

THE
HISTORY
OF
GUILFORD,
CONNECTICUT,

FROM
ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT IN 1639.

FROM THE MANUSCRIPTS
OF
HON. RALPH D. SMITH.

ALBANY, N. Y.:
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1877.

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His two brothers, Daniel and John Kingsnorth afterwards acknowledged the receipt of such pieces of plate, and by their deed made and executed in England conveyed the said real estate to John Collins, 1686.

Richard Hubball was admitted a planter, February 25, 1654, on purchasing Samuel Blatchley's lots and accommodations in his stead. He appears also to have purchased the land and accommodations of John Baldwin, October 16, 1660. In 1680, however, he removed and settled in Fairfield, where his posterity are numerous to the present day. Henry Crane was a planter in Guilford about 1660, but removed to Killingworth on the settlement of that town, and is enumerated in the list of its first settlers, October, 1663. Thomas Smith came into Guilford, on the invitation of the planters, from Fairfield, in the capacity of blacksmith, 1652, and took the oath of fidelity, May 11, 1654. There seems to have been great difficulty in procuring a blacksmith and a considerable tract of land was given to induce Smith to settle here. "This was given him on condition of serving the town in the trade of a smith upon just and moderate terms for the space of five years." In 1663 Smith removed, with others to Killingworth on the first settlement of that town. John Hodgkin came from Essex, England, and was admitted to the oath of fidelity, May 11, 1654.

In 1657 or 1658 a list was made out of the freemen. It is herewith appended, with the dates of their subsequent deaths :

<i>Wm. Leete</i> , removed to Hartford,	died April 6, 1683.
<i>Robt. Kitchell</i> , removed to Newark, 1666 or 7,	" Oct., 1671.
<i>Wm. Chittenden</i> ,	" Feb., 1660-1.
<i>George Hubbard</i> ,	" Jan., 1683.
<i>Mr. Bryan Rossiter</i> ,	" Sept. 30, 1672.
<i>Mr. John Bishop</i> ,	" Jan., 1661.

<i>Abm. Cruttenden Sen.</i> ,	died Jan., 1683.
<i>Wm. Dudley</i> ,	“ Mar. 16, 1684.
Wm. Johnson,	“ Oct. 27, 1702.
Benjn. Wright, Sen.,	“ Mar. 29, 1677
William Stone,	“ Nov. 1683.
<i>Thomas Cooke</i> ,	“ Dec. 1, 1692.
John Stevens,	“ Sept. 1, 1670.
<i>John Fowler</i> ,	“ Sept. 14, 1676.
John Hill,	“ June 8, 1689.
<i>John Parmelin, Sen.</i> ,	“ Nov. 8, 1659.
John Evarts,	“ May 9, 1669.
Thomas French,	
William Seward,	“ Mar. 2, 1689.
William Stevens,	“ Jan., 1703.
<i>Henry Kingsnorth</i> ,	“ July 28, 1668.
<i>Richard Guttridge</i> ,	“ May 7, 1676.
Henry Doud,	“ Aug. 31, 1668.
<i>William Hall</i> ,	“ May 7, 1669.
<i>John Scranton</i> ,	“ Aug. 27, 1671.
<i>Edward Benton</i> ,	“ Oct. 28, 1680.
Dan. Benton,	“ June 9, 1672.
John Meigs,	“ Jan. 10, 1671-2.
<i>Rich'd Bristow</i> ,	“ Sept., 1683.
John Johnson,	“ Nov., 1681.
John Sheader,	“ June 1, 1670.
Rich. Hubball ,	“ 1692.
<i>John Parmelin, Jun.</i> ,	“ Jan. 1687-8.
Ab'm Cruttenden, Jun.,	“ Sept. 25, 1694.
John Graves,	“ Dec. 31, 1695.
Geo. Highland,	“ Jan. 21, 1692-3.
John Rossiter,	“ Sept., 1670.
John Baldwin, left 1661 for Norwich.	
Thos. Clark,	buried Oct. 10, 1668.

other freeman mentioned on the former list was admitted, as before stated, Feb. 5, 1652. Of the other names on the list of 1650, which were then not freemen, seven are not named on the list of 1657 or 1658, viz. : Thomas Chatfield, Francis Bushnell, John Linsley, Samuel Blatchley, Thomas Stevens, Wm. Boreman and Edward Sewers. Thomas Stevens was not yet admitted to the oath of freeman, but he evidently continued a resident of Guilford until about 1665 when he removed to Killingworth. His name is never mentioned among the freemen of Guilford. Thomas Chatfield had sold out his property in Guilford and removed to "East Hampton in the East Riding of Long Island," as it was then called. Francis Bushnell, who had kept the town mill since the death of Thomas Norton, 1648, removed to Saybrook about 1659-60 and upon the solicitations of its inhabitants erected a corn mill on Oyster river, being the first erected in that town, for which the proprietors gave him a farm on condition that a mill should be kept there continually and that the inhabitants should have equal privileges in regard to grinding, which farm is held by his descendants on these conditions at the present time. John Linsley, becoming disaffected on account of the results of a lawsuit for slander in favor of Richard Goodrich and his wife, sold out all his allotments in Guilford to William Hall and removed to Branford, 1654. Samuel Blatchley appears to have died previous to 1660. Edward Sewers appears to have remained for awhile, and then to have removed to Stony creek, Branford. William Boreman, died about 1652 and his allotments were sold by Nathan Harman, attorney, to Daniel Butcher, brother-in-law of said Boreman, of Hawkhurst in Kent, England, 1663. The remaining thirteen were all admitted freemen from 1650 to 1660, Jno. Johnson, Feb. 7, 1652-3, Dr. Bray Rossitor June 3, 1654.

John Rossiter came in company with his father Dr. Rossiter and took the oath of fidelity with him, May 11, 1654. Thomas

Stevens, Thomas Cruttenden, Jno. Hodgkin and Thomas Smith took the oath at the same time ; and Nathaniel Whitfield, Wm. Johnson, William Seward, William Stevens, **Richard Hubball**, Isaac Cruttenden (son of Abraham), Samuel Kitchell (son of Robert), Thomas Chittenden (son of William), Dennis Crampton, Daniel Benton (son of Edward, one of the freemen of the list just given), Andrew Benton and Daniel Evarts (son of John), took the oath of fidelity May 4, 1654 ; John Bishop Jr., Stephen Bishop (sons of John, Sen.), Geo. Highland, Geo. Chatfield, Wm. Boreman, Nicholas Munger, Edward Sewers, Abm. Cruttenden Jr., in 1652 ; Benjamin Wright Sen., Richard Hughes, Abm. Cruttenden Sen., and John Sheader as early as 1645, as also Hy. Dowd and Wm. Stone, John Stevens and his son William Stevens and Thomas French, who although not among the first settlers came very early.

About 1660, the Rev. John Bowers came to Guilford and purchased an estate, and supplied the pulpit for three or four years until Mr. Joseph Elliott was settled. He afterwards removed to Branford, and as late as 1670, to Derby where he settled.

In 1672, a third division of land was voted among all the then planters according to their lists of that year. The proprietors numbered something over one hundred, although the number of resident planters must have been much smaller. The list of freemen made out about the same time numbered about sixty-three. It contains the names of Joseph Clay, Josiah Wilcox, Obadiah Wilcoxon and Joseph Hand who had settled between 1660, and that time. Joseph Hand came from East Hampton, Long Island, and settled in the east part of the town. About the same time Jonathan Hoyt from Windsor, came and also settled in the east part of the town, as also Thomas Meacock from Wallingford. Edward Lee settled in the town about 1675, Mr. James Hooker, a man of considerable note and afterwards the first judge of the court of probate came from