



# The Middler

NEWSLETTER of the SOCIETY of MIDDLETOWN FIRST SETTLERS DESCENDANTS  
CONNECTICUT, U.S.A.

Vol. 17, No. 1

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ctsmfsd/Index.html](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ctsmfsd/Index.html)

Spring 2017

## COLONIAL-ERA LIFE

### Middletown's under-the-radar history includes wrestling with the beginnings of social services



At left is a recent view of the Middletown Alms House at 23 Warwick Street. Built in 1813, it served as the town's poorhouse until 1853, when residents were moved to the Town Farm on Silver Street.

Subsequently the federal-era brick building was used for industrial operations through most of the 20th century.

The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982, and is currently used for office space.

### Poor relief was not an issue in 1650, but growth brought change

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

In the first few years of Middletown's settlement in the 1650s, the first 23 families faced the struggles for food, shelter, and security relatively equally. Because everyone was "poor" (or "rich"! ) to about the same degree in those earliest years, there were no town-designated paupers. By the end of the 17th century this would change, and this brief article outlines how the growing town grappled with evolving approaches to poor relief from the 17th to the 19th century.

This overview looks at three periods of poor relief in Middletown: (1) the 1650-1700 period, before any formal poor relief policies; (2) the 1700-1784 period, when policies for boarding paupers and reimbursing providers were adopted; and (3) the post-Revolutionary period of 1784 to the early 19th century, when increasing numbers of the poor in Middletown led to town policies that stressed efficiency, cost control, and labor.

As advanced in *The Development of Local Public Services, 1650-1850: Lessons from Middletown, Conn.* (1995) by Hannah J. McKinney, driving the changes in policies from the 17th to the 19th centuries was the increasing importance of individual

## MILITARY RECORDS

### Many early Middletown family surnames are found in Union Army Civil War records

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

Genealogy, whether approached as a formal study, an obsessive pursuit, or a casual hobby, has evolved and advanced immensely in recent decades. Today we have unparalleled

access to hard evidence, and the power of science to prevail over myth.

Interest remains high, however, in the old-school genealogist's documentation of family military records. Past issues of *The Middler* included articles on Middletown and the Revolutionary War, and finding participating ancestors. The list that follows addresses the interests in descendants of early Middletown families that served in the Civil War between 1861 and 1865.

According to *Civil War Volunteer Sons of Connecticut* by Blaikie Hines (2002), 892 Middletown men served, about 10% of the population. Of the

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*continued on page 6*

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## SMFSD NEWS

# SMFSD welcomes six new members, holds court at NERGC, and cogitates on plans for the 2018 Triennial Meeting

### • Welcome new members.

SMFSD welcomes six new members since the last issue of *The Middler*: **Elizabeth Ann Heise**, AM-365, Brownsville, Texas, (1st settler: Thomas Wetmore); **Irene Patterson Marks Rupp**, AM-366, Amherst, N.Y. (1st settler: Thomas Ranney); **Benjamin Wesley**, AM 367, Davie, Fla. (1st settler: Robert Webster); **Madeline Charlotte Ballman Wesley**, LM-368, Davie, Fla. (1st settler: Robert Webster); **Amelia Judith Ballman Wesley**, AM-369J, Davie, Fla. (1st settler: Robert Webster); and **Karen Masek Shapiro**, AM-370, Greenwich, Conn. (1st settler: William Southmayd).

### • A resignation leaves more than just a simple “vacancy.”

In late January 2017, the SMFSD board of directors received the reluctant resignation notice from SMFSD vice president **Sue Welles**. An active member, officer, and board member since the organization’s beginnings in 2000, her sunny presence – and behind-the-scenes energy, dependability, and judgment – contributed immeasurably to the success of every SMFSD Triennial Meeting through the years. Sue remains an SMFSD member, and although she will no longer be the advance planning point-person for SMFSD activities in Connecticut, we hope to enjoy an even more relaxed pleasure of her company at many more Triennial Meetings.

• **NERGC 2017.** On April 28, 2017, SMFSD exhibited at the “Society Fair” of the New England Regional Genealogy Conference in Springfield, Mass. The April 26-29 event, featuring non-stop programs and seminars, and a bustling vendor exhibition hall, was attended by more than 1000 genealogy enthusiasts. SMFSD has exhibited at the biennial conference since 2007. (See photos on page 3.)

• **SMFSD 2018 Triennial Meeting is on the horizon.** At the NERGC gathering, there was a brief meeting-of-minds about the Triennial Meeting in Middletown tentatively set

for October 2018. Member input is welcome about activities, excursions, research destinations, guest speakers, and networking/socializing opportunities. Members are encouraged to put on their thinking caps, secure the chin strap, twirl the propeller, and then send any resulting ideas to SMFSD president Marge Pierson via email: [marge.pierson@comcast.net](mailto:marge.pierson@comcast.net).

• **Tweaking the SMFSD membership procedure.** Just in time for the NERGC gathering, a change was made to the membership procedure outlined in the SMFSD brochure and on the website. The purpose was to streamline the process for both the applicant and the registrar. Now interested folks will first inquire about membership via email to our registrar, Cindy Nicewarner, at [cnicewarner@verizon.net](mailto:cnicewarner@verizon.net). In return they will receive an application form with easy-to-follow instructions on providing lineage and documentation. This will simplify the process for the applicant, and allow our registrar to finally come to the surface from beneath tons of paper.

• **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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FIRST SETTLERS DESCENDANTS  
1650-1700 – Middletown, Connecticut, U.S.A.  
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### SMFSD OFFICERS

**President** ..... Margery Pierson  
**Vice President** .....  
**Secretary** ..... Laura Hobbs  
**Treasurer** ..... Mike Campbell  
**Historian** ..... Don Brock  
**Registrar** ..... Cynthia Nicewarner  
**Middler Editor** ..... R.W. Bacon

## To rejoice or beware?: Hinman’s 1846 work, *The First Puritan Settlers of Connecticut*

In 2014 the New England Historic Genealogical Society reprinted, in an affordable paperback, *The First Puritan Settlers of Connecticut*, first published in 1846 by the tireless Royal R. Hinman (1785-1868).

Most reprintings of this nature are cause for celebration. But this one prompts a caution: Hinman’s work is riddled with errors and includes no

sources. Of course, considering the research obstacles of his time, the book is a monumental achievement. But your editor defers to Middletown’s paramount genealogist, the irascible Frank Farnsworth Starr (1852-1939):

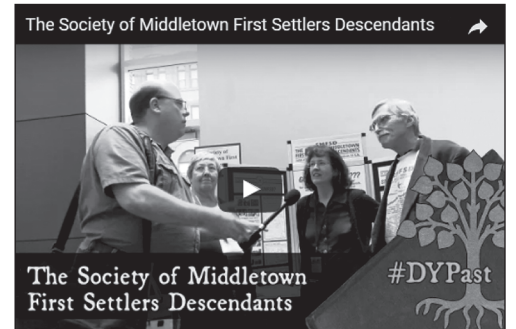
“I warn you that Hinman’s *Puritan Settlers of Connecticut* is worthless as to authority, and full of mistakes.” (letter to a client, Sept. 20, 1927). ■



Above left is the Mass. Mutual Center in Springfield, Mass., site of the 2017 New England Regional Genealogical Conference, attended by 1000-plus avid genealogists April 26-29, 2017.

## SMFSD exhibits at NERGC

April 27, 2017  
Mass. Mutual Ctr.  
Springfield, Mass.



Above left are (l. to r.) *Middler* editor Reg Bacon, SMFSD president Marge Pierson, and SMFSD secretary Laura Hobbs in front of the SMFSD booth at the NERGC Society Fair event on April 27. In the above center photo, Godfrey Library director Beth Mariotti (at left) and Reg Bacon (at right) chat with a visitor. Above right, Dan Young of the television show “Discovering Your Past” interviews SMFSD representatives. Below, a crowd gathers for one of the many informative conference



## Federal 'HABS' program wasn't busy in Middletown, but several surveys illuminate local history & daily life

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

In late 1933, the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) was established by the U.S. Department of the Interior to document the nation's most at-risk historic structures through data collection, photography, and standardized measured drawings. The initiative, the brainchild of National Parks Service architect Charles E. Peterson (1906-2004), was at first a New Deal make-work program for underemployed architects and draftspeople. Over the course of the last year, your editor was thoroughly immersed in a book project about the federal HABS program and its lasting legacy and influence on historic preservation today.

Hence on these pages, *The Middler* takes the opportunity to explore the HABS documentation activities in and around Middletown.

The HABS program, most active from 1934 to 1942, was administered by state and region, and its regional district officers prioritized structures to be surveyed. With a mission to document the most at-risk buildings – and a mission to eschew mythology, ancestor worship, and breathless antiquarianism – the HABS program introduced a scientific objectivity to architectural preservation.

In Connecticut, of the 33 surveys conducted in Middlesex County, six were in Middletown. Curiously, only one structure in Middletown built before 1800 was documented. On

these pages are photos and plans from surveys relevant to early Middletown life, from modest 18th-century homes in Portland and Middlefield, to Samuel D. Hubbard's 1827 "Mansion House" hotel on Main Street. These images are only a few of the thousands of HABS drawings and photos from across the U.S. viewable at the Library of Congress website, [www.LOC.gov](http://www.LOC.gov).

The research referenced earlier resulted in *The HABS and the HABS NOTs: Documenting the Architecture of Newburyport (Mass.) in the Historic American Buildings Survey*, released in May 2017 for national Preservation Month events. The book is available through [www.VarietyArtsPress.com](http://www.VarietyArtsPress.com), [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com), or by special order from your favorite bookseller. ■

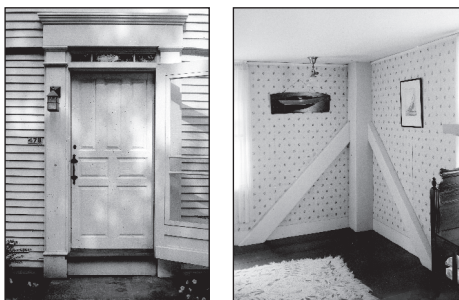
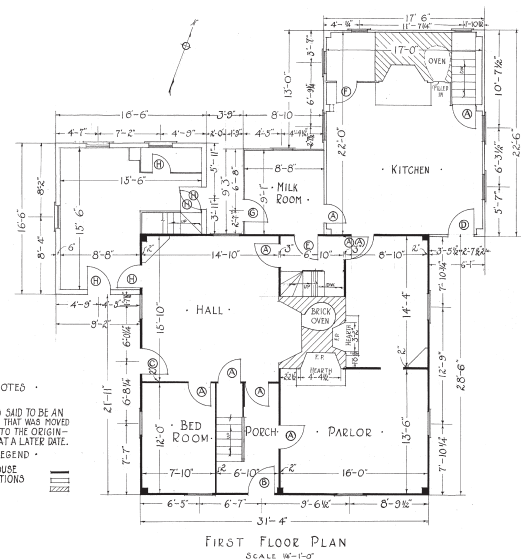


### Samuel Hall House Portland, Conn. (c. 1732)

Portland, Conn., across the Connecticut River from present-day Middletown, was "East Middletown" until 1767, and then Chatham until 1841. Many early homes remain in Portland today, but the Historic American Buildings Survey documented just one in the 1930s, the c. 1732 Samuel Hall House at 478 Main St.

The top three views at left were taken by HABS photographer Everett Keeler on Sept. 1, 1937. At bottom left is a current photo of the house. At right are the front elevation and first-floor plan of the house, as measured and drawn by HABS delineator D. Rook and completed in 1939. All eight photos and 12 drawings from the survey are available at [www.LOC.gov](http://www.LOC.gov).

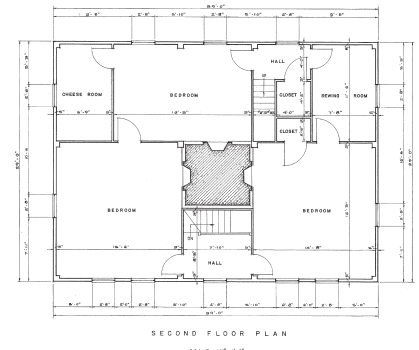
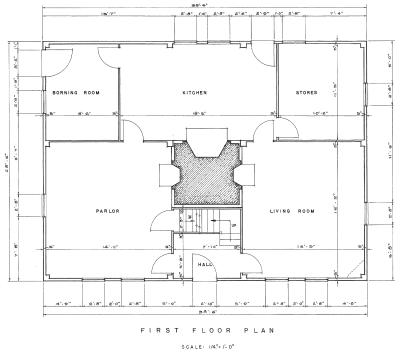
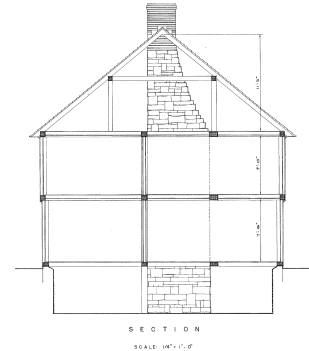
Samuel Hall (1663-1739) was a grandson of early Middletown settler John Hall (1584-1673).



## Stephen Talcott House Middlefield, Conn. (c. 1741)

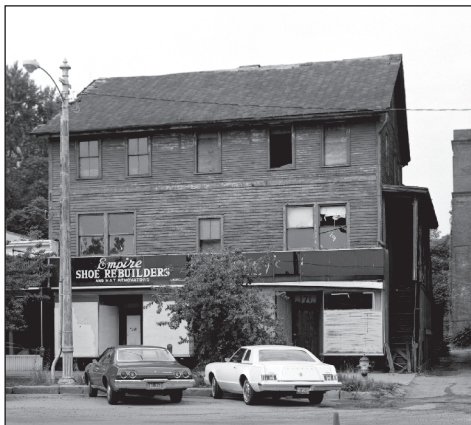
Middlefield, Conn., part of Middletown until 1866, can boast many early homes, but only one, the c. 1741 (or 1776?) Stephen Talcott House at 113 Laurel Brook Road, was selected for a HABS survey – seven measured drawings – in 1956.

At right are elevations and floor plans as drawn by Edwin W. deCossy in 1956. Below is a current tree-shrouded photo of the house.



## William Hall House Middletown, Conn. (c. 1796)

Below is the c. 1797 William Hall House at 171 Main St., Middletown, razed in 1980 after a fire, but not before HABS photos of Dr. Hall's (1764-1809) former apothecary shop and medical school.

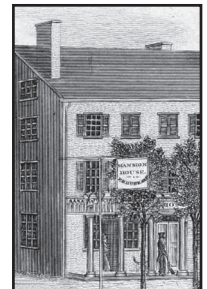


## The Exchange Block Middletown, Conn. (c. 1827)

Downtown Middletown's Exchange Block (108-150 Main Street) was documented by HABS in 1978 prior to commercial redevelopment in a survey that includes 19 photos and 16 data pages. Of special interest to Middletown history

and genealogy enthusiasts is the 1827 stagecoach-era hotel, the Mansion House.

Samuel D. Hubbard (1799-1855), a descendant of early Middletown settler George Hubbard (1601-1685), acquired, via the estate of his father, Main Street land formerly of William Southmayd, and built the 24-room hotel in 1827. The hotel was known by different names after it passed out of the Hubbard family in 1854. Below are two 1978 HABS photos, plus 1833 advertising art for the hotel.



## Relief of the poor in early Middletown ...

continued from page 1

ownership of property – and of the individual right to one’s own wage labor. Over time, in Middletown and elsewhere, the individual replaced the household as the most important social and economic unit.

**1650-1700.** As detailed in *Historical Development of the Poor Law in Connecticut* (1905) by Edward Capen, early Connecticut settlements took their lead from the foundational principle of English poor law that the relief of paupers was a town responsibility. Hartford to the north had set aside a tract for a poor farm as early as 1640, and the New Haven Colony to the south began a policy of supplying poor relief to people in their own homes in 1645. But in Middletown’s early settlement, the need for labor, even for subsistence agriculture, was so great that providing for the poor was not an issue. If a particular family was enduring a temporary hardship, neighbors provided what was called “outdoor relief” as a moral or religious duty, not as a matter of civic policy.

Although poverty itself was not a crime, in 1636 the Connecticut Colony approved laws to regulate the entertainment of transient persons and the admission of inhabitants. The head of a family was forbidden to entertain any young man without permission from legal inhabitants. An unmarried man also could not keep his own household in a town without permission. The penalty for violation was 20 shillings per week. These laws served to protect the towns from the burden of poor relief, should any of these single folk prove to be the “idlers.”

After the union of the Connecticut Colony and the New Haven colony in 1664, the 1636 laws were extended. If an individual was found to be in violation, and did not leave town after being warned to depart, the punishment, in addition to the 20 shillings per week penalty was both corporal punishment and sitting in the stocks for one hour per week. To be sure,

these policies were also intended to discourage free-thinking outsiders who might create “unjust disturbance.” In Middletown, according to *Town Votes, Vol. I*, there were 20 non-residents “warned out” in the 1650s.

In 1673 the Connecticut General Court established its first poor law, which was more liberal than previous statutes. Basically, the law provided that each town should care for its own poor; the town had a loophole to escape responsibility; the individual was “official” after three months if not properly warned; and the Court of Assistants would order how those who had been warned should be cared for.

But the colony’s laws on transients and admission of inhabitants actually grew more strict with the revisions of 1676, 1682, and 1702, with more emphasis on the issue of social conformity rather than poor relief.

**1700-1784.** By 1700, the General Court of the growing Connecticut Colony was facing a pile-up of issues like “idleness,” “intemperance,” and “bastardy,” all of which folded into the issue of poor relief. In 1702, selectmen were empowered to remove individuals from town who lived a “idle and riotous life.” In 1702 and 1711 the General Court passed laws ordering that slave owners be responsible for the support of slaves that needed care.

In Middletown, the first record of public funds allocated for poor relief was in 1695: 10 shillings for “keeping the Widow Martin.” The next instance was in 1725, when Richard Spellman was granted five pounds towards “the maintenance of Hannah Edyes child, Ezubah by name, provided the child lives two months from this day.” (*Town Votes, Vol. 1*).

In 1719 the General Court ordered town selectmen to “diligently inspect

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**In Middletown’s early settlement, the need for labor was so great that providing for the poor was not an issue.**

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into the affairs and managements of all poor or idle persons,” and if needed, to oversee their care. This was the beginning of the overseer system of administering poor relief. Between 1720 and 1732, Middletown selectmen managed only three cases. More common were tax abatements for those disabled by sickness or infirmity. Between 1760 and 1779, six poor children were removed from their homes to be indentured to learn a trade in a more stable household.

By mid-century, Middletown was a bustling port and a growing city – with a growing need for poor relief. In 1761 Middletown paid overseers for the care of 16 paupers, mostly women, children, and elderly. In this period, non-inhabitants who might land on the relief rolls were warned out even more aggressively, being physically removed by constables if necessary. In 1766, town selectmen first discussed building an alms house, but that would not become a reality until 1813.

In 1773, 15 families received aid totaling 118 pounds – which involved payment to 23 overseers. Between 1759 and 1776, 178 Middletown residents, mostly from the farming districts of Middletown and on the economic fringe themselves, provided poor relief in the form of room, board, fuel, and personal care.

**1784 - early 19th century.** By the late 18th century, poor relief in the flush port city of Middletown was a front-and-center problem. Nearly 200 people received poor relief from the town between 1784 and 1799. The wealthy in-town residents had little to do with providing relief itself, except as taxpayers. Most service providers were poor farmers themselves. As the number of poor increased, however, town selectmen stepped up to be providers, because they were unable to find others to take the job.

It was in 1784 that Middletown began to hold semi-annual auctions of the right to board paupers. This was akin to bidding for a government contract – in this case the right to board an elderly or infirm person as

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## Early family surnames in Civil War records

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892, 66 died, 28 were killed or missing, 151 wounded, 50 captured. Deserters (153) comprised 17% of the total.

To compile this list, service records were carefully combed through,

including service records of adjacent towns, and records of those with early Middletown family surnames were extracted. (Note that for common surnames like Brown, Clark, or Jones, only research can confirm connection to the original Middletown family.)

Note also the absence or scarcity of surnames of some long-established

Middletown families. This may be attributable to the practice of paying for a replacement to serve instead.

By the time of the Civil War, many descendants of early Middletown families had departed for points west. But for those whose families stayed, or for those tracking all family lines, may this list prove useful. ■

### Middletown:

Name	Attachment	Enlisted	Discharged	Notes
Pvt. Thomas P. Allen	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/4/1862	12/1/1862	Wounded 9/23/1862, Fort Ethan Allen, Va.
Pvt. Thomas D. Bacon	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/23/1862	9/30/1863	
Pvt. Halsey H. Blake	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/1/1862	9/30/1863	Musician
Pvt. Alfred Brown	Conn. 12th Infantry	3/10/1864	8/12/1865	
Pvt. George Brown	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/6/1862		Killed 9/17/1862 at Antietam, Md.
Pvt. George Brown	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/31/1862	9/30/1863	10th Infantry 12/1864 to 8/1865
Pvt. George Brown	Conn. 15th Infantry	3/28/1864		Transferred to U.S. Navy 5/17/1864; deserted 3/17/1865
Pvt. Henry B. Brown	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/30/1862		Died 3/25/1863
Pvt. James Brown	Conn. 2nd Infantry	4/20/1861	8/7/1861	
Pvt. John Brown	Conn. 1st Cavalry	11/25/1861	8/2/1865	Wagoner
Pvt. John Brown	Conn. 8th Infantry	11/21/1864		Deserted on 3/24/1865
Pvt. Patrick A. Brown	Conn. 11th Infantry	12/27/1864		Deserted on 2/22/1865
Pvt. William Brown	Conn. 15th Infantry	3/9/1864		Deserted on 2/20/1865
Pvt. William Brown	Conn. 11th Infantry	12/29/1864		Deserted on 6/2/1865
Pvt. William Brown	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/9/1862	9/30/1863	
Capt. Alpheus D. Clark	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/1/1862	1/17/1866	Promoted to Captain 1/20/1865
Pvt. Ashbel A. Clark	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/6/1862	1/30/1863	Discharged for disability
Pvt. Charles B. Clark	Conn. 1st Artillery	12/1/1863	9/25/1865	
Pvt. Cornwall S. Clark	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861		Deserted 4/11/1864
Pvt. Curtiss S. Clark	Conn. 7th Infantry	9/5/1861		Killed 6/16/1862 at James Island, S.C.
Pvt. Edgar E. Clark	Conn. 2nd Infantry	4/20/1861	8/7/1861	
Pvt. Frederick B. Clark	Conn. 2nd Infantry	4/20/1861	7/26/1861	Musician; discharged for disability
Pvt. Henry B. Clark	Conn. 2nd Infantry	4/20/1861	8/7/1861	
Pvt. Henry Clark	Conn. 15th Infantry	11/19/1864	6/19/1865	POW 3/8 - 3/26/1865, Kinston, N.C.
Pvt. James Clark	Conn. 14th Infantry	7/28/1863		Deserted on 8/16/1864
Pvt. John B. Clark	13th & 24th Infantry	1/11/1862	9/30/1863	Wounded 6/14/1863 at Port Hudson, La.
Pvt. John O. Clark	20th & 5th Infantry	8/31/1864	7/19/1865	
Pvt. Robert Clark	Conn. 15th Infantry	3/8/1864		Shot for desertion on 8/14/1864
Pvt. Samuel E. Clark	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/27/1862		Died 6/20/1863
Pvt. William Clark	2nd & 24th Infantry	4/20/1861	9/30/1863	
Pvt. William H. Clark	Conn. 14th Infantry	7/30/1862	5/31/1865	
Pvt. William Collins	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/15/1862		Deserted on 11/18/1862
Pvt. George R. Foster	Conn. 15th Infantry	4/21/1864		POW 3/8 - 3/26/1865, Kinston, N.C. deserted 4/30/1865
Pvt. Frederick Gilbert	Conn. 24th Infantry	10/15/1862	3/21/1863	AWOL from 1st Cavalry 8/29/1863
Pvt. Edward Hall	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/8/1862	6/30/1863	Discharged for disability
Sgt. Theodore H. Hall	Conn. 24th Infantry	4/20/1861	aft. 1863	Served in 2nd, 21st, & 24th Infantry
Cpl. William H. Hall	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/20/1862	2/14/1865	Wounded 5/10/1864 at Laurel Hill, Va.
Pvt. Alonzo C. Harris	Conn. 1st Artillery	3/9/1862	9/25/1865	
Pvt. Frank Hill	Conn. 13th Infantry	3/1/1864		Deserted on 4/12/1864
Pvt. Daniel B. Hubbard	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/2/1862	1/19/1863	Discharged for disability
Capt. Daniel R. Hubbard	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861	9/20/1864	

*continued on page 8*



continued from page 7

**Middletown (continued):**

Name	Attachment	Enlisted	Discharged	Notes
Pvt. Edwin Hubbard	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/8/1862	9/30/1863	
Sgt. George A. Hubbard	Conn. 14th Infantry	7/31/1862	5/31/1865	Wounded 12/13/1862 Fredericksburg, Va. & 7/3/1863 Gettysburg, Pa.
Pvt. Gilbert H. Hubbard	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/4/1862	6/19/1863	Discharged for disability
Pvt. Henry D. Hubbard	Conn. 16th Infantry	2/16/1864		POW 4/20/1864; died 9/2/1864 at Andersonville, Ga.
Lt. Nathaniel N. Hubbard	21st & 6th Infantry	8/13/1862	3/3/1865	Wounded 9/29/1864 at New Market, Va.
Sgt. Pascal T. Hubbard	Conn. 2nd Infantry	4/20/1861	8/7/1861	
Pvt. Robert Hubbard	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/6/1862		Killed 9/17/1862 at Antietam, Md.
Pvt. Pierre P. Hurlburt	Conn. 14th Infantry	7/31/1862	1/31/1863	Musician; discharged for disability
Pvt. John Hurlburt	Conn. 10th Infantry	3/26/1864		Transferred; failed to report; no record
Pvt. Charles Johnson	Conn. 10th Infantry	3/26/1864		Transferred; failed to report; no record
Pvt. Charles Johnson	Conn. 10th Infantry	11/22/1864		Deserted on 8/7/1865
Cpl. Edward Johnson	Conn. 13th Infantry	11/7/1861	9/1/1865	Reduced to Private
Pvt. Edward Johnson	8th & 15th Infantry	9/25/1861	11/2/1861	Also served 3/7 -10/12/1864; d. 10/12/1864
Pvt. Frank M. Johnson	Conn. 3rd Artillery	9/28/1864	6/23/1865	
Pvt. George W. Johnson	Conn. 8th Infantry	2/24/1864	12/12/1865	
Pvt. Hugh Johnson	Conn. 7th Infantry	11/30/1864	7/20/1865	
Pvt. Jehiel Johnson	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/26/1862	5/7/1863	Musician; discharged for disability
Pvt. Patrick Johnson	Conn. 24th Infantry	11/18/1862		Deserted on 11/18/1862
Pvt. Samuel Johnson	Conn. 11th Infantry	3/28/1864	?	POW 5/16/1864 Drewry's Bluff, Va.; to Andersonville, Ga. 5/23/1864
Sgt. Samuel M. Johnson	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861	5/21/1864	
Pvt. Sherman Johnson	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/4/1862	5/31/1865	
Pvt. Wilbur W. Johnson	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/5/1862	5/31/1865	
Pvt. William H. Johnson	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/5/1862		Killed 12/13/1862 at Fredericksburg, Va.
Cpl. Wm. H. Johnson, Jr.	14th & 3rd Infantry	8/5/1862	7/6/1865	Wounded 12/13/1862 Fredericksburg, Va.
Lt. Wm. H. Johnson, Jr.	2nd & 8th Infantry	4/20/1861		Died of disease on 4/6/1862
Pvt. John Jones	Conn. 10th Infantry	11/21/1864		Deserted on 4/14/1865
Sgt. John Jones	Conn. 11th Infantry	3/28/1864	12/21/1865	
Pvt. John M. Jordan	Conn. 11th Infantry	11/22/1861	10/7/1862	Discharged for disability
Pvt. Matthew Kirby	Conn. 11th Infantry	12/1/1864	10/2/1865	
Pvt. William Lane	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/1/1864	?	Transferred to 2nd Artillery 5/30/1865
Cpl. Charles E. Lewis	Conn. 14th Infantry	6/23/1862	5/31/1865	Wounded 5/13/1864 at Spotsylvania, Va.
Pvt. John B. Lewis	Conn. 2nd Infantry	4/20/1861	8/7/1861	
Pvt. Michael Lewis	Conn. 21st Infantry	8/15/1862	6/16/1865	Wounded 6/3/1864 at Cold Harbor, Va.
Pvt. Hiram L. Markham	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/26/1862	9/25/1865	Also served with 1st Artillery
Pvt. William R. Markum	Conn 1st Artillery	5/22/1861	9/25/1865	Wagoner
Pvt. Edward Martin	Conn. 11th Infantry	3/10/1864		Deserted on 9/2/1864
Pvt. James Martin	Conn. 11th Infantry	3/28/1864		Deserted on 3/2/1865
Pvt. William Martin	Conn. 10th Infantry	3/26/1864		Transferred 3/31/1864; failed to report
Pvt. James F. Martin	Conn. 10th Infantry	11/26/1864	6/27/1865	
Pvt. Amos G. Miller	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/31/1862		Killed 6/14/1863 at Port Hudson, La.
Pvt. James Miller	Conn. 24th Infantry	10/9/1862		Deserted on 11/18/1862
Pvt. John Miller	Conn. 6th Infantry	12/3/1864	8/21/1865	
Pvt. William W. Miller	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/1/1862		Killed 8/16/1864 at Deep Bottom Run, Va.
Pvt. Benjamin F. Prior	Conn. 18th Infantry	6/15/1862	6/2/1865	
Pvt. I. Beauchamp Prior	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/5/1862	5/31/1865	
Pvt. Charles S. Roberts	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/31/1862	9/30/1863	
Cpl. Ralph R. Roberts	2nd & 21st Infantry	4/20/1861	6/2/1865	Wounded 7/30/1864 at Petersburg, Va.
Pvt. Frank Russell	Conn. 17th Infantry	9/28/1864		Transferred 10/20/1864; failed to report
Lt. Robert Russell	2nd & 14th Infantry	4/20/1861	5/31/1865	Wounded 5/6/1864 at Wilderness, Va.

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**Middletown (continued):**

Name	Attachment	Enlisted	Discharged	Notes
Pvt. William Russell	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/6/1862		Died 2/18/1863
Pvt. Charles L. Sage	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/30/1862	9/30/1863	Musician
Cpl. James H. Sage	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/5/1862	11/12/1863	Wounded 7/3/1863 at Gettysburg, Pa.
Pvt. John L. Sage	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/15/1862	9/30/1863	
Pvt. William Shepard	Conn. 29th Infantry	6/3/1864	10/24/1865	Wounded by burst musket, Beaufort, S.C.
Pvt. Joseph G. Southmayd	Conn. 14th Infantry	1/1/1862		Deserted on 3/17/1862
Sgt. Benjamin Starr	Conn. 7th Infantry	9/7/1861		Died 4/16/1865
Pvt. Edward C. Starr	Conn. 2nd Infantry	4/20/1861	8/7/1861	
Pvt. Samuel A. Starr	Conn. 5th Infantry	6/22/1861	7/19/1865	POW 8/9 - 9/15/1862, Cedar Mountain, Va.
Pvt. William E. Starr	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/11/1862	12/11/1862	Discharged for disability
Cpl. Thomas Tappan	Conn. 7th Infantry	9/3/1861		Killed 7/11/1863 at Fort Wagner, SC..
Lt. John A. Turner	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861		Resigned 11/6/1861
Pvt. Andrew Ward	Conn. 8th Infantry	11/22/1864		Furloughed 3/17/1865; failed to return
Pvt. Aaron C. Warner	Conn. 13th Infantry	1/19/1862		Died 2/25/1862
Pvt. Andrew J. Warner	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/8/1862	1/24/1863	Discharged for disability
Pvt. Wells J. Warner	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/5/1862	9/30/1863	
Pvt. Frank White	Conn. 1st Artillery	12/23/1863		Deserted on 8/2/1865
Pvt. Pierce White	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861	9/25/1865	
Pvt. William W. White	Conn. 10th Infantry	12/20/1864	8/25/1865	
Pvt. Benjamin C. Wilcox	Conn. 14th Infantry	8/2/1862	1/30/1863	Wounded 9/17/1862 at Antietam, Md.
Pvt. Marius W. Wilcox	Conn. 7th Infantry	1/5/1864	10/21/1865	Wounded 9/29/1864 at Laurel Hill, Va.
Sgt. William H. Wright	2nd & 21st Infantry	4/20/1861	6/7/1865	Wounded 9/29/1864 at Fort Harrison, Va.

**Cromwell:**

Name	Attachment	Enlisted	Discharged	Notes
Pvt. Hiram A. Clark	Conn. 16th Infantry	8/7/1862		POW 4/20/1864 Plymouth, N.C.; died 8/18/1864 at Andersonville, Ga.
Pvt. Walter F. Clark	Conn. 7th Infantry	8/27/1861		Wounded 5/16/1864 Drewry's Bluff, Va.; died of wounds 6/10/1865
Pvt. Charles T. Hubbard	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/14/1862	7/5/1865	Wounded 8/16/1863 New Haven, Conn.
Pvt. Jeremiah Hubbard	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/13/1862	6/13/1865	
Cpl. John H. Hubbard	Conn. 1st Artillery	2/13/1862	9/25/1865	
Sgt. Frederick Hubbard	Conn. 1st Artillery	2/26/1862	3/12/1865	
Pvt. Daniel Jones	Conn. 11th Infantry	3/17/1864	6/29/1865	Discharged for disability
Sgt. Wells Jones	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861	9/25/1865	
Pvt. J. Newell Sage	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/9/1862	6/6/1863	Discharged for disability
Pvt. Orrin B. Sage	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/11/1862	6/13/1865	
Pvt. George H. Sage	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/11/1862	6/13/1865	
Pvt. William Savage	Conn. 11th Infantry	11/18/1861	10/20/1865	
Lt. Edward B. Savage	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/8/1862	9/30/1863	
Pvt. Marcus B. White	Conn. 20th Infantry	9/26/1864	7/19/1865	
Pvt. Charles G. Wilcox	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/12/1862		Wounded 8/27/1864 Turner, Ga.; d. 9/1/64
Pvt. Levert Wright	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861	10/9/1862	

**Chatham:**

Name	Attachment	Enlisted	Discharged	Notes
Pvt. George Brown	Conn. 20th Infantry	9/21/1864	6/27/1865	POW 3/8 - 3/26/1865 Kinston, N.C.
Chp. Thomas G. Brown	Conn. 21st Infantry	5/8/1863	6/16/1865	Chaplain; wounded 5/16/1864 at Drewry's Bluff, Va.
Capt. Delos D. Brown	Conn. 21st Infantry	8/5/1862	10/21/1864	
Pvt. Miles C. Burke	Conn. 12th Infantry	11/8/1861	7/14/1862	Discharged for disability
Pvt. Normand A. Burke	12th & 14th Infantry	11/18/1861		Deserted 8/28/1862
Pvt. Ezra D. Burke	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/30/1862	9/30/1863	

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**Chatham (continued):**

Name	Attachment	Enlisted	Discharged	Notes
Pvt. Jonathan C. Clark	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/30/1862	9/30/1863	Injured 6/14/1863 at Port Hudson, La.
Pvt. George W. Johnson	Conn. 8th Infantry	8/2/1862		Died 12/3/1862
Cpl. William H. Lucas	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861	5/21/1864	
Cpl. Junius Lucas	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861	9/25/1865	
Pvt. Denison G. Markham	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/30/1862	9/30/1863	
Sgt. F. George Markham	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/21/1862	9/30/1863	
Pvt. Gilbert West	Conn. 21st Infantry	8/7/1862	7/14/1865	Wounded 5/16/1864 Drewry's Bluff, Va.
Pvt. George H. White	Conn. 24th Infantry	8/27/1862	9/30/1863	
Pvt. Warren A. Wright		9/9/1862	9/30/1863	Wounded 6/14/1863 at Port Hudson, La.

**Portland:**

Name	Attachment	Enlisted	Discharged	Notes
Pvt. George Allen	Conn. 1st Artillery	12/5/1864		Deserted on 5/11/1865
Pvt. William Brown	Conn. 11th Infantry	11/29/1864		Deserted on 9/8/1865
Pvt. George Brown	Conn. 13th Infantry	3/18/1864		Transferred 5/8/1864; failed to report
Pvt. Philip Brown	Conn. 11th Infantry	3/24/1864	?	"Detached to Ambulance Corps"
Cpl. Henry A. Cornwall	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/4/1862	6/13/1865	
Pvt. William Foster	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/8/1862		Died 11/25/1862
Cpl. Nathaniel B. Hall	Conn. 9th Infantry	11/1/1861	8/3/1865	
Lt. Col. Alfred G. Hall	Conn. 9th Infantry	10/20/1861	10/27/1865	
Sgt. John Hall	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/9/1862	6/13/1865	POW 5/3 - 5/14/1863 Chancellorsville, Va.
Pvt. William Jones	Conn. 11th Infantry	3/24/1864		POW 5/16/64 - 2/22/65, Drewry's Bluff, Va.; furloughed 3/4/1865; failed to return
Pvt. Charles A. Markham	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/17/1862	6/13/1865	
Pvt. David Miller	Conn. 20th Infantry	3/18/1864		Transferred to U.S. Navy 5/17/1864; discharged from Navy 8/10/1865
Pvt. Robert Miller	Conn. 15th Infantry	3/23/1864		Transferred to U.S. Navy 5/17/1864; deserted 12/19/1864
Pvt. Benjamin F. Sage	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/4/1862	6/13/1865	
Pvt. George A. Shepard	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/11/1862	?	Transferred to General Hospital 6/17/1863
Sgt. James M. Stancliff	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/4/1862	6/13/1865	
Pvt. Joseph A. Stocking	Conn. 20th Infantry	8/12/1862	6/13/1865	
Pvt. Alonzo Warner	Conn. 9th Infantry	11/1/1861	8/3/1865	
Pvt. William Warner	Conn. 24th Infantry	9/19/1862	9/30/1863	
Pvt. William H. Wilcox	Conn. 12th Infantry	12/8/1861	6/14/1865	POW 3/27 - 4/1/1863 Pattersonville, La.; POW 10/19 - 11/15/1864 Cedar Creek, Va.
Pvt. Isaac Wright	Conn. 13th Infantry	3/16/1864		Transferred 12/29/1864; deserted 7/27/1865

**Berlin:**

Name	Attachment	Enlisted	Discharged	Notes
Pvt. George G. Allen	Conn. 7th Infantry	12/24/1864	7/20/1865	
Cpl. Henry Allen	Conn. 6th Infantry	8/26/1861		Killed 10/22/1862 at Pocotaligo, S.C.
Sgt. Nelson Allen	Conn. 1st Artillery	5/22/1861	9/25/1865	
Sgt. Andrew J. Bacon	Conn. 14th Infantry	7/28/1862		POW 5/9/1864 Ely's Ford, Va.; died a POW 1/25/1865 at Florence, S.C.
Cpl. Elijah William Bacon	Conn. 14th Infantry	7/28/1862		Killed 5/6/1864 at Wilderness, Va.
Pvt. Oliver D. Bacon	Conn. 1st Cavalry	8/9/1861	9/15/1864	Saddler
Pvt. Edwin J. Clark	3rd & 21st Infantry	4/24/1861		Died of disease on 1/24/1863
Cpl. Edwin J. Clark	Conn. 1st Artillery	10/22/1861	5/23/1864	
Pvt. James Collins	16th & 6th Infantry	2/15/1864	8/21/1865	
Sgt. Julius Collins	Conn. 2nd Artillery	1/4/1864	8/18/1865	
Pvt. Luke Collins	Conn. 1st Artillery	12/1/1864		Deserted 8/3/1865
Pvt. William L. Elton	Conn. 5th Infantry	6/29/1861	10/14/1862	Discharged for disability

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## 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	<b>Samuel Stow . . . . . 1651</b>
Obadiah Allyn . . . . . 1670	Samuel Doolittle . . . 1693	Thomas Hill . . . . . 1678	Thomas Ranney . . . 1660	Thomas Stow . . . . . 1669
<b>Thomas Allen . . . . . 1650</b>	George Durant . . . . . 1663	Thomas Hopewell . . 1662	William Roberts . . . 1680	William Sumner . . . 1687
<b>Nathaniel Bacon . 1650</b>	Samuel Eggleston . . 1663	<b>George Hubbard . 1650</b>	Joseph Rockwell . . 1693	James Tappin . . . . . 1662
William Briggs . . . . . 1677	John Elton . . . . . 1677	John Hulbert . . . . . 1669	Alexander Rollo . . . 1697	<b>Matthias Treat . . 1659</b>
John Blake . . . . . 1677	Thomas Ferman . . . . 1679	Isaac Johnson . . . . 1670	Noadiah Russell . . . 1696	Edward Turner . . . . 1665
<b>William Blumfield 1650</b>	Edward Foster . . . . . 1670	Francis Jones . . . . . 1672	David Sage . . . . . 1662	John Ward . . . . . 1664
John Boarn . . . . . 1677	Jonathan Gilbert . . . 1672	John Jordan . . . . . 1678	<b>John Savage . . . . 1650</b>	William Ward . . . . . 1659
Alexander Bow . . . . . 1660	John Gill . . . . . 1676	<b>John Kirby . . . . . 1653</b>	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	<b>Robert Webster . . 1650</b>
William Cheney . . . . 1655	<b>John Hall . . . . . 1650</b>	William Lucas . . . . . 1667	<b>William Smith . . . 1650</b>	Benjamin West . . . . 1698
Samuel Clark . . . . . 1676	<b>Richard Hall . . . . 1650</b>	Daniel Markham . . . 1677	William Southmayd. 1674	<b>Thomas Wetmore 1650</b>
Jasper Clements . . . 1670	<b>Samuel Hall . . . . . 1650</b>	Anthony Martin . . . . 1661	Comfort Starr . . . . . 1673	<b>Nathaniel White . 1650</b>
Henry Cole . . . . . 1650?	<b>Giles Hamlin . . . . 1650</b>	<b>John Martin . . . . . 1650</b>	James Stancliff . . . . 1686	Francis Whitmore . . 1674
Nathaniel Collins . . . 1664	Benjamin Hands . . . . 1678	<b>Thomas Miller . . . . 1650</b>	<b>Samuel Stocking. 1650</b>	John Wilcox . . . . . 1654
Samuel Collins . . . . . 1665	<b>Daniel Harris . . . . 1653</b>	John Payne . . . . . 1676	John Stow . . . . . 1667	James Wright . . . . . 1690
<b>William Cornwell 1650</b>	<b>William Harris . . . . 1650</b>	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) **Contact our Registrar, Cindy Nicewarner** ([cnicewarner@verizon.net](mailto:cnicewarner@verizon.net)), about your interest. She will email an instruction sheet and application.
- (2) **Complete the SMFSD application** and mail to the Registrar. The applicant shall do their own research. Lineage should be accompanied by copies of reference material by generation. SMFSD seeks to verify information, but does not research family lines. A \$10.00 application fee will be added to the dues payment upon verification.
- (3) **The Registrar will review the application** for approval. Documentation is required only through the line of descent from the 1650-1700 settler. Instructions are included with the application that explain guidelines for documentation of descent by generation. (SMFSD will return an application if more documentation is needed. It is the applicant's responsibility to complete any gaps in the records.)

**Dues:** When approved, new members can choose to pay annual or lifetime dues: (A) Annual dues (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31) are \$20.00. (B) New members may elect to pay lifetime dues based on age: Age 0-50, \$300; Age 51-70, \$200; Age 70+, \$100.

**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 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](mailto:cnicewarner@verizon.net).

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### Berlin (continued):

Name . . . . .	Attachment . . . . .	Enlisted . . . . .	Discharged . . . . .	Notes
Pvt. Thomas H. Gilbert . . .	Conn. 14th Infantry . . .	7/30/1862 . . .	12/11/1862 . . .	Discharged for disability
Cpl. Moses Gilbert, Jr. . . .	Conn. 14th Infantry . . .	8/7/1862 . . .	12/11/1862 . . .	Discharged for disability
Pvt. Henry R. Gilbert . . . . .	1st & 2nd Artillery . . . . .	5/22/1861 . . . . .		Wounded 10/19/1864 at Cedar Creek, Va.; died of disease 12/30/1864
Pvt. Henry R. Gilbert . . . . .	Conn. 1st Artillery . . . . .	5/22/1861 . . . . .	5/21/1864 . . . . .	
Pvt. Thomas H. Gilbert . . .	Conn. 2nd Artillery . . . .	1/4/1864 . . . . .		Wounded 6/15/1864; deserted 7/16/1864
Pvt. John Hubbard . . . . .	Conn. 1st Artillery . . . . .	5/22/1861 . . . . .	5/23/1864 . . . . .	Musician
Capt. Robert Lewis . . . . .	Conn. 1st Artillery . . . . .	5/22/1861 . . . . .	9/25/1865 . . . . .	
Pvt. John Miller . . . . .	Conn. 8th Infantry . . . . .	2/20/1864 . . . . .		Deserted 3/12/1864
Cpl. Henry C. Miller . . . . .	Conn. 1st Artillery . . . . .	5/22/1861 . . . . .	5/21/1864 . . . . .	POW 6/23 - 7/22/1862 at Cold Harbor, Va.
Pvt. Charles E. Russell . . .	Conn. 8th Infantry . . . . .	9/4/1863 . . . . .		Deserted 1/22/1864



## **Early Middletown poor relief**

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cheaply as possible, maybe coax some household labor out of them, and collect money from the town. This system was in place for more than 20 years, but the quality of care declined. Whereas in the earliest days of poor relief, providers were usually family or neighbors, in this new era, the providers were profit-seeking contractors.

Middletown selectmen wrestled with the auction system into the early 19th century, but with the escalating costs of paying so many individual providers, they decided in 1807 to enter into an agreement with just one contractor, Sam Hawley. He was paid an annual fee to take over management of relief services. This streamlined the selectmen's job. It also pleased Middletown dry goods and grocery merchants, who could now deal with one contractor. At

the same time, plans finally moved forward on building an alms house.

Sam Hawley served the city through 1812, although the relationship was rocky. In 1814 the new alms house (see page 1) was completed that featured 13 lodging rooms (four with fireplaces!), a garret large enough for 20 rooms, a kitchen, a work room, a cellar, and a dungeon. Construction and operation costs ran over budget, provoking criticism at town meetings. Town selectmen were back in the hot-seat, as they would manage and oversee operations. A steward and a matron were hired. The residents were to conduct themselves with "sobriety and decency" as they were assigned work suitable to their "respective circumstances, age, sex, and capacity." (*Town Votes*, 1815). In 1815 a barn was built to support farm operations so residents could produce their own food.

By the late 1830s the alms house was still not self-supporting, and selectmen considered a larger town farm that would be both self-supporting and more comfortable for its residents. In 1853, resident paupers were moved to a new town farm on Silver Street.

In the early 19th century, the town experienced its great exodus of descendants of early families seeking a fresh start in points west. At mid-century, Middletown experienced an influx of immigrants. But the challenge of providing poor relief did not go away. In fact, it was made more difficult by the attitude that poverty was the pauper's own fault, through intemperance or sloth, even though facts show that most long-term cases suffered mental or physical debility.

As Hannah McKinney mused in her chapter on the topic, "No wonder there were beggars on the street after 1850." ■

