

# The Basics of Court Records

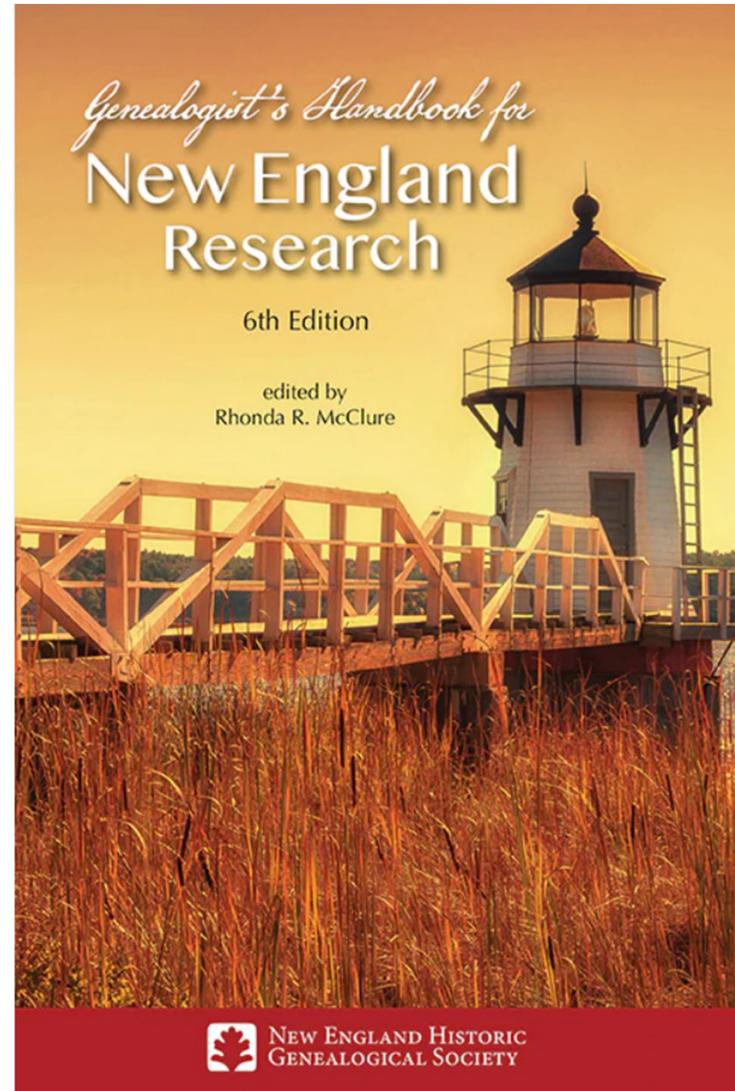
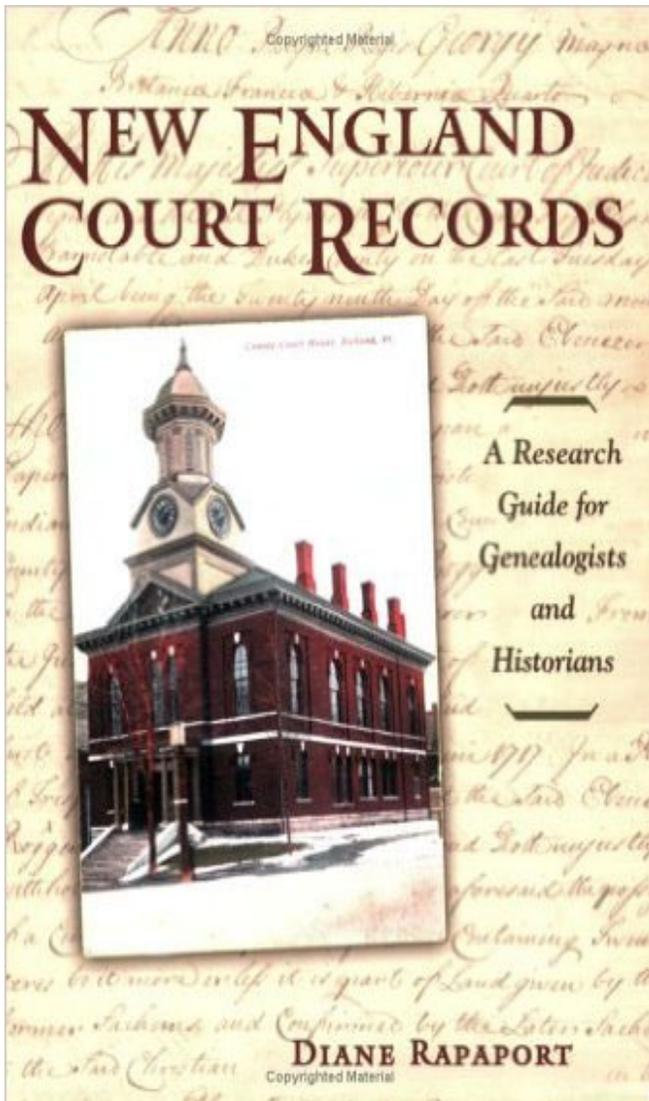
David Allen Lambert, Chief Genealogist  
April 2025



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# Why use court records?

- Puts your ancestor at a certain place and a certain time
- Provides information about family connections and relations not found in other records (ex. may explain paternity or even disappearance of ancestor)
- Overlooked source in early published genealogies
- Adds to the life story of your ancestor



## Guides for further study

# Types of Court Files to Research

# Various Types of Court Cases

- Name Changes
- Adoptions
- Separate Support
- Divorce Records
- Naturalization Records
- Court Appearances for Family & Criminal Issues
- Court Appearances for Financial Issues

Tip

Check catalogs for  
Transcribed and Published  
Court Records

673  
 An Act of Assault p[er]petrated at Boston in New England the 3<sup>d</sup> of March 1673  
 Comd. Comd. pl[ain]tiff ag[ainst] John Heyman & the rest of the Jury w[ho]m default  
 in an action of Assault from the verdict of the Jury in September last on Appeal  
 that the Jury verdict the Attach[ment] of Defendants in that  
 was read w[as] said Heyman of Jury w[ho]m default committed to the Jury  
 did not sit w[ith] the rest of the Jury brought in their  
 but they found a special verdict & of the law w[as]t impow[er]d a Jury  
 to sit men to give damage according to what they judge reasonable might  
 w[as]t by the party complaining then w[as]t find for the defendant but  
 in law w[as]t not allow the Jury that power or liberty w[as]t find  
 for the now plaintiff. & the mag[ist]r[ate] declared on p[er]cell of w[is]dom  
 that the defendant costs of Court be paid by the defendant

White pl[ain]tiff against Joseph Bartlett defendant in an action of  
 Assault from the judgment of the County Court at Cambridge in October last  
 relating his bond to be forfeited  
 White pl[ain]tiff ag[ainst] Joseph Bartlett defendant in an action of Assault  
 from the judgment of the County Court at Cambridge in October last  
 relating his bond to be forfeited  
 White pl[ain]tiff ag[ainst] Joseph Bartlett defendant in an action of Assault  
 from the judgment of the County Court at Cambridge in October last  
 relating his bond to be forfeited

(White v. Jones)

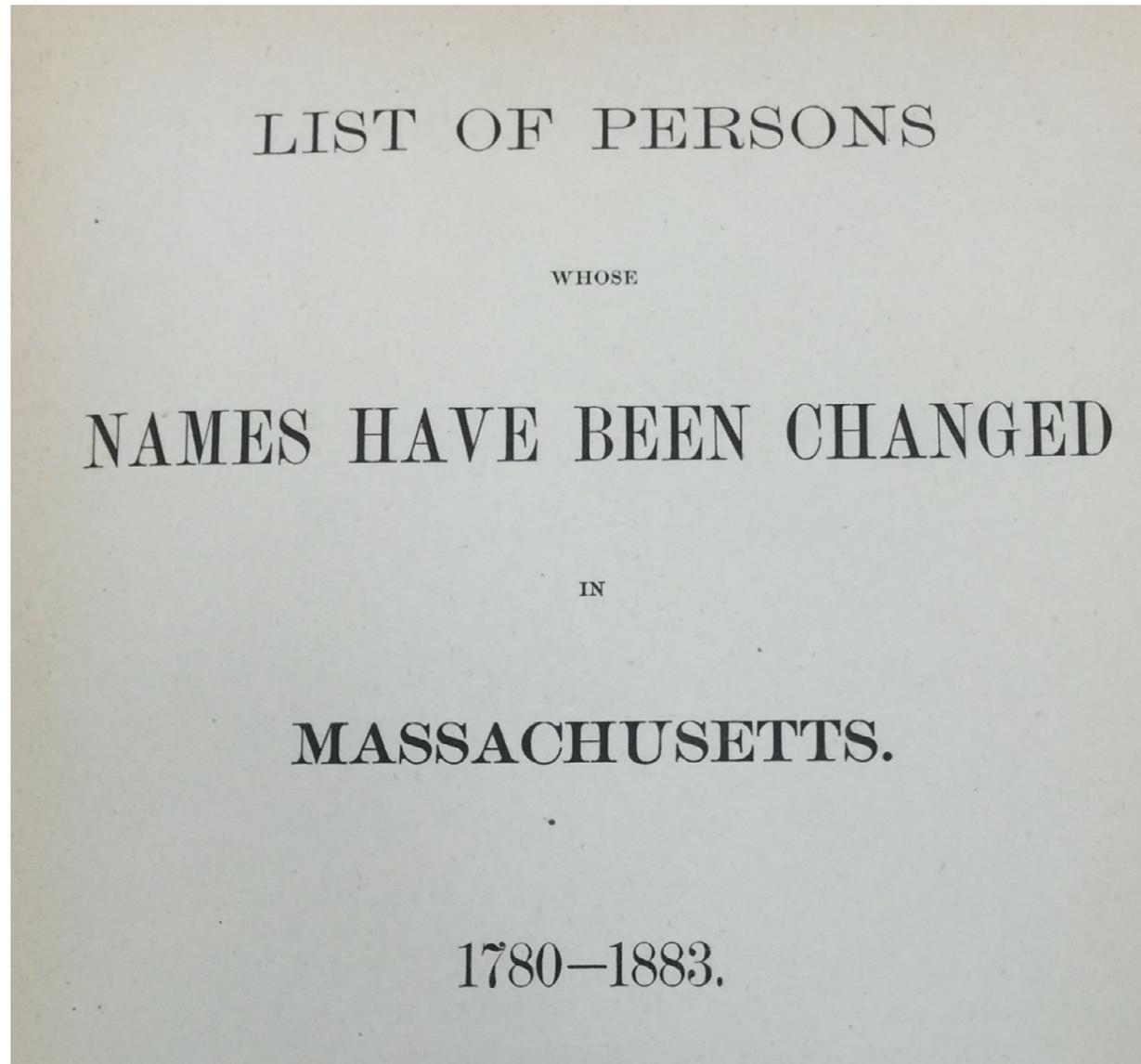
19-9-4

Ipswich - Sept. T. 1672

Know all men by theis presents, y<sup>e</sup> J Paul White of Newbury in  
 y<sup>e</sup> County of Essex in New England Marchant; haue Assigned  
 Ordayned & made And in my stead and place, put & Constituted  
 my trustie & well beloved friend Wm Chandler of Newbury afore  
 s<sup>d</sup>, to bee my true & lawfull Attorney, for me, in my name & to  
 my vse, to afke sue for, Levy require, recover and receive of  
 Rob<sup>t</sup> Jones & of all and every other p<sup>r</sup>son, or p<sup>r</sup>sons w<sup>h</sup> so ever,  
 all & every such debts and sumes of money or other thing, or  
 things, as are now due vnto mee, or which shall bee due vnto  
 mee; Giving & granting vnto my sayd Attorney, by the tenor of  
 theis presents, my full & whole power, strenght and Authority  
 in & about y<sup>e</sup> p<sup>r</sup>misses, And vpon y<sup>e</sup> receipt of any such debt,  
 sume of sumes of mony, or other thing afore s<sup>d</sup>: Acquittance

# Original vs. Typed

# Name Changes



## Massachusetts 1780-1883

Tip

Not all Name Changes  
are Adoptions

AN ACT to change the name of Moses Porter Phelps, to the Name of Charles Porter Phelps.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

That from and after the passing this act, Moses Porter Phelps, resident in Boston, in the county of Suffolk, son of Charles Phelps, of Hadley, in the county of Hampshire, be and he hereby is authorized and allowed to take, use and bear the name of Charles Porter Phelps, instead of the name of Moses Porter Phelps, and by that name, to be forever hereafter known and called in all processes and records whatsoever. [February 15, 1796.

---

AN ACT to change the Name of Ephraim Farrar, to the Name of John Farrar.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

That from and after the passing of this act, Ephraim Farrar, of Worcester, in the county of Worcester, son of John Farrar, late of Shrewsbury, in the county of Worcester, deceased, be, and he hereby is authorized and allowed to take, use, and bear the name of John Farrar, and by that name to be forever hereafter known and called, in all precepts and records whatsoever. [June 13, 1796.

---

AN ACT altering the name of Thomas Amory, to the Name of Thomas C. Amory.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

That from and after the passing of this act, Thomas Amory of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, merchant, son of the late Thomas Amory, deceased, shall be, and hereby is authorized and empowered to take, bear and use the name of Thomas C. Amory, and shall be called and known by that name at all times hereafter. [June 14, 1796.

---

AN ACT to alter the Name of Samuel Hewes.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

That from the passing of this act, Samuel Hewes, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, merchant, son of Samuel Hewes, late of said Boston, deceased, be, and he hereby is authorized to take and use the name of Samuel Hill Hewes, and that he be called and known by that name at all times hereafter. [November 24, 1796.

SUFFOLK COUNTY.

<b>1858.</b>			
-	George R. Curran, . . . .	Stukely S. Wescott, . . . .	_____.
-	Caroline Tinkham Grinnell, . . . .	Caroline Grinnell Smith, . . . .	_____.
-	Michael Gibbs, jun, . . . .	Melville Shields Gibbs, . . . .	_____.
-	George Thomas Gillett, . . . .	George Thomas Phinney, . . . .	_____.
-	Mary McGregor, . . . .	Gertrude Eleanor Baker, . . . .	_____.
-	Newell Campbell Rogers, . . . .	Newell Rogers Campbell, . . . .	_____.
-	Hinman Stevens, . . . .	Hiram Stevens, . . . .	_____.
-	Minnie Stall, . . . .	Nellie Florine Barton, . . . .	_____.
-	Celia Maria Sawyer, . . . .	Celia Maria Hamilton, . . . .	_____.
-	Harriet Ann Webber, . . . .	Hattie Tarbox, . . . .	_____.
-	Charles Forbush Warren, . . . .	Jonathan Charles Warren, . . . .	_____.

ESSEX COUNTY.

Feb. 2,	Mary Noonan,* . . . .	Ella Dole, . . . .	Rowley.
2,	Albert Knight,* . . . .	Eli Vickery Bartlett, . . . .	Marblehead.
Mar. 6,	Amos Abbott, 2d, . . . .	Amos Chandler Abbott, . . . .	Andover.

 \* Changed by reason of adoption.

List of persons whose names have been changed in Massachusetts (1858)

# Maine Name Change Records

1820-1891

## Search Name Changes

First Name	Last Name	Exact Spelling
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Exact Spelling"/>
Residence	Year	Exact Year
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value="Exact Year"/>
<input type="button" value="Search"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>	

This database includes all the names changed by the Maine Legislature between 1820 and 1891. After 1876, Maine's probate courts were authorized to change names, and the Legislature performed this task far less frequently.

Richard P. Roberts compiled a more extensive list of Maine name changes—including those granted Maine residents by the Massachusetts Legislature and probate courts—which was published as "Name Changes of Maine Residents, 1803-1892" in *The Maine Genealogist* between Nov. 1995 and Feb. 2001 (vols. 17-23). See also Linda R. Aaskov's "Official Name Changes in Maine to 1820" in the *York County Genealogical Society Journal* of April 1986 (vol. 1).

# MaineGenealogy.net

# Maine Name Change Records

1820-1891

## Search Results

Results 1 to 25 of 136

[New Search](#)



	Former Name	Assumed Name	Residence	Year
	<a href="#">John R. Lisherness</a>	<a href="#">Ranlet Ness</a>	Vassalborough	1820
2	<a href="#">John Godfrey Stevens</a>	<a href="#">John Stevens Bradford</a>	Fryeburg	1820
3	<a href="#">John Dunning, 3d</a>	<a href="#">John Andrew Dunning</a>	Brunswick	1821
4	<a href="#">John Littlefield</a>	<a href="#">John Littlefield Hodsdon</a>	Hallowell	1821
5	<a href="#">John Megquier</a>	<a href="#">John Louville Megquier</a>	Portland	1821
6	<a href="#">John Scammans, 3d</a>	<a href="#">Frederick Scammans</a>	Saco	1821
7	<a href="#">John Leathers</a>	<a href="#">John Langley</a>	York	1822
8	<a href="#">John Wyllie</a>	<a href="#">John Wyllie Parker</a>	_____	1822
9	<a href="#">Josusha Wyllie</a>	<a href="#">John Wyllie Parker</a>	_____	1822

# Maine Name Change Records

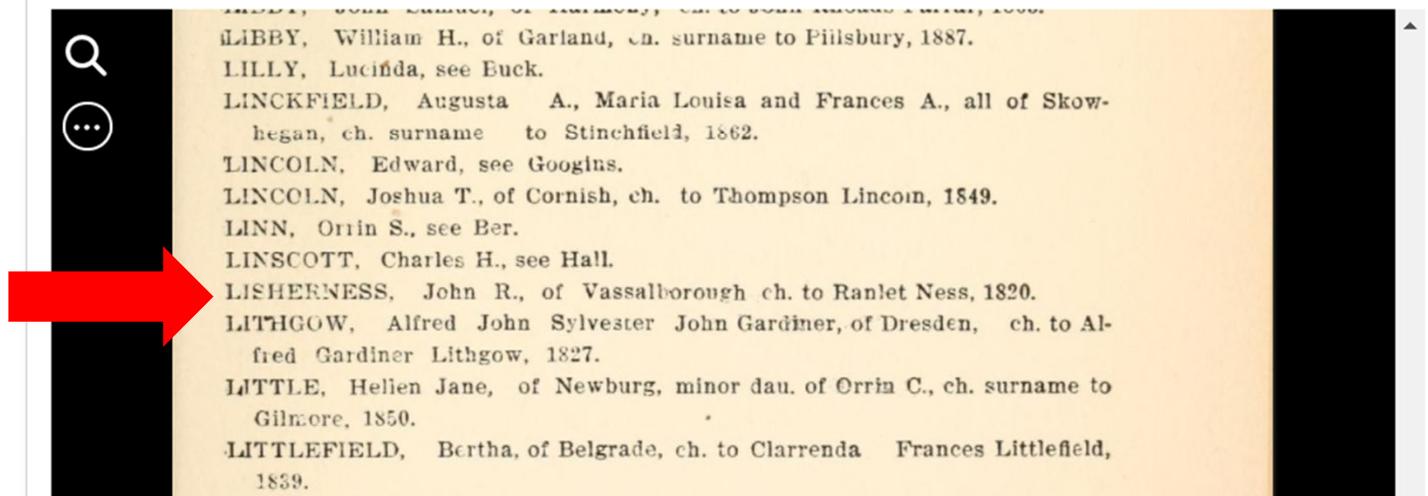
1820-1891

## Name Change Record for John R. Lisherness

[New Search](#)

LISHERNESS, John R., of Vassalborough, ch. to Ranlet Ness, 1820.

Source: Marquis Fayette King, compiler, *Changes in Name by Special Acts of the Legislature of Maine, 1820-1895* (1901), p. 37.



MaineGenealogy.net

# Adoption Records

# Adoptions Before 1851

- Akin to the fostering system. Parents retained the legal rights over their children if a guardianship was established.
- Children could be "bound out" as indentured servants until adulthood
- Relatives often adopted extended family members
  - Single mother stigma
  - Widowed parents
  - Financial difficulties

# Adoption of Children Act (1851)

- First modern adoption law – passed in Massachusetts and copied in other states
- Passed to ensure adoptions were "fit and proper"
- The legal rights of the biological parents is terminated
- Adopted children were given right to inherit from their adoptive parents
- Children aged 14 and over cannot be adopted without their consent

# Orphan Trains

- Between 1854 and 1929, the New York Children's Aid Society transported 250,000 children from New York, Boston and other Eastern cities out by train to the Midwest and western states
- Families showed up to train stations to "look over" the children

**WANTED**  
**Homes for Children**

A company of homeless children from the East will arrive at  
**TROY, MO., ON FRIDAY, FEB. 25th, 1910**

These children are of various ages and of both sexes, having been thrown friendless upon the world. They come under the auspices of the Children's Aid Society of New York. They are well educated, having come from the various orphanages. The citizens of this community are asked to assist the agent in finding good homes for them. Persons taking these children must be recommended by the local committee. They must treat the children in every way as members of the family, sending them to school, church, Sabbath school and properly clothe them until they are 17 years old. The following well-known citizens have agreed to act as a local committee to aid the agents in securing homes:

O. H. Avery E. B. Woolfolk H. F. Childers  
Wm. Young G. W. Colbert

Applications must be made to, and endorsed by, the local committee.

An address will be made by the agent. Come and see the children and hear the address. Distribution will take place at the

**Opera House Friday, Feb. 25, at 1:30 p.m.**

B. W. TICE and MISS A. L. HILL, Agents, 105 E. 22nd St., New York City.  
REV. J. W. SWAN, University Place, Nebraska, Western Agent.

# Searching the FamilySearch Catalog for Adoption Case Dockets



## FamilySearch Catalog

Search the catalog of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications) made available by FamilySearch online and in libraries and centers worldwide.

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Place

United States, Massachusetts, Suffolk

### Search for:

[Call Number](#) | [Film/Fiche Number](#)

### Availability

- Any
- Online
- Family History Center

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▼ **United States, Massachusetts, Suffolk - Probate records - Indexes ( 8 )**

---

[Index of probate records County of Suffolk, Mass.](#)

[Add](#)

Author: George, Elijah

---

[Index to the probate records of the county of Suffolk, Massachusetts](#)

[Add](#)

 [Index to the probate records of the county of Suffolk, Massachusetts : from the year 1910 to and including the year 1922](#)

[Add](#)

Author: Sullivan, Arthur W.; Massachusetts. Probate Court (Suffolk County); Massachusetts. Court of Insolvency (Suffolk County)

---

[Index to the probate records of the county of Suffolk, Massachusetts, from the year 1636 to and including the year 1893](#)

[Add](#)

Author: George, Elijah

---

[Index to the probate records of the county of Suffolk, Massachusetts, from the year 1894 to and including the year 1909](#)

[Add](#)

Author: Dolan, Arthur W.

---

[Miscellaneous docket index, Suffolk County, Mass., probate records 1639-1866](#)

[Add](#)

Author: Sanborn, Melinde Lutz, 1956-

---

[Probate indices, Suffolk Co., Mass, 1636-1894](#)

[Add](#)

[Suffolk County, Massachusetts, probate and deed indexes, ca. 1640-1800](#)

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► **United States, Massachusetts, Suffolk - Vital records ( 5 )**

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

## Index to the probate records of the county of Suffolk, Massachusetts : from the year 1910 to and including the year 1922

[Add to Print List](#)

Statement of Responsibility: prepared under the supervision of Arthur W. Sullivan

Authors: [Sullivan, Arthur W.](#) (Main Author)  
[Massachusetts. Probate Court \(Suffolk County\)](#) (Added Author)  
[Massachusetts. Court of Insolvency \(Suffolk County\)](#) (Added Author)

Format: Books/Monographs/Book on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1987

Physical: on 1 microfilm reel ; 16 mm.

### Notes

Microreproduction of original published: Boston : Printing Dept., 1927. 2 v.

High reduction (42x) microfilm. Use high magnification reader.

An index to the records of Suffolk County, Probate Court and Court of Insolvency.

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### Subjects

#### Locality Subjects

[United States, Massachusetts, Suffolk - Probate records - Indexes](#)

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Location

Family History Library

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### Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
Vol. 1 : A - K Vol. 2 : L - Z	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada Film	1492663 Items 1-2	7703802	



YEAR.	NAME.	CASE.	NO.
	<b>Armington, cont.</b>		
1921	Joseph W. . . .	administration .	198669
1922	Ruby B. . . .	adoption, etc. .	204601
	<b>Armistead, see also Armstead</b>		
1922	Raymond, Jr. . .	administration .	201578
	<b>Armour</b>		
1918	Edward C. . . .	guardianship .	185024
1918	Eva M. . . . .	guardianship .	185024
1918	Joseph . . . . .	guardianship .	185024
1918	Josephine C. . .	guardianship .	185024
1918	Robert . . . . .	guardianship .	185024
1918	William C. . . . .	guardianship .	185024
1918	William J. . . . .	administration .	185023
	<b>Armour and Company</b>		
1922		trust . . . . .	204113
	<b>Armstead, see also Armistead</b>		
1922	Raymond . . . .	administration .	201578
	<b>Armstrong</b>		
1914	Alexander B. . .	administration .	165480
1919	{ Ann Annie Annie M. E. }	will . . . . .	186709
1922	Arthur . . . . .	guardianship .	204796
1916	Arthur W. . . . .	administration .	173358
1911	Beatrice E. . . .	adoption, etc. .	151619
1916	Bridget . . . . .	will . . . . .	175748



Suffolk County, Massachusetts Probate Index (1910-1922)

Tip

Scanned or transcribed indexes  
are searchable by docket  
number

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### Worcester County, MA: Index to Probate Records, 1731-1881

Exact Search  Soundex 

**First Name**

**Last Name**

**Years**  
From  To  

**Record Type**

**Location**  Exact Location

**Case Number**

**Place of Last Residence**

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## Search Results

1 - 50 of 3418 records for Record Type: Adoption (exact), Database: Worcester County, MA: Index to Probate Records, 1731-1881

Refine New Search Results per page 20 50 100 Print Save Search

SEARCH FILTERS	Name	Events	Relationship
Adoption <input type="checkbox"/>	The following results only partly match your criteria.		
SORT BY	Suggestions:		
Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set filters to Exact to see if anything matches</li> <li>Switch to <b>Advanced Search</b> to exclude partial matches</li> <li>Watch a <a href="#">Video Tutorial</a> on search</li> </ul>		
Comment or Question	[No name given] RUSSELL	ADOPTION : 1865	
Write a comment	Worcester County, MA: Index to Probate Records, 1731-1881	LOCATION : Worcester, Massachusetts, United States	
	Court, Land and Probate Records	PLACE OF : Boston	
		LAST	
		RESIDENCE	
		CASE NUMBER : 51617	
	Adah H. FISHER	ADOPTION : 1881	
	Worcester County, MA: Index to Probate Records, 1731-1881	LOCATION : Worcester, Massachusetts, United States	

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← Page  of 142533 →

Comments

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Name	[No name given] RUSSELL
Adoption	1865
Location	Worcester, Massachusetts, United States 
Original Text	
Case Number	51617 
Place of Last Residence	Boston
Page	17636

No Image – Index only database

*Why can't I see an image?*

This database is an index only database, so no images are available.



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## Search Database

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### 📷 Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881

Exact Search  Soundex

🔍 SEARCH

First Name

First/Middle/[Maiden] names

Last Name

Last Name

Years

From

To

Location  Exact Location

e.g. Boston, Massachusetts

Volume

-All-

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Case Number

51617



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## Search Results

1 - 1 of 1 records for Database: Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881, Attributes: {Case Number: 51617}

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Relevance

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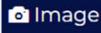
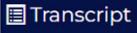
Write a comment

Results per page 20 50 100

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Name	Events	Relationship
The following results only partly match your criteria.		
Suggestions:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set filters to Exact to see if anything matches</li><li>• Switch to <b>Advanced Search</b> to exclude partial matches</li><li>• Watch a <b>Video Tutorial</b> on search</li></ul>		
RUSSELL  Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881 Court, Land and Probate Records <a href="#">View Image</a>	PROBATE : 1865 RECORD LOCATION : Boston,Suffolk,Massachusetts,United States NOTE : page 1 of 1 CASE TYPE : Adoption, etc. CASE NUMBER : 51617 VOLUME : Worcester Cases 50000-51999 PAGE : 51617:1	

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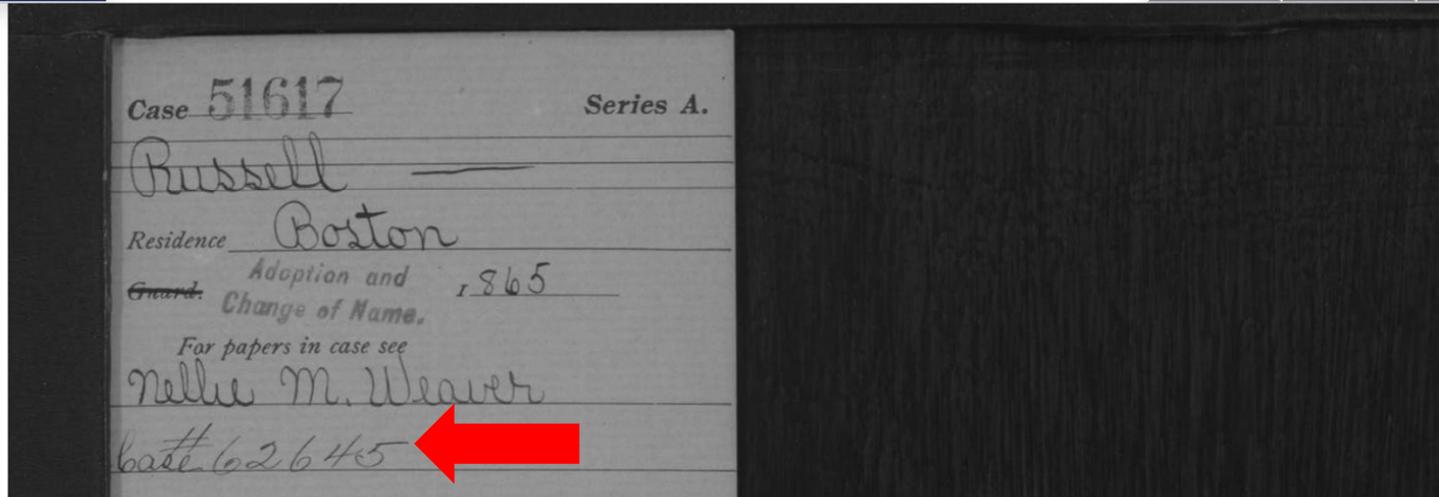
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Page 51617:1 of 51999:1

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- Worcester Cases 30000-31999
- Worcester Cases 32000-33999
- Worcester Cases 34000-35999
- Worcester Cases 36000-37999
- Worcester Cases 38000-39999
- Worcester Cases 40000-41999
- Worcester Cases 42000-43999
- Worcester Cases 44000-45999
- Worcester Cases 46000-47999
- Worcester Cases 48000-49999
- Worcester Cases 50000-51999
- Worcester Cases 52000-53999
- Worcester Cases 54000-55999
- Worcester Cases 56000-57999
- Worcester Cases 58000-59999
- Worcester Cases 60000-61999
- Worcester Cases 62000-63999**
- Worcester Cases 64000-65999
- Worcester Cases 66000-68047

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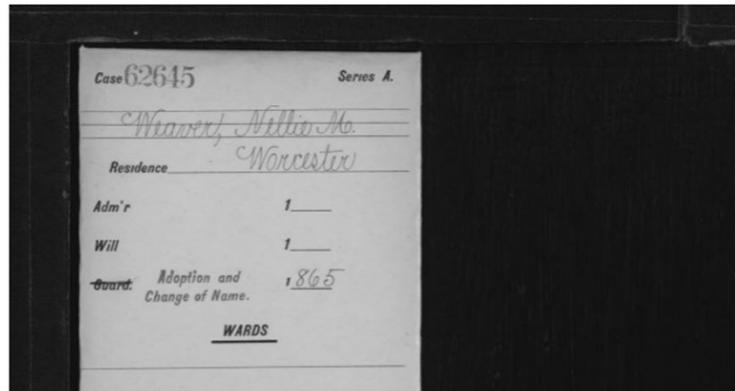
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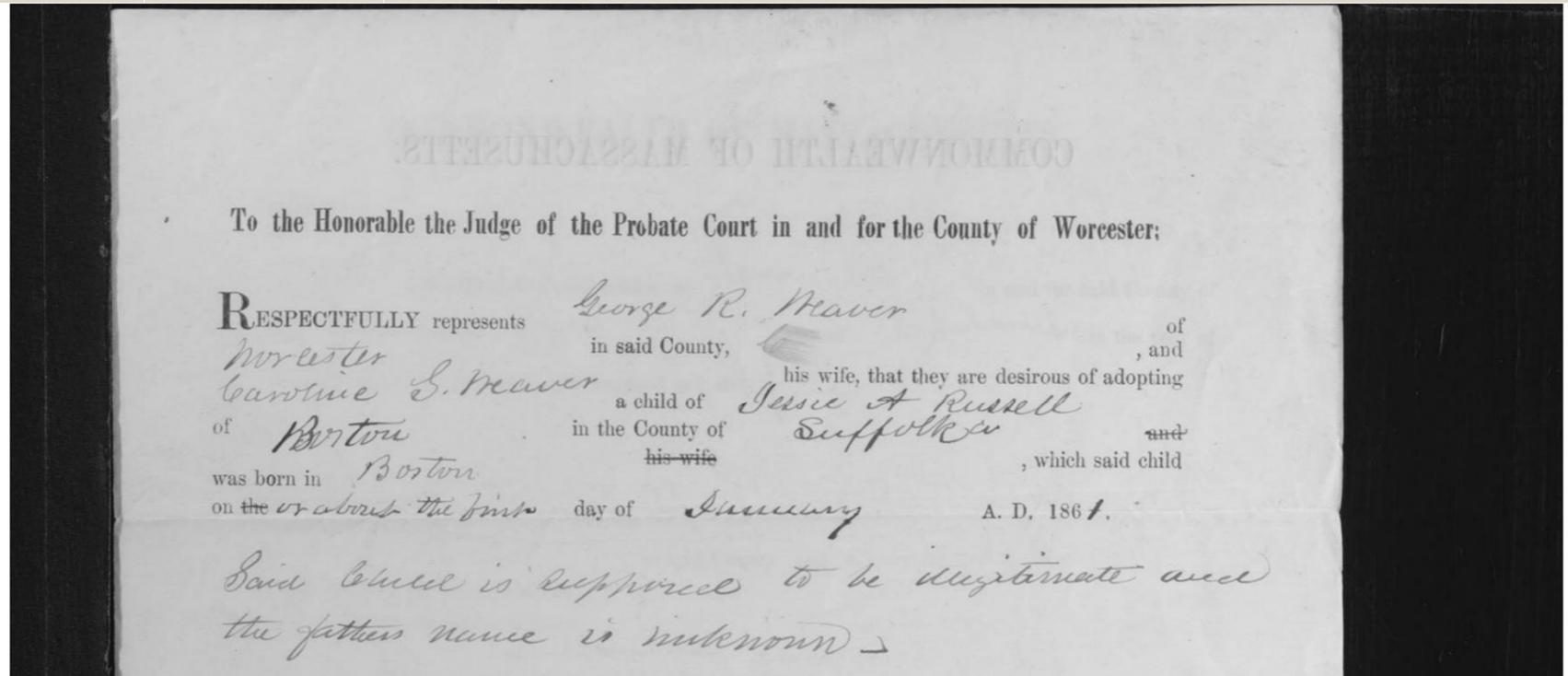
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# Domestic Relation Cases

# Separate Support

No.	88556 Adaline R. vs. Henry W. Smith	Vol.	Page.
1891. Nov. 5	Petition for separate support. June 16 decree	659	37
1914. Jan. 9	Petition <sup>ny</sup> Citation for Contempt. (Jan. 22)		
" 21	J. H. Schoonmaker, atty. for Respdt.		files
1916. 1			

of June in the year of our Lord one thousand  
eight hundred and ninety-two.

On the petition of Adaline R. Smith of Bos-  
ton in said County the wife of Henry W. Smith  
of Greenwich in the County of Hampshire, pray-  
ing that said Court will, by its order, prohibit  
her said husband from imposing any restraint  
on her personal liberty, and make such further  
order as it deems expedient concerning her sup-  
port, and the care, custody and maintenance  
of the minor children of herself and her said  
husband; Due notice of said petition hav-  
ing been given to the said Henry W. Smith  
and It appearing to the Court that said  
petitioner for justifiable cause is actually  
living apart from her said husband:-

It is ordered that said Henry W. Smith  
be and he hereby is prohibited from impos-  
ing any restraint on the personal liberty of

## 1891 Suffolk Co. Sep. Support

# Divorce Records

Tip

Divorces did occur in  
the Colonial era

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## Connecticut: Minutes of the Court of Assistants, 1669-1711

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[Page](#)  of 700 

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A court of Assistants held at Hartford October 1<sup>st</sup>. 1674  
**John Winthrop** esq<sup>r</sup> Gou<sup>r</sup>, **W<sup>m</sup> Leet** Esq<sup>r</sup> dept Gou<sup>r</sup>, **M<sup>r</sup> Samuel Willys**, **Majo<sup>r</sup> John Tallcott**, **M<sup>r</sup> Henry Woolcot**, **M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Joanes**, **M<sup>r</sup> James Bishop**, **Capt<sup>n</sup> Thos. Topping**

**Mary Browne** the wife of **John Browne** late of New Hauen desired this court to be freed from her conjugall Tye to the Sayd John Browne because he hath broken his matrimoniall Bond by unlawfull companying with another woman as with his wife & totally forsakeing & deserting her./

Upon the complaynt & application of Mary Browne to this court for a release from her husband John Browne formerly of New Haven which hath voluntarily desserted & for some yeares past absented himselfe from the Sayd Mary his Lawfull wife wholly neglecting all dutys of a Husband towards her both as to

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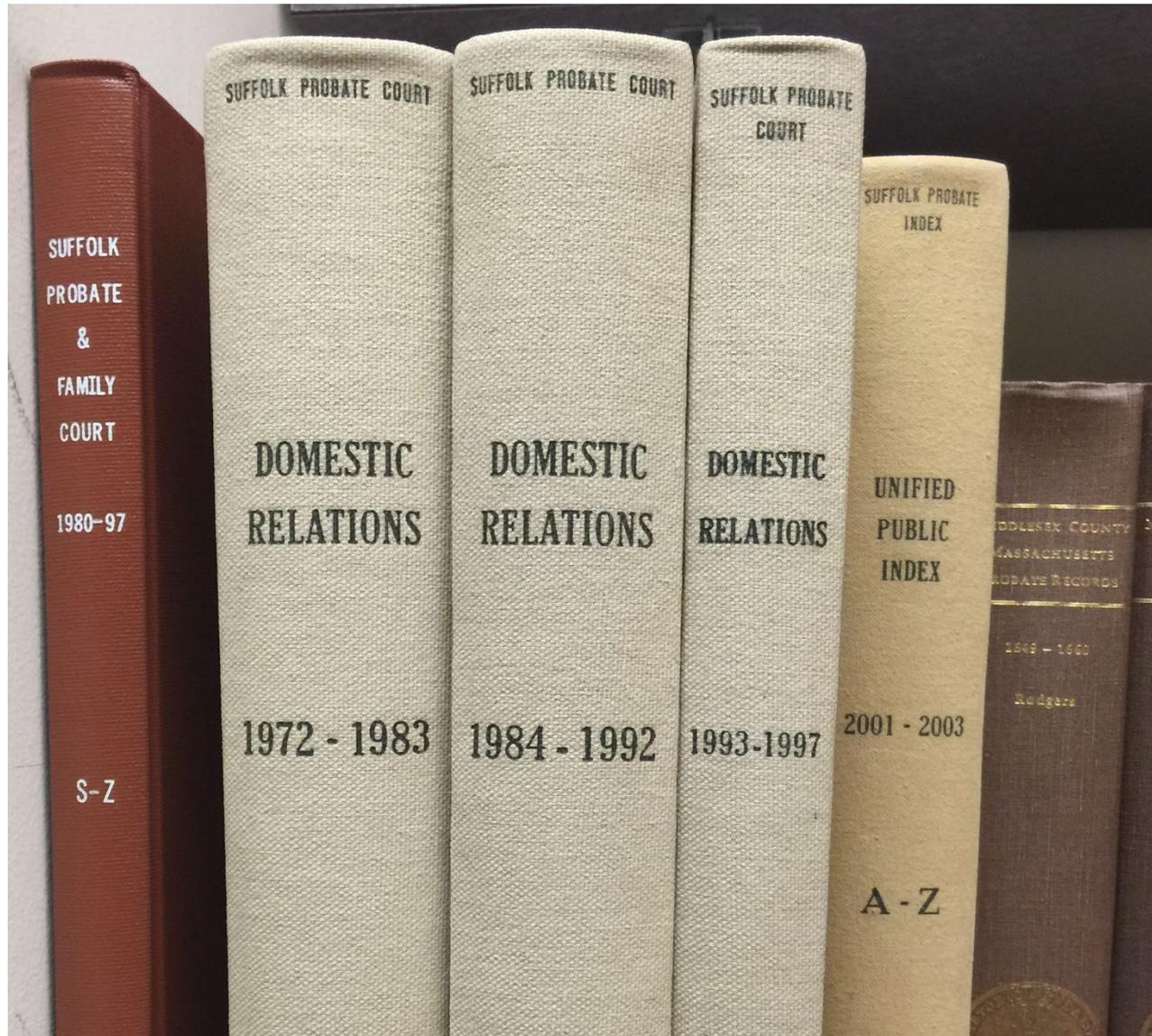
A court of Assistants held at Hartford October 1<sup>st</sup>. 1674

**John Winthrop** esq<sup>r</sup> Gou<sup>r</sup>, **W<sup>m</sup> Leet** Esq<sup>r</sup> dept Gou<sup>r</sup>, M<sup>r</sup> **Samuel Willys**, Majo<sup>r</sup> **John Tallcott**, M<sup>r</sup> **Henry Woolcot**, M<sup>r</sup> **W<sup>m</sup> Joanes**, M<sup>r</sup> **James Bishop**, Capt<sup>n</sup> **Thos. Topping**

**Mary Browne** the wife of **John Browne** late of New Hauen desired this court to be freed from her conjugall Tye to the Sayd John Browne because he hath broken his matrimoniall Bond by unlawfull companying with another woman as with his wife & totally forsakeing & deserting her./

Upon the complaynt & application of Mary Browne to this court for a release from her husband John Browne formerly of New Haven which hath voluntarily desserted & for some yeares past absented himselfe from the Sayd Mary his Lawfull wife wholly neglecting all dutys of a Husband towards her both as to cohabitation & supply of mayntenance for her the sayd Mary & fower smale children left to their shifts & the charety of freinds & neighbours for her owne & childrens liuelyhood he the Sayd browne havinge for above seven yeares past run into & Continued

AmericanAncestors.org



## Domestic Relations Cases

72-1983

<i>Suffolk Probate Court</i>		<i>Richard Iannella, Register</i>		<i>Dom. Rel. Index, 1972-1983</i>	
09/24/74	100423 DONAHUE	PAMELA	DONAHUE	WILLIAM	10/05/77
02/03/77	95663 DONAHUE	ROBERT T.	DONAHUE	SHARON L.	11/07/75
03/31/80	91157 DONAHUE	THERESA M.	DONAHUE	MICHAEL P.	01/28/74
09/15/77	99426 DONALD	MARIE V.	DONALD	VINCENT J.	05/12/77
06/19/73	108260 DONALDSON	DONNA M.	DONALDSON	JEFFREY H.	12/02/80
03/15/78	92644 DONALDSON	LOUISE A.	DONALDSON	WILLIAM D. Jr.	08/28/74
04/26/78	104700 DONALDSON	ROSEMARY E.	DONALDSON	SAKDA AMORNYARD	06/11/79
05/11/79	114482 DONATELLI	CLAIRE	DONATELLI	FREDERICK	09/12/83
04/09/75	99337 DONATELLI	MARY J.	DONATELLI	VINCENT G.	05/02/77
06/25/74	96264 DONATI	DANNIE S.	DONATI	JOHN T.	02/25/76
08/03/79	112694 DONATO	ANTHONY	DONATO	DOROTHY	11/26/82
08/23/83	114144 DONATO	JOSEPH A.	DONATO	ROSEMARIE	07/18/83
05/26/72	93793 DONATO	SUSAN M.	DONATO	ROBERT J.	02/05/75
02/13/74	111560 DONIA	FRANK A. Jr.	DONIA	MARY ANN	05/18/82
11/22/72	97792 DONIGER	JEAN D.	DONIGER	WILLIAM A.	09/21/76
01/16/81	103562 DONKO-HANSON	COMFORT	DONKO-HANSON	PETER	12/27/78
05/05/77	113495 DONLAN	DONNA M.	DONLAN	JOHN	04/07/83
10/23/74	90028 DONLAN	JOYCE E.	DONLAN	FRANCIS J.	08/02/73
08/07/72	93794 DONLAN	KATHLEEN M.	DONLAN	MARTIN E. III	02/05/75
11/15/79	92886 DONLAN	MARILYN T.	DONLAN	EDWARD T.	10/02/74
05/13/80	89871 DONLAN	VICTORIA R.	DONLAN	JOHN F.	07/05/73
05/20/80	88431 DONLON	DEBORAH J.	DONLON	EDWARD	11/28/72
08/28/79	97451 DONNARUMMA	MARIO A.	DONNARUMMA	MARY A.	08/11/76
12/06/74	96082 DONNELLY	ALBERT R.	DONNELLY	ELIZABETH	01/26/76
06/01/81	92749 DONNELLY	ANNE M.	DONNELLY	DAVID F.	09/13/74
09/22/75	104605 DONNELLY	DENISE M.	DONNELLY	JOHN J.	05/29/79
09/21/76	87229 DONNELLY	DONNA	DONNELLY	ROBERT P.	05/18/72
			DONNELLY	MICHAEL W.	04/25/72

## Divorce Index: Suffolk Co. Mass.

# Connecticut Divorce Records

- Divorce records are usually kept in the files at the Superior court where the divorce was granted.
- *Connecticut Divorce Index, 1968-1997* is an index of divorces from the Connecticut D.P.H. on Ancestry.com.



## Divorce Records for Genealogy Research

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Connecticut Divorce Records

Divorce Indexes

Divorce Records By County

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### Divorce Indexes

#### State-wide indexes

- [Connecticut Divorce Index, 1968-1997](#)  
Searchable for free through the FamilySearch website. Contact the Court for a copy of the record.
- [A General Index to the Private Laws and Special Acts of the State of Connecticut](#)  
Many pre-1900 divorces were granted by the CT Legislature by a Special Act. Use the index to search for a name.
- [Lotteries & divorces, 1st series, 1755-1789](#)  
Part of the "Connecticut Archives" Series, this subject Includes divorces that were granted by petition to the General Assembly.
- [Lotteries & divorces, 2nd series, 1750-1820](#)
- [Connecticut archives: Lotteries & Divorces](#)

#### Indexes by County

- [Fairfield. Index for 1798-1808 & 1825-77 Divorce Judgments found in Fairfield County, Superior Court Records](#)  
Downloading the file is the easiest way to view the information in the index.
- [Fairfield. Index for 1868-1941 Divorces found in Fairfield County, Connecticut Superior Court Divorce Record Volumes](#)  
Downloading the file is the easiest way to view the information in the index.
- [Hartford. Index for 1798-1890 Divorce Judgments found in Hartford County, Superior Court Civil Case Records](#)
- [Hartford County Superior Court Divorce Index, 1864-1929](#)  
Compiled by Mel E. Smith. 33 volumes.
- [Hartford County Superior Court Divorce Indexes, 1929-1953](#)  
Scanned pdf indexes. Arranged chronologically.

libguides.ctstatelibrary.org

# Maine Divorce Records

- Maine Divorce records pre-1892 can be located at the Maine State Archives
- After 1892 Divorce records are found in the District Court where it was granted
- NEHGS: Index of Maine Divorces, 1892-1983

The screenshot shows the Digital Maine Repository website. At the top left is the logo for 'digitalmaine repository' in orange and white. At the top right is the 'DPLA' logo for the Digital Public Library of America. Below the logo is a navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'About', 'FAQs', and 'My Account'. On the left side, there is a search section with a text input field, a 'Search' button, and a dropdown menu set to 'in this collection'. Below the search section are links for 'Advanced Search' and 'Notify me via email or RSS'. Further down are sections for 'Browse' (with links to State Agencies, Subjects, and Contributors), 'For Agency Contributors' (with a link to FAQs), and 'Featured Links' (with links to Maine Government, Maine State Library, Maine State Agencies, and Digital Maine Partners). The main content area on the right has a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > StateDocs > sos > ARCHIVES > ARC\_IMG > VITAL\_RECORDS > DIVORCE\_INDEX'. The title 'Divorce Index' is displayed in a large font. The text describes the collection of divorce records from 1892 to 1963, arranged by county. It mentions that records from 1930 or later can be requested from the Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics, while earlier records are available on microfilm or FamilySearch. A 'Follow' button is located at the bottom right of the main content area.

 [Switch View](#)  [View Slideshow](#)



## Maine Divorce Returns, Volume 01, 1892-1893

*Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics*

This volume contains a record of divorces sent to the Vital Records Office for the years 1892 and 1893.



## Maine Divorce Returns, Volume 02, 1894-1895

*Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics*

This volume contains a record of divorces sent to the Vital Records Office for the years 1894 and 1895.



## Maine Divorce Returns, Volume 03, 1896-1897

*Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics*

This volume contains a record of divorces sent to the Vital Records Office for the years 1896 and 1897.

**CLERK OF COURT'S BLANK.**

*Divorces decreed before the Supreme Judicial Court of Androscoggin County for the year ending Dec. 31, 1894.*

Sex of Libelant.	Name of Libelant.	Name of Libelee.	Former Name of Female.	Date of Marriage.	Date of Divorce.	Cause of Divorce.
Female	Jennette Leavitt	Thaddeus Leavitt		Jan. 1, 1871.	Feb. 9	Drunkenness, Cruel & abusive treatment.
"	Hannah B. Jones	Nelson O. Jones		Sept. 9, 1887.	Feb. 14	Desertion.
"	Allie B. Norris	Frank B. Norris		Nov. 15, 1888.	Feb. 15	Cruel & abusive treatment.
"	Maggie Macomber	Frederick L. Macomber	Maggie Moran	Nov. 25, 1880.	Feb. 15	Desertion.
Male	P. Parker Beal	Nettie L. Beal	Nettie L. Brown	Sept. 16, 1873.	Feb. 13	Cruel & abusive treatment.
Female	Carrie G. Stetson	William K. Stetson	Bessie G. Sewell	Nov. 8, 1880	Feb. 14	Adultery.
"	Hattie A. Smith	Ethel Smith		Nov. 24, 1870.	Feb. 6	Adultery. Gross & confirmed habits of intoxication.
"	Lizzie M. Larrabee	Lincoln A. Larrabee		Dec. 6, 1879.	Feb. 12	Gross & confirmed habits of intoxication.

## Androscoggin County, Maine Divorces (1894)

# Massachusetts Divorce: 1639-1692

- Divorce petitions filed in a variety of courts, including the county courts, the General Court, and the Court of Assistants
- Records of the General Court and the Court of Assistants have been published
- Original file records are available in the Suffolk Files Collection, the Massachusetts Archives Collection, and in the courts of the various counties

## Massachusetts Divorce: 1692-1775

- Divorces heard by the Governor and Council
- 1755 to 1757: six petitions were heard by the General Court
- Original records are found in the Massachusetts Archives Collection, Suffolk Files Collection, and the county courts

# Massachusetts Divorce: 1775-1785

- Governor's Council oversaw Divorces
- Records are part of the Massachusetts Archives Collection and the Governor's Council records
- 1785: Divorces granted by the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts

# Massachusetts Divorces (cont.)

- 1887: Divorces heard in the county Superior Courts
- 1922: Divorces heard in Probate and family Courts
- 1952: All divorces are part of a statewide index at the Registry of Vital Records

# New Hampshire Divorce Records

- Registrar of Vital Statistics. *Index to Divorces and Annulments Prior to 1938*. The records are arranged by surname, using the first and third letters.
- Bureau of Vital Records. *Divorce Certificates, 1938-47*. Records are sorted by surname, using the first and third letters.

## Index to divorces and annulments prior to 1938

[Add to Print List](#)

Authors: [New Hampshire. Registrar of Vital Statistics](#) (Main Author)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975

Physical: 8 microfilm reels ; 16 mm.

### Notes

Microfilm of original records at Concord, New Hampshire.

The records are indexed by surname, the first and third letters being used.

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

### Subjects

#### Locality Subjects

[United States, New Hampshire - Divorce records - Indexes](#)

### Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
Index to divorces - Abare to Browne	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1001323	8571522	
Index to divorces - Brown to Dubray	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1001324	8595744	
Index to divorces - Dube to Gaines	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1001325	8595745	
Index to divorces - Geisler to Jaster	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	1001326	8135770	

New Hampshire Record for Divorce

**Record for Divorce**

Husband's name in full .....  
William H. Brown .....

Residence ..... **Epping** .....

Wife's name in full .....  
Marguerite L. Brown .....

Residence ..... **unknown** .....

Docket Number ..... **2044** .....

Date of Marriage ..... **July 30, 1919** .....

Place of Marriage ..... **Portsmouth, N.H.** .....

Sex of Libelant ..... **Male** .....

Was case contested? ..... **No** .....

Date of Decree ..... **July 3, 1930** .....

Cause ..... **Abandonment and refusal  
to cohabit.** .....

Number of minor children affected by decree **None**

**The State of New Hampshire**  
Rockingham .....ss. Superior Court

I certify that the above record is correct.  
.....  
Clerk.

Date ..... **July 5, 1930** .....

10842

# Rhode Island Divorce Records

- Early divorces recorded in the Rhode Island Supreme Court
- Divorce records 1905 to present at Rhode Island Family Court in Providence

# Vermont Divorces

- NEHGS: microfilm of Vermont divorces, 1861-1989
- Divorce Certificates from the last 5 years held with the State of Vermont Department of Health

# Searching the FamilySearch Catalog for Divorces



## FamilySearch Catalog

Search the catalog of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications) made available by FamilySearch online and in libraries and centers worldwide.

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Place

Keywords

### Search for:

[Call Number](#) | [Film/Fiche Number](#)

### Availability

- Any
- Online
- Family History Center

[Reset](#)

# FamilySearch.org



Refine your search

Search by:

- Place
- Surnames
- Titles
- Author
- Subjects

Keywords

divorce massachusetts

Search for:

- Call Number
- Film/Fiche Number

Availability

- Any
- Online
- Family History Center

Update Reset

Year

- ▶ 1700 (1)
- ▶ 1800 (1)

Search Results for FamilySearch Catalog

PRINT Catalog Print List (0)

1-20 of 95 results

Print List

<a href="#">Berkshire County, Massachusetts, divorce docket books 1888-1927</a>	Add
Author: Massachusetts. Superior Court (Berkshire County)	
<a href="#">Divorce dockets, 1888-1918 [Hampshire County, Massachusetts]</a>	Add
Author: Massachusetts. Superior Court (Hampshire County)	
<a href="#">Divorce index cards (A thru Z), 1758-1789 [Hampshire County, Massachusetts]</a>	Add
Author: Massachusetts. Court of Sessions (Hampshire County); Massachusetts. Supreme Judicial Court (Hampshire County)	
<a href="#">Divorce records index cards (A to end), 1812-1887 [Hampshire County, Massachusetts]</a>	Add
Author: Massachusetts. Supreme Judicial Court (Hampshire County)	
<a href="#">Divorce records, 1877-1887 [Berkshire County, Massachusetts]</a>	Add
Author: Massachusetts. Supreme Judicial Court (Berkshire County)	
<a href="#">Franklin County, Massachusetts, divorce records 1872-1933</a>	Add
Author: Massachusetts. Supreme Judicial Court (Franklin County)	
<a href="#">Middlesex County, Massachusetts, divorce docket books 1887-1938</a>	Add
Author: Massachusetts. Superior Court (Middlesex County)	
<a href="#">Plymouth County (Massachusetts) record books (including divorces), 1813-1950; and divorce index, 1918-1930</a>	Add
Author: Massachusetts. Supreme Judicial Court (Plymouth County); Massachusetts. Superior Court (Plymouth County)	

FamilySearch.org

## Berkshire County, Massachusetts, divorce docket books 1888-1927

[Add to Print List](#)

Authors: [Massachusetts. Superior Court \(Berkshire County\)](#)  
(Main Author)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 2000

Physical: 2 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

### Notes

Microfilm of records at Division of Archives & Records Preservation, Boston, Massachusetts.

Some volumes have pages missing throughout the volume.

Indexes included in most volumes.

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

### Subjects

#### Locality Subjects

[United States, Massachusetts, Berkshire - Divorce records](#)

### Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
Vols. 1 - 5 (to p. 341) : 1888-1919 [Berkshire County, Massachusetts]	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2		
Vols. 5 (cont. from p. 341) - 8 : 1916-1927 [Berkshire County,	<a href="#">Family History</a>	United States & Canada 2nd	2200750	Items 1 - 8501117	

245-2

To the Honble the Council of the State of Massachusetts  
Pray, the Court of Marriage and Divorse for said State:

Humbly Shew:

Hannah Ayer of Pepperellborough in the  
County of York the Wife of Ebenezer Ayer late of said Pepp-  
erellborough. Tracer that your Petitioner was many  
Years ago married to the said Ebenezer and has ever since  
fulfilled the Marriage Contract with him but he, after  
having as she has great Reason to believe and expects to  
prove to your Honors Violated the Chastity of the Marriage  
Bed by committing Adultery, has professed himself to be  
single and unmarried has removed to the Town of Boston  
and after being duly published was married to one Thomp-  
son with whom he has openly cohabited as if she was  
his Wife & committed the Act of Adultery with her where-  
fore your Petitioner prays that the Bands of Matrimony  
between her and the said Ebenezer may be dissolved  
and as in Duty bound will ever pray

## Petition of Divorce

# Family Cases

# Types of Family Cases

- Bastardy Bonds
  - Early form of child support
- Paternity cases
- Guardianships

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meantime.



**John Rogers** of the town of Newlondon applies himself to this Court by appeal from the Judgm<sup>t</sup> of the Countie Court held at New London June the 4<sup>th</sup> 1700: which Judgm<sup>t</sup> was past upon **Marie R[are?]ford** of Newlondon for having a Child borne last January for which she was Ordered by the Court to pay a fine of fortie Shillings in money to the Countie treasury in Prosecution of which appeal the Sayd John Rogers did own himselfe to be the father of the Child. This court

AmericanAncestors.org



**T**he Condition of this Obligation is such, That if the  
above-bounden *Samuel Adams* Nominated and Allowed to be  
Guardian unto *John Fifield* a Minor *aged about*  
*six months* Son of *John Fifield*  
late of *Boston* in the County of *Suffolk* *Mariner* Deceased, shall  
and do well and truly Perform and Discharge the Trust and Office of Guardian  
unto the said Minor, and that in and by all things according to Law ; And  
shall render a plain and true Accompt of *his* said Guardianship upon Oath,  
and all and singular such Estate as shall come to *his* hands and possession by  
virtue thereof, and of the Profits and Improvements of the same, so far as the  
Law will charge *him* there-with ( when *he* shall be thereunto Law-  
fully required) and shall Pay and Deliver what and so much of the said Estate  
as shall be found remaining upon *his* Accompt, (the same being first Ex-  
amined and Allowed of by the Judge or Judges, for the time being, of the Probate  
of Wills, &c. within the County of *Suffolk* afore said) unto the said Minor  
when *he* shall arrive at full Age ; or otherwise as the said Judge or Judges  
by his or their Decree or Sentence pursuant to Law shall Limit and Appoint ;  
Then this Obligation to be Void, otherwise to remain in full force.

## Guardianship of John Fifield - Case 5242 (1726)

# Naturalizations

# Naturalizations

- Records include Declarations of Intention, petitions, and Granted and Denied Petitions
- Many are now searchable on FamilySearch, Fold3, and Ancestry.com
- Most New England Naturalizations prior to 1906 can be located at the National Archives in Waltham, Massachusetts

# Various Courts to Petition Naturalizations before 1906

- Superior Court
- Supreme Judicial Court
- Court of Common Pleas
- District Courts
- Police Courts

# Searching the FamilySearch Catalog for Naturalization Petitions



## United States, New England Petitions for Naturalization Index, 1791-1906

### Description

This is an index to photocopies of naturalization documents filed in courts in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont from 1791 to 1906. The photocopies and the index are in the National Archives-New England Region. The index consists of 3x5 inch cards arranged by state and thereunder by name of petitioner, arranged according to the soundex system. The index refers to the name and location of the court that granted the certificate of naturalization, and to the volume and page number (or certificate number) of the naturalization record. NARA publication title: Index to New England Naturalization Petitions, 1791-1906 (NARA M1299).

[How to Use this Collection »](#)

### Search Collection

#### Deceased Ancestor's Information

Name | [Alternate Name](#)

First Names

Last Names

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Birthplace

Birth Year (Range)

From  To

#### Search with a relationship:

[Spouse](#) | [Father](#) | [Mother](#) | [Other Person](#)

#### Restrict records by:

[Location](#) | [Type](#) | [Batch Number](#) | [Film Number](#)

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R500	
Family name	Given name or names
<b>ROONEY</b>	<b>JAMES</b>
Address	
<b>Boston</b>	
Certificate no. (or vol. and page)	Title and location of court
<b>116-94</b>	<b>USCC BOSTON MASS.</b>
Country of birth or allegiance	When born (or age)
<b>IRELAND</b>	<b>Mar 17 1847</b>
Date and port of arrival in U. S.	Date of naturalization
	<b>Oct 16 1878</b>
Names and addresses of witnesses	
-----	

New England Petition for Naturalization  
Index Card



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Place

United States, Massachusetts, Suffolk, Boston

### Search for:

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### Availability

- Any
- Online
- Family History Center

Search

Reset

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▼ **United States, Massachusetts, Suffolk, Boston - Naturalization and citizenship ( 9 )**

---

[Massachusetts, Suffolk County, Boston Municipal Court, naturalization records, 1806-1859](#) Add

Author: Massachusetts. Municipal Court (Suffolk County, Boston); Massachusetts. Court of Common Pleas (Suffolk County); United States. Circuit Court (Massachusetts District); Massachusetts. Supreme Judicial Court (Suffolk County); United States. National Archives and Records Administration. Northeast Region

---

[Massachusetts, Suffolk County, Boston Municipal Court, naturalization records, 1852-1905](#) Add

Author: Massachusetts. Municipal Court (Suffolk County, Boston); Massachusetts. Police Court (Boston); Massachusetts. Justice Court (Suffolk County); United States. National Archives and Records Administration. Northeast Region

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[Massachusetts, Suffolk County, Boston, Municipal Court for Criminal Business, naturalization records, 1885-1905](#) Add

Author: Massachusetts. Municipal Court. Criminal Business Division (Suffolk); United States. National Archives and Records Administration. Northeast Region

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[Massachusetts, Suffolk County, Boston, naturalization records](#) Add

---

[Massachusetts, Suffolk County, Boston, Superior Court for Criminal Business, naturalization records, 1860-1906](#) Add

Author: Massachusetts. Superior Court for Criminal Business (Suffolk County); United States. Circuit Court (Massachusetts District); United States. National Archives and Records Administration. Northeast Region

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PRINT Catalog Print List (0)

## Naturalization records (Boston, Massachusetts), 1845-1911 : NARA, RG 21

Add to Print List

Authors:	<a href="#">United States. Circuit Court (Massachusetts District)</a> (Main Author) <a href="#">United States. District Court (Massachusetts)</a> (Added Author)
Format:	Manuscript/Manuscript on Film
Language:	English
Publication:	Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 2006-2008
Physical:	188 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.
Series:	National Archives microfilm publications; RG 21
References:	(Related (reversed)) <a href="#">Naturalization records (Boston, Massachusetts) : NARA, RG 21, 1790-1946 / United States. District Court (Massachusetts)</a>

### Notes

Microfilm of original records at the National Archives and Records Administration Branch in Waltham, Massachusetts.

Many numbered folders were missing at the time of microfilming.

The records are in numerical order. Records are from the District Court and the Circuit Court, however the majority are from the Circuit Court.

Naturalization records, no. 93-69 to 97-167, 1876	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407109	7777638	
Naturalization records, no. 97-167 to 101-200, 1876	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407110	7777639	
Naturalization records, no. 102-1 to 106-141, 1876-1877	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407732	7777826	
Naturalization records, no. 106-142 to 111-89, 1877	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407733	7777827	
Naturalization records, no. 111-90 to 115-200, 1877-1878	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407734	7777828	
Naturalization records, no. 116-1 to 120-146, 1878	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407735	7777829	
Naturalization records, no. 120-147 to 125-56, 1878-1879	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407736	7777830	
Naturalization records, no. 125-56 to 129-102, 27 Oct 1879 - 16 Oct. 1880	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407800	7775684	
Naturalization records, no. 129-103 to 134-23, 11-19 Oct. 1880	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407801	7775685	
Naturalization records, no. 134-24 to 138-164, 19 Oct. 1880 - 3 Dec. 1881	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Film	2407802	7775686	



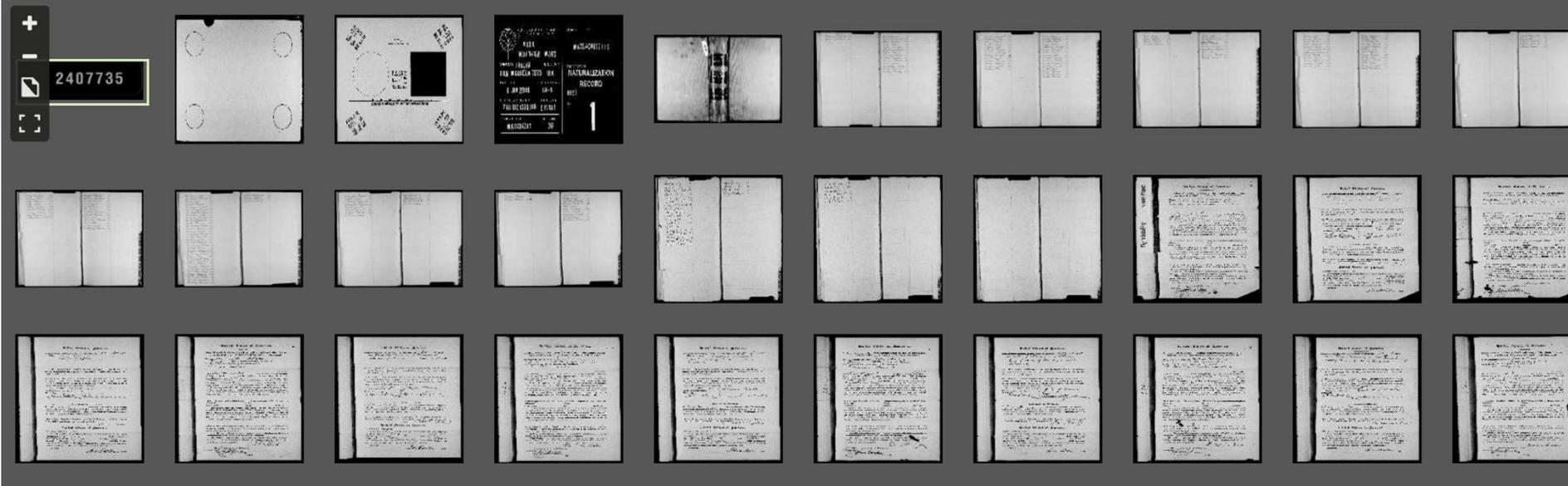
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United States of America.

94

Massachusetts District, ss.

To the Honorable the Judge of the District Court of the United States, within and for the District of Massachusetts.

RESPECTFULLY represents *Daniel Rooney* of *Boston* in said District *Massachusetts* an alien, and a free white person, that he was born in *Langford Ireland*

on or about the *seventeenth* day of *March* in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and *forty seven* and is now about *thirteen* years of age; that he arrived at *East Boston District of Mass.*

*Twenty Second* in the United States of America, on or about the *second* day of *April* in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and *Sixty four* being then a minor under the age of *eighteen years*; that it then was and still is, his bona fide intention to reside in and become a citizen of the United States of America, and to renounce all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince, State, Potentate, and Sovereignty whatsoever—more especially to *Victoria*, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,

whose subject he has heretofore been: *All which appears in the Record of the Honorable Court,*

to wit, on the *\_\_\_\_\_* day of *\_\_\_\_\_* A. D. 18 *\_\_\_\_\_*

And the said petitioner further represents, that he has ever since continued to reside within the jurisdiction of said United States, that he has never borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the orders of nobility; that he is ready to renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State, or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to *Victoria*, Queen as aforesaid,

whose subject he has heretofore been; that he is attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States of America, and well disposed towards the good order and happiness of the same.

*And the said petitioner further represents that he enlisted in the Volunteer forces of the Armies of the United States, and that he was honorably discharged therefrom on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. D. 18 \_\_\_\_\_*

Wherefore your petitioner prays, that he may be admitted to become a citizen of the said United States of America, according to the forms of the statute in such case made and provided

*Daniel Rooney*  
187 Sworn to by said Petitioner,

*John G. Stearns* Clerk.  
UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT,  
DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE,  
OCT  
Before me,  
1878  
MASS. DIST.

Pre-1906 Naturalizations

# Criminal Issues

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[Page](#)  of 212

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"Desire Pequin Indian Woman, Servant to Captn. Benjamin Warren of Plymouth" appeared to answer for "her Running away and Stealing Several things from her said Master, viz: A Gown, Shift, Petticoat, Handerchief, etc., Some time the Latter End of October last, prized at £3.14s., And Some things at the Same time from Josiah Cotton of Plymouth...Viz: Two aprons and Three Caps (prized at £17s.6d.)." Deft. confessed and was ordered to pay £7.9s.4d. to Capt. Warren "being with the Things that were returned and a few not returned, the Treeble Damages," and 35s. to Josiah Cotton "being with the Things Returned the Treeble Damages." Pequin was also ordered to pay 20s. fine or be publicly whipped ten stripes, to pay fees and charges, and to stand committed. "Charges and fees Taxed at £3.6s." Pequin being unable to pay, "And her said Master chusing to

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<a href="#">Circuit Court records (Cross County, Arkansas), 1872-1888</a> Author: Arkansas. Circuit Court (Cross County)	Add
<a href="#">Criminal Court records (Hawkins County, Tennessee), 1795-1930</a> Author: Tennessee. Criminal Court (Hawkins County)	Add
<a href="#">Court records, criminal, 1852-1859</a> Author: Massachusetts. Court of Common Pleas (Hampshire County)	Add
<a href="#">Criminal court records, 1876-1883</a> Author: Arkansas. Circuit Court (Lawrence County)	Add
<a href="#">Law and order in Clark County, Arkansas, 1879-1951 : index to circuit court records (criminal)</a> Author: Richter, Wendy Bradley; Arkansas. Circuit Court (Clark County); Clark County Historical Association (Arkadelphia, Arkansas)	Add
<a href="#">Maine, Cumberland, Superior Court civil and criminal records, 1868-1949</a> Author: Maine. Superior Court (Cumberland County); Maine State Archives	Add
<a href="#">Maine, Franklin County, Supreme Judicial Court, criminal records, 1859-1927</a> Author: Maine. Supreme Judicial Court (Franklin County); Maine State Archives	Add
<a href="#">Ohio, Guernsey County, criminal court records, 1879-1930</a> Author: Ohio. Probate Court (Guernsey County); Ohio Genealogical Society. Guernsey County Chapter	Add

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## Maine, Franklin County, Supreme Judicial Court, criminal records, 1859-1927

Add to Print List

Authors: [Maine. Supreme Judicial Court \(Franklin County\)](#) (Main Author)  
[Maine State Archives](#) (Repository)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Digital Images

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Digitized by FamilySearch International, 2011

Physical: 3 digital folders

### Notes

To view digital images of these Maine, State Archive Collections, click [here](#). Not available on microfilm.

Digital images of originals housed at the Maine State Archives, Augusta, Maine.

Each volume is individually indexed.

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

### Subjects

#### Locality Subjects

[United States, Maine, Franklin - Court records](#)

### Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film DGS	Format
Supreme Judicial Court, criminal records, v. 1, 1859-1886	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Digital		
Supreme Judicial Court, criminal records, v. 2, 1887-1907	<a href="#">Granite Mountain Record Vault</a>	United States & Canada Digital	4781023	

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State of Maine.

No. 19

Franklin sp. At the Supreme Judicial Court, begun and holden at Farmington within and for the County of Franklin, on the third Tuesday of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty eight.

The Jurors, for said State upon their oath present, that John Pillsbury of Acorn, in the County of Franklin, laborer, at Acorn in said County of Franklin, on the tenth day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty eight, and on divers other days and times between said tenth day of January aforesaid and the day of the finding of this indictment, with any lawful authority, license or permission, was a common seller of intoxicating liquors, against the peace of said State of Maine, and contrary to the form of the Statute in such case made and provided; and the Jurors aforesaid, upon their oath aforesaid, do further

State  
J.  
Pillsbury.

Indictment of John Pillsbury (1859)

# Financial Issues

# Financial Cases

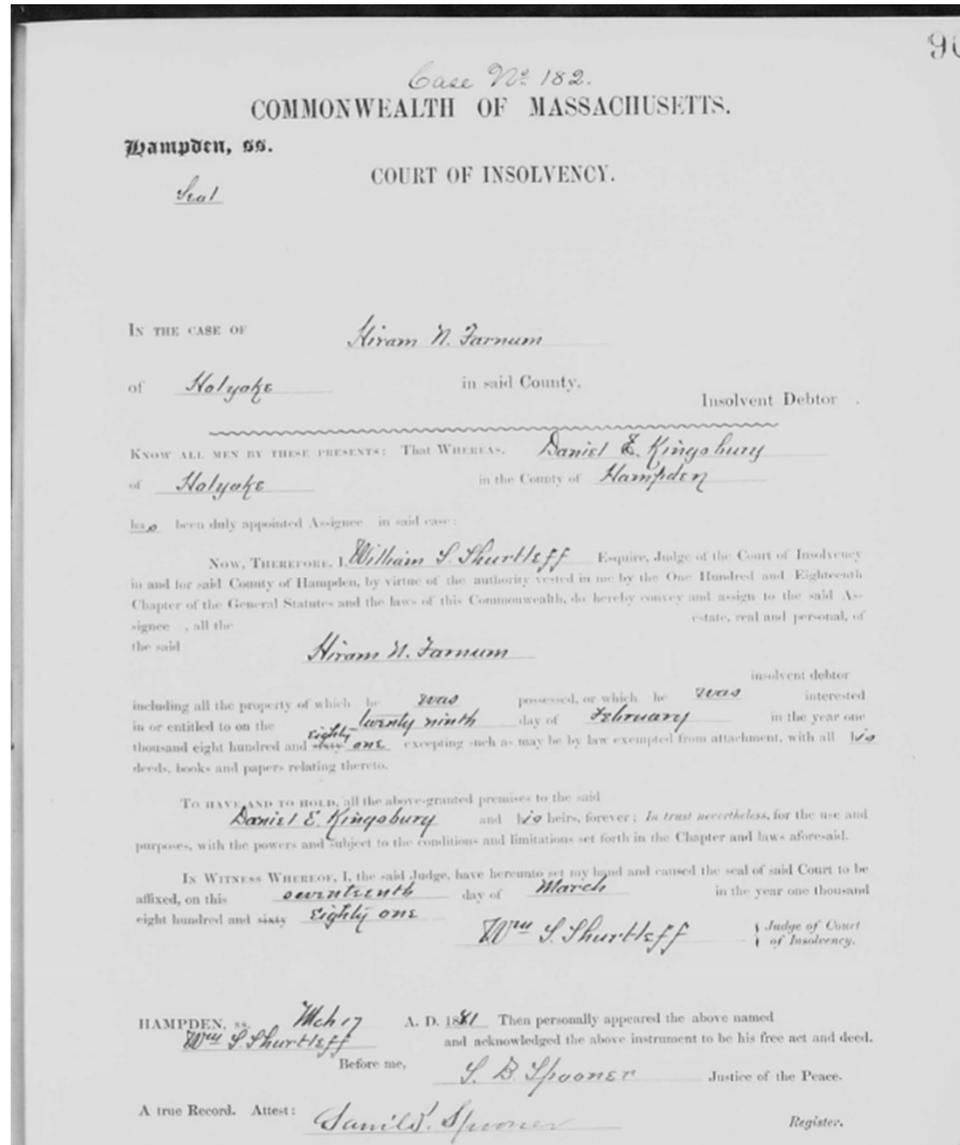
- Indentured servitude cases
- Landlord/tenant matters
- Repayment of a loan
- Probate cases
- Neighbor issues with adjoining property
- Bankruptcy/insolvency

An Inventory of the Estate of Mathew Loomis of Windsor was Exhibited in Court and oath made by ye Releit that she made a true p<sup>r</sup>sentm<sup>t</sup> of the Estate of the Deceased to ye Apriz<sup>rs</sup> of what at p<sup>r</sup>sent is known, and if more Come to knowledg she will Cause it to be added to the Inventory. The Court ord<sup>r</sup> it to be Recorded and yis Court grants admistration to ye Releit Mary Loomis w<sup>h</sup> the advice of Nath Loomis, and the widow, and Nath Loomis, Doe bind themselves in a yis Court Recognizance of therty five pounds, that they will **one day** Rend<sup>r</sup> a true Acc<sup>t</sup> of ye Estate to ye Court when it is Caled for to fix ad ation one Daught<sup>r</sup> Mary: 7 months old.

Records of the Particular Court of the  
Colony of CT, 1687-1688

# Bankruptcy

- Before the 1898 Federal Uniform Bankruptcy Act, bankruptcy law was determined state-by-state
- For Massachusetts, the insolvency petitions are held at the Massachusetts State Archives. They can be retrieved by the SJC Archivist.



## Hampden County, Mass. Insolvency Register (FamilySearch)



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