



The Middler

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CONNECTICUT, U.S.A.

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Fall 2016

MUSEUM EXHIBITION AT MCHS

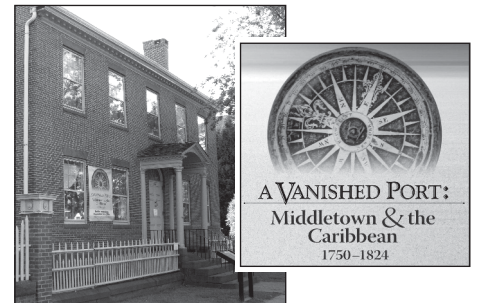
‘A Vanished Port: Middletown & the Caribbean’ explores roots of Middletown’s port city prosperity

Exhibition shines light on slavery connection ‘swept under the rug’ for more than 200 years

**By R.W. Bacon
Editor, *The Middler***

“A Vanished Port: Middletown and the Caribbean, 1750-1824,” a museum exhibition that explores the roots of Middletown’s maritime prosperity, opened on September 10, 2016 at the Middlesex County Historical Society.

Your editor ventured overland to Middletown, Conn. on September 8 for the exhibition’s opening reception. After just one visit, packed shoulder-to-shoulder with the celebratory throng, my view is that the masterful execution of this exhibition could serve as the ideal template for other port cities to explore the long-ignored reality that New England’s flush 18th-century maritime economy was built squarely on the backs of enslaved Africans at sugar cane plantations on the Caribbean islands.



The exhibition has been on the radar since 2012, when Erik Hesselberg, one of the exhibition planners, spoke about Middletown’s “vanished port” at the SMFSD Triennial Meeting. Relevance to Middletown’s early-settler families?: The town’s burgeoning 18th-century economy brought growth and change, enabling some families to prosper, and motivating others to leave.

Although the mere statement of the premise – that Middletown’s prosperity was dependent on stolen labor of the enslaved – may seem harsh to those who always believed that New Englanders were the “good guys” in the slavery story, this exhibition is resolutely thoughtful, context-aware, and even-handed on the topic.

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A closer look at Middletown records suggests a revised list of pre-1700 settlers

**By R.W. Bacon
Editor, *The Middler***

In the last decade SMFSD has received several inquiries from folks who believe they have an ancestor who lived in Middletown before 1700, but who is not found on the long-static list of “qualifying ancestors.” The bright and chirpy response has been that SMFSD is glad to review the documentation as done with every prospective member, but of course the burden

of proof rests with the applicant. Then in 2009, in the course of working on early Middletown settler in-depth profiles, researcher Paula Higgins identified two individuals who were in Middletown before 1700 but not included on the qualifying ancestor list, Samuel Bidwell (1650--1715) and Thomas Cooper (1646-1722). Then within the last year a prospective member introduced compelling but secondary source documentation about another possible pre-1700 Middletown resident. Finally your editor was stirred enough to investigate possible deficiencies of the SMFSD list.

The list of “qualifying ancestors” (see page 11) as developed in 2000 was derived from two sources: (1) the 23 original “proprietors” of Middletown,

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~ DUES are DUE! ~

Annual Membership dues (\$20) are due January 1, 2017 for the 2017 calendar year. Please send payment to:

‘Due’ it Today !!!	Mike Campbell SMFSD Treasurer 3570 Willow Street Bonita, CA 91902-1226	Thank You !!!
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SMFSD NEWS

SMFSD welcomes new members, receives a rumination from Hal Whitmore, and beats the drum for NERGC 2017

• Welcome new members.

SMFSD welcomes two new members since the last issue of *The Middler*: **Daniel W. Kraft**, AM-363, Boston, Mass. (1st settlers Thomas Miller & John Ward); and **Cynthia Johnson Weatherby**, AM-364, St. Petersburg, Fla. (1st settler Isaac Johnson).

• **SMFSD member and former registrar Hal Whitmore** recently issued an informative re-rumination via email on the conflicting spellings – and relationship – of Wetmore, Whetmore, and Whitmore families, a topic thought to be put to rest after his fine article in the NEHGS *New England Ancestors* magazine in fall 2009. That article presented the conclusions from DNA testing of Wetmore and Whitmore

descendants that proved that Francis Whitmore (1625-1685), who came from Cambridge, Mass. to Middletown, was not at all a close relation to early settler Thomas Wetmore (1615-1681). Hal regards James Carnahan Wetmore,

A Middletown turtle story

Here is a tidbit rounded up by the “Middletown 366” blog (to be found at <https://mchs366.wordpress.com/>):

From *The Democratic Press* (Ravenna, Ohio), August 17, 1882:

“In 1818 **Alfred Hubbard**, who lives in Long Hill society, Middletown, Conn., caught a box turtle, marked it with his initials, A. H., 1818, and let it go. It was not seen again until 1846, when his son, S. C. Hubbard, found it and marked it S. C. H., 1846. Another son discovered the turtle in 1851 and marked it F. W. H., 1851. Since that time it has not been seen until recently, when another son found the old veteran in his father’s garden among the strawberry plants. He also marked him E. N. H., 1882, and set him at liberty.” ■

author of *The Wetmore Family of America and Its Collateral Branches* (1861), as the source of the now-disproven spelling theory in his monumental – but far from error-free – genealogy tome. J. C. Wetmore argued that the original spelling of the surname was Whitmore. And of course today this “fact” continues to multiply via the Internet. But what about Hal “Whitmore”? He’s actually a *Wetmore* descendant – his great-great-grandfather Horace Wetmore began using the Whitmore surname about 1840!

• **NERGC 2017.** Mark your calendar for the next New England Regional Genealogy Conference, set for April 26-29, 2017 in Springfield, Mass. SMFSD has exhibited at the biennial conference since 2007.

• **SMFSD Facebook page.** You can follow SMFSD on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SocietyofMiddletownFirstSettlersDescendants>. SMFSD’s Facebook presence is the initiative of our registrar, Cindy Nicewarner. ■



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Progress continues on restoration of Russell Chapel at Indian Hill Cemetery

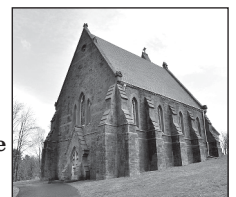
The scaffolding that surrounds Russell Chapel at Indian Hill Cemetery in Middletown suggests that work is humming along on the long-running restoration project. Those following the project, however, know that fund-raising efforts continue in order to see the project to its completion.

Russell Chapel, completed in 1867, was donated by Frances Osborne Russell (1798-1882) in memory of her late husband, China trade entrepreneur, civic leader, and philanthropist Samuel Russell (1789-1862).

Indian Hill Cemetery, which opened in 1850, is the bucolic resting place of thousands of descendants of Middletown’s early-settler families. ■



Above, scaffolding surrounds Russell Chapel at Indian Hill Cemetery. The 1867 structure is in the midst of a multi-phase restoration project. (R.W. Bacon photo)



SMFSD ‘qualifying ancestors’: A closer look at records suggests a revised list of pre-1700 Middletown settlers

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the heads-of-household listed on Founders Rock just outside Riverside Cemetery; and (2) a listing of “the settlers in Middletown from 1650 to 1700” with their supposed year of arrival, as published in *The History of Middlesex County* by Henry Whittemore (1884)(pg. 63-64).

Because of the genealogical riches in Connecticut in comparison to certain other states, a survey of vital records, land records, and church records in Middletown was not difficult, but merely tedious. The result of the survey: (1) the discovery of 13 additional pre-1700 Middletown settlers, and (2) the discovery that seven surnames on the list have no entries in pre-1700 Middletown records.

What follows is a summary of findings on 13 newly-discovered pre-1700 settlers ... and some close calls:

Andrews. According to Middletown vital records, nine children were born to John Andrews (1673-1736) and Rachel (1676-1740) Andrews between 1706 and 1724. Yet there is no mention of any individuals with the Andrews surname in Middletown vital records prior to 1700. Supposedly John and Rachel married in somewhere on Dec. 2, 1696, but it is not recorded in vital records. But as discovered in probate records, the father of John Andrews, Thomas Andrews (1638-1690/91) [who married Hannah Kirby (1649-1717) about 1670 – also unrecorded] died in Middletown. Born in Hartford and Wethersfield, respectively, the year of their arrival in Middletown is unclear. According to records of Middletown’s First Church, Congregational, one of their sons, Samuel Andrews, was baptized at the church on May 9, 1682. Certainly in the moments before taking his last breaths in 1690, Thomas Andrews was living in Middletown before 1700. Further, prior to the widowed Hannah (Kirby) Andrews marriage to Alexander Rollo (c.1645-1709), a prenuptial agreement refers to

“Hannah Andrews, late wife of Thomas Andrews of Middletown.” Therefore, based on the above evidence, **Thomas Andrews** should be regarded as a qualifying ancestor for SMFSD.

Barnes. According to Middletown vital records, Maybe (Maibee, Mabee) Barnes (1663-1749) married Elizabeth Stow (1662-1737) in Middletown on Nov. 19, 1691. Four of their seven children were born in Middletown before 1700, and recorded in Middletown vital records: Nathaniel (Dec. 5, 1691), Elizabeth (April 16, 1693), Samuel (July 8, 1695), and Ebenezer (Sept. 19, 1697). Also noted in the records of Middletown’s First Church, Congregational, are the confessions of both Maybe Barnes and Elizabeth (Stow) Barnes to their “sins of fornication” in 1691 and 1692. Maybe’s father, Thomas Barnes (c. 1623-1691), from New Haven, Conn., arrived in Middletown sometime after 1665 according to a 1910 family history, and died in Middletown on June 10, 1691, according to Middletown vital records. In his will signed on Feb. 25, 1683, he states: “I give to my youngest son, Maibee Barnes, all my land in Middletown ...” Therefore **Thomas Barnes** should be regarded as an SMFSD qualifying ancestor.

Bevin. According to Middletown vital records, John Bevin, the first of nine children born to John Bevin, Sr. (1676-1764) and Susannah Wright (c. 1681-1779), was born in Middletown on Feb. 17, 1699. John Bevin, Sr. was born in West Tisbury, Martha’s Vineyard, Mass., and as a youth came to Wethersfield and then Glastonbury,

Conn. with his family. Though the exact date of his arrival in Middletown is unknown, he was among the first to settle in East Middletown (later Chatham, then Portland). As a Middletown resident at the time of his first child’s birth in 1699, **John Bevin** should be regarded as an SMFSD qualifying ancestor.

Bidwell. According to Middletown vital records, Samuel Bidwell (1650--1715), born in Hartford, Conn., married Elizabeth Stow (1649-c. 1694) in Middletown on Nov. 14, 1672. His first land as a property owner in Middletown was recorded in 1673. As indicated by the records of the First Church of Christ, Congregational, his 10 children were born in Middletown between 1674 and 1700. Three are listed in Middletown vital records: Samuel Jr. (b. 1677), Thankfull (b. 1695), and Moses (b. 1698). Based on these records, **Samuel Bidwell, Sr.** should be regarded as a qualifying ancestor for SMFSD membership. (SMFSD member Paula Higgins identified the Bidwell eligibility in her research, and compiled an in-depth profile of Samuel Bidwell, Sr. for the SMFSD website in 2009.)

Cooper. According to Middletown land records, Thomas Cooper (1646-1722), who was born in Springfield, Mass., (as were his four children) purchased property in Middletown in 1695. According to the records of the First Church of Christ, Congregational, the wife of his son, Dr. Samuel Cooper (1673-1725), Dorothy (Ward) Cooper, was admitted to full communion on April 19, 1696. Based on these records, **Thomas Cooper** should be regarded as a qualifying ancestor for SMFSD membership. (SMFSD member Paula Higgins identified the Cooper eligibility in her research, and compiled an in-depth profile of Thomas Cooper for the SMFSD website in 2009.)

Forman. On the current SMFSD list of qualifying ancestors is “Thomas

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The survey of pre-1700 vital records, land records, and church records in Middletown was not difficult, but merely tedious.

A closer look at Middletown records suggests a revised list of pre-1700 settlers

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Ferman (1679)." In Middletown vital records, a "Thomas Forman" is noted as having married Rebeccah Bow on October 8, 1679, and having sons Thomas in 1681 and Benjamin in 1683. The list will be corrected to reflect the name **Thomas Forman**.

Gipson. According to Middletown vital records, Jonathan Gipson (1674-1690) died on April 29, 1690. He was one of four children of Roger Gipson (1646-1680), all born in Saybrook, Conn. between 1671 and 1676. Apparently the family left Saybrook before 1680 and went to Middletown, where Roger was a tanner in North Middletown, now Cromwell, Conn. After Roger Gipson's death in 1680, supposedly in Middletown, but with the inventory of his estate conducted in Saybrook, his widow, Martha (Hutcheson) Gipson (1650-1702), married Thomas Allyn (d. 1688), Middletown's grave-digger, among other roles, in 1681 (as noted in *Torrey's New England Marriages Prior to 1700*, but not in Middletown records). According to probate records, on September 7, 1682, Martha (Hutcheson)(Gipson) Allyn appeared before Giles Hamlin in Middletown, swore to the truth of her late husband's probate inventory, and noted the ages of her four young children. Roger and Martha's son Samuel Gipson (1672-1748) married Hannah Whitmore on November 4, 1703, and they had five children recorded in Middletown vital records born between 1705 and 1716. From the Gipson references in Middletown vital records and probate records, it appears that the family was residing in Middletown before 1700. Therefore **Roger Gipson**, his son Samuel Gipson, or both should be regarded as an SMFSD qualifying ancestor.

Haughton, Horton, Orton. According to Middletown vital records, Benony Haughton (Horton) (1678-?) married Mary Truman (b. 1685) in

Sarah Cornwell and the meandering mariner: John Plumb admitted to being at the Cornwell house at the time he was accused of "committing folly with her."

Middletown on April 15, 1700. They had seven children recorded as born in Middletown between 1701 and 1719. According to Middletown land records, Benoni Horton is referred to in a deed of land given by Daniel Markham (1641-1712) on Dec. 28, 1703 as "my present wife's son." (See the profile of Daniel Markham on page 6.) The plot thickens. Patience (Harris) Markham (1654-1733), daughter of William Harris (1620-1717), was the second wife of Daniel Markham. They married in Middletown on January 21, 1677. In March 1678 she gave birth to a child she claimed was fathered by John Orton (1648-1694). According to Hartford court records, she was charged with fornication and fined. John Orton was ordered to make support payments for three years. Benony Horton was baptized in Middletown's First Church, Congregational, on Feb. 16, 1680, as a "child of Patience Markham." Based on the court records, the "illegitimate son" was an adult resident of Middletown before 1700, therefore **Benoni Haughton/Horton** (and/or his father) should be regarded as a qualifying ancestor for SMFSD membership.

Honeywell, Hundwell. According to Middletown vital records, two of the four children of John Honeywell (c. 1650-c.1706) and Elizabeth (Harris) Honeywell (1659-1710) were born in Middletown: son John on April 17, 1689; and daughter Bridget on Oct. 2, 1691. Both were baptized in Middletown's First Church, Congregational. Stiles' *History of*

Ancient Wethersfield notes that John Honeywell removed from Wethersfield to Middletown in 1689. Based on Middletown vital records alone, **John Honeywell** should be regarded as an SMFSD qualifying ancestor.

Plumb. According to Middletown vital records, Benoni Plum(b) (1671-1764) married Dorothy Coall (Cole)(1687-1713) in November 1709. They had two children recorded in Middletown before Dorothy's death at age 26. In investigating Benoni Plumb's possible birth in pre-1700 Middletown, court records revealed what the vital records did not. On January 9, 1672, in a case brought before the Hartford Colonial Court by William Cornwell (1609-1677) on behalf of his daughter, Sarah (1647-1704), John Plumb (1634-1696) was accused of "begetting her with child." John Plumb, a well-traveled seaman and shipbuilder, admitted to being at the Cornwell house at the time he was accused of "committing folly with her," and was ordered by the court to pay for the support of the child – the aforementioned Benoni Plum(b). Therefore based upon the evidence of his birth in Middletown before 1700 (... and his adult residence in Middletown before 1700), **Benoni Plum(b)** should be regarded as a qualifying ancestor for SMFSD membership (Incidentally, a distant relation with the same surname, but with roots connecting generations further back in England, arrived in Middletown from Milford, Conn. in the 1730s. Waitstill John Plumb (1718-aft. 1805) has many descendants of the Plumb surname populating the vital records of early Middletown.)

Smith. William Smith (1617-1669) and his Middletown-born son, Joseph Smith (1655-c.1718) have long been on the list of pre-1700 SMFSD qualifying ancestors. According to Middletown vital records, it appears that an unrelated Jonathan Smith (1664-1735), born in Wethersfield, belongs on the list as well, as he married Allis Leek in Middletown on Dec. 25, 1695, and the first of their

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A closer look at pre-1700 records ...

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five children recorded in Middletown, Jonathan Smith, Jr., was born on July 30, 1697. Therefore **Jonathan Smith** should be regarded as a qualifying ancestor for SMFSD membership.

Stevens. According to Middletown vital records, Thomas Stevens, Sr. died in Middletown on Sept. 9, 1714. He was married to Jane (Hall)(Elton) Stevens (1653-1724). This was her second marriage, her first husband being John Elton (1653-1687) one of SMFSD's qualifying ancestors. Middletown land records indicate that she was referred to as "Jane Stevens" prior to 1700. Therefore, even though Thomas Sr. and Jane had no children together, and no descendants, **Thomas Stevens, Sr.**, because he was documented as living in Middletown before 1700, should be on the list of SMFSD pre-1700 qualifying ancestors.

Thomas. According to Middletown vital records, John Thomas was born in Middletown on Feb. 9, 1697, the "illegitimate son of John Thomas and Mary Waller of New London." According to the records of the First Church of Christ, Congregational, in Middletown, on Oct. 31, 1697 "Mary Waller made publick confession of her sin of fornication ... the church so far accepted thereof as to suspend admonition and wait for ye fruit of Repentance." The Middletown connection was through Mary's mother, Mary (Tinker) Waller (1653-1712), who, after the death of her husband, William Waller (1652-1682) in Lyme, Conn., married noted gravestone carver James Stancliff (1639-1712). Their marriage was recorded in Lyme in 1685. They removed to East Middletown sometime before 1689 with her three young daughters, Elizabeth, Mary (1676-1712), and Alice, and had four children together born between 1686 and 1695. According to Middletown land records, John Thomas, Sr. was a neighboring landowner to the Stancliffs, but obviously there was at least one crossing of the property line. According to *Descendants of James Stancliff of Middletown*,

Connecticut and Allied Families, by Robert C. and Sherry [Smith] Stancliff (1995), Thomas Sr. and Mary Waller later married. The marriage is not recorded in Middletown, and the trail goes cold. But based upon the evidence of Middletown residence before 1700, **John Thomas, Sr.** should be regarded as an SMFSD qualifying ancestor.

The focused survey of Middletown vital records revealed a handful of close calls to pre-1700 SMFSD eligibility:

Birdsey(e). According to Middletown vital records, Abel Tryon (1682-1760) and Abiah/Abiall (Hunnewell) Tryon (1683-1756) had eight children recorded in Middletown between 1704 and 1719. But according to *The Tryon Family in America* by Wesley Tryon (1980), Abiall was the daughter of John Birdsey (b. 1656; d. c.1685 in Middletown) and Elizabeth (Harris) Birdsey (1659-1710), but took the surname of her adoptive father after her mother married John Hunnewell (c.1650-c.1706) about 1690, supposedly in Middletown. The book states that Abiah Birdsey Hunnewell was born in Middletown, but with no evidence referenced. It is known that John Birdsey, from Stratford, Conn., was among the early settlers in Middlefield in southwestern Middletown. If more concrete evidence surfaces that verifies John Birdsey's presence in Middletown before 1700, his name should be included as an SMFSD qualifying ancestor.

Gaines (Ganes, Gaynes). John Gaines (1675-1748) is close, but until solid evidence indicates pre-1700 residence in Middletown, he does not make the cut. Born in Hartford, Conn., he married Naomi Hale (1680-1752) in Glastonbury, Conn. in 1699. According to Middletown vital records, their four children were born in Middletown, with the first being a daughter named Naomy, after her mother, born on ... drum roll here ... July 30, 1700.

Leek. According to Middletown vital records, two daughters of Ebenezer Leek (1647-1726) married in Middletown before 1700: Allis Leek (m. Jonathan Smith on Dec. 25, 1695) and Hannah Leek (m. Thomas Allin on May 4, 1698). Ebenezer Leek was

born in New Haven, Conn., and died in East Hampton, N.Y. All of his nine children were born in East Hampton, N.Y. between 1674 and 1688. Without solid evidence on whether Ebenezer Leek ever resided in Middletown, he does not "make the cut."

Marks. According to Middletown vital records, William Marks (c.1670-1728) and his wife, Mary (married in Charlestown, Mass. in 1695), had five children recorded in Middletown, including daughter Mary, born on Dec. 9, 1697; and son William, born on June 20, 1699. Is William Marks a lock as a qualifying ancestor? Not necessarily, because it is known that in early New England records, sometimes the birth dates of a newly-arrived family were recorded at once in the new town, even though the children may have been born elsewhere years before. Therefore additional evidence of the individual's residence in Middletown is needed to establish qualifying ancestor status.

Mould. According to Middletown vital records, four daughters of Hugh Mould (1637-1692), the prolific shipbuilder of New London, Conn., married men in Middletown between 1682 and 1704: Susanna Mould m. Daniel White in March 1682; Mary Mould m. Joseph White on April 3, 1693; Jane Mould m. Daniel Stocking on Aug. 27, 1700; and Esther Mould m. Samuel Stow on Feb. 8, 1704. Hugh Mould married Martha Coit (1643-1730) in New London in 1662, and they had seven children born there between 1663 and 1681. After Hugh Mould's death in New London in 1692, that same year his widow removed to Middletown and married the recently widowed Nathaniel White (1627-1711), the father-in-law of her

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The focused survey of Middletown vital records revealed a handful of close calls to pre-1700 SMFSD eligibility.

In-Depth First Settler Profile: Daniel Markham (1677) / Patience (Harris) Markham

Editor's note: In 2006-7, while in the process of building the SMFSD website, your editor began a project to prepare profiles of Middletown's pre-1700 heads-of-household and their families. The model was Robert Charles Anderson's *Great Migration Project*. The goal of the SMFSD project was to gather, in a standard format, what was known about a particular individual from the most reliable, commonly accessible, and mostly public domain sources. The aim was not to break new ground with blockbuster discoveries, but simply to provide beginning researchers with a foundation upon which to build and make new discoveries on their own. The project was well-received and has since sparked similar compilation efforts. Subsequently SMFSD member Paula Higgins compiled 37 additional profiles for the SMFSD website – a monumentally laborious accomplishment not only in number, but in thoroughness. The 2012 book, *Early Families of Middletown, Conn., Vol. I -1650-1654* by R.W. Bacon included the author's profiles of the first 23 families in Middletown in addition to all the context chapters, and progress crawls along on Vol. II. In the meantime, several intrepid SMFSD genealogists have offered to compile profiles on selected individuals on the 1654-1700 list yet to be documented with one. This issue brings readers a profile of Daniel Markham (1641-1711), a collaborative project prepared by SMFSD members Jack L. White of El Cajon, Calif., and Kem E. Marcum of Double Oak, Texas. The willingness of fellow travelers in Middletown genealogy to undertake these profile projects – and stoically endure the editor's crotchety insistence on fidelity to the format – is deeply appreciated. **Thank you, Jack and Kem!**

**Compilation by Jack L. White, SMFSD LM-292
and Kem E. Marcum, SMFSD AM-356**

Name: Daniel Markham

Birth: Baptized June 22, 1641, Earls Colne, Essex, England (NEHGR; Vol. 164, pg. 173-174).

Emigration: From England to New England in 1665 (GFHC). [**Compiler's note:** Although the exact date of Daniel Markham's arrival at the Massachusetts Bay Colony is presently unknown, evidence in Middlesex County Mass. court files indicate that he was present in Cambridge, Mass. on 23 October 1655, when he was one of three persons verifying delivery of a consignment of cloth goods from Cogshall, Essex, England to Cambridge, Mass. (*The Bramford-Earls Colne Connection*, White & White)].

Death: February 6, 1711/12, Middletown, Conn. (BCVR)

Occupation & Public Service: Deacon of the First Church of Christ, Middletown, Conn. (CAF, HMC)

Marriage: m. (1) Elizabeth Whitmore, November 3, 1669, Cambridge, Mass. (GFHC). Elizabeth was the daughter of Francis Whitmore (b. 1625, England) and Isabel Park (d. March 31, 1665) (GFHC); m. (2) Patience Harris, January 21, 1677, Middletown, Conn. (BCVR). Patience was the daughter of Middletown First Settler William Harris of Rowley, Mass. and his wife Edith (GFHC).

Parents: James Markham (abt. 1612-1679/80) and Martha Collins (aft. 1607-1669/70). Martha is the younger

sister of Cambridge, Mass. merchant Deacon Edward Collins (1603-1689), who was the father of Middletown First Settlers Rev. Nathaniel Collins (1641/2-1684) and Samuel Collins (1636-1695/6) (White & White).

Children: (CBRMC) (SAV) (BCVR) (MAN)

(1) Daniel Markham, b. November 1, 1671, Medford, Mass.; d. 1761, Enfield, Conn.; m. Deborah Meacham, April 2, 1703, Enfield, Conn. (10 children) (*History of Enfield, Connecticut*, Allen; *Vital Records of Cambridge Massachusetts, to the year 1850*, Baldwin).

(2) Elizabeth Markham, b. July 13, 1673, Medford, Mass.; d. May 15, 1745, Conn.; m. John Bates, before 1700, Middletown, Conn./E. Haddam, Conn. (5 children) [**Compiler's note:** Cambridge Vital Records shows Elizabeth's birth as July 13, 1673 (Cambridge VR, Baldwin); some sources show the year incorrectly as 1674. According to a Hartford County, Conn., Probate Court document dated December 25, 1734, Elizabeth was deceased ("late of Haddam deceased") at that time.]

(3) James Markham, b. March 1, 1674/5, Medford, Mass.; d. June 8, 1731, Middletown, Conn.; m. Elizabeth Locke, October 14, 1700, Middletown, Conn. (9 children) [**Compiler's note:** Cambridge Vital Records shows James' birth as March 1, 1674/5 (Cambridge VR, Baldwin); some sources show the year incorrectly as 1674.]

(4) Martha Markham, b. August 16, 1680, Middletown, Conn.; died in infancy.

(5) Martha Markham, b. January 7, 1685, Middletown, Conn.; d. before 1775; m. Jonathan Center, April 26, 1706, Middletown, Conn. (7 children)

(6) Edith, b. May 11, 1694, Middletown, Conn.; d. about 1728, Middletown, Conn.; m. John Arnold [**Compiler's note:** According to *Descendants of Deacon Daniel Markham*, a workbook by Curtis Hartwig, they married in about 1712 in Middletown, Conn., however, there is no source for this entry. A Middletown Land Record document indicates that John and Edith had 7 children (MLR Vol. 6, pg. 314).]

Residence/Property: (MLR) On January 20, 1677/8 William Harris gave 82 acres of land to his son-in-law Daniel Markham. This parcel of land was bordered by a highway on the south, by the Great River and John Ward's land on the north, by Sergeant Samuel Collins' land on the east, and by the Pamecheke River and the lands of John Ward and Thomas Miller on the west. This gift was given "for good considerattions him their unto moving and in spesiall his indeared Love to his Sayd Son in Law and his Daughter patience Wife to the Sayd Danill markham." (Vol. 1, pg. 139)

On January 15, 1683/4, Daniel Markham sold one and three-fourths acres to John Ward. "To on percell of meadow & Swompe Lying at pamechek bought of Danill

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Markham Containing on Acre and three quarters more or Less Abutting on the great River north ward and his own land East ward on danill marcoms Land Westward and South ward coming to the point of an Angle at the South Corner." (Vol. 1, pg. 44)

On October 20, 1692, Daniel Markham bought three fourths of an acre from John Cornwell for four pounds. "Land lying and being situated In middletowne on the East sid the great River at a place commonly called Wongonk containing by Estemation three fourths of an acre more or Lesse Abutting on the crick East and the Indians Land West on John martins land north & Samuell Stockins land South." (Vol. 1, pg. 81)

On December 28, 1692, Deacon Daniel Markham bought one and one-half acres from John Martin for five pounds. This was "Land lying & being lying & being within the bounds of the township of middletowne & on the East sid the great River at a place Comonly Called Wongonke Containing in quantity on acre & halfe little more or lesse Abutting on a crick west ward & on a crick Eastward & on the Said martins land northward & on Danill markhams land southward." (Vol. 1, pg. 82)

On January 31, 1695/6 Deacon Daniel Markham obtained land formerly owned by his cousin Samuel Collins. Deacon Markham had mortgaged this land on May 31, 1692 from Samuel Collins for 10 pounds 15 shillings. This land was in the township of Middletown and was west of Markham's land, south of a highway, north of the Great River, and east of Mr. Russell's land. (Vol. 1, pg. 91)

On September 18, 1697, Daniel Markham sold two six-acre parcels of land, formerly given to him by William Harris, for 42 pounds, to Francis Whitmore. The description was "one parcel of Land containing about six acres be it more or less lying and going sittuate on the East side of conecticott river in middletown bounds at a place commonly pacowsett meadow southerly on the great river conecticott westerly on lands now possest by Miller and notherly and Easterly on a crek" and "another parcel of Land by bogge meddow and swamp laying and being situate on the west side of Conecticot river on the north side the river att within the common field containing about six acres be it more or less." (Vol. 2, pg. 55)

On February 14, 1698/9, Deacon Daniel Markham bought three acres from William Hamlin, paying one cow. This was described as "a certain parcel of Land moastly swamp Laying and going in the township of Midletown on the west side the grate river next to a place called buck poynt containing about three acres little more or less butting on the grate river north on the said Markhams Land south & west ending with an angle & East upon the said hamlins land by a straight line from the poynt of the Estormost hill to the mouth of the little creek where it falls into the great river." (Vol. 2, pg. 32)

On January 23, 1701/2, Daniel Markham gave 25 acres of land in three parcels to his son Daniel Markham, Jr. All three parcels of land were in Middletown and were close to the dwelling house of Daniel Markham, Sr. Eight acres of this land had a dwelling house that Daniel Markham, Jr. had previously built. This land bordered Daniel Sr.'s land to the west and north, and his brother James Markham's land was to the east. (Vol. 2, pg. 89)

On January 23, 1701/2, Daniel Markham gave 25 acres of land in three parcels to his son James Markham. All three parcels were in Middletown and were close to the dwelling house of Daniel Markham, Sr. Eight acres of this land had a dwelling house that James Markham had already built. This land bordered his brother Daniel Markham Jr.'s land to the west and his father's land to the east and north. (Vol. 2, pg. 88)

On January 23, 1702/3, Daniel Markham sold four acres to William Ward, Jr. for eight pounds currency. This was described as "up land cittuated in the township of Midletown on the west side the grate river bounded and butted as followeth Viz on Mr Daniell Russell East the highway south & on the above sd Daniell Markham land west & north being thirty two Rods long and twenty Rods broad." (Vol. 2, pg. 107)

On November 10, 1703, Daniel Markham traded a three-acre parcel of land to Samuel Cornwell in return for a five-acre parcel. The three acres consisted of meadow land lying east of the Great River. The parcel bordered John Clark on the on the north and west, a creek was south, and George Stocking's land was south. (Vol. 2, pg. 124-125)

On December 28, 1703, Daniel Markham gave five acres to his wife's son Benony Horton, "Especially for the lov and Affection I bare to my present wifes son Bennony Horton." This was described as "one percell of land being medow Land on the East side of Conecticot River at A place called pacowsett Containing About five Acres more or less butting on the hill Eastward the grate river south the Creek West and the bogge Meddow northward." (Vol. 2, pg. 129)

On November 25, 1706, Daniel Markham gave two parcels of land containing 14 acres to his son-in-law Jonathan Center, husband to his daughter Martha. The land description was "these two following parcels of land all lying and being situated within the bounds of midletown Aforesaid and nere to the dwelling house of the said Daniell Markham: Viz: one percell of land containing six acres little more or less: Abutting south on the highway west upon Sam Miller north and Easton his one land: and another percell of upland on the west side the grate River Containing Eight Acres little more or less Abutting south upon land of William & Saml Ward Eastward on land of Mr Daniell Russel northward on James Markham and Westward on his one [own] land." (Vol. 2, pg. 179)

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On November 13, 1708, Daniel Markham sold one acre to Ebenezer Egleston for 50 shillings silver money. This was “A certain small parcel of land containing one acre of Land being eight Rods in breadth and Twenty Rods in length butting south on a Common highway and East on a commas highway betwixt this land now sold and land formerly sold to Wm Ward and the West and north buttments of this acre now sold is upon the said Daniel Markhams own Land being part of his farm bought of Samuel Collins deceased adjoining to his Lands called pomecha in Midletown on the West side of the great River.” (Vol. 2, pg. 291)

Will: (MAN) Estate inventory taken by John Hamlin, Joseph Rockwell and John Bacon, Feb 18, 1711/12: 384-15-09 (i.e., 384 pounds, 15 shillings, and 9 pence). Will dated 23 November, 1708 (paraphrased): I, Daniel Markham, Sen., of Middletown, in the County of Hartford, do ordain this my last will and testament: I give and bequeath unto Patience my wife, whom I ordain my only and sole executrix, so much of my estate as she may choose to improve during life and £20; also my negro Sampson during her life, and then to be free, if she live fourteen years after the date hereof. I give to my daughters Martha and Edith £20. My sons Daniel and James Markham to have the refusal of my lands, they paying their sisters portion. Also to my son Daniel and James Markham, to each of them, £50 in lands. I give to my daughter Elizabeth Bates, £38-15-00. I further give her feathers enough to fill a bed. To my daughter Martha Center, £44-10-08, to whom I further give 4 or 5 rods of ground where Jonathan Center’s house stands. I give unto my grandson Daniel Markham my gun and sword. I request Mr. Russell, Samuel Bidwell and Joseph Rockwell to be overseers. (Vol. 2, p. 256) [**Compiler’s note:** Complete will, addition to will, inventory, and probate records are at Connecticut State Library (Hartford, Connecticut, Probate Files Collection, Early to 1880).]

Burial Location: Unknown, but most likely Riverside Cemetery, Middletown, Conn., as this cemetery was established in about 1650 and remained as “the only place of burial up to 1713.” (HMC, pg. 149)

Notes:

(CBRMC): The biography of Ernest Arthur Markham, M.D. of Durham, Conn., a descendant of Deacon Daniel Markham, contains a summary of a 17-generation lineage extending back to the apparent origin of the Markham surname in Nottinghamshire. The summary of this line begins in 1066 with (I) Claron, a Saxon Chief of West Markham, and continues down through (XVI) Sir Robert of Cotham (1564-1604); (XVII) Daniel Markham of Plumstead (in Norfolk County), commercial merchant (d. 1690); and (XVIII) Deacon Daniel Markham, who “arrived in Cambridge, Mass. in 1665, whence he removed to Middletown, Conn. in 1667.” [**Compiler’s note:** While many English and American researchers

have attempted to establish a connection between Deacon Daniel Markham and the noble pedigree of Sir Robert Markham of Cotham, whose ancestry has been traced back to the apparent origin of the Markham surname in the village of Markham in Nottinghamshire in 1066, such a connection has not yet been convincingly made. The basis for the English Markham lineage summarized above was the work of Sir Clements Markham (*Markham Memorials*, 2 vols., London, 1913). The English heritage of Deacon Daniel Markham has not been proven beyond his 1641 birth to James Markham and Martha Collins in Earls Colne, Essex, England. (White & White)]

(GFHC): “Deacon Daniel Markham, father of Daniel [Jr.], came to New England in 1665, and lived at Cambridge and Middletown; married November 3, 1669, Elizabeth Whitmore, born May 1, 1649. Deacon Daniel is said to be the son of Daniel Markham, brother of Mathew, mayor of Norwich, England, 1665, and son of Sir Robert Markham.” (pg. 809) [**Compiler’s note:** See compiler’s note for the CBRMC source, above.]

(HCCM): “July 12: 1680 Daniel Marckham Plantife. In behalf of his wife Contra John Jordan defnt : in an action of the case for defaming & Slandering the sayd Markham his wife in reporting she had been with Child formerly & shee & Mrs foster made it away & that her husband heard of it & Sayd he could forgiue her the former but that he could not with other defamatory Expressions to the damage of one hundred pownds. John Jordan In court agreed to pay Daniel Markham Forty Shillings in Currant pay, & to pay the Cost of this court & to cause his wife to signe the acknowledgement presented in Court & to deliuer the Same to Markham to be used & Improved as he sees cause, upon which Marckham with draws his action, & engageth to be Sattisfyed when the agreement is performed.” (Vol. 4, pg. 277)

(HMC): Town meeting records show that in 1677 Daniel Markham was a settler in Middletown (pg. 64). In 1679, Daniel was one of 64 owners of a bell purchased by Middletown inhabitants to be hung in the meeting house (pg. 67-68). Daniel Markham and his two sons, James and Daniel, Jr., were admitted as inhabitants of Middletown on Jan. 5, 1708/9 (pg. 70). Daniel Markham is listed as a Deacon in 1690. (pg. 134)

(MAN): As documented in the Hartford, Conn. Probate Court records, during the 1690s Daniel Markham assisted in several probate actions involving the inventory and evaluation of several estates, as follows:

On 30 June 1690, Daniel Marcum, William Sumner, and Isack Johnson inventoried the estate of deceased Middletown resident William Lucas (Vol. I, pg. 483). In February-March 1690/1, Daniel Marcum, Samuel Collins, and William Sumner inventoried the estate of deceased Middletown resident Samuel Eglestone, Sr. Also on this occasion, Deacon

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Daniel Marcum and Ensign Samuel Collins were also made Guardians and Overseers of five Eglestone children, with Daniel being the court-approved guardian for Susannah, Mary, and Ebenezer Eglestone (Vol. I, pg. 442-443). On 3 March 1690/1, Daniel Marcum, Samuel Collins, and William Cheeny inventoried the estate of deceased Middletown resident Thomas Andrews (Vol. I, pg. 400). On 12 April 1693, Daniel Markham assisted court-appointed estate administrator Alexander Allyn with the inventory and distribution of the estate of deceased Winsor resident Joseph Denslow (Vol. I, pg. 438). On 1 February 1695/6, Daniel Markham, Samuel Bidwell, and William Sumner inventoried the estate of deceased Middletown resident Samuel Collins, who was the first cousin of Daniel Markham. Daniel Markham, William Sumner, and John Hamlin were also appointed as Overseers in the distribution of the estate on 3 March 1695/6 (Vol. I, pg. 429-430). On 18 Feb 1711/2, the records describe the probate proceedings following the death of Deacon Daniel Markham on 6 February 1711/2. Settlement of the will took several years, until August 1718, during which time there was a record of dissatisfaction with the administration of the will by the executrix, Daniel's widow, Patience, including two appeals made by Daniel's sons to the Superior Court (Vol. II, pg. 256-257). The final record mentioning Daniel Markham in this source came on 6 September 1720 in conjunction with the administration of the will of William Harris, the father-in-law of Daniel Markham. In that record, Daniel is mentioned as one of the recipients of one or more unrecorded parcels of land that had passed by deed of gift from William Harris to Daniel Markham and others in the lifetime of William Harris (Vol. II, pg. 396-397).

(NEHGSR): "On 6 October 1687, William Harris traded the Middletown lot 'where his house standeth' and other parcels to William Sumner for Sumner's 'house and land' in Boston's North End, and another lot 'neare Charlastowne fery' (MLR Vol 1, pg. 138). In December 1692, William Harris' daughter Patience and husband Daniel Markham 'of Middletowne' release their interest in this Boston property to Francis Whitmore (Suffolk County Deeds, Vol. 16, pg. 125)." (NEHGR Vol 164, pg. 169)

(SAV): "MARKHAM, DANIEL, Cambridge, m. 3 Nov. 1669, Eliz. D. of Francis Whitmore had James, b. 16 Mar. 1675, perhaps freem. 1674, rem. To Middletown and m. Patience, d. of William Harris." (Vol. III, pg. 152)

(TAG): "The will of Deacon Daniel Markham of Middletown, dated 23 Nov. 1708, proved 7 Apr. 1712, mentioned his wife Patience and several children; he gave to "my daughter Martha Center" £ 44-10-08 (i.e., 44 pounds, 10 shillings, and 8 pence), also 4 or 5 rods of ground "where Jonathan Center's house standeth." (Vol. 20, pg. 111)

For Further Reading:

Deacon Daniel Markham – His Life & Times, by Mark Goodmansen. (Salt Lake City, Utah: privately published, 2006).

Descendants of Deacon Daniel Markham: Workbook, by Nancy (Markham) Hartwig & Curtis Hartwig (Binghamton, N.Y.: privately published, 2008).

The Bramford-Earls Colne Connection: New Explorations into the 16th and 17th Century Origins and Migrations of Deacon Daniel Markham and Cambridge Merchant Edward Collins, by Jack L. White and D. Jolene White. (Baltimore, Md.: Otter Bay Books, 2012).

VERIFY - VERIFY - VERIFY

Sources to be consulted & abbreviation codes for preparation of SMFSD 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.) ... and **(GMD)** *The Great Migration Directory*, R.C. Anderson, NEHGS, 2015.

(HMC) *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 Whittetmore, 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)

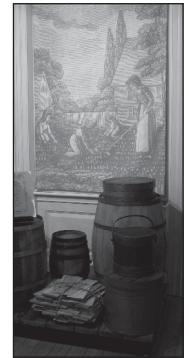
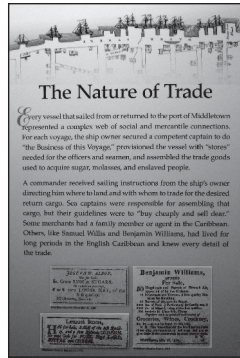
(TAG) *The American Genealogist* (articles by Donald Lines Jacobus, ed., 1922-1971) (*The American Genealogist*. New Haven, Conn.: D.L. Jacobus, 1922-1971)

Exhibition explores roots of Middletown's maritime prosperity

continued from page 1

The exhibition space at the 1767 Mansfield House consists only of the four rooms on the first floor. Therefore the exhibition is not only interpretively dense, but also packed with illustrative objects. A series of well-written panels, however, break the exhibition into manageable, digestible sections.

Furniture, decorative arts, and paintings from the MCHS collection showcase the rich material culture in a time when shipbuilders, merchants, and sea captains collaborated to supply the slave-worked Caribbean islands with lumber, horses, and agricultural products. Custom House ledgers detail the busy riverfront at a time when Middletown was the busiest port between New York and Boston – even though it was 30 miles up the Connecticut River from Long



Scenes from "A Vanished Port" (clockwise from top left) include one of eight main interpretive panels, luxurious furnishings, shipping materials, Custom House ledgers, and descriptive labels.



Island Sound. Maritime artifacts and models illustrate the real-time workings of maritime enterprises. While the exhibition references the names of newly-arrived late-18th-century merchants, the surnames of early-settler Middletown families pop

up here-and-there, as do some of their fancy furnishings.

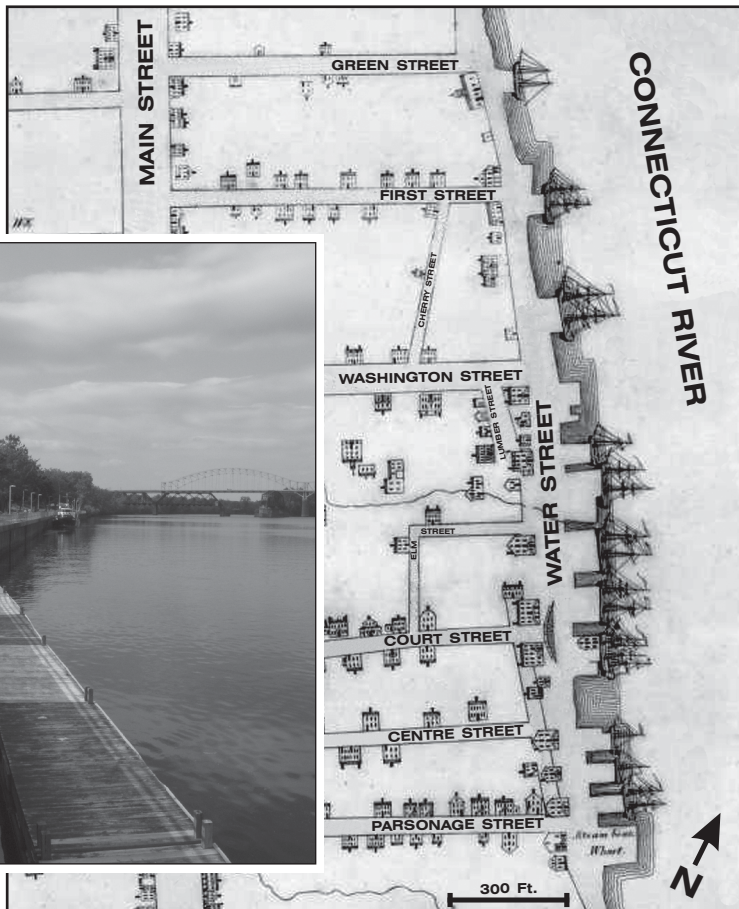
The MCHS went right to the top talent to put this exhibition together: Anne Farrow wrote the interpretive panels, and she probably has the best understanding of anyone on the subject – she is the author not only of *Complicity: How the North Promoted, Prolonged, and Profited from Slavery* (2005), but also more recently, *The Logbooks: Connecticut's Slave Ships and Human Memory* (2014). The designer of the exhibition, Brenda Milkofsky, is the former director of the Connecticut River Museum.

Many behind-the-scenes hands contributed to shaping the exhibition, from the advisory board of scholars and community members, to volunteers and student interns. Graphic design was executed by David Wolfram; Erik Hesselberg and Lee McQuillan produced a video; and Pat Tully coordinated electronic media features.

Informed Middletown history enthusiasts may regard the New England connection to Caribbean slavery as old news. But as Anne Farrow explains, "This is a new way to understand the dynamic interaction of slavery and capitalism, and a way to put the port's enterprising mariners and profound black suffering on the same page."

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How vanished is the "Vanished Port"? At right is a section of the H.L. Barnum map of Middletown in 1825. Below is the riverfront today. (R.W. Bacon photo)





SMFSD Membership Information

If you descend from a pre-1700 settler, we welcome you to join us

The following are individuals (and presumably spouses & families) said to have settled in Middletown, Conn. before 1700. The list is from *The History of Middlesex County* (Henry Whittemore, Beers Co., 1884), derived in part from the *List of Householders & Proprietors*, Middletown, March 22, 1670. **Names in boldface** are the original 1650-54 settlers. **N.B.!** *This list is known to be incomplete!* If you descend from a pre-1700 settler *not* on this list, including a Native American or African-American ancestor, please contact our Registrar about submitting lineage and references. **Not a descendant? Join us in the Friends category!**

Josiah Adkins 1673	Samuel Cotton 1697	Edward Higby 1667	Daniel Pryor 1696	Samuel Stow 1651
Obadiah Allyn 1670	Samuel Doolittle . . . 1693	Thomas Hill 1678	Thomas Ranney . . . 1660	Thomas Stow 1669
Thomas Allen 1650	George Durant 1663	Thomas Hopewell . . 1662	William Roberts . . . 1680	William Sumner . . . 1687
Nathaniel Bacon . 1650	Samuel Eggleston . . 1663	George Hubbard . 1650	Joseph Rockwell . . 1693	James Tappin 1662
William Briggs 1677	John Elton 1677	John Hulbert 1669	Alexander Rollo . . . 1697	Matthias Treat . . . 1659
John Blake 1677	Thomas Ferman 1679	Isaac Johnson 1670	Noadiah Russell . . . 1696	Edward Turner . . . 1665
William Blumfield 1650	Edward Foster 1670	Francis Jones 1672	David Sage 1662	John Ward 1664
John Boarn 1677	Jonathan Gilbert . . . 1672	John Jordan 1678	John Savage 1650	William Ward 1659
Alexander Bow 1660	John Gill 1676	John Kirby 1653	Arthur Scovill 1671	Andrew Warner . . . 1667
Nathaniel Brown . . . 1655	Richard Goodale . . . 1671	Isaac Lane 1664	Edward Shepard . . . 1687	Robert Warner 1655
Thomas Burk 1670	George Graves 1650?	Thomas Lewis 1687	Joseph Smith 1675	Robert Webster . . 1650
William Cheney 1655	John Hall 1650	William Lucas 1667	William Smith . . . 1650	Benjamin West 1698
Samuel Clark 1676	Richard Hall 1650	Daniel Markham . . . 1677	William Southmayd. 1674	Thomas Wetmore 1650
Jasper Clements . . . 1670	Samuel Hall 1650	Anthony Martin . . . 1661	Comfort Starr 1673	Nathaniel White . 1650
Henry Cole 1650?	Giles Hamlin 1650	John Martin 1650	James Stancliff . . . 1686	Francis Whitmore . . 1674
Nathaniel Collins . . . 1664	Benjamin Hands . . . 1678	Thomas Miller . . . 1650	Samuel Stocking. 1650	John Wilcox 1654
Samuel Collins 1665	Daniel Harris 1653	John Payne 1676	John Stow 1667	James Wright 1690
William Cornwell 1650	William Harris . . . 1650	George Phillips . . . 1680	Nathaniel Stow . . . 1676	

Membership benefits . . .

When you join the Society of Middletown First Settlers Descendants, you will receive:

- Two issues per year of *The Middler*, the SMFSD newsletter full of information useful for research about Middletown's first settler families and local history.
- Access to the SMFSD web site which includes first settler profiles, genealogy resources, local history articles, a custom-prepared annotated bibliography for Middletown research, and an archive of past *Middler* issues.
- The annual membership roster enabling you to network with Middletown "cousins" and researchers across the country.
- The opportunity to attend SMFSD meetings (every three years) in Middletown that include genealogy research, cemetery tours, library/museum visits, networking, and social events.
- The opportunity to participate in the organization, suggest/plan meeting activities, and vote on SMFSD business.

Membership is a simple 1-2-3 procedure . . .

If you are a descendant of *any* pre-1700 Middletown settler, and would like to join SMFSD, here is the easy procedure:

- (1) Send an outline/worksheet of your lineage to the Registrar. The applicant shall do their own genealogical research, and the resulting lineage should be accompanied by copies of reference material by generation. The Registrar seeks to verify submitted information, but does not research family lines.
- (2) Send a check payable to the Society of Middletown First Settlers Descendants (1650-1700) for the non-refundable \$10.00 application handling fee.
- (3) The Registrar will review the application for approval. Documentation is required only through the line of descent from the 1650-1700 settler. If needed, guidelines will be sent that help document descent by generation. (The Society will return an application if more documentation is needed. It is the applicant's responsibility to complete any gaps in the records.) When approved, the new member can choose to pay annual or lifetime dues:
 - (A) Annual dues (Nov. 1 to Oct. 31) are \$20.00 (in addition to the initial \$10.00 handling fee).
 - (B) A new member may elect to pay lifetime dues (instead of annual dues) based on age: Age 0-50, \$300; Age 51-70, \$200; Age 70+, \$100. Life Members receive a certificate suitable for framing.

Friends of SMFSD. Are you a Middletown history enthusiast, but not a descendant of the early families? Would you still like to receive *The Middler*? That's easy! Join us at \$20 per year!

Please send membership inquiries & lineage information to: Cindy Nicewarner, Registrar, Society of Middletown First Settlers Descendants, 6006 River Birch Court, Hanover, MD 21076; or via e-mail to: cnicewarner@verizon.net.

'A Vanished Port' ...

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In conjunction with the exhibition, which will run through 2017, a series of speakers on relevant topics is scheduled throughout the next year. Online visitors to the MCHS website (www.MiddlesexHistory.org) can view an exhibition floorplan, videos, credits, bibliography, and program information.

The exhibition has been funded by Connecticut Humanities, the M. & M. Hoffman Foundation, the R. J. Meigs Fund at Wesleyan University, Richard

& Alexandra Adelstein, Jane Bradbury, and Deborah Shapiro. Also a partner, the Connecticut State Library provided digital access to the logbook of a slave ship commanded by Middletown sea captain and slave dealer John Easton.

Your editor's two-cents: Generations of us New Englanders who could have been enlightened on this subject in junior high school had this part of history neatly compartmentalized as "The Triangle Trade," and then dismissed and buried, while we moved on to the more palatable

mythology that we were always the abolitionist "good guys." Slavery through the millennia and oppressing people for gain is nothing new, of course. But could it be possible that public enlightenment on this topic might help us find our way to a better understanding of the racial divide that continues to trouble our nation and world? In the interpretation of late 18th-century New England life, the topics explored in "A Vanished Port" should be a visible foundation of our fact-based historical narrative. ■



Early Middletown records ... *continued from page 5*

daughters Susanna and Mary. Martha (Coit)(Mould) White. It appears that Hugh Mould never resided in Middletown, and therefore is not an SMFSD qualifying ancestor.

Spellman. According to Middletown vital records, Richard Spellman (1665-1750) and Alcey (French) Spellman (1674-1767) had five children recorded in Middletown between 1701 and 1717. A 1910 family history, however, (*Spelman Genealogy: The English Ancestry and American Descendants of Richard Spelman of Middletown, Connecticut, 1700*, by Fannie Cooley Williams Barbour) notes that they departed England in 1700, and came to Middletown soon after arriving on American shores. Therefore Richard Spellman, despite the family's long

history in Middletown, just misses making the cut as an SMFSD pre-1700 qualifying ancestor.

Standish. This surname is intriguing in the Middletown vital records because of the possible connection to Miles Standish (1584-1656) of the Mayflower. According to Middletown vital records, a James Standish died on Oct. 3, 1712, and his unnamed widow died on Dec. 30, 1712. The other eight entries for that surname are births of a later James & Martha (Wood) Standish between 1738 and 1748. More investigation is warranted.

Tryon. According to Middletown vital records, Abel Tryon (1682-1760) and Abiah/Abiall (Hunnewell) Tryon (1683-1756) had eight children recorded in Middletown between 1704 and 1719. According to *The Tryon Family in America* by Wesley Tryon (1980), Abel Tryon was born in Wethersfield,

became a merchant in Middletown in 1702, married in 1703 (not recorded), and first owned land in Middletown in 1705. Therefore, despite the pages of the Tryon surname in the Barbour compilation of early Middletown vital records, he does not "make the cut" as a qualifying ancestor for SMFSD.

Finally, the survey of pre-1700 Middletown vital records found *no* entries for seven *individuals* on the qualifying ancestor list: William Briggs, William Cheney, George Graves, Thomas Hopewell, Francis Jones, John Jordan, and Matthias Treat. More investigation is needed in land, church, court, and probate records. Member input is very much welcome.

While SMFSD members scurry to comb their databases for the new pre-1700 settlers, the SMFSD registrar and board can now cogitate on whether to revise the list of qualifying ancestors. ■

