



Gardner's Beacon™



SALEM PLANTER

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Best wishes for a wonderful 2026. As well, what happened in 2025?

As we end our 15th and start the 16th year, we remind ourselves that the [250th of the U.S.](#) has been in progress for a while, with activities in 2025 considering events from 1775. Several of our posts had a focus on early efforts of the Revolution such as [Lexington and Concord](#), Bunker Hill, [Siege of Boston](#), and retrieval of cannons from Fort Ticonderoga by Col. Knox.

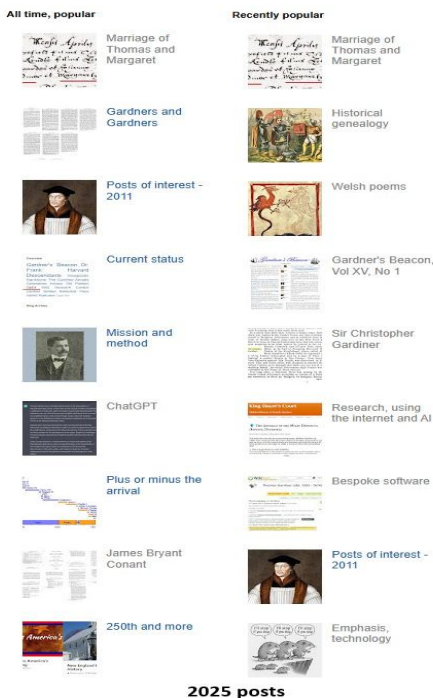
Since our research interests cover history as well as family, the topics to cover are wide ranging, including technology as the basis for what and how we do things. As we roam the associated virtual spaces of our themes, we attempt to connect back to New England, Essex County and the families of Cape Ann and surrounds. For this, we use the theme of the “long reach of New England” with [Bunker Hill West of DTLA](#) as one of many examples.

In the following, we briefly sample activity by way of a few blog posts from 2025 using a quarterly view from the 4th through the 1st.

2025, 4th Quarter

We have technology as a focus which is multi-faceted. A lot of the current attention seems to be on the computational side of things, in particular the three-year experience with GenAI/LLM where its boons and banes became known. In 2025, we saw more emphasis go to the idea of joining the virtual world of intelligence with robotics to establish physicality as a means to attain knowledge via experience where [simulation](#) has risen to a primary role.

But the computer is not the only technology which needs attention for a balance. A case in point is a study about [watersheds across the U.S.](#) We had an early interest in rivers



The image shows icons for a list of the “All time, popular” and “Recently popular” posts as counted in 2025.

The most popular post continues to be from a 2014 report about our finding on the [Marriage of Thomas and Margaret](#). This post and two other older posts are on the “Recently popular” list.

Another of the older posts (“[Historical genealogy](#)”) is from 2010, our first year, and pertains to new research concerning the Battle at Bosworth Field during the time of the War of the Roses.

2025, 1st Quarter

This was the year of familiar names, such as Lexington & Concord, etc. Too, technology is posed to [change the world](#), including how history and genealogy are handled, for the better or the worse.

[Bespoke software](#) - We have slowly been working on our portal in a bespoke manner. Ten years ago, there was lots of attention on the web ...

as a means to movement such as we see with the Ohio River. However, waterways were a hindrance to travel as well.

2025, 3rd Quarter

In September, we got acquainted with [General Nathanael Greene](#). Early in the Revolution, his focus was supply which was a difficult task. Later, he was appointed by General Washington to head the Continental Army. In that role, he launched the [Southern Campaign](#) that resulted in the defeat of Lord Cornwallis and provided an end to the conflict. Nathanael was born in Rhode Island into a Quaker family and will be featured over the next few years.

2025, 2nd Quarter

While the 250th may allow a look at the details of the Revolution which was of several years of duration, we must look back [with care to families and their histories](#). The training ground for the officers of the Revolution was the French-Indian affair. After seeing a plaque in a park in Virginia, we have to look at the land of [Lord Fairfax](#) and its roles in the Revolution, besides giving us General Washington.

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