



Gardner's Beacon™



CAPE ANN AND SALEM PLANTER

Thomas Gardner Society, Inc. Founded 2010



[Volume XI -- Issue 1](#) -- Fall 2021

We hope that our readers have been successful in staying well in these trying times. This issue is a little late; there will be another issue by the year's end. In this issue, we look at results of the research that has been done during the past year and one-half.

Throughout this issue, the underlined text are links to the blog of the TGS. In the proper forum, these can be read given the PDF presentation. Over the next couple of years, we will be reconfiguring our online and printed presence in order to keep up with changes as well as to help lead discussions related to secure and safe handling of content.

U.S. History

There have been 400 years since Cape Ann, hence it follows that we would consider the timeline of history and celebrations of the area where [Thomas Gardner and Margaret Fryar](#) arrived. Also, we will look at things not celebrated, such as analysis of the Witch trials of Salem Village in 1692. After Weymouth in 2022, the 400th of New England will continue for several decades.

At the same time, the [American Revolution](#) will be 250 years in the past, in a few years. [SAR/DAR](#) have projects related to this theme. After the long period of the Revolution, the country expanded through President Thomas Jefferson's purchase of the [Louisiana Territory](#).

Our focus for almost two years now has been on how the interior got settled with attention being paid to the families involved. A common theme is the long reach of New England both here and abroad.

An example is a family of of New England who bridged the period of [trapper, trade, and rancher](#) in a western location. Every site has similar stories. Also, what better way to consider that New England than with information about the [History of Harvard](#), starting with threads related to the Heads of the Institution. The 'Families' section, below, will be a regular feature.

Generations and their use

We can easily see that the [5th generation](#) bore the brunt of the Revolution with the leaders being mostly of the 4th even though some of the 3rd were still around. Too, we had the 6th involved either as young adult or as a child. The influence of this conflict carried over to the 7th during

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the long time involved which includes the War of 1812.

Later generations developed the interior and provided the progress that we saw during the [frontier century](#) which went into the 1900s. Of late, we have looked at four generations of the frontier.

There are several ways to look at generations. One of these is time related, with [25 years](#) being one of the standards applied to families. At the same time, we can look at major events such as the Revolution or the Civil War which was so devastating to the populace.

U.S. Interior

According to [Sam Dunn](#)'s view from London in 1794, the interior of the U.S. was not well known, though there had been wanderers out west early on. Considering [New Spain](#) and [New France](#), we can look at activities in that period. Some of their activities out west were contemporary with those of a similar nature related to New England's development.

After the Revolution and Jefferson's Deal, the country grew very large. We have taken [St. Louis, MO](#) as the focus since the mapping of the west was handled by the U. S. Government through offices starting in that area.

Prior to the railroads, there was travel by foot, horseback, wagon or [stagecoach](#). Of course, some arrivals to the west came by ship and journeyed inward. Starting with the time of Jedediah Strong Smith, we can start in the area of the Rockies and look at activities toward the west and the east.

[Rivers](#) are important in terms of their use for movement as well as the barriers they provided for travelers. With the arrival of the railroad, tremendous change became possible. However, out west, even in the early 1900s, change was slow since there were many miles to cover to establish tracks and supporting infrastructure.

For instance, in 1909, one of the top-three railyards in the U.S. at the time was in southeastern Kansas: [KATY - Western Railroad](#).



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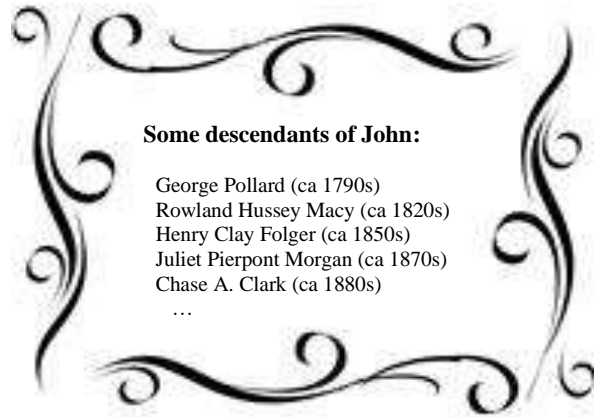
Families

While working with [WikiTree](#), we have been looking at the children and grandchildren of Thomas Gardner and Margaret. Too, as find New England connections, we attempt to trace an association with the Cape Ann venture. Doing this, we have collected lots of data to process. An ongoing effort has been to related later generations back to Thomas and Margaret. Last time, we listed a few for Sarah. The current issue provides a list of descendants [of Richard](#) and [of John](#).

We will be looking at other families of Cape Ann, Essex County, Massachusetts and New England. Ambitious scope, but the intent is to recognize collateral families. Also, we want to remember those who were childless, such as Joseph Gardner and Ann Downing in the past and James Bryant Conant of recent times (Head of Harvard).

Technology

We mentioned infrastructure work that is ongoing. The results of this will be several configuration changes. At the same time, the TGS is adopting a broad view of technology as its [roles expand into the future](#) especially due the computer and its ways and means.



Some descendants of John:

- George Pollard (ca 1790s)
- Rowland Hussey Macy (ca 1820s)
- Henry Clay Folger (ca 1850s)
- Juliet Pierpont Morgan (ca 1870s)
- Chase A. Clark (ca 1880s)
- ...

James Bryant Conant (1893 -1978): Descendant of Roger Conant who came into Cape Ann in 1625. He assumed the leadership role at Gloucester. We looked at James due to a recent New Yorker article that looked at testing for college. James0 got into the Roxbury Latin School on testing. On looking further, there was not any good information about his New England lineage (both sides) which was mentioned in the article. So, we started to follow the links which got us to Cape Ann. As an aside, [Count Rumford](#) comes into play. James trained as a [chemist at Harvard](#) which was part of their practical education which was funded by a gift from the Count. James had a stint in the Army in WWI. Later, when he became Head of Harvard, he got the SAT established.

Now, switching to his pedigree, James descends from several New England families. As well, he is a descendant of Rev. John White who headed the [Dorchester Company](#). Ann has that same pedigree through the Walton family. Like many with no descendants, James has limited information about him on WikiTree. We are working on that. At the same time, on sampling the Heads of Harvard, many do not have any information about their family history. James' grandfather, Thomas, was of the 7th generation whose births are post the Revolution. But, Thomas and his son, James, were involved in the Civil War. Going back the other way, Thomas' dad was Jeremiah who was born in 1758 in the 6th generation. He did serve during the Revolution. His dad who was of the 5th was born in 1725 in Bridgewater, MA. John served. So, we had three generations in one family who were involved in the conflict that established the U.S. We will continue to fill in the generational picture as we research family associations.

Some descendants of Richard:

- Timothy Folger (c. 1700s)
- Nathaniel Gorham (c. 1730s)
- Ezra Cornell (c. 1800s)
- Edith Kermit Carow Roosevelt (c. 1860s)
- William Sydney Porter (c. 1860s)
- ...



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