

Beyond the Vitals: Using New England Town Records

Winter Research Stay-at-Home

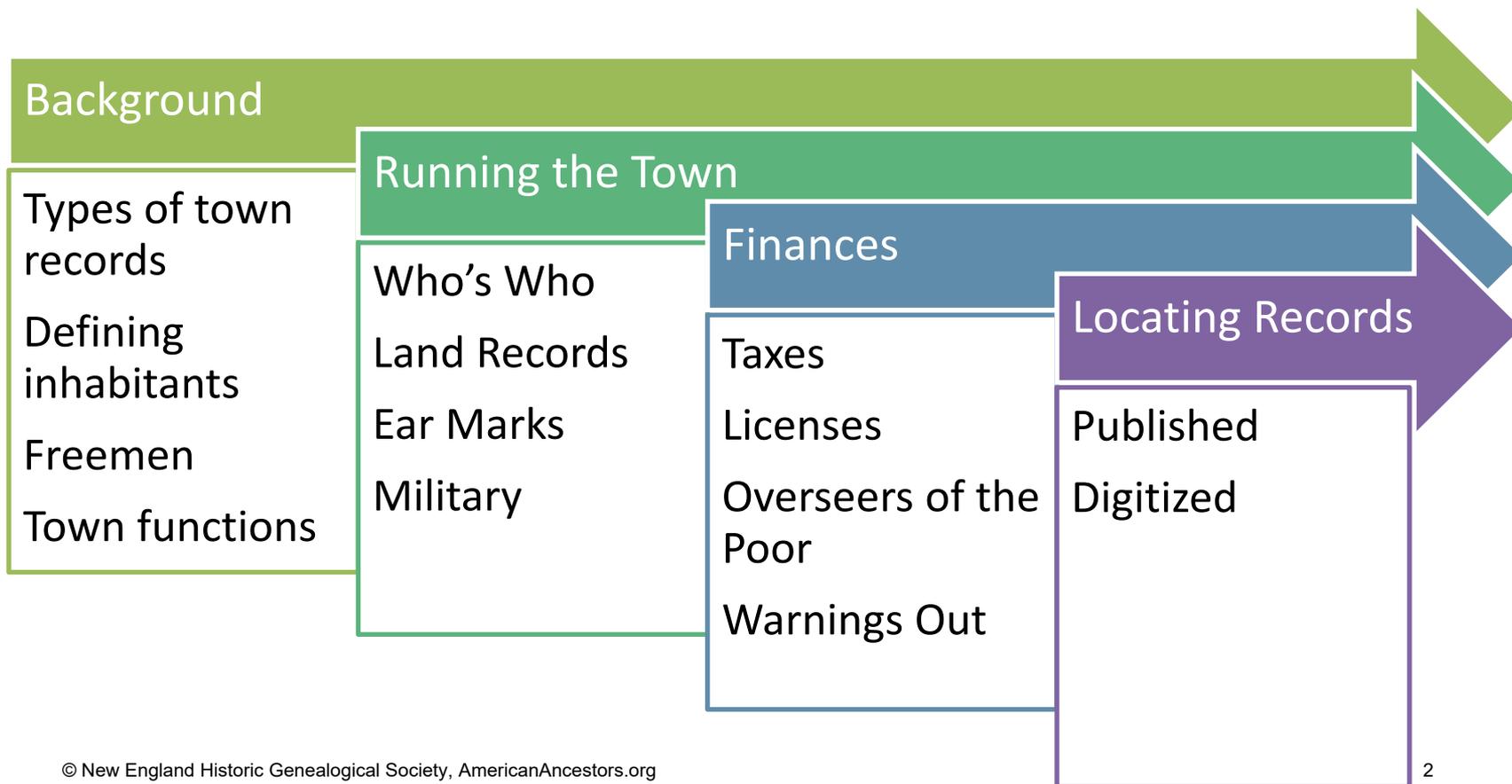
Ann Lawthers
Genealogist
February 2022

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Overview



4. Judah and Mercy Baker of Yarmouth
 a record of the Births and Names of their Children.

Timothy Baker born 21th of April 1732
 Deborah Baker born 2^d of March 1729: 30
 Barnabas Baker born 23^d of February 1734
 5 Elizabeth Baker born 9th of January 1735-6
 Rebekah Baker born 25th of April -- 1738
 Judah Baker born 13th of March -- 1742-3
 Mercy Baker born 13th of Sept. -- 1746
 Jamson Baker born 10th of July -- 1749.

Thomas and Sarah Crowl of Yarmouth
 a record of the birth and names of their Children

Joshua Crowl 26 of April 1716
 Edward Crowl 26 of March 1718
 7 David Crowl born 1. July 1723
 Thomas Crowl born 12th of Feb. 1725
 Jonathan Crowl born 20 of March 1728-9
 Solomon Crowl born 31 of Aug. 1730
 +

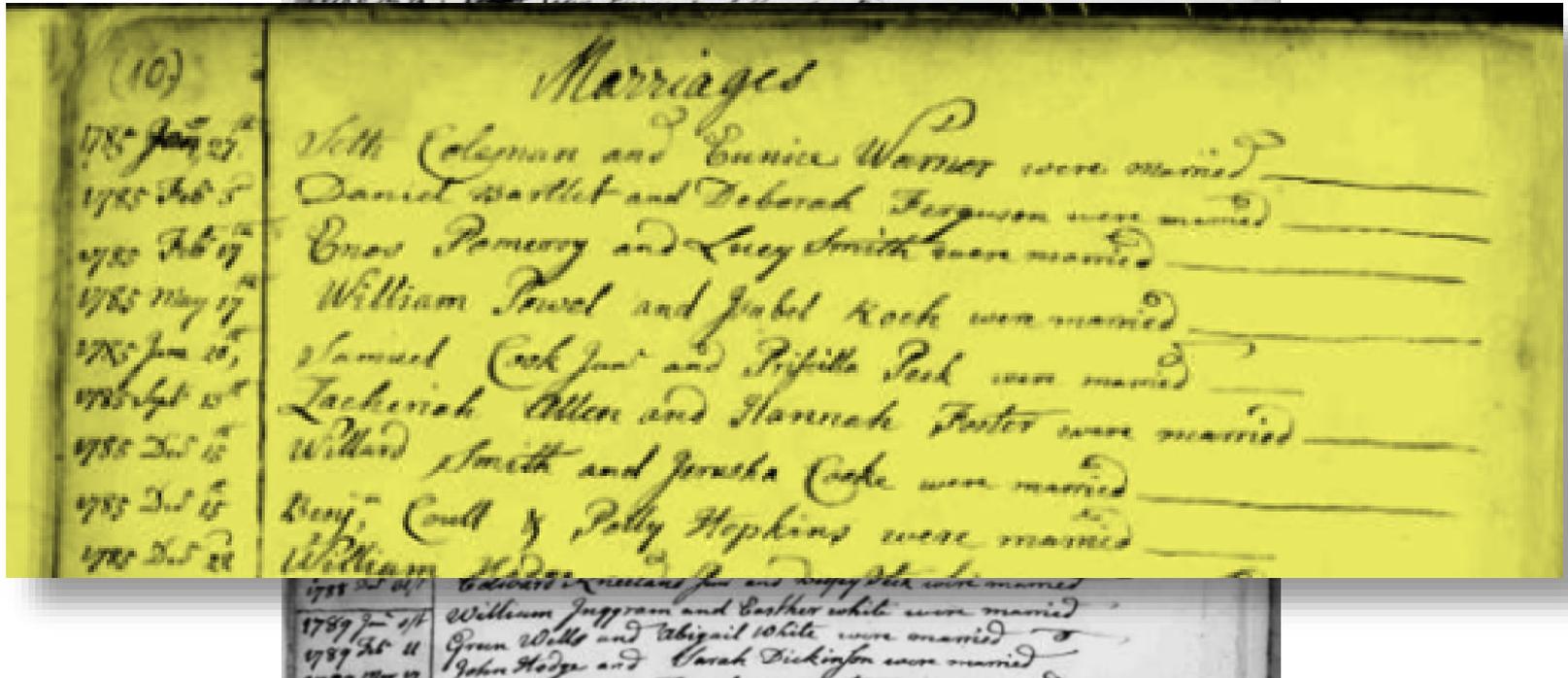
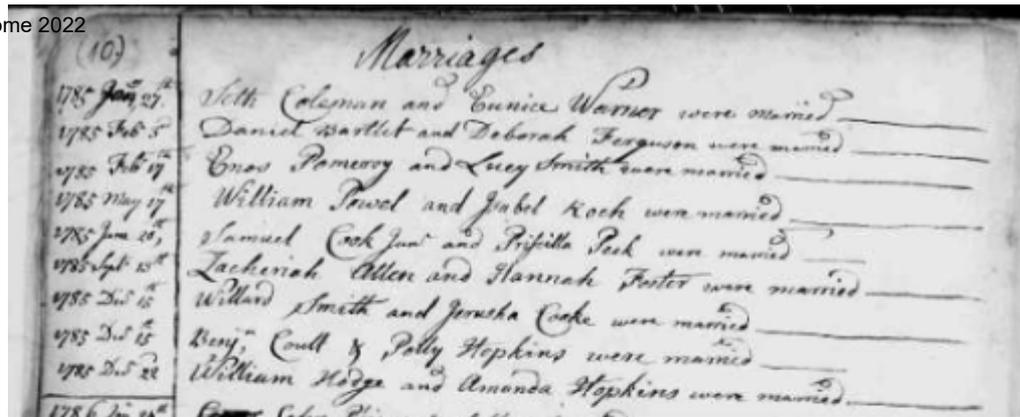
Judah and Jane Baker of Yarmouth
 a record of the birth and names of their Children

Maria Full Baker born 17 of May 1730
 1732

4. Judah and Mercy Baker of Yarmouth
 a record of the Births and Names of their Children.

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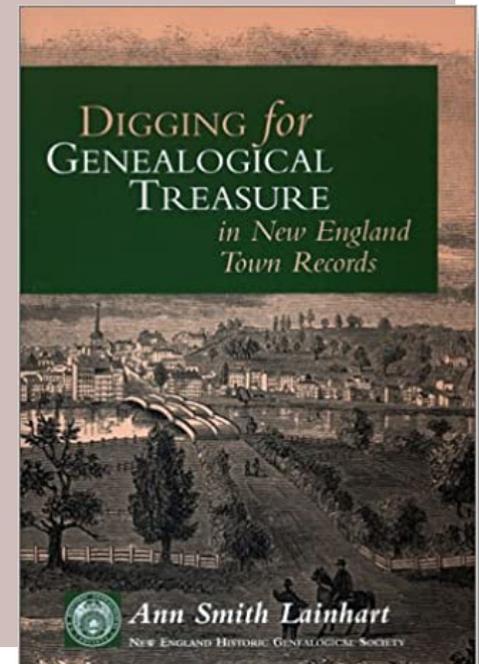
Desire Flower born 11 of Feb. 1732



Hadley, MA Marriages 1785

Examples of Town Records

- Vitals – birth, marriage and death
- Officers
- Meetings
- Treasurer's records
- Tax records
- Land Sales
- Ear marks
- Pew deeds
- Warnings out
- Licenses



Value of Town Records

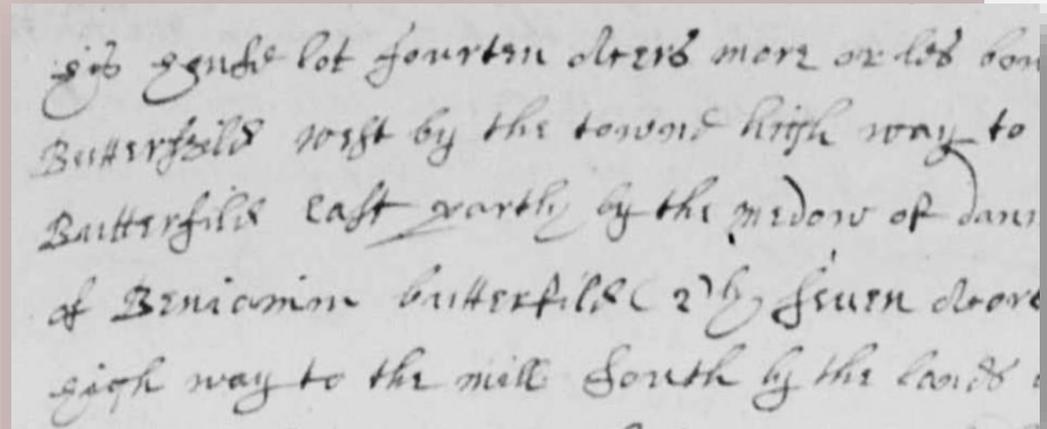
- Comprised of many different types of records
- Provide unique information
- Track movements and migrations
- Important source for female ancestors

Value of Town Records (cont)

- Best source for impoverished ancestors
- Vital record substitutes
- Help distinguish individuals with same name
- Give context to your ancestor's life
- Provide insight into community

Challenges

- Time consuming
- Usually unindexed
- Poor handwriting
- Different formats
- Difficult to access
- Recorded in random order



Chaotic Record Keeping

Students by District

Customs of Schools - Jan 1844

District	Number of Pupils	No. of Scholars
1	William Perkins	15
2	Edw. Jones	43
3	Wm. Cook	18
4	James Smith	37
5	John Brewster	30
6	Thomas Miller	41
7	Henry G. Smith	44
8	William Phillips	57
9	John Smith	12
10	John Smith	44

The above is a true list of the No. of Pupils in the Town of Haverhill one & a half miles beyond of age or otherwise by the above named District Clerk.

Wm. Cook Town Clerk

State of Vermont, County of Franklin, ss. I, the undersigned, Clerk of the County of Franklin, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct list of the No. of Pupils in the Town of Haverhill one & a half miles beyond of age or otherwise by the above named District Clerk, as the same appears by the records of said District Clerk.

Witness my hand and the seal of said County at Haverhill this 10th day of January 1844.

Wm. Cook, Clerk of the County of Franklin.

Received for Record and Records by me Wm. Cook Town Clerk

This may certify to all whom it may concern that the above is a true and correct list of the No. of Pupils in the Town of Haverhill one & a half miles beyond of age or otherwise by the above named District Clerk, as the same appears by the records of said District Clerk, as the same appears by the records of said District Clerk, as the same appears by the records of said District Clerk.

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Marriage Records

Warnings

Records regarding to date of Jan 1844 - Haverhill 1844 -

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Warnings Out

Who Was Considered a Town Inhabitant?

- Land owners
- Individuals born in the town
- Apprentices trained in the town
- Newcomers allowed if:
 - Good character
 - Vouched for by existing town inhabitant OR
 - Approved by Selectmen
 - Deemed not become a burden to the town

Privileges of Town Inhabitancy

- Land
- Common land for grazing
- Fishing and hunting privileges
- If became indigent, right to be cared for by the town



Image from www.revolutionarywarjournal.com

Freemen

- Applied for privilege
 - Male, usually over 21
 - Church member (varied by Colony)
 - Land ownership (varied by Colony)
 - Good character
- Participate in Town Meeting
- Vote on Town business
- Serve on juries



Mural at Post Office, Ipswich, MA

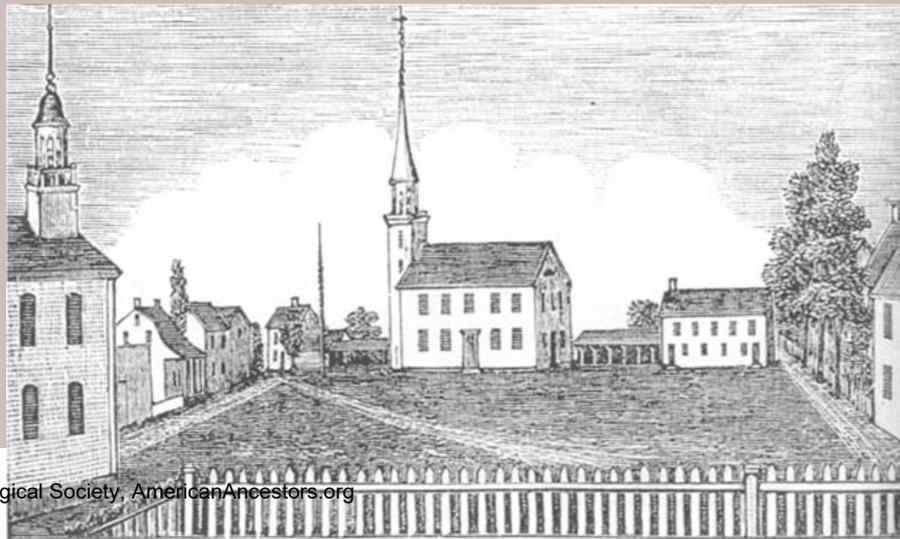
257
 Benjamin Jorvis
 Stephen Sweet
 Abraham Kaldbrook
 Abel Parr
 Tho^r Reynolds
 John Chambers
 Sonds Adams
 Elisha Reynolds
 James Sweet
 Isaac Goodwin
 Moses Parr
 Wm Brandige
 Joseph Mott
 Alexander Gregg
 Daniel Smith
 Joseph Hayden
 Humphrey Smith
 Silvester Sweet
 Joshua Manning
 Abraham Hay
 Friedrich Hoxsey
 Peter Carrigan
 Jacob Cook
 Wm Sawles
 James Fisher
 Richard Mott
 John van der
 Jacob Mott
 Joseph Hacks
 Gabriel Manning
 Titus Clark
 Stephen Sawles
 Joseph Sweet
 Joseph Mott
 John Andrew
 Abraham Babcock
 Timothy Mott
 Alexander Scott
 John Waters
 John Ladue
 James Andrew
 Thomas Colter
 Daniel Kregel
 Emanuel Hammer
 Samuel Mott
 John Haggons
 Phillip Clark
 Wm Loney
 Nathaniel Parsons
 Wm Miller
 Peter Sumner
 Heathwick Wood
 George Smith
 George Brimmer
 John Lazard
 John Mott
 Henry Miller
 Peter Collier
 Andrew Babcock
 Henry - Mill
 Christopher Dickel
 Joseph S. Mott
 Timothy Sawles
 John Dickel
 William Peter
 Wm Mias
 Phillip Gray
 Ruben Taler
 Ben - Spence
 Joseph Sawles
 John Haverice
 Daniel G. Galtch
 Daniel Galtch
 James Haggons

Deced Hoxey
 Abraham Conklin
 Daniel Clark
 Edward Hagan
 Esart Gregg
 Nathaniel Mact
 Timothy Torce
 Ruben Galtch
 Royal Forbes
 John Gregg
 Wm Thomas
 Abraham Gregg
 Job Babcock
 Fife Bolles
 Thomas Clark
 William Caples
 John Soules
 John Taylor
 Philip Carrigan
 William Suel
 William Wilfor
 Daniel S. Galtch
 Saml G. Mott
 Jacob Picket
 Daniel S. Galtch
 John K. Chilton
 Simon Smith
 Abraham Scott
 Book Sawyer
 Saml Tracy
 Benjamin M. Giger
 Paul Carrigan
 Elizabeth Muro
 Conrad Barget
 Eldenia
 Michael Suel
 Michael Hanningo Jun.
 Linn Hammen
 Saml. Booser
 Richard Smith
 William Wiley
 Benj. Anderson
 Stephen Smith
 Saml. Corban
 Aaron Wood
 Nichl. Hanningo
 Sylvester Sweet Jun.
 Thomas Warren
 Jch. Gadsden
 Moses Parr
 Joseph Suel Jun.
 John Clark
 Linder Hammen
 Lewis Suel
 James Palmer
 Peter Pike
 Benjamin Barry
 Thomas Baret
 Samuel Dought
 Jn. Babcock
 Elisha Remmels
 Robert B. Brown
 Peter Towne Jun
 Jacob Manning
 James Coisech
 George Coiser
 Walter Sorrow
 Stephen Miles
 James Williams
 Solomon Rowlett
 James Miles
 Uriah Traver
 George Straight
 Paul Miles
 Hugh Andrew
 John Suel
 Frederick Honicker
 John Danfson

Peter Duggan
 John P. Duggan
 John P. Duggan
 Thomas W. Huxson

Town Government

- Unit of government in New England and other locales
- Elected town officers governed the town
- Freemen voted for elected officials at town meeting



Religion and Town Government

- Earliest New England settlers brought English governing tools with them
 - Laws
 - Record keeping
 - Officers
 - Freemen could vote on town matters
- Massachusetts Bay made church participation a condition for Freeman status
- Connecticut Colony (but not New Haven Colony) allowed all men to apply for Freeman status

Typical Functions of NE Towns

- Assess and collect taxes
- Record land transactions
- Build and maintain roads
- Maintain law and order
- Care for indigent members of the community
- Maintain schools

The Town Meeting

- Notice posted to townspeople
- Led by a moderator
- Often required attendance
- Election of town officials
- General town business

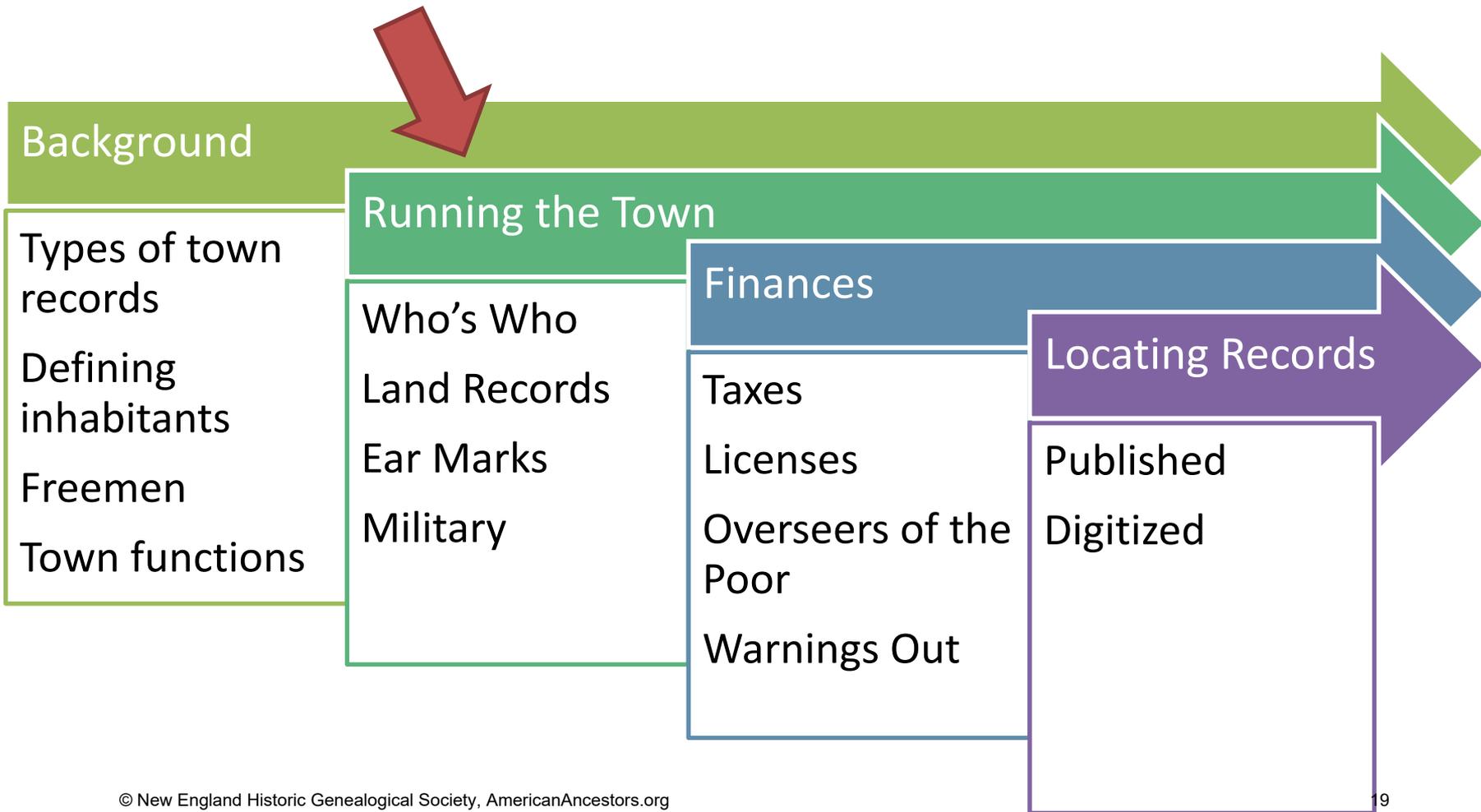
State of New Hampshire } This is to Notify and warn all
Strafford } the freeholders and others inhabit-
ants belonging to the town of

- Vote in town
- Meet at the
- Said Town on
- next ensuing
- and there to
- 1^{ly} To Chuse a m
- 2^{ly} To Chuse a To
- 3^{ly} To bring in
- Ensuing
- 4^{ly} To bring the
- Ensuing All
- of Deeds for Sa
- 5^{ly} To Chuse a the
- in the General
- 6^{ly} To Chuse Const
- as the Law Dir
- 7^{ly} To see what m

State of New Hampshire } This is to Notify and warn all
Strafford } the freeholders and others inhabit-
ants belonging to the town of
Gilmantown Qualified by Law to
Vote in town Affairs You are hereby Required to
Meet at the Congregational meeting house in
Said Town on Thursday the Eightth Day of March
next ensuing at ten of the Clock before noon then
and there to Act on the following Particulars (Viz)

- 8^{ly} To see what m necessary Charges Arising on said town the year ensuing
- 9^{ly} To see if the town will Agree to tax the inhabitants in the upper Parish so called to Mr. Smith & Mr. Powers for their Gallerys and that said inhabitants in the upper Parish shall have their equal proportion of preaching

Overview



Town Officers

- Key Officers
 - Moderator
 - Town Clerk
 - Selectmen(Town Councilors – RI)
 - Constable
 - Treasurer
- Depending on the size of the town, some offices seemed “semi-hereditary”

Tip

Use the Town Officer Lists to
Place Your Ancestor in Place and
Time

Page #9

The Town then Proceeded to Business
Ruben Garlick was chosen Moderator and
The following Persons were then Chosen to
The offices annexed to there Respective Names

Mr. Tho^s Reynolds – Town Clark Qutified

Mrss^{rs}

Richard Mott

John Chambers

Joshua Manning

Jacob Cook

Samuel Mott

Selectmen Qutified

Mr Benj^m Marvin Esq Town Treasurer Qutified

Mrss^{rs}

Abel Parr

Joseph Mott

Parr first Constable
Constables Qutified
& Collectors

Mrss^{rs}

Moses Parr

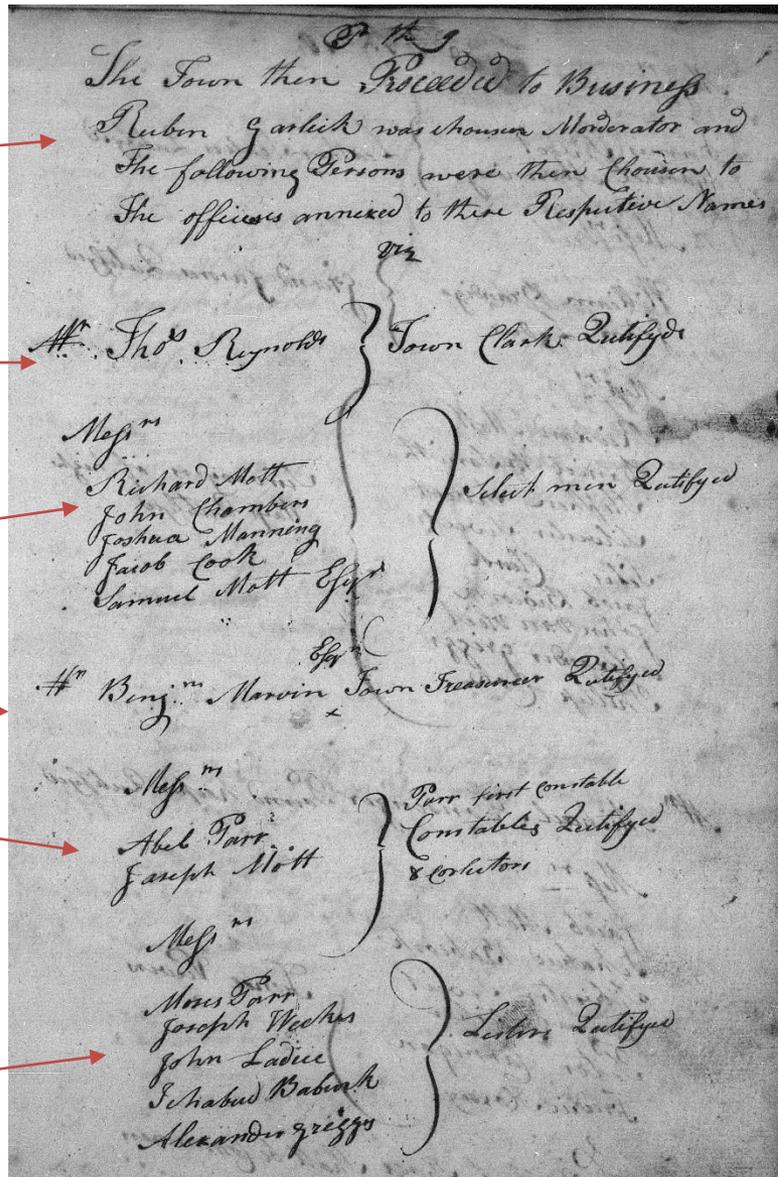
Joseph Weekes

John Ladue

Ichabod Babcock

Alexander Griggs

Listers Qutified



Warrant Continued
 receiving evidence of the annual town meeting
 annual town meeting
 given in
 seventh day of March 1860
 Richard Greenleaf Selectmen
 Wm. S. Givens of
 Nathaniel Badger Brunswick

Ballot for Moderator

Constables Return

Pursuant to the order of the Board of Selectmen
 I have notified the inhabitants of said Town of
 as therein expressed, to assemble at the
 and place, and for the purposes therein
 mentioned, by posting an attested copy
 of this warrant, at the Post Office in said
 town, it being a public, and conspicuous
 place on the nineteenth day of March 1860
 before nine o'clock A.M.

Ballot for Town Clerk

A true copy of the original Warrant and
 the return made thereon
 Attest Leonard Townsend Town Clerk

Ballot for Selectmen

Meeting March 26th 1860
 met agreeable to the foregoing Warrant at the time
 and place - The meeting was called to order by the
 Clerk - The Warrant being read, the legal voters were
 called upon to bring in their votes for a Moderator
 to preside at said meeting -
 Whole number of ballots for Moderator were 470
 Necessary to a choice 236
 Hon. Chas. J. Gilman had 237
 Gen. A. B. Thompson " 173
 Col. F. J. Stone " 54
 Nathaniel Badger " 4
 Leonard Townsend " 2 470
 Hon. Charles J. Gilman was declared
 elected and was qualified by Nathaniel Badger
 Proxy by the Rev. Mr. Ballard Justice of the Peace

Ballots for Town Clerk

Whole Number of Ballots were 613
 Necessary to a choice 307
 Leonard Townsend had 331
 Nathaniel Badger " 277
 A. B. Thompson " 3
 Richard Greenleaf " 2 613

This may certify that whereas
 Leonard Townsend was elected
 Town Clerk of Brunswick
 legal meeting held March 26th 1860
 day being the first day before the
 meeting was held

Ballots for Selectmen

Whole number of Ballots for Selectmen were 672
 Necessary to a choice 337
 Nathaniel Badger 353
 Leonard Townsend 385
 Augustus T. Cox 375
 Richard Greenleaf 299
 Wm. S. Givens 278
 H. C. Sylvester 288
 Francis Owen 1
 John Rogers 1 672
 The three first were declared elected.

Voted.. To bring in the Ballots for Selectmen on one piece
 of paper.

Voted.. To keep the polls open for selectmen ^{until} 1/2 of the clock

Major Offices

Town Clerk

- Keeper of vital records
- Documented votes, resolutions, and orders
- Recorded the meeting proceedings
- Administered oaths and affidavits
- Certified licenses

Selectmen

- Generally elected to a one year term
- Managed the affairs of the town
- Performed many tasks
 - Created slate of jurors
 - Divided town lands
 - Judge offenses against town laws and orders

Constable

- Posted notice for town meetings
- “Policeman” of the town
 - Conduct
 - Illegal activity
- Acted as tax collector if specific position did not exist
- Warned out strangers

Treasurer

- Managed town's finances
- Presided over reimbursements
 - Military service
 - Care of poor
 - Services by townspeople (constructing and repairing roads, building school house, etc.)

Other Town Offices

- Fence Viewers
- Hog Reeves
- Listers and Collectors
- Surveyor of Highways
- Jurors
- School Superintendent
- Fire Wardens

Fence Viewers

- Reviewed fences and property boundaries
- Responsible for moderating boundary disputes
- Important position in establishment of new communities

Hogreeves

- Responsible for catching stray livestock
- Fined owners for straying animals
- Generally newly married or younger men
 - Can be helpful for estimating age

Listers, Collectors, and Tythingmen

- Listers – wrote down list of inhabitants and their taxable property
- Collectors – two types
 - Collected taxes on male citizens and land
 - Collected contributions to meetinghouse and salary of minister
- Tythingman
 - Kept order in church
 - Maintained the observance of the Sabbath

Surveyor of Highways

- Inspected town roads
- Hired townspeople to repair roads
- Determined when and where new roads would be constructed
- Could alter landscape as they saw fit

9th Voted that Twelve Pounds be raised for mending
 the Great Bridge the year past.
 10th Voted That Forty Pounds be raised to defray
 Town charges the present year.
 11th Voted That that part of the money assest
 last year to mend High ways and not committed, be
 this year appropriated to mend the High Ways.
 12th Voted that the Select men sell the Pest House
 for what it will fetch.
 13th Article dismissed.
 Recorded Pr. Step n. Longfellow Town Clerk

Falmouth Feb ry.20th 1753.

By the desire of the Selectmen of Falmouth
 I, the Subscriber have measured and laid out Roads in
 Falmouth aforesaid as follows -
 Begin at Henry McKennys westerly corner at Cape
 Elizabeth thence
 North 35 Degrees West 19 Rod on the top of the Sea
 Wall to Hanscoms Point thence
 North 59 Degrees East 9 Rod thence
 North 32 Degrees West 34 Rod on the top of the sea
 Wall to Capt. Wm.Wentworths Land thence
 South 88 Degrees West 7 1/2 Rod the ice

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North 32 Degrees West 34 Rod on the top of the sea

Wall to Capt. Wm.Wentworths Land thence

South 88 Degrees West 7 1/2 Rod the ice

North 9 Degrees West 11 Rod thence

North 47 Degrees East 6 Rod thence

North 9 Degrees East 12 Rod thence

North 21 Degrees West 19 Rod thence

North 12 Degrees East 30 Rod thence

North 31 Degrees West 16 Rod thence North 90 Rod between

Corn Field in the Road that is now trod then
 South 53 Degrees West 56 Rod then
 South 88 Degrees West 29 Rod then
 North 57 Degrees West 30 Rod, which goes about 7 Rod
 to the Northward of John Jordans Barn, then
 South 82 Degrees West 94 Rod near the swamp to the
 Northward of Richard Jordans Barn, thence
 South 63 Degrees West 50 Rod to a small red oak tree
 standing about 2 Rod to the Southward of James Jordans
 Barn thence
 South 83 Degrees West 28 Rod then
 North 41 Degrees West 16 Rod which leads into the
 former Road over the long causeway to Clement Jordans
 The Road to be Two Rod in width, and to be extended
 one Rod each way, from these courses.

Jurors

- A responsibility of male members of a town
- Grand jury – 12 male citizens to decide if evidence was sufficient to try a case
- Petit jury – 12 male citizens who tried cases

Leather Sealer

James Sweet }
Gabriel Manning } Leather Sealers Dutifed

Grand Jurors

Mess^{rs}
William Brandige }
John Ladue } Grand Jurors Dutifed

Surveyors of highways

Mess^{rs}
Richard Mott }
Daniel H. Smith }
Stephen Sweet }
Silvester Sweet }
Peter Clark }
Jacob Kubiork }
John Van Fleet }
Alexander Gregg }
Phillip Cook } Surveyors of high
ways Dutifed

Pound keeper

Mess^{rs} Michael Hornsinger Pound keeper Dutifed

Fence viewers

Mess^{rs}
Jacob Mott }
Schubert Kubiork }
Silvester Sweet }
James Fisher }
Peter Carrigan }
Frederic Kossay } Fence Viewers

So Voted that Stags shall be Commoners
Properly yoked ——— that to be Determined
By the Haywards of the town

Mess^{rs}
Michael Duell }
Daniel Keagel }
Joseph Hayden }
Peter Freeman }
Joseph Mott Jr. }
Conradt Ringhiadt }
Joseph Seibles } Haywards
As Dutifed the 14 July

Haywards

Mess^{rs}
Richard Mott }
David Stanton }
Michael Duell }
John Gregg }
Sand Kelms }
Timothy Sawler }
Abraham Holdbrook }
James Andrews } Petit Jurors

Petit jurors

Mess^{rs}
Frederic Kossay }
Kendrick Miller }
The Reynolds } Tything men

Tything men

Mess^{rs}
Peter Clark }
Timothy Sawler } Wardains
As Dutifed the 14 July

The Meeting was then dissolved Nam... con
Abel Reuben Gault's Moderatory

Meeting ContinuedRound Keepers

John Woodside Samuel Stanwood and
W^m H. Colby

Tything Men

John F. Hall - A. J. Stone - W^m H. Colby
George Gatchell Rufus Bisbee - Robert
Thompson - M. M. Nickerson Rufus Smith
Jas. D. Simmons - Samuel M. Oulie

Field Drivers and Fence Viewers

Abizer Gatchell - Robert Hunt - Gideon
Fitchard - George Woodside - W^m L. Stetfield
Hinckman Rybester, Samuel Stanwood and
George W. Gravis.

Inspectors of Line

Levi C. Andrews - Joseph Stetson and
Asaad L. Doughty

Surveyors of Clapboards & Shingles

Arvid Dunning, Abram Toothaker - Artemas
Coburn and Abizer York

Surveyors of Wood and Bark

John F. Hall - Ezra Drew - Richard Greenleaf
Jordan Woodard - H. C. Martin - John Rogers
Arvid Dunning - Abram Toothaker - Rhoad
Snow - Deas Christ - John A. Badger -
Joseph Stimpson - S. H. Mitchell & S. S.
M^cEllen - Levi C. Andrews - L. J. Jackson
Anthony Morse - David Shaw - Joshua Perreault

Tything
MenField
Drivers
and Fence
ViewersInspectors
of LineSurveyors of
Clapboards
and ShinglesSurveyors of
Wood and
BarkMeeting Continued

L. B. Thompson - Leonard Townsend - Adam
Lemont - Amhurst - Whitmore - John Sherman
Abizer F. Snow - Chas. B. Mitchell.

Health Committee

Nath^l J. Palmer - Eben. Everett -
John D. Lincoln - Samuel R. Jackson

Cullers of Hoops & Staves
Jotham VarneyFire Wardens

John C. Humphreys - S. S. Wing - Benj^m Stier
James Alexander - Charles Bottelle - Benjamin
Green - Francis Crow - Leonard Townsend -
Thomas Skolfield - Henry W. Bowker

Constables

John F. Hall - David J. Purrington
James Alexander - W. W. Douglass - Laurens
J. Joyce - Abizer Jordan - George Williston -
Samuel Jordan - Asst. Coy. - Thomas S. Dunning
Leonard Townsend - Samuel Snow - Hinck-
man Rybester - William P. Stimpson -
Chas. B. Humphreys - M. M. Nickerson
James Lambert Jr.

Collector of Taxes

James Lambert Jr.

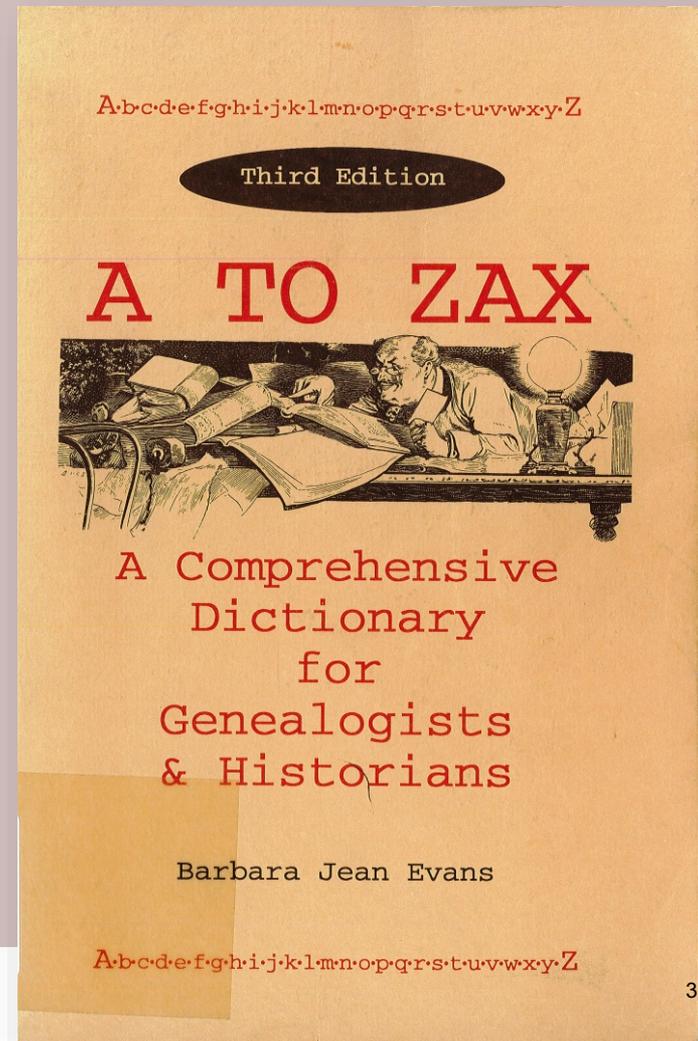
Health
CommitteCullers of
Hoops and
StavesFire
Wardens

Constables

Collector
of Taxes

A to Zax

- Best source
- Definitions for obscure terms and positions
- Origins of terms



Land Records

Land Records

- First land dispersal from Colony to Town
 - Found in “Proprietors” Records
 - Proprietors were original settlers that petitioned colonial legislature for new settlements
- Other land documents in Town Records
 - Plats
 - Deeds
 - Resolution of boundary disputes

Boston June 6th 1733 At a meeting of The Narragansitt
 Granters meet by Ajournment in the Common of the
 Town of Boston att Two of Clok in the afternoon

Voltd that the Granters allowed by The General Court
 Amounting to the Number of Eight Hundred & Twenty
 The whole he divided into Seven distinct
 = ity to Consist of One Hundred & Twenty
 Granters which Society shall be Intituled to one of the
 Townships Granted to the Narragansitt Soldiers

Shad one of the said Societys Shall Consist mostly of the
 Proprietors belonging to the Towns of Barnstable Garm-
 = outh Eastham Sandwich Plymouth Duxbury Cone of Scituate.

A List of The Narragansitt Gra

Barnstable	Mary Dueser	38	Sam.	44
	Sau ^r Hunkley	122	Sam ^l A	
	John Cagron	22	Sam ^l G	
	George Lewis	44	John L	
	John Hathway	40	Caleb L	
	Joseph Higgin	86	Joseph G	
	Samuel Bryant	54	Sosiah	
	Richard Blingham	21	Conroy	
	Samuel Child	118	Obenut	
	Samuel Barnam	13	Lo ^l Co	
	Sam ^l Linnell	89	Sedeciah	
Dr. Math ^l	Fuller	69	Samuel	
	Samuel Fuller	20	Joseph	
	Tho ^s Fuller	25	John A	
	Increase Cap ⁿ	16	John C	
	Joseph Taylor	72	Shubal	
	John Dapcam	15	Joseph	
	Ratho ^s Hamblin	88	John	
	Eleaz ^r Hamblin	42		
	Tho ^s Huggins	141		
	John Phinney	87		
	Joseph Beaufe	81		

Boston June 6th 1733 At a meeting of The Narragansitt
 Granters meet by Ajournment in the Common of the
 Town of Boston att Two of Clok in the afternoon

Voltd that the Granters allowed by The General Court
 Amounting to the Number of Eight Hundred & Twenty
 The whole he divided into Seven distinct Societys each Soc-
 = ity to Consist of One Hundred & Twenty of the old
 Granters which Society shall be Intituled to one of the
 Townships Granted to the Narragansitt Soldiers

Shad one of the said Societys Shall Consist mostly of the
 Proprietors belonging to the Towns of Barnstable Garm-
 = outh Eastham Sandwich Plymouth Duxbury Abbingtion
 Duxbury Cone of Scituate.

Gorham

A List of The Narragansett Grantees of The Town of

Samuel Barker.....	74	Eastham	Timothy Cole.....	41 ✓
Richard Taylor.....	120		Jeremiah Smith.....	91
William Gray.....	71		Jon: Coe.....	59
William Chase.....	113		Joseph Hammond.....	36 ✓
Cap: Jon: Gorham.....	96		Thos: Paine.....	94
Thos: Baxter.....	84		Jedediah Higgins.....	63
John Thatcher.....	31 ✓		Eliahim Higgins.....	11
John Hallid.....	93		Joseph Dobbings.....	104
John Matthews.....	55		Benj: Dowdings.....	103
Thos: Thornton.....	3 ✓		John Freeman.....	34
William Gray.....	4 ✓		Jon: Sparrow.....	92
Sam: Hall.....	5		John Knowles.....	73
James Maker.....	6		Samuel Atkin.....	67
Sa: Claghorn.....	7 ✓		John Doan.....	51
Joseph Hall.....	119		Thos: Mulford.....	90
Lanmy Hodge.....	83		Daniel Doan.....	29 ✓
Nathanell Hall.....	8		Jon: Walker.....	53
Joseph Wilder.....	30 ✓		Jon: Myrick.....	82
Samuel Thomas.....	34 ✓		Matt: William.....	58
Jon: Smith.....	17		Josiah Cooks.....	76
Samuel Jones.....	9 ✓		Joseph Harding.....	39 ✓
Richard Taylor.....	18 ✓			
Thos: Felton.....	10 ✓			

(12)

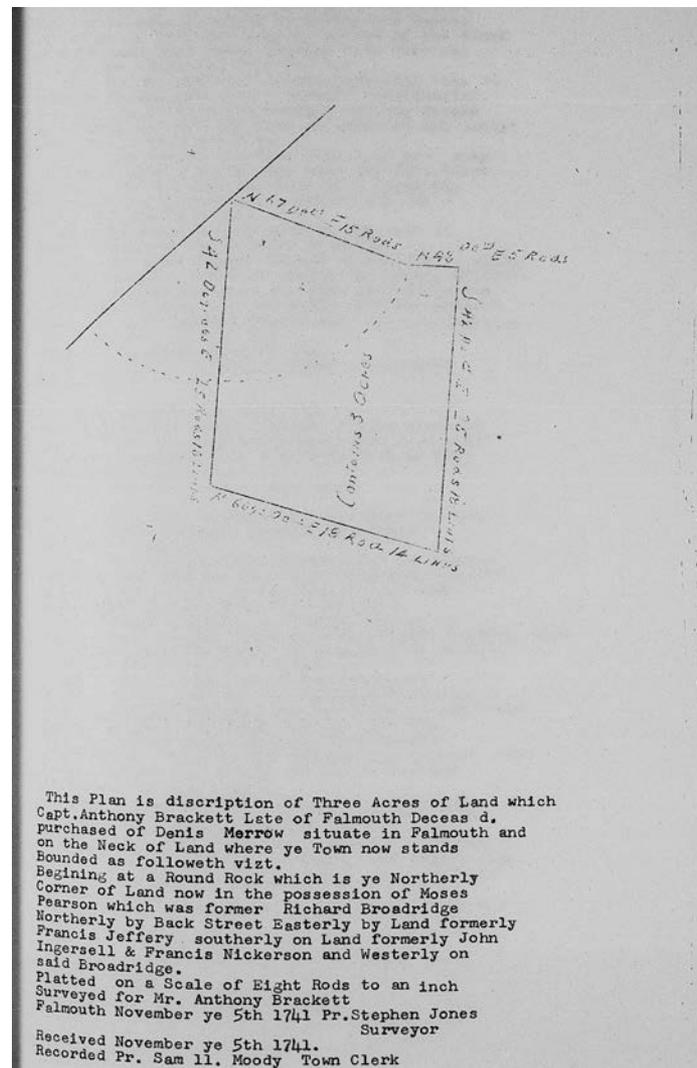
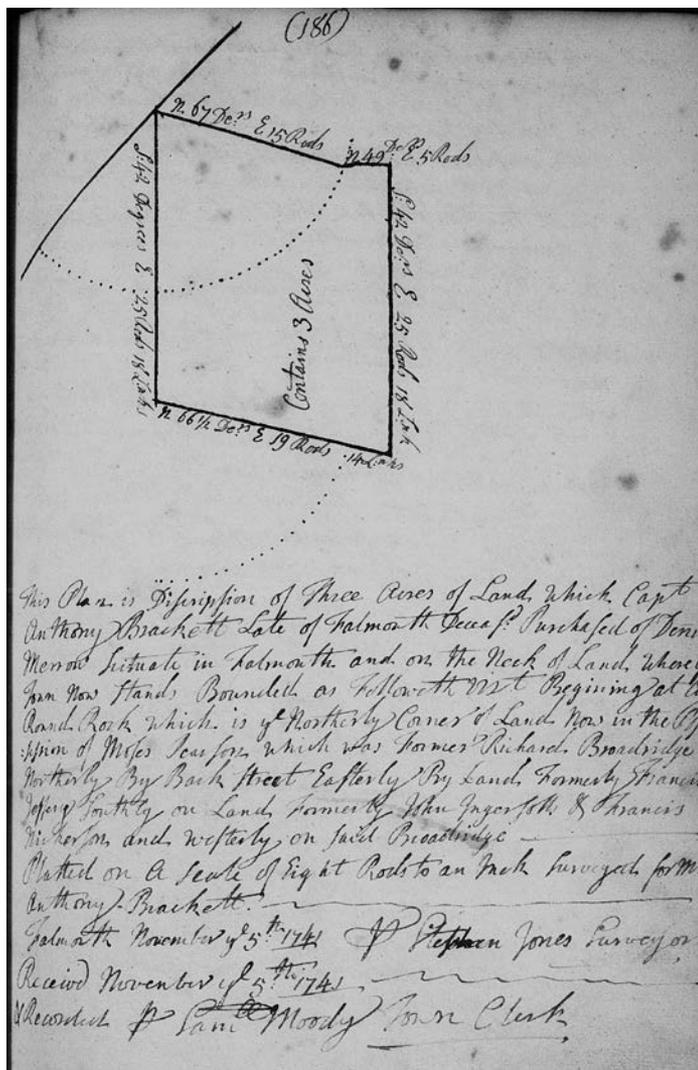
A List of the Drawing & Entering of the Lots now Layed out in the first Division of the five Divisions Southly of Little River Mentioned in the preceding return of laying out the same bearing Date 22nd of may 1738 This is the Entrey by whom said Lots are Drawed & now Claimed from the same Originall rights as they were settled in the Town Book by the Commoners

N ^o		n ^o	
1	Moses Parkins	19	Thomas Hains in the right of Jonathan woodgwood
2	the wido Hannah moulton Elizabeth moulton & Ezekiel Moulton	20	Nath ^l Lamprey
3	Christopher Page	21	Sam ^l Palmer Jun ^r
4	Ephraim Marston Jun ^r		Francis Page & Morish Lamprey one half share number 22
5	Cap: Jabez Dow	23	Jacob Brown in Right of his father John Brown
6	Sam ^l Dow	24	Sam ^l Mudd
7	James Johnson		Jacob freeze $\frac{1}{2}$ right in right of his father Jacob freeze and Jonath ^l freeze $\frac{1}{2}$ right in right of Joseph Chase
8	Benjamin Lamprey	25	
9	John Batchelder		
10	the Heirs of will ^m Fifield and James Hobs		
11	Jeremiah page & Joseph page		
12			

103

Edward
Spaulding
junr

The Bounds and Butments of the Land granted to Edward Spaulding Junior. First upland: Inprimis A Heus Lett Six Acres more or Less: Bounded easterly by the Town High-way North by the Land of William Underwood by two Stakes West by the Land of John Stevens: partly by the Land of William Underwoods on the North West Corner: south by the Highway that goes on to the Common (Secondly) Twelve Acres more or Less on the Pine plain Bounded West by marked Pines against the Land of Edward Spaulding sen^r south by the High-way to the River meadow North by marked Pines by the Land of William Underwood: East by a White oak on the South east Corner: north east by a Pine (Thirdly) Twelve Acres more or Less on the Left hand of the way that goes to New field: Bounded Northeast by the High-way to the New-field Northwest by the Land of Jonathan Butterfield by a Stake at the Corner next the High-way and Westtherly by a Stake southerly by a stake (Partly) six Acres of the New-field Bounded North by the Land of Joseph Parkis: West by the Land of Joseph Parkis south by Deep Brook east by the Land of Joseph Parkis on the south east Corner by a stake the other Corners by a ditch:



Plat – Falmouth, Maine 1741

Tip
Read the first pages!

Read the first pages!

- Always read the first pages of the earliest town record books
- Hold important information about **WHO** settled the town and **WHEN** town was founded
- New communities founded with neighbors

Medfield Novmber 6th 1729: att the House of m^r Joshua Morse. The Associates of William Ward & Joshua Morse — Proprietors Grantees of a Tract of Land Lying Between Oxford Brookfield Brimfield and the prouiner Line. Granted by the great and Generall Court of this prouince: 1729: Being assembled and mett — pursuant to a Notification giuen vnder the hand of William Ward who was Authorised and Impowered by the afores^d General Court to assemble the afores^d Grantees and to act as Moderator in said Meeting, by Vertue of which Notification itt appeared vnder y^e Hands of said William Ward — And Joshua Morse That they had Notified y^e said Associates and Grantees — To meett at the Time & place afove mentioned.

2: Said Associates Grantees being Mett at the Time and place as afove said — A List of their Names was Read to the Number of Fourty Two: as followeth

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Melatiah Bourn: Esq. | Joseph Baker | Abraham Harding: Cap ^t | John Dwight |
| William Ward: Esq. | Jonas Houghton | Moses Harding | Cap ^t Jon ^s Boyden |
| Ezra Bourn | Thomas Gleason | Josiah Ellice | Cap ^t Joseph Clark |
| Shubal Goram | Moses Gleason | Peter Balch | Nathan ^l Morse |
| Thomas Learned | Jonas Gleason | Ezra Clark | James Donison |
| Nathan Fisk | Joshua Morse | Samuell Ellice | Joseph Mash |
| Henry Fisk | Joseph Plimpton | David Ellice | |
| Cap ^t Ebenezer Learned | Nathanell Smith | Francis Moquott | |
| Nahum Ward | Solomon Clark | Henry Adams | |
| Gorsham Keyes | Timothy Hamant | Jehabod Harding | |
| Zerubbah Eager | William Plimpton | John Plimpton | |
| John Shoarman | Ephraim Partridge | Josiah Chaney | |

Keeping Track of Property

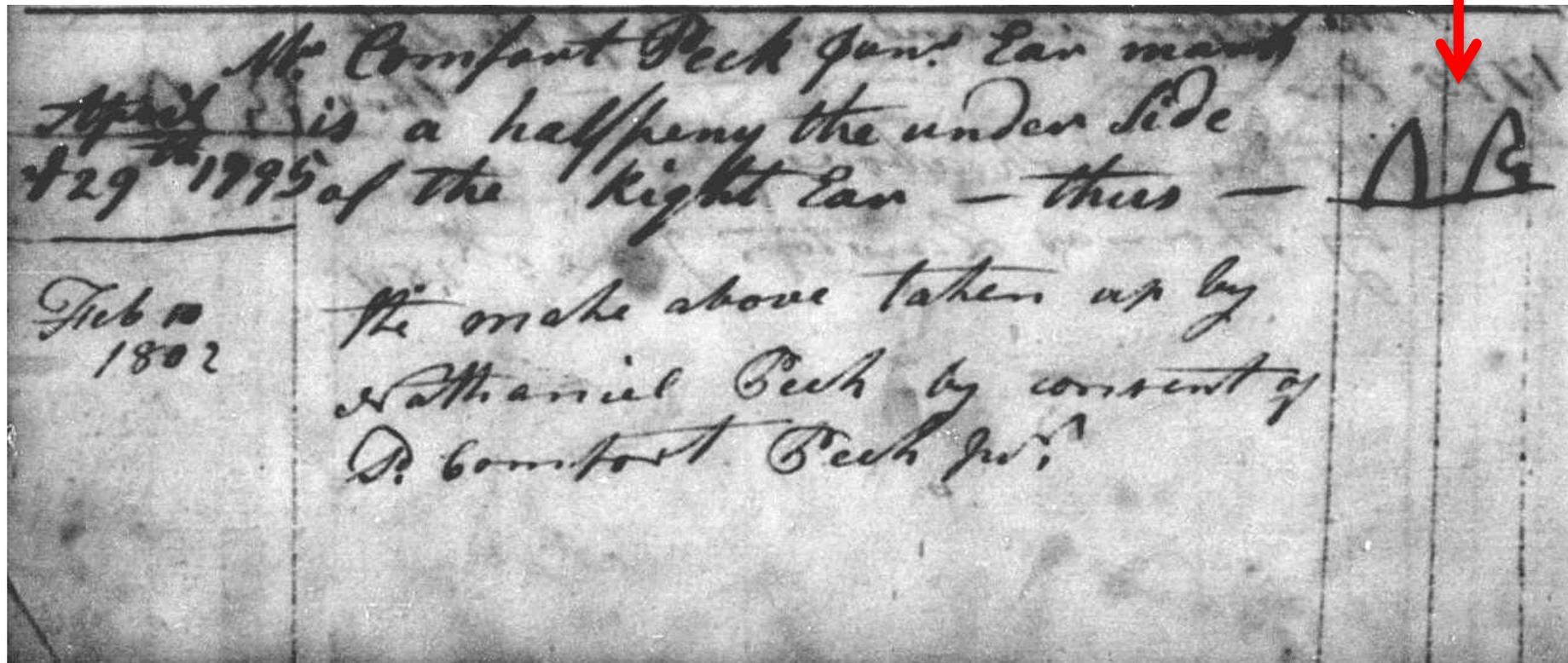
Earliest Colonial Settlements



Ear Marks

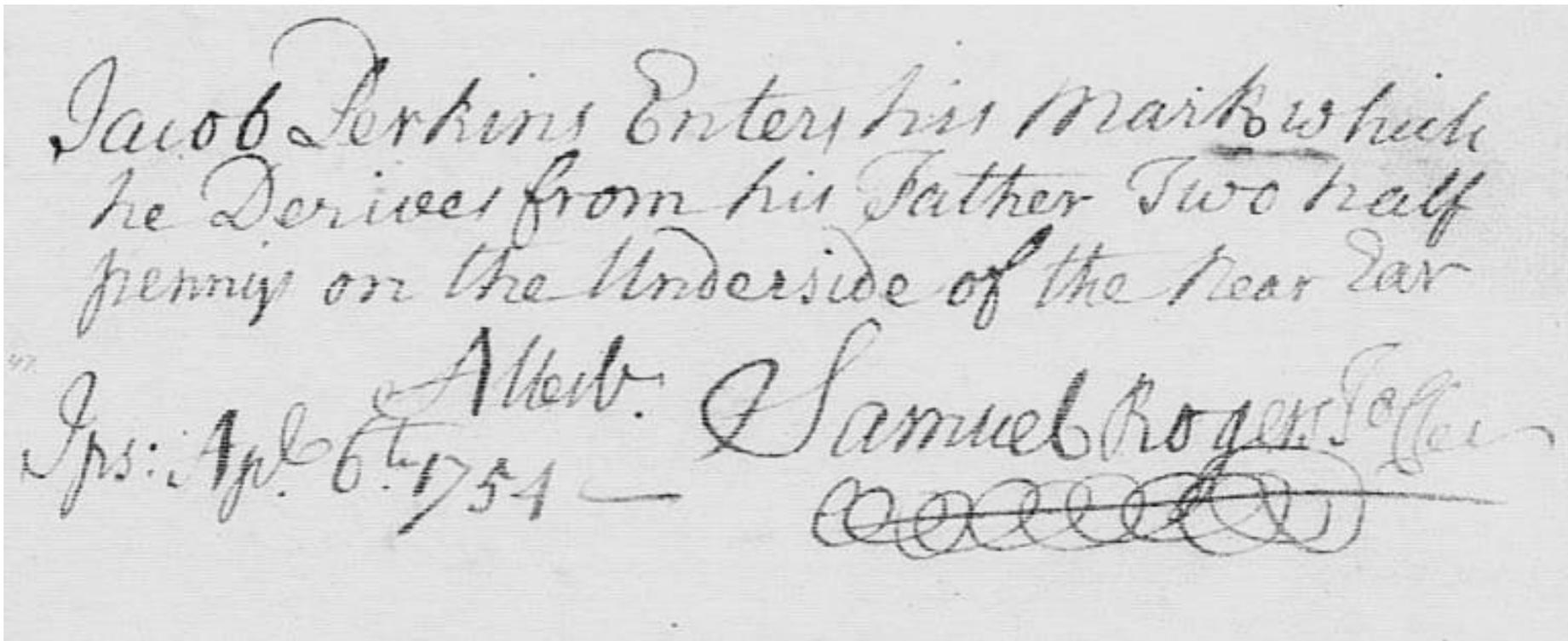
- Cattle and sheep were grazed on common lands
- Important that each animal had identifying mark
- Marks recorded by town clerk
 - Transfer of ear marks from person to person can prove parentage or relationships

Ear Marks



Ear Mark - Rehoboth, Mass.

Ear Marks



Ear Mark - Ipswich, Mass.

Military Records

Military Records

- Militia Rolls
- Payment for military service
- Patriotic service
- Can provide insight into service
 - Company, Regiment, Battles

Oakham June 7th 1778
 The Committee for the several Clames
 of the Persons in Town for any service done in the
 Present War by themselves or other ways, to Estimate
 the service of each Campaign they have served in &c.
 Beg Leave to make the following Report

The N^o of Campaigns, the time
 is as follows

The first Campaign was
 to Providence May 1777
 two months, four Men

Thomas White	4:00
Robert Forbes	4:00
James Boyd	4:00
James Forbes	4:00
	£16:00

II was July 9th 23rd 1777
 An Alarm for Providence
 went to Worcester was
 absent three Days
 (83)

Cap. John Crawford	1:00
Lt. Alex ^r Bothwell	1:00
Serj ^t Will ^m Crawford	1:00
Corp ^t Will ^m Bothwell	1:00
Corp ^t John Forbes	1:00
Corp ^t Sam ^l Stone	1:00
Jesse Allen	1:00
Jacob Adams	1:00
Alexander Bothwell	1:00
Heman Bassett	1:00
John Brown	0:15:0
Sam ^l Bullard	1:00
Isaac Bullard	1:00
John Day	1:00
John Bothwell	1:00
Charles Forbes	1:00
Wm Carver	£15:00

II was July 9th 23rd 1777
 An Alarm for Providence
 went to Worcester was
 absent three Days
 (83)

Cap ^t John Crawford	1:00:0
Lt. Alex ^r Bothwell	1:00:0
Serj ^t Will ^m Crawford	1:00:0
Corp ^t Will ^m Bothwell	1:00:0
Corp ^t John Forbes	1:00:0
Corp ^t Sam ^l Stone	1:00:0
Jesse Allen	1:00:0
Jacob Adams	1:00:0
Alexander Bothwell	1:00:0

John Harper	0:15:0
Rob ^t Harper	0:15:0
George Harper	0:15:0
Abraham Fostlin	1:00:0
Edward Partridge	0:15:0
Rufus Parmenter	1:00:0
Nehemiah Packard	1:00:0
Jonas Puck	1:00:0
W ^m Steunson	0:15:0
Benj ^t Spooner	0:15:0
Eben ^t Woodis	0:15:0
W ^m Washburn	1:00:0
	£32:00

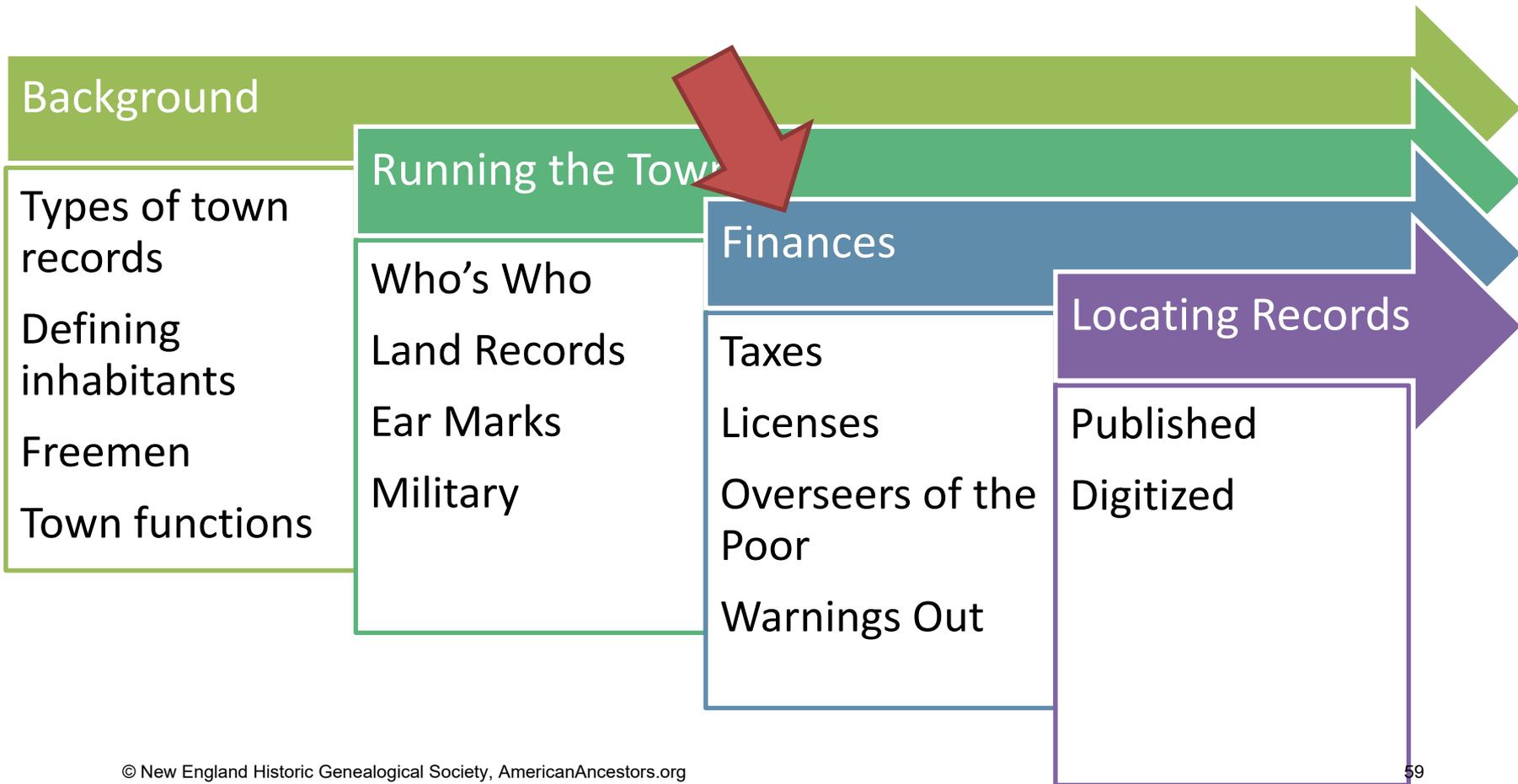
Pepperell Septemb^r. 9th. 1779.

This Certifies that Mr. Samuel Farley now living
 in Groton did service in behalf of this Town by
 serving in the first Eight months Campaign at
 Cambridge in the year 1775 which was Estimated in
 this Town at \$4-10 and also in the Twelve months
 to York which was Estimated ^{at} ten Pounds
 he on his return settling in Groton had no opportunity to
 neither has he received any pay therefor but ought to have
 Credit therefor in the Town where he doth or may live.

Test.

Wm. Hobart Town Clerk

Overview



Tax Records

- Recorded by the Assessor or Tax Collector
- Format differs in each town
- Can help determine age
- Serve as a vital record substitute
 - Individual not recorded on tax roll could have died

Tax Records

- Elizabeth Dudley of Exeter, New Hampshire
 - Born circa 1697 in Exeter
 - First married in 1725, Simon Gilman; he died 28 February 1749/50
 - Second married Jonathan Gordon; he died in 1767
 - Granted power of attorney to her son Samuel Gilman in 1768
- When did she die?

Winter Research Stay-at-Home 2022

Continued	1770	1771	1772
Elphaleet Gilman	5 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	2 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Phillips Gilman	7 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	2 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Daniel Gilman	—	—	—
Bartholomew Gilman	8 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Caleb Gilman	6 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	2 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Simon Gilman	4 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Zebulun Giddings	16 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	6 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nathaniel Giddings	6 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	2 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Capt. John Giddings	—	—	—
Elphaleet Giddings	—	—	—
George Giddings	—	—	—
Jonathan Giddings	—	—	—
Nathaniel Giddings	—	—	—
Joseph Giddings	—	—	—
wid. Mary Giddings	—	—	—
wid. Elizabeth Giddings	—	—	—
wid. Mary Giddings	—	—	—
Daniel Grant	—	—	—
Paul Hall Grant	4 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
John Gidden	8 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	3 5 $\frac{1}{4}$
James Gorden	5 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Benjamin Graves	12 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	4 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
Nathaniel Gorden	14 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	5 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Benjamin Green ^{Str}	4 1	—	5
Eleazer Goe	5 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	2 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Peter Gidden	4 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
John Hopkinson	11 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	4 3 $\frac{1}{4}$
John Hopkinson ^{Jun}	9 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	3 6 $\frac{1}{2}$

wid. Mary Gabe	9 9	—	1
wid. Elizabeth Gorden	2 2	—	10
wid. Mary Gorden	10 10	—	4 2
Daniel Grant	15 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	6 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Paul Hall Grant	4 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
			3 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

Tax Record – Exeter, NH, 1770

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Rates for 1771. Continued

	Town Rate			Province ditto			County ditto		
	L.	S.	D.	L.	S.	D.	L.	S.	D.
Widow Sarah Gilman	"	4	3	"	2	1/2	"	"	6 1/2
John Gilman 4 th	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
John Gilman of Newmarket	"	1	3	"	"	7 1/2	"	"	2
Broad Street Gilman of Newmarket	"	1	3	"	"	7 1/2	"	"	2
Hehemah Gilman	"	1	8	0	"	14	"	"	3
Zebulun Gilman	"	15	3	"	7	7 1/2	"	1	11 1/2
Josiah Gilman Jun ^r	"	1	7	4 1/2	"	13	8 1/2	"	3
Noah Gilman	"	5	"	"	2	6	"	"	7 1/2
Elipha Phillips	"	3	1 1/2	"	1	6 1/4	"	"	1 1/4
Simon	"	5	1 1/4	"	10	1 1/2	"	5	1 3/4
M ^r . Zebulun	"	14	1 1/2	"	7	1 3/4	"	1	9 1/4
John G	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
Cap ^t . Nathaniel	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
Elipha	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
George G	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
Jona th	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
Nathaniel	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
Joseph	"	5	9	"	2	10 1/2	"	"	8 3/4
Wid ^o . Mary	"	5	1	"	2	10 1/2	"	"	8 3/4
Wid ^o . Mary	"	5	1	"	2	10 1/2	"	"	8 3/4
Daniel Grant	"	11	1 1/2	"	7	1 3/4	"	1	9 1/4
Paul Hall Grant	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
Peter Gidden	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
James Gordon	"	5	9	"	2	10 1/2	"	"	8 3/4
Benjamin Graves	"	13	4 1/2	"	6	8 1/2	"	1	8
Nathaniel Gordon	"	13	11	6 1/2	"	10	1	"	7
	"	17	3 1/2	"	14	5	"	"	

Wid ^o . Mary Gilman	"	3	1 1/2	"	1	6 1/4	"	"	1 1/4
Wid ^o . Mary Gordon	"	10	1 1/2	"	5	1 1/4	"	1	3 1/4
Daniel Grant	"	14	1 1/2	"	7	1 3/4	"	1	9 1/4
Paul Hall Grant	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
Peter Gidden	"	4	6	"	2	3	"	"	6 3/4
	"	5	1	"	2	10 1/2	"	"	8 3/4

Possible Interpretations

- Elizabeth (Dudley) (Gilman) Gordon
 - 1) Moved from Exeter
 - 2) Ceased being head of household
 - 3) Died between 1770 and 1771

Licenses

- Issued to sell strong spirits
- Issued to keep tavern
- Source of town income

At a meeting of the Selectmen
Treasurer & Town Clerk holden this first day
of May A.D. 1824.
Mr Oren Nichols and John Perry Esq are
both authorized to sell strong liquors in their
separate stores. Both to terminate the first
Tuesday of September next.
John McKean Town Clerk

At a meeting of the Selectmen Treasurer and
Town Clerk holden this fourteenth day of Septembe
A.D. the day appointed for granting Licenses
Joseph McKean John McKean Jacob Johnson
John Coburn Noah Hinkley James McMillen
Oren Nichols Miss Brown & Humphrey
David Danlop Miss Demerit & Stone
Samuel Gummer Jeremiah Otis
Abner B Thompson Rich Kutter Miss Maria
& Perry Ethan Escoille ^{anna Diller} were licensed to retail
strong liquors. Miss Evis Wood, Samuel Stoddard
Willm D Story John Wadsworth & Willm Rudykins
were licensed to keep tavern.

At a meeting of the Selectmen holden
the 2 day of Oct. Deac^r William Pennel and
Jesse Pomer are licensed to retail strong liquors
John McKean Town Clerk

At another meeting holden Nov 11 1825
Abner Bourne Esq is licensed to retail strong
liquors John McKean Town Clerk

Brunswick, Maine, 1824

At a meeting of the Selectmen
Treasurer & Town Clerk holden this first day
of May A.D. 1824.
Mr Oren Nichols and John Perry Esq are
both authorized to sell strong liquors in their
separate stores. Both to terminate the first
Tuesday of September next.
John McKean Town Clerk

Treasurer's Records

Treasurer's Records

- Reimbursements to townspeople for services
- Payment to soldiers for service
- Best sources for the poor and women
- Apprenticeships

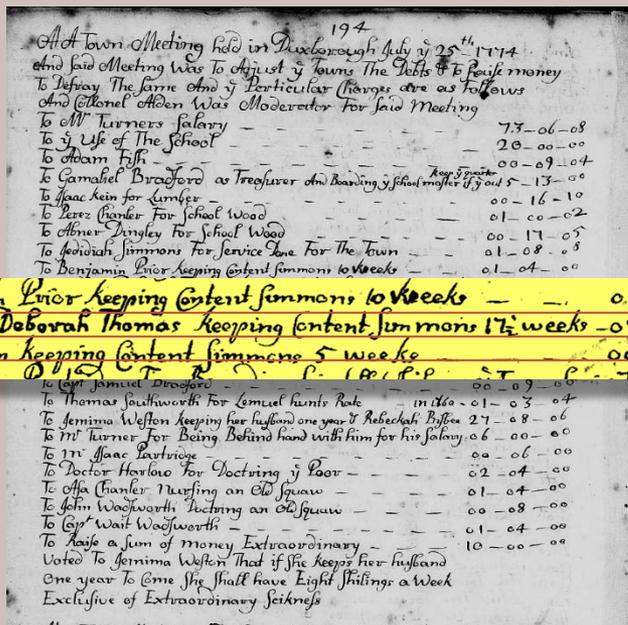
Tools Towns Used to Support the Poor

- Relief in the home
 - Supplies such as food or wood and sometimes cash
 - Called “outdoor relief”
- Binding Out
 - Indentures between town and a community member – often for children, e.g. Pauper Apprenticeship
- Pauper Auction
 - Public auction where the indigent were auctioned to the lowest bidder

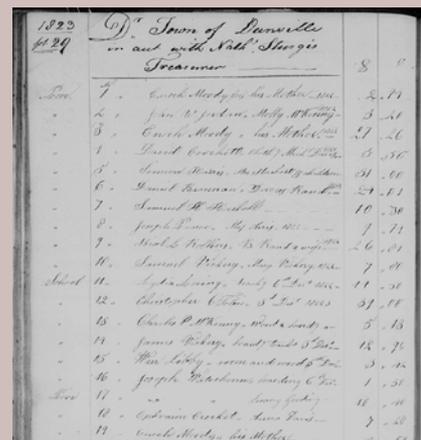
Outdoor Relief

Town Record Book

Separate Town Treasurer's Book



Records of Duxbury, 1642-1826



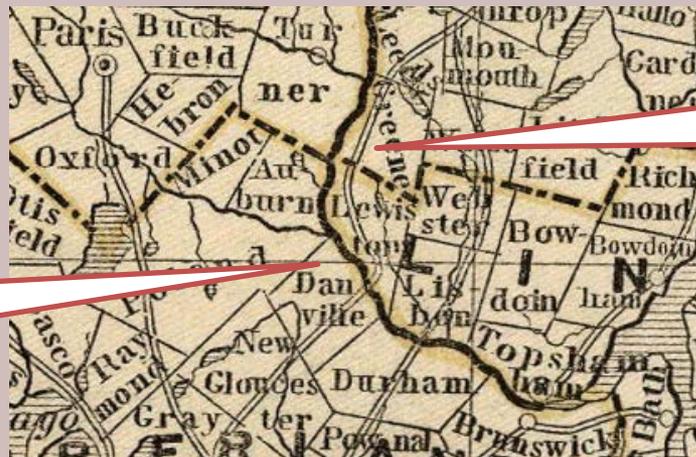
Town Treasurer's Book, Danville Maine

To Benjamin Prior keeping content summons to weeks 01-04-00
 To widow Deborah Thomas keeping content summons 17 weeks 02-02-00
 To John Hamlen keeping content summons 5 weeks 00-12-00

3. Church Money " his Mother's 27.26
 1. David Crockett school Money 8.56
 5. Samuel Morris " Mr. Marshall's children 31.00
 6. Daniel Brown school Money 24.11

Who Were the Parents of Luther Starbird?

- First appears in Greene, Adroscoggin County, Maine in 1850 census with wife Susannah and son Elmer
- 1870 Census, Luther reports his place of birth as Danville



1845 Map of Maine by Sidney E. Morse and Samuel Breese. New York: Published by Harper & Brothers, 1845) viewed at David Rumsey Map Collection

Schools	70 Ditto Hannah Murray teach in 7 th District } and interest after demand	14 " 63
Contingt	71 Ditto Charles M. Kimmy's ex. ser. services 1824 } and interest - '83 in all	" 83
Cont 1825	72 Paid Charles M. Kimmy his acct for } services and going for 7 th Ward	5 " 75
"	73 " Jeremiah Dingley Afehor 1825 -	11 " 16
"	74 " Nath ^l . L. Ingemott Afehor. 1825 -	10 " 45
"	75 " Eben Witham Afehor. - 1825 -	13 " 35
"	76 " Richard Tarbox - Services - 1825 -	8 " 25
"	77 " Enoch Downer Constable ser. 1825 -	2 " 25
"	78 " Thomas Johnson " " " -	3 " 00
Poor	79 " Thomas Johnson for Dorcas Rernd " -	7 " 36
"	80 " Solomon Rowe for Wm Moody's Lucy Cole's ¹⁸²⁵ -	39 " 92
"	81 " Solomon Goss for Luther Starbird 1825 -	4 " 76
"	82 " Joseph Eveleth for Mary Vickery - 1825 -	3 " 64
"	83 " Jonathan Haskell " Benj ^a Rernd wife " -	25 " 00
"	84 " And th . Giddings " Saml Starbird 1825 -	" 83
"	85 " Saml. H. Haskell for Supplies to Poor 1825 -	11 " 34
"	86 " Thomas Johnson " Dorcas Rernd 1825 -	17 " 00
"	87 " Jonathan Libby " Anthony Murray 1825 -	33 " 00
Schools	88 " Saml. H. Haskell Repairs of School # 1 st D th ¹⁸²⁵ -	2 " 75
"	89 " Will ^m Stinchfield " " - 7 th Dist th " -	2 " 80
"	90 " Eben Jordan " " - 6 th District " -	4 " 00

Poor put off as follows (to wit)
 Christiana Land fear & child to George Dawley at L 0:5:11
 William Land fear to Caleb Howard at — — — 0:1:6
 Mary Skillion to William Austin at — — — 0:4:2
 Mary Hopkins to Gideon Wait at — — — 0:4:0
 Voted this Council be adjourned to the Last Monday in January
 next then to meet at Selas Matthews -
 Witness Benj^o Johnson Secy.

A Town Meeting Legally Warned in Framingham on the 13th Day of May 1774 -
Jewish Stone was Chosen Mediator

Voted; That Car: Abraham Price Mess^r: Lawson Buckminster, & Pomj^r: Micer be a Com^{tee}:
to agree with some person to take Abner Brewer by the year, or as reasonable terms
as they can

On the Eighth Article, the Question put whether the Annual Contribution for the poor
shall be continued and it in the Negative
on the Article Relating to John Wate, Ordered that the Overseers of the poor
make Enquire into the Justice of the accounts laid before the Town; and pay so
much thereof as appears to them Reasonable

Granted for the Support of the Poor Thirty five Pounds — £35. 0. 0
Ordered; That the Treasurer be discharged of the Sum of the Sum of £215. 5. 10. 3

Index Information

Town Cost Avoidance – Warning Out

Warnings Out

- Practice in New England until early 19th century
- Non-residents of town examined upon arrival to determine if likely to become a public charges
- Inhabitants of a town had the right to be supported by the town if the inhabitant became unable to support themselves
- Some towns made it a practice to warn out all newcomers
- Warnings did not always mean that the person was escorted to the edge of town.

Warnings Out

Aug 1

To John Train Constable of the Town of Clarendon
In the County of Rutland Greeting You are
Hereby Commended forthwith to Wm Unis-
Aarthison late of herred. in the County of Westster
Common with of Mafekuffs to Depart -
Immediately, from this Town and if she shall
Refuse to Depart or Refuse to Depart you

Warning Out – Clarendon, VT

John Delaney being brought before this Council on Examination saith That
he was born in Ireland in the Town of Desert and lived there until he was about
Twenty Two Years old and then came to Newfoundland and there stayed six or
seven Years in the Fishing Voyages and from thence came to Boston and was there
near One Month and from thence to Roxbury and lived with Robert Scipion
Leaf and worked for him making Brick about Nine Months and from
thence came to the Town of Providence where he has lived ever since as a
Labourer.

John Delaney

Winter Research, Stay at Home 2020
 Lincoln J^r To the Constable of the Town of Pownalborough
 Whereas Edward Shelton & Wife with three Children
 the Widow Martha Cummings with two Children
 and John Rumble are now Residing and Dwelling
 in the Town of Pownalborough but have not either
 of them dwelt in said Town for more than three
 Months past and had been out of said Town for
 more than a Year together before their Parents and
 last Relatives
 his Majesty
 the above
 love the
 of your do
 said Town
 & seals a
 of Jan^y in
 anno Dⁿⁱ

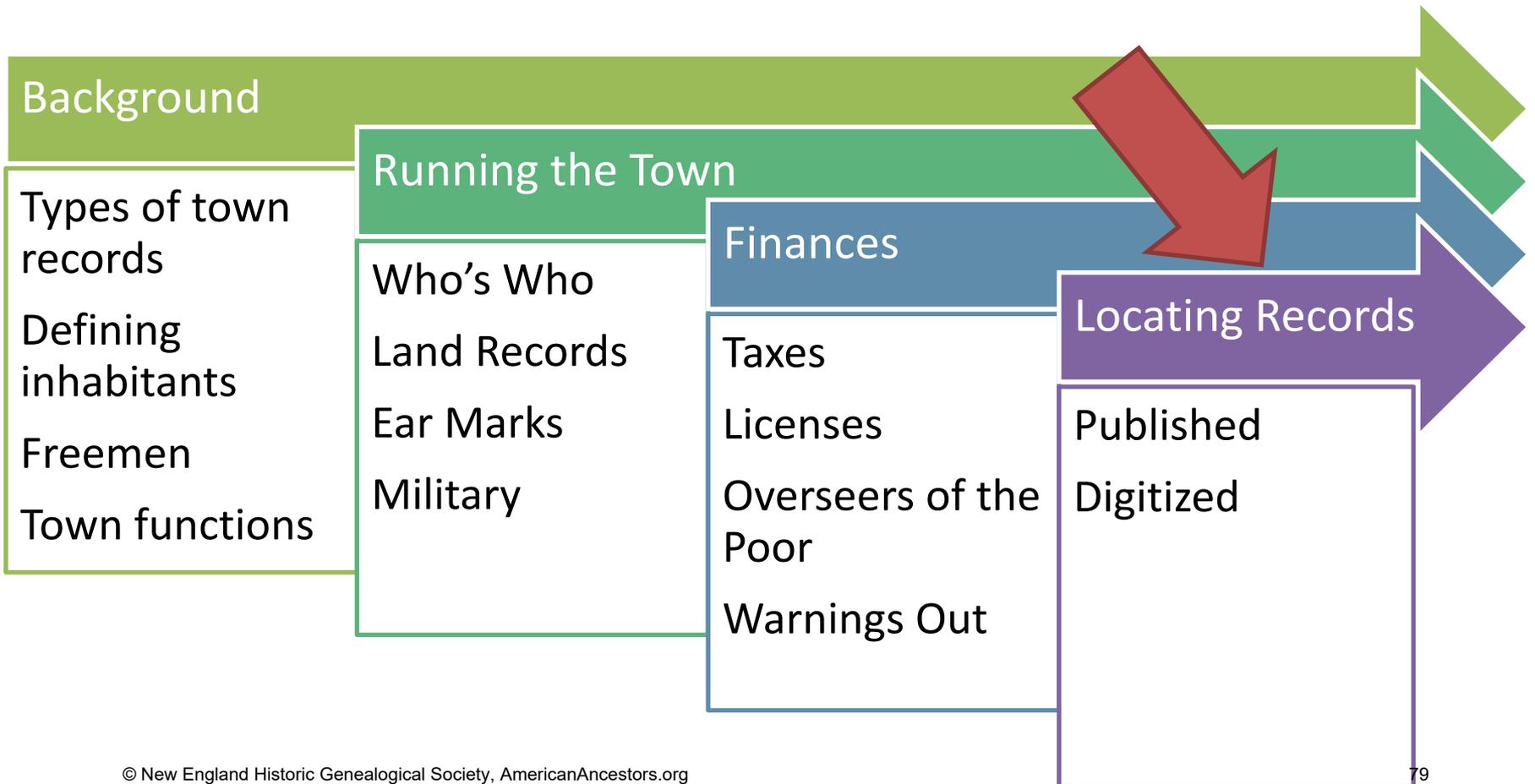
Agreable
 Jan^y 28th
 love the
 I warned
 Rumble to

Lincoln J^r To the Constable of the Town of Pownalborough
 In his Majesty's Name you are Required forthwith to warn
 their names being Abigail Bickford his wife Elizabeth Bickford
 Paul Aron & Alis Bickford his Children under 12 years of age that they
 immediately leave & depart out of this Town & you are to make due return
 of your doings to our Town Clerk as soon as may be
 Pownalborough
 9 March 28th 1767
 Gen^l Williamson } Select Men
 Sam^l Goodwin }

March 25th 1767
 Then Warned the within Named Persons Agreable to the
 Within Warrent
 Stephen Marson Constable

Lincoln J^r To the Constable of the Town of Pownalborough
 In his Majesty's Name you are Required forthwith to warn
 their names being
 Paul Aron & Alis
 immediately leave &
 of your doings to
 Pownalborough
 9 March 28th 1767
 March 25th
 Then Warned
 Within

Overview



Finding Proprietors Records

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

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.

[Learn more about the catalog and how to access materials.](#)

Search by:

[Place](#) | [Surnames](#) | [Titles](#) | [Author](#) | [Subjects](#) | [Keywords](#)

Place

Search for:

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

Availability

- Any
- Online
- Family History Center

Other Catalogs to Consider:

OLC WorldCat

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

ArchiveGrid

ArchiveGrid is a collection of nearly

Search Results for FamilySearch Catalog

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

Part of [United States, Maine, Cumberland](#)

- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Biography \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Cemeteries \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Centennial celebrations, etc. \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Directories \(3 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Genealogy \(2 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - History \(8 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Land and property \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Politics and government \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Public records \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - School yearbooks \(1 \)](#)
- ▼ **[United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Town records \(3 \)](#)**

[Print List](#)

[Miscellaneous record, vol. 1, 1839-1861](#)

[Add](#)

Author: Gorham (Maine). Town Clerk

[Proprietor's records, 1733-1807](#)

[Add](#)

Author: Gorham (Maine). Proprietor's Clerk

[Town and vital records, 1753-1881](#)

[Add](#)

Author: Gorham (Maine). Town Clerk

- ▶ [United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Vital records \(3 \)](#)

Refine your search ▾

Search by:

Place

[Surnames](#)

[Titles](#)

[Author](#)

[Subjects](#)

[Keywords](#)

Search for:

[Call Number](#)

[Film/Fiche Number](#)

Availability

Any

Online

Family History Center

[Update](#)

[Reset](#)

Town and vital records, 1753-1881

Add to Print List

Authors: Gorham (Maine). Town Clerk (Main Author)
Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film
Language: English
Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1956
Physical: 2 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Notes

Microfilm of original records at City Clerk's Office, Gorham, Maine.

Includes indexes for some records.

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

Subjects

Locality Subjects

[United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Town records](#)

[United States, Maine, Cumberland, Gorham - Vital records](#)

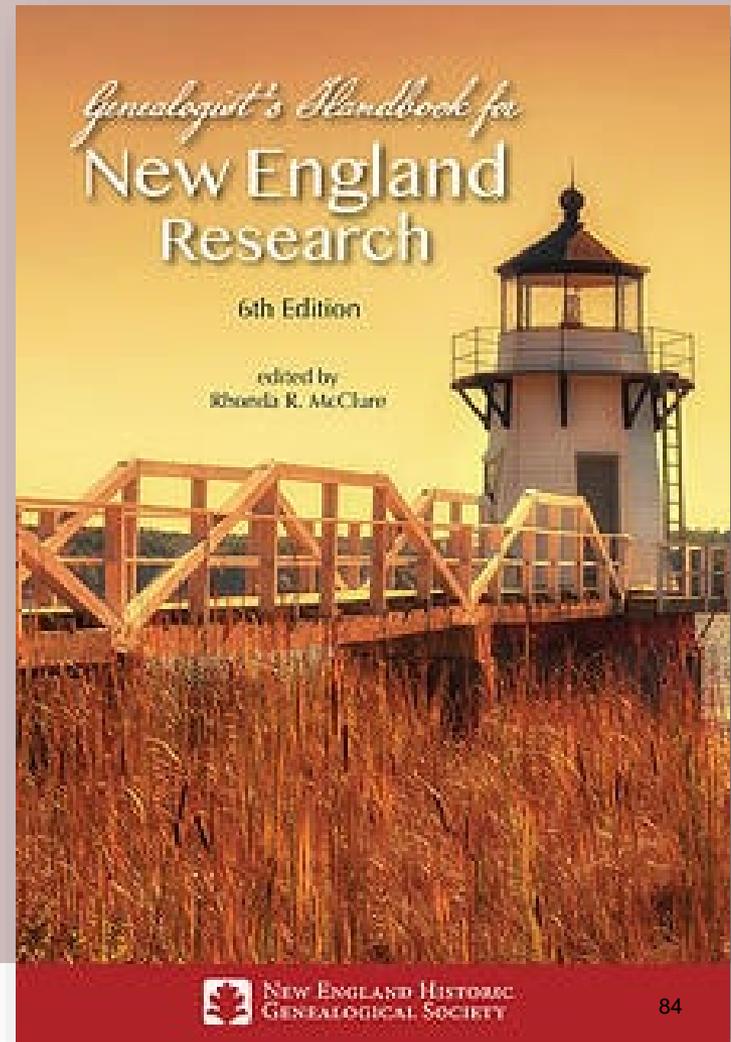
Film/Digital Notes



Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	Image Group Number (DGS)	Format
Births and some deaths prior to 1886; marriages 1753-1803, 1837-1879; list of Baptists in Gorham; roads; proceedings of town meetings; elections.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	10928	7595555	 
Births prior to 1862 and arranged in families, school districts, roads, oaths of officials, intentions of marriage 1858-1881, marriage records 1804-1837, deaths 1832-1834.	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	10930	7595557	 

Town Information

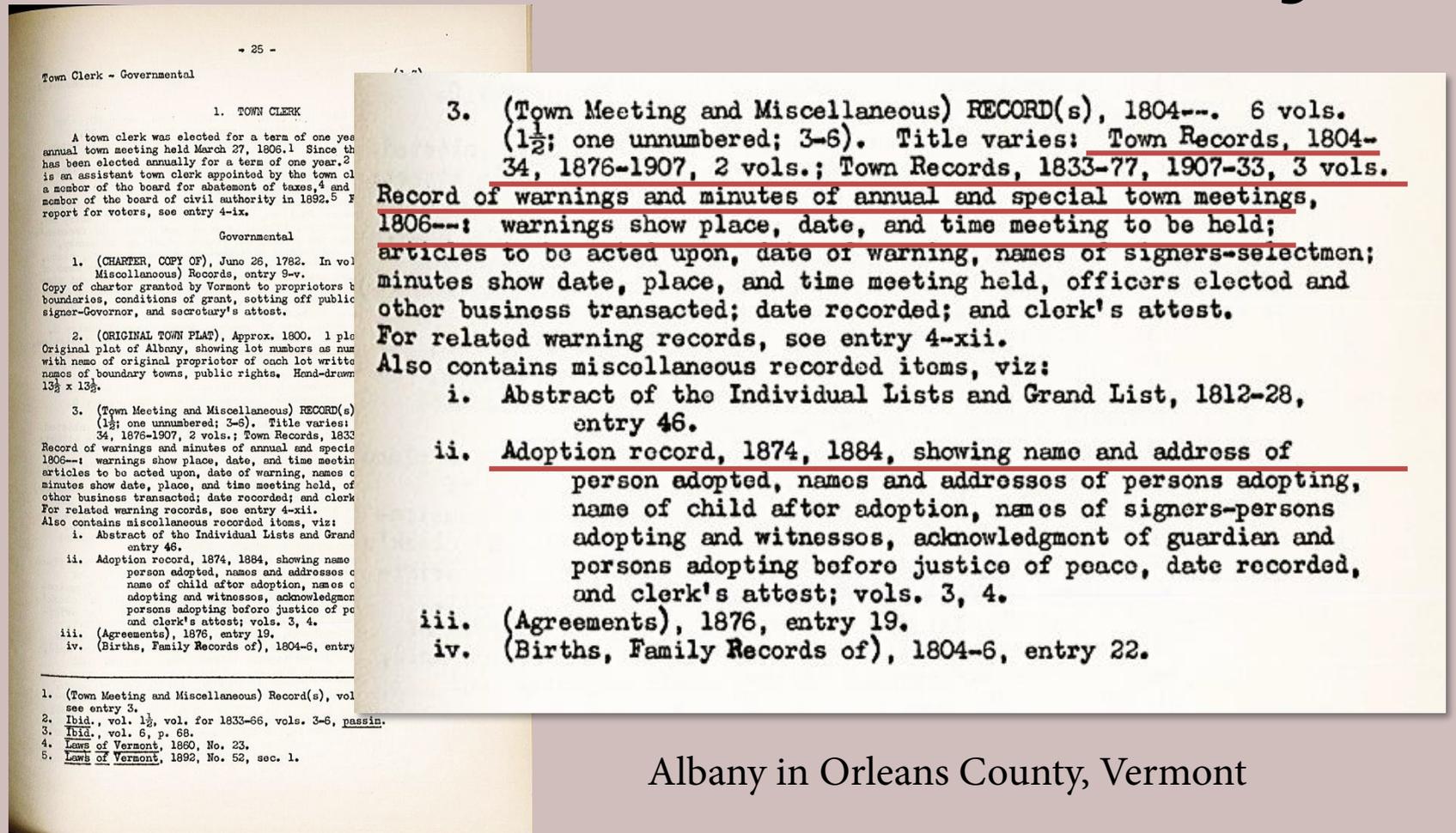
- Provides incorporation date of town
- Parent Towns
- Daughter Towns
- Former names



Historical Records Survey

- Works Progress Administration
- Survey and index of historical records in local, state, and county repositories
- Guides published for some communities
- Many unpublished guides

Historical Records Survey



- 25 -

Town Clerk - Governmental

1. TOWN CLERK

A town clerk was elected for a term of one year annual town meeting held March 27, 1806.¹ Since th has been elected annually for a term of one year.² is an assistant town clerk appointed by the town cl a member of the board of abatement of taxes,⁴ and member of the board of civil authority in 1892.⁵ F report for voters, see entry 4-ix.

Governmental

1. (CHARTER, COPY OF), June 26, 1782. In vol Miscellaneous) Records, entry 9-v. Copy of charter granted by Vermont to proprietors b boundaries, conditions of grant, setting off public signer-Governor, and secretary's attest.

2. (ORIGINAL TOWN PLAT), Approx. 1800. 1 ple Original plat of Albany, showing lot numbers as num with name of original proprietor of each lot write names of boundary towns, public rights. Hand-drawn 13 1/2 x 13 1/2.

3. (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous) RECORD(s) (1 1/2; one unnumbered; 3-6). Title varies: 34, 1876-1907, 2 vols.; Town Records, 1833 Record of warnings and minutes of annual and specia 1806---: warnings show place, date, and time meetin articles to be acted upon, date of warning, names c minutes show date, place, and time meeting held, of other business transacted; date recorded; and clerk For related warning records, see entry 4-xii.

Also contains miscellaneous recorded items, viz:

- i. Abstract of the Individual Lists and Grand entry 46.
- ii. Adoption record, 1874, 1884, showing name person adopted, names and addresses c name of child after adoption, names c adopting and witnesses, acknowledgment persons adopting before justice of pe and clerk's attest; vols. 3, 4.
- iii. (Agreements), 1876, entry 19.
- iv. (Births, Family Records of), 1804-6, entry

1. (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous) Record(s), vol see entry 3.
2. *Ibid.*, vol. 1 1/2, vol. for 1833-66, vols. 3-6, *passim*.
3. *Ibid.*, vol. 6, p. 68.
4. Laws of Vermont, 1860, No. 23.
5. Laws of Vermont, 1892, No. 52, sec. 1.

3. (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous) RECORD(s), 1804---. 6 vols. (1 1/2; one unnumbered; 3-6). Title varies: Town Records, 1804-34, 1876-1907, 2 vols.; Town Records, 1833-77, 1907-33, 3 vols.

Record of warnings and minutes of annual and special town meetings, 1806---: warnings show place, date, and time meeting to be held; articles to be acted upon, date of warning, names of signers-selectmen; minutes show date, place, and time meeting held, officers elected and other business transacted; date recorded; and clerk's attest.

For related warning records, see entry 4-xii.

Also contains miscellaneous recorded items, viz:

- i. Abstract of the Individual Lists and Grand List, 1812-28, entry 46.
- ii. Adoption record, 1874, 1884, showing name and address of person adopted, names and addresses of persons adopting, name of child after adoption, names of signers-persons adopting and witnesses, acknowledgment of guardian and persons adopting before justice of peace, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 3, 4.
- iii. (Agreements), 1876, entry 19.
- iv. (Births, Family Records of), 1804-6, entry 22.

Albany in Orleans County, Vermont

Earlier Work by Public Archives Commission

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CONNECTICUT.

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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	^a 1812-1906	No.....	Yes.
Selectmen's.....	4	.....	.....	.....

^a 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 ^a	33	1699-1906	Yes.....	Yes. ^b
Vital statistics ^c	3	1847-1906	Yes.....	Yes.
Selectmen's.....	3	.....	.....	.....
School society.....	1	1796-1862	.....	.....
Proprietors ^d.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

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

^b Land records have index of grantees; vols. 1-16 partial record of grantors.

^c Early book of land and proprietors' records contains early vital statistics; some found in town records.

^d 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.

BRUNSWICK.

The town of Brunswick, originally part of the Pejepscoot proprietors' lands, was incorporated in 1738. The early records of the settlement must be sought in the records and papers of the Pejepscoot proprietors, in the possession of the Maine Historical Society.

RECORDS OF TOWN MEETINGS.

These records are carefully preserved in a safe in the office of the town clerk. With the exception of the first volume, which is dog-eared and often barely legible by reason of the fading of the ink, the records are in good condition.

"Town book" I contains not only the minutes of town meetings from 1739 to 1812, but vital records and matter of a most varied character, such as deeds of pews, marks of mill logs, sheep and cattle marks, records of stray beasts, notices of people warned from town, records of bounds, of collectors' land sales, and of school district divisions.

Book II, minutes of town meetings, 1813-1829; vital records; miscellaneous records.

Volume 4, minutes of town meetings, 1830-1856.

Volume 5, minutes of town meetings, 1857-1872.

Volume 6, minutes of town meetings, 1873-1889.

Volume 7, minutes of town meetings, 1890-1904.

Volume 8, minutes of town meetings, 1904 to date.

VITAL RECORDS.

These records are contained in part in the foregoing volumes and in part in the following, also in the office of the town clerk:

Records of births, deaths, and marriages (fragmentary records) are in Book I down to 1813.

Marriages, 1808-1836, and marriage intentions, 1813-1838, as well as births and deaths, are in Book II.

Vital records from 1837 to 1860 are scattered through Book III and Book IV, which contain also miscellaneous records.

Records of marriages and deaths from 1860 to 1892 are in Book V.

Records of marriages, of marriage intentions, of births, and of deaths, from 1892 to date, are kept in separate volumes.

FINANCIAL RECORDS.

The vault in the office of the selectmen contains the following:

Records of valuation, 1827 to date.

Tax books, 1818 to date.

Order accounts of the board of selectmen, 1807 to date.

School district accounts, 1820-1885.

Book of records for town's poor, one volume (small), 1817-1838.

Pauper accounts, one volume (small), 1855-1884.

Town farm accounts, one volume (small), 1884-1888.

Pauper notices, one volume (small), 1848-1869.

Pauper notices, one volume (small), 1869-1888.

Bonds of 1864, "To whom sold," one volume.

There are also in this vault the following records:

Selectmen's records (minutes of meetings, etc.) four volumes, 1827 to date.

Book of warrants, one volume (small), 1832-1844.

Warrants for school meetings, one volume (small), 1826-1860.

Register of oaths to town officers, one volume (small), 1831-1868.

Record of sheep marks, one volume (small), 1822-1883.

Check the Town Hall

- Understand the collections
- Call the Town Clerk
- Visit Town Hall



Other Repositories

- State and Town Historical Societies
- State Archives
- NEHGS Library
 - library.nehgs.org

Summary

- If your ancestor is not in the Town Vital Records, try other types of Town Records
- Town Records place your ancestor at a place and time and give a glimpse of their status
- Town Records may be challenging to use, but the rewards are great

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!

AmericanAncestors.org/Events



NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

AmericanAncestors.org

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