On Sept. 21, 1708, Jethro Coffin of Nantucket (son of Peter Coffin of Exeter, NH, and grandson of Tristram Coffin of Nantucket) sold his house in Nantucket (NCD 3:6) to Nathaniel Paddock, weaver and whalemen of Nantucket, and moved to Mendon, Massachusetts (Figure 1). There, west of Muddy Brook, he purchased the house and farm of Josiah Thayer, which had previously belonged to John Gurney. The following title search, with the help of Mrs. Margaret Morrison, establishes that the present house at 48 Providence Road, Mendon stands on the homestead of Jethro Coffin of 1708-1726. The documentary record can give no stronger evidence than this, because destruction by fire, decay, or as a by-product of improvements, and subsequent rebuilding or house-moving are hardly ever documented by deeds.

The deeds and wills relevant to the houselot have been located at Suffolk County Courthouse and Worcester County Courthouse, and are here presented in chronological sequence both in abstract form and in facsimile. No attempt has been made to recover all deeds for all parts of the farm, but attention has been given to finding documentary inter-connections between subsequent owners of the house. Thus, although the acreage varies somewhat through time, some abuttors, Providence Road and Muddy Brook features have been maintained through subsequent deeds, and I feel confident that we have collected a continuous chain of ownership. The house on this homestead or farm has been lived in and passed on to new owners by 20 generations of owners!

Architectural observations added to the documentary data can suggest additional details about the history of the house. For example, that the house belongs to the 1720's rather than to the 1690's (M. Morrison personal communication 1985) suggests that Jethro Coffin may have purchased the south-facing possibly primitive <1692 "home" of John Gurney or the <1708 "dwelling house" of Josiah Thayer, and built an addition to the west end of the house between 1721 and 1726 (as he reserved the right to do (SCD (Suffolk County Deeds) 39:261)). The present house, with no cellar under the front rooms, faces west; the lean-to at the east has a cellar. A south-facing east wing has been rebuilt within the past decade after extensive hurricane damage (Margaret Morrison, personal communication 1985). Architectural study will be required to confirm or disprove the building history suggested by the documentary data.
Figure 2. 1782 Plan of Farm of Edmund Morse, that was Jethro Coffin's Homestead 1708-1726. The homestead buildings were located on the land shown here as Edmund Merriam 10a 120 rods. I have added ■ to indicate probable location.
Title for Jethro Coffin's Homestead House in Mendon (Figure 1).

[1661 (SCD 5:458,9) John Gurney of Braintry, taylor, sold for 14 pounds to Richard Thaire of Braintry, his house & 5a in Braintry.]

[King Phillip's War].

1693 (SCD 23:162,163) John, Samuel, and Mary Gurney of Bridgewater, with the consent of their mother (Ruth Bayley) to Ephraim Thayer of Braintry for 40 pounds a 20a lot in Mendon bounded east with Muddy Brook, S by heirs of Jonathon Thayers, W by S Hayward, and partly by a highway leading to Joseph Stevens's Shop, N by Peter Holbrook.

1692 (SCD 19:356) Ephraim Thayer and Sarah of Braintree for 31 pounds to Josiah Thayer of Mendon a 20a homestead and doubling lott lying together in Mendon, bounded E by Muddy brook, W by S Hayward and a highway by J. Steven's Shop, N by P. Holbrook, S by heirs of J. Thayer. This does not give unequivocal evidence for a dwelling house, but historians often mention very primitive first dwellings in Worcester County (Massachusetts Historical Commission 1985:202).

Nov. 20, 1708 (SCD 30:187,188) (registered at Registry of Deeds, July 10, 1716) Josiah Thayre of Mendon for 136 pounds deeded to Jethro Coffin of Nantucket, "sundry tracts of lands meadows and swamps" in Mendon: "40 acres ...I now dwell upon formerly the home and doubling Lott of John Gurney", bounded E by Muddy brook, W and NW by homelot of S. Hayward, partly W by a four rod highway by J. Stevens to the S Meadow, S by F. Thayer, N by P. Holbrook, with the Dwelling house and barn, and 30 acres in Round Meadow, 20 acres in West Woods, and 30 acres.

Jan 29, 1721/2 (SCD 39:261) Jethro Coffin gave to Robert Coffin, one half of my homestead house and land in Mendon (except a piece on west of Mendon near James Keith's farm). The other half Jethro reserved for himself and his wife for their natural lives, after which it would go to his son Robert as a gift. Jethro specifically reserved for himself and his wife the west end of the house after he built an addition thereto.

[This suggests an original south-facing house; the present house, which faces west to the highway, perhaps built by Jethro about 1722 on the west end of the original house].

July 29, 1726 (SCP 25:29,30,31, #5289) Jethro Coffin, blacksmith, of Mendon wrote his will leaving half his estate to his wife Mary, and then to his children, John, Josiah, Robert, Margaret Terry, Priscilla Gardner, and Abigail Woodbury. This will was probated August 10, 1726.

1736 (WCD 8:152) Robert Coffin of Nantucket to Margaret Terry, wife of Samuel Terry, of Union, County of Windham, Connecticut, for 500 pounds, all lands in Mendon and Uxbridge J.C. deeded to R.C., including his house and homestead with 100 a in Mendon, Bounded W by W. Hayward.

1737 (WCD 8:488) Samuel Terry & Margaret of Union CT to Edmund Morse, joyner, for 580 pounds, the house and homestead that was Jethro Coffin's (Figure 2). Bounded N on Ebenezer Merriam's home lott, W on Wm. Boyce and Town St. or
Figure 3. Portion of 1831 Map of Mendon (Newell Nelson, Boston 1831), showing Providence Highway and Muddy Brook (NW to SE), and the Adam Wheelock and Caleb V. Allen houses of 1831, near the center of the figure.
highway, S on Ben. Thayer's home lott and partly on T. Sanford, E on T. Sanford, 20 a on west and 60 a on east of highway.

1780 (WCP Series A #41820) Will of Edmund Morse (written 1774). Widow Rachel, homestead lands about 125 acres, on both sides of Rehoboth Road, with the buildings thereon (1007 pounds; Figure 2). Grandson Edmund Merriam, inherits the homestead with all the buildings on 10+ acres of land valued at 200 pounds; other heirs: grandchildren Ebenezer Merriam; Douglas Marsh and Rachel his wife; William Merriam; Ruth Merriam; Andrew Peters and Beulah his wife; Phineas Lovett; Jesse Wheelock and Abigail his wife; Samuel Fairbanks, jun., and Rachel his wife; and two greatgrandchildren, Jonathan and William Shepard.

1783 (WCD 96:199) Edmund Merriam to Increase Thayer, 30 acres that were set off to Edmund and Ebenezer Merriam from estate of Edmund Morse, with all the buildings on the premises, 350 pounds (Figure 2).

1785 (WCD 96:202) Increase Thayer to Nathan R. Verrey, 90 acres (600 pounds) a tract of land and buildings part of the farm of Edmund Morse, dec., bounded SW by A. Peters, S. by W. French, to Muddy Brook, up brook, then E, Bounded S on Wm Thayer and J. Penniman, bound E on Penniman to Peters, then N on Peters, which was purchased from Edmund Merriam etc., heirs of Edmund Morse.

1786 (WCD 105:676) William Thayer to Nathan Verry, 27 a for 100 pounds, was land of John Sanford and Calvin Smith, near Muddy Brook, Wm. French, heirs of E. Morse.

1795 (WCP Series A #60760) Will of Nathan Verry 1786 leaves $300 pounds to his grandson, Caleb V. Allen. A Codicil dated 1795 devises to Caleb Allen and his heirs a farm of 100 a (Figure 3) bounded N by Peter and Baruch Penniman, E on J. Penniman, S on William French, W. on P. Penniman, all the land I purchased of Increase Thayer and William Thayer. Verry's 1801 probate inventory of land values the Increase Thayer Farm of 117 acres at $2574.

1833 (WCD 293:548) Caleb V. Allen, yeoman, to son, Alexander H. Allen, husbandman, one undivided half interest in the 130a farm and buildings thereon for $1. Bounded NW & W by Adam Wheelock, S by Olive Darling, crossing the Providence & Worcester Road east to Muddy Brook bounded S by S. Gaskill, E and N by John & Baruch Penniman, Taft, Jackson. See 1831 Map (Figure 3), with Caleb V. Allen and Adam Wheelock's houses represented on the highway just west of Muddy Brook.

1837 (WCD 340:191) Charles A. Thayer, his wife Nancy W. Thayer, Sally V. Allen and Louise Allen, children of Caleb V. Allen, quitclaim to Alexander Allen, farm of 112 a, formerly devised by N. Verry to C. V. Allen, for $600.

1866 (WCD 740:6) Alexander H. Allen and his wife Lucy S. to Aaron C. Cook, for $100, farm lately occupied by A.H. Allen on both sides of Providence Road.

[The following data is provided by Mrs. Francis Morrison]:

1870 (WCD 980:508-509) Aaron C. Cook to Davis Hill, for $3000, farm as described in 1837 (WCD 340:191), conveyed to Cook by Austin Wood, assinee of estate of Alexander H. Allen in 1865 (WCD 705:107 or 154).
Figure 4. Photograph of Mrs. Francis Morrison's house, 48 Providence Road, Mendon, MA 01756, in 1985, looking east from Providence Road. Location of the house shown by arrow to site on topographic map (Blackstone Quadrangle, 1969, USGS 7.5 min topographic map).
1909 (WCD 1904:329) Davis Hill to daughters, Malvina E. Vose and Miranda E. Gay.

1910 (WCD 1928:142) Malvina E. Vose et al. to Pierre A. Norman.

1924 (WCD 2333:395) Pierre A. Norman to Henry Morrison, farm and buildings on both sides the Providence and Worcester Road (Figure 4).


[Daniel Morrison died 1952. Sarah F. Morrison died 1953. The farm was inherited by their three sons, Henry, Francis D., and Kenneth Morrison. Henry Morrison died 1964, and Kenneth Morrison died 1976. Francis Morrison inherited his brothers' portions of the farm (WCP #273044; Margaret Morrison, personal communication 1986)].

1979 (WCD 6775:390-391) Francis D. Morrison to Francis D. Morrison and Margaret S. Morrison, the farm (Figure 4 & 5) containing 71.25 acres (Worcester County Plan Book 465 #71; Dept. of Revenue, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Estate Tax Bureau, 8966:20).

REFERENCES CITED:

Hackett, P., editor

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Nelson, N.
1831 Map of Mendon. Boston.

NCD
Nantucket County Deeds. Registry of Deeds, Town and County Building, Nantucket MA 02554

SCD

SCP
Suffolk County Probate. Probate Court, Suffolk Courthouse, Boston, Mass.

WCD

WCP
Figure 5. Plan of west part of F. Morrison's land April 23, 1979 (J. R. Andrews, III, Mendon Planning Board).
APPENDIX TO TITLE SEARCH FOR JETHRO COFFIN HOUSE, MENDON, MASSACHUSETTS.

FACSIMILE COPIES OF DOCUMENTS:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1693 SCD 23:162,163</td>
<td>11,12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1708 SCD 30:187, 188</td>
<td>13,14,15,16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1722 SCD 39:261</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1726 SCP Series A #5289</td>
<td>18,19,20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1736 WCD 8:152</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1737 WCD 8:488</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1780 WCP Series A #41820</td>
<td>23,24,25,26,27,28,29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1783 WCD 96:199</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1785 WCD 96:202</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1795 WCP Series A #60760</td>
<td>32,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1833 WCD 293:548</td>
<td>34,35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837 WCD 340:191</td>
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</tr>
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<td>1870 WCD 980:508,509</td>
<td>40</td>
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</tbody>
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To all Christian People to whom this present writing shall come Greeting KNOW ye That John Gurney and Mary Gurney being of Bridgewater in the County of New Plymouth in their Majesties Territory and Dominion of New England with the Consent of their Mother, and for and in Consideration of forty pounds money in hand paid and secured to be paid by Ephraim Thayer of Grantham in the County of Suffolk in New England aforesaid the receipt they hereby acknowledge and themselves Sufficiently satisfaction Contended and paid, and of every part and parcel thereof doth Acquit and discharge him the said Ephraim Thayer his heirs Executors Administ and Assigns forever. A Certain parcel of Land lying and being within the Toun-ship of Mendon in the County of Suffolk in New England aforesaid Containing Twenty Acres, being One Twenty Acre Lot with all the privileges appurten and Addition thereunto belonging or any way appertaining or what may hereafter belong hither bounded Easely with a Brook commonly called Muddy Brook, furtherth by land belonging to the heirs of Jonathan Thayer late of Mendon deceased Westerly by Land of Samuel Hayward and partly by an highway leading to Joseph Stevens's Shop Northwardly by Land of Peter Holbrook. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said Twenty Acre Lot aforesaid with all and singular the profit, privileges & appurten thereunto belonging or any way appertaining to the only proper use and benefit of him the said Ephraim Thayer his heirs Executors Administ and Assigns forever. And the said John and Samuel Gurney and Mary Gurney their heirs hath in themselves good right, full power, & lawful Authority to give grant Bargain Sell—
made over and confirm the above-mentioned premises to him the said Ephraim Thayer, his heirs, executors, admins., and assigns forever so as they shall and may ever hereafter peaceably and quietly possess and enjoy the same free and clear and freely and clearly acquittall and discharged from all and all manner of former and other lights, grants, bargains, sales, mortgages, dower, tithes of Power and all other debts or sets whatever had made done or suffered to be made or done by them the said John and Samuel and Mary Gurney their heirs, executors, admins., and assigns or any other person or persons lawfully claiming any right title or interest for or in the above-mentioned premises whereby the said Ephraim Thayer, his heirs, executors, and admins., and assigns shall or may ever hereafter be Molested in the possession of the same. And the said John and Samuel and Mary Gurney doth further covenant and promise for themselves, their heirs, executors, admins., and assigns to perform and do or cause to be performed and done any such bargained premises according to the true intent and meaning of these presents when due called to by the said Ephraim Thayer, his heirs, executors, admins., and assigns. J. N.

TESTIMONY whereof the said John Gurney and Samuel Gurney and Mary Gurney hath hereunto set their hands and sealed the Twelfth of September one thousand six hundred Ninety three. John Gurney his mark and a seal. Samuel Gurney his mark and a seal. Mary E. Gurney her mark and a seal. Signed and Delivered in presence of Mr. Thomas Hayward, Palatine Smith, Edward Millet. The 12th of September one thousand sixty nine. The 12th of September one thousand sixty nine. The above mentioned Mary Gurney and her Mother, Ruth Gurney, both of them came personally before me, and acknowledged the above written instrument to be their set and deed by me Thomas Hayward, Justice of Peace. This 23rd of November one thousand sixty nine. She acknowledged the above mentioned Mary Gurney and her Mother. Ruth Gurney did freely consent to it by me, Thomas Hayward, Justice of Peace. November the 8th 1797.

Received and accordingly Enrolled and Examined.
Nov. 20, 1708 (registered at Registry of Deeds, July 10, 1716) Josiah Thayre of Mendon for 136 pounds deeded to Jethro Coffin of Nantucket, "sundry tracts of lands meadows and swamps" in Mendon: 40 acres ..."I now dwell upon formerly the home...of John Gurney...bounded easterly by Muddy brook", ... partly Westerly by a four rod highway... with the Dwelling house and barn, and 30 acres in Round Meadow, 20 acres in West Woods, and 30 acres (Suffolk County Deed Book 30, page 187, 188 [SCD 30:187,188]).
To all to whom these present shall come,

Know ye, that the town of New London, in the county of New London, to whom these present shall come, do hereby grant unto the said town of New London, for the use and behoof of the same, the sum of five hundred pounds, to be paid in lawful money or its equivalent, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

Given at the town of New London on the 1st day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty.

[Signature]

Town Clerk of New London.
I [scribe] thereof Errected or threto belonging, More Thisty Acres [after lying above the house] Lotts of Samuel Hayward being laid out and according to the bounds as they shall appear of Record or in the Town of Suffolk. More Twenty Acres be it more or less, being the whole interest I now have or ever had at the place called the Barn meadow of the power and howsoever purchased or exchanged and howsoever it shall appear to be bought and bounded in the Town Records or Surveyors future with what of my fourth Division is threto adjoined and included as a part of the said Twenty Acres be it more or less with Twenty Acres more
high Common with Twenty Acres more dividible between myself and my Brother Samuel Thayer of said Mendon lying in the West woods the whole Port of being a part of the Great Lott of Edward Linesford deed and by the said Samuel and Jotham purchased of the heirs of said Linesford all the present five Tracts of Land meadows or swamps therein contained as
here bounded or described with the house Barn fences threto or on any part thereof Erected or belonging with all the woods underwoods trees plantations and all privileges threto belonging or appertaining to fast asylum the present commonage and future rights of a Ten Acres right or granted to him the Pasture Coffin his heirs Executors and Assignes. To have and to hold and by him and them and to his and their use benefit and behoof as a Sure Estate in Fee Simple without any let or molestation from me the Jotham my heire or any acting by from or under me and them forever. To be held. Furthermore of the P. Jotham Do Covenant and promise that I am the true and lawful Proprietor of all and singular the above described premises and have full power lawful strength and Authority to make sales and disposal thereof. And that the premises and every part or parcel thereof are Free and clear and freely and clearly acquistate
and demise of the same aforesaid and from all and singular former Contracts Covenants Gifts
Bond Mortgages Bonds Thirds or power of Thirds Accept Judge
ment Delegation Extent or any other legal Incumbrance whatsoever whereby
the title of the premises may be invalidated or be the said Coffin his heirs
and assigns, the premises might be molested or disturbed in or ejected out of
purchase or peaceable possession or Improvement of the premises or any part
of any parcel thereof and Moreover the P. Josiah Thayer Do Covenant and
promise that I will well and truly Warrant and defend the title and
liability of all the singular the above bargained premises to him the said
Coffin his heirs and assigns from all and manner of persons claiming
me or my said premises or any part or parcel thereof forever And that I will
done or in the hand and charge of the granted his heirs assigns or order do or
came to do whatsoever may be necessary to be in the Law done or
performed for the more sure and formal conveyance of all my right titles
to the premises and every part and parcel thereof to him
the said granted his heirs and assigns. IN WITNESS whereof I have hereo
th and my hand and seal this twenty eighth of August the year of
1708 D'Anno R. Anno Magno Britannico Regno Josiah
Thayer of a Sealed Sarah Thayer of Signum and a Seal Signed Sealed
as is given in presence of us Grindal Ralston Ferdinando Thayer Mr
his hands thereon were interlined between the seventh and Eighth
Signature and Sealing. Memorandm before Signining and Sealing
declared That the twenty acres specified at the round great
understood of only the meadow thereon granted to Gurney & Walker
the acre of his own fourth Division Sibbolke Marchan Nune
Jan 29, 1721/2 Jethro Coffin to Robert Coffin, one half of my homestead house and land in Mendon (except a piece on west of Mendon near James Keith's farm) (SCD 39:261). The other half Jethro reserved for himself and his wife for their natural lives, after which it would go to his son Robert as a gift. Jethro specifically reserved for himself and his wife the west end of the house after he built an addition thereto.
July 29, 1726, Jethro Coffin, blacksmith, of Mendon wrote his will leaving half his estate to his wife Mary, and then to his children, John, Josiah, Robert, Margaret Terry, Priscilla Gardner, and Abigail Woodbury. This will was probated August 10, 1726 (Suffolk County Probate 25:29,30,31, #5289).
bound, which said three acres of land more of the hereby give unto my said Daughter Abigail Woodberry her self as sign forever over and above her part & proportion in the remainder and distribution of said Real estate after the decease of my said wife as afore specifed. And Lastly I do hereby constitute make and confirm Mary my well beloved wife and my beloved Son John Coffin are named to be the executors of this my last will and testament And do hereby utterly disallow revoke and annul all and every other former wills wills testaments testators & Executors, and executors by me in any ways before deemed Valid or Conforming This and no other to be my last will and testament & Testament whereof I the said Jethro Coffin have hereunto set my hand and seal the day & year & within written Jethro Coffin seal signed sealed published pronounced to be declared by the said Jethro Coffin as his last will & Testament in the presence of the subscribers John Brown Daniel Darling his mark and the name of

Exequor Jethro Coffin

August 10th 1726. Jethro Coffin Executor presented the foregoing Will of his father Jethro Coffin deceased claiming that it might be proved and John Brown & Daniel Darling made oath that they saw the said Jethro Coffin sign seal and heard him publish declare the said foregoing will to be his last will & Testament, and that what he did the same of sound disposing mind and memory according to their reposes best discerning, and that they together with theze Brown allied by reason of the will delivered to them hands as witnesses thereof in the Territorial presence

TO all People to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting.

Know ye, That the said Robert Coffin of Nantucket in Colony of Massachusetts, in New England, Rector, in consideration of the Sum of five hundred pounds of lawful Money, to me, in hand before the Enacting Hereof, paid and only paid by the said Margaret Terry, late of Mendon and Uxbridge in the County of Worcester in the Province of Massachusetts Bay, Rector, to him, the hereinabove mentioned, I, the said Margaret Terry, Rector, severally do hereby acknowledge, and do give, transfer, convey, and surrender to the said Robert Coffin of Nantucket in said Colony, or any Person or Persons lawfully claiming under him, all my right, title, and interest in and to the Islands of Mendon and Uxbridge, and the lands, messuages, tenements, and hereditaments thereunto belonging, together with all parts, appurtenances, and appurtenances thereto belonging.

And for a further Consideration I, the said Margaret Terry, Rector, do covenant and agree to the said Robert Coffin of Nantucket, his Executors and Administrators, that the said Robert Coffin of Nantucket, or any Person or Persons lawfully claiming under him, shall and may from Time to Time, and at all Times for ever hereafter, by good and sufficient 느껴야만합니다

1736 (WCD 8:152) Robert Coffin of Nantucket to Margaret Terry, wife of Samuel Terry, of Union, County of Windham, Connecticut, for 500 pounds, all lands in Mendon and Uxbridge J.C. deeded to R.C., including his house and homestead with 100 a in Mendon.
TO all People to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting,

Know ye, That Samuel Terry of Union in the County of New-Haven, in Connecticut, of divisible land, deceased,

For and in consideration of the Sum of five hundred and eighty pounds, money current, payable to Edmund Morse of the Town of Madison, in the County of New-Haven, in the State of Connecticut, .

the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and will and do accept of, and give back to the aforesaid Edmund Morse, in satisfaction thereof, do hereby grant, convey and transfer, and by these presents do grant, convey and transfer, all and singular the aforesaid Premises, with all the appurtenances, profits, and advantages to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining to the same, unto the said Edmund Morse, his heirs, executors, and assigns for ever, to have and to hold the same, and every part and parcel thereof, to him, his heirs, executors, and assigns, forever.

The receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and will and do accept of, and give back to the aforesaid Edmund Morse, in satisfaction thereof, do hereby grant, convey and transfer, and by these presents do grant, convey and transfer, all and singular the aforesaid Premises, with all the appurtenances, profits, and advantages to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining to the same, unto the said Edmund Morse, his heirs, executors, and assigns for ever, to have and to hold the same, and every part and parcel thereof, to him, his heirs, executors, and assigns, forever.

To have and to hold, the said granted and bargained Premises, with all the appurtenances, profits, and advantages to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining to the same, unto the said Samuel Terry, his heirs, executors, and assigns for ever.

And the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and will and do accept of, and give back to the aforesaid Samuel Terry, his heirs, executors, and assigns for ever, to have and to hold the same, and every part and parcel thereof, to him, his heirs, executors, and assigns, forever.

Furthermore, We do hereby grant, convey, and transfer unto the said Edmund Morse, and his assigns, for and in consideration of the Sum of five hundred and eighty pounds, money current, payable in the manner and to the use of Edmund Morse, his heirs, executors, and assigns, forever.

The receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and will and do accept of, and give back to the aforesaid Edmund Morse, his heirs, executors, and assigns, forever.

1737 (WCD 8:488) Samuel Terry & Margaret of Union CT to Edmund Morse, joyner, for 580 pounds, the house and homestead that was Jethro Coffin's. Bounded N on Ebenezer Merriam, E and S on Thomas Sanford, S on Ben. Thayer, W on Wm. Boyce and Town St., or highway. 20 a on west and 60 a on east of highway.
1780 (Worcester County Probate Series A #41820) Will of Edmund Morse. Widow Rachel, homestead lands about 125 acres, on both sides of Rehoboth Road, with the buildings thereon (1007 pounds; Figure 2). Heirs: grandchildren, Edmund Merriam, who inherits the homestead with all the buildings on 10+ acres of land; Ebenezer Merriam; Douglas Marsh and Rachel his wife; William Merriam; Ruth Merriam; Andrew Peters and Beulah his wife; Phineas Lovett; Jesse Wheelock and Abigail his wife; Samuel Fairbanks, jun., and Rachel his wife; and two greatgrandchildren, Jonathan and William Shepard.
In the Name of God Amen -

Edmond Morice of Ashdon in the County of
Worcester in the Province of the Massachusetts
Bay in New England deceased being weak in body
But of sound mind and Memory Doth on the fourth Day
of March A.D. 1774 in the fourtieth year of his Eminent
Reign Here and Crown this my last will and testament
in manner following:

First I will Recommend my Soul unto God and my Body
to the Earth to be decently Buried at the Direction of
my Executors. And touching such Writely Estate
that the Lord has lent me I would Distribute as follows

Inimini I Give and Bequeath to my well beloved Wife Rachel
the Use and Improvement of the whole of my Real Estate
During her Life and also give her my good Wife the whole
of my Personal Estate to be at her own Discretion that is after
My Just Debts and Funeral Charges and after Small
 Legacies are paid and disposed of my moveable
Estate the remainder to be hers forever

Also after the Decease of my good Wife I give to my
Grandson Edmond Moricane to the value of Two Hundred
Pounds current Money to be set off to side out of my
Real Estate before any Devision be made
Then the Remainder of the Real Estate to be equally Devised
into Two parts the one half to be set off to the heirs of my
late Daughter Annalee Lovett Deed and the other half
of said real Estate to set off to the heirs of my late,
Daughter and Rachel Moricane Deed and my will is that
my Grandson Edmond Moricane have and enjoy
Save with his Brothers and sisters in their Distress
Notwithstanding what I have given him above mentioned
Then I give to each of my grandchildren a good English
printed Bible

I give to the surviving Children of my sister Margaret
Sarah D & each of them a good Common English Bible.
And I give to the three Sons of my last grand-daughter
Jerusha, the head of my last will, each of them a good
Common English Bible.

Finally I enjoin and require that the said Will be
To be executed by the said Executors, and that the
same be recorded as the Last will and Testament

Signed sealed Published

I pronounce and declare
By the 2d of Edward IIIrd
To be his last will and testament
For the Preface of 20s

Peter Penniman, James, Oct 27, 1800, in the
John Penniman, James, Oct 27, 1800

Baruch Penniman

Witness:

25
Homestead lands, lying on both sides of said road, bounded as per Plan, being the south division of said Homestead, with the number of acres written therein, appraised at eight thousand pounds; viz. nine hundred dollars.

We have also set off to the two sons of Josephu Alvord deceased, he was a grand-daughter of the said Settlers, on their right, being parts of Rachel Hettman deceased.

The land above the said Homestead lands, lying on both sides of said road, bounded as per Plan, being the north division of said Homestead, with the number of acres written therein, appraised at eight thousand pounds; viz. nine hundred dollars.

We have also set off to the two sons of Rachel Lockett deceased, about five acres of said road, also about one hundred and twenty-five rods of land, being on the east side of said road, also about one hundred and forty rods of land, being on the west side of said road, also about ten acres and twenty-five rods of land, being the lots called Round Meadow, also about ten acres and twenty-five rods of land, being the land called Farm Swamp, besides each five hundred pounds, as agreed upon by the Plans herein.

his name written therein, with the number of acres, viz. thirteen acres, and thereupon, according to the Plan, wherein is written his name, number of acres and rods, appraised at one hundred and twenty-five pounds.

We have also set off to John F. Alvord and Sarah his wife, a grand-daughter of the said John.

The land above the said land, lying on the east side of said road, bound according to the Plan of said Homestead, his name written therein, with the number of acres and rods, appraised at one hundred and twenty-five pounds.

We have also set off to Samuel F. Alvord and Rachel his wife, a grand-daughter of the said John, having the land called Farm Swamp, besides each five hundred pounds, as agreed upon by the Plans herein.

The barn herein set off to Edmund Hettman, now stands on the land set off to Edmund Hettman, the said Edmund shall have full liberty, to remove said Barn off provided he shall remove it before the fifteenth day of July, 1783, and not to mortgage said Stephen's lands, or land, now in said Barnyard.

We have also set off to the heirs of Rachel Lockett deceased, two thirds of the winter house, and two thirds of the lot, and house now in said Barnyard.

We have also set off to the heirs of the heirs of Rachel Lockett deceased, all their rights in the Homestead, one third of the winter house, and one third part of the lot, now in said Barnyard.
Plan of Homestead Land, laid down by a scale of 50 rods to an inch.
Life and a Spring made from said Well for the accommodation of a Watering
place, which shall pass into the lot of land herein set off to william Merriam.
Furthermore, William his heirs or assigns, shall have the privilege of keeping
and well and giving in repair for a Watering place forever. All which is submitted to your Honor. April 17th 1782
Edmond Merriam
Douglass Harris
William Merriam
Ruth Merriam
Abigail Peters
Samuel Fairbanks
Edmond Merriam, Guardian for Jonathan
Stephens
TO all People to whom these Presents shall come,

Know Ye, That Edmund Merriam of Hudson in the County of Worcester, Gentleman, for and in Consideration of the Sum of Three Hundred and sixty Dollars, in Hand paid to me, of the said Edmund Merriam, for the sum of thirty dollars, and the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and do convey, and deliver over, to Edmund Thayer, 30 acres that were set off to Edmund and Ebenezer Merriam from estate of Edmund Morse, with all the buildings on the premises, 350 pounds.

Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, forever by these Presents: HAVE given, granted, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed, and confirmed, and the same do hereby grant, bargain, sell, alien, convey, and confirm unto the said Edmund Thayer and wife his Heirs and Assigns forever.

To HAVE and to HOLD the said granted and bargained Premises with all the Appurtenances, Privileges and Commodities to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining to the said Premises, free from the claims of any and all Persons, or Parties, whatsoever, forever.

Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, for said Premises, to Covenant, Protect, and Grant to and with the said Edmund Thayer and wife his Heirs and Assigns, that the said Premises, with the Appurtenances, free from all and all Manner of forever or other Gifts, Grants, Bargains, Sales, Leases, Mortgages, Wills, Estates, Judgments, Executions, or Incumbrances of what Name or Nature soever, shall in any manner, Degree, or manner, or degree, obstruct or make void the present Deed.

FURTHERMORE, Edmund Merriam, for the use of the said Edmund Thayer, and his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, do Covenant and Engage the above described Premises to the said Edmund Thayer and wife his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, against the lawful Claims or Demands of any Person or Persons whatsoever, forever hereafter to Warm, Baste, and Defend by their Precepts.

Done in the Town of Hudson, on the 30th Day of May, 1783, by the hand of Edmund Merriam, Unofficial Printer, and the hand of William P. Priest, Unofficial Printer, of the Town of Hudson.

Edmund Merriam
William Priest

1783 (WCD 96:199) Edmund Merriam to Increase Thayer, 30 acres that were set off to Edmund and Ebenezer Merriam from estate of Edmund Morse, with all the buildings on the premises, 350 pounds.
TO all People to whom these Presents shall come,

Know ye, that I, Increase Thayer, of Amherst in County of
Hampden, and a Justice of the Peace in said County, have
in Hand before the Entailing hereof, well and truly paid by
the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and that I did therewith fully furnished and conveyed, and
transferred and conveyed Part and Parcel thereof, do convey, assign, transfer and discharge, from the said Increased Thayer to Nathan R. Verrey, 90 acres (600 pounds)

a tract of land and buildings part of the farm of Edmund Morse, dec., bounded by Andrew Peters, William French, Muddy Brook, Wm Thayer, John Penniman, purchased from heirs of Edmund Morse.
1795 (WCP Series A #60760) Will of Nathan Verry 1786 leaves $300 pounds to his grandson, Caleb V. Allen. A Codicil dated 1795 devises to Caleb Allen and his heirs a farm of 100 a bounded by Peter, Baruch, and John Penniman, William French, purchased from Increase Thayer and William Thayer. The 1801 probate land inventory values the Increase Thayer Farm of 117 acres at $2574.
and in case the said Caleb should have heirs lawfully begotten of his body then I give and bequeath the whole of said described lands to them their heirs and assigns forever and in case the said Caleb then should not live to arrive to the age of twenty-one years or should not have any heirs then after his deceas I will and bequeath the same lands as above described unto my beloved grandson Thaxter Perry son of my son Nathan Perry to him and his heirs forever and do hereby ratify and confirm this as a codal to my said last will and testament for witnesses whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this twenty day of August in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred and ninety five signed sealed and delivered in the presence of

[Signature]

[Signature]
1833 (WCD 293:548) Caleb V. Allen to son, Alexander H. Allen, one undivided half interest in the 130a farm and buildings thereon for $1. Bounded by Adam Wheelock, Providence & Worcester Road, Olive Darling, Muddy Brook, Samuel Gaskill, John & Baruch Penniman, Taft, Jackson. See 1831 Map, with Caleb V. Allen and Adam Wheelock's houses represented on the highway just west of Muddy Brook.
1837 (WCD 340:191) Charles A. Thayer, his wife Nancy W. Thayer, Sally V. Allen and Louise Allen, children of Caleb V. Allen, quitclaim to Alexander Allen, farm of 112 a, formerly devised by N. Verry to C. V. Allen, for $600.
1870 (WCD 908.508, 509) Aaron E. Cook to Davis Hill, for $3,000. Same farm

From Salley V. Allen to A.H. Allen 1837 (WCD 340:191), from A.H. Allen to