



Gardner's Beacon™



CAPE ANN AND SALEM PLANTER

Thomas Gardner Society, Inc. Founded 2010



[Volume VIII -- Issue 2](#) -- December 2018

The season leading to the New Year is upon us which means that 2019 is right around the corner. We would like to extend “Happy Holidays” to everyone. Appreciation for your support is extended, too.

Coming up will be the 400th celebrations. The Plymouth plan for remembering the Mayflower arrival is off and running. Planned activities for the whole year of 2020 will kick off on the 1st (float, Rose Bowl parade). Next up would be the [Cape Ann venture](#) for which plans for 2023 or 2024 are in process. We have heard about some of these plans and would like to hear from you on how we might plan for 2023/24.

To close the year, we would like to review some of the activity for the year. As well, we can look at continuing work and at things that are pending. There are lots of opportunity for research and for spreading the word about the Cape Ann crew and their role in American history.

Activities and accomplishments

A lot of our regular activities deals with the web presence which has been a focus from the beginning starting with additions to Wikipedia, continuing with a blog on the subject and, as well, creating a website. Having created sufficient material to establish our intents, we have to look at the broader scope: culture, history and technology. Articles for The Gardner Annals reflect this scope. That last one, technology, has many open issues that might seem to be outside of scope but are actually central to the future of our society and its work.



In one area, we did get more serious about choices for technology related to genealogy by doing another survey of the options that are available. WikiTree stood out, as it is being used for some projects of the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS). As we were looking further into using WikiTree, Gardner Research was contacted about the issue of three wives of Thomas. This issue of three wives arose while the NEHGS was publishing the Great Migration series. See the box on Margaret Friar for some details of the discussion. We will go further in that in the next issue.

Also, we used [hand written notes by Dr. Frank](#) to fill in his mother's line. An interesting tidbit is that he

Gardner's Beacon™ is published by the Thomas Gardner Society, Inc. (ThomasGardnerSociety.org).

descends from both of Thomas' wives (Margaret and Damaris). Using WikiTree, we built his tree and are working on filling in all of the known sources. WikiTree stresses the need for documentation; the genealogists using the system do as well. Along another line of inquiry, it is sad to note that graves (such as that of Thomas, himself) were lost in the 1840s do to the shuffling needed for road work related to improvements to Boston Avenue in Salem and to Main in Peabody. One new task on the plate will be identifying, as best we can, those who were buried in the Gardner burial plot. Given the season, we will detail this problem further in the next issue of Gardner's Beacon (Vol. IX, No. 1). We, now, have an entry in [FindAGrave](#) referring to the defunct cemetery. We expect that more information will be provided at that site.

Further work

Dr. Frank had [two publications](#) about Thomas Gardner (Planter – Cape Ann, Salem). One was 1907; the other was 1933. The first, essentially, covered Dr. Frank's line of descendants of son, Samuel, who is #6 in the books. The second book, *Gardner Memorial*, was about some of the descendants of George, #3 in the books. We need to lift the priority of identifying all descendants for the first two through five generations. We expect that WikiTree can be used to facilitate this necessary work.

A few years ago, Gardner Research looked for the owner of a ship that wrecked in Oregon in 1850. At the site of the wreck, [Gardiner OR](#) was founded using material from the ship as well as its cargo. After some research on the ship and its owner, Gardner Research wrote an article on the subject that was published in The Essex Genealogist (later republished in The Gardner Annals) in the framework of continuing research. The owner was [Henry Dearborn Gardiner](#) who was in a partnership with his brother. Looking into the timeline of the ship, we reported that the ship, a barque, left Boston in July of 1849. It arrived in San Francisco in January of 1850. The shipwreck was in October of 1850. Besides selling its



Gardner's Beacon™



CAPE ANN AND SALEM PLANTER

Thomas Gardner Society, Inc. Founded 2010



[Volume VIII -- Issue 2](#) -- December 2018

cargo, where was the barque in the meantime? New Zealand. Recently, we did further research that included reports by the crew of the Bostonian (Gardiner's barque) about other boats that had been in the South Pacific at the same time. For the boats sited, we have traced down additional information. In a sense, we're talking social media at wind speed. Gardner Research was contacted by the family of H. D. Gardiner and is assisting in the research. A researcher pointed out to us that one of the wives of H.D. Gardiner had been misidentified. There were two women of the same name. The [Eliza Barney](#) database at Nantucket needs to be updated. We will write a sequel to the original article with the corrections.

2nd Print of The Gardner Annals and Gardner's Beacon

In October, we published the [second print version of The Gardner Annals](#) which included Volumes III and IV. As well, the reader will find the Volumes IV, V, VI and VII of Gardner's Beacon. This volume was printed in both black & white and color. We also offer a set of the two prints (b & w) for a discounted price.



TGA Volume III provided a range of articles. "[Bosworth and Gardners](#)" covers research by David T. Gardner who is of the Pennsylvania family. The overview has a focus on Richard Gardyner who was a son-in-law of Henry Jasper. "[Flyover country](#)" discusses the family of a descendant of John Alden; he was Lyman Porter who moved west. Lyman is a descendant of John Porter. Lyman's wife's family came west from Virginia. Lyman's granddaughter married a descendant of William Brewster. The article looks at some of the complications related to research that are introduced by factors, such as probate. "The Massachusetts Magazine" starts a deep-dive into Dr. Frank's periodical which published for ten years by looking at the first five volumes. We provide the 'Table of Contents' from the first five volumes, with four issues each. Some of the providers are featured. "[Magna Carta \(800th Anniversary\)](#)" offers a brief overview of the document and its significance from a member of the group, Dames and Barons of the Magna Carta, who

attended the festivities in England in 2015. "Genes and more" looked at a couple of issues with regard to genetic testing that are to set the framework for further discussion and work.

TGA Volume IV continued the research focus. "The Massachusetts Magazine (Vols. VI thru XI)" itemizes some of the interesting articles and provides the 'Table of Contents' for the remaining volumes. The periodical stopped publication in 1918 which is the year of the Spanish flu epidemic. Several articles dealt with issues of the [western expansion](#) of the U.S. after Lewis and Clark's expedition. "The Essex Genealogist" tells about creating an article to correct a former volume. Both the old article and the new article are provided. A source ahnentafel completes the look. "[Thomas Gardner and the Tudors](#)" considers the time after Bosworth. "Pending research" looks at three topics that are on the plate. One deals with completing the look at the Mayflower family that moved west. The second will look at magazines of the time, such as the Atlantic which started in Boston, and the people involved. The third deals with the [first head of Harvard](#), takes another look at his life, and identifies current descendants.

Margaret Friar: She was born in Sherborne, Dorset, England and baptized in June of 1598. Her parents were Walter Friar and Grace Mullins who were married in January of 1591. Walter died on the 10th of November of 1610 and his Will mentions Margaret and her siblings. Margaret married Thomas Gardner in Sherborne on the 28th of April of 1617. Later, there are birth records for the boys who came with Thomas and Margaret to Cape Ann. In the 1980s, NEHGS published the Great Migration books. In the detail on Thomas Gardner, it was conjectured that he had three wives. The first, unknown one, was the mother of the children, it was decided. Margaret was the middle wife; then, we had Damaris. In 2012, on looking at the sources, [Gardner Research](#) decided that there were two wives as suggested by Moriarty and Dr. Frank. In 2014, John Cook called our attention to recently digitized records at Sherborne. At the time, we put a notice on WikiTree. In 2018, we heard from a research group associated with the NEHGS who asked about Margaret. By getting the documents together, and discussing the implications, the decision was made that we would go with two wives. All of the children on WikiTree now have Margaret as their mother.

We are inviting contributions of articles.
Contact: algswtlk@TGSoc.org