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HISTORICAL SKETCHES

NEW HAVEN COLONY

1637 In June, 1637, there arrived at Boston, the Davenport and Eaton Company, composed of men of "wealth and highest respectability." Among them were two Puritan ministers, John Davenport and Peter Prudden. Efforts were made by Governor Winthrop to induce these new comers to locate within the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Bay Colony; but they desired to form a separate commonwealth.

When Captain Underhill of the Winthrop Colony returned from the Pequot War, he told of a place called "Quinnipiack," discovered in chasing the Pequot Indians to the westward along the coast from Mystic to the Fairfield Swamp. He described the place as follows: "It hath a fair harbor and abounds in rich and goodly meadows."

1638 Captain Stoughton, another soldier of the Pequot War, speaks of the place as "surpassing all the New England region," and says "probable it is that the Dutch will seize it if the English do not; it is too good for any but friends." A committee were sent to explore the country and the harbor and returned so well pleased that the Davenport and Eaton Company decided to settle on this spot and in the spring of 1638 arrived at Red Mount (Quinnipiack), now New Haven.

Dwight says about this company, "They were distinguished for their excellent characters"; and Trumbull says, "the principal men deserved to be at the head of a colony."

Peters, a sarcastic writer, in his "History of Connecticut, London 1781," says "The New Haven Colony flattered themselves they were founding Christ's Millenium Kingdom, which was to extend from sea to sea, and that their city would be the seat of the empire and that Christ would eventually come to live with them for a thousand years; but it does not appear

from the early records that they ever reserved a building lot for his palace."

PLANTATION COVENANT

1639 June, 1639, finds these planters gathered for conference in the Robert Newman barn* for the purpose of an agreement on the government of the colony. The meeting was not altogether harmonious: differences existed. The majority favored recognizing only church members as eligible to vote on the affairs of the colony. As a result those who declined to subscribe to the original articles of agreement gathered on the following day and organized under Rev. Peter Prudden, a separate colony.

Prudden, formerly from Edgerton, Yorkshire, England, had preached at Wethersfield during the year; and a number from that town followed him to Quinnipiack.

Among them was Sergt. Thomas Tibbals† who had also served with Capt. Mason, Stoughton and Underhill in the Pequot War.

He had been impressed not only with the Quinnipiack but the Wepawaug‡ River, about ten miles south and recommended this location to the Company of dissenters as a desirable spot for a settlement; and the following August, Thomas Tibbals led the company along the shore by the Indian trail through the wilderness to the banks of the Wepawaug, with the Rev. Peter Prudden as the acknowledged head of the Company.

* The Newman lot was at the foot of the present Hillhouse Ave., New Haven, on which site now stands the New Haven Colony Historical Society Building presented by Henry Fowler English as a memorial to his father and mother: the late James Edward English, Governor and U. S. Senator, and Caroline Fowler English, a direct descendant of William Fowler of Milford, the founder and builder of the first mill.

† Among the passengers on the "Truelove," leaving the shores of England in 1635, appear the names of Thomas Tibbalds, aged 20; Zacharia Whitman, aged 60; Sarah Whitman, aged 25; Zacha Whitman, aged 2½ years. "Original lists of Persons of Quality who went from Great Britain to the American Plantations 1600-1700," Edited by John Camden Hotten, London.

‡ Indian translation (the crossing place).

See boulder Memorial Bridge, southeast end, following inscription:

IN MEMORIAM
 CAPT. THOMAS TIBBALS.
 OBIT 1703
 IN CONSIDERATION OF HIS
 HELPFULNESS ATT THE FIRST COM-
 MING TO MILFORD TO SHOW THE
 FIRST COMMERS THE PLACE.
 (Land Records.)

See boulder Memorial Bridge, southwest end, following inscription:

IN MEMORIAM
 PETER PRUDDEN
 FIRST PASTOR IN MILFORD
 OBIT 1656
 THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE
 WILDERNESS, PREPARE YE
 THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.

THE NEW HAVEN COLONISTS ACQUIRED ALL
 THEIR LAND BY PURCHASE FROM THE
 INDIANS,

and the business was transacted with much formality and possession was given with ceremony. Not only the Indian Chief, but all the other leaders in the tribe signed the deeds by making their mark.

The payments were made in clothing, blankets, utensils, trinkets and other things useful to the Indians.

By articles of agreement the Indians, for themselves and their successors, surrendered all lands and privileges, reserving the right of fishing and hunting, and in the case of the Milford purchase, Ansantawae and his family were to have the liberty to seek shelter in the event of danger in some place near the town where the residents should "think most fit."

LAND PURCHASED FOR THE TOWN OF MILFORD
FROM THE INDIANS INCLUDING DATE OF
PURCHASE AND BOUNDARY LINE*

The individuals who negotiated with the Indians acted in behalf of all the planters, and it is expressed in all of the various deeds or agreements, from 1639 to 1722, after the names of the committee, as follows: "For the benefit of the planters," or "In trust for the planters."

1639 The original or first purchase was made Feb. 12, 1639,† and consisted of the land lying between the East River and the "Oustonik" with Long Island Sound on the south, two miles towards Derby on the north. This deed was taken by William Fowler, Edwin Tapp, Zachariah Whitman, Benjamin Fenn and Alexander Bryan.

1655 Purchases were made between Paugussett and the two-mile Indian path by Ensign Bryan, Sergt. Baldwin and William East.

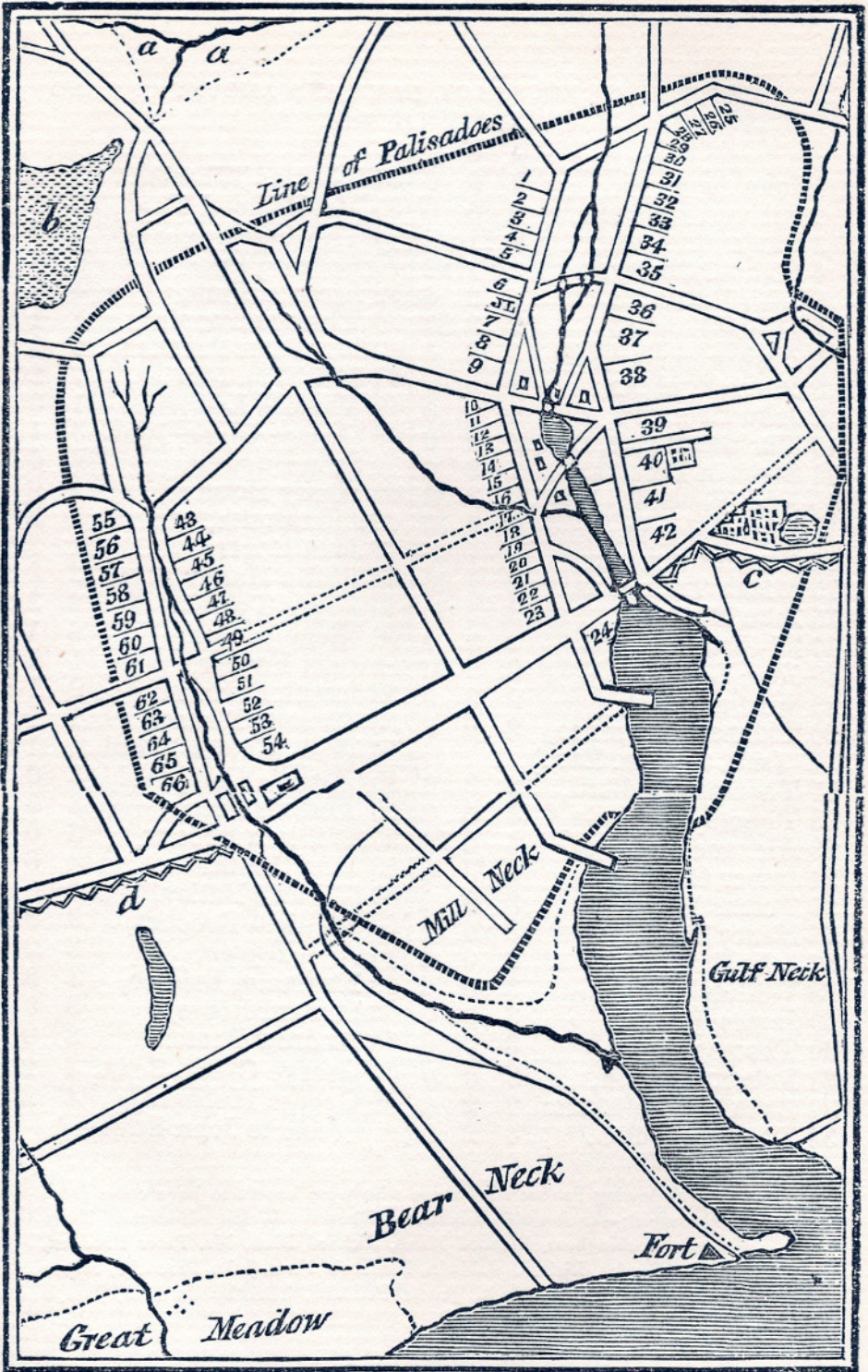
1659 Land from the Indian Path to Oyster River South to the Foot Path from Paugussett to New Haven, by Robert Treat and Ensign Bryan.

1659-60 Indian Neck between East River and the Sound by Ensign Bryan.

1685 "The tract lying by the path which goeth from New Haven to Derby and bounded with said path south, and the brook called Bladden's Brook, north; with the line that is in the point between New Haven and Milford east, and the line that is the point between Derby and Milford West." This purchase was made by Robert Treat, Samuel Eells, Benj. Fenn, Thomas Clark and Survanus Baldwin.

* The conditions of purchase, the price, the names and marks of the Indians conveying all the land comprising the town of Milford at the different purchases will be found in Lambert's History of New Haven Colony, 1838.

† The early settlers began their year March 25, therefore a confusion and inconsistency of dates frequently occurs and is due to the fact that the original records made previous to March may bear date of previous year. 1640 voted the place be called Milford.



PLAN OF THE ORIGINAL TOWN PLOT OF MLFORD.

1646

Four and one-half inches to the mile

NUMBER OF HOUSE LOT, NAME AND AMOUNT OF LAND
OWNED BY EACH PLANTER IN 1646

	a.	r.	p.			
1 John Astwood,	7	2	0	34 Thomas Wheelèr,	3	0 0
2 Richard Baldwin,	3	0	0	35 Mr. Edmond Tapp,	7	2 0
3 Benjamin Fenn,	2	11	3	36 Tho. Buckingham,	2	3 0
4 Samuel Cooley,	2	1	20	37 Robert Plum-	5	3 0
5 John Peacocke,	1	3	0	38 Richard Platt,	4	1 0
6 Henry Stonhill,	2	3	20	39 Thomas Tapping,	1	1 20
7 Nathaniel Baldwin,	3	2	0	40 Mr. Peter Prudden,	7	2 0
8 James Prudden,	2	0	0	41 Mr. Wm. Fowler,	7	2 0
9 John Sherman,	4	0	0	42 Thomas Lawrence,	1	0 0
10 Thomas Baker,	3	2	0	43 George Clark, Junr.,	4	1 0
11 Stephen Freeman,	2	0	0	44 John Burwell,	2	0 20
12 John Fletcher,	2	3	30	45 Henry Botsford,	2	2 0
13 John Baldwin,	2	1	10	46 John Smith,	1	3 20
14 Frances Bolt,	2	1	20	47 John Rogers,	1	3 20
15 Micah Tompkins,	2	1	20	48 Philip Hatley,	3	3 20
16 John Birdseye,	2	3	20	49 Roger Tyrrell,	2	3 20
17 Edward Harvey,	2	3	0	50 Nicholas Camp,	6	1 20
18 John Lane,	2	2	20	51 John Fowler,	1	2 20
19 William East,	2	3	0	52 Joseph Baldwin,	2	1 20
20 Thomas Lawrence,	2	0	0	53 Thomas Tibbals,	1	2 20
(sold to Wm. East.)				54 Wid. Martha Beard,	4	1 00
21 Thomas Sandford,	2	3	0	55 Thomas Campfield,	3	0 0
22 Timothy Baldwin,	4	0	0	56 Thomas Ford,	3	0 0
23 Alexander Bryan,	4	0	25	57 William Roberts,	3	0 0
24 Jasper Gunn,	0	3	0	58 John Smith,	4	0 0
25 Tomas Hine,	3	0	0	59 Thomas Bailey,	3	0 0
26 Henry Lyon,	3	0	0	60 William Brookes,	3	0 0
27 John Stream,	3	0	0	61 John Brown,	3	0 0
28 William Slough,	3	0	0	62 Nathaniel Briscoe,	3	0 0
29 James Prime,	3	0	0	63 Edward Riggs,	3	0 0
30 Thomas Reed,	3	0	0	64 Andrew Benton,	3	0 0
31 Robert Denison,	3	0	0	65 George Clark, Senr.,	4	2 0
32 Zachariah Whitman,	7	2	0	66 George Hubbard,	4	2 0
33 Thomas Welch,	4	2	0	(sold to John Stream.)		

The following list included those who were known to have come from Wethersfield:—Zackariah Whitman, Thomas Welch, Edmund Tapp, Thomas Buckingham, Richard Miles, Richard Platt, Mr. Peter Prudden, William Fowler, Richard Baldwin, Benjamin Fenn, John Peacocke, Henry Stonhill, Nathaniel Baldwin, James Prudden, Timothy Baldwin, Joseph Baldwin, Thomas Tibbals.

1700 Land lying north of Bladden's Brook to the brook called Lebanon Brook, east by New Haven land; west by the land between Derby and Milford; by Robert Treat, Thomas Clark, Sr., Samuel Buckingham, Lieut. S. Baldwin and Ensign George Clark.

1702 Land bounded south by Lebanon Brook; east by Milford and New Haven line; north by Beacon Hill or Waterbury line; west by the line between Derby and Milford.

The following is a list of the principal after planters, 1646 to about 1660:

Henry Allen	Stephen Freeman	John Prindle
Edward Adams	John Fisk	Joseph Peck
Joshua Atwater	Nathaniel Gould	Roger Pritchard
Joseph Ashburn	Joseph Guernsey	David Phillips
Hants Albers	Thomas Hine	Edward Riggs
Thomas Andrew	Richard Haughton	William Roberts
Thomas Bayley	Thomas Hayes	Thomas Read
Thomas Beardsley	Richard Holbrook	Joseph Sill
John Brown	Richard Hollingworth	Richard Shute
Roger Betts	Walter Joye	John Smith
Thomas Betts	Simon Lobdell	John Stream
Thomas Beach	Jonathan Law	John Stone
Thomas Campfield	Jesse Lambert	Vincent Stilson
Robert Denison	Miles Merwin	Peter Simpson
Gilbert Dalison	Miles Moore	Edward Turner
Charles Deal	Jonathan Marsh	Henry Tomlinson
Robert Downs	Thomas Mecock	William Tyler
Samuel Eells	Samuel Nettleton	Edward Wooster
Thomas Farman	Roger Newton	Edward Wilkinson
Nathaniel Farrand	Francis Norton	Thomas Ward
John Ford	Abraham Pierson	Joseph Waters
Joseph Northrup	James Prime	

Purchases having been made at various times and boundaries being subject to controversy, the planters decided in 1712-or 13 to petition the General Court for a Patent that would define their boundaries and protect their title and the following were chosen a committee to assume the drawing up of the document:—Jonathan Law, Esq.,* Maj. Samuel Eells, Sergt. Zachariah Baldwin, Ensign Samuel Gunn, Capt. Joseph Treat, Ensign George Clark and Mr. Samuel Clark, Jr.

Every planter was compelled to bear his proportion of the expense arising from settling the plantation and laying it out in lots and received land in proportion to the amount he had contributed based upon his estate, the number of members of his family and agreed to build a suitable house upon the lot within three years from the date of allotment.

* The instrument was drawn for the committee by Jonathan Law.

These early houses were mostly covered with oak shingles and the windows were diamond glass.

The outside lands were allotted in the same manner as the home lots.*

Burwell's Farm received its name from Samuel and Nathan, sons of Samuel Burwell.

Wheeler's Farm received its name from Joseph Wheeler who settled in 1705; previous to this it was called the Upper Meadow or Sergeant Camp's Hop Garden.

Bryan's Farm received its name from Alexander Bryan. The section is now known as Woodmont.

George Clark† was the first settler to build outside the Palisades and received forty acres as a reward for his courage.

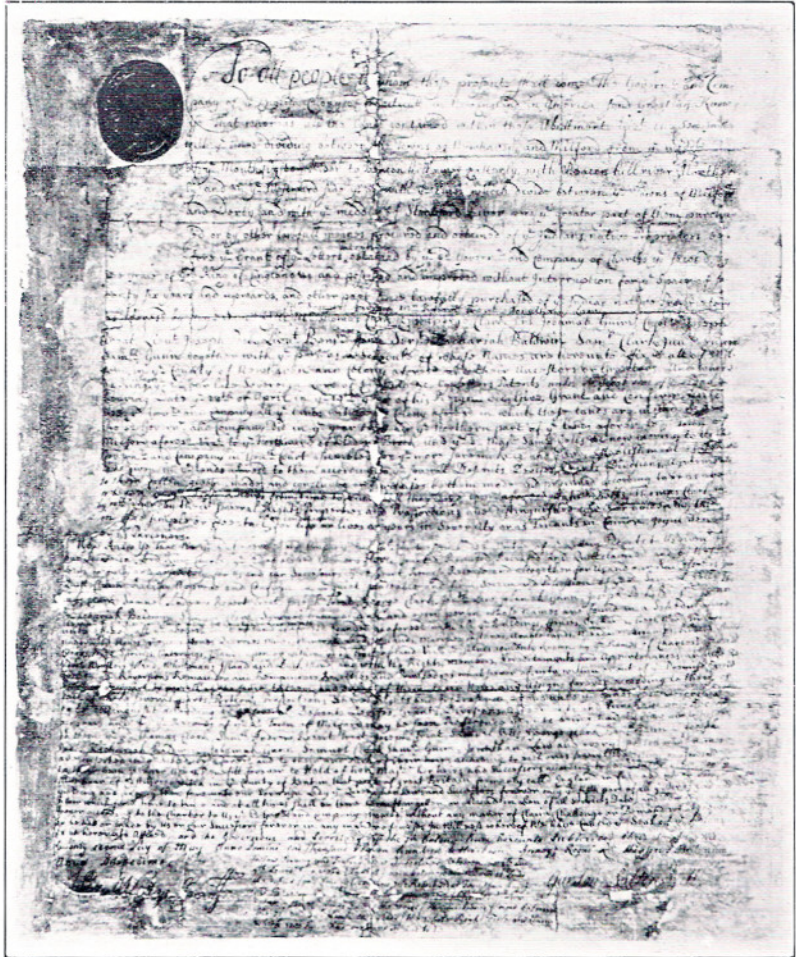
Inscription on Stone erected on Clark Farm
October 1895

This stone was
removed from the south
end of this field by
David N. Clarke & Sons
and set up in memory of
Deacon George Clarke, Sr.
their ancestor who was
one of the first English
settlers of Milford in 1639,
and was the owner of this lot
with George Clarke, Jr.

* Westfield, south of the town, between the turnpike and the great meadow extending to Poconoc Point, was laid out to those who settled at the west end. The Upland at the point was laid out to widow Martha Beard. In 1647, Thomas Tibbals had a grant of meadow at said point.

† As there were two men by the name of George Clarke among the early settlers, many errors occur in the records of their descendants. Pond, in his "Story of the Memorial Bridge," considers the present family descend from Deacon, who married Mary, the daughter of George the farmer. The name of Clarke from the settlement of the town has been most prominent. The descendants have been thrifty and have been most loyal to the interests of the town of Milford, having remained in the town generation after generation and added much to its prosperity. Clark and Clarke are the most prominent names in the Milford telephone directory of the present day.

PATENT GRANTED 1712-13
(from original)



This patent was considered of much importance to the freeholders as security against any crown agent or Governor General who might challenge their title.

NAMES OF PATENTEES

An accurate copy of —
The Schedule of names annexed to the Patent of Hylford.
 (The original schedule was too badly torn and defaced to be copied.)
 The Patent is in the handwriting of Jonathan Hylford afterwards Governor.

John Woodruff	Nathan Danwell	John Balford	Simon Lehall	✓ Jeremiah Kothroff
Richard Holt	Joseph Platt junr	Samuel Balford	Bartholomew Butlerin	Abner Rogers
Erskine Stone	John Danwell	James Porter	Abner Rogers	✓ Sgt Joseph Logan
John Andrew	Samuel Newin	John Smith jr	John Shepard	✓ Jeremiah Kothroff
Thomas Camp jr	John Newin jr	Joseph Garrison jr	Leut. John Adams	✓ Jeremiah Kothroff
Samuel Camp junr	Samuel Birch	Leut. William Strong	James Fenner	Sgt. John Smith
James Stone	Elkanah Danwell	✓ John Kothroff	John Lehall	✓ Charles Smith
✓ Nathaniel Danwell	Mr. John Stone	Thomas Danwell junr	✓ John Strong	✓ Joseph Kothroff
Lebanah Williams	Joseph Stone	Henry Steben	Blair's tent	James Kothroff
Thomas Welch	Samuel Stone	Joseph Lehall Stone	Henry Weston	Henry Kothroff
John Welch	Samuel Stone jr	Joseph Lehall Stone	✓ Le. Major Weston	Samuel Kothroff
Paul Welch	Samuel Stone	✓ Joseph Kothroff	✓ Eschell Weston	James Kothroff
Thomas Welch	Mr. Richard Stone	Leut. Samuel West	Lydia Weston	✓ Joel Kothroff
Thomas Butlerin	Joseph Bryan	John Stone's hair	Leut. Roger Weston	Samuel Kothroff
Thomas Butlerin	Eschell Bryan	Samuel Stone	Eschell Weston jr	William Kothroff
Samuel Butlerin junr	George Allen	Leas Camp	John Weston	Mr. Samuel Butlerin
John Brown jr	Benjamin Smith	Nathaniel Green	John West	Samuel Little
Joseph Kell	Edw. Smith	Nathan Butlerin jr	Samuel Weston	Joseph Little
Leut. Joseph Kell	Benjamin Smith	Thomas Greenfield	Richard Butlerin	✓ James Danwell
William Woodruff	Joseph Stone	Thomas Stone	Jonathan Smith	John Stone's hair
Thomas Woodruff	Samuel Butlerin	Joseph Whitmore	Jonathan Stone	Joseph Butlerin
George Clark junr	Edward Williams	✓ Sgt. Samuel Butlerin	Sgt. & sword Camp	Joseph Wheeler
Joseph Clark	Samuel Williams	Samuel Kim	Thomas Stone	Justice Wheeler
Joseph Clark	John Williams	Sgt. Samuel Stone	Nathaniel Stone jr	Henry Stone
Samuel Prudden	Samuel Coley	Thomas Stone	✓ Nathaniel Stone jr	John Perry med.
John Prudden	Leut. Samuel Stone	John Stone	Edith Butlerin	Henry Allen
Yetera Buckingham	Samuel Stone	Joseph Garrison	Edith Langstaff	William Gault
Joseph Buckingham	Andrew Sanford	Stephen Kim	Jeremiah Stone	James Stone junr
Mr. Mrs. Buckingham	Edith Selby	Thomas Weston	Joseph Stone	Samuel Stone
Mr. Joseph Weston	Thomas Stone	Samuel Weston	Samuel Stone	John Buckingham
John Stone	Benjamin Butlerin	John West's hair	Samuel Stone	Samuel Butlerin jr
Samuel Stone	Samuel Camp jr	Joseph West's hair	David Colton	James Stone
Samuel Stone	Samuel Stone	Joseph Stone	Sgt. Jonathan Stone	Leah Butlerin
Wannah Stone	David Butlerin	John West's hair	Jonathan Butlerin	Leah Butlerin
✓ John Stone	Nathan Butlerin	Samuel Green's hair	Sgt. John Camp	Edith Galt
✓ Clark Hollingsworth	Henry Little	Hugh Stone	Samuel Scovill jr	Samuel Camp junr
William Stone	Nathan Clark	Samuel Stone	Samuel Stone	Samuel & Newin
Sgt. John Newin	Joseph Butlerin jr	Lebanah Butlerin	John Rogers	✓ John Lehall
Thomas Coley	Samuel Stone	Nathan Stone	John Stone's hair	✓ Nathaniel Stone
John Newin	George Clark junr	Samuel Stone's hair	Henry Stone	John West's hair
John Newin jr	Samuel Camp	Joseph Stone	Joseph Butlerin	✓ Nathaniel Stone
Leut. Samuel Stone	Joseph Camp	Thomas Stone	Samuel Clark	✓ Hannah Richards
Samuel Stone's hair	John Scovill	Leah Butlerin	Joseph West's hair	✓ Nathaniel Butlerin
William Butlerin	Samuel Scovill	Blair's tent	✓ Jeremiah Kothroff	

The Patent was signed and attested November 17th 1732
 by James A. Lamb.

Trumbull says, "The wisdom of our venerable ancestors provided for the freedom and liberty of themselves and their posterity. Thus did they guard against every encroachment on the rights of the subjects."

The following is an accurate synopsis of the instrument :

L. S. TO ALL PEOPLE to whom these presents shall come: The Governour and Company of ye English Colony of Connecticut, in New England, in America, send Greeting. Know YE that whereas all the lands contained within these abutments; viz., the Sea South, with the dividing lines between the towns of New Haven and Milford, from the middle of the mouth of Oyster river to Beacon Hill river, Easterly; with Beacon Hill river, Northerly; and on the Westward side thereof with the lines which divide between the Towns of Milford and Derby, and with the middle of the Housatonic river, were the greater part purchased of the Indian, native proprietors, before the Letters Patent of Connecticut was obtained from King Charles the 2d, of blessed memory, and possessed without interruption for seventy-six years and upwards; and that other parts since lawfully purchased of the Indian proprietors, by the inhabitants of Milford, viz.: the lands north of Bladen's brook were added to the township, in 1693, by the Governour and Company since the grant of the Charter of Connecticut—and the proprietors of said Milford now moving to us the Governour and Company, for the more sure making and firm establishment of their rights to said lands, whether holden by them in Fee simple or Fee tail, or as Tenants in common, joint Tenants or Parceners;

NOW KNOW YE: That we the said Governour and Company in General Court assembled, by virtue of the LETTERS PATENT to us given, *under the great seal of England*, by our Sovereign Lord, King Charles the second, of blessed memory, do by these presents fully and absolutely, for us and our successors, give, grant, remise, and release, and altogether for us and our successors do quit claim, ratify, approve, and confirm in the quiet, peaceable, and firm seizen and possession of Major Samuel Eells, Mr. Samuel Andrew, Mr. Robert Treat, Mr. Jonathan Law, Mr. Thomas Clark, Ensign George Clark, Ensign Jobamah Gunn, Capt. Joseph Treat, Lieut. Joseph Peck, Lieut. Benjamin Fenn, Serg. Zachariah Baldwin, Mr. Samuel Clark, Jun., Ensign Samuel Gunn, and all and every person whose names are found in a schedule hereunto affixed, the whole right, title, and claim, which we have had or have in and to all the aforesaid tract of land bounded as aforesaid, with all the Islands within the said tract of land, viz.: Milford Island, Edward Wooster's Island, Whitman's Island, and Duck Island, with the woods, minerals, buildings, and all other appurtenances, and hereditament; to them and every of them, their heirs and assigns forever, according to their several rights and shares, as may be seen by the records of the town of Milford, reference thereunto being had, TO HAVE and TO HOLD to their own proper use and behoof forever; TO HOLD—of *her Majesty*, her heirs and successors, according to the tenure of East Greenwich, in the County of Kent, in England, in free and common socage, yielding and paying therefor to her Majesty and successors forever, the fifth part of all the ore of Gold and Silver, which shall there, hereafter be gotten, in lieu of all services, duties, and demands whatsoever, according to the Charter granted to us, the Governour and Company.

In witness whereof we have caused the Seal of the Colony to be hereunto affixed; and the Governor and Secretary of the said Colony have hereunto subscribed their names, this twenty-second day of May, Anno Domini One Thousand seven hundred and thirteen—
Anno-qr Regni Regina Magna Britannia Anna Duo decimo.

Gurdon Seltowstall.

Abner Wythys Loery