



In-Depth First Settler Profile:
Nathaniel Collins (1664) /
Mary (Whiting) Collins

Name: Reverend Nathaniel Collins

Birth: March 7, 1641/2, Cambridge, Mass. (NEHGSR vol. 4, p. 55)

Emigration: Born in Massachusetts Bay Colony; attended Harvard College from 1656 to 1663; removed to Middletown, Conn. in 1664. (*Biographical Sketches of Graduates of Harvard University* by John Langdon Sibley, 1881; MLR vol. 4, p. 92)

Death: December 21, 1684 (MAN vol. 1, p. 292) or December 28, 1684, Middletown, Conn. (BCVR)

Occupation & Public Service: Pastor of the First Church of Christ, Middletown, Conn. (NEHGSR vol. 14, p. 64); will of Jasper Clements dated October 13, 1677, "I freely give to the Benefit of the Schools in Middletown all my Divisions of Land on the East side of the Great River ... to be disposed of at the Discretion of Mr. Giles Hamlin, Mr. Nathaniel Collins, Mr. William Southmayd, Mr. William Harris, Thomas Allyn & John Hall senior." (MAN vol. 1, p. 291); on October 13, 1681, "This Court grants Mr. Nath. Collins a farm of two hundred acres of land, upon the same tearmes, for his good service." (*Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1636-1776* vol. 3, p. 93)

Marriage: m. Mary Whiting, August 3, 1664, Hartford, Conn. (b. abt. 1643, Hartford, Conn.; d. October 25, 1709, Middletown, Conn.) She was the daughter of William and Susannah Whiting of Hartford, Conn. (SAV). William Whiting was one of the original proprietors of Hartford and Treasurer of the Colony from 1643 until his death in 1647. His widow Susannah married Samuel Fitch of Hartford in 1650 and next married Alexander Bryan of Milford; she died at Middletown on July 8, 1673. (SAV) John Whiting, brother of Mary Whiting, married Sybil Collins, sister of Nathaniel Collins in Cambridge, Mass. about 1654. (*Families of Early Hartford* by L. B. Barbour; SAV) [**Compiler's note:** On October 29, 1667, "Whereas, Mr. Alexander Briant and Mrs. Susannah Fitch have, by an Instrument of Resignation bearing date 27 June 1662, resigned their Interest in and unto the estate of Mr. William Whiting, Decd. that hath been in ye possession and Improvement of sd. Susannah in the time of her Widowhood, unto the Children of ye sd. Mr. Whiting;" on September 4, 1684, "Mr. John Whiting, Joseph Whiting, John King in right of Sarah his Wife, Mr. Nathaniel Collins in right of Mary his wife ... Land of their Father Mr. William Whiting, Decd." (MAN vol. 1, p. 385)]

Parents: Deacon Edward Collins (1603-1689) and Martha (unknown surname) Collins (1609-1700), m. abt. 1628 in England. Edward Collins, baptized at Bramford, County Suffolk, England on March 25, 1603, was a deacon of the First Church at Cambridge, Mass. in 1638 and admitted freeman on

May 13, 1640. (NEHGSR vol. 89, p. 148) "He was chosen a Deputy to the General Court from May 1654 to May 1670 ... executor of the wills of Reverend Thomas Shepard, pastor of the Cambridge Church, and Henry Dunster, first president of Harvard College ... Mr. Edward Collins, aged about 86 yeares Dyed April 9, '89." Mrs. Martha Collins died on March 21, 1699/1700. (*Various Ancestral Lines of James Goodwin/Starr*, 1915) "He deposed in Middlesex County, Mass., in 1659, aged 56, and again on 29 Apr. 1660, aged about 57 years ... she deposed in 1693 ... aged 84." (NEHGSR vol. 89, p. 148)

Children: (BCVR; NEHGSR vol. 89, p. 151)

(1) Mary Collins, b. May 11, 1666, Middletown, Conn.; d. May 5, 1722, Middletown, Conn.; m. John Hamlin, January 1684, Middletown, Conn. (9 children) [**Compiler's note:** "Here lyeth the Body of Mrs. Mary Hamlin, the wife of John Hamlin, Esq., who departed this life the 5th day of May, 1722, in the 56th year of her Age." (NEHGSR vol. 11, p. 82)]

(2) John Collins, b. January 31, 1667/8, Middletown, Conn.; d. after 1747, Norwich, Conn.; m. Mary Dixwell, December 24, 1707, New Haven, Conn. (7 children) [**Compiler's note:** Will of Bathshua Dixwell, "formerly of New Haven, now resident of Middletown," dated June 8, 1727, "to my daughter Mary Collins, under whose care I now am, and to her children ... to my son-in-law, John Collins, my husband Dixwell's Bible forever." (MAN vol. 3, p. 40); on July 20, 1747, "John Collins formerly of Middletown now resident in Norwich for love goodwill and affection for my daughter Mary Caruthers." (MLR vol. 12, p. 633)]

(3) Susannah Collins, b. November 26, 1669, Middletown, Conn.; d. February 24, 1721/2, Middletown, Conn.; m. William Hamlin, May 25, 1692, Middletown, Conn. (8 children). [**Compiler's note:** "Here lyeth the Body of Mrs. Susannah Hamlin, who died Feb. 24th, 1721-2, Aged 52 years." (NEHGSR vol. 11, p. 82); BCVR incorrectly lists date of death as Feb 24, 1711/12; see land records MLR vol. 1, p. 11]

(4) Sibbill Collins, b. August 20, 1672, Middletown, Conn. (died young).

(5) Martha Collins, b. December 26, 1674, Middletown, Conn.; d. June 1748, Middletown, Conn.; m. Thomas Hulbert (also spelled Hurlbut), December 15, 1705, Middletown, Conn. (4 children). [**Compiler's note:** "In Memory of Mrs. Martha, wife of Thomas Hulbert, and daughter of Reverend Nathaniel Collins, who died June, 1748, aged about 77 years." (NEHGSR vol. 15, p. 165)]

(6) Nathaniel Collins, b. June 13, 1677, Middletown, Conn.; d. December 31, 1756, Glastonbury, Conn.; m. (1) Alice Adams, January 7, 1700/1, probably in Dedham, Mass. (8 children). Alice Collins died February 19, 1735; m. (2) Rachel Smith, abt. 1736, Glastonbury, Conn. (*Colonial Collegians/Massachusetts Historical Society*, 2005) [**Compiler's note:** He graduated from Harvard in 1697; was minister of the church at Enfield, Conn. (CAF); on July 8, 1732, Nathaniel Collins of Enfield "in right



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of my honrd father Mr. Nathll Collins of said Middletown.” (MLR vol. 5, p. 433-434); “Rev. Nathaniel Collins, 1st Pastor Ch of Christ in Enfield, d 31 Dec 1756, ae 79 yrs.” (gravestone erected in 1896 by Jabez Collins and Mrs. L. Collins Whitney; *History of Enfield, Connecticut/Allen, 1900, p. 2328*)

(7) Abigail Collins, bp. March 13, 1680/1, Middletown, Conn.; d. February 6, 1758, Wethersfield, Conn.; m. Samuel Wolcott, December 27, 1706, Middletown, Conn. (6 children)

[**Compiler’s note:** BCVR listed her date of birth as July 13, 168[2], but father’s probate showed that she was four years old in 1685. (MAN vol. 1, p. 292); “Here lies Interr’d the Body of Mrs. Abigail Wolcott, Relict to Capt. Samuel Wolcott, and Daughter to ye Rev’d Mr. Nathaniel Collins, of Middletown. Who departed this life Feb’ry ye 6: 1758. In the 77th year of her Age.” (*Wethersfield Inscriptions/Tillotson, 1899*)

(8) Samuel Collins, b. April 16, 1683, Middletown, Conn.; d. April 23, 1683, Middletown, Conn. (died young).

Residence/Property: On January 24, 1664, land recorded to Mr. Nathaniel Collins, two acre house lot bought of Thomas Allyn bounded north and west on highway east on Thomas Allyn and south on George Hubbard; five acres of land given him for a house lot bounded east and north on the highway south on Nathaniel Bacon and west on Thomas Allyn; three acres of meadow on the south side of the Little River; ten acres of meadow at Wongonke; two acres in the long meadow; five acres in the west field bought of Thomas Allyn; one acre of bogie meadow bounded east on the Little River; one acre of bogie meadow bounded north on the Little River; on August 1, 1672, five hundred sixty two acres in the south quarter; on May 22, 1675, seven hundred two acres in the hope swamp; on September 2, 1678, twenty acres on the east side of the Great River (MLR vol. 1, p. 42); on November 20, 1678, Elizabeth Kirby, widow, to Nathaniel Collins, thirty acres on the east side of the great river in consideration of thirty pounds sterling (MLR vol. 1 p. 148); on October 20, 1679, John Hall Senior to Mr. Nathaniel Collins, five acres in the West Field in consideration of twenty five pounds sterling (MLR vol. 1, p. 166); on January 26, 16[8]0, fifty acres lying against pasen chage; on June 8, 1680, seven hundred twelve acres in the long lots on the east side of the Great River; on February 2, 1686/7, ten acres adjoining to that he bought of Deacon Thomas Allyn; thirty acres bounded west on pasen chaug swamp north on his own land bought of Elizabeth Kirby; on March 29, 1688, fifty five acres on the west side of the great river near the streits. (MLR vol. 1, p. 42) [**Compiler’s note:** Land was recorded and distributed in his name after his death. (MAN vol. 1, p. 293)]

Will: Vol. 1, p. 292-293 (MAN). (Estate inventory: 679-01-09, i.e., 679 pounds); children: Mary, aged 18 years, John 16, Susannah 14, Martha 11, Nathaniel 7 and Abigail, 4 years of age; on May 5, 1712, “We the Subscribers, being the heirs or Legatees of the Estate of our honoured Father, Mr. Nathaniel

Collins, and our honoured Mother, Mrs. Mary Collins, both Deceased ... John Hamlin in behalf of his wife Mary Hamlin alias Collins, John Collins, Nath: Collins, William Hamlin, Thomas Hurlbut.”

Burial location: Unknown.

Notes:

(CAF): “Nathaniel Collins, the first settled pastor in Middletown, and his brother Samuel Collins, were from Cambridge, Mass., son of Dea. ____ Collins.” (p. 145)

(CAF): On December 6, 1661, “Whereas upon divers agitations before the General Court between Mr. Stow and the inhabitants of Middletown, the Court did declare that the Town of Middletown, are free from Mr. Stow as their engaged minister, and the Court appointing a Committee to further a settled ministry in that place and after long endeavors by the people there, to procure them a minister, there appears a probability of their obtaining of Mr. Collins for that purpose the Committee doth approve of their proceedings therein and of his acceptance of their motion, and according to the mind of the Court, do advise both Mr. Stow and all the inhabitants of Middletown, to a loving carriage to Mr. Collins and friendly compliance with each other that the memory of all former differences may be wholly buried, and that Mr. Collins may have all due encouragement in the work of the ministry, that he is called unto in that place and that the long desired, comfortable and peaceable settlement of Middletown may be obtained ...” (p. 163-164)

(CAF): “Mr. Nathaniel Collins succeeded [Samuel Stow] as a candidate, and was ordained the first pastor Nov. 4th, 1668. At this time the church was organized, consisting of ten male members, including himself, a nucleus around which others were gathered.” (p. 48)

(SAV): “COLLINS, NATHANIEL, Middletown, s. of deac. Edward, ord. 4 Nov. 1668, m. 3 Aug. 1664, Mary, d. of William Whiting of Hartford, d. 28 Dec. 1684, had Mary, b. 11 May 1666; John, 31 Jan. 1668; Susanna, 26 Nov. 1669; Sibyl, 20 Aug. 1672, d. young; Martha, 26 Dec. 1674; Nathaniel, 13 June 1677, H. C. 1697; Abigail, 31 July 1681; and Daniel, or Samuel, 16 Apr. 1683, d. in 1 wk. His wid. d. 26 Oct. 1709. Mary m. Jan. 1685, John Hamlin; Susanna m. 26 May 1692, William Hamlin; and Abigail m. 1702, William Ward; but she may have been d. of Samuel.” [**Compiler’s note:** The Abigail Collins who married William Ward was a daughter of Samuel Collins.]

(SAV): “COLLINS, EDWARD, Cambridge 1638, freem. 13 May 1640, was deac. rep. 1654-70, exc. 61, liv. many yrs. on planta. of Gov. Cradock at Medford, and at last purch. it, sold to Richard Russell 1600 acres, and other parts to others. Mather, Magn. IV. 8, in his whole chap. on the tw. s. John and Nathaniel, does not equal in value the few lines of Mitchell, from wh. we learn, his w. was Martha, and ch. Daniel, a. 9 yrs. old when his parents unit. with his ch. possib. f. of Phebe, wh. d. at C. 5 Jan. 1654; liv. at Koningsburg, in Prussia; John, H. C.



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1649; Samuel, liv. in Scotland for some yrs.; and Sibyl, w. of Rev. John Whiting, all b. in Eng.; beside these, Martha, b. Sept. 1639; Nathaniel, 7 Mar. 1643, H. C. 1660; Abigail, 20 Sept. 1644; and Edward, 1646, all bapt. here. Abigail m. prob. in 1663, John Willet, s. of capt. Thomas, wh. a. 2 Feb. 1664; and Martha, it is thot. m. Rev. Joshua Moody. The patriarch d. at Charlestown, 9 Apr. 1689, aged a. 86.”

(SAV): “WHITING, WILLIAM, Hartford 1636, a wealthy merch. who had been engag. in a patent for lds. at Swamscot with Lord Say and Lord Brook, and had w. Susanna, s. William and perhaps John bef. leav. Eng. but possib. came over in 1633 with their agent or gov. Thomas Wiggin, whose w. I think was his sis. as in his will he gives to her and ea. of her ch. decent legacies. Indeed we kn. not from what part of Mass. he went, but prob. from Cambridge, since other promin. persons rem. thence that yr. and he in 1637 was one of the first ho. of reps. in 1641 an Assist. and treasr. of the Col. from 1643 to his d. in 1647, when he was call. major. Yet he was mak. voyages oft. certain. in anticipat. of one, made his will 20 Mar. 1643 (in wh. he calls his s. William less than 21 yrs. of age, and so, when draw. codic. 2 Apr. 1646), but it may have been only to the Delaware riv. where he maintain, trad.-ho. as also as Westfield, addit. to that will was declar. 24 July 1647, soon after wh. he d. for his wid. had admin. 2 Sept. foll. We kn. not dates of b. of any one of the five ch. nam. in that will, the two bef. ment. and Samuel, of wh. however we never hear more, Sarah, who m. first, Jacob Mygatt, near the end of 1654, and in 1683, John King, or Mary, who m. 3 Aug. 1664, Rev. Nathaniel Collins of Middletown; but of Joseph, ment. in the first codic. we learn from Goodwin, that he was b. 2 Oct. 1645; and ano. s. was b. posthum. as we learn from the order of Ct. in Trumbull, Col. Rec. I. 495, but of him no more is told. His wid. m. 1650, Samuel Fitch of H. and next m. Alexander Bryan of Milford, but d. bef. him, at the ho. of her d. Collins, and was bur. at Middletown, 8 July 1673.”

(SAV): “HAMLIN, JOHN, Middletown, s. of the preced. m. Jan. 1685, Mary, eldest d. of Rev. Nathaniel Collins, had John, b. 16 July 1687; Giles, 19 Feb. 1692; Esther, 7 Jan. 1695; Mary, 10 Apr. 1697; Sibil, 1 Mar. 1699, d. next yr.; Jabez, 7 Jan. 1701, d. young; Ebenezer, 12 Oct. 1702, d. soon; Sibil, again, 10 Oct. 1704; and Jabez, again, 28 July 1709. He was in high esteem, an assist. 26 yrs. and 5 yrs. a Judge of the Sup. Court. His w. d. 5 May 1722; and he d. 2 Jan. 1733. His youngest s. d. 1791. WILLIAM, Middletown, br. of the preced. m. 26 May 1692, Susanna, d. of Rev. Nathaniel Collins, had Richard, b. 17 May 1693; William, 7 Oct. 1694; Giles, 6 May 1697; Nathaniel, 26 Oct. 1699; Edward, 1 Mar. 1703; Susanna, 28 Aug. 1704; Charles, 8 May 1707; and Esther, 14 Jan. 1711. His w. d. 24 Oct. 1722; and he d. 22 May 1733.”

(*A Statistical Account of the County of Middlesex, in Connecticut* by David Dudley Field, 1819): “Mr. Collins was the son of

Deacon Collins of Cambridge. An elder brother by the name of John was publicly educated and settled in the ministry in London. Both were famous ministers in their day. The church and people of Middletown were united and happy during Mr. Collins’ life, and the country was blessed by his labors. He deceased in the midst of his usefulness in 1684, greatly lamented.” (p. 48)

(*Magnalia Christi Americana or the Ecclesiastical History of New England vol. 2 by Reverend Cotton Mather*): “Mr. Nathaniel Collins, at whose death, December 28, 1684, in the forty-third year of his age ... there were more wounds given to the whole colony of Connecticut in our New-England, than the body of Caesar did receive, when he fell wounded in the senate-house ... But our history of him is to be abridged into this brief account, that the church of Middletown upon Connecticut-river was the golden candlestick from whence this excellent person illuminated more than that whole colony; and that all the qualities of most exemplary piety, extraordinary ingenuity, obliging affability, join’d with the accomplishments of an extraordinary preacher did render him truly excellent ... The pastoral work with holy zeal he wrought; teaching by doing what he taught.”

(*Biographical Sketches of Graduates of Harvard University by John Langdon Sibley, 1881*): “Rev. Nathaniel Collins, M. A., of Middletown, Connecticut, born at Cambridge, Massachusetts, 7 March 1641-2, son of Deacon Edward and Martha Collins, and brother of John Collins, H. U. 1649, Enter’d college 23-6-56. He probably boarded and roomed at his father’s ... On taking his second degree, in 1663, he had the Oratio Gratulatoria. He succeeded Samuel Stow, H. U. 1645, as candidate for settlement in the ministry at Middletown, where he went with his brother Samuel Collins from Cambridge.” (p. 58-60)

(NEHGSR): “He was the first settled pastor in Middletown, and, with his brother Samuel, came from Cambridge, Mass. He married Mary Whiting (or Whitmore) daughter of William of Hartford, August 3, 1664.” (vol. 14, p. 64)

(MLR): “On September 5, 1664, Agreement between Mr. Nathaniel Collins and George Hubbard both of Middletown concerning a well which they agree to make between them upon the land of the aforesaid George Hubbard as near to the dwelling house of aforesaid Nathaniel Collins at present paying for the work of digging and stoning aforesaid well.” (vol. 4, p. 92)

(HMC): “February 22, 1666. at the same towne meeting the town did except of Mr Collinses kind proffer to caticise children in such a way as he shall judg to be best.” The names of the proprietors of Middletown with their estates, taken March 22th 1670 included Mr. Nathaniel Collins, “his stock & person with on[e] hundred fiftie pound state which the towne granted him land by” with a value of £225. The list of the estates of the inhabitants of Middletown taken in 1673 included Mr. Nathanill Colins with a value of £53.



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(*Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1636-1776*): At a Court of Election held at Hartford on May 9, 1667, "These were presented to stand for freemen: Mr Nath: Collins, Mr. Samll Collins, Henry Cole, Samll Cornewal, Georg Durant" (vol. 2, p. 60)

(*HCCM*): On March 23, 1668/9, "Mr Nath Collins haueing Complayned of Baltazer DeWoolfe. 1. For Commanding his daughter from his the sayd Mr Collins his seruice. 2. For clandestine & contumelious asspersions deliuered In writing against him the sayd mr Collins by the sd Woolfe. We haueing heard what hath been alledged by the sd Mr Collins, Baltzer dewoolfes defence ... Doe declare that we finde that Hannah the daughter of the sayd Baltazer is still Mr Collins his seruant till her year is out. And that the sayd dewolfe did presumptuously in so commanding her out of Mr Collins his house though shee be his daughter. Allso In a Letter directed to Mr Collins ... we finde some expressions not well agreeing with truth & many Expressions wherein he hath in a most vaine & prophane manner used the Scripture thereby endeauouring to scandalize Mr Collins & to make him odious to all ... Order him to subscribe to some suitable acknowledgement that may be publiquely read at Midleton & Saybrooke, In which Towne there hath been (as we heare) a bruit of this great scandal that thereby it may be remoued." (p. 103)

(*Records of First Church of Christ, Congregational, Middletown, Connecticut, 1668-1870 (available at Godfrey Memorial Library, Middletown, Conn.)*): On November 4, 1668, Nathaniel Collins was the first name on the list of members who organized the First Congregational Church of Middletown (p. 3); on November 4, 1668, "The church elected and called Nathaniel Collins to the office of a Pastour among them ... he accepted and at the request of the church was ordained by the Reverend Mr. Mather and Mr. Whiting." (p. 4); on November 15, 1668, John Collins baptized (p. 4); on November 28, 1669, Susannah daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Collins baptized (p. 9); on August 25, 1672, Sibbil Collins baptized (p. 17); on December 27, 1674, Martha Collins baptized (p. 22); on June 17, 1677, Nathaniel Collins baptized (p. 25); on February 23, 1678/9, Mary wife of Nathaniel Collins received to full communion (p. 28); on March 13, 1680/1, Abigail Collins baptized (p. 31); on December 25, 1681, "First Lords day after my sickness" (p. 32); on October 29, 1682, "my brother Samuel Collins" received to full communion (p. 33); on April 22, 1683, "Samuell (son of Nathanll) Collins & Mary his wife, received ye Innitiatory seal of ye covenant and deceased ye day following" (p. 34); on December 28, 1684, "Mr. Nathll Collins, Pastor of ye church, died" (p. 36); on April 30, 1693, Mary wife of John Hamlin and Susanna wife of William Hamlin admitted to full communion (p. 43); on June 5, 1715, John son of John and Mary Collins baptized (p. 78) [**Compiler's note**: No baptisms were performed between December 1713 and June 1715]

(*MLR*): On August 28, 1672, Nathaniel Collins sold to Capt. John Talcott of Hartford five hundred three score and two acres bounded to the south on Haddam bounds (vol. 1, p. 87); on June 17, 1673, Nathaniel Collins of Middletown to "my Louing brother in Law Thomas fitch;" on June 23, 1673, Nathaniel Collins "doe acquit and discharge my Honored Mother Ms Susannah Bryan the full sum of Sixteene pounds which I haue recaued in hir in hand as full satisfaction for one percell of Land Sould my brother in Law Thomas fitch" (vol. 1, p. 102); on June 23, 1676, Nathaniel Collins and Mary his wife sold to Daniel Harris seven hundred two acres in the Hope Swamp (vol. 1 p. 125); on April 10, 1679, Nathaniel Collins sold to Nathaniel Baker of East Hampton three hundred acres lying in the great lots." (vol. 1, p. 162)

(*Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1636-1776*): At a General Court held at Hartford on October 13, 1681, "This Court grants unto Mr. Roger Newton, Mr. Isack Foster and Mr. Caleb Watson, two hundred acres of land apiece, provided they take it up where it may not prejudice any former grant to any plantation or particular person. This Court grants Mr. Nath. Collins a farm of two hundred acres of land, upon the same tearmes, for his good service. Mr. Nicholas Noyse, for his good service in the war, provided he setle in this colony, or stay here 4 yeares, is granted two hundred acres of land, upon the same tearmes. The like grant of two hundred acres of land is granted to Mr. Israel Chansey and Mr. Eliott." (vol. 3, p. 92-93)

(*Biographical Sketches of Graduates of Harvard University by John Langdon Sibley, 1881*): On October 14, 1675, Israel Chancy was appointed "minister for the army to goe out with Major Robt Treat" in an expedition against the Indians during King Philip's War (p. 86); on December 11, 1675, "the Council appoynted Mr. Nicholas Noyse to goe forth with the army. He accompanied the Connecticut troops under Major Treat, and was at the Swamp-Fight at South Kingston, Rhode Island, 19 December, 1675." (p. 239) [**Compiler's note**: Both Israel Chancy and Nicholas Noyse were granted land at the same time as Nathaniel Collins for their service during King Philip's War; it is therefore inferred that Nathaniel Collins was also a chaplain to the army during the same period.]

(*Biographical Sketches of Graduates of Harvard University by John Langdon Sibley, 1881*): "In 1681, 'for his good services in sundry Expeditions and Engagements against the Indian Enemy,' the General Court granted him 'a farm of two hundred acres,' on the usual condition of non-interference with others' claims; and at the May session, 1687, it was ordered to be laid out for his heirs ... June 6, 1734, on the petition of Nathaniel Collins, of Enfield, H. U. 1693, the General Court of Massachusetts, 'in consideration of the publick Services of his Father in sundry Expeditions and Engagements against the Indian Enemy,' voted that there be a 'Grant of two hundred acres of the Province Land ... to be laid out between the Colony Line on the South, and Springfield on the North bounds, and Westerly on Enfield running a paralel Line with Enfield East Line, and that the Petitioner ... return a Plat thereof to this Court within twelve months for confirmation'."



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[**Compiler's note:** Enfield, where Nathaniel son of Nathaniel Collins lived, was part of Massachusetts until 1752. (*Historic Towns of the Connecticut River Valley* by George S. Roberts, 1906)]

(**HCCM**): On March 24, 1684/5, "An Inventory of the estate of Mr Nath: Collins was exhibited in Court ... & the court Granted Administration on the estate to Mrs. Mary Collins & appoint & desire Mr. Giles Hamlin Mr. Nath White & deacon John Hall to be overseers to the sayd widow & Children & the estate is to be distributed to the relict fifty seven pounds to her & her heires foreuer & one Third of the reall estate during her naturall life to John one Hundred & forty Six pownd & to the rest of the children seuenty three pownds apiece ..." (p. 396)

(**Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1636-1776**): On May 14, 1685, "Upon the request of Mrs. Mary Collins, this Court doth impower her to confirm to Obadiah Allyn by a deed of sale, two acres of land that he bought and payd for to Mr. Collins." (vol. 3, p. 171) On October 14, 1686, "This Court doe order Mrs. Collins and her estate to be left out of the list this yeare." (vol. 3, p. 215) On May 12, 1687, "This Court appoints Lnt Nath. White and Deacon John Hall to lay out to Mrs. Collins the grant of land that was granted by this Court to her husband, according to his grant." (vol. 3, p. 243) On May 10, 1694, "Upon the petition of Mrs Mary Collings of Midleton, this Court approues and grants liberty to the administrators of the Reuerend Mr. Nath. Collins to make sale of ten acres of medow land that belongs to Nath. Collins as part of his portion for to be improued for the bringing up of the sayd Nath. Collins in learning at the coledge." (vol. 4, p. 127)

(**MLR**): "On July 20, 1696, Mary Collins, widow and relict to the Reverend Mr. Nathaniel Collins deceased, in consideration of twenty pounds in mony my Deceasd husband borrowed of the

Reuerend Mr Joshua Moody: & : A uerball bargaine being made by my husband & mr Moody for three parcels of Land, including four hundred twelve acres in the great lots division; fifty acres lying near passenchag; ten acres bounded south on John Hall Senr and north on upland." (vol. 1, p. 116) [**Compiler's note:** Joshua Moody was brother-in-law to Nathaniel Collins. (*Various Ancestral Lines of James Goodwin/Starr*, 1915, p. 391)]

(**MLR**): On December 10, 1705, "Martha and Abigail Collins, daughters to the Rev. Mr. Nathaniel Collins deceased to our loving brother in Law John Hamlin." (vol. 2, p. 163) On April 21, 1710, "Samuel Wolcott of Wethersfield yeoman to my brother in law John Collins of Middletown husbandman that doth belong to me in write of my wife Abigail his sister as part of her portion of her father Mr Nathaniel Collins of Middletown deceased." (vol. 4, p. 198) On April 21, 1717, "John Hamlin to my brother in law John Collins of Middletown." (vol. 3, p. 426) On June 21, 1732, lands belonging to Martha Collins now the wife of Thomas Hurlbut recorded, "Where as the third tract of Land aboue Recorded was sett out by Distribution of Mr Nathanill Collins his estate as is euident by a Copp of sd Distribution: but not Recorded to hir till now; at the desire of the sd Martha it is now Recorded ... only one acre of sd fifty fiue acres & 1/4: is sold by sd Thomas & Martha Hurlbut to Allexander Bow." (vol. 1, p. 42)

For further reading:

Starr, Frank Farnsworth, *Various Ancestral Lines of James Goodwin and Lucy (Morgan) Goodwin of Hartford, Connecticut* (Hartford, Conn.: unknown publisher, 1915), p. 383-393 for "The Family of Edward Collins."

"English Connections of Dea. Edward Collins of Cambridge, Mass." by Winifred Lovering Holman, *NEHGSR*, Vol. 89, p. 73-79, 148-151.

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Abbreviation code used in SMFSD biographical sketches and in-depth profiles:

- (**MVR**) Middletown Vital Records (originals at Middletown City Hall, Middletown, Conn.; also available on microfilm at Russell Library, Middletown, Conn.)
- (**BCVR**) *The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records* (original index at Connecticut State Library, Hartford, Conn.; printed index available from Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, Md.; digitized index available on CD-Rom as part of *The Ricker Compilation of Vital Records of Early Connecticut*, Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, Md.)
- (**MLR**) *Middletown Land Records* (originals at Middletown City Hall, Middletown, Conn.; also available on microfilm at Russell Library, Middletown, Conn.)
- (**MAN**) *Digest of Connecticut Probate Records*, Hartford District (Manwaring, Charles William. *A Digest of the Early Connecticut Probate Records*. Originally published 1904-1906; reprinted 1995, Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1995.)
- (**CBRMC**) *Commemorative Biographical Record of Middlesex County, Connecticut, Containing Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens, and Many of the Early Settled Families*. Chicago, Ill.: J.H. Beers & Co., 1903.
- (**MUH**) *Middletown Upper Houses* (Adams, Charles C. *Middletown Upper Houses, A History of the North Society of Middletown, Connecticut from 1650 to 1800 with Genealogical and Biographical Chapters on Early Families*. New York, N.Y.: The Grafton Press, 1908.)
- (**FFS**) Frank Farnsworth Starr ("The Settlers of Mattabesec 1650-1660," *Middletown Penny Press*, Oct. 11, 1900; also published in the *Middletown Tribune* 250th Anniversary supplement.)

- (**CAF**) *Centennial Address of Rev. David Field*. (Field, David D. *Centennial Address: With Historical Sketches of Cromwell, Portland, Chatham, Middle Haddam, Middletown, and its Parishes*. Middletown, Conn.: W.B. Casey, 1853.)
- (**GMB**) *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England 1620-1633* (Anderson, Robert Charles, FASG. *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620-1633, Vol. I-III*. Boston, Mass.: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1996.)
- (**SAV**) *Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England* (Savage, James. *A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England, Showing Three Generations of Those Who Came Before May, 1692, on the Basis of Farmer's Register*. Boston, Mass.: Little, Brown & Co., 1860-1862.)
- (**GFHC**) *Genealogical & Family History of the State of Connecticut* (Cutter, William Richard. *Genealogical and Family History of the State of Connecticut: A Record of the Achievements of Her People in the Making of a Commonwealth and the Founding of a Nation*. New York, N.Y.: Lewis Publishing Co., 1911.)
- (**HMC**) *The History of Middlesex County* (Henry Whittemore, ed. *The History of Middlesex County 1635-1885*. New York, N.Y.: J.H. Beers & Co., 1884)
- (**RPCC**) *Records of the Particular Court of Connecticut, 1639-1663* (Adams, Arthur W., ed. *Records of the Particular Court of Connecticut 1639-1663*. Hartford, Conn.: Connecticut Historical Society, 1928.)
- (**HCCM**) *Hartford County Court Minutes, 1663-1687* (Ullmann, Helen Schatvet, CG, FASG., ed. *Hartford County, Conn., County Court Minutes, Vol. 3 & 4, 1663-1687, 1697*. Boston, Mass.: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2005.)
- (**NEHGSR**) *NEHGS Register (New England Historical and Genealogical Register)*. Boston, Mass.: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1847-2007.) (Online database available at NewEnglandAncestors.org)
- (**TAG**) *The American Genealogist* (articles by Donald Lines Jacobus, ed., 1922-1971) (*The American Genealogist*. New Haven, Conn.: D.L. Jacobus, 1922-1971)