




# Annual Meeting

The Falmouth Historical Society

October 15, 2019

A wooden sign for the Falmouth Heritage Museum is visible in the foreground. It features a circular logo with a harbor scene and the text "Falmouth Heritage Museum" at the bottom.

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# Agenda

## Annual Membership Meeting

- Secretary's Report
- Nominations & Vote on Board Membership
- Treasurer's Report & Vote on Budget
- President's Report
- New Business

## FHS Presents!

- Tidewater Farm—A Case Study in Researching Old Homes
- FHS Collections—Improving Community Access to Historical Materials
- A Marriage Made in ~~Hell~~ **Boston**—Celebrating Maine's Bicentennial

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# Secretary's Report

Falmouth Heritage Museum





# Records & Membership

Minutes & reports are posted online at the FHS website:  
<https://www.thefhs.org/>

*Board meetings are open to all*

Society records are filed online and can be viewed at the Museum

## Membership as of October 13, 2019

	Households	Members
Active	59	76
Pending Renewal	20	24
Total	79	<b>100</b>

Plus two corporate members!

Lapsed	13	15
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# Nominations & Election

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# Proposed Board of Directors

Board Member	Position	Comments
David Farnham	President & Treasurer	Until a new treasurer takes office
Rich Meserve	Vice President	
Suzanne Farnham	Secretary	
Erin Bishop Cadigan	Director	
Ron Scorsone	Director	Rejoining the board
Betsy Jo Whitcomb	Director	

**Nominations from the floor?**



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# Treasurer's Report

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# Assets

	July 1, 2018	June 30, 2019	October 13, 2019
Cash	\$5,185	\$1,818	\$1,334
Investments	\$33,435	\$25,068	\$25,015
Real Estate	\$265,100	\$265,100	
Other Property	\$35,000	\$35,000	
Total <sup>a</sup>	<b>\$338,720</b>	<b>\$326,986</b>	
Merchandise <sup>b</sup>	\$5,112	\$4,837	
Net Gain (Loss)		<b>(\$12,009)</b>	

a. Assets as reported to IRS on Form 990

b. Merchandise is an estimate (not inventoried) and not included in assets reported on Form 990

1. Does not include furniture, office equipment, books, artifacts or petty cash

2. Audit pending

3. Accounts receivable as of October 13<sup>th</sup> is \$210

Accounts payable as of October 13<sup>th</sup> is \$312





# Prior Year Operating Income & Expense

	JUL 2018	AUG 2018	SEP 2018	OCT 2018	NOV 2018	DEC 2018	JAN 2019	FEB 2019	MAR 2019	APR 2019	MAY 2019	JUN 2019	TOTAL
<b>Revenue</b>													
Donations	75.00						0.00		500.00		1,000.00		\$1,575.00
Dues	360.00	250.00		90.00			280.00		1,422.00	130.00	530.00	90.00	\$3,152.00
Fund Raising									235.00				\$235.00
Grant							1,000.00						\$1,000.00
Investments	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.04	0.03	9,000.05	0.13	0.14	0.10	0.07	0.03	\$9,000.90
Other Inc										87.43	77.55		\$164.98
Sales	276.00			139.00			44.00		181.00		10.00		\$650.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$711.09</b>	<b>\$250.08</b>	<b>\$0.08</b>	<b>\$229.06</b>	<b>\$0.04</b>	<b>\$0.03</b>	<b>\$10,324.05</b>	<b>\$0.13</b>	<b>\$2,338.14</b>	<b>\$217.53</b>	<b>\$1,617.62</b>	<b>\$90.03</b>	<b>\$15,777.88</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$711.09</b>	<b>\$250.08</b>	<b>\$0.08</b>	<b>\$229.06</b>	<b>\$0.04</b>	<b>\$0.03</b>	<b>\$10,324.05</b>	<b>\$0.13</b>	<b>\$2,338.14</b>	<b>\$217.53</b>	<b>\$1,617.62</b>	<b>\$90.03</b>	<b>\$15,777.88</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>													
Fees								35.00			600.00		\$635.00
Information Services								1,955.17		540.00			\$2,495.17
Insurance							225.00			1,456.00			\$1,681.00
Maintenance	210.00		376.84	359.93	931.82		665.00		540.98	210.00	2,920.00		\$6,214.57
Membership							98.00	135.00					\$233.00
Merchandise	225.00										369.25		\$594.25
Misc											0.28	4.50	\$4.78
Office Expense	324.84	35.00	224.85	144.06	283.88	35.00	35.00	35.00	255.26	35.00	35.00	35.00	\$1,477.89
Utilities	208.70	210.57	237.96	362.18	712.98	819.87	826.66	779.43	627.69	430.53	342.29	256.83	\$5,815.69
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$968.54</b>	<b>\$245.57</b>	<b>\$839.65</b>	<b>\$866.17</b>	<b>\$1,928.68</b>	<b>\$854.87</b>	<b>\$1,849.66</b>	<b>\$2,939.60</b>	<b>\$1,423.93</b>	<b>\$2,671.53</b>	<b>\$4,266.82</b>	<b>\$296.33</b>	<b>\$19,151.35</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ -257.45</b>	<b>\$4.51</b>	<b>\$ -839.57</b>	<b>\$ -637.11</b>	<b>\$ -1,928.64</b>	<b>\$ -854.84</b>	<b>\$8,474.39</b>	<b>\$ -2,939.47</b>	<b>\$914.21</b>	<b>\$ -2,454.00</b>	<b>\$ -2,649.20</b>	<b>\$ -206.30</b>	<b>\$ -3,373.47</b>

*Net loss in assets in \$12,009. Difference with operating net loss is due to \$9,000 withdrawal from investments (-), a \$396 accrual adjustment (+), and coarse estimate of merchandise inventory.*



# Current Year Budget

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Fees			\$50					\$35					\$85
Information Services								\$452		\$540			\$992
Insurance							\$225			\$1,500			\$1,725
Maintenance	\$210		\$512	\$410			\$210			\$210	\$200	\$200	\$1,952
Membership							\$98	\$135					\$233
Merchandise											\$500		\$500
Misc	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$20	\$5	\$10	\$10	\$100
Office Expense	\$391	\$90	\$90	\$100						\$50	\$50	\$50	\$821
Utilities	\$221	\$221	\$271	\$421	\$221	\$221	\$221	\$221	\$221	\$271	\$371	\$271	\$3,152
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$827</b>	<b>\$316</b>	<b>\$928</b>	<b>\$936</b>	<b>\$226</b>	<b>\$231</b>	<b>\$764</b>	<b>\$853</b>	<b>\$241</b>	<b>\$2,576</b>	<b>\$1,131</b>	<b>\$531</b>	<b>\$9,560</b>

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# President's Report

Falmouth Heritage Museum





# FHS Since 2014...

Past six years have been a period of slow but continuous progress

For the Board, 2014-2016 was a period of high turnover among our volunteers (including leadership positions)

From January 2017 going forward, there has been continuity with a modest but dedicated core of volunteers

Society is in a stronger position now but must grow to sustain progress

<b>2014</b>	Opening of Falmouth Heritage Museum
<b>2015</b>	Strategic Planning Retreat Move from Whipple House to Museum
<b>2016</b>	Museum opens to public
<b>2017</b>	Museum hours expanded to two days/week
<b>2018</b>	Falmouth Tercentennial (Heavy lift for FHS)
<b>2019</b>	Improvements at the Museum Growth in activity at the Museum

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# Report Card

Vital Sign	Condition	Trend	Comments
Mission Accomplishment	●	↗	Preservation & Community Access
Physical Presence	●	↗	Museum
Online Presence	●	↗	Website & Social Media
Administration	●	↗	Recordkeeping & Transparency
Regulatory Compliance	●	↗	Federal & State Filings
Income	●	➔	Growth critical for health of Society
Expenses	●	➔	Unsustainable at current income
Membership	●	➔	Growth essential for health of Society
Volunteers	●	➔	Growth essential for health of Society
Fundraising	●	➔	Growth essential for health of Society
Events	●	➔	Expansion essential for health of Society
Communications	●	↗	Expansion essential for health of Society





# Where We Are Today

We have a functioning town historical society doing what is expected and accomplishing its mission!

## Our dilemma:

- Current Resources < **Current Activity** < Full Health
- We are draining our savings and stressing our volunteers
- Not sustainable without growth
- Need more income (an additional \$15K/year!)
- Need more members

More members → More volunteers → Resources to do more







# Volunteer Needs

## Immediately

Two board members

Committee Chairs & Members

- Cookbook
- Membership
- Fundraising
- Events
- Merchandise/Sales
- Maintenance

## Soonest

One more board member

Committee Chairs & Members

- Correspondence
- Web site & social media
- Research assistance
- Exhibits
- Audit
- Bookkeeping



Falmouth Heritage Museum



# ● Fundraising

Need corporate/philanthropic support to fill income/expense gap

- Must pass donor verification of credibility, viability & financial integrity

Our financial books were “not auditable”

- Shortage of volunteers after 2014—no experienced treasurer
- Couldn't reconcile ledgers or submit tax returns
- IRS suspended our tax exempt status

Financial books are now squeaky-clean

- Took hundreds of hours of volunteer time
- No financial monkey business
- Tax returns submitted—waiting for IRS to restore our tax exempt status







## ● Expenses

We are operating a year-round “public accommodation”

- Utility & maintenance expenses skyrocket during winter

**Board has decided to shut down Museum this winter (Nov-Apr)**

- Turn off heat & drain water; electricity, telephone & alarm stay on
- No regular plowing
- Board members will visit Museum as conditions permit
- **Closing just the museum—the Society will still be busy**

Decision made very reluctantly

- Current drain on savings not sustainable
- Volunteer and visitor safety a big concern

**NOTICE**

**CLOSED FOR  
WINTER**

Falmouth Heritage Museum





# Summary

We are becoming the vibrant historical society our town deserves

- Successes due to the dedication of our incredible volunteers

Current challenges are growing pains

- Taking on more without growing income or volunteers
- Not sustainable without an infusion

Next you'll hear our volunteers talk about their work

We're doing what a town historical society should

- We need your help to keep it up!



Falmouth Heritage Museum



# New Business

Falmouth Heritage Museum





FHS Presents!

Falmouth Heritage Museum





# Tidewater Farm

Betsy Jo Whitcomb & Sue Farnham  
*Case Study in Researching Old Homes*  
*Supporting Historic Preservation in Falmouth*

The Falmouth Historical Society

October 15, 2019

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# Challenge

## Town of Falmouth acquires land

- Part of the Tidewater subdivision
- Intention is to turn it over to the Falmouth Land Trust

## Old house and barn on the land

- Dilapidated—Town plans to raze
- Ford Reiche presses town to save the buildings

## Town considers preservation

- FHS conducts basic research to date house (Answer: 1800-ish)
- Town council questions proposal to conduct a preservation feasibility study
- FHS conducts more research to answer “How historic?” (Answer: Very!)



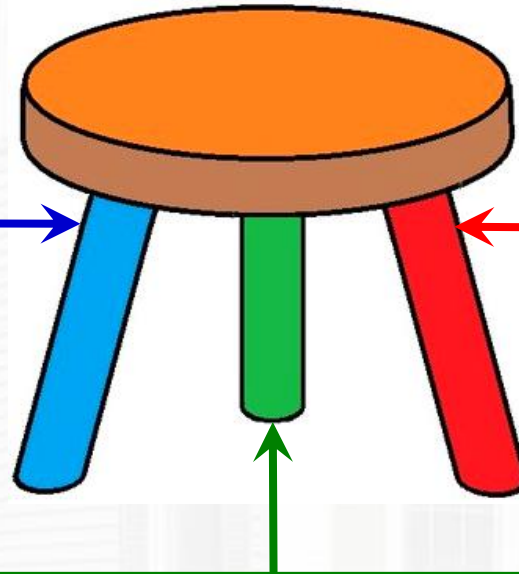




# Approach—The Three-legged Stool

## Family History

- Stories of the people who lived on the property
- Standard genealogical research



## Land History

- Stories of the land, its buildings, and its use
- More advanced genealogical research

## Local History

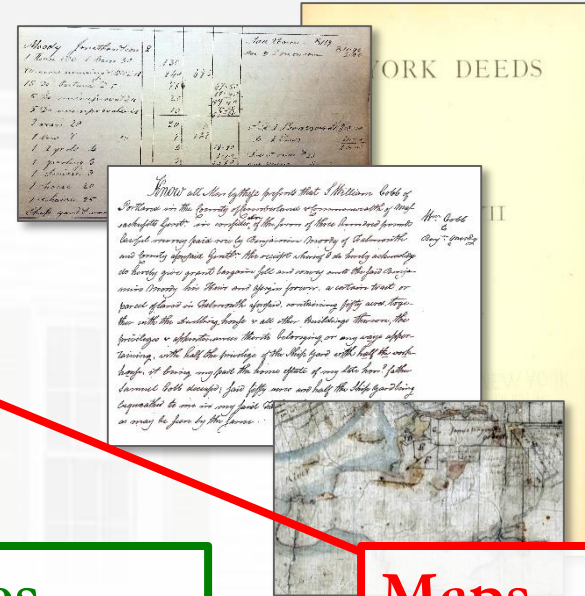
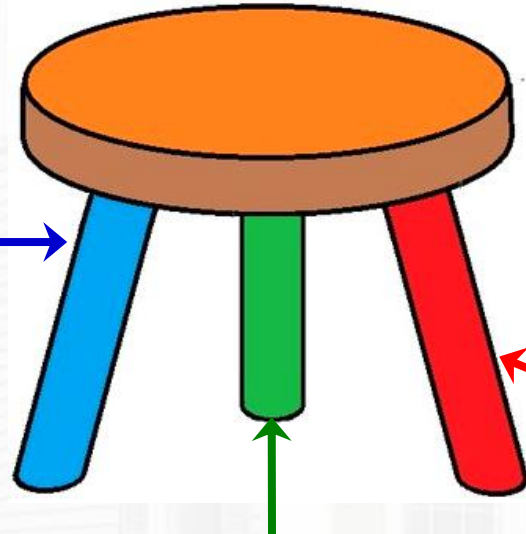
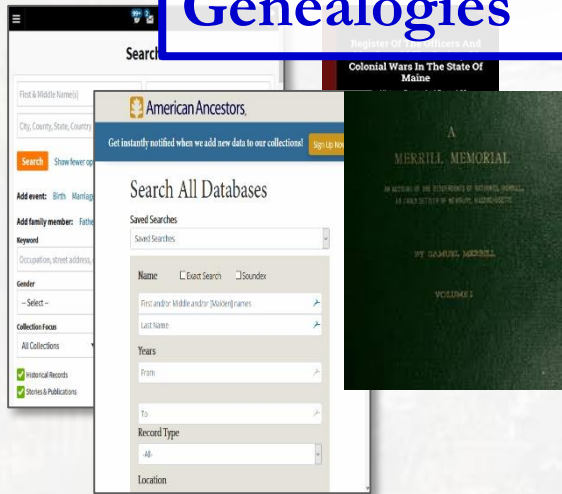
- Context—Where historical societies excel!





# Resources

Vital records  
 Census Records  
 Immigration Records  
 Genealogies



Local Histories  
 Local Directories  
 Local Cemeteries

Maps  
 Deeds  
 Tax Records





# Result

## “Story of Tidewater Farm”

- 14 page paper detailing the 385 year history of the land, buildings and people who lived there



Period	Owners	Period	Owners
1634-1658	Mackworth	1911-1914	Cookson
1658-1676	Neale	1914-1917	King
1676-1729	Holmes	1917-1933	Madsen
1729-1757	Wyman	1933-1946	Marchildon
1757-1806	Cobb	1946-2005	Finks
1806-1838	Moody	2005-2019	Tidewater LLC
1838-1911	Merrill	2019-	Town of Falmouth





# Surprises!

## Deep connections to Falmouth's history

- Farmhouse likely built on site of earlier home
- Goes back to Falmouth's oldest English family

## Broad connections to Falmouth's history

- Assumed (and proved) ties to agriculture heritage
- 100 years of ties to maritime (shipbuilding & seafaring) heritage

## Many owners were immigrants (or sons of immigrants)

- Lots of English "Great Migration" immigrants and descendants (no surprise)
- Past century included Danish, French-Canadian and Lithuanian (Ashkenazi)







# FHS Collections

Panel of FHS Volunteers

*Improving Community Access to Historical Materials*

The Falmouth Historical Society

October 15, 2019

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# Falmouth Heritage Museum—Outside

## Improved appearance and accessibility

- Steps & ramp
- Lighting
- Landscaping
- New, more visible sign!!!

*Old sign will be restored & preserved*

Increased awareness of Museum

Drawing more people to collections!



Falmouth Heritage Museum





# Falmouth Heritage Museum—Inside

## Rearranging the collections area

- Research area
- Archival area
- More room for static and rotating thematic exhibits

## Culling the collections

- Focus on ties to Falmouth
- Look less like town's attic

Improved access to collections!



Falmouth Heritage Museum





# FHS Online—Digital Catalog

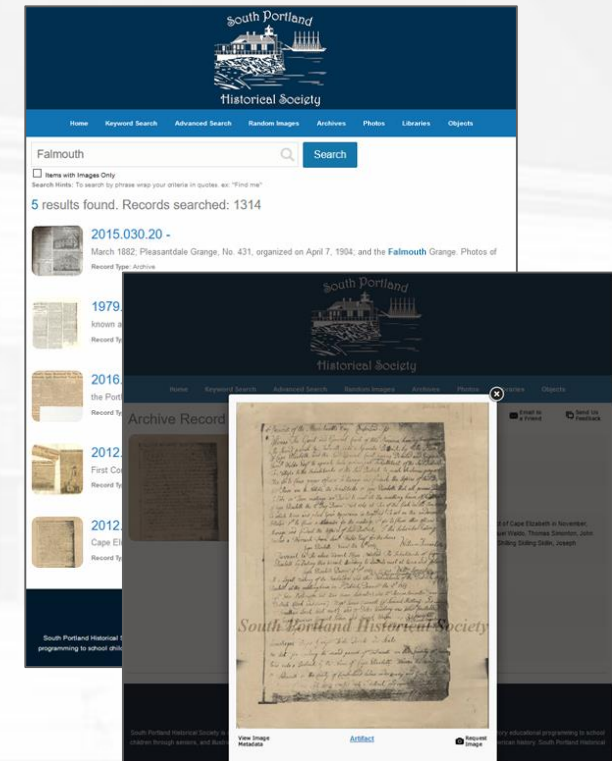
## Building our digital catalog

- Migrating card files into an online database
- Creating a consolidated view of our collections
- Using PastPerfect—like other societies
- Finally getting traction on a strategic goal

## Accessible from the Internet

- Extension to our website

Will expand access to the collections!



*South Portland Historical Society Website*

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# FHS Online—Digital Research Tools

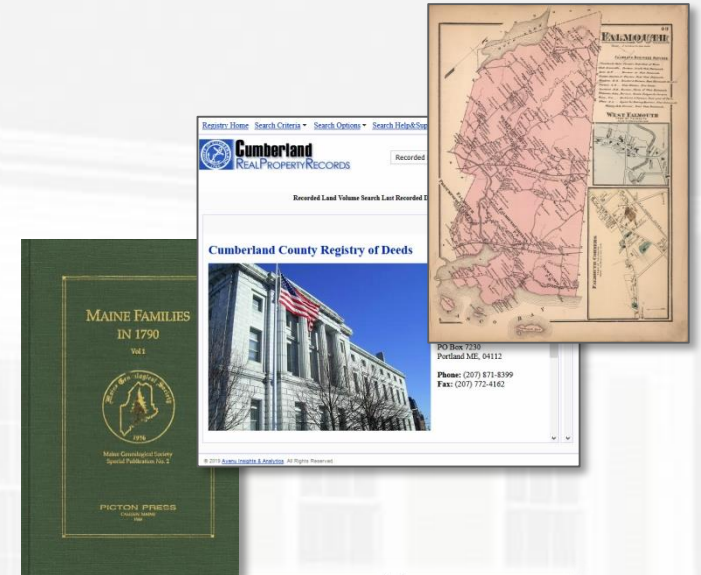
Building an online guide to researching the history of families and properties in Falmouth

- Historical context and relevance
- Links to helpful resources
- Digital copies of key books & documents  
*In public domain or out of copyright*

Many researchers will need assistance

- Tools and context—our “special sauce”

Will bring more people into the Museum!



Falmouth Heritage Museum





# Why?

It's all about serving our communities

- Students and teachers
- Property owners & local businesses
- Family history researchers
- New and prospective residents

A town historical society in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

- Other societies making similar improvements
- “Go to” resource for information about a town’s past
- We have the knowledge, documents, artifacts & tools
- Preserving and sharing the heritage of our towns



Falmouth Heritage Museum





# A Marriage Made in Hell Boston

David Farnham

*Celebrating Maine's Bicentennial*

The Falmouth Historical Society

October 15, 2019

Falmouth Heritage Museum



# Caveat Audiens!

This presentation is my interpretation of historical events.

- Not surprisingly, Falmouth-centered

There is something here to offend almost everyone.



*Off the Reservation: Nothing herein is an official statement or rigorously researched & peer-reviewed product of the Falmouth Historical Society*

Image: iStock



Historical photographs, unless otherwise attributed were obtained through the Wikimedia Commons

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# Hurrah!

Maine celebrates its “emancipation from Massachusetts” on March 15, 2020.

How did Maine come to be “enslaved” by Massachusetts in the first place?

Short answer: “Kicking and screaming”



*Maine Bicentennial Flag*

Falmouth Heritage Museum



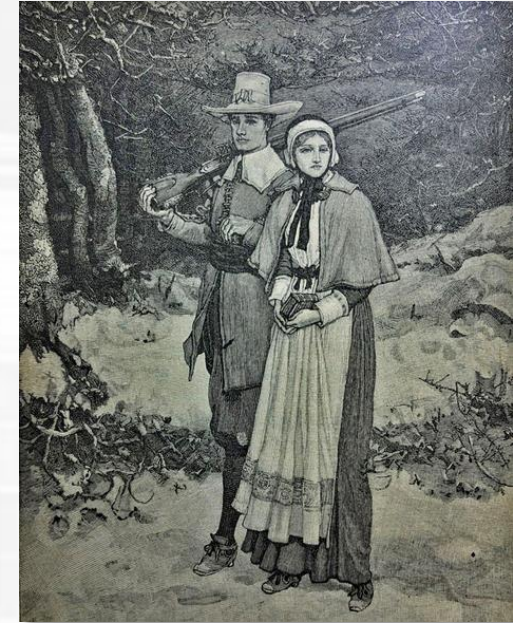
# Today

## The First Chapter (& 1/2) in the Tale

Chapter I      Courtship & Nuptials  
1652-1691

Chapter II     The Dysfunctional Marriage  
1658-1819

Chapter III    The Messy Divorce  
1785-1820



*Puritan Marriage*

Let's begin with a flash-back to high school history class...

*Image: iStock*

Falmouth Heritage Museum





# England

More...

1633-1640	<b>William Laud is Archbishop of Canterbury</b>
1640-1668	Portuguese Restoration War
1642-1651	<b>English Civil War</b>
1652-1654	1 <sup>st</sup> Anglo Dutch War
1654-1660	Anglo-Spanish War
1660	<b>Restoration of Monarchy</b>
1665-1666	Great Plague of London
1665-1667	2 <sup>nd</sup> Anglo-Dutch War
1666	Great Fire of London
1672-1674	3 <sup>rd</sup> Anglo-Dutch War
1688-1697	<b>Nine Years' War</b>



Kings of England and Lord Protector of the Commonwealth



James I  
(1603-1625)



Charles I  
(1625-1649)



Cromwell  
(1653-1658)



Charles II  
(1660-1685)

*Among the most tempestuous periods of English history!*



# Massachusetts

1620	Pilgrims establish Plymouth Colony
1630	Winslow Fleet establishes Massachusetts Bay Colony
1633	Great Migration Begins
1639	Great Migration Ends
<b>1652-1658</b>	<b>Massachusetts annexes Maine</b>
<b>1665</b>	<b>King nullifies annexation</b>
<b>1668</b>	<b>Mass. re-annexes Maine</b>
<b>1675-1678</b>	<b>King Philip's War</b>
<b>1688-1697</b>	<b>King William's War</b>



## Key Governors of Massachusetts Bay Colony



John  
Winthrop



John  
Endecott





# Who Were the Puritans?

Very conservative evangelical Christians?

Non-conformist Protestants?

Separatists?

Traitors and heretics?

Pressure to “conform” became intense

Consequences of not conforming could be severe

For the staunchest believers, emigration was the answer



*Puritan Chapel in England*



# Massachusetts

## Puritan theocracy

- No daylight between church and state
- Not much tolerance for other religions

## Puritan emigration took off in 1633

- Archbishop Laud threatened to bring down the hammer of ecclesiastical justice on Puritans
- The Great Migration

## Puritans sailing to Massachusetts

- Largely middle-class and many from East Anglia
- Entire groups emigrated together



*Puritans in Massachusetts*

*About 14,000 by 1660*





# Maine

1607-1608	Popham Colony (Fails)
1620	Royal charter granted for Council of New England
1623	Settlement at Kittery
1624	Settlement at York
1630-1633	Settlements near Casco Bay
1652-1658	<b>Massachusetts annexes Maine</b>
1665	<b>King nullifies annexation</b>
1668	<b>Mass. re-annexes Maine</b>
1675-1678	<b>King Philip's War</b>
1688-1697	<b>King William's War</b>



Map "New England Colonies in 1677"  
downloaded from [nationalgeographic.org](http://nationalgeographic.org), extracted  
and edited to show Maine towns in 1677



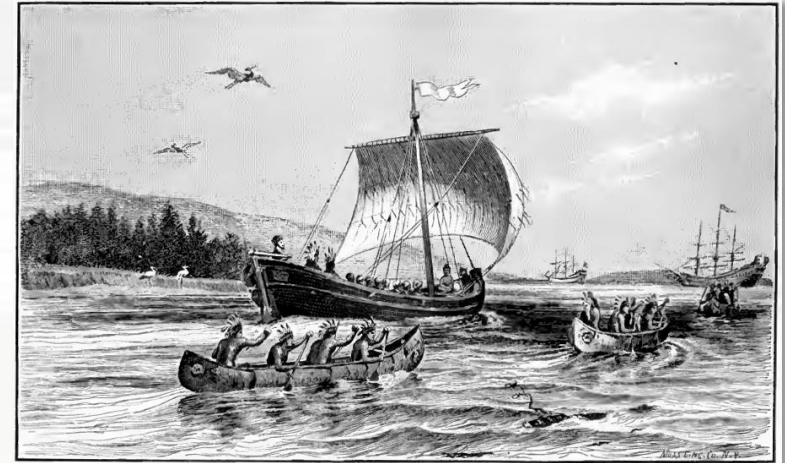
# Maine

## Plantations in the wilderness

- Land parceled out to gentry
- Overlapping grants led to incessant squabbling

## Apart from “Great Migration”

- Settlers more likely to come from western counties in England
- Largely Anglican



*Shallop in Casco Bay*

*About 1,000 by 1660*

*Image from Po in the Past*

Falmouth Heritage Museum





# 1652 in Massachusetts

The English Civil War is over

- Cromwell and the Roundheads won
- King Charles I was deposed (and decapitated)
- Bishops were abolished
- “Purification” of English churches is underway

Maine is in disarray

- Squabbles have worsened
- Landowners have aligned into camps

Massachusetts sees an opportunity



*Roundhead  
Soldier*



# Creative Cartography

## Massachusetts “reinterprets” its northern border

- *The General Court “voted that upon perusal of their charter, the extent of their line is to be from the northernmost part of the river Merrimack, and three miles more north, and thence upon a strait line east and west to each sea.”*
- Mass. border moves into Maine (Falmouth-Cumberland town line)
- New Hampshire and Maine object



*New Massachusetts Border (in red)*





# Annexation

## The Commissioners visit Maine

- Sent by the General Court in Boston to visit each town and “Make them an offer they can’t refuse”
- No need to mention the three regiments of Massachusetts militia

## One by one, the towns caved

- Three towns renamed to bring home the point of who is really in charge

Year	Old Name	New Name
1652	Kittery	No change
1652	Georgeana	York
1653	Wells	No change
1653	Cape Porpoise	No change
1653	Saco	No change
1658	Black Point, Blue Point	Scarborough
1658	Casco & Spurwink	Falmouth

That the places formerly Cauled spurrwinke & Casco bay, from the East side of Spurwinke River, vnto the Clapboard Ylands in Casco bay, shall runne backe eight Miles into the Countrey, & Henceforth shall be Called by the name of Falmouth



# Lygonia Falls to Massachusetts!

July 14, 1658

The towns of the Province of Lygonia surrender to the Commissioners of the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony

- Black Point
- Blue Point
- Spurwink
- Casco

Massachusetts  
To  
Black  
Point  
Blew  
Point  
Spurw:  
&  
Casco.

[65] W<sup>r</sup>as the Townes of Blā: poÿt & blew  
poÿnt, & of Spurwinke & Cascoe, haue Acknowl-  
edged themselues subject to the Goũment of  
the Massatusetts, as by y<sup>e</sup> seuerall subscriptions  
under y<sup>r</sup> hands doth appeare: Wee the Coĩmis-  
sion<sup>rs</sup> of the Generall Court of the Massatusetts  
for the settling of Goũm<sup>t</sup> amongst them, to the  
full extent of our Lyne, do Actually Grant as  
followeth/

1: That in Case by an Iĩmediate pouer from the supremicy  
of England, we are Coĩmanded, & after addresse to y<sup>e</sup> same  
supremicy by the Massatusetts Authority, it be defnyed as  
pper to anie other regulations then ours, then this obligation  
to be Nulld, Wee p̄tecting them till y<sup>e</sup> determination y<sup>r</sup>of/

2: That an Act of Indemnity & obliuion is freely granted  
them/

*York Deeds, Volume I, Folio 65*



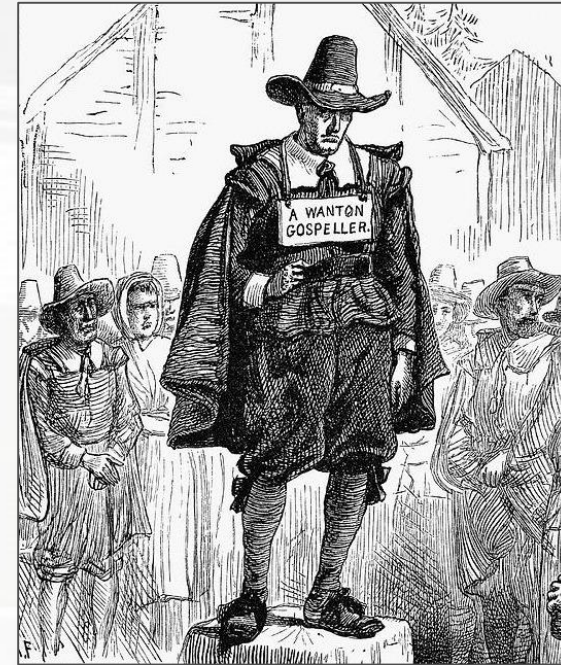


# Uneasy Marriage Begins

## Religious differences

- Maine now a Puritan theocracy
- Prominent families in Falmouth and Scarborough are Anglican
- Massachusetts promptly abrogates annexation agreement
  - Must join church to vote or hold office

6: That the ciuill priuiledges now granted them, we do not Intend shall be forfeited vpon differences in matters of Religion, but y<sup>r</sup> regulations herein must be according to pœnall laws/



*Prison or worse for repeat offenses*

*Image: 19<sup>th</sup> century woodcut*





# Restoration of the Monarchy

1660	Restoration
	Heir of original proprietor (Gorges) seeks restitution for annexed lands
1665	Royal commission visits Maine and overturns annexation
1668	Commission order lapses
	Massachusetts re-annexes Maine

## Massachusetts shows who is in charge

“as soon as the commissioners returned for England the Massachusetts men entered the province in a hostile manner with a troop of horse and foot, and turned the judge and his assistants off the bench, imprisoned the mayor or commander of militia, and threatened the judge and some others that were faithful to Mr. Gorges' interest.”

So much for a do-over...



*Charles II*





# Hedging Your Bets

Gorges heirs appeal to King Charles II

Decision in favor of the Gorges heirs

- "decided that the Province of Maine was the rightful property of the heirs of Sir Ferdinando Gorges, both as to sale and government."

Massachusetts offers to buy Maine

- Gorges heirs accept offer
- Massachusetts pays £1,250 in 1677 (about \$6,000)



*Whitehall Palace ca. 1675*





# Boston Rules

Yorkshire is a vassal to Massachusetts

Maine responds to levies

- Taxes, militia

Maine expected to take care of itself

- Support provided reluctantly and only when funded by tax receipts from Maine

Ancient Falmouth suffers terribly

- King Philip's War (1676)
- King William's War (1690)



*How Boston Viewed Maine?*

The surveyor General is ordered to deliver unto ... one barrell of powder the meanest of the countries store or waste, and the value to be repaid by the treasurer as soon as the quit-rents come in.

*Image from Library of Congress*





# Royal Charter Makes it Permanent

October 7, 1691

## The Charter of Massachusetts Bay

- Establishes the Province of Massachusetts Bay
  - Includes all of Maine
- Establishes a Royal Governor
  - Diminishes self-government
- Removes religious restrictions on voting

WILLIAM & MARY by the grace of God King and Queene of England Scotland France and Ireland Defenders of the Faith &c To all to whome these presents shall come Greeting



Falmouth Heritage Museum



# End of this Chapter...

Maine has been wed to Massachusetts  
for 31 years

- Nary a honeymoon

It goes downhill from here...



*Who remembers the old signs?*

Falmouth Heritage Museum