

OVERVIEW - THE DARTMOUTH PROPRIETY

SALLY M. ALDRICH - JUNE 2018

CHRONOLOGY:

1620	<i>Mayflower</i> lands in Plymouth, followed by more Europeans
1627	Plymouth Old Comers (Purchasers) buy out Merchant Adventurers
1629	Warwick Patent given to Plymouth Old Comers by English king
1641	Reserved Tract No. 2 (became Old Dartmouth) given to Old Comers
1652	Dartmouth Propriety formed (34 shares)
1652	Indian deed for the Dartmouth Propriety (recorded 1654)
1660	Approximate date of first Dartmouth settlements
1664	Town of Dartmouth chartered by Plymouth General Court (entity for inhabitants, separate from land-owning Propriety)
1675-76	King Philip's War - Old Dartmouth houses destroyed & town briefly abandoned
1684	Mill Share created (the 35th share of the Propriety)
1685	Bristol County splits off from Plymouth County
1691	Bristol and Plymouth Counties merge into Massachusetts Bay Colony
1710	Benjamin Crane hired as first impartial surveyor
1722	All Dartmouth Propriety highways "surrendered" to the Town
1725	Dartmouth Propriety records burn at Clerk, Thomas Hathaway's house
1726	Propriety begins the struggle to recreate its corporate and land records
1753	Massachusetts General Court grants proprietaries the power to tax
1765	Bedford Village gets started as a major whaling port
1768	Suits multiply against the Dartmouth Propriety
1771	Dartmouth Propriety petitions for dissolution (unsuccessful)
1775-83	American Revolution
1787	Westport and New Bedford/Fairhaven/Acushnet split off from Dartmouth
1800	Effective end of Dartmouth Propriety

LAND DIVISIONS BY THE DARTMOUTH PROPRIETY:

UPLAND: Total of **1,500** acres:

by 1660	200 acres
1682	400 acres
1694	200 acres
in 1710	the first three listed above consolidated as the "800 acre division"
1713	400 acres
by 1730	300 acres

MEADOW: (saltwater & freshwater marshes, wetlands, beaches, mudflats & some small islands)

by 1680	36 acres
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CEDAR SWAMP:

1713	16 acres
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LIST OF PROPRIETORS OF DARTMOUTH IN 1652

Each With One Full Share Except as Noted

ALDEN, John
BARTLETT, Robert
BASSETT, William (1/2 share with John Howland of John Crackston share)
BRADFORD, William
BREWSTER, Sarah, widow of William (1/2 share with William Collier)
BROWNE, Peter
BUMPAS, Edward
COLLIER, William (1/2 share with Sarah Brewster)
COOKE, Francis
COOKE, John
CUTBERT, Samuel
DELANO, Philip
DOTEY, Edward
DUNHAM, John Sr.
EATON, Samuel (share of Francis Eaton)
FAUNCE, John
HICKS, Samuel
HOLMAN, Edward
HOWLAND, John (1/2 share with William Bassett of John Crackston share)
HURST, James
JENNEY, Sarah, widow of John
KEMPTON, Manasses
MORTON, George
MORTON, Thomas
PALMER, William
PRATT, Joshua
SAMPSON, Henry
SHAW, John Sr.
SIMONS, Moses
SOULE, George
SOUTHWORTH, Constant
SOUTHWORTH, Thomas
SPRAGUE, Francis
STANDISH, (Capt.) Myles
TRACY, Stephen
WARREN, Elizabeth, widow of Richard

Original List made 17 March 1652/3 was lost. Second list with errors was recorded from memory, but marked "null and void" when original was found and recorded 8 June 1660, but some discrepancies still result from passage of time.

This list is a composite prepared from a number of sources by Sally M. Aldrich in 2018 and can still be disputed.