

1



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4

Settlement

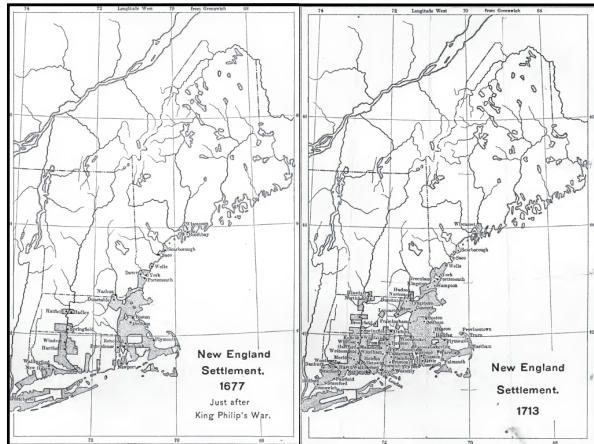
- 1718 – Five or six ships of Scots-Irish settlers arrived in Boston; settling Worcester, Sutton, Dracut, Lowell, Coleraine, and Casco Bay (Maine)
- Between 1742 and 1753, an estimated 1,000 Germans settled in Broad Bay (now Waldoboro, Maine)
- 1750s – A planned community called Germantown was started in Quincy, Massachusetts; the land was to be settled by glassmakers and weavers from Germany

5

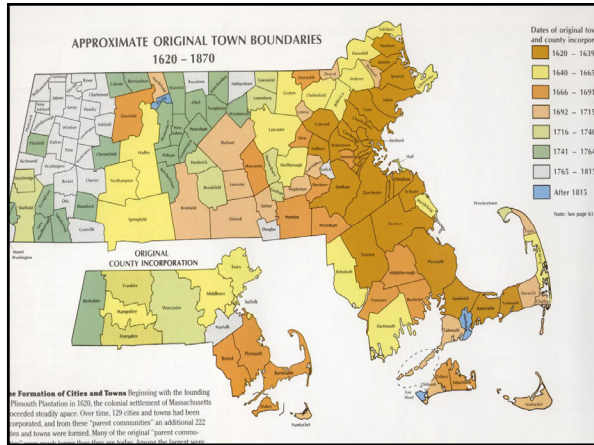
Settlement Cont'd

- 1763 - French and Indian Wars hamper efforts for interior settlement until conflict ends
- 1775-1783 - After the Revolutionary War Loyalists to Canada, UK & Caribbean

6




7



8

Pre-Revolution

- French and Indian War
- Period of Salutary Neglect
- Boston Tea Party
- Coercive Acts

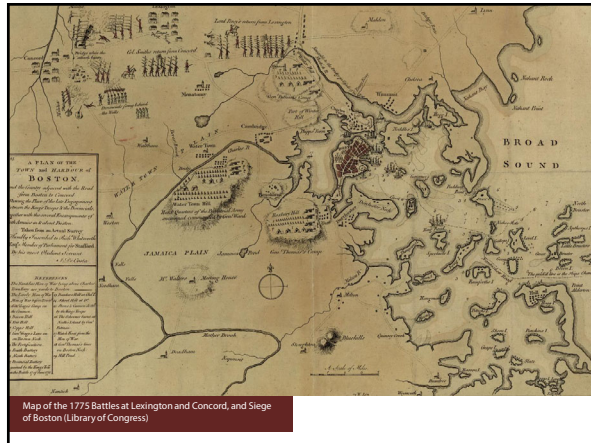


9

Revolutionary War

- April 19, 1775 – Fighting began in Lexington and Concord, Siege of Boston
- June 17, 1775 - Battle of Bunker Hill
- March 17, 1776 – Evacuation Day
- War ended on September 3, 1783

10



11


Revolutionary War Statistics

- In June 1775, out of the 37,363 soldiers who enlisted in the Continental Army, over 16,000 were from Massachusetts.
- In 1777, out of the 68,720 enlisted troops, nearly 13,000 were from Massachusetts. This number was larger than any other state that contributed.
- In 1782, Massachusetts had over 4,000 men in the field, out of over 18,000 in the Continental Army.
- Source: Spofford, Ainsworth R. *Massachusetts In the American Revolution*. Washington D.C.: District of Columbia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, 1895

12

Post-Revolution

- 1786 and 1787 - Shay's Rebellion
- 1788 - Ratification of the U.S. Constitution



13

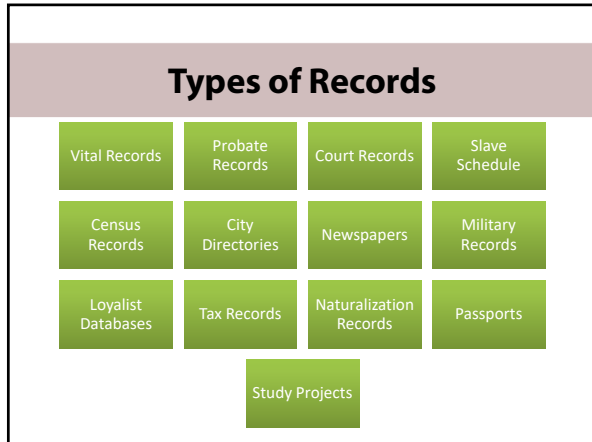
Changing Boundaries

- Norfolk County was founded in 1793 from Suffolk County
- The newly formed county consisted of 21 towns: Bellingham, Braintree, Brookline, Cohasset, Dedham, Dorchester, District of Dover (part of Dedham), Foxborough, Franklin, Medfield, Medway, Milton, Needham, Quincy, Randolph, Roxbury, Sharon, Stoughton, Walpole, Weymouth, and Wrentham

14

Major Record Sets

15



16

Vital Record Databases on AmericanAncestors.org

- Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620-1850
- Boston, MA: Births, 1700-1800
- Boston, MA: Marriages, 1700-1809
- Boston, MA: Deaths, 1700-1799
- And other individual towns can be found on AmericanAncestors.org

17

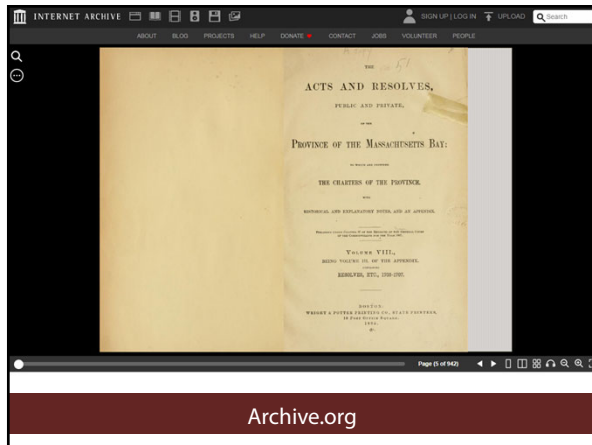
Vital Record Law Changes

- On 1 Dec. 1716, "Every town clerk was ordered to give in a list of marriages to the clerk of the Sessions of the Peace annually in April, and every clerk of the court was to record the same." Prov. Laws, Vol. II, p. 60

18



22



1754 Slave Schedule

- Governor William Shirley ordered that an enumeration of all slaves over the age of sixteen be completed by each town
- Includes Maine since it was part of Massachusetts
- The records of 119 towns have been preserved
 - Note: There were no surviving records for the town of Dracut

25

1754 Massachusetts Slave Census

In 1754, Governor William Shirley had ordered that an enumeration of all slaves, both male and female, over the age of sixteen be completed by each town. This included Maine since it was still part of Massachusetts. [\[read more\]](#)

Town:

Country:

SEARCH

View all records. Showing 1 results. Click on Town names, where available, to view original responses to the census.

Stoughton

Males: 6 Females: 2 Total: 8

County: **Norfolk**

Notes:

[DOCUMENTING A SLAVE'S TRANSITION FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM](#)

- [Essex County Historical Societies](#)
- [Christine Cassidy's Research Model](#)
- [1754 Massachusetts Slave Census](#)
- [The Federal Census](#)
- [Master / Mistress Family Papers](#)
- [Birth Records](#)
- [Marriage Records](#)
- [Death Records](#)
- [Court Records](#)
- [Town Records](#)
- [Military Pension Records](#)
- [Personal Correspondence](#)

primaryresearch.org/slave-census

26

1754 Slave Schedule Example

Stoughton

In Obedience to the Order of great & General Court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, in a Resolution passed the 10th of November last, We have taken an exact Account of the Negro Slaves within y^e Town of Stoughton, & find that there is by Males, 6 & by Females, 2 of sixteen years old and upwards.

Stoughton Jan. 7 1755

Enoch Belling
 Wm. Royale
 Joseph Belling
 Daniel Richards

Alfred

From the Massachusetts State Archives

27

Census Records

- 1790 U.S. Census
 - First federal census of the United States
 - Head of household named
 - All other household members broken down by sex and age

28

City Directories

- First Boston directory of 1789
- Available on the Boston Athenaeum web site

THE
Boston Directory.

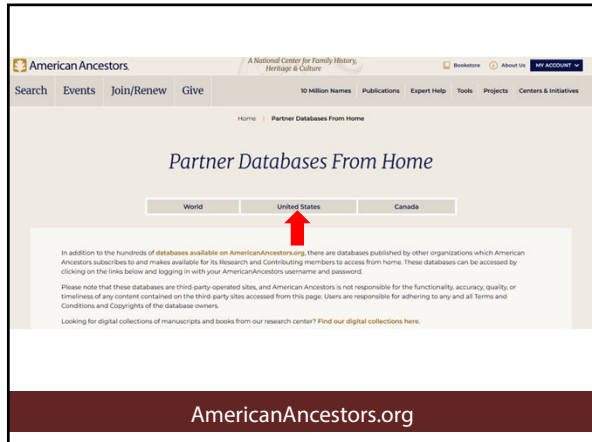
ADAMS Samuel, Hon. Wines-dress.
 A. Andrews John, merchant, No. 2, Union-street.
 Amory Jonathan, jun. Book-keeper, Cornhill.
 Ansell Daniel, grocer, No. 93, Cornhill.
 Anson John and Thomas, Book-keepers, No. 41
 Maltrough-street.
 Apthorp Nath. W. India goods, No. 12, Maltrough-street.
 Amory Jacobus, mercenary, State-street.
 Allison Henry, notary public, State-street.
 Ammer Joseph, No. 61, State-street.
 Amory Thomas, jun. merchant, No. 25, Long-wharf.
 Appleton L. and Benja. jun. oppos. with over Brown-
 Hill, and near No. 17, Long-wharf.
 Adams & Mortimer, goldsmiths, No. 9, Merchants-row.
 Appleton Samuel, Jew Jeweller, Market-square.
 Adams Daniel, Book-keeper, Market-square.
 Appleton John, painter, No. 8, Long-wharf.
 Alexander Giles, merchant, No. 12, Long-wharf.
 Archibald Ayrer, Jr. Cup-keeper, No. 7, Union-street.
 Alexander Joseph, hair-dresser, Orange-street.
 Adams Abraham, teacher-dresser and luncheon-maker.

29

Newspapers

- The first issue of the *Boston News-Letter* was published on April 24, 1704, by postmaster John Campbell.
 - Published weekly until 1776
- On December 21, 1719, the *Boston Gazette* was published
- Newspaper Indexes:
 - Index of Obituaries in Boston Newspapers, 1704-1800; Boston Athenaeum
 - Index to Deaths in the Massachusetts Centinel and the Columbian Centinel, 1784-1840
 - Index to Marriages in the Massachusetts Centinel and the Columbian Centinel, 1784-1840

30



31



32



33



37



38

French and Indian War

- Colonial Soldiers and Officers in New England, 1620-1775 database on AmericanAncestors.org
- Muster Roll Index Cards on FamilySearch
- Massachusetts State Archives Collection, Colonial Period, 1622-1788, on FamilySearch
- Society of Colonial Wars in Massachusetts Membership Applications, 1560-1970 database on AmericanAncestors.org

39

AmericanAncestors.org search interface for "Colonial Soldiers and Officers in New England, 1620-1775". The page includes a search bar with "SEARCH" button, filters for "Exact Search" and "Soundex", and input fields for "First Name", "Last Name", "Years", "Location", "Volume", "Page", "Expedition", "Company", and "Regiment".

40

No.	Name	Rank	Reference	Expedition	Year	Period	M	W	D	Company	Remarks
2110	Frye, James	Col.	Andrew Co.	Alarm List	1757(4)	April	-	-	-	Lt. Parson	---
2110	Frye, John	Capt.	Burton	Crown Point	1755-56	1756-1757	-	25	1	X	---
2112	Frye, Joseph	Maj.	Andrew	---	1754(3)	4/23-4/26	-	9	6	---	---
2114	Frye, Joseph	Lt. Col.	Andrew	---	1754	7/1-11/78	-	18	4	---	---
2119	Frye, Joseph	Col.	Andrew	---	1756	10/29-12/2	-	6	3	---	X
2120	Frye, Joseph	Col.	Andrew	Alarm List	1757(4)	April	-	-	-	Lt. Parson	---
2121	Frye, Joseph	Col.	---	---	1759-60	5/23-5/32	12	-	-	---	Col. Frye
2122	Frye, Joseph	Sen.	Andrew	Fort Cumberland	1759-60	5/25-11/25	-	8	4	Capt. Thomas Osburn	---
2123	Frye, Joseph	Sen.	---	New Scotia	1760	1/1-11/25	-	-	-	Capt. Thomas Osburn	Col. Frye
2124	Frye, Joseph	Sen.	---	---	1760(4)	November	-	-	-	---	---
2125	Frye, Joseph	Col.	---	Fort Cumberland	1761(4)	January	-	-	-	Capt. Benjamin Hildes	---
2126	Frye, William	AJG	---	---	1762(4)	---	-	-	-	---	Col. John Segard
2127	Puller, Joshua	Capt.	Worlin	Crown Point	1755(4)	September	-	-	-	X	Col. William Brewster
2128	Puller, Abner	Capt.	---	---	1763(4)	December	-	-	-	X	Col. William Brewster
2129	Puller, Andrew	Lt.	Brewster	Crown Point	1755	9/9-12/17	-	14	2	Capt. Samuel Flint	---

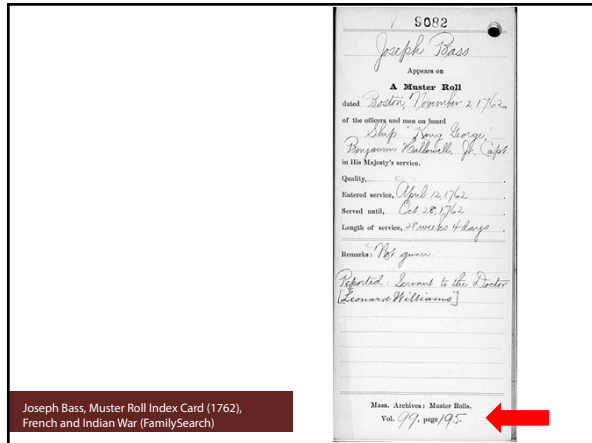
41

FamilySearch.org search results for "French and Indian War muster roll index cards, 1603-1779". The page shows metadata including authors (Massachusetts State Archives), format (Microfilm 35mm), language (English), publication date (2007-2008), publisher (Genealogical Society of Utah), and physical description (51 microfilm reels; 35 mm.).

42

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	Image Group Number (DGS)	Format
French and Indian War roll musters, index cards, Amlin, Peter Anget, Urian (continued), 1603-1779	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2426717	8731865	
French and Indian War roll musters, index cards, Anget, Urian-Baker, Noah (continued), 1603-1779	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2426718	8401436	
French and Indian War roll musters, index cards, Baker, Noah-Bass, Benjamin (continued), 1603-1779	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2426719	8263769	
French and Indian War roll musters, index cards, Bass, Benjamin-Bingham, Elsha (continued), 1603-1779	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2426720	8731866	
French and Indian War roll musters, index cards, Bingham, Elsha-Bowers, Jacob, 1603-1779	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2428118	8731867	
French and Indian War roll musters, index cards, Bowers, Jacob-Brook, Williams (continued), 1603-1779	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2428119	8401440	
French and Indian War roll musters, index cards, Brook, Williams-Briggs, Wiliam (continued), 1603-1779	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2428120	8401442	
French and Indian War roll musters, index cards, Burrige, William-Carter, Nathan (continued), 1603-1779	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2428121	8731868	
French and Indian War roll musters, index cards, Carter, Nathan-Church, William (continued), 1710-1774	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2428339	8401444	

43



44

FamilySearch Family Tree Search Memories Get Involved Activities

Records Full Text Images Family Tree Genealogies **Catalog** Books Wiki

TIPS AND RESOURCES

Massachusetts State Archives collection, colonial period, 1622-1788

Authors: [Massachusetts, State Archives](#) (Author)

Format: Microfilm 35mm

Language: English

Publication Date: 2002-2009

Publisher: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah

Place of Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah

Physical: 181 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Notes: Includes indexes in most volumes. Microfilm of documents at Massachusetts State Archives, Boston, Massachusetts. [View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations.](#)

45

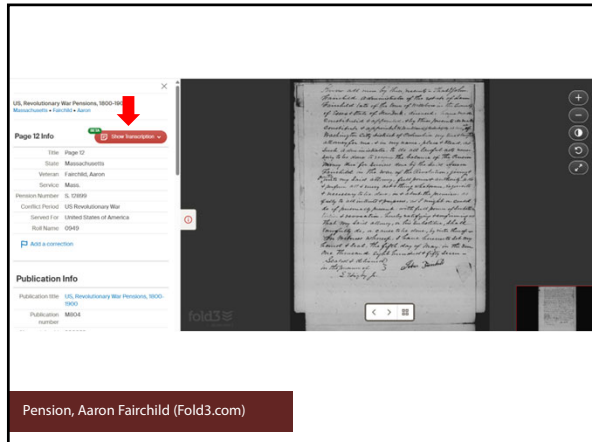
Revolutionary War Pensions

- 1776 - Half pay for officers and men disabled in the service and were incapable of earning a living
- 1780 - Half pay for 7 yrs. to widows and orphans of officers
- Pensions are available online on Fold3.com

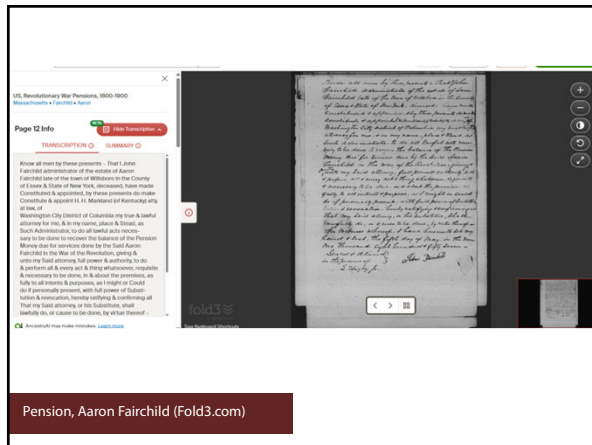
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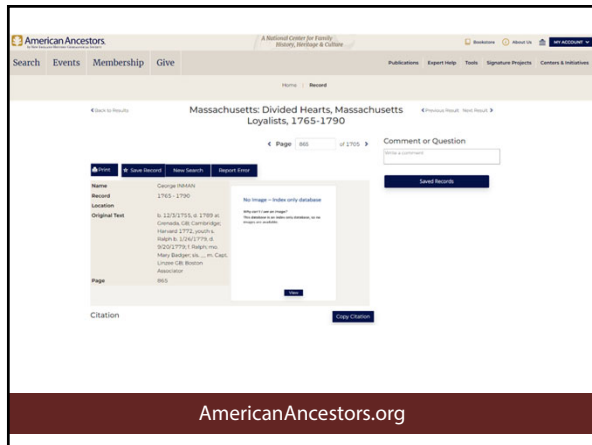
Loyalist Databases

- Divided Hearts, Massachusetts Loyalists, 1765-1790
- United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC) database
- Black Loyalist Directory, 1783-1788

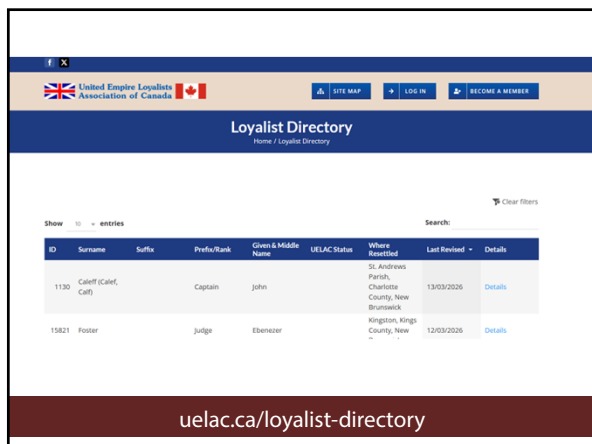
54



55



56



57

[back to Loyalist Directory](#)

ID	
1376	
Prefix/Rank	Sergeant
Given & Middle Name(s)	Lemuel
Surname	Caswell
Suffix	
UELAC Status	
Where Resettled	Eastern District: Fredericksburg
Proof of Loyalty	UEL List
Notes on Status	
Regiment	King's Royal Regiment of New York
Enlistment Date	
Date/Place of Birth	1749 Worcester County, Massachusetts
Settled Before War	
Date/Place of Death	1827

uelac.ca/loyalist-directory

58

Place of Burial	
Spouse	
Children	Phoebe; Wealthy; Stephen; Mary
Biography	In 1785, he appears in Muster Roll No. 11, in Elizabethtown (Township No. 8 below Cataragus).
Prevent Descendants	Kearns 2020.03.11 (Alan Roy McGilvray)
Military Info	
Loyalist Genealogy	Son of Susannah Caswell
Family History	
Family Genealogy	
Sources & Contributors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Ontario Settlers, pg 105 #E293. • FamilySearch.org Family Group Sheet. • The Loyalists in Ontario: The Sons and Daughters of the American Loyalists in Upper Canada, p. 58. Information contributed by Lynton 'Bill' Stewart.
Created At	October 5, 2021 12:00 am
Last Revised Date	January 18, 2026 12:00 am

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59

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Black Loyalist Directory, 1783-1788

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First/Middle/ Maiden names Last Name

Years From To Record Type

Location Exact Location Keywords

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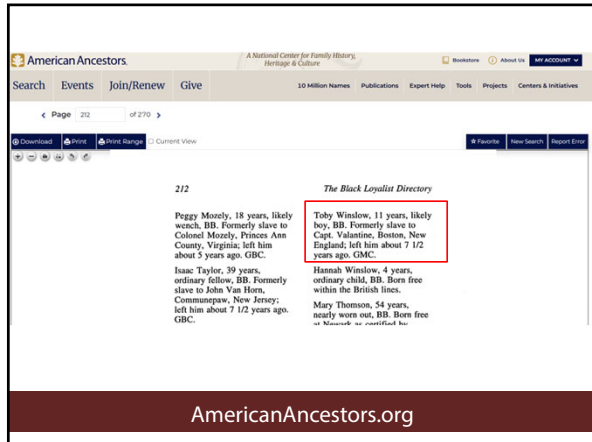
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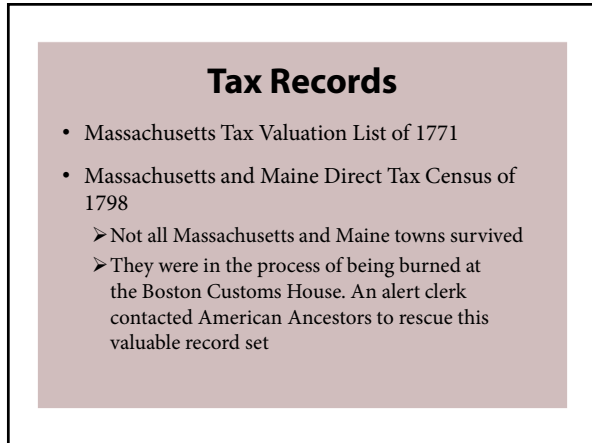
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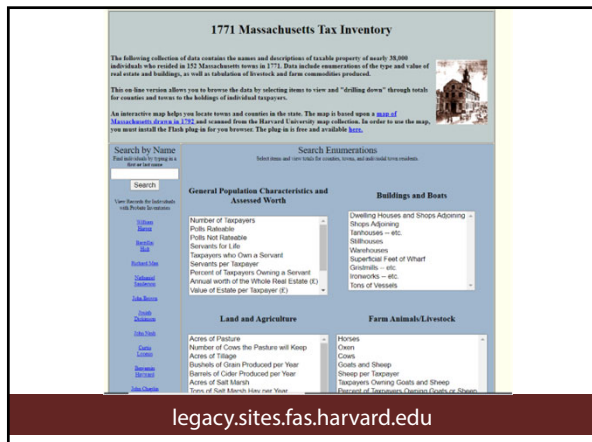
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61



62



63

AmericanAncestors.org

67

1798 Direct Tax, District 18, 2nd Division (Maine)

68

Naturalization Records

- Naturalization is the admittance of a foreigner to citizenship of a new country
- New England Petitions for Naturalization Index, 1791-1906
 - Index cards created for each immigrant that indicate when they naturalized, what court, what country they were from, where they live, and the reference information to find the naturalization records

69

First Naturalization Act (1790)

- Any free, white, adult alien, male or female, who had resided within the limits and jurisdictions of the U.S. for a period of 2 years was eligible for citizenship
- Applicant would apply to any court in any one of the states where they resided at least one year
- Citizenship was granted to those who showed they were of good moral character and took an oath of allegiance to the Constitution
- Children under 21 years automatically became citizens if they had a parent who successfully naturalized


70

Naturalization Act of 1795

- Increased period of residence from 2 to 5 years
- Applicants were required to declare publicly their intention to become citizens of the United States and to renounce any allegiance to a foreign prince, monarch, state, or sovereignty 3 years before admission as citizens
- Immigrants who had any hereditary titles or of the nobility class were also required to renounce that status

71

72

B.53	
Family name BARNETT	Given name or names WM. REYNOLDS
Address Boston	
Certificate no. (or vol. and page) A-18	Title and location of court USDC BOSTON MASS.
Country of birth or allegiance Jamaica	When born (or age)
Date and port of arrival in U. S.	Date of naturalization First Tues. Dec. 1796
Names and addresses of witnesses	
	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, Immigration and Naturalization Service. FORM NO. 1-1P. 14-3202	

New England Petition for Naturalization
Index Card Example

73

Naturalization records (Boston, Massachusetts), NARA, RG 21 1790-1946

Title Also Known As [Index to declarations of intention.](#) | [Index to declarations of intention and petitions for naturalization.](#) | [Index to declarations of intention filed under the provisions of the Act of June 29, 1906.](#) | [Declarations of intentions.](#)

Authors [United States Circuit Court \(Massachusetts District\)](#) (Added Author) [United States Department of Commerce and Labor, Division of Naturalization](#) (Added Author) [United States District Court \(Massachusetts\)](#) (Author)

Format Microfilm 35mm

Language English

Publication Date 2005-

Publisher Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah

Place of Publication Salt Lake City, Utah

Physical 495 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Series National Archives microfilm publications

References (Related (reversed) [Naturalization records \(Boston, Massachusetts\), 1845-1911](#)) (Related (reversed) [Petitions and records of naturalization of the U.S. District Court and Circuit Courts of the District of Massachusetts, 1906-1929](#))

Familysearch.org

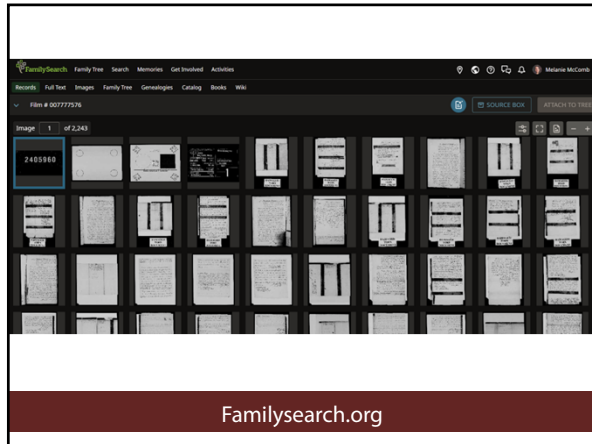
74



Naturalization records, Vol. A-83, v. 1 (p. 1-205, cont.), 1790-1847	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2405960	777576		
Naturalization records, v. 1 (p. 206-end)v. 3, 1847-1850	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2405961	777577		
Naturalization records, v. 4-5 (p. 1-234, cont.), 1850-1851	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2407037	777620		
Naturalization records, v. 5 (cont., no. 235-end)v. 7 (p. 1-161, cont.), 1851-1853	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2407219	777825		
Naturalization records, v. 7 (cont., p. 162-end)v. 9 (p. 1-47, cont.), 1853	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2407737	777831		
Naturalization records, v. 9 (cont., p. 47-end)v. 10 (p. 1-262, cont.), 1853-1854	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2407738	777832		
Naturalization records, v. 10 (cont., p. 263-end)v. 12 (p. 1-207, cont.), 1854	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	2407739	777833		

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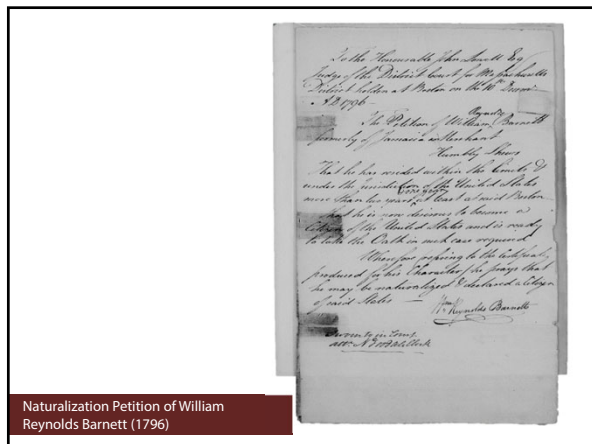
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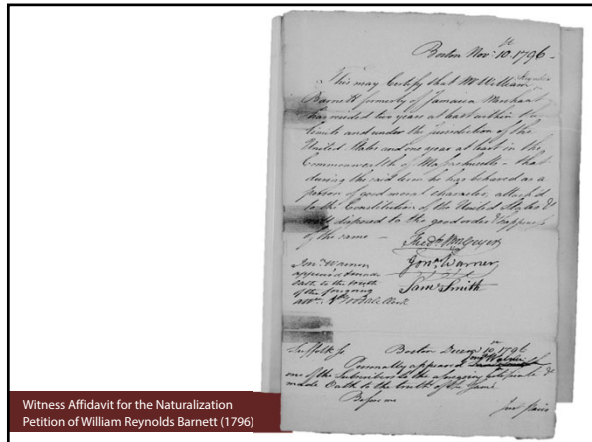
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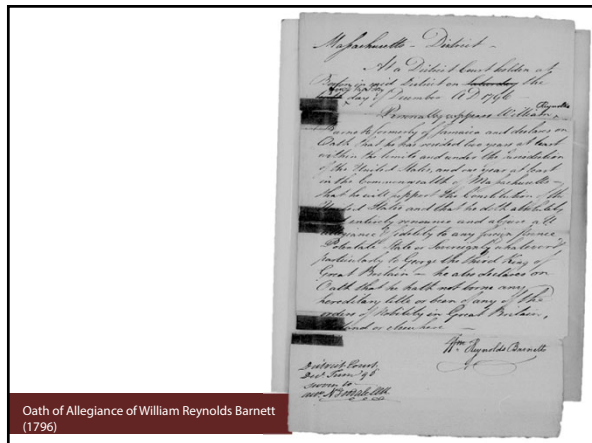
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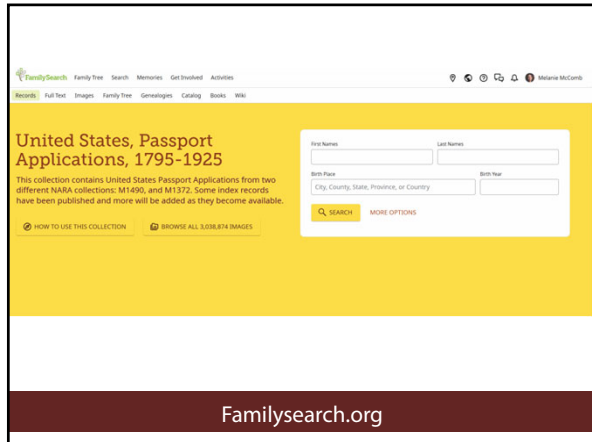


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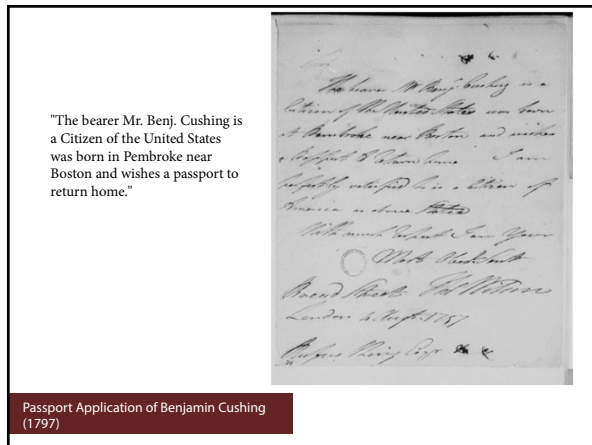
Passport Applications

- Only issued to U.S. born citizens or persons who naturalized
- 18th Century passport applications include name, residence, birthplace, reason for passport.

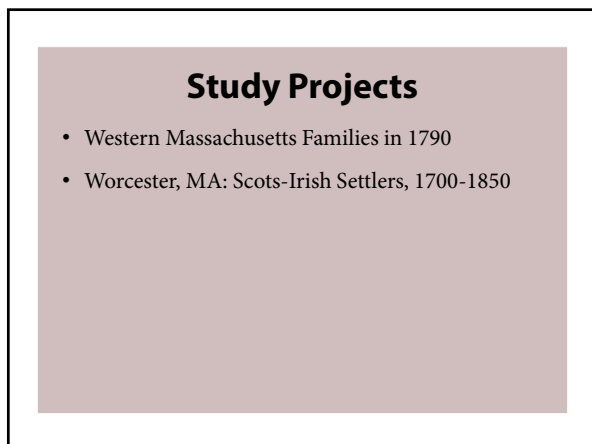
81



82



83



84



85



86



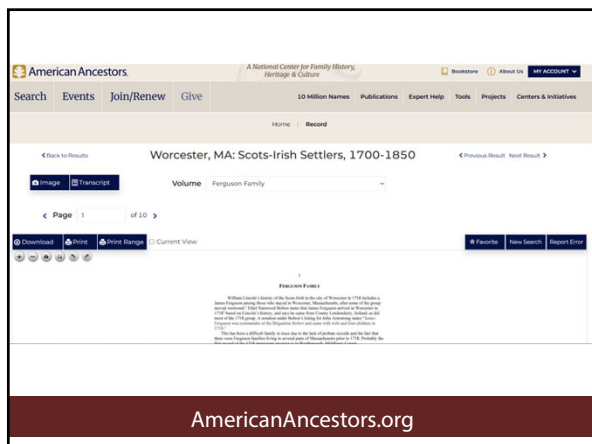
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88



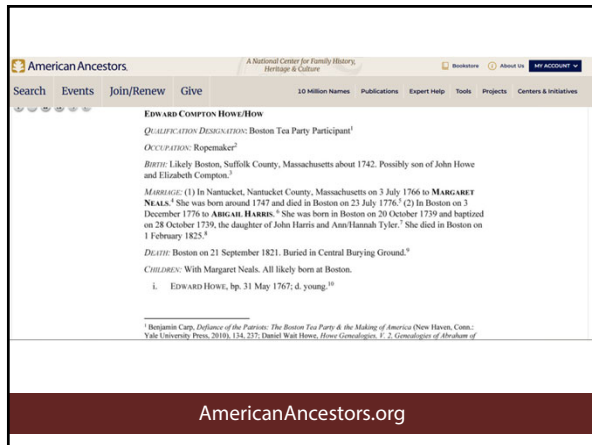
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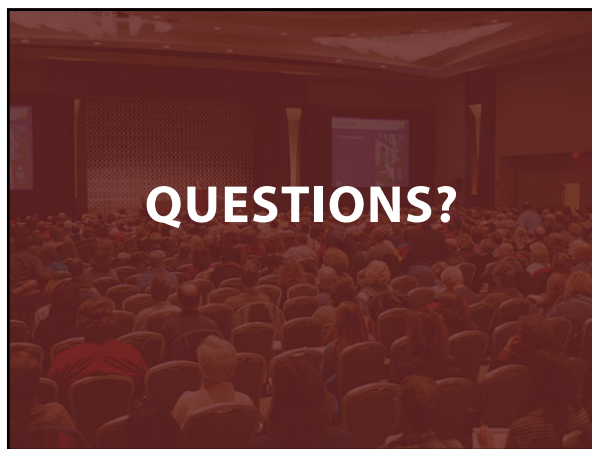
90



91



92



93



94

Common Problems

- Vital Record Registration not mandatory until 1841
 - Huge gaps in record taking for Boston
 - First major census is 1790 and is by head of household only
- Military pension and bounty land warrant applications destroyed by fire at the War Dept in 1800
- Barnstable County Courthouse Fire in 1827
 - Most land registry deed volumes destroyed
- Portland (Maine) City Hall Fire in 1908
 - Cumberland County probate records destroyed

95

Vital Record Substitutes

- Church Records
- Land Deeds
- Probate Records
- Court Records
- Tax Records

96

**Papers of the War Department
1784-1800**

- On November 8, 1800, there was a fire at the War Department
- Revolutionary War pension applications and bounty land application files were destroyed
- A project was started to rebuild the War Department Papers, led by Ted Crackel; the project team visited more than 200 repositories and about 42,000 documents collected and scanned

97

*** PAPERS OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT ***
1784 - 1800

About News Guides Teach Transcribe Collection Search

Guides

The following guides are divided into three sections: *How to use the Papers of the War Department* has information on how to navigate, search, and use documents in our collection. *Transcribing the Papers of the War Department* contains a user manual for our transcription system, and *Historical Context* offers useful information about reading eighteenth-century handwriting, commonly used abbreviations, and resources to learn more about this period in American history.

<p>HOW TO USE THE PAPERS OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Browsing Names and Documents • Searching the Collection • How to Cite Documents 	<p>HISTORICAL CONTEXT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources for the Late Eighteenth Century United States • Commonly used abbreviations • Paleography resources
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wardepartmentpapers.org/s/home/page/Guides

98

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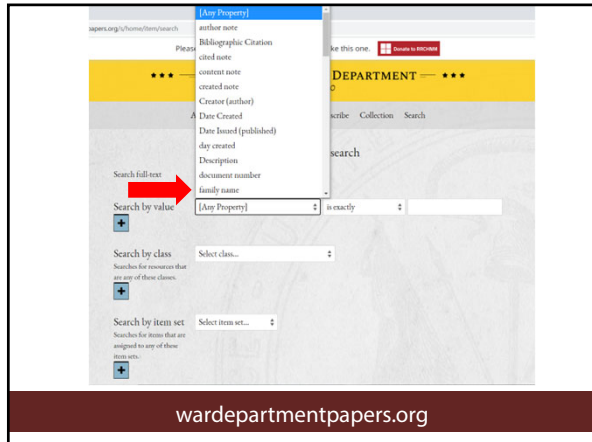
Search by value [Any Property] is exactly

Search by class Select class...

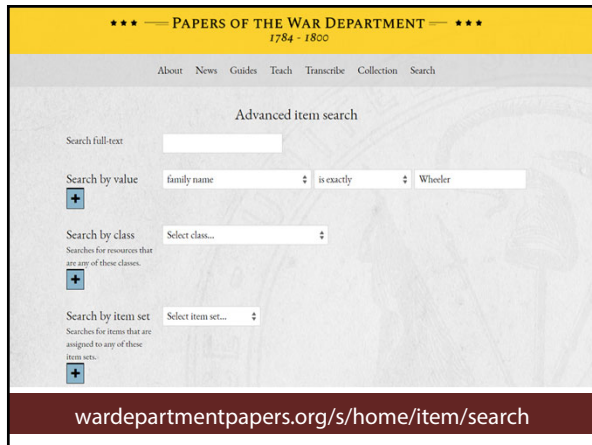
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99



100



101



102

Bennett Wheeler
ITEM

FULL NAME Bennett Wheeler
FULL NAME (COPY) Bennett Wheeler
GIVEN NAME Bennett
FAMILY NAME Wheeler
ITEM SETS Names

Linked resources

Filter by property All

recipient

Title	Alternate label	Class
Kniox discusses naval appointments with Wheeler		Document

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103

ITEM

Type Autograph Letter

TITLE Kniox discusses naval appointments with Wheeler

DESCRIPTION Letter, advises re naval officer appointment.

SHORT DESCRIPTION Ltr. adv re naval officer appointment.

YEAR CREATED 1790
MONTH CREATED 08
DAY CREATED 14

AUTHOR [Henry Kniox](#)

SENT FROM LOCATION New York

RECIPIENT [Bennett Wheeler](#)

IN COLLECTION [Henry Kniox Papers](#) [microfilm]

IN IMAGE 

NOTABLE PERSON/GROUP [Bennett Wheeler](#)
[Henry Kniox](#)

NOTABLE LOCATION New York
Providence

NOTABLE ITEM/THING assure you sir that no person had any reason or authority sometime ago you were pleased to address to me

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104

*** PAPERS OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT ***
1784 - 1800

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Search by class: Select class...

Search by item set: Select item set...

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105

Collection

Search full-text name
 Template Repository Collection Microfilm Publication Name Document Image
 Names Documents All

Title Descending Sort Advanced search 1 of 1 < > 1-18 of 18

PAY, SUBSTANCE, AND NURSE'S PAY
 Fry encloses vouchers for money to be credited to his account. Neither he, Lt. Wilson, nor Doctor Osborn received their subsistence for January despite the submission of the statement. Fry has paid the nurse \$8 per month because there are so many sick that he cannot hire anyone for less.

PAYMENT OF SARAH BROOKS, NURSE AT CARLISLE PENNSYLVANIA
 Simmons certifies that the sum of \$24 is due to Sarah Brooks for her pay as a nurse at Carlisle, Pennsylvania from August to November 1794.

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106

Payment of Sarah Brooks, nurse at Carlisle Pennsylvania

ITEM

TYPE Author's Letterbook Copy

TITLE Payment of Sarah Brooks, nurse at Carlisle Pennsylvania

DESCRIPTION Simmons certifies that the sum of \$24 is due to Sarah Brooks for her pay as a nurse at Carlisle, Pennsylvania from August to November 1794.

YEAR CREATED 1795

MONTH CREATED 04

DAY CREATED 18

AUTHOR William Simmons

SENT FROM LOCATION Accountant's Office

RECIPIENT Timothy Pickering

IN COLLECTION Report Books of the Accountant of the War Department, April 14, 1795-Dec. 31, 1817. (RG217)

IN IMAGE DMAD1

AUTHOR NOTE William Simmons

RECIPIENT NOTE Timothy Pickering

NOTABLE PERSON/GROUP Timothy Pickering

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107

Barnstable County

- There was a fire on October 27, 1827, that destroyed the courthouse
- It housed the Registry of Deeds, which had 94 volumes of land records going back to 1783; all but one volume was lost in the fire
- Many deeds were re-recorded, but sadly not all were identified; many owners did not keep the original deed once the property was sold off

108

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	Image Group Number (ID#)	Format
Town of Barnstable, deeds, vol. 1-2, 1788-1827.	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	B46000	7460704	
Town of Barnstable, deeds, vol. 3, 1789-1825.	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	B46001	7460705	
Town of Barnstable, deeds, vol. 4-5, 1793-1844.	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	B46002	7460706	
Town of Brewster, deeds, vol. 1-2, 1791-1827.	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	B46003	7460707	
Town of Chatham, deeds, vol. 1-2, 1783-1827.	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	B46004	7460708	
Town of Dennis, deeds, vol. 1-2, 1783-1827.	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	B46005	7460709	
Town of Dennis, deeds, vol. 3, 1783-1827.	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	B46006	7460710	
Town of Falmouth, deeds, vol. 1-2, 1783-1827.	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	B46007	7460711	
Town of Eastham, deeds, vol. 1, 1783-1827.	Granite Mountain Record Vault	United States & Canada Film	B46008	7460712	

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115

Alternative Records for Barnstable County Deeds

- Court Records
- Probate records
- Town Records
- Valuation records
- Manuscript Collections

116

Cumberland County, Maine

- In July 1866, there was the Great Fire in Portland that destroyed City Hall
- There was another fire on January 24, 1908 at Portland City Hall that destroyed the county records
- These include the county probates that were kept in Portland (county seat). City records were saved from the fire

117

Alternative Records for Cumberland County (Maine) Probate Records

- Court Records
- Land Deeds – look for estate sales
- Newspapers – look for obituaries and probate notices
- Town Records
- Valuation records

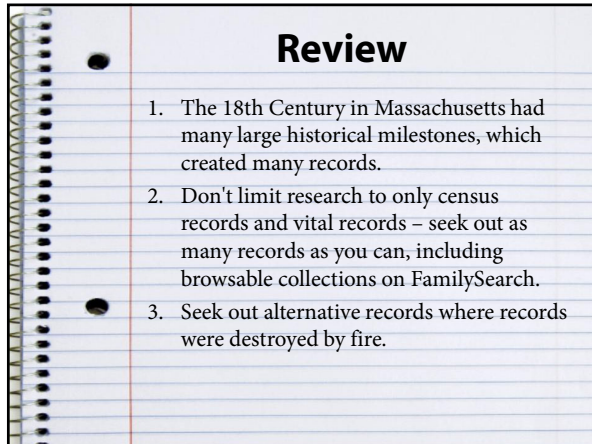
118

[loc.gov/collections/chronicling-america/](https://www.loc.gov/collections/chronicling-america/)

119

Probate Notice for the Estate of Thomas Slemmons of Falmouth (Jenks's Portland Gazette, 1799)

120



121



122



123

Consultations

Book a one-on-one consultation with a genealogist and receive help with your family history research!

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124



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125
