

PLYMOUTH COUNTY June 2, 1685

PLYMOUTH. Accomack or Patuxet, "at the little falls". December 21, 1620. Site of original Pilgrim settlement, Plimoth Plantation, 1620-1627, on land previously occupied by Patuxet Indian tribe. Although general sickness of first winter decimated them by half, leaving fifty-one settlers, with persistence and arrival of later ships from England, the Pilgrims successfully established the first permanent English settlement in America.

Here, the significant peace treaty with Massasoit, Chief Sachem of the local Wampanoag tribe, was consummated, assuring peaceful relationships with the natives for the next fifty years. First Thanksgiving, 1621. Establishment of Pilgrim Separatist church. First grist mill in Plymouth Colony, Stephen Deane Mill—1621-1632. Seat of Old Colony Court House. Harlow House, John Howland House, Sparrow House. Replication or original "Mayflower" and Plimoth Plantation. Antiquarian House, Burial Hill, Pilgrim Hall Museum of Pilgrim History, Plymouth Rock. Site of original Fort Meeting House and first Pilgrim village.

Kingston. June 16, 1726. North Precinct of Plymouth until incorporation as separate town. Pilgrim explorers on the shallop visited the Jones River, named for the captain of the 'Mayflower' Christopher Jones, on December 16, 1620, and considered it as a possible place for a settlement. Earliest grants out of Plymouth were made in this area in 1627 to Governor Bradford, Francis Cooke, Isaac Allerton, Samuel Fuller, and John Howland. Early grist mill and saw mill, later a rivet and nail factory. Shipbuilding an important industry, 1750-1860. Major John Bradford House, 1674.

Plympton. Winnetuxet. June 4, 1707. Westerly part of Plymouth until incorporation. History inextricably bound to that of Plymouth. Earliest grants and settlement, 1640. Early names in this area were Bradford, Sturtevant, and Waterman. Grist mills and fulling mills. A furnace, built in 1713, manufactured cannon and cannon balls for the Revolution.

Carver. South part of Plympton until June 9, 1790. Early compared with biblical "Land of Canaan" because rich in waterpower, game and natural resources. Settled by second and third generations of Pilgrims. Discovery of iron ore resulted in the erection of the "Federal Furnace" in 1794 where first iron tea kettle in America was made. Early industries included a box board mill and the herring fishery.

Halifax. Monoponset "near the deep pond". July 4, 1734. Originally comprised parts of Plympton, Middleboro and Pembroke. Early a farming community.

ROCHESTER. Sippican. June 4,1686. Named after Rochester, England and early called "Sippican Territory". Used by townsmen of Plymouth to herd their cattle and settled 1638 by freemen of Marshfield, Scituate, Sandwich and Salem. First grant made to Thomas Besbeck. Original purchasers included Rev. John Lothrop, Kenelm Winslow, William Bradford, Bartlett, Burgess, W. Peabody and others. King Philip sold this land formally in 1679. Included present Mattapoisett, Marion, and

Wareham. Nepinnaekekit "summer home of the Indians". July 10, 1739. A part of early Rochester called the "Plantation of Agawam". Settled 1678. Early industries were agriculture and shipbuilding, saltmaking and milling. Fearing Tavern (oldest part 1690) — lived in by Isaac Bumpus, town miller. Israel Fearing bought the property from Bumpus in 1747, and it was in the Fearing family until 1942. Now Wareham Historical Society.

Marion. May 14, 1852. Southeasterly part of Rochester, named for Gen. Francis Marion, Revolutionary War hero. Area settled 1679 and called Sippican until 1852. At Great Hill on Great Neck, 127 feet above sea level, Col. Benjamin Church met Queen Awashanks to arrange a peace treaty during King Philip's War, 1675. On Little Neck is "Minister Rock" where Indians held pow-wows and where early settlers worshipped. Nearby is an ancient burial place. Used for rich grazing fields from the rental of which schools were maintained at Plymouth. Early church was organized in 1683 by Rev. Samuel Shiverick, a Huguenot, escaping Catholic persecution in France. Followed in 1687 by Rev. Samuel Arnold, son of Rev. Arnold of Marshfield. Early settlers included Samuel Winslow and Samuel White.

Mattapoisett. May 20, 1857. A part of Rochester, called Mattapoisett Precinct.

MIDDLEBORO. Assawampsit or Nemasket (main village of the Nemasket's Chief Corbitant) June 1669. Capt. Thomas Dermer, English explorer, visited and traded with the Nemaskets here in 1619, where he would have been killed had not Squanto pleaded for his life. Edward Winslow and Stephen Hopkins, while traveling with Squanto to Massasoit's headquarters at Sowams (Bristol, R.I.) in 1621, stopped to confer with Chief Corbitant. In 1662, the area was granted to twenty-two original purchasers and the early settlers included Jacob Thompson, Francis Coombs and Isaac Howland, son of John the Pilgrim. Isaac Howland served with Col. Benjamin Church in King Philip's War and was a surveyor, constable, grand juryman and representative at the Court in Plymouth.

The Middleboro church was organized under Samuel Fuller, the son of the Pilgrim. Indian converts to Christianity were gathered in Indian churches which met at Titicut (King Philip's camp at North Middleboro), Nemasket and Sowomset. Lake Assawampsit is site where John Sassamon, Indian preacher and friend of the Pilgrims was murdered by three Indians, one of the incidents leading to King Philip's War.

Lakeville. May 13, 1853. Southwesterly part of Middleboro.

DUXBURY. Mattakeeset. June 7, 1637. Settled as early as 1624. Early called Ducksburrow. First grants out of Plymouth made here 1627 when Gov. Bradford began to allow some to go their "great lots on the other side of the Bay". John Alden, Myles Standish, Jonathan Brewster and Thomas Prence were the first prominent settlers. Other Pilgrims who followed included George Soule, Henry Sampson, Peter Browne and Francis Eaton. Chiefly a farming community for the first one hundred and fifty years, shipbuilding became a prominent industry here in the late 18th century. Ezra Weston, known as "King Caesar", was most prominent shipbuilder in the country in early 1800's. His 1808 house can be seen today on "Powder Point". Also the 1653 John Alden House and the 1666 Alexander Standish house and many other square colonials and Federal type houses. The first church out of Plymouth was gathered here in 1632 and the old cemetery contains many of the gravesites of the original settlers. Early Grist mill, 1639.

MARSHFIELD. Missaucatucket. March 2, 1640. At first called Green's Harbor, then Rexham. Settled by Gov. Edward Winslow who was given a large grant for farming in 1628. Bringing with him his two brothers, Kenelm Winslow and Josiah Winslow, they established the second church out of Plymouth in 1632, held some of the first town meetings in the country beginning in 1643 and established one of the earliest public schools in 1645. First born white child in this country, Peregrine White, Stepson to Gov. Winslow, was an early settler along the banks of the South River. Notable as a Tory center at the time of the Revolution, the aroused patriots held their own "tea party" and the first battle of the War for Independence nearly occurred here. Early industries were milling, fishing and salt haying, followed by shipbuilding on the North River, famous as a shipyard center for over two hundred years. Home of Daniel Webster 1832-1852. The Historic Winslow House (1699) represents one of the finest remaining aristocratic Pilgrim

Pembroke. March 21, 1711. Early a part of Duxbury and Marshfield with various sections known as Mattakeesett, the Major's Purchase and the Marshfield Upper Lands. Settled 1650 as an Indian outpost by Robert Barker who acquired the area from the Indians in exchange for a quart of wine. Many second and third generation Pilgrims settled here. The Old Bay Path from Plymouth to Boston passes through Pembroke. Milling and shipbuilding important early industries and an iron mill was erected as early as 1702.

The Massachusetts tribe of Indians under Wampatuck, son of their chief, Chickataubut, had a 1000-acre reserved track around the Indian Head Ponds set aside in 1662, the area having been previously a campground of that tribe.

Hanson. Tunk. February 22, 1820. Made up of the westerly part of Pembroke and an easterly part of Bridgewater.

SCITUATE. Satuit. October 5, 1636. One of the first towns to be incorporated in the Old Colony. Settled independently of Plymouth by a group of merchant adventurers known as the "Men of Kent" who came from Kent, England in 1628. Timothy Hatherly, Humphrey Turner, Beauchamp, Sherley, and Andrews, Nathaniel Tilden, Anthony Annable and others. Church established 1634 under Rev. John Lothrop who soon removed to Barnstable. Green Harbor Path, northerly path from Plymouth through Duxbury and Marshfield, terminated at the Coleman

Hills in the Greenbush area of Scituate. Many of the early settlers had periods when they lived at Plymouth. Early industries were fishing, milling, brickmaking and shipbuilding on the North River. Briggs Shipyard, most famous shipyard on the river where the 'Columbia,' first American ship to circumnavigate the globe was built, was located on the Scituate side of this famous river. Places of interest include an operating 1640 grist mill on First Herring Brook, the old Men of Kent cemetery, the Old Oaken Bucket homestead built in 1675, the Williams-Barker House, a portion of which was built in 1634 and used as a garrison, Cudworth House (1797) and an 1811 Lighthouse.

Norwell. February 14, 1849. A part of Scituate known as South Scituate. Settled 1634; first sawmill 1656. White oak, which abounded in this area, was much valued for the shipbuilding at the yards on the North River. Norwell known as "Nursery of Shipbuilders".

Hanover. June 14, 1727. Early a part of Scituate. Settled 1649. Named for King George I of the ruling House of Hanover. Old Bay Path from Plymouth ran through this inland town and was the first crossing place of the North River, known as Luddam's Ford. Here Gov. Winthrop crossed in 1632, on Luddam's shoulders, on his way from a visit to Plymouth. This is also the site of early grist and saw mills and the Curtis Iron Forge where the anchor for the frigate 'Constitution' was made. This North River town shares a long history of shipbuilding with Norwell, Scituate and Marshfield. Many second and third generation Pilgrims married into the old Hanover families of Barstow, Dwelley, Barker and Hatch. In earliest days, a farming community.

BRIDGEWATER. Nunketest. June 3, 1656. At "Sachem's Rock" in 1649, Massasoit signed away "this great Territory" to the white settlers. Early known as the "Duxboro' Plantation" and first interior settlement in the Old Colony, Bridgewater might be called the daughter of Duxbury, granddaughter of Plymouth. The northern boundary, set in 1628, marked the divide between the Massachusetts Bay Colony and Plymouth. Earliest grants were made to Duxbury inhabitants, Myles and Alexander Standish receiving 300 acres in 1656. Fifty-four shares were given in this area in 1645 and first grantees included John Alden, George Soule, Constant Southworth, John Rogers, William Brett and Samuel Nash. Later these landholders purchased their holdings from the Indians, a common practice in the Old Colony. The church was organized under Rev. James Keith in 1664 and early Deacon Edson was the first mill proprietor. Town officers were chosen in 1657. Bridgewater was the first town to send militia to Swansea in King Philip's War 1675. Mills were erected on the Taunton River early and an iron manufacture commenced in 1707. The Rev. James House, 1662 and the Alden House, 1653 built by Joseph Alden, son of John, can be seen today.

Abington. Manamooskeagin "many beavers". June 10, 1712. Easterly part of Bridgewater. First grants were made in 1654 to Nathaniel Souther and Peregrine White, and first settlements made in 1668. In 1679, James Lovell of Weymouth and Andrew Ford purchased Souther's title and the area became known as "Ford's Farm". Tall, white oak trees here furnished planks for the shipbuilders. King James had many of the finest branded for his own ships. A saw mill, 1698. Colonel Aaron Hobart of Abington cast the first bell in the Colony, and his son taught the art to Paul Revere.

Rockland. March 9, 1874. Made up of the north and east part of Old

Whitman. March 4, 1875. Originally South Abington.

Brockton. June 15, 1821. Early called North Bridgewater. Name changed to Brockton, March 1874. Land now occupied by the city was originally deeded to Myles Standish and John Alden by the Indians in 1649. For a very short period, about 1874, the town was called Standish. This farming center turned industrial after the Civil War.

BARNSTABLE COUNTY June 2, 1685

SANDWICH. Shawme. Sept. 3, 1639. Oldest town on the Cape and the fourth independent town in Massachusetts. Settled in 1637 by a group of ten men from Saugus under Edmund Freeman who obtained sion from Plymouth Colony to settle. These were soon joined by fifty families from Saugus, Lynn, Plymouth and Duxbury, in search of increased farmland. The church, Puritan rather than Separatist, was gathered in 1638, a one-room thatched building whose first minister was Rev. William Leverich, followed by Rev. Richard Bourne and Thomas Tupper. Purpose of the Saugus men was to "worship God and make money". The Thomas Dexter Grist Mill was erected in 1654. Prior to this, corn was carried back to Plymouth to be ground, not an easy undertaking since no road was constructed between Plymouth and Sandwich before 1654. Other industries included a tannery, cobbler, blacksmith. Fishing and whaling became important in the late 1600's. Aptucxet ("at the little Trap River") Trading Post, in present Bourne, was established in 1627 by the Pilgrims to trade with the Dutch from New Amsterdam and with the Indians. Wampum, made from periwinkle shells, was used as legal tender here until 1661. The Hoxie House, 1637, is believed to be the oldest house on the Cape. The 'Christopher Wren" First Church (1848) and the Quarter House with its bow roof built like an inverted ship's hull, the Old Quaker Meeting House, established in 1657 and the Sandwich Glass Museum (1825-1888) are important stops to be made here. Heritage Plantation of Sandwich.

Bourne. April 2, 1884. Settled about 1640, as a part of Sandwich. Named for Jonathan Bourne, a whaling merchant. Bourne is divided by the Cape Cod Canal, an idea originally conceived by Myles Standish in 1627 to make trading with the Dutch at Aptucxet Trading Post easier. Canal finally dug in early 20th century and completed 1917. Indian Burial Hill — site of first meeting house built for the Indians in the Colony by Richard Bourne and Thomas Tupper, missionaries. A replica of the trading post, salt works, an old windmill, rune stone and Indian village can be seen today.

BARNSTABLE. Chequocket. September 3, 1639. Contains present towns of West Barnstable, Hyannis, Hyannis Port, Osterville, Marston's Mills. looking for the lost Francis Billington which occasioned a meeting with the Indian sachem, Ivanough. Original grant was made to Rev. Joseph Hull and Thomas Dimmock, 1638, but settled by Rev. John Lothrop of Scituate with group from his church, Oct. 11, 1639. This church, known as the West Parish Meetinghouse, was an independent, Congregational Church, and the present 1717 building is the oldest standing Congregational church in America. It has a Paul Revere 1806 bell. A early Pilgrim settler was Samuel Fuller, son of the Pilgrim doctor. Early ries were salt haying, salt works and the fisheries. Places of note are the Barnard House (1740) Gorham House (1690), Old Court House and County Iail (about 1700), Old U.S. Customs House, built 1855 to process foreign shipping, now called the Donald G. Trayser Historical Museum, and the Crocker Tavern Museum. The Sturgis Library includ ing Cape Cod genealogical collections, is housed in a 1645 building, the oldest public library building in the United States.

Falmouth. Succanesset "home of the black clam by the water". June 4, 1686. Settled 1660 by a group from Barnstable who had originally come from Scituate. First Congregational Church contains Paul Revere bell. Early industries, fishing and whaling.

MASHPEE. May 28, 1870, but Plantation of Mashpee incorporated June 14, 1763. In 1660, 10,500 acres were set aside here for an Indian reservation through the efforts of Richard Bourne, minister to the Mashpee Indians. It was the first Indian reservation in the country. An Indian church (Old Indian Meeting House) was built in 1684 by Richard Bourne on his own land for the Indians' use. From 1711, ministers here were paid by a fund entrusted to Harvard College. Summer Indian rituals are still held here.

YARMOUTH. Mattacheese. September 3, 1639. First settled 1638 by Rev. Stephen Batchelor of Lynn, who, age 76, walked by foot from Lynn to Yarmouth. Pilgrim Stephen Hopkins early built here, later giving house to son, Giles Hopkins. Permanent settlement, 1639, by group from Lynn including Anthony Thacher, John Crowe, and Thomas Howes. Church organized 1639 under Rev. Marmaduke. Industries — fishing and salt-works. Small section called "Indian Town", inhabited by Pawkunnawhat Indians as late as 1779. Baxter Mill (1789) of W. Yarmouth, Old Stagecoach Inn and Capt. Bangs-Hallet House worth a stop.

Dennis. June 19, 1793. East precinct of Yarmouth. Settled 1639. Named for Rev. Josiah Dennis, a favorite Pastor at First Meeting House. Pilgrim monument at Provincetown can be seen from the summit of Scargo Hill. Scargo Lake is said to have been dug by natives, with clam shells as tools, to please an Indian chief's daughter, Princess Scargo, as a pond for her pet goldfish. Farly fishing and coasting trade.

For her pet goldfish. Early fishing and coasting trade.

EASTHAM. Nauset. June 2, 1646. Explored 1606 by Champlain. In 1620, the Pilgrim exploration group under Myles Standish landed and first met the Nauset Indians at First Encounter Beach. Permanently settled 1644 by a dissatisfied group from Plymouth looking for better farmland. Early settlers were Thomas Prence, later Governor of Plymouth Colony, John Doane, Nicholas Snow, Josias Cook, Richard Higgins, John

Smalley and Edward Bangs, names still to be found on the outer Cape. A Pilgrim church was set up immediately "twenty foot square with a thatched roof" near Town Cove. Rev. John Mayo preached here from 1646 to 1655. Agriculture and fishing were early industries. An old Grist Mill, built 1793 at Plymouth and later transported across the bay to Provincetown, was moved to Eastham in the 1800's and is the oldest wind-driven mill still in existence on the Cape. Visitors' Center, Cape Cod National Seashore. 1869 Schoolhouse Museum.

Orleans. March 3, 1797. Southerly part of Eastham, settled in 1693. Named for Duc d'Orleans, King Phillippe I of France, who was enjoying popularity as champion of Democracy at the time of his visit to the area after the French Revolution. Old Cove cemetery contains the graves of Mayflower passengers Constance Hopkins Snow, Giles Hopkins, Lieut. Joseph Rogers. An early landing site for packet ships plying between Boston and the Cape. Rock Harbor was the scene of a naval encounter during War of 1812, since Orleans had refused to pay tax on Cape-produced salt. British were repulsed and driven back to ships. French cable station still stands.

Wellfleet. Punonakanit. June 16, 1763. North Precinct of Eastham. Early Pilgrim shallop explorations here on Dec. 18 and 19, 1620. Settled 1724 with principal sources of income whaling and oystering. In fact, name derived from England's oyster town, Wallfleet. The high bluff, presently the site of the Marconi Wireless Station, may well have been the first headland sited by the Pilgrims on November 9, 1620. Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. Historical Museum. Ship's time town clock.

Truro. Pawmet or Meeshawn. July 16, 1709. Settled by emigrants from Eastham and known as the "Scotland of the Cape". It was here, at Corn Hill, that the Pilgrim explorers, in Nov. 1620, first discovered Indian corn in a cache which they took, along with a "borrowed" iron kettle and a small basket. It was this corn that they planted and from which came their first harvest in 1621. Early settlers fished and made profits from the whales which washed up on the outer beach. Highland Light dates from 1797. Pilgrim Heights Interpretative Shelter, National

Provincetown. June 14, 1727. Settled about 1700 and known as the Cape Cod Precinct, originally a part of Truro. It was here that the Pilgrims first set foot on American soil, landing Nov. 11, 1620. They called it "Cape Harbor" and remained here for about five weeks while exploring for possible settlement sites. The famous Mayflower Compact was conceived and drawn up while the ship lay in Provincetown Harbor (commemorative bas-relief at foot of Town Hill). Pilgrim Monument, erected in 1910, in honor of the Pilgrim sojourn here, commands a view of the entire area early explored by the Pilgrim shallop. Provincetown Museum at Pilgrim Monument. Province Lands Visitor Center, National Seashore.

HARWICH. Satucket. Sept. 14, 1694. A large area between Yarmouth (1639) and Eastham (1644), it included Indian land and the Purchasers Reserved Tract No. I. First white settler, John Mecoy, 1667, who was given a parcel of land by an Indian chief. Soon followed by Gershom-Hall in 1668. First church organized in 1747 under Rev. Edward Pell. Fishing rights established 1650 were given to Thomas Prence, Myles Standish and William Paddy. Profits accrued were appropriated for free school in Plymouth. Old Powder House can be seen where gunpowder was stored for use by town's militia.

Chatham, Manamoit. June 11, 1712. Originally roamed by Sauquatucket and Monomoyick Indian tribes. Stage Harbor marks the spot where Samuel de Champlain landed and encountered Monomoyick Indians in 1606. It was off these shores that the Mayflower company, having turned south after first siting land on Nov. 9, 1620, decided that, due to bad weather and sea conditions, they would head back to the protection of Provincetown Harbor. In 1622, Governor Bradford on a trading trip, stopped here. Squanto, who accompanied him, fell sick and died here. This was the area of the Reserved Tract No. I, set aside in 1630 by the Pilgrim "Old Comers" or "Purchasers" for special dispensation. It included present parts of Orleans, Harwich and Brewster. In 1656, William Nickerson bought a part of this tract from Mattaquason, sachem of the Monomoyicks. An original plantation, Nickerson named it "Monomoy". The vessel 'Sparrowhawk' (c. 1600 - 1700) was found here in 1863. Forty feet long, it had gone down on a voyage to Virginia in 1627. Atwood House Historical Museum.

Brewster. Sawkattuket. February 19, 1803. Northerly part of Harwich. Named for William Brewster and settled in 1656. Early industries were agriculture and fishing. Fortunes made at sea in early 19th century built many fine homes here. The Dillingham House — an old saltbox, for the building of which, material was brought by John Dillingham as ballast on a ship from England. Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, exhibits and field trips. Old Grist Mill of William Brewster. Drummer Boy Museum.

BRISTOL COUNTY June 21, 1685

TAUNTON. Cohannet. Sept. 3, 1639, fifth town incorporated in the Old Colony. This area is believed to have been very early explored by the Vikings as evidenced by the mysterious hieroglyphics on Dighton Rock on the east bank of Titicut (Taunton) River. Edward Winslow and Stephen Hopkins explored here on the way to Massasoit's headquarters at Bristol and were much impressed by the "exceeding great" chestnut trees. A Pilgrim trading post was established on the Titicut and early settlers were Richard Williams and a group of Puritans from Dorchester, including Baylies, Tisdales, Mortons, Cobbs and Crockers. Miss Elizabeth Poole, at age 50, showed such enterprise in building up the town that Captain Standish and John Brown were sent by the Court to lay out for her a grant of fifty acres. She had come down from Dorchester with a party driving their cattle through the wilderness. Early preacher was Miss Poole's brother-in-law, Rev. Nicholas Street. James and Henry Leonard from Pontipool, Monmouthshire established one of the first iron-foundries in America in 1656 on Two-mile River and were the progenitors of a long line of prominent residents of this inland industrial town, characterized in later years by cotton and wool manufacturing. Historical Hall contains the Old Colony Historical Society, organized 1853. Old Village Green.

Norton. March 17, 1710. North Precinct of Taunton.

Dighton. May 30, 1712. South Precinct of Taunton. Location of famous Dighton Rock, the inscriptions on which are said to be of Norse origin. Named for Dame Frances Dighton, wife of Richard Williams, "Father of Taunton"

Easton. Dec. 21, 1725. Originally part of Taunton North Purchase in Norton. Settled 1668. Oldest house built by Josiah Keith, son of Rev. James Keith of Bridgewater. The Ames family has been long prominent here, coming originally from Bridgewater, and founders of an extensive shovel-works at the head of the Taunton River.

Raynham. April 2, 1731. Originally part of Taunton.

Berkley. April 18, 1735. Originally part of Taunton and Dighton. Named for Bishop Berkeley.

Mansfield. April 26, 1770. North Precinct of Norton.

DARTMOUTH. Apponeganset. June 8, 1664. Founded by a group from Taunton. Named for the port where the 'Mayflower' and 'Speedwell' put back for repairs. Part of Reserved Tract No. 2, set aside in 1630 by the "Old Comers" or "Purchasers" for future settlement. Included parts of present Dartmouth, Fairhaven, New Bedford and Little Compton, R. I. There was early established a Quaker Church here in 1668, Mr. Constant Southworth and others acquired from King Philip a large tract of land in this area for 15 pounds. Was attacked and burned during King Philip's War, July, 1675. Early a group of Indian villages here, some of whose descendents still dwell in the area. Later a seafaring and manufacturing center. Associated with maritime development, were numerous mills, sawing the timber, carding and weaving the wool, distilling the rum, grinding the corn, forging the anchors, and tanning the leather.

New Bedford. Acushnet. Feb. 23, 1787. Easterly part of Dartmouth, early known as Bedford Village. Early a haven for Quakers, Baptists and Presbyterians, spurned by the larger colonies. An early settler was Ralph Russell who set up an iron works on the Pascamanset River. Shipwrights and blacksmiths from Pembroke, Hanover and Scituate settled here, turning a small farming community into a center for shipbuilding, and coasting trade. Whaling developed in the 1760's under Joseph Russell and Joseph Rotch. By the start of the Revolution, there were eighty whaling vessels in the New Bedford — Fairhaven fleet. It was the nation's chief whaling port in 1820. Whaling Museum and Old Dartmouth Historical Society.

Fairhaven. Feb. 22, 1812. Easterly part of New Bedford. Local Indian tribe were the Sconticuts. Part of Reserved Tract No. 2. Early settled by Quakers. A seafaring, whaling, manufacturing town.

Acushnet. Feb. 13, 1860. Northerly part of Fair Haven.

Westport. Acoaxet or Paquachuck. July 2, 1787. Home of the Indian tribe of Coaxets. Part of old town of Dartmouth. Scene of activity during King Philip's War.

FREETOWN. An early town, established 1683, called "The Free Men's land at Taunton River". Originally inhabited by the Assonet tribe of Indians. The common lands here were deeded by Plymouth Court in 1656 to Capt. James Cudworth, Mr. Josias Winslow, Mr. John Barnes, Constant Southworth and twenty-two others. Two years later the deed was acquired from the Indians. These original proprietors never settled, but some of their sons did. Lieut. Job Winslow settled 1685, also John Tisdale of Duxbury, Humphrey Turner of Scituate, son of Joseph. Capt. Benjamin Church lived here on "Turner lot" in 1700. Early farming. A sawmill, 1695.

Fall River. February 26, 1803. Southerly part of Freetown. Settled about 1656 for farmland. Originally part of tribal land of the Pocassets. Weetammo, Chief Corbitant's daughter, was powerful queen of the Pocassets, and sister-in-law to King Philip. Much activity during King Philip's War. At one time there was an Indian reservation here at "Indian Town". Water power, provided by the Taunton River, brought about early development of cotton manufacturing.

Tiverton, R.I. 1692. Part of Reserved Tract No. 2. Early settlers were Major Church, Richard Borden, Job Peace, Daniel Howland, Joseph Anthony and Edward Briggs. Home of Weetammo, Queen of Pocasset Indians. After the burning of Swansea at the beginning of King Philip's War, the Indians fled here, followed by Col. Benjamin Church. Church and his colonial forces were trapped on this peninsula and escaped only through being rescued by boat by Capt. Golding who sailed up the Sakonnet River. Early menhaden fisheries founded here by seven Church brothers. They proved profitable for oil and fish guano.

Sakonnet or Little Compton, R.I. 1682. Part of Reserved Tract No. 2. Settled by people from Taunton and Rhode Island. One of early settlers, Col. Benjamin Church, Commander-in-Chief of Colonial forces during King Philip's War, 1675. For a period, this town acknowledged the authority of New York rather than Plymouth.

SWANSEA. Mattapoiset or Wannamoiset. Oct. 30, 1667. Early town 12th to be incorporated. Part of Reserved Tract No. 3, set aside 1630 by the "Purchasers". A trading post established 1632. Original town consisted of Wannamoisett and Sowams, known as "the garden of the Plymouth patent, and the flour in the garden", and several other Indian and purchases. Founders were nine men from Rehoboth, John Browne, (his son, Major John Brown, married Lydia Howland, daughter of John Howland, Pilgrim), Plymouth Colony Magistrate, and Capt. Thomas Willett, first English mayor of the city of New York. In March, 1668, the Court appointed Willett and Browne, along with Stephen Paine, John Allen and John Butterworth to have charge of admitting new inhabitants to Swansea. These men set up a landed aristocracy, founded on the basis of class division. Newcomers were assigned to first, second, or third class rank in the community. This policy was unique in the Colony towns. A Baptist church, offshoot of the Congregational church at Rehoboth was founded by Rev. John Myles of Swansea, Wales and was the first Massachusetts Baptist church, fourth in the country. Sowams was headquarters of Massasoit, chief sachem of Wampanoags, and here he was visited by Thomas Dermer in 1619, Winslow and Hopkins in 1621 and it was here that Winslow performed his miraculous cure of Massasoit in 1623. The first incident of King Philip's War occurred here, an Indian attack on an English farm, June 24, 1675.

Somerset. Shewamet. Feb. 20, 1790. A part of Swansea. Situated on the Taunton River. Early shipbuilding. Later, the Mount Hope Iron Works. After King Philip's War, Jonathan Bowers and William Slade returned from Newport to find rude, cave-like dwellings on the side of these steep river banks, inhabited by refugees from Captain Church's ranks.

Warren, R.I. and Barrington, R.I. Parts of Swansea.

Bristol, R.I. Oct. 28, 1681 (incorporated by Plymouth Colony). Known as the Mt. Hope Lands on Mt. Hope Neck. History closely allied with that of Rehoboth and Swansea. Home of Massasoit. Land acquired during King Philip's War and granted to Plymouth by Charles II, so early held uniquely by a royal charter, conferred January, 1680. Plymouth, in turn, deeded Mt. Hope lands, Sept. 1680 to William Ingraham, Capt. Walley, and two others. Became a highly successful trading community, one of the most thriving in the Colony. King Philip was killed here by an Indian aide to Col. Benjamin Church, after being surounded by Church and his militia from Plymouth, including Lieut. Jabez Howland, Nathaniel Southworth and Jacob Cook.

REHOBOTH. Wawepoonseag or Seconet. June 4, 1645, ninth town incorporated in the Old Colony. Land purchased from Massasoit for "ter fathoms of beads", in 1641 "a tract eight mile square". Early called Seekonk. Part of Reserved Tract No. 3. Governor Bradford and Major William Bradford were particularly interested in this tract. First settler was the parson, William Blackstone, who when going to preach at Providence, was said to ride down Blackstone valley on a bull which he had tamed and tutored to his use. He was a non-conformist minister of the Episcopal church of England, who had settled as early as 1625 at Shawmut (Boston). Founder of Rehoboth considered to be Rev. Samuel Newman of Weymouth, who with a group from Weymouth and Hingham in 1643, known as the "Plantores of Seacunk", were given lots on the early grants. At first, they assumed political independence and set up separate government of nine townsmen, but later acknowledged jurisdiction of Plymouth reluctantly. It was the only town to contribute nothing toward obtaining a royal commission in 1691. Saw much action during King Philip's War, as home territory of King Philip. Anawon's Rock, near Squannakonk Swamp, was last holdout of Philip's chief general and counselor, Anawon with the last of the Wampanoag Indians. Once the largest town in the Old Colony, Rehoboth became the rival of Boston for the State House but was defeated by a few votes

Attleboro. October 19, 1694. The North Purchase, a part of Rehoboth. Land a part of Reserved Tract No. 3. Bronson Museum — Massachusetts Archeological Society.

Seekonk. Feb. 26, 1812. Westerly part of Rehoboth. Settled as early as 1643. Part of Reserved Tract No. 3. Burned and plundered during King Philip's War.

Pawtucket, R.I. March 1, 1828. Part of Seekonk. Part of Reserved Tract No. 3. In a change of boundary line between Massachusetts and Rhode Island in 1861, all of Pawtucket, except part lying easterly of Seven-Mile River, was annexed to Rhode Island.

DUKES COUNTY Nov. 1, 1683

MARTHA'S VINEYARD. Cappawock.

Edgartown and Tisbury. Chappequidick and Chappaquonsett. Both founded July 8, 1671. Discovered and explored by Bartholomew Gosnold in 1602. He traded with the Indians and obtained furs and sassafras. Capt. Dermer landed in 1619 with Squanto to trade with the Indians. He was assaulted and many of his men slain. At peak of whaling industry, Edgartown was the site of the largest sperm-oil candle factory in the world, established by Dr. Daniel Fisher. "Bum-boating" or peddling house to house was an early occupation of the inland Vineyard.

Gay Head. April 30, 1870. Still partly occupied by Indians. Unique clay cliffs.

West Tisbury. April 28, 1892. Settled in 1669. In early days there were "saltworks on the shores, smokehouses on its hills where herring were cured and prepared for market, brickworks and a lumber trade."

Oak Bluffs. Settled 1642. Common history with Edgartown and Tisbury. First praying congregation of Indians at Sanchekantackett.

Chilmark. Nashaukemmiuk. Oct. 30, 1714. Settled in 1671, as a fishing village and early called the "Manor of Tisbury".

Gosnold. Elizabeth Islands. March 17, 1864. Originally part of Chilmark. Named for Bartholomew Gosnold who built a fort on Cuttyhunk

Nantucket. Nautican. June 27, 1687. An early settler, Thomas Mayhew was known as "Lord of the Islands", proprietor of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard and a missionary among the Indians.

Senator George D. Aiken Senator Edward W. Brooke Senator Edward Kennedy Senator John O. Pastore Congressman James A. Burke Congressman Silvio Conte Congressman Harold D. Donohue

Plymouth-Provincetown

The Plymouth-Provincetown Celebration Commission was ap-

pointed by President Richard Nixon on February 9, 1971, in

conjunction with an Act of Congress authorizing uch a

commission to conduct celebrations from time to time during

the 350th Pilgrim Anniversary Year and to focus attention on

the contribution of the Pilgrim settlement to history, culture,

From June through November 1971, the Commission has spon-

sored or co-sponsored lectures, concerts, receptions, festivals,

re-enactments, and projects of broad scope in fulfillment of

From Boston City Hall, the Museum of Fine Arts, Provincetown

Art Association, the Cyclorama Building of the Boston Center

for the Arts, the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of

History & Technology, the Museum of Science, the State House

in Boston, to the Barnstable County House of Correction, the

Plymouth waterfront, Plimoth Plantation, an old Plymouth mill,

and many of the Plymouth-area churches, institutions have

opened doors to the celebration, and hundreds of people have

One of the measures of the success of a program is its influence

on the future of an area. The members of the Commission hope

that, among the programs which have taken place this year,

there will be those continued in years to come. As an example,

we are delighted that this map which we offered to schools

throughout the "Old Plymouth Colony" area is now in use

from Tiverton, R. I., to Marshfield, Provincetown, and even

As "we gather together to ask the Lord's blessing" on this

350th Pilgrim Thanksgiving, we are grateful for having had the

chance to share the harvest of Pilgrim tradition with so many.

helped or participated in the preparations for the events.

Congressman Hastings Keith

law, and commerce.

Portugal.

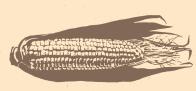
the intent of the Act of Congress.

1621 2 GOD AT PINO 197

George C. P. Olsson, Chairman Ernest P. Tassinari, Treasurer Richard D. Buck Alice J. Hicks

Martha Reardon, Executive Director Elna Hulbert, Executive Secretary

Gelebration Gommission



THE FIRST THANKSGIVING — 1621

"They began now to gather in the small harvest they had, and to fit up their houses and dwellings against winter, being all well recovered in health and strength, and had all things in good plenty. For as some were thus employed in affairs abroad, others were exercised in fishing, about cod and bass and other fish, of which they took good store, of which every family had their portion.

"All the summer, there was no want; and now began to come in store of fowl, as winter approached, of which this place did abound when they came first (but afterward decreased by degrees). And besides waterfowl, there was great store of wild turkeys, of which they took many, besides venison, etc. Besides, they had about a peck of meal a week to a person, or now since harvest, Indian corn to that proportion. Which made many afterwards write so largely of their plenty here to their friends in England, where were not feigned but true reports.

"Thus, they found the Lord to be with them in all their ways, and to bless their outgoings and incomings, for which let His holy name have the praise forever, to all posterity."

- William Bradford, Plimoth Plantation

NOTES ON THE TRAIL MAP

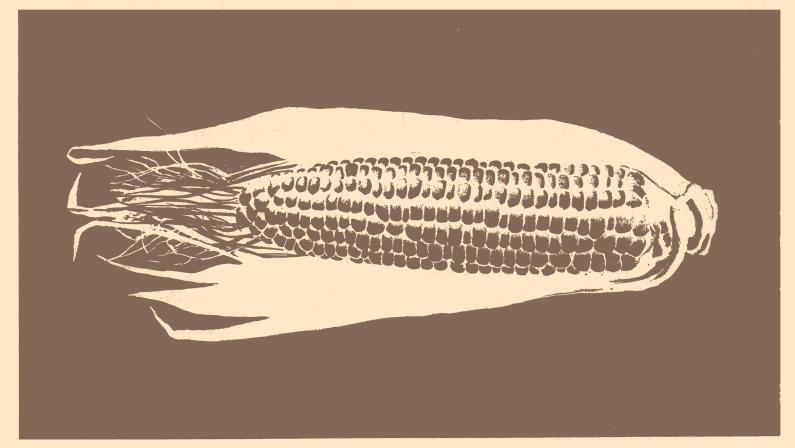
During the existence of Old Plymouth Colony from 1620 to 1691, many little towns were born in what are now Plymouth, Barnstable, and Bristol Counties. The Old Colony bounds, set in 1640, included all of the Cape, extended west to Narragansett Bay and the Blackstone River and then on a straight line northeasterly to Bound Brook, old boundary with the Bay Colony and present boundary between Scituate and Cohasset.

After 1627, Pilgrims began to disperse from Plymouth, seeking economic improvement and religious independence. A particular reason was the need for increased farm acreage when the Massachusetts Bay Colony settled in 1630. The first settlements outside of Plymouth were of direct Pilgrim origin; but, as time went on, the group of growing communities grew more diverse in interest and origin. By 1645, few of the original Pilgrim group were left in Plymouth. Most had followed the early trails to the outlying countryside "by which means they were scattered all over the Bay quickly, and the town in which they lived compactly 'till now was left very thin and, in a short time, almost desolate." (Bradford)

This map shows where Pilgrim influence was first felt. The Indian trails and place names are also part of a continuing tradition. Trails have become Pilgrim pathways, roads, then highways. Indian place names identify towns, lakes, and even the Commonwealth which the old Plymouth Colony joined in 1692 — Massachusetts.

Data for this map has come from many sources. Russell H. Gardner, Chief Great Moose and historian of the Wampanoags, contributed Indian trail information. George C. P. Olsson, Chairman of the Plymouth-Provincetown Celebration Commission, found records of town incorporation dates and early town names and statistics in an old Manual of the General Court. Cynthia Hagar Krusell, Chairman of Marshfield's Historical Commission, added this information to her research on Pilgrim Trails, and coordinated the development of the Project with Ann Granberry of an America the Beautiful Environment Action Team. The Plymouth-Provincetown Celebration Commission is grateful to all who assisted.

Historical notes list old Plymouth Colony towns and points of interest. Major towns are capitalized; Indian names for towns and town or county incorporation dates follow after the town or county name.



Map of Early Pilgrim and Indian Trails of Old Plymouth Colony

Published in connection with the Celebration of the 350th Anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims and the First Thanksgiving

PLYMOUTH-PROVINCETOWN CELEBRATION COMMISSION