

Some Descendants of Rev. Leonard Metcalf

of Tatterford Parish, Norfolk, England

**Mostly those of his son Michael,
the emigrant to Dedham, Massachusetts, in 1637**

**A Genealogical Register
Second Edition – Volume I**



The Puritan, by Augustus Saint-Gaudens

Howard Hurtig Metcalfe

HERITAGE BOOKS, INC.

**Some Descendants of
Rev. Leonard Metcalf
Second Edition – Volume I**

[Draft of June 2011]

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Second Edition – Volume I**

**Compiled by
Howard Hurtig Metcalfe**

with Contributions from:

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Some Descendants of Rev. Leonard Metcalf

Howard Hurtig Metcalfe
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www.LaNopalera.net

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Colophon

Camera-ready copy was produced by the author on an Apple® Intel® iMac® with Mac OS® 10.6 Snow Leopard. Software included Personal Ancestry Writer® (PAWriter) for database recording and database-to-document conversion and Nisus® Writer Pro for desktop book publishing. Some illustrations were scanned on Microtek® and Canon® scanners and enhanced using Lemke Software GmbH's GraphicConverter.™ Text was set primarily in slab-serif New Century Schoolbook™ typefaces for readability, style and ruggedness.

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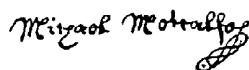
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PREFACE

Genealogy (from the Greek *genea*, family, and *logos*, word—an account of the descent of a person, family or group from an ancestor, according to Webster) is a rewarding pastime and, for some, profession. This work documents the latest leg of a time-space journey on which the author, like others, embarked not so long ago and on which he continues to sail joyfully—a voyage of rediscovery.

To the author's knowledge, no comprehensive, modern work recording the descendants of Rev. Leonard Metcalf of Tatterford Parish, Norfolk, England, has been published. This limited work only compiles a record of some of his descendants, and makes little attempt to follow the descendants of Rev. Leonard other than those of his son Michael Metcalf who emigrated from England to Dedham, Massachusetts, in 1637. Even so, the compilation includes thousands of those descendants.¹

This is Michael's signature:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Metcalf". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a decorative flourish at the end.

This three-volume work encompasses nine generations, including entries for descendants reaching maturity in the first half of the 19th century. Lists of any children and grandchildren of the ninth generation generally extend the period covered to the beginning of the 20th century. This volume I contains general descriptive and bibliographical information. Volume II contains the descendants in the first eight generations. Volume III contains the descendants in the ninth generation.

Equal attention has been paid to progeny of female descendants. As a result, five out of six descendants recorded in this book in the seventh generation, those of age around the time of the Revolution, do *not* carry the surname Metcalf.²

The Rev. Leonard probably has at least 800,000 descendants alive today in the United States alone.³ It is hoped that this compilation will assist some of those people in their own time-space journeys.

How to Use this Book

This main portion of this book is organized according to the "Register System," a descendency numbering system first used by the New England Historic Genealogical Society in their

¹ This second edition includes corrections to information given in the first edition, new contributions from other people, and additional research on Leonard's descendants—particularly on the descendants of Michael's daughters Mary Metcalf (1619–1676) and her husband Henry Wilson and Elizabeth Metcalf (1626–1711) and her husband Lt. Thomas Bancroft. It has also been reformatted for publication on CD-ROM and viewing online.

² The most frequent (more than 1,000) descendant surnames appearing in this work are Metcalf(e), Walker, Bancroft and Ware.

³ Michael, the immigrant, had nine reproducing children. The next eight generations averaged three (the experience in this family). The next three generations are conservatively estimated to have averaged two. The last-born children, their parents and most of their grandparents are assumed to be still living as of the date of this publication.

periodical called the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*—in short, the *Register*—hence the name of the system.

The Register numbers are assigned with the first person (the person from whom all others are descended) numbered 1. His or her children are numbered 2, 3, 4, etc. The numbering continues in sequence for his or her grandchildren, then great grandchildren, etc.

Two interspersed columns of information are shown.

The “adult” column is flush with the left margin, with the Register number heading each entry. Here detailed information is shown about a person, including his or her name, parents and vital statistics. Each vital statistic (birth, baptism, death, burial) is given in a separate sentence (e.g., “Born on 15 April 1850 in Peoria, Illinois.”).

Then detailed information about each spouse of that person is given, including any other marriages and stepchildren resulting therefrom. Each spouse is followed by the indented “child” column containing a list of any children by the person and that spouse. Each entry for a child contains that child’s Register number (if the child appears again as an adult), order of birth using lower-case Roman numerals, gender (son or dau.), name, and date and place of birth or baptism (when known).

Further *exposition*⁴ on the person’s life appears as one or more additional paragraphs.

The child will appear again as an adult only if he or she has children (and is not in the last generation). In this case, additional information about the child is given later in sequence in the “adult” column under that child’s Register number.

If the child has no children (or does, but is in the last generation), and thus does *not* appear again as an adult, then additional information is given in the child’s entry—dates and places of death and burial and any marriages and children.

Because the numbers in both columns continue to rise, and because there are only two columns of numbers to follow, the Register System is easy to read even if the numbers are large due to a great number of descendants.

Let’s say a book organized on this method is opened in the middle and the example shown on the next page appears in the third generation of descendants.

To find the parents of John Smith, look in the “child” column and turn pages towards the front of the book until John appears as a child numbered 47. (The “v.” indicates that John is fifth in birth order among his known siblings.) John’s parents are described above him in the “adult” column.

To find the detailed information about Cleo Smith, look in the “adult” column and turn pages towards the back of the book until Cleo appears as an adult numbered 97. Cleo’s spouse(s) and children are listed below him.

In this example, daughter Mary Smith had no children and does not appear again as an adult.

⁴ An exposition contains background information, documentation, evidence, and other substantiation, as well as clarification, explanation, elucidation, explication, interpretation, appraisal, assessment and/or other commentary. (Footnote numbers in an exposition are enclosed in square brackets.)

A boldfaced superscript preceding a name indicates the generation of that person within the Register. (The beginning of each generation is noted in the text and each page is headed by the generation starting or continuing on that page.)

...

ISSUE OF ²JAMES SMITH [NO. 8] (¹FRANK SMITH [NO. 1]) AND LYDIA JONES

...

47. v. ³John Smith. . . .

Married first **Barbara Black. . . .**

Issue of John Smith and Barbara Black:

97 i. ⁴son **Cleo Smith. . . .**

ii. dau. **Mary Smith. . . .**

98 iii. son **Howard Smith. . . .**

Married second **Keziah Brown. . . .**

...

48. vi. ³Mabel Smith.... .

...

Each group of siblings in the Register is preceded by an entry in the “adult” column containing the names of their parents (James Smith and Lydia Jones, in this example). Starting with the third generation, a list of names appears in parentheses following the name of the parent in the ancestral line, “(¹Frank Smith [no. 1])” in this example. These are the names of the siblings’ earlier forebears in the Register—the first name in parenthesis is that of the siblings’ grandparent (¹Frank Smith), any second name is that of the siblings’ great-grandparent, etc. This list of names is given as an aid to remembering where the siblings fall in the descendency, and the Register number of each forebear, given in brackets, provides a quick reference to the entry for that forebear.

When a person’s spouse is a cousin of the person,⁵ and consequently appears in his or her own Register entry as well, a cross-reference to that spouse’s Register number appears in brackets after the spouse’s name. If that couple has children, the Register numbers of their children will be the same in both cases, so no duplication occurs.

If a descendant was born (or probably born) after 1920 and there is no evidence that the person has died, then the given names of that person are replaced by “(May be living)” and all other information about that person and his or her descendants is suppressed.

Following this preface is a section which summarizes boundary changes of various Massachusetts towns of interest, taken from town histories written in the early 1900s.

⁵ There are 239 marriages between descendants of Leonard recorded in this book.

At the end of this volume is a bibliography containing full citations of source works (short citations are given in the Register). At the end of volumes II and III are indexes listing the pages where each person appears (boldfaced) in the Register. Women are indexed under both their maiden and their married names.

Some General Caveats

Not all children of a marriage may be known. So any statement to the effect that a couple had so many children should be taken to mean that the author's sources revealed only that many children.

The date that an intention to marry was recorded is used when the actual marriage date is unavailable.

Several variants in the spelling of a person's name may appear in the original records. In such a case, the author has chosen a single variant to appear in this book, which in his opinion approximates the most likely usage. In some cases a name has been "normalized," that is, made consistent with others which are almost identical. For example, *Medcalf* is recorded as *Metcalf*. A few obvious nicknames are recorded as formal names. For example, Abby and Nabby are recorded as Abigail.

Ages given at certain events in people's lives have been calculated by the author solely for the benefit of the reader.

For ease of reference, county names⁶ are consistently given in terms of today's geographic boundaries, while in earlier times certain locales may have been subject to other political entities. For example, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, included almost all of Norfolk County until 1793. (Connecticut counties were abolished on 1 October 1960 except for certain reference purposes.)

Generational designations such as Senior, Junior, I, II, etc., have not been included in this work, as their usage varies over time. Senior and Junior historically were used interchangeably as the generations progressed and a previous junior became senior to a new junior. Further, unrelated people, and people related other than as father and son, who carried the same name and lived in the same immediate area, were often discriminated by local residents as Senior and Junior according to their age difference. For the most part, such appellations applied to a father-son relationship are deducible in the context in which they appear.

The reader will note that some portions of the lineages rely upon secondary, rather than primary, sources. To that degree, this book can be considered a compilation, and thus the author is noted as the compiler on the title page. However, it is important not to reinvent the wheel—25% of all genealogies submitted to the LDS Family History Library are duplicates. Therefore, a survey of the work accomplished by others to date should always precede original research in any scientific discipline, and that was done here. The author takes full responsibility for the inevitable errors of transcription.

The reader should also note that the evidence for family relationships ranges from compelling (in most cases) to suggestive (in a few cases). When in doubt, the reader should closely examine the sources quoted or referred to in an exposition to ascertain for himself or herself whether a relationship is sufficiently established, or should only be considered as an indication of a possible

⁶ Every effort has been expended to locate the county name for each local place name.

relationship. In particular, references to the LDS Ancestral File and International Genealogical Index are occasionally included as such indications, but cannot be accepted as evidence where no further verification from reliable sources is available.

It should be noted well that each statement as to a person's vital statistics is based on the *evidence* given or referenced in the exposition for that person and/or for his or her relatives, and represents the author's best current *conclusions* as to the true facts.

Ideally, a researcher would document conclusions based on evidence by using the Genealogical Data Model described in papers available at www.gentech.org. A rough example of that methodology follows, pertaining to the date of marriage of the author's great grandmother:

Evidence 1: The 1870 Federal Census lists Mamie as seven years old, born in D. C.

Evidence 2: The 1870 Federal Census was taken "as of" 1 June 1870.

Evidence 3: Mamie's daughter Bernice was born 19 February 1882 according to her baptismal record.

Evidence 4: A photo of Bernice dated 19 October 1882 is labeled "8 months today."

Evidence 5: A reference in the index to the San Francisco Daily Morning Call refers to the marriage of Mamie in the year 1881.

Assertion 1: Mamie was born between 1 June 1862 and 31 May 1863. See **Evidence 1 and 2**.

Assertion 2: Mamie bore her first child on 19 February 1882. See **Evidence 3 and 4**.

Assertion 3: Mamie was not pregnant when she was married and carried Bernice full term (nine months). This assertion is not substantiated.

Assertion 4: Mamie was married on or before 19 May 1881. See **Assertions 2 and 3**.

Assertion 5: Mamie was no more than 18 years 11 months old, and no less than 17 years 11 months old, on 19 May 1881. See **Assertions 1 and 4**.

Assertion 6: In the 1880s in Washington, D. C., most women were at least 18 years old when married. This assertion is not strongly substantiated.

Assertion 7: Mamie was married on or after 1 June 1880. See **Assertions 1, 5 and 6**.

Assertion 8: Mamie was married on or after 1 January 1881. See **Evidence 5**.

Conclusion: Mamie was married on or after 1 January 1881 and on or before 19 May 1881. See **Assertions 4, 7 and 8**.

Extending the model:

Analysis: It is possible Mamie was married later in 1881 if **Assertion 3** and/or **Assertion 6** are not substantiated (i. e., Mamie was less than 18 years old when married and/or did not carry Bernice full term).

Action 1: An examination of Mamie's gravestone in D. C. might provide her date of birth (see **Assertion 1**).

Action 2: An examination of the actual notice of Mamie's marriage in the Daily Morning Call most likely would provide her date of marriage (see **Evidence 5**).

In fact, most researchers, the author included, are limited in time and resources and do not actually record the entire rigorous logic behind the conclusions that they reached based on the evidence available to them. It is hoped that most of the intermediate steps can be deduced (or reconstructed if necessary) by the reader.

(As to Mamie's marriage, a later examination of the actual Call notice established that it took place on 1 March 1881.)

The reader should be aware that much, much more evidence is available than has been included. The author has been unable, within his constraints, to examine and include it all, or this book would never have been published.⁷ The reader is encouraged to continue the search. It has rarely been said by a true genealogist, "I'm done!"

Quotations from Clayton Metcalf's Book

The author was given permission⁸ by Helen Metcalf, the widow of Clayton G. Metcalf, to quote from Section IV (Michael Metcalf, "The Dornix Weaver") of Clayton's book.⁹ These quotations are employed whenever other information is lacking.

Clayton's monumental effort is well-known in Metcalf genealogical circles. Unfortunately, Clayton did not have room in his book for source references. When the source references have been found by this author, they have supplemented or replaced Clayton's entries. In the other cases, Clayton's entries will provide the reader with a road map to those descendants who were not otherwise substantiated.

A Note About Dates

One should be aware that, prior to 1752 in Great Britain and her colonies, the civil, legal and ecclesiastical year began on March 25th. By act of Parliament in 1751, the year 1752 and those following began on January 1st. Therefore, the days of January 1st through March 24th, which prior to 1752 were in the old year, now were in the new year. Such days prior to 25 March 1752 are shown in this and most other works with both years. For example, 22 February 1751 is shown as 22 February 1751/2 (1751 old style—they way it was then—and 1752 new style—the way it would be now).¹⁰

All other cases where double years are recorded, for example 25 June 1731/2, indicate that the event to which it pertains fell in either 1731 or 1732, and the source work is unclear as to which year is applicable.

⁷ Within this Register format, expositions are not given for children who do not appear again as adults, nor for in-laws. Expositions for parents and spouses should lead the reader to the appropriate source documentation.

⁸ Phone call to Mrs. Metcalf on Thursday evening, 13 January 2000.

⁹ Clayton G. Metcalf, *A Study of Metcalfs, Andrews & Smith* (Enterprise, Alabama: author, 1979).

¹⁰ In a few cases it is not possible to tell which date was used in a source work; then the single date shown in that work is used.

Prior to 25 March 1752 the months were frequently numbered in an old style “1” for March, “2” for April, through “12” for February. So an appearance of “9ber” in a source work is rendered November in this work.¹¹

Finally, when people woke up on September 3rd in 1752 they found that it had become September 14th.¹² The error in the length of the old Julian year had accumulated since 45 B. C. and the time had come to fix it, changing to the Gregorian calendar. Although no corrections are applied in this work, one may add ten days to all dates prior to 1 March 1700,¹³ and eleven days to any date from 1 March 1700 through 2 September 1752, to obtain the date we would use today.

Acknowledgements

Many people have made significant contributions to the development of this book, to which the author expresses his sincere and lasting gratefulness.

First, thanks to the late **Clayton Gillis Metcalf** of Enterprise, Alabama, for his exhaustive work on the Metcalf family as recorded in his book.¹⁴ The author, like many other Metcalf researchers, started on his genealogy with reference to Clayton’s work.

Thanks to **David Zolman**, President, First Genealogical Research Company of Salt Lake City, for his professional research on the author’s ancestors.

Thanks to all those who made important contributions to the first edition of this work: to **Charles William Metcalf** of Petaluma, California, for his persistence in tracking down many more Metcalfs, especially descendants of Asa Metcalf (1740–1826) and his wife Mehitable Upham; to **Jeanne Ann (Whitney) Muse** of Arden, North Carolina, for her lengthy research into the descendants of Experience Metcalf (1661–1731) and her husband Isaac Wheeler; to **Margaret Eleanor (Ware) Larimer** of Yuba City, California, for her collection of the descendants of Mary Metcalf (1646–1677) and her husband Capt. John Ware; to **Carol (Lewis) Taylor** of Windham, Maine, for her lengthy research into the descendants of Sgt. Silas Metcalf (1746–1822) and his first wife Miriam Ray; to the late **Eva Patricia (Metcalf) Wood** of Belle Plaine, Kansas, for her collection of the descendants of Philemon Metcalf (1752–1833) and his wives Mary Ide and Hannah Kimball; to **Sally Metcalf** of Vida, Oregon, a fourth cousin of the author, for her information on the descendants of Thomas Metcalf (1798–1891) and his wife Pauline Beard; to **Susan Johanson** for her information on the descendants of Joseph Metcalf (1765–1849) and his wife Olive Fairbanks; to **Robert John Tate** for his lengthy research into the descendants of Eli Metcalf (1742–1812) and his wife Ruth Hall; to **Gladys (Brown) Smith** of Campbell River, British Columbia, for her extensive research on the descendants of Christopher Smith, second husband of Mary Fairbanks who married first Michael Metcalf (1620–1654); to **Velia Luana (Thomas) Foster** for her research on the descendants of David Metcalf (1766–1847) and his

¹¹ It is important to note that, in some old records (e. g., some old Dedham records), a date may be shown as “1717 the 5 of ye 1 mo.” This meant 5 March 1716/7. In like manner, “1717 the 5 of ye 12 mo.” meant 5 February 1717/8. By the way, “ye,” when used as a definite article, was an archaic spelling of “the” (the y represented an old English letter for *th*), so “ye” in this case was always pronounced “the.” When used as a pronoun, “ye” (*you*) was pronounced as “yee.”

¹² The reaction of the general populace was: “Who stole the eleven days? Give us back the eleven days!”

¹³ Under the Julian (but not the Gregorian) calendar, February 1700 had 29 days, so one of the eleven days had already been accounted for prior to March 1700.

¹⁴ Metcalf, Clayton G., *A Study of Metcalfs, Andrews & Smith* (Enterprise, Alabama: author, 1979).

wife Candice Stratton; to **Mary Sue (Tawney) Branham** for her work on the descendants of Rebecca Metcalf (1635–1667) and her husband John Mackintosh; to **James Wiley Byrd, John Enoch Pond III** and **Paula Rae (Taylor) Stewart** for their information on the descendants of Asa Baldwin Metcalfe (1800–1850) and Barbara Allen Harris, and to John for the picture of William Lyons Metcalfe; to **Paul David Lange, Roger Tansey, William George Aspin,** and **Genevieve Edith Metcalfe** for their research on the descendants of Ebenezer Metcalf (1703–1780) and Thankful Delano; to **Jean Ann Childers** for her work on the descendants of Esther Metcalf (1768–) and her husband Joseph King Burbank; to **Jean Chapman Snow** for her research on the descendants of Lydia Metcalf (1734–1822) and her husband Stephen Lee; to **Lenore Evelyn (White) Hailstone** for her work on the descendants of Mary Metcalf (1619–1676) and her husband Henry Wilson; to **Therese (Gallagher) Carberry** and **Barbara Anne (Murphy) Carberry** for their research on the descendants of Hepzibah Metcalf (1779–1860) and her husband Levi Ballou; to **Jeffrey Whealdon Bryant** for his extensive work on the descendants of Samuel Metcalf (1739–1817) and his wife Lois Kingsbury; to **Emma (Stevens) Noland** and **Mary Miller Housworth** for providing information on the descendants of Jerusha Metcalf (1735–1813) and her husband William White; and to **Samantha A. Metcalf** for her information on the descendants of Barnabas Metcalf (1720–1799) and his wife Rebecca Healy.

Thanks to those who made important contributions to the second edition of this work: **Margaret (Metcalf) Hassin** for her research on James Bard Metcalfe (1846–1924) and his wife Mary Louise Boardman; **Mary Lou Bordwell** for her information on the descendants of Samuel Metcalf (1715–1772) and his wife Sybil/Sarah; **Patty (Conrad) Noice** and **Charles Eugene Metcalf** for their information on the descendants of Nathan Metcalf (1745–) and his wife Mary Berl; **George Bird Metcalf** and **Christopher Alan Metcalf** for their research on the descendants of Joseph Metcalf (1774–1869) and his wife Sally Hutchins; **Robert John Tate** (again) for more research into the descendants of Eli Metcalf (1742–1812) and his wife Ruth Hall (as well as many other Metcalfs); **Ginger Metcalf Dingus** for information on the descendants of Josiah Metcalf (1783–1824) and his wife Mary Sawyer and of Eliab Wight Metcalf (1827–1899) and his wife Eliza Maria Ely (as well as many other Metcalfs); **Allen Harold DuVall** for his research on the descendants of Levi Metcalf (1731–) and his wife Abigail Cutting; **Lois Ann (Goldsbury) Macy** and **Maeva (Hamilton) Hipps** for their research on the descendants of Abigail Metcalf (1733–1822) and her husband Capt. John Goldsbury; **Mary Ellen (Jensen) Boyd** for her research on the descendants of Isaac Hammond Metcalf (1785–1867) and his wife Joanna Baker; **Gerald A. Eberwein** for his research on the descendants of Jabez Metcalf (1747–1813) and his wife Elizabeth Tenney; **Joan (Hutchinson) Newell** for her research on the descendants of Susan Metcalf (1788–) and her husband Elisha Hopkins; **Cary Stone-Greenstein** for her research on the descendants of Eliab Metcalf (1785–1834) and his wife Nancy Benton; and **Cheryl E. Waterman** for her research on Daniel Wilson (1796–1863) and his wife Betsey _____.

And last, but not least, thanks to my sister **Marcia (Metcalf) Ortega** for (among many other things) saving my late mother's heirlooms which included the critical link to our Metcalf(e) ancestry.



Hollywood, California
1 March 2012

Most of the monumental statues set up in our land are in honor of men distinguished for military exploits. ... Equally deserving, perhaps equally influential, though less prominent, is another class of men who are apt to be overlooked. Lacking the brilliancy of special genius and the opportunity and the call for heroic action, they, within the ordinary sphere of human life, attained eminence by doing judiciously and with energy those common things which are essential to the stability of human society and give cast to the character and institution of a rising commonwealth.

Rev. A. L. Chapin

To preserve the memory of our ancestors is one of the marks of a high state of civilization.

Charles Eagan Chapin

Happy he, who with bright regard looks back upon his father's fathers, who with joy recounts their deeds of grace, and in himself, values the latest link in the fair chain of noble sequence.

Goethe

Call back yesterday—bid time return.

William Shakespeare—Richard II, Act III

Remember the days of old,
Consider the years of many generations:
Ask thy father, and he will show thee;
Thy elders, and they will tell thee.

Deuteronomy 32:7

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.

Longfellow

The Puritan

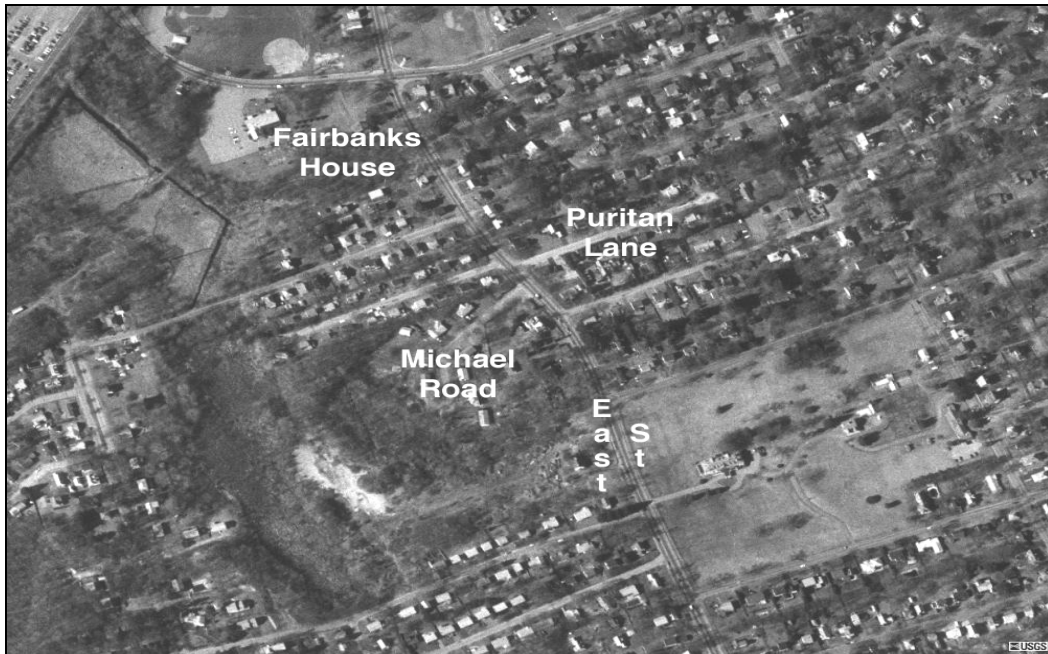


By Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848–1907), from a September 1999 photograph by Donald Freeman Lawson, reproduced here with permission.

The bronze statue, unveiled on Thanksgiving Day in 1887, stands in Merrick Park at State and Chestnut Streets (next to the Public Library) in Springfield, Massachusetts, and memorializes Deacon Samuel Chapin (1598–1675), a founder of Springfield.

Dea. Chapin and Michael Metcalf (1590–1664), son of Rev. Leonard Metcalf, were both Puritans, contemporaries in Massachusetts and eighth-great-grandfathers of the author.

Site of Michael Metcalf's Dedham Home



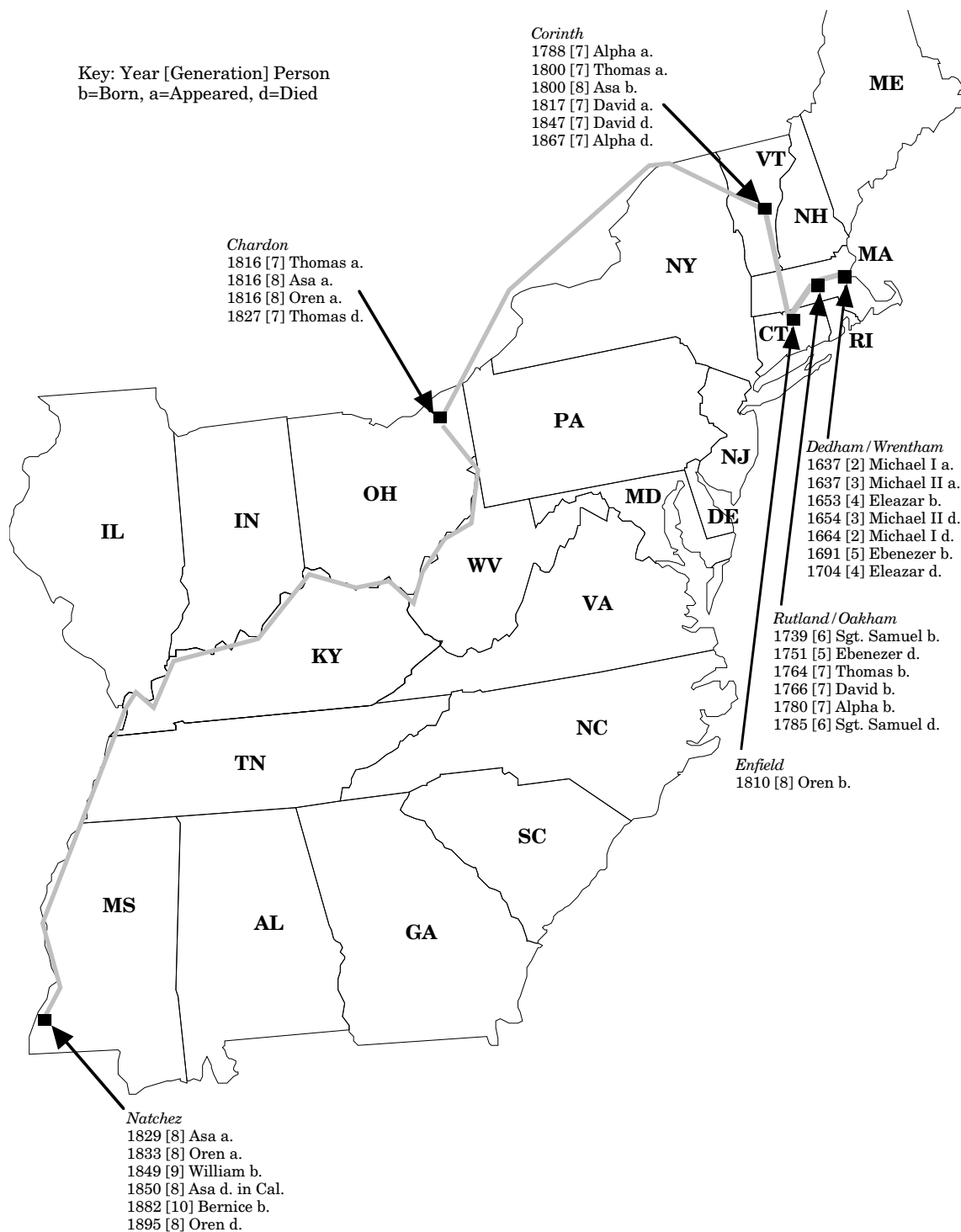
Michael's property was the long block just south of Puritan Lane, east of East Street and Michael Road, as shown in the aerial photograph below (courtesy of the United States Geological Survey Terraserver).

Massachusetts and its Neighbors



Persecuted in their home country for their Puritan religious beliefs, Michael Metcalf with his family emigrated through Great Yarmouth in Norfolk, leaving Ipswich in Suffolk, their last port in England, aboard the *Rose* on 15 April and arriving in Boston, Massachusetts, on 8 June (old style), removing thence to Dedham. Michael’s descendants populated nearly all of the Massachusetts and neighboring counties shown on this map (courtesy of the Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection at the University of Texas at Austin, <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps>)

Migration from Dedham to Natchez



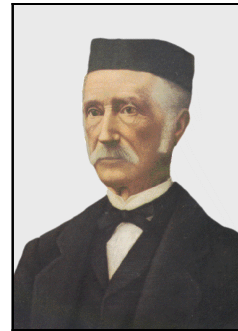
This map illustrates the migration over 200 years of the author's Metcalf ancestors from Dedham, Massachusetts, to Natchez, Mississippi. The descendency includes [2] Michael, Leonard's son; [3] his son Michael; [4] Eleazar; [5] Ebenezer; [6] Sgt. Samuel, minuteman at the Lexington Alarm of 1775; [7] Thomas; [8] Oren, who settled in Natchez; [9] William; and [10] Bernice, the author's grandmother. (Map drawn by the author.)

Oren Metcalfe

The author's great-great-grandfather

Oren was born on Sunday, 28 January 1810, in Enfield, Hartford County, Connecticut, the twelfth and last child of Thomas Metcalf and Sybil Chapin. He was the grandson of Sgt. Samuel Metcalf, a Minuteman who marched on the Lexington Alarm of 19 April 1775.

Oren spent the latter part of his youth in Chardon, Geauga County, Ohio, to which his parents had removed about 1819. He removed to Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi, in 1833, joining his brother Asa. There he married Zuleika Rosalie Lyons (1822–1870) on Thursday, 12 April 1838. They had twelve children: Joseph Albert (1839–1840), John Thomas Winn (1841–1863), Julius Oren (1843–1880), James Bard (1846–1924), Charles (1848–1849), William Lyons (1849–), John Inge (1853–1863), Zuleika Rosalie (1855–1937), Medora (1858–1867), Anna (1861–1936), Belle (1864–1865) and Richard Inge (1866–1908).



In 1857 Oren and Zuleika purchased *Ravenna* manor house in Natchez where they lived the rest of their lives. (*Ravenna* was built in 1835. The author's grandmother was born there in 1882. Today it is employed as a guest house.)

Oren was a prominent merchant in Natchez, and later owned and operated an insurance brokerage. He served as Sheriff of Adams County (1851–1864), and as an Elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Natchez (1855–1895). He was also a trustee and treasurer of Jefferson College (1850–1895).

Oren died on Wednesday, 20 November 1895, in Natchez, age 85 years, 9 months and 23 days. “. . . for his many Christian qualities, his kindness, charity and love for his fellowmen, his friends are numerous and his enemies extremely few.”

Cpl. Tommie Metcalfe

This book is dedicated to the memory of my grandmother's uncle, John Thomas Winn ("Tommie") Metcalfe. He was born on Thursday, 20 May 1841, in Natchez, the second (and eldest surviving) child of Oren and Zuleika Rosalie (Lyons) Metcalfe. He was baptized in the First Presbyterian Church of Natchez on Sunday, 12 December of that year.



When the War Between the States broke out, Tommie volunteered for service—on Saturday, 18 May 1861, at age 19 (two days short of his 20th birthday), he enlisted in Natchez for the duration of the War, as a Private in what became Company A (the Adams Troop) of the Jeff Davis Legion, Mississippi Cavalry. He fought in many of the numerous campaigns which occupied the Legion almost continuously. The Legion fought their first engagement in late 1861 and from then on fought in most of Lee's campaigns as a part of the Army of Northern Virginia.

On 15 March 1863 Tommie went home to Natchez on furlough to procure another horse (Confederate cavalrymen were required to supply their own horses). While he was gone, on 15 April, he was promoted to Corporal. He rejoined his unit on 15 June. On Friday, 10 July, a week after the Battle of Gettysburg (3 July), he was "Killed in Battle near Funkstown, Md.," age 22 years, 1 month and 20 days. He was "fighting nobly when he fell . . . shot through the head." He was buried in the Presbyterian churchyard at nearby Hagerstown, Maryland, by the local minister.

Two of Tommie's brothers also served in the War: Private Julius Oren Metcalfe and Lt. James Bard Metcalfe, of the 10th Mississippi Cavalry, Breckinridge's Brigade. Distant cousins from Natchez who fought with the Adams Troop include Andrew, Charles, Henry, Orrick and Volney Metcalfe.

(Confederate.)

M | Jeff Davis Legion, Cavalry. | Miss.

Thomas W. Metcalfe

464th, Co. A., Jeff Davis Legion of Cavalry.

Appears on
Company Muster Roll
of the organization named above,
for *July + Aug.*, 1863.

Enlisted:
When *May 18*, 1861.
Where *Natchez, Miss.*
By whom *Capt. Martin*
Period *War.*

Last paid:
By whom *Maj. Goodwin*
To what time *Apr. 30*, 1863.

Pay for use and risk of horse, days....., \$..... 100

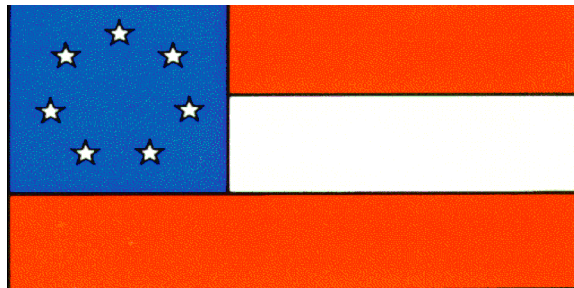
Present or absent

Remarks: *Died - Killed in
Battle near Funkstown,
Md. July 10, 1863.*

One company of Alabama cavalry and three companies of Mississippi cavalry were organized into a battalion and designated the 2d Battalion Mississippi Cavalry by S. O. No. 186, A and I. O. O., dated Richmond, Oct. 2, 1861. Another company from Alabama was added Nov. 10, 1861, by order of Gen. Johnston, and the company from Georgia was assigned Dec. 1, 1861, by order of the Secretary of War. The organization was then designated the Jeff Davis Legion Mississippi Cavalry in records of the Confederate War Department. Cos. A, B and C, 4th (Love's) Battalion, Alabama Cavalry, were added to the Jeff Davis Legion, Cavalry, by S. O. No. 181, A, and I. O. O., dated Richmond, July 11, 1862, and became Cos. J, I and K, respectively. Co. B, 20th Battalion Georgia Cavalry, was assigned to the Jeff Davis Legion by S. O. No. 24, A, and I. O. O., dated Richmond, Oct. 28, 1862, and became Co. G—St. S. 11th.

Book mark: *M. Leonard*

A copy of Tommie’s last entry in his Company Muster Roll



A drawing of the Regimental flag of the Jeff Davis Legion (a.k.a., the “Stars and Bars,” the First National Flag of the Confederacy)

Lt. James B. Metcalfe

James Bard Metcalfe, another of my grandmother's uncles, was born on Thursday, 15 January 1846, in Natchez, the fourth child of Oren and Zuleika Rosalie (Lyons) Metcalfe. He was baptized in the First Presbyterian Church of Natchez on Sunday, 29 November of that year.

He volunteered for service with the Confederacy in the 10th Mississippi Cavalry at the age of sixteen. He served in the War with Breckinridge's Brigade from May 1862 to April 1863. He joined Breckinridge's escort that April and was detailed out in September 1864.



At some point he was captured and made a daring escape at the Battle of Franklin, swimming the Duck River and rejoining the Confederate forces in Murphreesboro. He was again captured at the Battle of Fort Tyler on 17 April 1865, at the end of the War. He was released and went home, having attained the rank of Lieutenant by the age of nineteen.

After the War, in 1870, he was a clerk in a bank in Natchez. He studied law and by 1877 had moved to San Francisco, California, where he married Louise Boardman on Monday, 25 June of that year. Louise was born on 11 August 1855 in California. They moved to Seattle in the Washington Territory before 1889 (the year the Territory became the 42nd state). He served as the first and only Attorney-General of the Territory and then as the head of the legal firm, *Metcalf, Turner & Burleigh*.

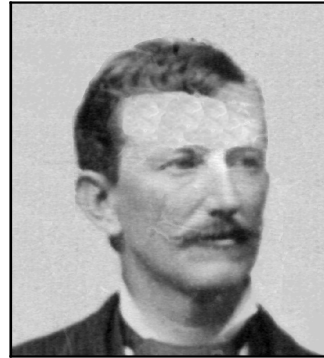
James and Louise had two sons, Thomas Oren and James Vernon, the latter of which joined him in the practice of admiralty law in Seattle by 1916. He died in Seattle on Wednesday, 9 Jul 1924 in Suquamish, Kitsap County, Washington, and was buried there in Suquamish Cemetery. Louise died on Thursday, 7 February 1935.

Will Metcalfe

The author's great-grandfather

William Lyons Metcalfe, called Will, was born on Sunday, 30 September 1849, in Natchez, the sixth child of Oren and Zuleika Rosalie (Lyons) Metcalfe, and younger brother of Tommie and James. He was baptized in the First Presbyterian Church of Natchez on Friday, 30 May 1851.

When the War Between the States broke out, Will was eleven years old, much too young to serve. He trained for the law. In 1872 he was an Assistant in the Chancery Court Clerk's Office in Natchez. Several years later, Will married Mary (Mamie) H. Roche of Washington, D. C., on Tuesday, 1 March 1881, in St. Paul's Episcopal Church in San Francisco, California. She was the 18-year-old daughter and fifth child of Maj. James R. Roche, U. S. Army. Will was 31 years old. James was stationed in San Francisco at the time and Will was probably practicing law there.



Will and Mary had two children: Hibernia Trabue Metcalfe, later known as Bernice Roche Metcalfe (the author's grandmother), born on Sunday, 19 February 1882, in Natchez, and John Rousseau Metcalfe, later known as Jack Barber (after his stepfather), born on Friday, 11 September 1885, in New York City.

While Will was a Protestant son of the Confederacy, Mamie was a Catholic daughter of a Union officer. It wasn't a successful marriage, ending in divorce in the last half of the 1880s, and Will was subsequently noted as a lawyer in Oregon in 1891. It is not presently known whether he remarried nor when or where he died.

Mamie married second Lemuel J. Barber in 1891 by whom she had no children. Listed as a resident of Bethel, Connecticut, Mamie died Saturday, 21 June 1919 in Washington, D. C., and was buried there in Glenwood Cemetery on the Wednesday following.

Photograph courtesy of John Pond.

Bernice Metcalfe

The author's grandmother

Bernice Roche Metcalfe was born Hibernia Trabue Metcalfe at *Ravenna* manor house in Natchez at 7 p. m. on Sunday, 19 February 1882, first child of William (Will) Lyons Metcalfe and Mary (Mamie) H. Roche. Bernice was baptized at Trinity Episcopal Church in Natchez on the Saturday preceding Easter, 8 April 1882.



After her parents divorced in the late 1880s, Bernice spent the rest of her childhood in Los Angeles, California, with her maternal grandfather, Maj. James Richard Roche and his second wife Eliza Lee Mitchell. Trained as a pianist, Bernice left home in 1900 and toured Europe giving concerts. It was on tour in Germany that she met Richard Maria Wilhelm Oberwinder, a German journalist, born on Sunday, 9 August, 1874 in Vienna, Austria. Bernice and Richard were married in Dresden, Germany, on Thursday, 8 October 1903, and had four children—John, Elizabeth, James and Andrew.

In February, 1914, shortly before the Great War, Bernice left Richard and returned to the U. S. with the three older children, arriving that month in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from Bremen, Germany, aboard the *Brandenburg*. They continued aboard to Galveston, Texas, where Bernice and the children joined her mother, Mamie Roche, and her stepfather, Lemuel J. Barber. In 1919 Bernice divorced Richard *in absentia*. Son Andrew immigrated to the U. S. in July 1922, and Richard in December of that year.

The children all adopted their mother's surname, Metcalfe. John was the father of the author and Marcia. Elizabeth became a nun. James was the father of James, Donald and Kristina. Andrew had no children.

Bernice died from pneumonia on Sunday, 27 January 1952 and was buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, on the west side of Los Angeles. Richard died from cancer the next year, on Wednesday, 29 July 1953, in Chicago, and was buried in Beverly Cemetery in Blue Island, Illinois, on the south side of Chicago.

SOME TOWN BOUNDARIES

This section summarizes the establishment and boundary changes of some of the Massachusetts towns mentioned in the Register, taken from town histories mostly written in the early 1900s. They are listed alphabetically by town name.

Abington, Plymouth County

Foster gave a brief history of the boundaries of Abington:¹

The Town of Abington, Plymouth County, was established June 10, 1712, from a part of Bridgewater and certain lands adjoining.

June 14, 1727, part was included in the new town of Hanover. March 31, 1847, bounds between Abington and Weymouth were established.

Amesbury, Essex County

The Topsfield Historical Society gave a brief history of the boundaries of Amesbury:²

The territory comprising the present town of Amesbury was originally part of Salisbury. On May 23, 1668 the name was changed to Amesbury. In the Massachusetts Bay Colony records the name is entered as “Emesbury.”

May 12, 1775, just and full bounds were allowed to Amesbury. On Mar. 15, 1844, part of Salisbury, called “Little Salisbury,” was annexed. Apr. 11, 1876, part of the town was established as Merrimac. July 1, 1886, part of Salisbury was annexed.

Andover, Essex County

The Topsfield Historical Society gave a brief history of the boundaries of Andover:³

The territory within the limits of the town of Andover was originally called Cochicawick. Andover was incorporated as a town May 6, 1646, and was named for the town in Hants County, England, which had been the home of many of its settlers.

A committee was appointed by the General Court on June 1, 1652, to lay out the bounds between Andover and Cambridge, and the same day the Court granted that the five or six hundred acres laid out by Rowley, without their line near Andover town, should belong to Andover.

The bounds between Andover and Billerica were established May 26, 1658.

The bounds between Andover and Wills Hill were established May 9, 1678.

June 20, 1728, a part of Andover was included in the new town of Middleton.

April 17, 1847, a part of Andover was included in the new town of Lawrence.

¹ F. Apthorp Foster, ed., *Vital Records of Abington, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850*, Vol. I: Births (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1912), 3.

² Topsfield Historical Society, *Vital Records of Amesbury, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: Newcomb & Gauss, 1913), 4.

³ Topsfield Historical Society, *Vital Records of Andover, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*, Vol. I: Births (Salem: Newcomb & Gauss, 1912), 4.

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April 7, 1855, a part of Andover was established as North Andover.

Feb. 7, 1879, a part of Andover was annexed to Lawrence.

The bounds between Andover and Tewksbury were established May 21, 1903.

The bounds between Andover and North Reading were established Apr. 22, 1904.

Ashburnham, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Ashburnham:⁴

This town was established February 2, 1765, from the plantation of “Dorchester-Canada.” A part was included in the new town of Ashby (Middlesex County) March 6, 1767, and another part was annexed to that town November 16, 1792. A part was included in the new town of Gardner June 27, 1785, and a part of Gardner was annexed to Ashburnham February 16, 1815. A part of Westminster was annexed January 28, 1824.

Ashby, Middlesex County

Pingrey⁵ noted that the town of Ashby was incorporated in 1767 and earlier had been part of Townsend, Lunenburg, Ashburnham and Fitchburg.

Athol, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Athol:⁶

Established March 6, 1762, from plantation named “Payquage.” A part was included in the District of Orange, Franklin County, October 15, 1783, and another part in the new town of Gerry, now Phillipston, October 20, 1786. Parts annexed to Royalston February 26, 1799, and March 7, 1803. A part of Gerry was annexed February 28, 1806, and a part of Orange February 7, 1816. Certain Common Lands were annexed June 11, 1829. A part of New Salem in Franklin County was annexed February 5, 1830, and another part of New Salem called “Little Grant” annexed March 16, 1837.

Attleboro, Bristol County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Attleboro:⁷

Oct. 19, 1694, part of Rehoboth called the North Purchase, to be called Attleborough.

Sept. 10, 1697, bounds between Attleborough and Rehoboth established.

June 26, 1710, “the mile and a half restored” to Attleborough.

Feb. 18, 1830, bounds between Attleborough and Wrentham established and part annexed to Wrentham.

⁴ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Ashburnham, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1909), 5.

⁵ Jeannette D. Pingrey, comp., *Birth, Marriage and Death Records of the Town of Ashby, Massachusetts, from 1754 to 1890* (Decorah, Iowa: Anundsen Publishing Co., 1989), iii.

⁶ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Athol, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1910), 5.

⁷ Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Attleborough, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1934), 4.

June 14, 1887, part established as North Attleborough.

July 30, 1887, act of June 14, 1887, accepted by the town. Mar. 6, 1888, the acceptance of the act by the town confirmed.

June 17, 1914, Attleborough incorporated as the city of Attleboro. Nov. 3, 1814, act of incorporation accepted by the town.

Auburn, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Auburn:⁸

The Town of Auburn was originally set off from Worcester [the South Parish of Worcester organized July 27th, 1773], Sutton, Leicester and Oxford, and was incorporated on the 10th of April, 1778, with the name of Ward, in honor of General Artemas Ward of Shrewsbury....

On February 17th, 1937, the name of the Town was changed to Auburn. This was influenced largely, it is said, by the confusion in writing the names of Ward and Ware by those not familiar with the two places.

Bellingham, Norfolk County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Bellingham:⁹

The Town of Bellingham, Norfolk County (formerly in Suffolk County, until 1793), was established November 27, 1719, from parts of Dedham, Mendon, and Wrentham.

February 23, 1832, bounds between Bellingham and Franklin were established.

Bradford, Essex County

The Topsfield Historical Society gave a brief history of the boundaries of Bradford:¹⁰

The territory included within the limits of Bradford was originally a part of Rowley and was first known as "Merrimac Lands," and "Rowley Village by the Merrimack," and then as "Merrimack," which name was changed to Bradford at a town meeting held Jan. 7, 1672, in memory of Bradford in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England, several of the settlers having emigrated from that place....

On March 8, 1850, part of its territory was set off and incorporated as the town of Groveland.

On January 4, 1892, the town of Bradford was annexed to the city of Haverhill.

Bridgewater, Plymouth County

Scott gave a brief history of the boundaries of Bridgewater:¹¹

⁸ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of the Town of Auburn (Formerly Ward), Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1850* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1900), 7 and 10.

⁹ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Bellingham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1904), 3.

¹⁰ Topsfield Historical Society, *Vital Records of Bradford, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: Newcomb & Gauss, Printers, 1907), 4-5.

¹¹ Henry Edwards Scott, ed., *Vital Records of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850*, Vol. I: Births (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1916), 3.

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The Town of Bridgewater, Plymouth County, was established as a township June 3, 1656, from a part of Duxbury called the New Plantation.

June 3, 1662, certain lands were granted to Bridgewater.

February 11, 1690–1, lands between Bridgewater and Weymouth, called Foord's [~~sic~~] Farms, and lands adjoining were annexed.

June 10, 1712, a part was included in the new town of Abington.

November 20, 1770, and February 8, 1798, parts of Stoughton were annexed.

June 15, 1821, a part was established as North Bridgewater (now Brockton).

February 16, 1822, a part was established as West Bridgewater.

June 14, 1823, a part was established as East Bridgewater.

February 20, 1824, a part was annexed to Halifax.

February 24, 1838, bounds between Bridgewater and East Bridgewater were established.

March 20, 1846, bounds between Bridgewater and East Bridgewater were established and a part of each town was annexed to the other town.

Brockton, Plymouth County

Foster gave a brief history of the boundaries of Brockton:¹²

The Town of Brockton, Plymouth County, formerly known as North Bridgewater, was established June 15, 1821, from a part of Bridgewater.

January 26, 1825, bounds between North Bridgewater and West Bridgewater were established.

March 28, 1874, the name was authorized to be changed.

May 5, 1874, Brockton was adopted as the name.

April 9, 1881, Brockton was incorporated as a city.

Brookline, Norfolk County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Brookline:¹³

Nov. 13, 1705, part of Boston called Muddy River.

Feb. 22, 1825, bounds between Brookline and Boston confirmed.

Feb. 24, 1844, part of Roxbury annexed.

June 18, 1870, part annexed to Boston.

¹² F. Apthorp Foster, ed., *Vital Records of Brockton, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1911), 4.

¹³ Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Brookline, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1929), 4.

Nov. 4, 1870, the act accepted by Boston.

Apr. 27, 1872, bounds between Brookline and Boston established.

May 8, 1874, part annexed to Boston.

May 27, 1890, bounds between Brookline and Boston established.

Apr. 13, 1894, bounds between Brookline and Boston established.

Mar. 28, 1907, bounds between Brookline and Boston established.

Cambridge, Middlesex County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Cambridge:¹⁴

In Massachusetts' records, Vol. I, page 9, under the date of July 26, 1631, "Charton, Misticke & the newe towne" are mentioned. March 6, 1632, the bounds were established between Charlestowne and NewTowne.

May 2 1638, Massachusetts' records, Vol. I, page 228, "It is ordered that Newtowne shall henceforth be called Cambridge."

March 13, 1639, the bounds between Cambridge and Watertown were established, and October 7, 1641, the bounds between Cambridge and Boston.

November 12, 1659, a grant of 1,000 acres of land was made to Cambridge, which was renewed October 19, 1664.

March 20, 1712, a part of Cambridge was established as the town of Lexington.

June 4, 1755, a part of Cambridge was annexed to Waltham.

April 18, 1761, and March 6, 1802, parts of Charlestown wer annexed to Cambridge.

Febraury 24, 1807, a part of Cambridge was established as the town of Brighton.

February 27, 1807, a part of Cambridge was established as the town of West Cambridge.

January 27, 1816, a part of Cambridge was annexed to Brighton.

Febraury 12, 1818, and June 17, 1820, parts of Charlestown were annexed to Cambridge.

March 17, 1846, Cambridge was incorporated as a city. The act of incorporation was accepted by the town March 30, 1846.

April 27, 1855, a part of Watertown was annexed to Cambridge.

April 30, 1856, bounds were established between Cambridge and Somerville and a part of each place was annexed to the other.

Febraury 25, 1862, bounds were established between Cambridge and Belmont and West Cambridge, and parts of each place were annexed to Cambridge and parts of Cambridge to each of those places.

¹⁴ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Cambridge, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850, Vol. 1. Births*. (Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Company, 1914), 3-4.

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April 29, 1862, bounds were established between Cambridge and Somerville and parts of each place were annexed to the other.

April 19, 1880, a part of Belmont was annexed to Cambridge. March 10, 1885, a part of Watertown was annexed to Cambridge.

April 28, 1891, bounds between Cambridge and Belmont were established and a part of each place annexed to the other.

March 9, 1898, bounds were established between Cambridge and Watertown and a part of each place annexed to the other.

March 29, 1898, bounds were established between Cambridge and Boston.

February 16, 1906, bounds between Belmont and Cambridge were readjusted.

May 5, 1911, bounds between Cambridge and Arlington were established, to be accepted by the city council and selectmen. My 22, 1911, they were accepted by the selectmen of Arlington, and on May 31, 1911, by the city council of Cambridge.

Canton, Norfolk County

See Stoughton.

Chelmsford, Middlesex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Chelmsford:¹⁵

On May 18, 1653, the General Court granted the petition of several of the inhabitants of “Concord and Woobourne for the erecting of a new plantation on the Merremacke River, neere to Pawtucket,” and May 29, 1655, the Court granted the name thereof to be called Chelmsford.

Mat 14, 1656, land granted to Chelmsford.

May 31, 1660, bounds between Chelmsford and the Indian plantation at Patucket established.

June 27, 1701, bounds between Chelmsford and Billerica established.

Nov. 23, 1725, part of Chelmsford annexed to Littleton.

June 13, 1726, “Wameset” annexed.

Sept. 23, 1729, part of Chelmsford established as Westford.

Apr. 24, 1755, part of Chelmsford annexed to Dunstable.

Apr. 28, 1780, part of Chelmsford included in the second district of Carlisle.

Mar. 1, 1783, part of the second district of Carlisle annexed.

Mar. 1, 1826, part of Chelmsford established as Lowell.

¹⁵ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1914), 4.

Chester, Hampden County

Foster gave a brief history of the boundaries of Chester:¹⁶

The Town of Chester, Hampden County, was formerly called Murrayfield, which, as a plantation, was established as a town October 31, 1765.

June 29, 1773, part of Murrayfield was established as the District of Norwich.

May 8, 1781, another part of Murrayfield was annexed to Norwich.

February 21, 1783, the name was changed from Murrayfield to Chester

March 12, 1783, part was included in the new town of Middlefield, Hampshire County.

June 21, 1799, part was annexed to Worthington, Hampshire County.

Feb. 22, 1809 and June 13, 1810, bounds between Chester and Blandford were established.

Conway, Franklin County

The New England Historic Genealogical Society¹⁷ noted that Conway was established as a District on June 17, 1767 from Deerfield and made a town on August 23, 1775. A part of Shelburne was annexed to Conway on February 19, 1781. A part of Conway was annexed to Goshen in Hampshire County on February 9, 1785. A part of Deerfield was annexed to Conway on June 17, 1791. Another part of Deerfield was annexed to Conway on June 21, 1811 when the boundaries between Conway and Deerfield and Conway and Whately were established. A part of Conway was annexed to Buckland on April 14, 1838.

Dana, Worcester County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Dana:¹⁸

February 18, 1801, town formed from parts of Greenwich, Hardwick, and Petersham.

February 12, 1803, bounds between Dana and Petersham established.

June 19, 1811, bounds between Dana and Greenwich established.

February 4, 1842, parts of Hardwick and Petersham annexed.

April 10, 1882, bounds between Dana and Petersham established.

May 4, 1911, bounds between Dana and Greenwich established.

¹⁶ F. Apthorp Foster, ed., *Vital Records of Chester, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1911), 3.

¹⁷ New England Historic Genealogical Society, *Vital Records of Conway, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850* (Haverhill, Massachusetts: Record Publishing Co., 1943), 3.

¹⁸ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Dana, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1925), 5.

Danvers, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Danvers:¹⁹

The town of Danvers, which, previous to 1855, also included the present town of Peabody was originally a part of Salem, the first grant of Land within this territory having been made on July 3, 1632 to Gov. John Endecott. On Mar. 22, 1671–2, this section, known as “The Farms,” was set off from Salem and established as “Salem Village” parish. On Jan. 18, 1710, another division was effected, the territory which comprised the southern portion of the present town of Peabody being set off from Salem as the “Middle Precinct.” On Feb. 11, 1712, the inhabitants of the eastern part of the Village parish, together with some of Beverly, united in forming the parish known as the “Precinct of Salem and Beverly at Royal Side.” The inhabitants in the vicinity of Will’s hill were set off from the Village parish, and incorporated June 10, 1728, at the town of Middleton.

On Jan. 28, 1852, the Village and Middle parishes of Salem were established as the district of Danvers, and on June 16, 1757, the district was duly incorporated as the town of Danvers. Objections being made on account of the King’s previous mandate that no new towns should be incorporated which would increase the number of representatives to the General Court, the act was disallowed by the Privy Council, Aug. 10, 1759. However, by a general Act passed Aug. 23, 1775, the district became the town of Danvers. On Mar. 17, 1840, the bounds between Danvers and Salem were established.

Dartmouth, Bristol County

Scott gave a brief history of the boundaries of Dartmouth:²⁰

The Town of Dartmouth, Bristol County, was first mentioned as “Dartmouth” on October 5, 1652, in the Plymouth Colony Records.

June 8, 1664, the tract of land called Acushena, Ponagansett, and Coaksett was established as Dartmouth.

June 3, 1668, bounds were established.

February 23, 1787, a part of Dartmouth was established as New Bedford.

July 2, 1787, a part of Dartmouth was established as Westport. Feb. 25, 1793, February 28, 1795, and March 4, 1805, parts of Dartmouth were annexed to Westport.

February 20, 1828, bounds between Dartmouth and Westport were established.

February 19, 1831, bounds between Dartmouth and New Bedford were established.

March 20, 1845, a part of Dartmouth was annexed to New Bedford.

May 3, 1888, bounds between Dartmouth and New Bedford were changed, and a part of Dartmouth was annexed to New Bedford.

Dover, Norfolk County

¹⁹ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Danvers, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*, Vol. I: Births (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1909), 4.

²⁰ Henry Edwards Scott, ed., *Vital Records of Dartmouth, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850*, Vol. I: Births (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1929), 3.

Foster gave a brief history of the boundaries of Dover:²¹

The Town of Dover, Norfolk County, was established as a district July 7, 1784, from part of Dedham.

March 7, 1791, bounds between the district of Dover and Dedham were established.

March 31, 1836, the district was made a town.

Dracut, Middlesex County

Woods gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Dracut:²²

The Town of Dracut, Middlesex County, was established February 26, 1701, from common lands.

Dunstable, Middlesex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Dunstable:²³

On October 16, 1673, the town of Dunstable was incorporated upon petition of twenty-six proprietors of lands along the Merrimack, Nashua and Souhegan rivers. It derived its name from Dunstable, in Bedfordshire, England, the former home of some of the earliest settlers of this locality.

Jan. 4, 1733, part established at Nottingham (N. H.).

July 4, 1735, part included in the new town of Litchfield (N. H.).

By the divisional line established in 1741, between Massachusetts and New Hampshire, a large part of the original township, together with what is now Nashua, N. H., was included in the latter state.

June 8, 1747, parts of Groton and Nottingham annexed.

Jan. 6, 1752, part annexed to Groton.

June 7, 1753, part of Groton annexed.

June 14, 1754, part of Nottingham annexed.

Apr. 24, 1755, part of Chelmsford annexed.

June 22, 1789, part established as the District of Tyngsborough, and Mar. 3, 1792, part annexed to the District.

In 1793, 1796 and 1803, parts of Groton annexed.

Jan. 29, 1798, and June 10, 1814, bounds between Dunstable and Tyngsborough were established.

Feb. 15, 1820, bounds between Dunstable and Groton were established.

Foxborough, Norfolk County

²¹ F. Apthorp Foster, ed., *Vital Records of Dover, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1908), 3.

²² Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Dracut, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1907), 3.

²³ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Dunstable, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1913), 4.

Foster gave a brief history of the boundaries of Foxborough:²⁴

The town of Foxborough, Norfolk County, was established June 10, 1778, from parts of Stoughton, Stoughtonham, Walpole and Wrentham.

March 12, 1793, parts of Sharon and Stoughton were annexed and bounds established.

February 3, 1819, bounds between Foxborough and Wrentham were established.

February 7, 1831, part of Wrentham was annexed.

January 30, 1833, bounds between Foxborough and Sharon were established and part of each town annexed to the other town.

March 27, 1833, part of Foxborough was annexed to Walpole.

March 28, 1834, part of Foxborough was annexed to Walpole.

Framingham, Middlesex County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Framingham:²⁵

Framingham was first mentioned in the records of the State in the Tax Act under date of October 13, 1675.

June 25, 1700, the plantation of Framingham was established as Framingham.

July 5, 1700, certain common lands were annexed.

July 11, 1700, part of Sherborn was annexed.

March 7, 1786, a part was annexed to Southboro.

February 23, 1791, a part was annexed to Marlboro.

February 11, 1833, a part of Holliston was annexed.

March 16, 1846, a part was included in the new town of Ashland.

April 22, 1871, a part of Natick was annexed.

Gardner, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Gardner:²⁶

Established June 27, 1785, from parts of Ashburnham, Templeton, Westminster and Winchendon. Part annexed to Winchendon in 1787, and part of Winchendon annexed in 1794. Part annexed to Ashburnham in 1815.

Gill, Franklin County

²⁴ F. Apthorp Foster, ed., *Vital Records of Foxborough, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1911), 3.

²⁵ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Framingham, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1850* (Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Company, 1911), 3.

²⁶ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Gardner, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1907), 5.

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Gill:²⁷

The Town of Gill, Franklin County (formerly in Hampshire County, until 1811), was established September 28, 1793, from a part of Greenfield.

February 28, 1795, a part of Northfield was annexed to Gill.

March 14, 1805, the island called Great Island was annexed to Gill after April 1, 1805.

Gloucester, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Gloucester:²⁸

A company of fisherman, known as the Dorchester Company, established itself here in 1624, but the larger number of the colonists returned to England the following year, and the remainder removed to Naumkeag, afterwards Salem.

The General Court on May 22, 1639, ordered "that a fishing plantation shall bee begun at Cape Anne." A committee was appointed to lay out the plantation and none were allowed to settle without their permission. The authority of the committee was reaffirmed October 7, 1641 and another committee was appointed the same day to settle the bounds between Cape Ann and Ipswich. Their report is dated May 3, 1642 and mentions the meeting house at Cape Ann.

"Gloaster" is first mentioned in the Colony records when a tax was levied June 14, 1642. The plantation without a doubt was name for the cathedral city in England, from which several of the settlers emigrated. Bounds between Gloucester and Manchester were established May 15, 1672. Part of Gloucester was set off Feb. 27, 1840 as the town of Rockport.

Grafton, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Groton:²⁹

Grafton, Worcester County, Massachusetts, was established April 18, 1735, from the plantation of "Hassanamisco." Certain common lands were annexed June 14, 1823. Part of Shrewsbury was annexed March 3, 1826, and part of Sutton March 3, 1842.

Groton, Middlesex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Groton:³⁰

The Plantation of Petapawag was incorporated as Groton on May 29, 1655. On June 14, 1715, the bounds between Groton and Nashoba were established. On June 29, 1732, a part was included in the new town of Harvard. On Jan. 5, 1753, a part was established as the district of Pepperell. On Feb. 25, 1793, a part was annexed to Dunstable. On Jan. 26, 1796, a part was annexed to Dunstable. On Feb. 6, 1798, a part was annexed to Shirley. On Feb. 3, 1803, a part of Pepperell was annexed. On June 18, 1803, a part was

²⁷ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Gill, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1904), 3.

²⁸ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Gloucester, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1922), Vol. I, 4.

²⁹ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Grafton, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1906), 5.

³⁰ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Groton, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*, Vol. I: Births (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1927), 4.

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annexed to Dunstable. On Feb. 15, 1820, the bounds between Groton and Dunstable were established. On May 18, 1857 a part was annexed to Pepperell. On Feb. 14, 1871, a part was included in the new town of Ayer.

Hardwick, Worcester County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Hardwick:³¹

The town of Hardwick is situated very near the territorial centre of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the western border of Worcester County, and midway between the States of New Hampshire and Connecticut. It is bounded on the south by Ware; on the west by Ware, Enfield and Greenwich; and the northwest by Barre; and on the southeast by New Braintree, from which it is separated by Ware River, except at the southerly end of the line. Like many other towns, its boundaries have several times been changed, and its territory enlarged or diminished.

Harvard, Worcester County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Harvard:³²

June 29, 1732, parts of Groton, Lancaster and Stow made the town of Harvard.

February 25, 1783, part included in the new district of Boxborough.

June 14, 1906, bounds between Harvard and Littleton established.

June 14, 1906, bounds between Harvard and Boxborough established.

Haverhill, Essex County

The Topsfield Historical Society gave a brief history of the boundaries of Haverhill:³³

The Indian name for this locality was “Pentucket”—but the early settlers applied the name of Haverhill in compliment to Rev. John Ward, their first minister, who came from Haverhill, England. “Mr. Ward & Newberry men” petitioned the General Court on May 13, 1640, for permission to begin a new plantation on the Merrimack river, which was granted provided “they build there before the next Courte.” Though the town was settled and houses erected in 1640 it was not until November 15, 1642, that a title to the land was purchased of the Indian owners.

In June, 1641, the Court appointed men to determine the bounds “between Salisbury and Pantucket alias Haverhill.”

In 1643, a law was passed by the General Court requiring a record to be kept of births, marriages and deaths in each town and in Haverhill, Richard Littlehale was chosen “clerk of the Writs and Town Recorder,” and the first meeting of which proceedings are recorded was held November 6, 1643.

In 1645 the plantation of Haverhill was incorporated as a town.

An island in the Merrimack river was granted to Haverhill on May 23, 1650.

³¹ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Hardwick, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Company, 1917), 1.

³² Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Harvard, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: no publisher, 1917), 3.

³³ *Vital Records of Haverhill, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*, Vol. I: Births (Topsfield: Topsfield Historical Society, 1910) 4.

October 14, 1651 bounds were established.

October 19, 1654 bounds between Haverhill and Salisbury were established.

May 18, 1664 bounds between Haverhill and lands of Maj. Gen'l Dennison were established.

December 8, 1725 the western part of the town was included in the new town of Methuen.

Holden, Worcester County

Rice gives a brief history of the boundaries of Holden:³⁴

THIS town was taken wholly from the original territory of Worcester, and was incorporated January 9, 1741. It received its name from Hon. Samuel Holden, a generous benefactor of the Province and of Harvard University.

Hopkinton, Middlesex County

Foster gave a brief history of the boundaries of Hopkinton:³⁵

The Town of Hopkinton, Middlesex County, was established December 13, 1715, from certain common lands and the plantation called Moguncoy.

June 14, 1735, part of Hopkinton included in the new town of Upton.

April 28, 1781, part of Hopkinton annexed to Holliston.

March 8, 1808, part of Hopkinton annexed to Upton.

March 27, 1835, part of Milford annexed to Hopkinton, part of Hopkinton annexed to Milford, and bounds between Hopkinton, Holliston, and Milford established.

March 15, 1846, part of Hopkinton included in the new town of Ashland.

Hubbardston, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Hubbardston:³⁶

Established as a District, June 13, 1767, from a part of Rutland, and incorporated as a Town, August 23, 1775. A portion was set off to Princeton, February 16, 1810.

Ipswich, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Ipswich:³⁷

³⁴ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Holden, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester: Stanhope Press, 1904), 5.

³⁵ F. Apthorp Foster, ed., *Vital Records of Hopkinton, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1911), 3.

³⁶ Franklin P. Rice, *Vital Records of Hubbardston, Massachusetts, to the end of the year 1849* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1907), 5.

³⁷ Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Ipswich, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1910), 4.

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The town of Ipswich was established on Aug. 5, 1634, from common land called Agawam. On Oct. 18, 1648, that portion called the "Village" at the New Meadows was set off as Topsfield. The boundary line between Ipswich and Topsfield was established, Feb. 28, 1694. A part of Ipswich was annexed to Rowley, Nov. 29, 1785. That portion known as the "Hamlet" was set off as the town of Hamilton, June 21, 1793. Chebacco parish was set off and established as the town of Essex, Feb. 15, 1819. On Mar. 7, 1846, a part of Ipswich was annexed to Boxford. Boundary lines in tidewater between Ipswich and Essex and Ipswich and Gloucester were established Apr. 19, 1892.

Leicester, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Leicester:³⁸

On the 15th of February, 1713, the petition of those who had purchased lands at a place called Towtaid, near Worcester, was confirmed, "the town to be named Leicester."

April 12, 1753, "part of Leicester was made the District of Spencer."

February 12, 1765, "parts of Leicester and Rutland were established as the District of Paxton."

April 10 1778, "the Parish lately set off from Leicester, Oxford, Sutton and Worcester was established as Ward."

Leominster, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Leominster:³⁹

Established June 23, 1740, from a part of Lancaster. Part of certain lands called "No Town," annexed April 13, 1838.

Lincoln, Middlesex County

Foster gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Lincoln:⁴⁰

The Town of Lincoln, Middlesex County, was established April 19, 1754, from parts of Concord, Lexington and Weston.

Lowell, Middlesex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Lowell:⁴¹

Mar. 1, 1826, part of Chelmsford. Mar. 29, 1834, part of Tewksbury annexed. Apr. 1, 1836, Lowell incorporated as a city. Apr. 11, 1836, act of incorporation accepted by the town. Feb. 28, 1851, part of Dracut annexed. May 18, 1874, parts of Chelmsford and Dracut annexed. June 5, 1874, part of Tewksbury

³⁸ Franklin P. Rice, *Vital Records of Leicester, Massachusetts, to the end of the year 1849* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1903), 5.

³⁹ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Leominster, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1911), 5.

⁴⁰ F. Apthorp Foster, ed., *Vital Records of Lincoln, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanope Press: 1908), 3.

⁴¹ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Lowell, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*, Vol. I: Births (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1930), 4.

annexed. June 23, 1874, act of May 18, 1874, accepted by Lowell. Aug. 1, 1874, the act took effect. Apr. 1, 1879, part of Dracut annexed. May 17, 1888, part of Tewksbury annexed. Apr. 30, 1906, part of Tewksbury annexed.

Lynn, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Lynn:⁴²

According to Rev. Samuel Danforth's almanac for 1647 the settlement of Lynn began as early as 1629. These settlers are supposed to have come from Salem, and their number was greatly augmented in 1630, at the time of the arrival of Winthrop and his company. Governor Dudley says that some of the passengers settled "upon the river of Saugus." The early name of this locality was Saugus, and its freemen were admitted as members of the General Court in 1630. It was not until Nov. 20, 1637, that the present name was mentioned in the Colonial records, when it was recorded "Saugust is called Lin." The name was given in compliment to Rev. Samuel Whiting, the first minister, who had formerly lived in Lynn, Norfolk County, England. On May 29, 1644, part of the territory was included within the limits of the new town of Reading. On July 3, 1782, a part of Lynn was established as the district of Lynnfield, and on Feb. 17, 1815, another as the town of Saugus. Lynn was incorporated as a city, Apr. 10, 1850.

Lynnfield, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Lynnfield:⁴³

This town, originally a part of Lynn, and known as "Lynn End," was established as a district July 3, 1782, and incorporated as a town Feb. 28, 1914. The boundary line between Lynnfield and North Reading was established, and a part of each town annexed to the other town, May 27, 1857.

Mansfield, Bristol County

The Essex Institute gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Mansfield:⁴⁴

April 26, 1770, part of Norton made the district of Mansfield. August 23, 1775, the district made a town by general act.

Manchester, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief mention of the naming of Manchester:⁴⁵

The first settlers gave the name "Jeofferyes Creeke" to this tract of land which at that time was a part of Salem. The name Manchester appears in the Colonial Records under the date of May 14, 1645, when "It is

⁴² The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Lynn, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*, Vol. I: Births (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1905), 4.

⁴³ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Lynnfield, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1907), 5.

⁴⁴ Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Mansfield, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1933), 4.

⁴⁵ Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Manchester, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1903), 4.

ordered, ye Jeffryes Creeke shalbe called Manchester.” June 18, 1645, both branches of the Great and General Court concurred in the following: “att ye request of ye inhabitants of Jeofferyes Creeke, this Courte doth grant yt ye said Jeofferyes Creeke hence forward shall be called Manchester.”

Marblehead, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Marblehead:⁴⁶

As early as 1629, the first settlers, many of whom are said to have been natives of the islands of Guernsey and Jersey, gave the name of “Marble-Harbor” to this tract of land which was originally a part of Salem, and “Great Neck” to that portion which forms a peninsula jutting into the ocean. The name Marblehead is first mentioned in the Colonial records, July 2, 1633, and is thought to have been suggested by the variegated porphyry-colored stones found there and called “marble stones” by Higginson in 1629. Wood and Josselyn also mention the locality as “Marvil Head.” On May 6, 1635, the Court ordered: “That there shalbe a plantacion at Marble Head, & that the inhabitants now there shall have liberty to plant and imp’ve such ground as they stand in neede of.” The population “was undoubtedly increased from time to time by people from Lincolnshire, which would account for many of the idiomatic peculiarities which for more than two centuries characterized the speech of their descendants.” *History of Marblehead—Roads*. Marblehead was established as a town May 2, 1649.

Marlborough, Middlesex County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Marlborough:⁴⁷

On May 31, 1660, the grant to the Whip-suffrage planters was confirmed, the name of the plantation to be “marlborow.” Certain lands were granted to Marlborough July 2, 1700, and Nov. 16, 1716, the title of a tract of land called “Agaganquamasset” was confirmed. The part called “Chauncy” was established as Westborough (now in Worcester County) Nov. 18, 1717, and a part was established at Southborough (now in Worcester County) July 6, 1727. A part was included in the District of Berlin (Worcester County) March 16, 1784. A part of Framingham was annexed Feb. 23, 1791. A part was annexed to Northborough (Worcester County) and the boundary line established June 20, 1807. A part was annexed to Bolton (Worcester County) Feb. 11, 1829. A part of Southborough was annexed March 24, 1843.

Medfield, Norfolk County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Medfield:⁴⁸

The Town of Medfield, Norfolk County (formerly in Suffolk County, until 1793), was established May 22, 1650, from a part of Dedham.

May 28, 1659, land was granted to Medfield.

October 24, 1713, a part of Medfield was established as Medway.

⁴⁶ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Marblehead, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*, Vol. I: Births (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1903), 4.

⁴⁷ Franklin P. Rice, *Vital Records of Marlborough, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1908), 5.

⁴⁸ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Medfield, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1903), 5.

Medway, Norfolk County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Medway:⁴⁹

The town of Medway, Norfolk County (formerly in Suffolk County, until 1793), was established October 24, 1713, from a part of Medfield.

March 3, 1792, bounds between Medway and Sherborn were established.

June 25, 1792, a part of Medway was annexed to Franklin.

November 12, 1792, bounds between Medway and Franklin were established.

March 3, 1829, bounds between Medway and Holliston were established, and a part of each town annexed to the other town.

February 23, 1832, bounds between Medway and Franklin were established.

March 13, 1839, a part of Franklin was annexed to Medway, and bounds established.

Mendon, Worcester County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Mendon:⁵⁰

The township of Qunshapage.

May 20, 1669, certain lands granted to Mendon.

June 29, 1710, certain lands annexed.

June 1, 1714, purchase of lands from the Indians in 1691 confirmed.

November 27, 1719, part included in the new town of Bellingham.

June 27, 1727, part established as Uxbridge.

June 14, 1735, part included in the new town of Upton.

April 10, 1754, bounds between Mendon and Uxbridge established.

April 24, 1770, part of Uxbridge annexed.

April 11, 1780, part established as Milford.

March 25, 1845, part established as Blackstone.

March 7, 1872, bounds between Mendon and Bellingham established.

Middlefield, Hampshire County

⁴⁹ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Medway, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston, Stanhope Press, 1905), 3.

⁵⁰ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Mendon, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: 1920), iii.

Woods gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Middlefield:⁵¹

The Town of Middlefield, Hampshire County, was established March 12, 1783, from parts of Becket, Chester, Partridgefield (now Peru), Washington, and Worthington, and common lands called Prescott's Grant.

Milford, Worcester County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Milford:⁵²

April 11, 1780, part of Mendon made the town of Milford.

March 27, 1835, bounds between Milford, Holliston and Hopkinton established, and parts of Holliston and Hopkinton annexed to Milford, and part of Milford annexed to Hopkinton.

April 1, 1859, bounds between Milford and Holliston established.

April 7, 1886, part of Milford established as Hopedale.

May 16, 1907, bounds between Milford and Upton established.

May 16, 1907, bounds between Milford and Hopkinton established.

Millbury, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Millbury:⁵³

Millbury was formerly a part of Sutton, and was incorporated as a town June 11, 1813.

Montague, Franklin County

The Essex Institute gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Montague:⁵⁴

Jan. 25, 1754, part of Sunderland established as the district of Montague. Aug. 23, 1775, the district made a town by general act. Feb. 28, 1803, part annexed to Wendell.

Montgomery, Hampden County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Montgomery:⁵⁵

The Town of Montgomery, Hampden County (formerly in Hampshire County, until 1812), was established November 28, 1780, from parts of Westfield, Norwich and Southampton.

⁵¹ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Middlefield, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1907), 3.

⁵² Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Milford, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850* (Boston: 1917), iii.

⁵³ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Millbury, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1903), 5.

⁵⁴ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Montague, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1934), 4.

⁵⁵ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Montgomery, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1902), 3.

February 25, 1792, a part of Montgomery was included in the new town of Russell. March 6, 1792, parts of Norwich and Southampton were annexed to Montgomery.

Needham, Norfolk County

The DAR gave a brief history of the boundaries of Needham:⁵⁶

The Town of Needham, Massachusetts, was established as a town from a part of Dedham in 1711. In 1881 part of it was established as the Town of Wellesley.

New Braintree, Worcester County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of New Braintree:⁵⁷

The Town of New Braintree, Worcester County, was established as the District of New Braintree, January 31, 1751, from the common land called New Braintree and a part of the Town of Hardwick.

August 23, 1775, the District was made a Town by general act.

June 10, 1791, bounds between New Braintree and Brookfield were established, and a part of each town was annexed to the other town.

March 8, 1792, bounds between New Braintree and Brookfield were established, and a part of each town was annexed to the other town.

June 10, 1814, a part of New Braintree was annexed to Hardwick.

Newburyport, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Newburyport:⁵⁸

The territory comprised within the limits of this town was originally a part of the town of Newbury, and was incorporated as Newburyport on Jan. 28, 1764. On Apr. 17, 1851, a part of Newbury was annexed to Newburyport. the town was incorporated as a city on May 24, 1851.

Newton, Middlesex County

Woods gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Newburyport:⁵⁹

The Town of Newton, Middlesex County, was established December 15, 1691, from the town of Cambridge Village, sometimes called Little Cambridge.

June 21, 1803, an island in Charles River was annexed to Newton.

April 23, 1838, a part of Newton was annexed to Roxbury.

⁵⁶ Daughters of the American Revolution, *Vital Records of Needham, Massachusetts* (1959), ii.

⁵⁷ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of New Braintree, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1904), 3.

⁵⁸ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Newburyport, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*, Vol. I: Births (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1911), 4.

⁵⁹ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Newton, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850* (Boston, Massachusetts: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1905), 3.

April 16, 1849, a part of Newton was annexed to Waltham.

The town of Newton was incorporated as a city in 1873.

North Reading, Middlesex County

See Reading.

Northborough, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Northborough:⁶⁰

Northborough was included in that part of Marlborough which was set off in 1717 as Westborough, and was made the second precinct or parish within the last named township in 1744. There were settlers in this part as early as 1700, and the names of Brigham, Goodnow, Oakes, Fay, Howard, Ward, Tomblin, Beaman, Wheeler, Rice and Bartlett were prominent during the first half of the eighteenth century. On the 24th of June, 1766, the Second Precinct of Westborough was made the District of Northborough, and on the 23d of August, 1775, the Town was established with full powers and privileges as granted to other towns in the Commonwealth.

Northbridge, Worcester County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Northbridge:⁶¹

Part of Uxbridge established as the district of Northbridge July 14, 1772.

The district made a town by general act August 23, 1775.

Part of Sutton annexed April 20, 1780.

Part of Sutton annexed February 17, 1801.

Part annexed to Sutton June 15, 1831.

Bounds between Northbridge and Sutton established March 7, 1837.

Part of Sutton annexed May 16, 1844.

Bounds between Northbridge and Uxbridge established and part of each town annexed to the other town April 30, 1856.

Bounds between Northbridge and Uxbridge established April 17, 1908.

Norton, Bristol County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Norton:⁶²

⁶⁰ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Northborough, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1850* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1901), 7.

⁶¹ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Northbridge, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1850* (Boston: no publisher, 1916), 3.

⁶² Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Norton, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1906), 3.

The Town of Norton, Bristol County, was established March 17, 1710, from a part of Taunton.

June 12, 1711, a bill to perfect the Norton grant was passed.

December 21, 1725, a part of Norton was established as Easton.

April 26, 1770, a part of Norton was established as the district of Mansfield.

Oxford, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Oxford:⁶³

Name first mentioned in the Public Records in 1693. A part was included in the new town of Dudley in 1732. Part established as the District of Charlton in 1754. A Parish lately set off from Oxford and other towns was established as Ward (now Auburn) in 1778. Part of Charlton was annexed in 1789. Part of Sutton was annexed in 1793. The Oxford South Gore was annexed in 1807. Part of Charlton annexed in 1809. Part of Oxford included in new town of Webster in 1832. The Oxford North Gore was annexed in 1838.

Palmer, Hampden County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Palmer:⁶⁴

The Town of Palmer, Hampden County (formerly in Hampshire County, until 1812), was established January 30, 1752, as the district of Palmer, prior to which time it was the plantation called The Elbows, sometimes called New Marlborough and sometimes Kingsfield.

April 23, 1760, a part of Brimfield was annexed to Palmer.

February 7, 1763, the bounds of Palmer were definitely established.

August 23, 1775, the district of Palmer was made a town by general act.

February 8, 1828, bounds between Palmer and Monson were established.

February 7, 1831, a part of Western (now Warren) was annexed to Palmer.

Petersham, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Petersham:⁶⁵

This township was an original grant made by the General Court in 1732, as a compensation to certain soldiers in the Indian wars. The place was called Nichewaug until the town was incorporated in 1754. In 1801 the town of Dana was formed of parts of Greenwich, Hardwick and Petersham, and in 1842 another portion of Petersham was annexed to Dana.

Phillipston, Worcester County

⁶³ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Oxford, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1905), 5.

⁶⁴ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Palmer, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1905), 3.

⁶⁵ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Petersham, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1904), 5.

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Phillipston:⁶⁶

This town was originally established as “Gerry,” October 20, 1786, from parts of Athol and Templeton. A part was annexed to Royalston, February 26, 1799, and another portion to Athol, February 28, 1806. Its name was changed to Phillipston, February 5, 1814.

Princeton, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Princeton:⁶⁷

On the 20th of October, 1759, part of Rutland and certain common lands adjoining were established as a District, which was for several years known as Rutland East Wing. This was incorporated as a town in 1771, and was named Princeton, in honor of Rev. Thomas Prince, pastor of the Old South Church in Boston, and a large proprietor in this tract of land. On the 16th of February, 1810, a part of Hubbardston was annexed to its territory, and on the 4th of April, 1838, another extension was made by including a part of the common lands of “No Town,” so called.

Reading, Middlesex County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Reading:⁶⁸

A part of Lynn was established as Reading May 29, 1644. “Lynn Village shall be called Redding” (Mass. Records, Vol. 11, p. 73).

October 14, 1651, land was granted to Reading.

June 3, 1727, a part of Malden was annexed.

September 25, 1730, a part was included in the new town of Wilmington.

December 21, 1734, a part was annexed to Stoneham.

February 25, 1812, the First or South Parish was established as South Reading (now Wakefield).

June 16, 1813, a part of South Reading was annexed.

March 22, 1853, a part was established as the town of North Reading.

Roxbury, Suffolk County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Roxbury:⁶⁹

The Town of Roxbury was first mentioned in the list of plantations on Sept. 28, 1630. Mar. 4, 1633, bounds between Roxbury and Boston established. Apr. 7, 1635, bounds between Roxbury and Newe Towne established. May 25, 1636, and May 2, 1638, certain lands granted to Roxbury. May 16, 1638, bounds between Roxbury and Dedham established. Oct. 7, 1641, the bounds between Boston and Roxbury at

⁶⁶ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Phillipston, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1906), 5.

⁶⁷ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Princeton, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1902), 5.

⁶⁸ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Reading, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., 1912), 3.

⁶⁹ Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Roxbury, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1925), 4.

Muddy River were established. Mar. 16, 1660, certain lands granted to Roxbury. May 12, 1675, bounds between Roxbury and Dedham established. Mar. 16, 1836, bounds between Boston and Roxbury were established. Apr. 23, 1838, part of Newton was annexed to Roxbury. Feb. 24, 1844, part of Roxbury annexed to Brookline. Town of Roxbury incorporated as a city, Mar. 12, 1846. May 3, 1850, bounds between Roxbury and Boston established. May 24, 1851, part of Roxbury established as West Roxbury. Apr. 3, 1860, part of Roxbury annexed to Boston, which Act was accepted by Roxbury Apr. 16, 1860, and by Boston May 8, 1860. June 1, 1867, the City of Roxbury was annexed to Boston. Sept. 9, 1867, the Act was accepted by Boston and Roxbury. Jan. 5, 1868, the Act of June 1, 1867, took effect.

Royalston, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Royalston:⁷⁰

Royalston was established February 19, 1765, from a tract of land called "Royalshire." On the 17th of June, 1780, a portion of this township was set off to Winchendon, and another part was included in the District of Orange, Franklin County, October 15, 1783. Parts of Athol and Gerry (afterwards Phillipston) were annexed to Royalston, February 26, 1799, and another part of Athol was added March 7, 1803.

Rutland, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Rutland:⁷¹

Established February 23, 1713, from common lands called "Naquag." Rutland granted the privileges that other towns enjoy, June 18, 1722. Part established as the Rutland District, April 12, 1753. Part established as Princeton, October 20, 1759. Part established as the District of Oakham, June 7, 1762. A part was included in the new town of Paxton, February 12, 1765. Part established as Hubbardston, June 13, 1767. Part adjudged to belong to Paxton, June 14, 1772. Boundary line between Rutland and Paxton established February 20, 1829.

Salem, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Salem:⁷²

Salem was planted in 1626 by Roger Conant and his associates who came from a fishing settlement at Cape Ann. The first colony of settlers arrived in 1628 under the leadership of Capt. John Endecott. The Indian name for the locality was Naumkeag.

Bounds between Salem and Saugus (now Lynn), and Salem and Marble Harbor (Marblehead) were established Mar. 4, 1635.

Sept. 7, 1643 part of Salem called Enon was established as Wenham.

May 14, 1645, part of Salem called "Jeffryes Creeke" was set off as the town of Manchester.

May 2, 1649, part of Salem was set off as the town of Marblehead.

Oct. 19, 1658, bounds were established between Salem and Topsfield.

⁷⁰ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Royalston, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester: Stanhope Press, 1906), 5.

⁷¹ Franklin P. Rice, *Vital Records of Rutland, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Franklin P. Rice, 1905), ii.

⁷² The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Salem, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849*, Vol. I: Births (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1916), 4.

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Oct. 14, 1668 part of Salem called “Bass river” was set off as the town of Beverly.

June 20, 1728 part of Salem was included in the new town of Middleton.

Jan. 28, 1752 part of Salem was set off as the district of Danvers, which afterwards became a town. Much of this territory had long been known as “Salem Village.”

Sept. 11, 1753 part of Salem was annexed to Beverly.

Mar. 23, 1836 Salem was incorporated as a city.

Sharon, Norfolk County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Sharon:⁷³

June 21, 1765, the Second Precinct of Stoughton was set apart as a separate district and called Stoughtonham. By Act of August 23, 1775, it was made a separate town.

June 10, 1778, part of the town was set off to form part of the new town of Foxboro.

February 25, 1783, an act of the General Court changed to name to Sharon.

February 16, 1789, part of Stoughton was annexed to Sharon; also another part by Act of February 12, 1792.

March 12, 1793, part of Sharon was annexed to Foxboro.

February 28, 1804, part of Sharon was annexed to Walpole, and another part on June 21, 1811.

February 28, 1850, part of Sharon was annexed to Foxboro.

March 26, 1864, part of Stoughton was annexed to Sharon.

May 1, 1874, part of Sharon was annexed to Walpole.

Sherborn, Middlesex County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Sherborn:⁷⁴

October 7, 1674, more land was granted to the proprietors and inhabitants of the land at or near Boggestow to be called Sherborne. April 16, 1679, an exchange of lands was made with the plantation of Natick, which was confirmed by the General Court May 30, 1679. May 7, 1684, the grant of October 7, 1674, and the name of Sherborne were confirmed by the General Court. July 11, 1700, part was annexed to Framinham. December 3, 1724, a part was established as Holliston. February 7, 1820, a part was annexed to Natick. May 3, 1852, the name was changed to Sherborn.

Shirley, Middlesex County

⁷³ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Sharon, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1909), 3.

⁷⁴ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Sherborn, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1911), 3.

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Shirley:⁷⁵

This Town of Shirley, Middlesex County, was established as a district January 5, 1753, from a part of Groton.

January 25, 1765, certain land known as Stow Leg was annexed to the district of Shirley.

August 23, 1885, the district was made a town by general act.

February 6, 1798, a part of Groton was annexed to Shirley.

March 3, 1846, and April 25, 1848, bounds between Shirley and Lunenburg (Worcester County) were established.

February 14, 1871, a part of Shirley was included in the new town of Ayer.

Shrewsbury, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Shrewsbury:⁷⁶

This township was granted to certain persons in 1717, most of whom belonged to Marlborough, and a settlement was begun in that year.

It was incorporated as a town under its present name, December 19, 1727. Its original territory has been greatly curtailed, the town of Boylston having been set off, while other portions have been annexed to Lancaster, Westborough and Grafton.

South Reading, Middlesex County

See Wakefield.

Spencer, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Spencer:⁷⁷

Spencer was established as a District April 12, 1753, from a part of Leicester, and was incorporated as a town August 23, 1775.

Stoneham, Middlesex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Stoneham:⁷⁸

The northerly part of Charlestown, including all the lands lying on the east side of Woburn, the south side of Reading, the west side of Malden, and the north side of the fifth range of the first division of Charlestown woodlots were set off Dec. 17, 1725, and constituted a separate township, by the name of Stoneham.

⁷⁵ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Shirley, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1918), 3.

⁷⁶ Franklin P. Rice, *Vital Records of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1904), 5.

⁷⁷ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Spencer, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1909), 5.

⁷⁸ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Stoneham, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1918), 4.

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Dec. 21, 1734, parts of Malden and of Reading annexed to Stoneham.

April 5, 1751, bounds between Stoneham and Reading were established.

March 15, 1853, part of Stoneham was annexed to Melrose.

Stoughton and Canton, Norfolk County

Endicott gave a brief history of the boundaries of Stoughton and Canton:⁷⁹

In December, 1726, the Dorchester South Precinct was incorporated as the Town of Stoughton, and as the town increased in population, the Second Parish (now Stoughton) and the Third Parish (now Sharon) were set off and had separate churches and parish records, but the births, marriages and deaths were still recorded by the Town Clerk. A few years after Stoughton was incorporated, the part of the town west of the Neponset River was set off to Dedham, and other portions were set off to the same town at later dates. Numerous other changes of town lines have been made, one tract having been several times changed back and forth between Stoughton and Sharon.

In 1765 the Third Parish was set off by the name of the District of Stoughtonham, which later became the town of Sharon, their records beginning with the District. Later a portion of Stoughtonham with parts of other towns was made into the Town of Foxborough.

In 1797 the First Parish of Stoughton with some slight changes of boundary was incorporated as the town of Canton, the older part of the town giving up its right to the name, which, with the records, was retained by the newer portion.

Sudbury, Middlesex County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Sudbury:⁸⁰

The Town of Sudbury, Middlesex County, was established September 4, 1639, prior to which time it was known as The New Plantation by Concord.

April 10, 1651, bounds between Sudbury and Watertown were established.

June 13, 1701, bounds between Sudbury and Framingham were established.

April 10, 1780, a part of Sudbury was established as East Sudbury (now Wayland).

Sutton, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Sutton:⁸¹

On October 28, 1714, a vote of the Representatives laying out the township of Sutton was confirmed, and certain lands were allowed to the Proprietors June 21, 1715. A part was annexed to Westborough June 5, 1728, and another portion was included in the new town of Upton, June 14, 1735. The town of Ward (now Auburn) was granted a certain part of Sutton, when it was formed April 10, 1778; and other parts were

⁷⁹ Frederic Endicott, ed., *The Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths and Intentions of Marriage in the Town of Stoughton* . . . (Canton, Massachusetts: William Bense, 1896), iii–iv.

⁸⁰ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Sudbury, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1903), 3.

⁸¹ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Sutton, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1907), 5.

annexed to Northbridge in 1780, 1801, and 1844. Millbury was set off in 1913; and in 1842 a part of Sutton was annexed to Grafton. Additions to the township were a gore of land in 1789, and a part of Northbridge in 1813.

Taunton, Bristol County

Scott gave a brief history of the boundaries of Taunton:⁸²

The Town Taunton, Bristol County, was established March 3, 1639, from common lands called Cohannett.

March 3, 1640, land at Assonet was granted to Taunton.

June 19, 1640, bounds were established. October 26, 1672, certain lands were granted to Taunton.

July —, 1682, the land called Assonet Neck was annexed to Taunton.

March 17, 1710, the North Precinct of Taunton was granted to be a town by the name of Norton.

June 12, 1711, a bill to perfect the said grant was passed.

May 30, 1712, the South Precinct of Taunton was established as Dighton.

April 2, 1731, a part was established as Raynham.

April 18, 1735, a part was included in the new town of Berkley.

Febraury 6, 1810, and March 3, 1842, certain lands in Berkley belonging to Taunton were annexed to Berkley.

The town of Taunton was incorporated as a city in 1864.

Templeton, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Templeton:⁸³

Established as “Templetown” March 6, 1762, from the plantation called “Narragansett Number Six.” Part set off to Gardner June 27, 1785, and part included in new town of Gerry (Phillipston) Oct. 20, 1786.

Topsfield, Essex County

Dow gave a brief history of the boundaries of Topsfield:⁸⁴

The Indian name for this locality was “Shenewemedy,” but the first settlers applied the name of “New Meadows” to the grant of land which was made by the General Court, Nov. 5, 1639, to inhabitants of Salem and Ipswich. Oct. 18, 1648, the Court voted,—”The village at the neue medowes at Ipswich is named Toppesfeild.” Oct. 18, 1650, it was established as a town.

Oct. 19, 1658, and May 29, 1664, bounds between Salem and Topsfield were established.

⁸² Henry Edwards Scott, ed., *Vital Records of Taunton, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850, Volume I—Births* (Haverhill, Mass.: Record Publishing Co., 1929), 3.

⁸³ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Templeton, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester: Stanhope Press, 1909), 5.

⁸⁴ George Frances Dow, comp., *Vital Records of Topsfield, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Topsfield: Topsfield Historical Society, 1903), 4.

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May 5, 1682, bounds between Wenham and Topsfield were established.

April 28, 1684 and May 31, 1697, bounds between Ipswich and Topsfield were established.

Feb. 25, 1701 and June 17, 1731, bounds between Boxford and Topsfield were established.

June 20, 1728, part of the territory was included in the new town of Middleton.

Feb. 16, 1774, part of the town of Ipswich, lying on the south side of the river, was annexed to Topsfield.

Tyngsborough, Middlesex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief history of the boundaries of Tyngsborough:⁸⁵

The territory now included within the limits of Tyngsborough, originally a part of Dunstable, was incorporated June 22, 1789, as the District of Tyngsborough, receiving its name in honor of the Tyng family, who were prominent among the early settlers of Dunstable.

March 3, 1792, part of Dunstable was annexed.

Jan. 29, 1798, part of Dunstable was annexed and bounds established.

Feb. 23, 1809, the District was incorporated as the town of Tyngsborough.

June 10, 1814, bounds were established between Tyngsborough and Dunstable.

Tyringham, Berkshire County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Tyringham:⁸⁶

The Town of Tyringham, Berkshire County, was established March 6, 1762, prior to which time it was the new plantation called Number One.

February 27, 1811, a part of Tyringham was annexed to New Marlborough.

February 11, 1812, a part of New Marlborough was annexed to Tyringham.

April 12, 1847, a part of Tyringham was established as Monterey.

Upton, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Upton:⁸⁷

This town was established June 14, 1735, from parts of Hopkinton (Middlesex County), Mendon, Sutton, and Uxbridge. Part was annexed to Westborough January 24, 1763. Part of Hopkinton was annexed to Upton, March 8, 1808.

⁸⁵ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Tyngsborough, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1913), 4.

⁸⁶ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Tyringham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1903), 3.

⁸⁷ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Upton, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Worcester: Systematic History Fund, 1904), 5.

Uxbridge, Worcester County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Uxbridge:⁸⁸

Established June 27, 1727, from part of Mendon.

Part included in the new town of Upton June 14, 1735.

Certain lands granted to Uxbridge June 5, 1736.

Certain lands annexed April 16, 1742.

Part of the district of New Sherborn annexed June 4, 1746.

Bounds between Uxbridge and Mendon established April 10, 1754.

Bounds between Uxbridge and Sutton established June 29, 1769.

Part annexed to Mendon April 24, 1770.

Part established as the District of Northbridge July 14, 1772.

Boundary line between Uxbridge and Northbridge established and part of each town annexed to the other April 30, 1856.

Boundary between Uxbridge and Douglas established April 25, 1864.

Bounds between Uxbridge and Northbridge established April 17, 1908.

Wakefield (South Reading), Middlesex County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Wakefield:⁸⁹

February 25, 1812, the First or South Parish of Reading was established as the town of South Reading.

June 16, 1813, a part of South Reading was annexed to Reading.

April 5, 1856, a part of Stoneham was annexed to South Reading.

February 25, 1868, the name of the town was changed to Wakefield.

March 13, 1889, a part of Stoneham was annexed to Wakefield..

Walpole, Norfolk County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Walpole:⁹⁰

The Town of Walpole, Norfolk County (formerly in Suffolk County, until 1793), was established December 10, 1724, from a part of Dedham.

⁸⁸ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, To the Year 1850* (Boston: no publisher, 1916), 3.

⁸⁹ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Wakefield, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., 1912), 3.

⁹⁰ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Walpole, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1902), 3.

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June 10, 1778, a part of Walpole was included in the new town of Foxborough.

February 28, 1804, a part of Sharon was annexed to Walpole.

June 21, 1811, a part of Sharon was annexed and a part of Dedham was re-annexed to Walpole.

March 27, 1833, a part of Foxborough was annexed to Walpole.

March 28, 1834, a part of Foxborough was annexed to Walpole.

Waltham, Middlesex County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Waltham:⁹¹

The Town of Waltham, Middlesex County, was incorporated January 4, 1738, from a part of Watertown.

April 16, 1849, a part of Newton was annexed to Waltham.

The town of Waltham was incorporated as a city in 1884

Ward, Worcester County

See Auburn.

Washington, Berkshire County

Woods gave a brief history of the boundaries of Washington:⁹²

The Town of Washington, Berkshire County, was founded April 12, 1777, from the plantation called Hartwood and several contiguous grants.

October 21, 1777, a part of Washington was included in the new town of Lee.

March 12, 1783, a part of Washington was included in the new town of Middlefield.

January 31, 1795, a part of Washington was annexed to Lenox.

February 18, 1802, a part of Washington was annexed to Lenox.

West Newbury, Essex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief mention of the boundaries of West Newbury:⁹³

The territory which comprises this town was originally a part of Newbury until Feb. 18, 1819, when it was set off as the town of Parsons. This name was changed on June 14, 1820, to West Newbury.

⁹¹ Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Waltham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1904), 3.

⁹² Henry Ernest Woods, ed., *Vital Records of Washington, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1904), 3.

⁹³ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of West Newbury, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1918), 4.

West Springfield, Hampden County

The New England Historic Genealogical Society gave a brief history of the boundaries of West Springfield.⁹⁴

West Springfield was established from a portion of Springfield on 23 February 1774 and part of Westfield was annexed on 3 March 1802. A part of West Springfield was established as Holyoke on 14 March 1850 and a part as Agawam on 17 May 1855.

Westford, Middlesex County

The Essex Institute gave a brief mention of the boundaries of Westford:⁹⁵

The territory comprising the West Precinct of the town of Chelmsford was set off Sept. 23, 1729, and constituted a distinct and separate township by the name of “Wesford.”

September 10, 1730, part of Groton was annexed to Westford.

Westminster, Worcester County

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Westminster:⁹⁶

This settlement was established as a district October 20, 1759, from the plantation known as “Narragansett Number Two.” It became a town, April 26, 1770. A part was included in the new town of Gardner June 27, 1785, and parts of Fitchburg were annexed February 27, 1796, and February 16, 1813. A part was annexed to Ashburnham January 28, 1824. A part of the common lands called No Town was annexed April 10, 1838.

Weymouth, Norfolk County

Foster gave a brief history of the boundaries of Weymouth:⁹⁷

The Town of Weymouth, Norfolk County, was formerly called the plantation of Wessagusset.

September 2, 1635, the name was changed to Weymouth.

September 3, 1635, bounds between Weymouth and Hingham were established.

March 9, 1637, Round Island and Grape Island were granted to Weymouth.

March 31, 1847, bounds between Weymouth and Abington were established.

Winchendon, Worcester County

⁹⁴ New England Historic Genealogical Society, *Vital Records of West Springfield, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Haverhill, Massachusetts: Record Publishing Co., 1944), 3.

⁹⁵ The Essex Institute, *Vital Records of Westford, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Salem: The Essex Institute, 1915), 4.

⁹⁶ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Westminster, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1908), 6.

⁹⁷ F. Apthorp Foster, ed., *Vital Records of Weymouth, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850, Volume I— Births* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1910), 3.

Rice gave a brief history of the boundaries of Winchendon:⁹⁸

The town of Winchendon was established June 14, 1764, from the plantation called “Ipswich-Canada.” A part of Royalston was annexed, and the bounds of Winchendon extended to the New Hampshire line June 17, 1780. Parts of Winchendon were annexed to Gardner in 1785 and 1794 and a part of Gardner was annexed to Winchendon in 1787.

Worthington, Hampshire County

Foster gave a brief history of the boundaries of Worthington:⁹⁹

The Town of Worthington, Hampshire County, was established June 30, 1768, from the new plantation called Number Three.

March 12, 1783, part of Worthington was included in the new town of Middlefield.

June 21, 1799, part of Chester was annexed to Worthington.

Wrentham, Norfolk County

Baldwin gave a brief history of the boundaries of Wrentham:¹⁰⁰

Wrentham was first settled in 1660 by settlers from Dedham and was then known by the Indian name of Wollomonopoag.

October 15, 1673, land was granted to the inhabitants of Wollomonopoag and the town was incorporated under the name of Wrentham.

The town was afterwards temporarily abandoned, and in the first volume of vital records it is recorded that on March 30, 1676, “ye Inhabitance ware drawn of[f] by R[e]ason of ye Indien warrs.” The same record further states that in 1680 Rev. Mr. Man and divers inhabitants returned to Wrentham.

November 27, 1719, part of Wrentham was included in the new town of Bellingham.

March 2, 1778, part of Wrentham was established as the town of Franklin.

June 10, 1778, part of Wrentham was taken to form part of the town of Foxborough.

February 18, 1830, part of Attleborough was annexed to Wrentham.

February 7, 1831, part of Wrentham was annexed to Foxborough.

February 23, 1870, part of Wrentham was taken to form part of the town of Norfolk.

April 4, 1905, part of Wrentham was taken to form the town of Plainville.

⁹⁸ Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Vital Records of Winchendon, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester: Stanhope Press, 1909), 5.

⁹⁹ F. Aphthorp Foster, ed., *Vital Records of Worthington, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Stanhope Press, 1911), 3.

¹⁰⁰ Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Wrentham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850, Volume I—Births* (Boston: 1910), 3.

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² A copyright protects the means of expression but does not extend to the facts (or supposed facts) which are expressed.

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⁴ The sources are reproduced unaltered in PDF files on the CD-ROMs.

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