enjoy and possess my said housing and lands during her natural life"; to "my son John my library of printed books and manuscripts" provided he "deliver to my son Samuell" books to the value of £50, or the cash equivalent, and "if my son John do not go on to the perfecting of his studies, or shall not give up himself to the service of the Lord in the work of the ministry, my will is that my son Samuel enjoy and possess the whole library and manuscripts, to his proper use forever; only, it is my will that whatever manuscripts shall be judged meet to be printed ... and however I do not forbid my son John from seeking and taking a wife in England, yet I do forbid him from marrying and tarrying there"; to "my son Samuell, in case the whole library come not to him, as is before expressed, the sum of seventy pounds"; to "my daughter Sarah Hooker" £100 at marriage or at age twenty-one, "the disposal and further education of her and the rest, I leave to my wife"; to "the two children of my daughter Joannah Shephard deceased, and the child of my daughter Mary Newton, to each of them ten pounds"; "my beloved wife Susanna Hooker" to be executrix and to receive the residue of the estate; "my beloved friends Mr. Edward Hopkins and Mr. William Goodwyn" to be overseers [Hartford PD Case #2841; CCCR 1:498-501; Manwaring 1:16-18].

The inventory of the estate of "Mr. Thomas Hooker," taken 21 April 1649, totalled £1136 15s., including £450 in real estate: "housing and lands within the bounds of Hartford on both sides the rive," £450. There was also "an adventure in the *Entrance*," £50 [Hartford PD Case #2841; CCCR 1:501-02].

*BIRTH:* About 1586 (based on matriculation at Cambridge), son of Thomas Hooker of Marefield, Tilton, Leicestershire [DSGRM 5:122-24].

*DEATH:* Hartford 7 July 1647 [MHSC 4:8:544-45]. Eliot wrote

This visitation of God was exceeding strange, it was sudden & general, as if the Lord had immediately sent forth an angel, not with a sword to kill, but with a rod to chastize, & he smote all, good & bad,

old & young, or as if there were a general infection of the air; which went from north to south by degrees infecting all, yea, such as were on the seas near our coasts were so infected & smitted. And this is remarkable, that though few died, yet some did, and generally those that died were of our choicest flowers, & most precious saints, among others that were then taken to rest was that worthy & blessed light Mr. Hooker, who having a cold & preached twice on the Sabbath (Mr. Stone not being at home), and ministered both the sacrament the Lord's supper in the forenoon & baptism in the afternoon, he was so over spent, & his spirits sunk, that he never could recover them again [RChR 190].

**MARRIAGE:** Amersham, Buckinghamshire, 3 April 1621 Susannah Garbrand [Bucks Marr 4:13]. She married (2) after 7 December 1654 and before January 1669/70 WILLIAM GOODWIN [NEHGR 55:25]. (At a Particular Court held on 7 December 1654 Walter Gray was confessed to and was punished for "his gross abuse & evil in slandering Mr. Will[iam] Goodwyn & Mar. Hooker in charging them with the act of adultery" [RPCC 134-36].)

**CHILDREN:**

- i JOANNA, b. say 1622; m. by about 1638 as his second wife Rev. Thomas Shepard of Cambridge [Young's First Planters 554-55]. (Although Young annotated this section of Shepard's memoirs to indicate that the marriage took place in October 1637, Shepard himself says the marriage was in the "year after those wars in the country," meaning the Pequot War of 1637.)
- ii MARY, b. say 1624; m. by about 1646 Rev. Roger Newton (she had one child by the date of her father's will, 7 July 1647; see TAG 14:99-103).
- iii ANNE, bp. Great Baddow, Essex, 5 January 1625/6; bur. Chelmsford, Essex, 23 May 1626.
- iv SARAH, bp. Chelmsford, Essex, 9 April 1628; bur. Chelmsford 26 August 1629.
- v SARAH, b. say 1630; m. by 1649 Rev. John Wilson, son of JOHN WILSON [NEHGR 61:128; Sibley 1:65-66].
- vi JOHN, b. say 1631; returned to England and married there, Savage says he became a parish priest.
- vii SAMUEL, b. say 1633; Harvard 1653 [Sibley 1:348-52]; m. Plymouth 22 September 1658 Mary Willett [PCR 8:21], daughter of THOMAS WILLETT.
- viii Son, d. Cambridge late in 1634 [WP 3:177].

**ASSOCIATIONS:** One sister of Thomas Hooker, perhaps named Anne, married GEORGE ALCOCK and another sister, Dorothy, married John Chester, and had with him LEONARD CHESTER.

Thomas Hooker spent a few years in the household of Francis Drake of Esher, Surrey, and made such a great impression that in his will of 13 March 1633/4 Drake made a bequest to "Johanna Hooker, who now is in New England," the daughter of Thomas Hooker [PCC 43 Seager]. This Francis Drake was cousin of the JOHN DRAKE who made a brief appearance in New England in the early 1630s, and who also received a bequest in his will.

**COMMENTS:** At court 5 March 1644[5] Walter Grey was found guilty of "laboring to inveigle the affections of Mr. Hooker's maid" [RPCC 33]. On 1 June 1654 Samuel Allen was ordered to pay Mistress Hooker three loads of wood for the one he confessed he stole from her [RPCC 127].

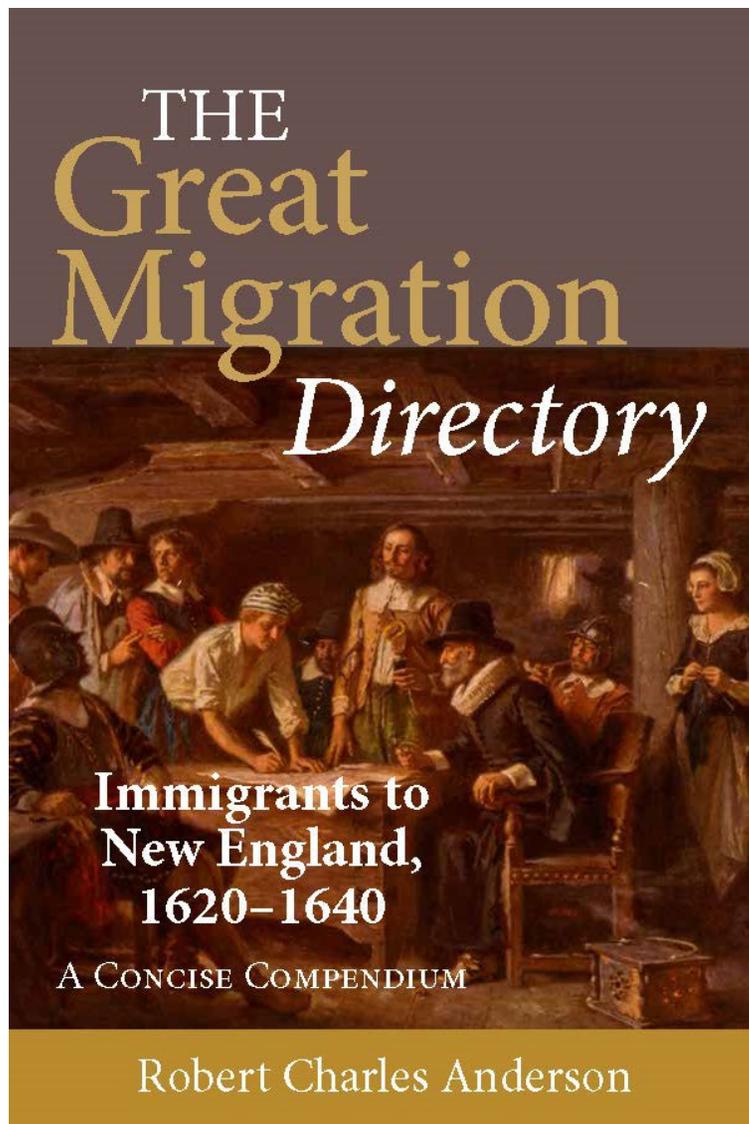
The last four children, according to the estimates made here, were born during a short span of time. Perhaps Samuel was born after the son who died in 1634.

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE:** Mather wrote a lengthy biographical sketch of Thomas Hooker [Magnalia 332-52]. Brief accounts of the life of Thomas Hooker have been published in the *Dictionary of National Biography* and the *Dictionary of American Biography*. In 1977 Frank Shufleton wrote a comprehensive, full-length biography of Hooker [*Thomas Hooker: 1586-1647* (Princeton 1977)].

## HOPKINS

"Mr. Hopkins" was granted a cowyard lot (probably one acre) in Cambridge, 4 November 1633 [CaTR 6].

**COMMENTS:** In 1634 a John Hopkins appeared in Cambridge [CaTR 9], and then made the move to Hartford, where he died in 1654. He was never given the title of respect, did not hold land in Cowyard Row at the time of the Cambridge land inventory in 1635 [CaBOP 26, 40], and would not seem to be the recipient of this grant of land. Mr. Edward Hopkins who arrived in Boston in 1637 soon moved to Hartford where he served for many years as Governor and Deputy Governor. He may have made a brief appearance in Cambridge in 1633, and then rejoined his neighbors in Hartford four years later, but this isolated record from 1633 may just as well be for some other "Mr. Hopkins" altogether.



**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].)

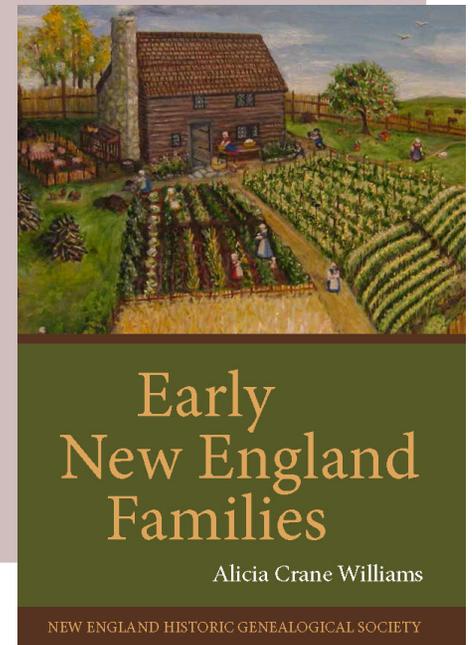
Citations: *The Records of the First Church in Boston, 1630–1868; Winthrop Papers, 1498–1654; The Records of the First Church in Salem, Massachusetts, 1629–1736; The Probate Records of Essex County, Massachusetts, 1635–1681; Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, 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*.

# Early New England Families Study Project

# 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](http://AmericanAncestors.org)
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## Early New England Families Study Project



### Accounts of New England Families from 1641 to 1700

This study project provides accurate and concise published summaries of seventeenth-century New England families. Using Clarence Almon Torrey's bibliographic index of early New England marriages and its recent successors as a guide, the project focuses on individuals who immigrated from 1641 through 1700, grouped by year of marriage. **Download a PDF listing of all available sketches**

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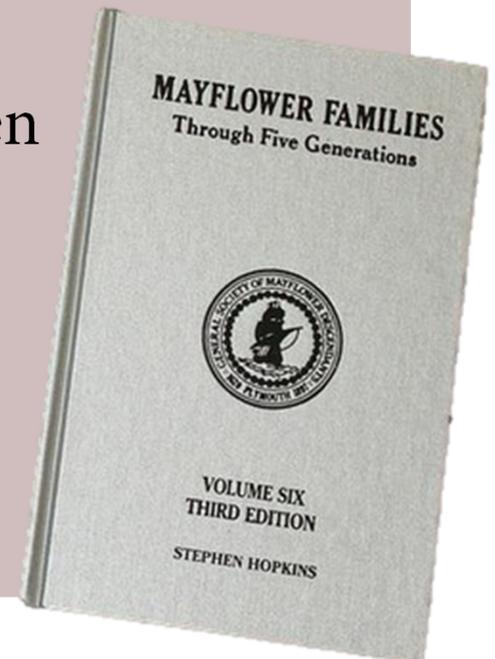
[AmericanAncestors.org/publications/early-new-england-research](https://AmericanAncestors.org/publications/early-new-england-research)

# Mayflower Families

- Project provides well-documented lineages of the ship's passengers



- At AmericanAncestors.org
  - Index of all the 5<sup>th</sup> Generation descendants, their spouses, and children
  - Searchable database at AmericanAncestors.org



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<sup>d</sup> 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 **JOSHUA<sup>3</sup> SOULE** (John<sup>2</sup>, George<sup>1</sup>) 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<sup>d</sup> 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 **NATHANIEL<sup>3</sup> SOULE** (Nathaniel<sup>2</sup>, George<sup>1</sup>) 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.

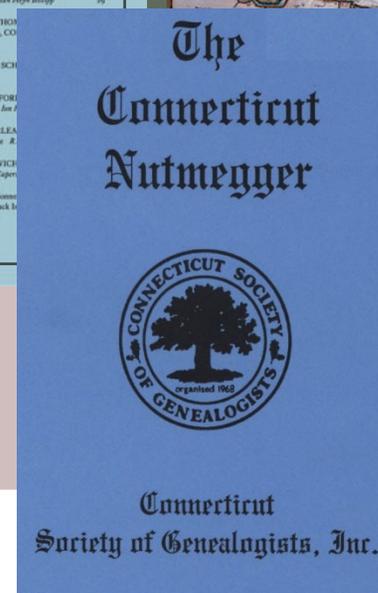
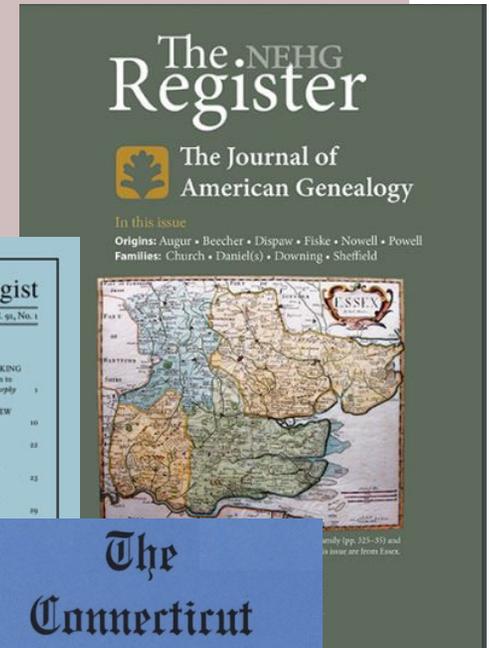
On 30 Jan. 1733/4 Nathaniel Soule of Dartmouth, yeoman, sold land in Dartmouth to Bethiah Macomber of Dartmouth, widow. Wife Hannah also signed. On 5 Sept. 1738 Nathaniel Soule of Dartmouth, yeoman, sold land in Dartmouth to Holden Slocum.

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

# Journals and Periodicals

# Journals and Periodicals

- ★ • *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*
  - ★ • *The American Genealogist*
  - ★ • *Connecticut Nutmegger*
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Image Transcript Volume 5 (1851) Page 63 of 486

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1851.] *Records of Windsor, Ct.* 68

RECORD OF MARRIAGES AND BIRTHS

IN THE TOWN OF WINDSOR, IN CONNECTICUT, copied from the first book of Records in Windsor, under the date of 18 May, 1674, and with the following preamble by the Recorder :

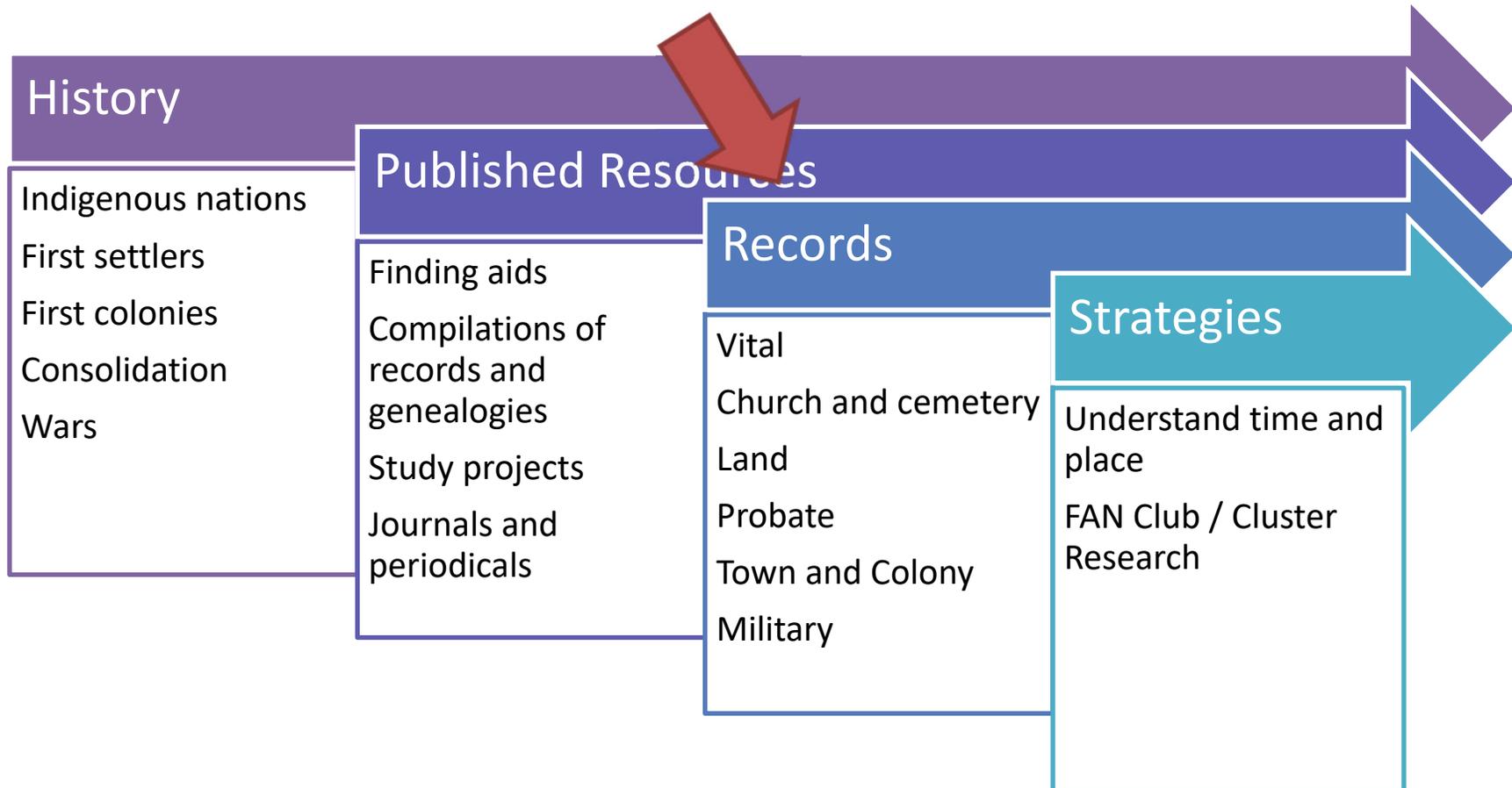
“May 18, 1674. I here set down a new genealogy of children that have been born in Windsor and have come to my knowledge to enter them upon in the old Book that being full there is not place to get in order to find them. — Here I enter Parsons as they [*were*] upon the latter.”

[Communicated by SAMUEL H. PARSONS, Esq., of Middletown, Ct., corresponding member of the N. E. H. G. Soc.\*]

BENEDICTUS ALVORD m. Ione Nuton, 26 Nov. 1640 ; children, Jonathan b. 1 June, 1645 ; Benjamin b. 11 July, 1647 ; Josias b. 6 July, 1649 ; Elizabeth b. 21 Sept. 1651 ; Jerremy b. 24 Dec. 1655.

ELEXANDER ALVORD m. Mary Vore, 29 October, 1646 ; had children, Abigail b. 6 October, 1647 ; John b. 12 August, 1649 ; Mary b. 6 July,

# Overview



# Early Connecticut Records

- Vital and church records: birth, baptism, marriage, death, burial, gravestone
- Land records: grants and deeds
- Probate records: will, inventory, guardianship
- Town and Colony: meetings, actions, records, censuses
- Court: lawsuits, probate
- Military records: Colony, town militia

# But First, Jurisdictions

# Jurisdictions for Records

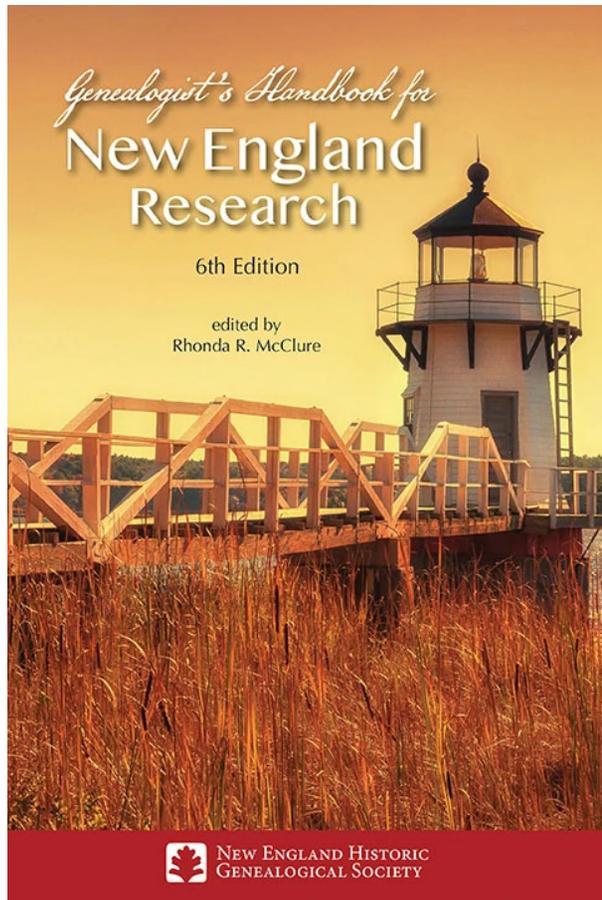
	Vital Records	Land	Probate
<b>Connecticut</b>	<b>Town → State</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Probate Districts</b>
Maine	Town → State	County	County
Massachusetts	Town → State	County	County
New Hampshire	Town → State	County	County
Rhode Island	Town → State	Town	Town
Vermont	Town → State	Town	Probate Districts

# Overview of Colonial Government

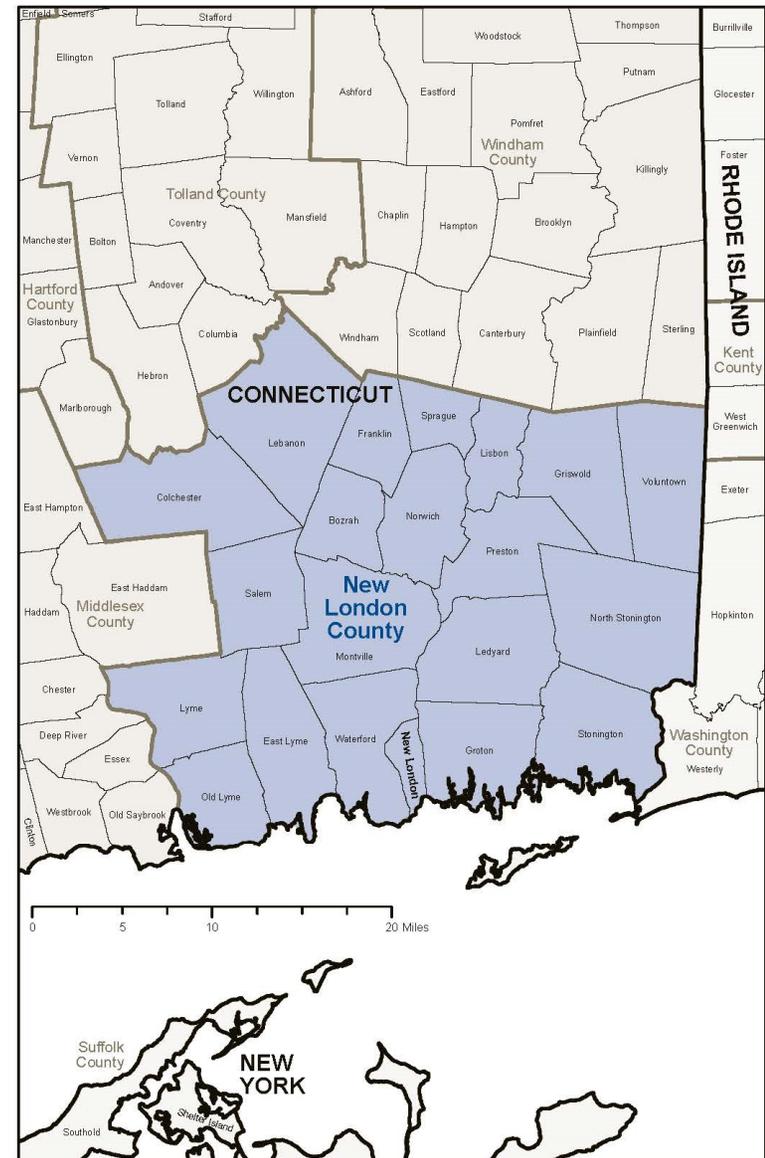
- Colony
  - Fundamental Orders of Connecticut 1639
  - Connecticut Charter – 1662
  - General Court of Connecticut
- Towns
  - Selectmen
  - Elected officers (Town Clerk)
  - Responsible for vital records, town grants of land, Overseers of the Poor
- Courts
  - 1666 - Hartford, Fairfield, New Haven, and New London for probate and other affairs

Tip

Learn about the town!



CT



*Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research, 6<sup>th</sup> Ed, Windham County Map, p. 82*

CT

Town (Current Probate District)	Inc.	County	Parent Town(s)	Pre-2011 Probate District (Est.)	Parent Probate District	Notes	VRs	CRs
Newington (7)	1871	Hartford	Wethersfield	Newington (1975)	Hartford			
Newtown (45)	1711	Fairfield		Newtown (1820)	Danbury	Daughter Town: Brookfield.	B, N, W	
Norfolk (24)	1758	Litchfield		Norfolk (1779)	Litchfield, Simsbury		B, W	W
North Branford (35)	1831	New Haven	Branford	North Branford (1937)	Guilford & Wallingford	Alias: North Farms.	B, W	
North Canaan (24)	1858	Litchfield	Canaan	Canaan (1846)	Sharon			
North Haven (36)	1786	New Haven	New Haven	North Haven (1955)	New Haven	Alias: East Farms.	B, W	
North Stonington (30)	1807	New London	Stonington	North Stonington (1835)	Stonington	Alias: Milltown.	B, W	
Norwalk (51)	1651	Fairfield		Norwalk (1802)	Fairfield, Stamford	Daughter Towns: New Canaan, Westport, Wilton.	B, W	
Norwich (29)	1662	New London		Norwich (1748)	New London	Settled 1659. Daughter Towns: Bozrah, Franklin, Lisbon.	B, P, W	N, W



## Connecticut Town Pages with Norwich, New London County

The screenshot shows the AmericanAncestors.org website. At the top left is the logo for AmericanAncestors, by the New England Historic Genealogical Society. To the right of the logo is the tagline "A National Center for Family History, Heritage & Culture". Further right are links for "Bookstore", "About Us", "Create a Tree", and a "LOG IN" button. Below this is a navigation bar with links for "Search", "Events", "Membership", "Give", "Publications", "Expert Help", "Tools", "Signature Projects", and "Activities & Initiatives". The "Tools" menu is open, showing options: "American Ancestrees", "Video Library", "Research Guides", "Research Templates", "DNA Resources", and "Youth Education". A red arrow points to the "Research Guides" option. Below the navigation bar are three featured research guides, each with a "RESEARCH GUIDE" header, an image, a title, and a "FIND OUT MORE" button with a right-pointing arrow. The first guide is "Town Guides" with an image of a wooden barn. The second is "Vermont Genealogy" with an image of a white church. The third is "World War Veteran Research" with an image of a gravestone.

[AmericanAncestors.org/tools/research-guides](https://AmericanAncestors.org/tools/research-guides)

## Town Guides

### Research towns throughout New England and New York

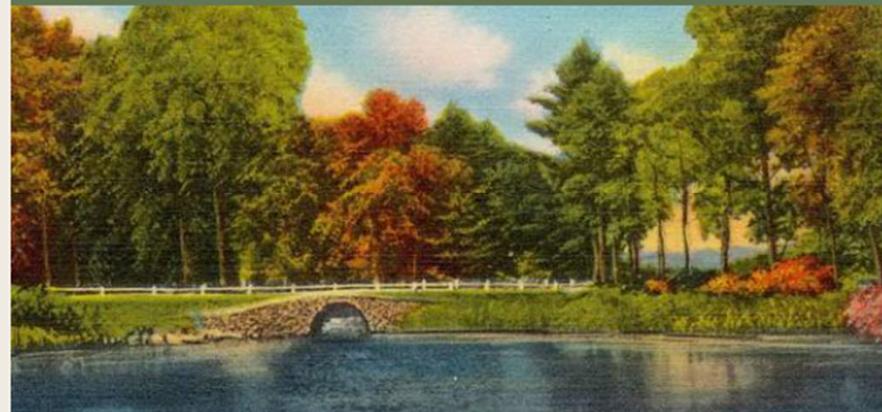
Town guides will help you in identifying research strategies for towns throughout New England and New York. They include information on name changes for towns, settlement and incorporation dates, parent towns or counties and much more. Villages, smaller sections of towns, are not included in these guides.

RESEARCH GUIDE



Connecticut Town Guide

RESEARCH GUIDE



Maine Town Guide

[AmericanAncestors.org/tools/town-guides](https://AmericanAncestors.org/tools/town-guides)

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A

Name	Established	County	Parent Town(s)
Anderson			
Andover	1848	Tolland	Coventry and Hebron
Ansonia	1889	New Haven	Derby
Ashford	1714	Windham	
Avon	1830	Hartford	Farmington

# AmericanAncestors.org/tools/connecticut-town-guide

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# Hamden, New Haven County, Connecticut Genealogy

[United States](#) → [Connecticut](#) → [New Haven](#) → **Hamden**

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- 2 [Cemeteries](#)
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  - 12.3 [Deaths](#)
- 13 [References](#)

## **Brief History** [ edit | edit source ]

Hamden is a town in [New Haven County, Connecticut, United States Genealogy](#). Hamden is a suburb of the city of New Haven.

Originally settled by Puritans as part of the town of [New Haven](#), Hamden was purchased by Theophilus Eaton and Reverend John Davenport in 1638 from the local Quinnipiack (Quinnipiac) Native American tribe. It remained a part of New Haven until 1786 when 1,400 local residents incorporated the area as a separate town, naming it after the English statesman John Hampden.

The Farmington Canal, which ships traveled from New Haven northward, passed through Hamden between 1825 and 1848

FamilySearch.org Research Wiki

# Vital

# Vital Records

- Kept by towns since earliest settlement of community
- Generally are well-kept, but not always complete
- Originals at Town Clerk's office or Connecticut State Library
- Barbour Collection provides easiest access to Connecticut Vital Records
- FamilySearch.org in process of digitizing original records

# Barbour Collection

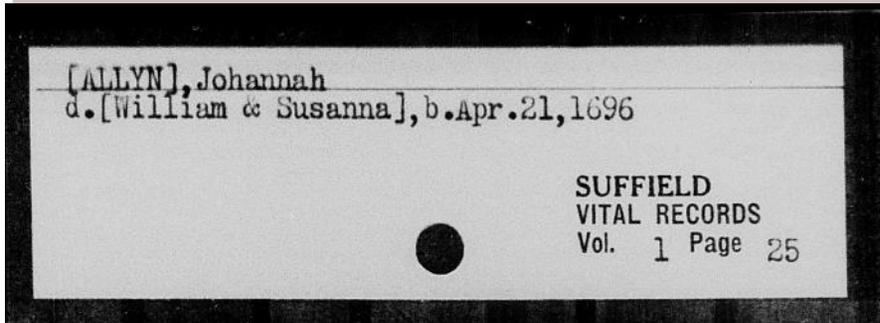
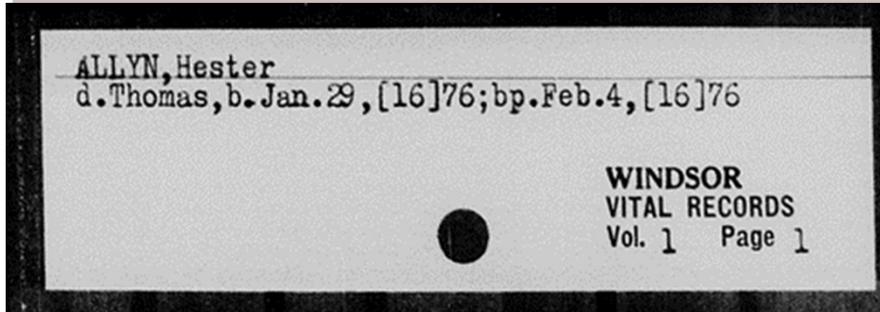
- Compiled under the direction of Lucius Barnes Barbour
- Statewide alphabetical **slip index** – available FamilySearch.org
- **Bound volumes** by town – available AmericanAncestors.org, Ancestry.com (\$), FamilySearch.org



# Barbour Collection

## Slip Index (FS)

## Town Page (AA)



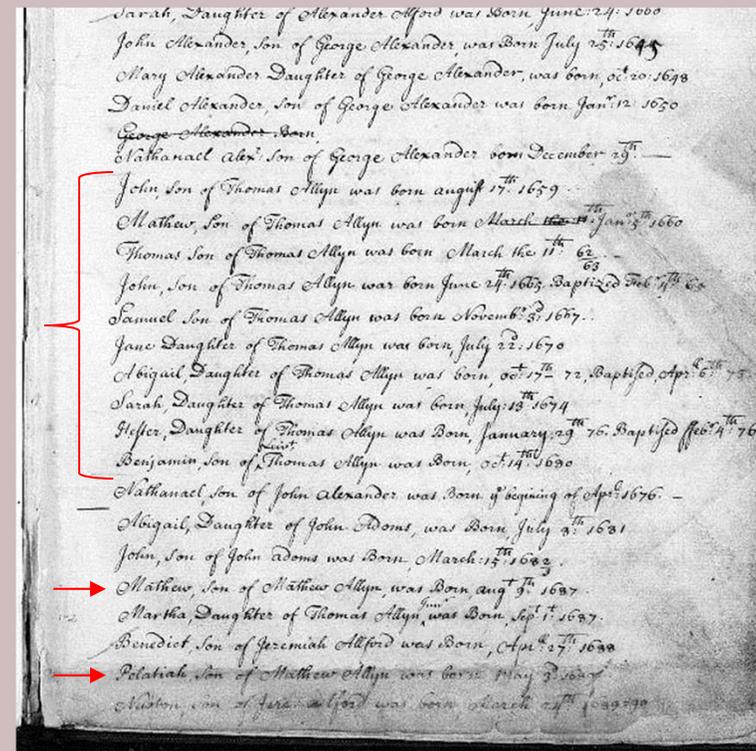
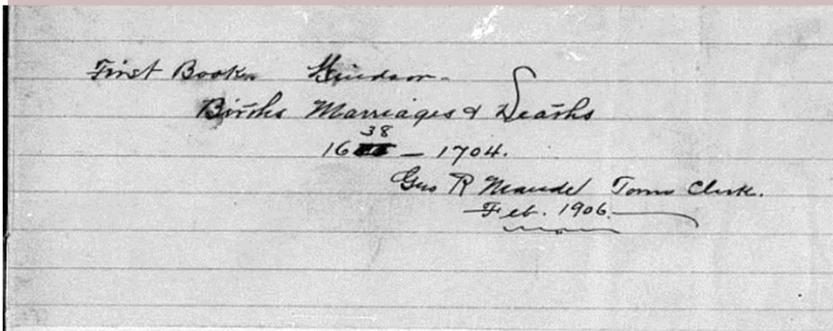
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Joanna, wid., m. Samuel Bencraft, Feb. 23, 1709/10		199
Joanna, m. Daniel Stoughton, b. of Windsor, Sept. 3, 1730		286
Job, s. Lieut. Benjamin & Abigail, b. Sept. 16, 1747		215
Job, s. Benjamin & Abigail, d. Dec. 11, 1747		286
Job, s. Lieut. Benjamin & Abigail, b. Nov. 24, 1753		1
John, s. [Thomas & Abigail], b. Aug. 17, [16]69; d. [ ]	MG	1
John, s. Thomas, b. Aug. 17, 1669	I	40
John, s. Thomas, d. Oct. 4, [16]69	MG	55
John, s. Thomas, d. [ ] [16]62	Col. 1	1
John, s. Thomas, b. June 24, 1665	I	53
John, s. Thomas, b. June 24, 1665; bp. Feb. 4, 1665	I	2
John, of Windsor, m. Bridget South, of Enfield, May 3, 1694		123
John, s. Alexander, b. July 25, 1697		281
John, s. Benjamin, decd., b. July 4, 1718		282
John, m. Hannah Chapman, b. of Windsor, Feb. 20, 1723/4		124
John, s. Josiah & Sarah, b. Nov. 23, 1729		284
John, s. Benjamin & Abigail, b. May 26, 1740		287
John, Jr., m. Elizabeth Hether, b. of Windsor, May 2, 1751		282
John, s. John, Jr. & Elizabeth, b. Oct. 10, 1751		216
John Burnham, m. John Child & Ruth, b. Mar. 1, 1762		216
Jonah, s. Thomas & Elizabeth, b. Mar. 6, 1733/4		216
Jonah, d. Nov. 3, 1799		285
Jonathan, s. Mathew & Dorcas, b. Dec. 21, 1742		330
Jonathan, s. Jonathan & Eunice, b. Feb. 20, 1772		282
Joseph, s. Thomas & Elizabeth, b. June 3, 1757		124
Joseph, Jr., m. Lois Burnham, b. of Windsor, Jan. 17, 1755		285
Joseph, s. Joseph, Jr. & Lois, b. Aug. 22, 1758		2
Josiah, s. Mathew & Sarah, b. Nov. 3, 1693/8		281
Josiah, s. Josiah & Sarah, b. Nov. 3, 1727		124
Josiah, Jr., m. Ann Allyn, b. of Windsor, Dec. 3, 1751		215
Josiah, d. Feb. 1, 1753		123
Josiah, m. Sarah Higworth, b. of Windsor, Feb. 9, 1761		216
Josiah, Lieut., d. Jan. 17, 1794		181
Laura, of Windsor, m. Addison Moran, of Suffield, July 31, 1820, by James Loomis, J. F.		164
Louisa, of Hartford, m. Braatus Hopkins, of Bennington, N. Y., Sept. 10, 1839, by Henry A. Howland		216
Love, d. Samuel & Elizabeth, d. Sept. 7, 1757		215

# Family Search Digitization

## Windsor Town Clerk's Records

## Allyn Births



# Suffield Records - FS

(25) William Allyn.  
William Allyn & Johanna Dibble were Joynd in Marriage  
December ye 29<sup>th</sup> 1692. William their son born July ye 28<sup>th</sup> 1694.  
Johanna his Daughter born April ye 21<sup>st</sup> 1696 Sarah his daughter  
born April ye 28<sup>th</sup> 1699. Samuel his son born octo: ye 8<sup>th</sup> 1702.  
Ebenzer his son born June. 4<sup>th</sup> 1704. His son John born  
January ye 24<sup>th</sup> 1706. Their daughter Hephzibah born June  
ye 14<sup>th</sup> 1708 And Deceased April ye 15<sup>th</sup> 1711. Him self Deceased  
November ye 15<sup>th</sup> 1711. Their son Ephraim born after his  
fathers Death April ye 9<sup>th</sup> 1712

[ALLYN], Johannah  
d. [William & Susanna], b. Apr. 21, 1696

SUFFIELD  
VITAL RECORDS  
Vol. 1 Page 25

**18 databases** Reset filters

**DATABASE** ▾

- all databases
- only databases with images
- only my favorite databases
- only free databases

**LOCATION** ▾

United States (17)

England (1)

**DATE** ▾

Pre 1700 (18)

1700 - 1750 (0)

1750 - 1800 (0)

1800 - 1850 (0)

1850 - 1900 (0)

1900 - 1950 (0)

1950 - Present (0)

**CATEGORIES** ▾

Vital Records (incl. Bible, Cemetery, Church and SSDI) (18)

Results per page

20

50

100

Q		☆	Connecticut: Vital Records (The Barbour Collection), 1630-1870
Q		☆	Woodbury, CT: Deaths, 1678-1898
Q		☆	Simsbury, CT: Vital Records, 1665-1886
Q		☆	Greenwich, CT: Vital Records, 1670-1847
Q		☆	Mansfield, CT: Vital Records, 1700-1850
Q		☆	Saybrook, CT: Vital Records, 1647-1834
Q		☆	Woodstock, CT: Vital Records, 1686-1854
Q		☆	Stamford, CT: Vital Records, 1654-1825
Q		☆	New Haven, CT: Vital Records, 1649-1850
Q		☆	Preston, CT: First Congregational Church Records, 1698-1898
Q		☆	Stonington, CT: First Congregational Church Records, 1674-1874
Q		☆	Norwich CT: Vital Records of Norwich, 1659-1848
Q		☆	East Haven [CT] Register: Part 3, Deaths, 1647-1832
Q		☆	Hartford, Windsor and Fairfield CT: Vital Records, 1631-1691
Q		☆	Woodbury, CT: Marriages, Deaths, and Early Settlers, 1684-1784
Q		☆	Milford, CT: Records of the First Church, 1640-1829
Q		☆	Hartford, CT: Historical Catalogue of the First Church, 1633-1885
Q		☆	England, Surrey County: Marriage License from the Commissary Ct, 1673-1770

## American Ancestors Databases

# Vital Record Pitfalls

- Not all VRs were recorded
- Sometime just “son” or “daughter” was recorded
- Events may have occurred in one town, but were recorded in another

# Church and Cemetery

Tip:

Can't find a VR?  
Use substitute sources!

# Church Records

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

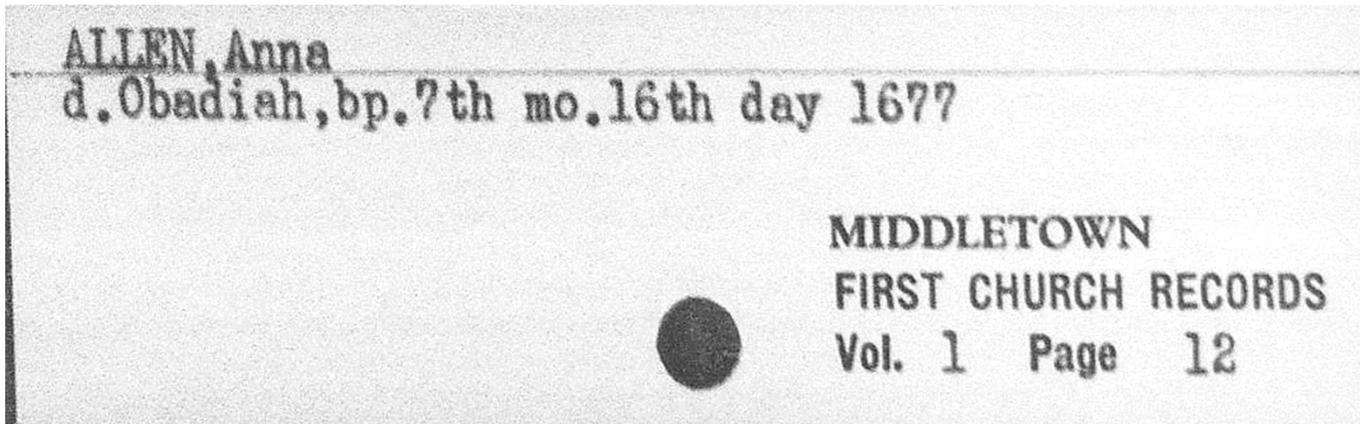


# Connecticut Church Records

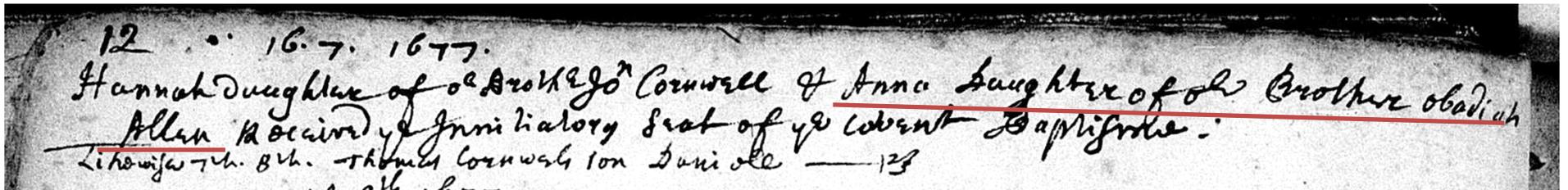
- Most complete holdings of church records are at the Connecticut State Library
  - Digital listing of their complete church record holdings online
- FamilySearch.org
  - “Index cards to vital records of Connecticut churches at the Connecticut State Library”
    - Index covers one quarter of all records held by Connecticut State Library
    - Check the FamilySearch.org catalog, by town, for digitized original record
  - “Connecticut, Church Records, 1660-1955”
  - “Connecticut, Marriages, 1630-1997”
  - “Connecticut, Births and Christenings, 1649-1906”

# Connecticut Church Records

- “Connecticut, U.S., Church Record Abstracts, 1630-1920” – Ancestry.com
- Congregational Church Archives
  - Simsbury (1697)
  - Lebanon (1697)



“Index cards to vital records of Connecticut churches at the Connecticut State Library”



“Church records, 1668-1871”

Author: First Church of Christ (Middletown, Connecticut)

Middletown, CT First Church – Family Search

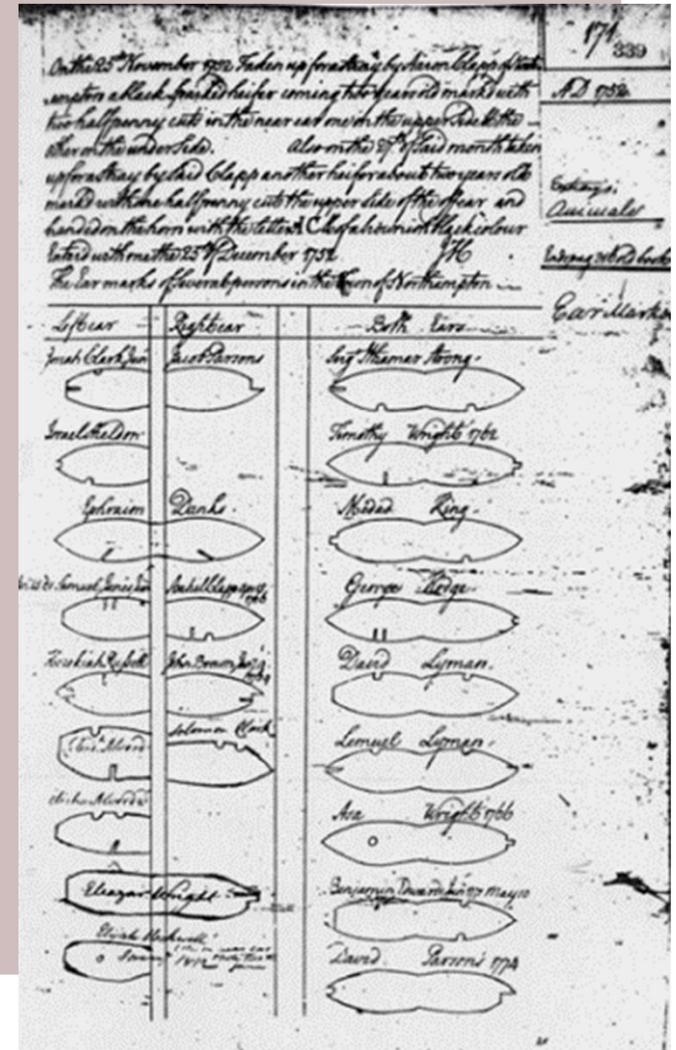
# 17<sup>th</sup>-Century Connecticut Cemetery Records

- Hale Collection: Compilation of vital events from cemetery inscriptions and newspaper death notices
  - Title at FamilySearch: “Connecticut, Charles R. Hale Collection, vital records : COLLECTION RECORD, 1640-1955”
  - W. P. A. Project (Works Progress Administration) directed by Charles R. Hale
- FindAGrave.com

# Town and Colony

# 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 resources from 17th to 19th century
- 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

# Index to Connecticut Town Records

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AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.

Kind of records.	Volumes.	Years.	Missing.	Indexed.
Town proceedings.....	4	1654-1906	No.....	No.
Land records.....	138	1654-1906	No.....	Yes.
Vital statistics.....	12	1654-1906	No.....	Yes.
School society.....	2	.....	.....	.....

Early vital statistics have been copied by present town clerk.

TOWN OF MILFORD, COUNTY OF NEW HAVEN.

Kind of records.	Volumes.	Years.	Missing.	Indexed.
Town proceedings.....	6	1696-1906	No.....	No.
Land records.....	67	1639-1906	No.....	Vol. 1-50.
Vital statistics.....	7	<sup>a</sup> 1653-1906	Yes.....	No.
School society.....	.....	Incomplete.	.....	.....
Church (First Congregational).....	.....	.....	.....	.....

<sup>a</sup> Very few entries from 1800 to 1847.

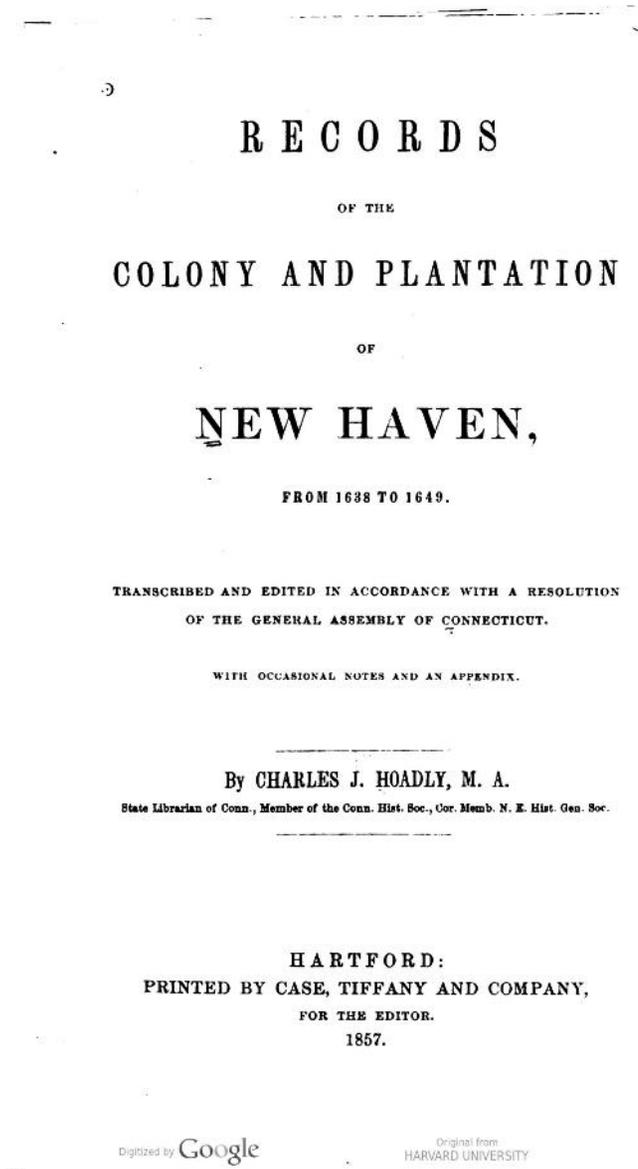
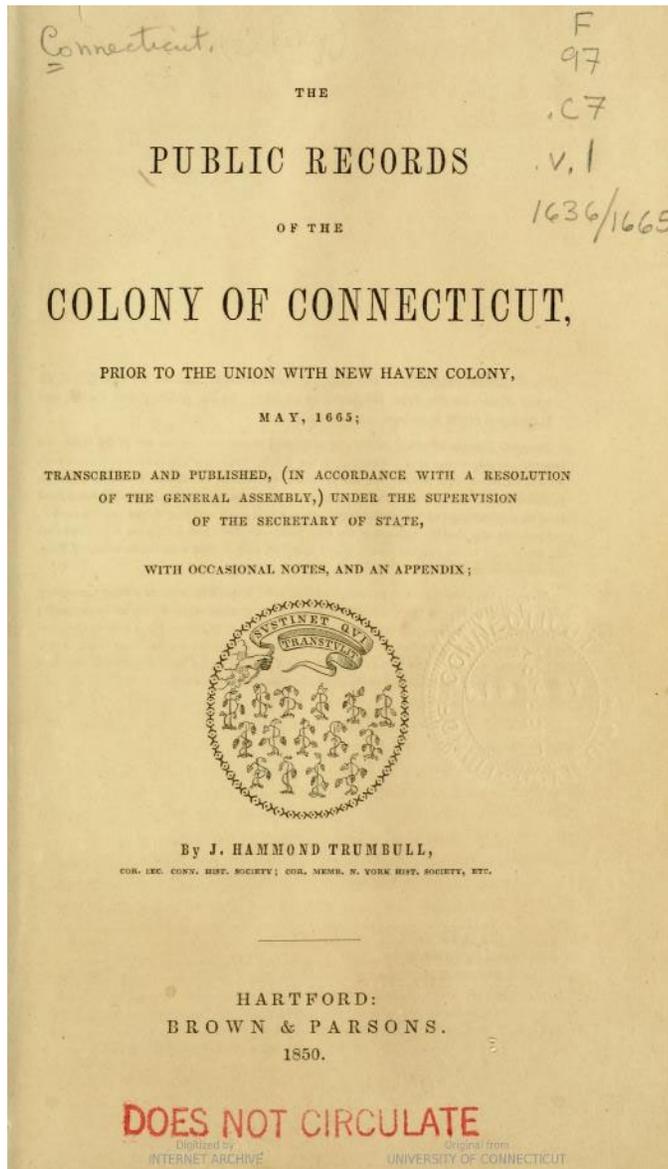
Index to Connecticut Town Records Annual report of the American Historical Association - 1906 v. 2

# Where to Find 17<sup>th</sup> Century Town and Colony Records?

- Connecticut Archives index
  - “Towns and lands, 1629-1789”: 10 volumes
  - “Towns and lands, 1649-1820”: five volumes
  - Searchable by name
- Local town & city clerk’s offices, or historical societies have originals
- Some town records have been imaged on microfilm or digitally from the FHL Library – use Catalog > Place Search

# Colony Records

- Available for
  - Colony of Connecticut
  - Colony of New Haven
  - Colony of Saybrook – vital records only
- Includes:
  - Minutes of colonial officials
  - Earliest mention of male inhabitants of colony



# Colony Records – Hathi Trust

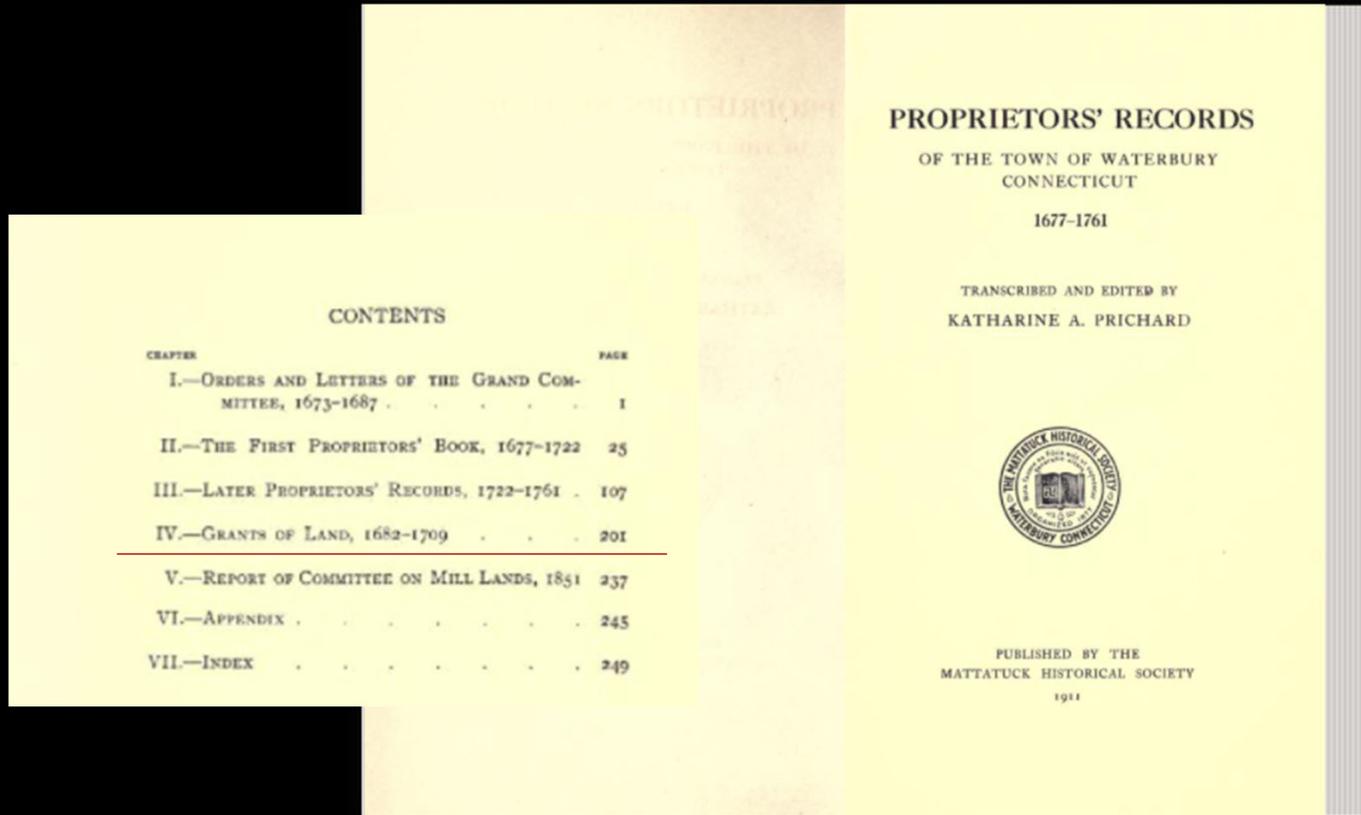
# Land

# Connecticut Land Deeds

- Earliest land was granted by Connecticut General Court to town Proprietors
- Proprietors distributed land within town
- Records held by towns, digitized by FamilySearch.org
- No statewide or county index to deeds

# Where to Locate Proprietor Records

- Town Hall, Town clerk, tax office or assessor
- Libraries and Historical Societies
- Family History Library
- Published transcriptions
  - *Original distribution of the lands in Hartford among the settlers, 1639.*
  - *Proprietors' Records of the Town of Waterbury, 1677-1761*
  - Search [HathiTrust.org](http://HathiTrust.org) or [Archive.org](http://Archive.org) for ancestor's town



CONTENTS

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II.—THE FIRST PROPRIETORS' BOOK, 1677-1722 . . . . .	25
III.—LATER PROPRIETORS' RECORDS, 1722-1761 . . . . .	107
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V.—REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MILL LANDS, 1851 . . . . .	237
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PROPRIETORS' RECORDS

OF THE TOWN OF WATERBURY CONNECTICUT

1677-1761

TRANSCRIBED AND EDITED BY KATHARINE A. PRICHARD



PUBLISHED BY THE MATTATUCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1911



Proprietors' records of the town of Waterbury, Connecticut, 1677-1761

by Waterbury (Conn.). Proprietors; Prichard, Katharine A



Archive.org/details/proprietorsrecor00wateiala

# Other Published Sources

- Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut
  - Volume 1: 1636 – 1665
  - Volume 2: 1665 – 1678
  - Volume 3: 1678 - 1689
  - Volume 4: 1689 - 1706
  - HathiTrust.org or Archive.org
- Use Proprietor records to determine the earliest date of settlement for your family

## PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CONNECTICUT.

103

## TOWN OF DERBY, COUNTY OF NEW HAVEN.

Kind of records.	Volumes.	Years.	Missing.	Indexed.
Town proceedings.....	4	1670-1906	No.....	No.
Land records.....	85	1670-1906	No.....	Gen. index.
Vital statistics.....	9	<sup>a</sup> 1812-1906	No.....	Yes.
Selectmen's.....	4	.....	.....	.....

<sup>a</sup> Prior to 1812 vital statistics were recorded in land and town records.

Land records, vols. 1 and 2, have been copied by Daughters of Revolution.  
General index to vital statistics, 1812-1836; since then volume index.

## TOWN OF DURHAM, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.

Kind of records.	Volumes.	Years.	Missing.	Indexed.
Town proceedings.....	4	1730-1906	All prior to 1730.	No.
Land records <sup>a</sup> .....	33	1699-1906	Yes.....	Yes. <sup>b</sup>
Vital statistics <sup>c</sup> .....	3	1847-1906	Yes.....	Yes.
Selectmen's.....	3	.....	.....	.....
School society.....	1	1796-1862	.....	.....
Proprietors <sup>d</sup> .....	.....	.....	.....	.....

<sup>a</sup> According to Fowler's history of Durham records existed back to 1662, but no trace can be obtained of them.

<sup>b</sup> Land records have index of grantees; vols. 1-16 partial record of grantors.

<sup>c</sup> Early book of land and proprietors' records contains early vital statistics; some found in town records.

<sup>d</sup> Vol. 1, land records, contains early proprietors' records; earlier proprietors' records are missing. (Fowler.)

Miscellaneous records: Joint stock corporations, 1 volume; earmarks and dog register, 1; electors, 1; attachments, 1; estrays, 1; accounts with families of volunteers, 1; account book of sheep masters of Durham (town flock), 1.

## Inventory of Connecticut Town Records

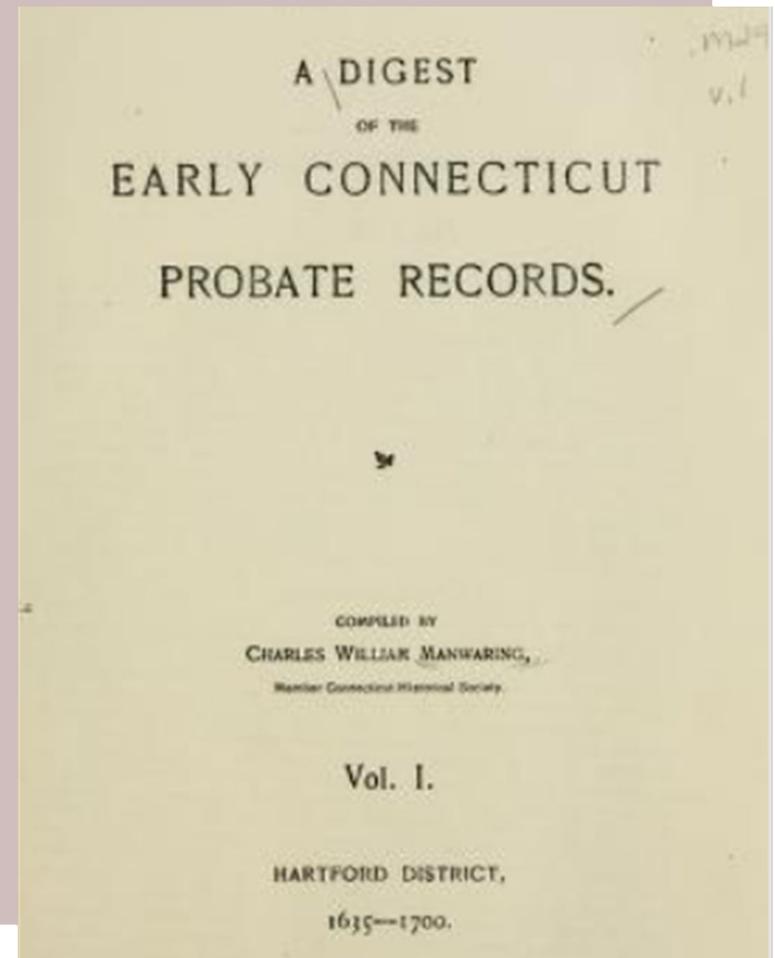
# Probate

# Connecticut 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

# Where to Find 17<sup>th</sup>-Century Probate Records

- Charles Williams Manwaring, *A Digest of Early Connecticut Probate Records*. Volume 1 covers to 1700. Available at Archive.org
- AmericanAncestors.org (“Connecticut: Early Probate Records, 1635-1750”)



Page 185-6.

**Winthrop, Gov. John**, Boston. Invt. in Hartford, 173-01-04. Taken 5 September, 1676, by John Allyn, Joseph Haynes, George Gardner. Will dated 3 April, 1676.

I John Winthrope, of the Colony of Connecticut, in New England, now resident of Boston, being sicke in Body but through Mercy of perfect memory and Understanding, do make this my last Will & Testament: I Will & Bequeath unto my two sons Fitz John & Waitstill, to each of them an equal proportion out of my Estate, which is to be a double portion to each of them (that is, double to what I give to each of my daughters); the rest of my Estate to be equally divided to my 5 daughters, vizt: Elizabeth, Lucy, Margaret, Martha & Anne, only my Will is that in the Computation of my Estate, whereas I have already given to my daughters Elizabeth & Lucy good Farms which they are in possession of, that that may be considered by the Overseers of this my Will hereafter named, and proportionably accounted as part of their portions, abatement to be made out of the present Legacy to them given above accordingly. And I do hereby nominate and appoint my two sons Fitz John & Waitstill and my 5 daughters above named to be Executors & Executrixes of this my last Will & Testament. And I doe request the persons hereafter named to accept the trouble to be overseers of this my Will and to settle all things accordingly, and doe declare that it is my Will that if any question, difficulty or differences arise in or about this my Will, it shall be determined by them or any three of them. The persons are: Of Connecticut, Capt. John Allyn, Mr. William Joanes and Major Robert Treat. Of Boston: Mr. Humphrey Davie, Mr. James Allyn, and my brother Mr. John Richards.

In Witness that this is my last Will & Testament, I have hereunto set my Hands & Seal. Done in Boston this 3 day of April, 1676.

Witness: *Thomas Thatcher sen.,*

JOHN WINTHROP LS.

*John Blake.*

Court Record, Page 154—25 July, 1676: Will proven.  
(A Copy on File, & on Record at Hartford, Connecticut.)

## Manwaring's Record for Winthrop

# Other Sources for Probate Records

- Connecticut State Library: books and loose papers
  - much available through FamilySearch.org
- FamilySearch.org
  - Index: “General index to probate records : all districts in Connecticut 1641-1948”
  - “Probate files collection, early to 1880”
  - Viewable at Family History Center or Affiliate
- Ancestry.com (\$) “Connecticut, Wills and Probate Records, 1609-1999”

# Estate of Thomas Miller, Middletown, CT

ESTATE OF			
<i>Miller, Thomas</i>			
Attached	Locustment	Inventory	Minor
Decedent	Executor	Legatee	Trust
TOWN OF <i>Middletown</i>			
DATE <i>1680</i> NO. <i>3723</i>			
<b>Hartford Probate District</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Wills and Codicils <input type="checkbox"/> Bonds <input type="checkbox"/> Applications and Petitions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inventories <input type="checkbox"/> Orders of Court <input type="checkbox"/> Returns to Court <input type="checkbox"/> Distributions <input type="checkbox"/> Accounts of Administration <input type="checkbox"/> Receipts <input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total Documents			
DEPOSITED IN CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY UNDER PROVISIONS PUBLIC ACTS 1909 CHAP. 175 September 23, 1915			
Remarks			

August the 11<sup>th</sup> 1680

The last will and testament of Thomas Miller of Middletown in the County of Middlesex for being something above seventy years of age and not knowing the Day of my Death is as followeth After the Committting my Spirit to god - which - Gave it and my body to a Decent buriall of Doo Vases of that portion of worldly goods as followeth

Imprimus My will is that my Estate shall be Divided Equally amongst all my Sons after my wifes Deceas they paying my Daughters out of it halfe soe much as any of their portions my wife having the use of my house and Land & stock for her life time the other Lands which are not fitt for improvement at present nor under fence may be divided to them as part of their portions as they they Com to age As Respecting my Daughter Bacon I have already paid her ~~her~~ full portion before her Death - And she is for Doe not soe Cause for Doe any thing Now to my son in Law Nathaniell Bacon And making my Loving wife Sara Miller my Soallid Exectrix of this my last will & testament And that this is my last & seill and testament of witness by setting to my hand

Test *William Cheney*

*John Hall*

*the executor of Thomas Miller Sonice*

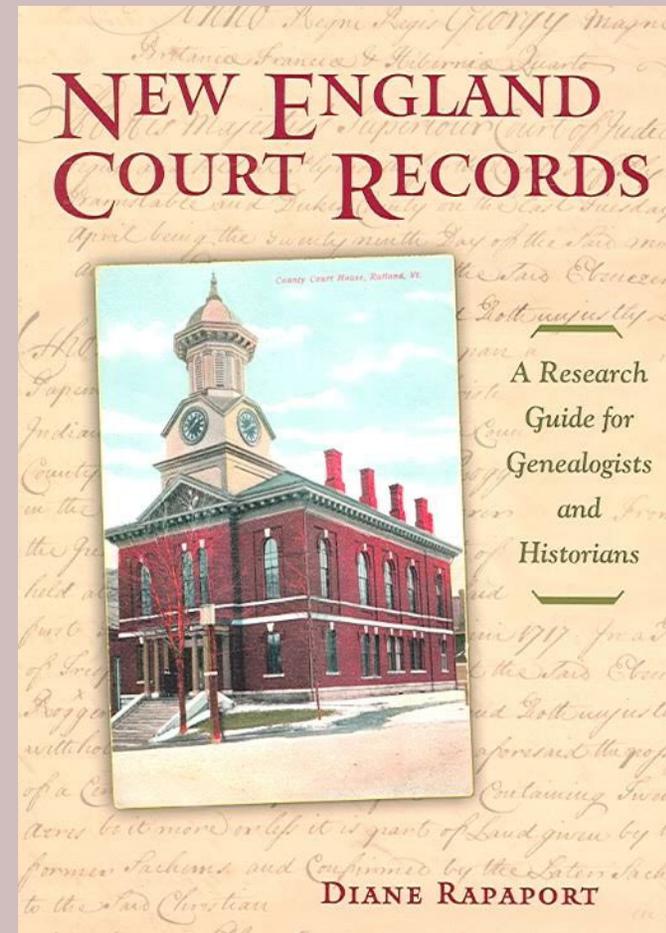
Deacon John Hall & I<sup>er</sup>: w<sup>m</sup> Cheney personally appeared & made oath that the sd Thomas Miller did in their presence sign & declare the above written to be his last & seill Testament ~~in~~ this 20<sup>th</sup> of December 1680 before me *John G. ...*

Ancestry.com: "Connecticut, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1609-1999"

# Courts

# 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
  - Divorce
- Few images available; FHL Microfilm



# Particular Court 1639-1663

- First court to hear probate cases
- Published in *Records of the Particular Court of Connecticut, 1639-1663* (Hartford, CT: Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society) vol. 22
- AmericanAncestors.org: “Connecticut: Records of the Particular Court of the Colony of CT, 1639-1663”

Cost fees  
ye Clerk 10:8:  
Marsh<sup>11</sup> 17<sup>s</sup>  
M<sup>r</sup> Davie taking  
bond— 2 £

Jehoj: Bartlet being p<sup>r</sup>esented by ye Grand Jury ye 5<sup>th</sup> of yis Instant for being drunk, he was sumoned before yis Court and apeared; was Convicted by testimony of being drunke it being the second time./ This Court Doe sentance him, that he shall find two sufficient suertyes to be bound in ye sum of ten pounds, w<sup>th</sup> Condition of good behavior, and for want of such suertyes, to be sent to ye gaol./

Attended  
2<sup>nd</sup> day

Antho. Hoskins to Stand Comitted  
till he satisfie Judgm<sup>t</sup>, or find  
Sufficient suertyes for ye same/

Jere: Gillet and Jn<sup>o</sup> Williams of Symsbury was p<sup>r</sup>esented by the grand Jury ye 5<sup>th</sup> June Instant for not goeing to meting was Sumonsed and apeared before yis p<sup>r</sup>esent Court, & ye Court hearing what they had to say for yemselves and they p<sup>r</sup>omsing Reformation, ye Court se Cause to pase yis by

Nath Winchell of Winds<sup>r</sup> being p<sup>r</sup>esented by ye grand Jury in March Last, for neglecting ye publick ordinances on ye Sabath, and withdrawing in time of Excer-cise & makeing uproar in the Streat/ was sumonsed and apeared before ye Court and being Convited The

An Inventory of the Estate of Daniell Garet Deceased was exhibited in Court and oath made that there was a true p<sup>r</sup>esentm<sup>t</sup> of the Estate to the Apriz<sup>rs</sup> so far as at p<sup>r</sup>esent is known and if more Come to knowledg she will Cause it to be added to the Inventory./ This Court grants adminstration on the Estate to the widow and desire and order Capt Caleb Standly and John Marsh ov<sup>r</sup>seers to assist the widow that the estate may be Improved for the best advantage that she may not be a Towne Charge./

## Court of Particulars

# Court of Assistants

- Appeals court
- Also divorce, murder, witchcraft
- AmericanAncestors.org: “Minutes of the Court of Assistants, 1669-1711”

A Court of Asisten<sup>s</sup> at hartford may: 17: 1669.

upon the humble Petition of **Mary Barns** the wife of **Charls Barns** the [*sic*] shee might bee [word crossed out] Reeleased from her matrimoniall Bond and Engagement to the said Barnes this Counte [*sic*] having duely Considered ~~the~~ ~~that~~ p<sup>r</sup>mises with the Euidences p<sup>r</sup>sented Doe finde y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> said Barnes hath wilfully desert<sup>e</sup>d his wife at and that if the one of them if not both of ~~both~~ them haue Committed adultrey and theirfore doe Declare that they doe relese the said mary from her Coniugall relation matrimonial bond to the said Charls Barnes.

## Court of Assistants - Divorce

# Military

# Military Records

- Two major conflicts: Pequot War and King Philip's War
- 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*

PATTISON, EDWARD—Service mentioned. (Mason and Savage.) Enlisted from Windsor. (Tuttle, Bodge and Stiles' Win.) From Saybrook. (Tarbox.)

Probably came in the Christian, 1635. Stiles says that "his valiant right arm caused seven Indians to 'bite the dust.'" He was of New Haven 1639, a proprietor of Reheboth, Mass., 1643, where his land was forfeited. Two children. (Savage, Pope and Nash's Fifty Puritan Ancestors, p. 128.)

PHILLIPS, WILLIAM—Enlisted from Hartford. (Tarbox, Talcott, Bodge, Stuart and Parker.) Had a lot in Soldiers' Field.

Was early of Hartford where he died 1655. No children. (Talcott, Savage and Manwaring, Vol. I., p. 143.)

PIERCE, JOHN—Enlisted from Hartford. (Talcott and Parker.) Had a lot north of Soldiers' Field.

An early inhabitant of Hartford but removed before 1640. In 1642 the town gave his land to William Clark. (Talcott, Savage and H. T. V., p. 63.)

PLUMB, JOHN—Enlisted from Wethersfield. (Adams and Stiles' Weth.)

He came to Dorchester, Mass., 1635, owned a vessel in which he probably came to Wethersfield, 1636, which some think was employed to carry Mason's soldiers in 1637. Removed to Branford about 1645 and died 1648. Nine children. (Weth. Gen., Savage, Plumb's Plumb Family, p. 1; N. H. C. R., pp. 397 and 401, and Atwater, p. 607.)

FRATT, WILLIAM—Enlisted from Hartford. (Tarbox, Talcott, Bodge, Stuart and Parker.) Had a lot in Soldiers' Field.

An original proprietor of Hartford, removed to Saybrook, 1645. Was legatee of James Ellis, 1665. Died about 1678. Eight children. (Talcott, Whittlesey's Descendants of John Pratt, p. 9, Pratt's Pratt Family, pp. 47 to 54; Savage, Manwaring, Vol. I., p. 194, and Timlow, p. ccxi.)

PURKAS, JOHN—Enlisted from Hartford. (Tarbox, Talcott, Bodge, Stuart and Parker.) Had a lot in Soldiers' Field.

He had land at Hartford in the distribution of 1639, died 1645. Two daughters. (Talcott, Win. Gen., Savage, Manwaring, Vol. I., p. 30; C. R., Vol. I., p. 406, and Nash's Fifty Puritan Ancestors, p. 39.)

ROGERS, JAMES—Service mentioned. (C. R., Vol. II. p. 161.) Enlisted from Saybrook. (Tarbox.)

Came in the Increase, 1635, was of Saybrook, 1637, then of Stratford, of Milford, about 1645, and New London, 1656. Died 1688. Seven children. (Rogers' James Rogers and Descendants, pp. 27 to 38; Savage, Caulkins, pp. 90 to 92 and 201 to 208; Pope, Pond's Story Ye Memorial at Milford, p. 18, and Atwater, p. 652.)

ROOT, THOMAS—Enlisted from Hartford. (Tarbox, Talcott, Bodge, Stuart and Parker.) Had a lot in Soldiers' Field.

Was early of Salem, Mass., removed to Hartford about 1637, to Northampton, Mass., 1654, where he died 1694. Eight children. (Talcott, Root's Root Genealogical Records, pp. 101 to 103, Savage and Timlow, p. ccxiii.)

ROSE, ROBERT.—Enlisted from Wethersfield. (Adams and Stiles' Weth.)

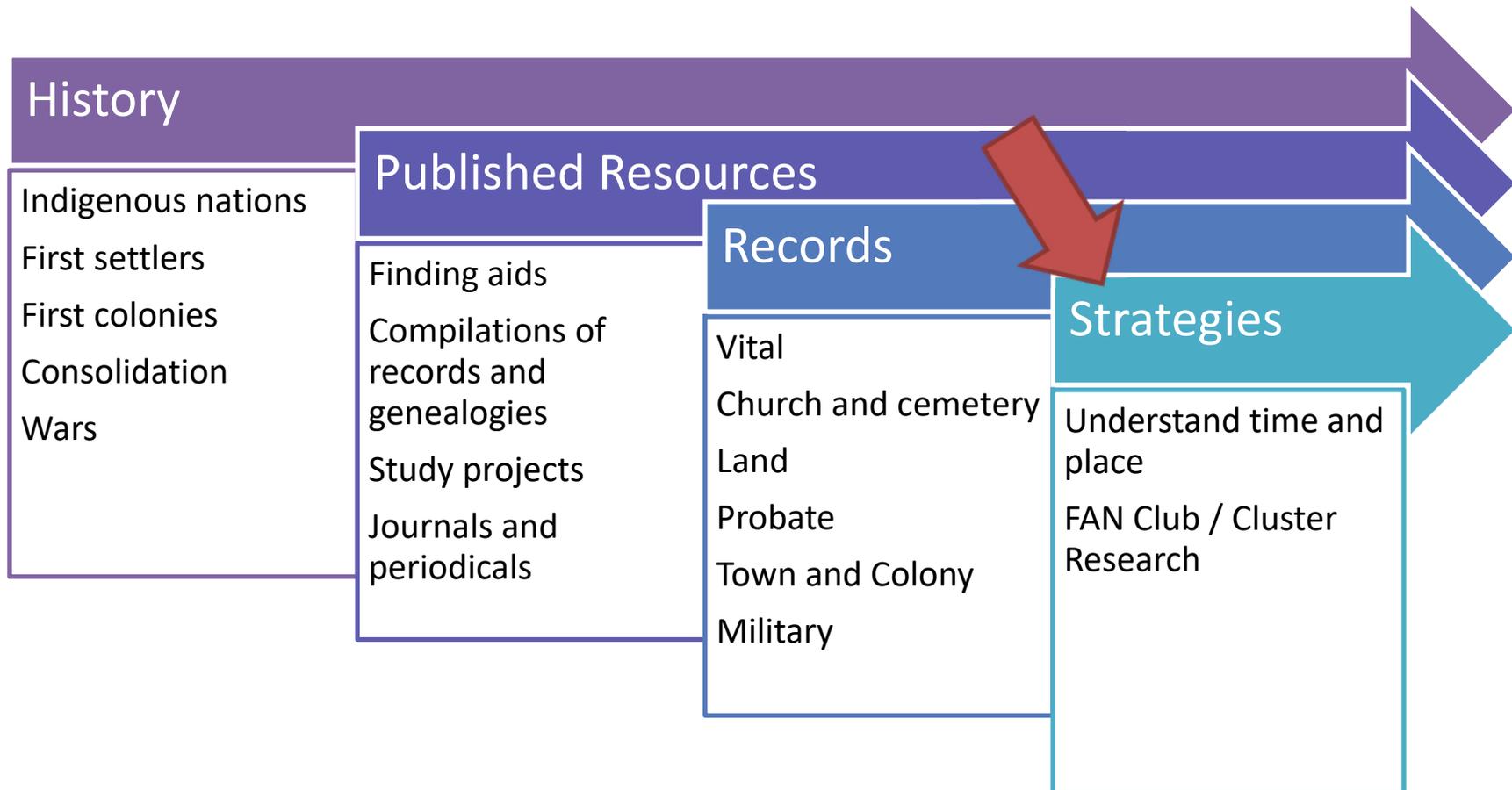
Came to New England 1634 and became one of the first settlers of Wethersfield 1634 or '5. Removed to Branford 1644, where he died 1665. Ten children. (Weth. Gen., Orcutt's Hist. Stratford, p. 1275; Savage and Atwater, p. 608.)

ROSE, ROBERT, JR.—Service mentioned. (Stratford Land Records, Book I., p. 235, and Orcutt's Hist. Stratford, p. 130.)

He was son of Robert and Margery Rose, came with his parents in 1634, and settled at Wethersfield. He removed to Branford before 1654 and to Stratford about 1667, where he gave his son-in-law, Moses Johnson, 50 or 60 acres in 1679, that was "granted me for service in the Pequot war." He had a Colonial grant of 50 acres in 1668, with no mention of service, which grant was finally taken up by and confirmed to Thomas Weller,

## Connecticut Soldiers in Pequot War

# Overview



# Strategies

# Common Challenges

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

# General Considerations and Suggestions

- You may not find one “smoking-gun” record; you may need to build a case with multiple records
- Essential Strategy: Research the ancestors associates and neighbors (Cluster Research or FAN Club Research)
- Some records may be less reliable than others; seek originals if you can
- May need to have, and exhaust, several working theories

# 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

# Strategy for Sorting Common Names

- What makes each person unique?
  - Dates of vital events
  - Names of wife and children
  - Specific plot of land occupied
- Timeline valuable in common names situations

# Strategy for Finding the Maiden Name

- Who were the neighbors?
- Who are the associates of the husband?
- If the family were early settlers, where did they migrate from?
  - Earliest settlers of Woodstock were from Roxbury, MA
  - Ebenezer Grosvenor of Roxbury arrived in Pomfret, the town south of Woodstock, in 1699 and married Ann ???  
In 1707
  - Correlation of births in Roxbury, MA settlers of Woodstock narrowed possible candidates to Ann Massey/Marcy and Ann Lyon

## And keep in mind . . .

- Terms of kinship may have different meanings in 17<sup>th</sup>-century:
  - 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” typically mean younger versus older and 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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