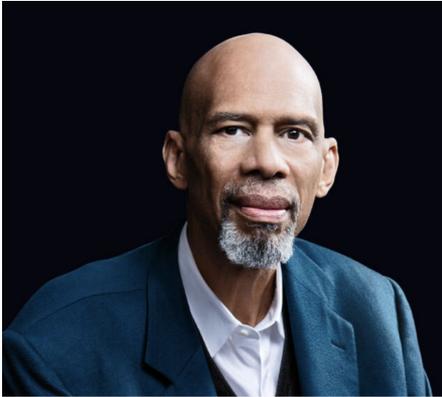
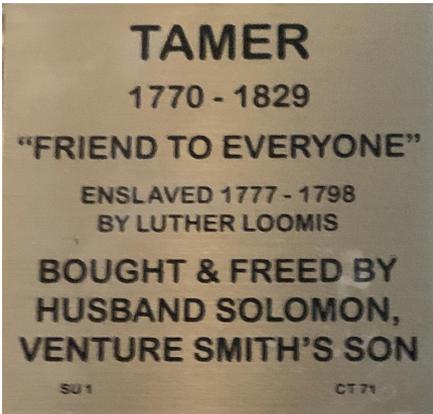


American Studies Class: Tamer, Titus Kent, & Oliver Phelps



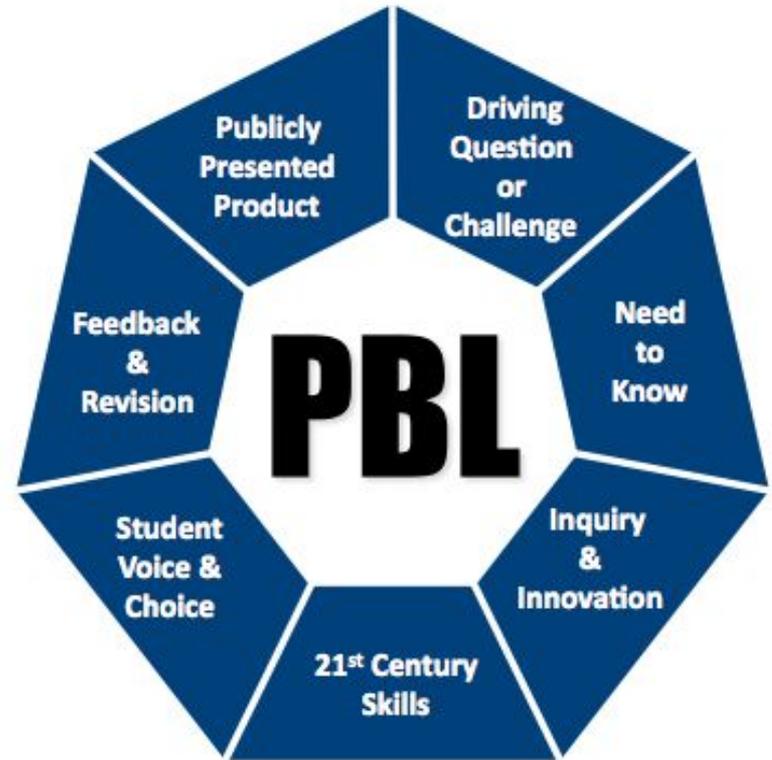
Black Patriots: Heroes of the Revolution



A Project-Based Learning Approach to Three Topics

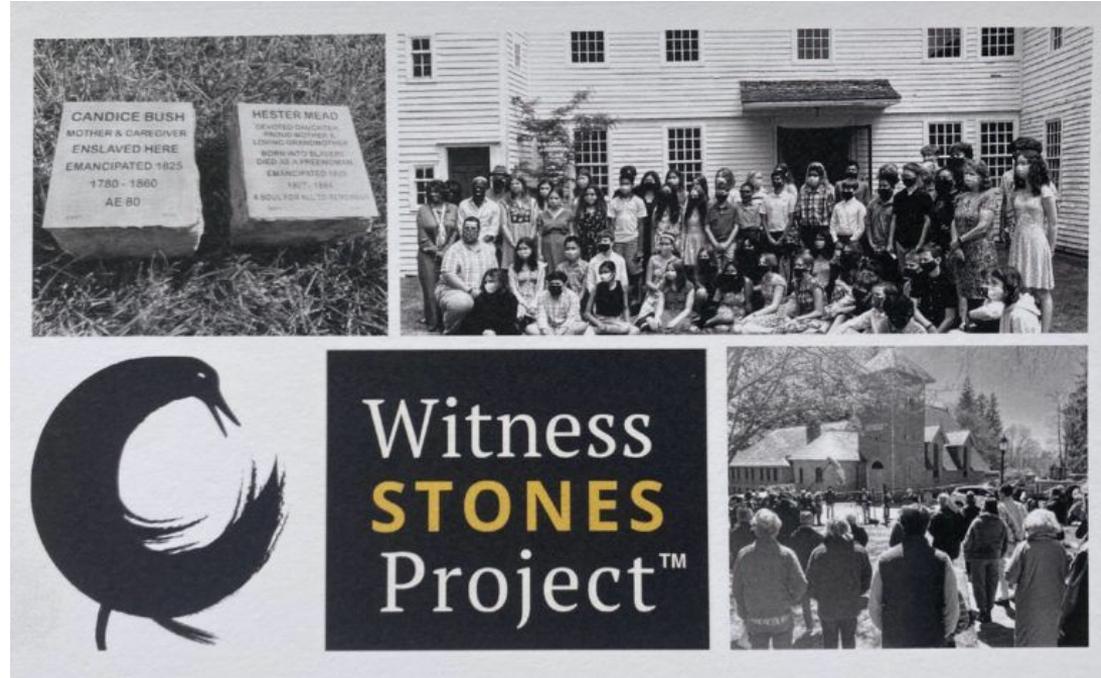
A project-based learning approach to our three topics:

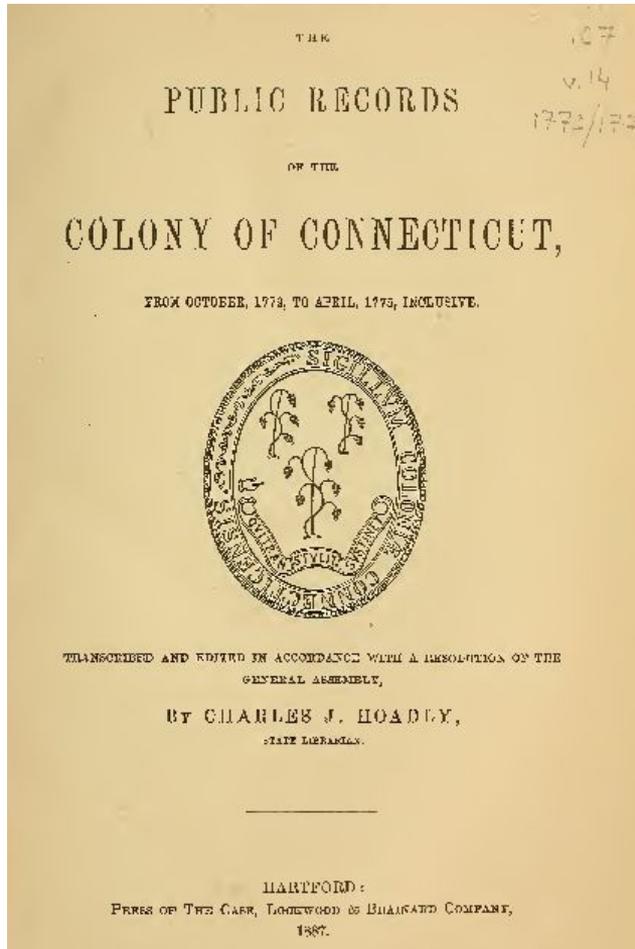
- Tamer's Witness Stone Memorial
- Our class facilitating the partnership with the The Sibbil Dwight Kent Chapter of The Daughters of The American Revolution with the Suffield Historical Society for Witness Stone Memorial for Titus Kent
- Helping Phelps-Hatheway interpret Oliver Phelps's relationship with the Iroquois Tribes in New York State.



Five Themes of the Witness Stones Project

- Dehumanization;
Enslaved as Property
- Treatment of the
Enslaved
- Paternalism = Inequality
- Economics of Slavery
and Freedom
- Human Agency and
Resistance





Colonial Slavery

There were 5,101 enslaved people enumerated in this Colony of Connecticut Census.

<https://archive.org/stream/publicrecordsofc014conn#page/494/mode/2up>

ACCOUNT of the Number of Inhabitants in the County of HARTFORD, on the First of January, 1774.

| TOWNS. | Males under Ten Years. | | Females under Ten Years. | | Males between Ten and Twenty Years, Married or Single. | | Females between Ten and Twenty Years. | | Males between Twenty and Seventy. | | Females between Twenty and Seventy. | | Males above Seventy. | | Females above Seventy. | | Negro Males under Twenty. | Negro Females under Twenty. | Negro Males above Twenty. | Negro Females above Twenty. | Indian Males under Twenty. | Indian Females under Twenty. | Indian Males above Twenty. | Indian Females above Twenty. | Total Whites. | Total Blacks. | | |
|---------------|------------------------|------|--------------------------|--------|--|------|---------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|------|----|
| | M | S | M | S | M | S | M | S | M | S | M | S | M | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Bolton, | 154 | 162 | 121 | 2 105 | 154 | 48 | 159 | 59 | 11 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chatham, | 420 | 392 | 276 | 2 276 | 349 | 129 | 350 | 127 | 20 | 10 | 11 | 7 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2369 | 28 | | |
| Colchester, | 530 | 477 | 389 | 6 344 | 442 | 139 | 480 | 165 | 29 | 7 | 18 | 31 | 41 | 44 | 61 | 27 | 6 | 7 | 1 | | | | | 11 | 3057 | 201 | | |
| East-Haddam, | 447 | 457 | 4 | 348 | 9 334 | 412 | 123 | 429 | 134 | 20 | 5 | 6 | 15 | 21 | 18 | 13 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | | | | | 2 | 2743 | 65 | |
| East-Windsor, | 481 | 443 | 353 | 2 332 | 439 | 178 | 433 | 217 | 37 | 8 | 16 | 22 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | | 2 | 2961 | 38 | |
| Enfield, | 213 | 225 | 1 | 131 | 14 126 | 191 | 91 | 193 | 120 | 21 | 5 | 13 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1353 | 7 | |
| Farmington, | 965 | 1007 | 1 | 736 | 10 616 | 958 | 295 | 965 | 292 | 35 | 17 | 19 | 47 | 16 | 14 | 26 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 14 | 12 | | | | | 5963 | 106 | |
| Glastenbury, | 331 | 337 | 1 | 275 | 8 242 | 283 | 76 | 293 | 90 | 3 | 17 | 7 | 23 | 18 | 19 | 13 | 13 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 3 | | | | 3 | 1992 | 79 | |
| Haddam, | 294 | 286 | 224 | 9 187 | 241 | 89 | 251 | 104 | 10 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 4 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | 1713 | 13 | |
| HARTFORD, | 770 | 753 | 11 | 583 | 11 515 | 715 | 307 | 715 | 363 | 42 | 20 | 42 | 34 | 28 | 29 | 51 | 37 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | 4881 | 150 | |
| Hebron, | 360 | 375 | 2 | 316 | 8 308 | 312 | 122 | 307 | 123 | 15 | 8 | 16 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 19 | 11 | | | | | | | | | 2285 | 52 | |
| Middletown, | 717 | 766 | 6 | 591 | 19 529 | 677 | 276 | 695 | 316 | 23 | 10 | 16 | 39 | 45 | 46 | 61 | 46 | | | | | | | | | 4680 | 198 | |
| Simsbury, | 671 | 609 | 6 | 406 | 12 439 | 591 | 120 | 597 | 118 | 39 | 8 | 35 | 20 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 4 | | | | | | | | | 3671 | 29 | |
| Somers, | 146 | 156 | 133 | 2 130 | 158 | 51 | 159 | 56 | 14 | 3 | 8 | 8 | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | 1024 | 3 | |
| Stafford, | 223 | 199 | 199 | 9 162 | 201 | 59 | 197 | 48 | 15 | 5 | 10 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1333 | 1 | |
| Suffield, | 330 | 331 | 9 | 244 | 6 212 | 279 | 101 | 283 | 143 | 12 | 6 | 7 | 17 | 5 | 6 | 16 | 6 | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1980 | 37 |
| Tolland, | 200 | 193 | 150 | 1 157 | 101 | 86 | 161 | 171 | 13 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1247 | 16 |
| Wethersfield, | 490 | 494 | 5 | 407 | 18 361 | 492 | 216 | 493 | 285 | 28 | 13 | 17 | 28 | 44 | 26 | 44 | 28 | | | | | | | | | 3347 | 142 | |
| Willington, | 178 | 157 | 119 | 10 122 | 155 | 39 | 146 | 46 | 13 | 3 | 11 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1000 | 1 | |
| Windsor, | 299 | 302 | 7 | 242 | 7 219 | 319 | 134 | 310 | 157 | 22 | 19 | 22 | 14 | 9 | 8 | 14 | 6 | | | | | | | | | 2 | 2082 | 48 |
| | 8219 | 8121 | 53 | 6243 | 165 5732 | 7469 | 2679 | 7025 | 3134 | 422 | 175 | 290 | 358 | 274 | 248 | 370 | 201 | 32 | 32 | 24 | 34 | 50675 | 1215 | | | | | |

CENSUS OF 1774.

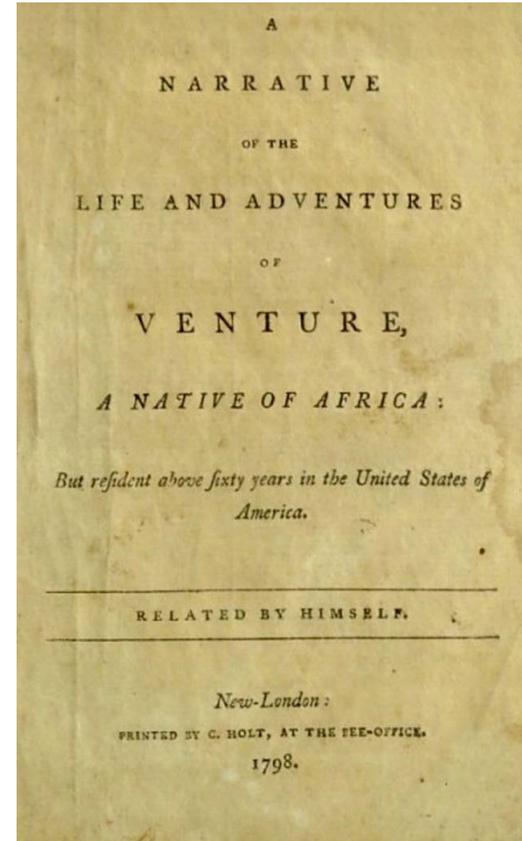
485

Tamer likely enumerated when she was 4 years old on the line with 37 other enslaved individuals from Suffield. We are not 100% sure.

Treatment of Enslaved in the North

According to Slave Narratives by Venture Smith, James Mars, Jeffrey Brace, and Story of Gad Asher by grandson

- Whippings, beatings, Hog-tyings
- Double crossings and cheating
- Abandonment of aged, youth sold South
- Severe punishments for minor crimes



Runaway advertisement for an enslaved girl, 15 years old

RAN away from the subscriber on the night of the 27th ult. a Negro **M**ARK, 15 years old, name ANN FRANK, a most vicious creature, and full of guile and tricks, supposed to have had on when she went away, a black silk hat, and a dark colour'd calico gown. All persons are forbid harbouring her. Whoever will return her shall have Five Mills reward, but no charges nor thanks.
OLIVER HANCHETT.
Suffield, Oct. 7.

Runaway Advertisement for a Native American

RUN away from David Brownson of Safford, an Indian fellow, 20 years old, had on when he went away, an old pair of trowsers, woollen shirt, and carried away one pair of leather breeches one check shirt, one new castor hat, and an old felt ditto, a new homespun brown coat and vest, two pair shoes, and one pair large buckles, and calls his name William Thomas, is about 5 feet 10 inches high, a copper by trade, has two teeth standing out each side of his nose, a small scar, in his forehead. Whoever shall take up said Indian, and return him to, me, shall have three dollars reward, and all necessary charges paid by
DAVID BROWNSON.

Safford, June 14, 1776.

Finding Evidence of Complicity

Connecticut and the West Indies: Sugar Spurs Trans-Atlantic Trade



January 7, 2021 • Revolution and the New Nation 1754-1820s, Business and Industry, Hartford, Middletown, New Haven, New London, Norwich, Slavery and Abolition, Wethersfield



Map of the West Indies, 1717

- Boston Public Library, Norman B. Leventhal Map Center

Similar

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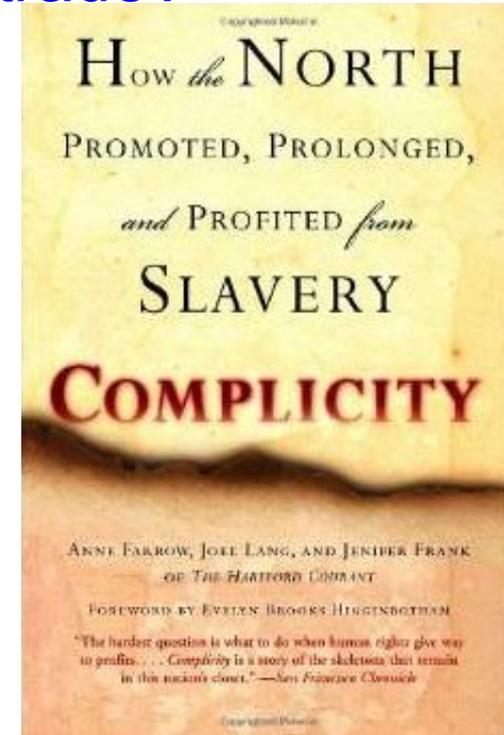
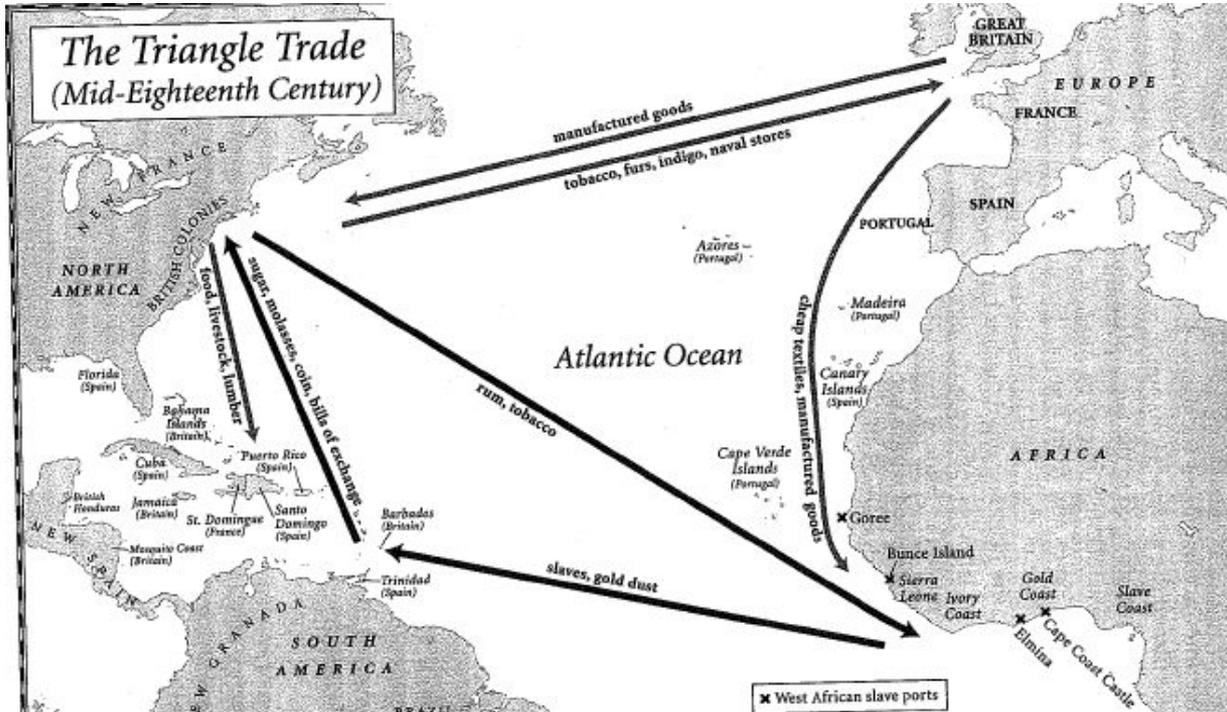
[Rochambeau Returns Over and Over to Andover](#)

[Charles Ritchel and the Dirigible](#)

[A Separate Place: The New Haven Colony, 1638-1665](#)

Connecticut History Blog:
<https://connecticuthistory.org/connecticut-and-the-west-indies-trade/>

How was Suffield *Complicit[y]* in the slave trade?



Map showing important trade from Connecticut River Valley to the Plantations in the Caribbean.
From the text, *Complicity*: <http://tinyurl.com/nkpsayf>

New England and the West India Trade:

EXPORTS

By Dr. Eric Bartholomew Kimball, 2009

“Inspector General’s Customs Reports” 1768-1772

Livestock Exported:

- 3 of every 4 horses came from CT (on average 31 horses on each vessel arriving from CT.)
- Horses 59% of value of all goods exp. from CT. (Worked in mills)
- 27,003 sheep for food and dung
- 4,512,860 lbs. of beef and pork

Other Farm Products from CT:

- Butter: 44,546 pounds of butter as sent to West Indies
- Cheese: 12,596 pounds of cheese exported to West Indies
- 74,470 pounds of tallow (rendered animal fat) sent to West Indies to make candles

New England and the West India Trade:

IMPORTS

By Dr. Eric Bartholomew Kimball, 2009, adapt by Dr. Warshauer 2020

“Inspector General’s Customs Reports” 1768-1772

Most Common Items Imported:

- 1,488,032 lbs. of brown sugar
- 612,609 gallons of molasses
- 1,368 gallons of rum
- 450,936 bushels of salt

Imports from West Indies to Conn:

- New Haven
 - 407 or 47% of all ships
 - 16,699 tons or 54% of all tonnage
- New London
 - 567 or 33% of all ships
 - 25,391 or 46% of tonnage

Luther Loomis and his connection to the West Indies Trade



For Charleston, South-Carolina.
To sail in a few days,
THE Sloop *Jemima*, John Norcott, Master—For freight or passage, apply to said Norcott on board, or to Luther Loomis of Suffield.—Who has at his Store, a quantity of the best of Rock-Salt and West-India Rum, to exchange for Flax-Seed, Beef, Pork, or any kinds of Grain.—Articles for freight will be received on board at Hartford.

Source: <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/60244600/luther-loomis/>

Luther Loomis and his connection to the West Indies Trade

For Charleſton, South-Corolina,

THE Sloop JEMIMA, to fail as early as the firſt day of May next, part of her cargo will be taken in at Haydon's landing, in Windſor, and part at Hartford. For freight or paſſage, apply to the maſter on board ſaid ſloop, or to Luther Loomis of Suſfield—Who has for ſale, a quantity of Turks-Iſland SALT.

April 3, 1789.

Documents for Tamer's Narrative

The document is one of many treasured items preserved in the historical room in our town library.

Know Ye that I Comfort Smith
of Suffolk in the County of Westchester and State of
Connecticut for and in the Consideration of Fifty
Five Dollars Lawful Money to Me in Hand Paid By
the Luther Lewis of Suffolk Decd. to My full Satisfac-
tion have Bargained Sold Set Over and Delivered
You by these Presents To Bargain Sell Set Over and
Deliver unto the S. Lewis One Negro Girl named
James M'Ware for Life About Seven Years of Age
free and Clear of any bodily ailment or Distemper
that I know of which S. Lewis I Promise to WARRANT
The Defence Against the Lawfull Claims of All and All
Manner of Persons shall and Will Warrant and forever
Defend as Witness My hand and seal this 2^d Day
of November 1777
Signed Sealed and Delivered
In Presence of
Comfort Smith
Leticia Smith

A Bill
Sale
James
Sold James to
Solomon Smith of
Haddam
30th Oct. 1778

The Bill of Sale, front, Tamar [Tamer]

Greeting Know ye that I Comfort Smith
of Suffield in the County of Hartford and State of
Connecticut for And in the Consideration of Fifty
Five Pounds Lawful Money to Me in Hand Paid By
the Luther Loomis of Suffield Rec'd to My full Satisf-
faction have Bargained Sold Set Over and Delivered
And by these Presents Do Bargain Sell Set Over and
Deliver Unto the Sd Loomis One Negro Girl named
James M. Slave for Life About Seven Years of Age
free and Clear of any Bodily ailment or Distemper
that I know of which Sd Girl I promise to Warrant
the Defense Against the Lawful Claims of All and All
Manner of Persons shall and Will Warrant and forever
Defend as Witness My hand and seal this 8th Day
Of November 1777
Signed Sealed and Delivered
In Presence of
Comfort Smith
Lydia Smith

A Bill of Sale

To all people to whom these presents shall come,
Greetings—

Know ye that I Comfort Smith of Suffield, in the
county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, for and
in the consideration of Fifty Five Pounds Lawful
Money to me in Hand Paid by Luther Loomis of
Suffield, Rec'd to my full satisfaction, have
Bargained, Sold, Set out, and Delivered, and by
these presents Do Bargain, Sell, Set over, and Delver
Unto the Sd Loomis, one Negro Girl named Tamar
[Tamar], a slave for life, about seven years of age,
free and clear from any Bodily ailment or Distemper
that I know of, which Sd Girl I promise to Warrant and
Defend against the Lawful claims of all and all
manner of Persons shall and will Warrant and forever
Defend; as witnss my hand and seal this 8th day of
November, 1777.

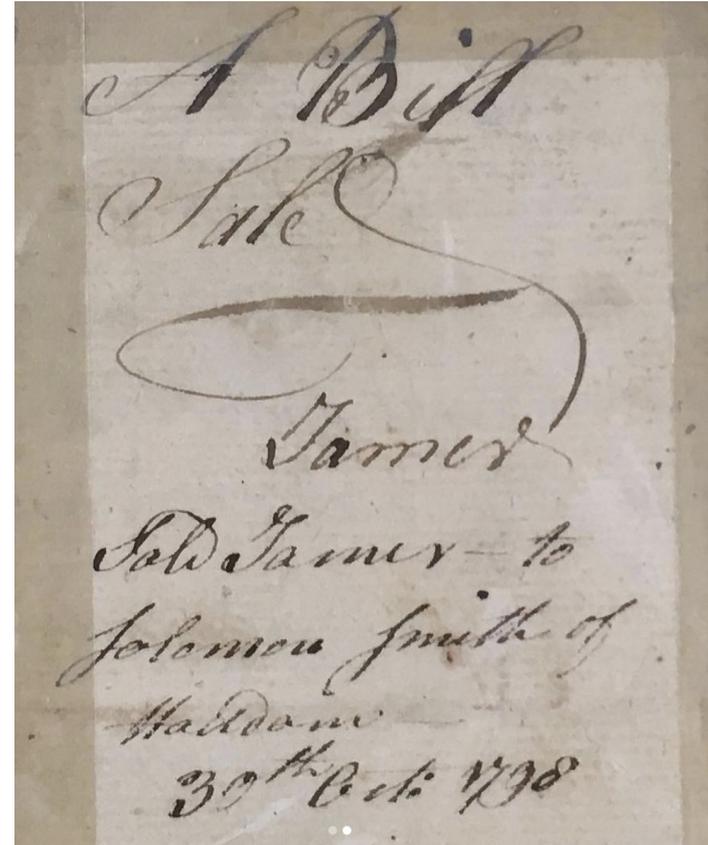
Comfort Smith, Lydia Smith

(Seal)

The Back of the Bill of Sale, for Tamar [Tamer]

A Bill of
Sale

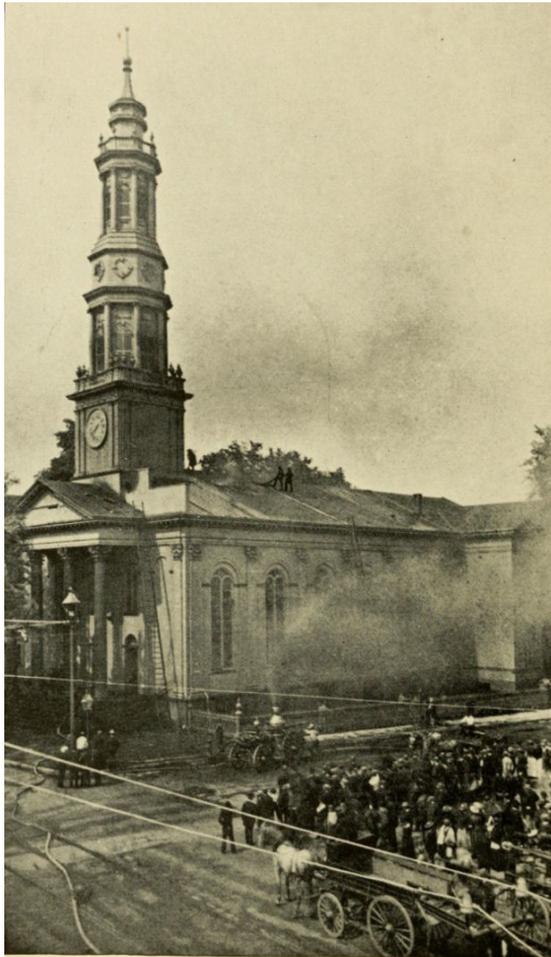
Tamer
Sold Tamer to Solomon Smith of
Haddam
30th October 1798



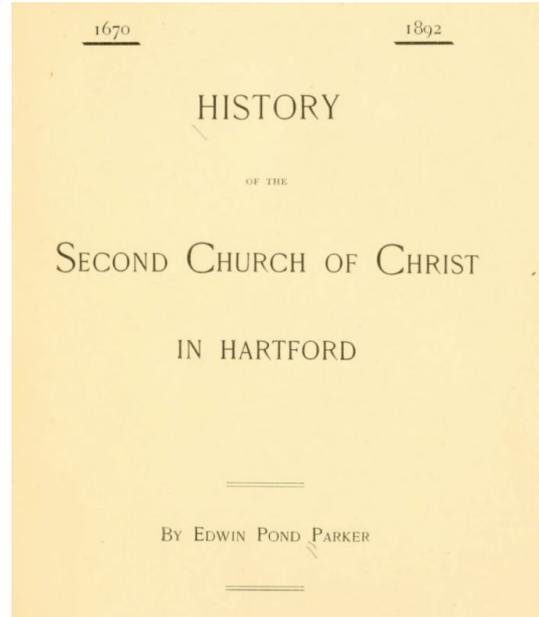
A Bill
Sale
Tamer
Sold Tamer to
Solomon Smith of
Haddam
30th Oct: 1798

History of the Second Church of Christ

Published in 1892



SOUTH CHURCH JULY 7, 1884



Marriage Document for Tamer & Solomon

January 4, 1795 Hartford 5

2055. 11. Samuel Day. Hartford. Polly Brewster. Hartford.
2056. 14. John Dodd, Jun^r. " Esther Pratt. "
2057. 18. Amos Thompson. " Eunice Benton. "
19 in 1794. Total 38.

1795.

2058. January 4. Solomon Ventris. Negro. Tamar Loomis. Negro.
2059. 29. Afred Janes. Hartford. Polly Warren. Hartford.
2060. February 19. Jonas Sloan. " Betsey Chappel. "
2061. March 18. John Spencer. " Polly Adams. "
2062. March 26. Jason Jerome. Wintonbury. Wealthan Bissell.
Wintonbury.
2063. May 5. Prentiss Mellen. Biddeford. Sally Hudson. Hartford.
2064. 14. John Packard. Hartford. Annie Wilson. "
2065. August 9. Stephen Collins. Do. Ruth Smith. "
2066. Jonathan Crosby. Do. Polly Burt. "

History of the Second church of Christ in Hartford

Other African Americans Listed

| | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 2717. | October | 13. | Elisha Dodd. | Dropsy in the breast. | 50 | “ |
| 2718. | | 21. | Peggy Nicoll. | Asthma. | 67 | “ |
| 2719. | Nov ^r | 15. | Neptune. | Negro. Dropsy. | 74 | “ |
| 2720. | | 17. | Williard Barnard. | Inflammation Lungs. | 51 | “ |
| | | | 31 in 1796. Total 150. | | | |
| | 1797. | | | | | |
| 2721. | January | 1. | Sally. | Daughter of Mark. Negro. | Consump tion. | 2 years. |
| 2722. | February | 7. | Richard. | son of Asa Allen. | Pleurisy. | 1½ years. |
| 2723. | | 20. | Joseph Bull. | Inflam. Fever. | | 60 years. |
| 2724. | | 25. | An Infant Child of Henry Butler. | | | 2 weeks. |
| 2725. | March | 10. | An Infant child of Samuel Benton. | | | 10 Days. |
| 2726. | | 31. | Daniel. | son of Daniel Dwight. | Canker. | 1 year. |
| 2727. | April | 17. | Sally. | the wife of Josiah Bigelow. | Consumption. | 42 years. |
| 2728. | July | 23. | Sarah. | Negro. | Fever. | about 35 years. |
| 2729. | Septem ^r | 3. | John Roberts. | Drowned in Con: River. | | 17 years. |
| 2730. | Novem ^r | 22. | Mary Ledyard. | Palsy. | | 82 “ |

History of the Second church of Christ in Hartford

Other African Americans Listed

| | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----|---|-----------|
| 2752. | Septem ^r | 3. | Henry Langdon Flint. Son of Rev ^d } Mr. Flint. Dysentery. } | 6 years. |
| 2753. | November | 8. | An Infant Child of Juda. Negro . Daughter of Boston. Fits. | 1 week. |
| 2754. | | 30. | John Brace. Chronical. | 55 years. |
| 2755. | Dec ^r | 4. | John Cable. Pleurisy. Complex. | 58 " |
| 2756. | | 10. | William Andruss. Jun ^r . Dropsy. | 35 " |
| 24 in 1798. Total 186. | | | | |
| 1799. | | | | |
| 2757. | January | 5. | Anne, the wife of John Van Orden. Consumption. | 40 years. |
| 2758. | | 13. | An Infant Child of John Carter. | 2 Days. |
| 2759. | February | 23. | Mary Anne. Daughter of Joseph W. Seymour. | 7 Months. |
| 2760. | March | 13. | Wid: Deliverance Seymour. Dropsy. | 68 years. |
| 2761. | | 30. | A Negro Child, belonging to Levi Robbins. | 2 years. |

Middlesex Gazette, June 1810
Discovered by Laurie Tavino

MY Wife TAMER having eloped from my bed and board, and refused to live with me, I hereby forbid all persons from harbouring her, on penalty of the law.—I also forbid all persons from trusting her on my account.

Solomon Smith-

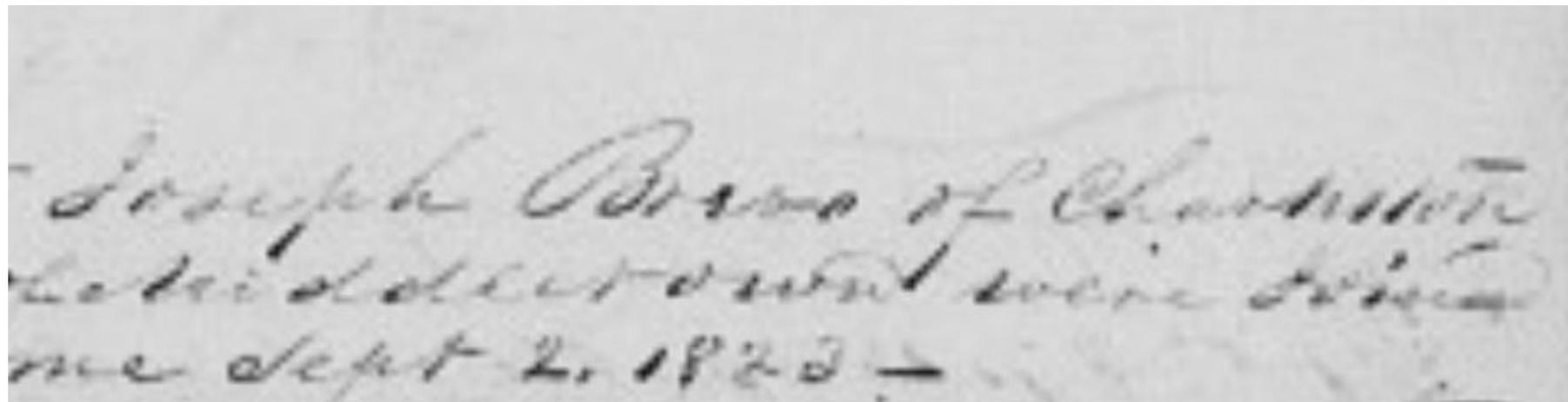
Haddam, June 21, 1810.

Could this be a second marriage record for Tamer in 1823?

This is to certify that Joseph Brown of Charleston
S.C. and James Smith of Middletown were joined
in Holy Matrimony by me Sept 2, 1823 -
Sep 25, 1823 - a True
Record Test - Josiah Brown Minister of the
Meth. E. Church in Middletown
W. J. P. T. C.



Could this be a marriage record for Tamer in 1823?
Enlarge image



Joseph Basso of Charleston
and his daughter were joined
on Sept 2, 1823 -

Could this be a marriage record for Tamer in 1823?

204

BARBOUR COLLECTION

| | Vol. | Page |
|--|------|------|
| SMITH , (cont.) | | |
| Brookline | 2 | 303 |
| Sylvester A., of Port Clinton, O., m. Angeline SMITH , of Middletown, Oct. 12, 1837, by Elisha Andrews, Elder | 3 | 442 |
| Tamer, of Middletown, m. Joseph BREVO , of Charleston, S.C., Sept. 2, 1823, by Rev. Josiah Bowen | 3 | 134 |



Find a Grave webpage information for Rev. Josiah Bowen

Rev Josiah Bowen

BIRTH 1787
DEATH 15 Dec 1872 (aged 84–85)
Ansonia, New Haven County, Connecticut, USA
BURIAL [Bare Plains Cemetery](#)
Ansonia, New Haven County, Connecticut, USA
MEMORIAL ID 6890211 · [View Source](#)

SHARE



SAVE TO

SUGGEST EDITS



MEMORIAL

PHOTOS **0**

FLOWERS **2**

Rev. Josiah Bowen was the husband of Sarah (Devoe) Bowen. They were married April 18, 1810. Sarah died December 23, 1874. Rev. Bowen was a minister in the Genesee (now Western New York) Conference/New York Conference and New York East Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He served Ulster (NY) Circuit 1815 - Newburgh (NY) Circuit 1816/1819-1820 - New Windsor Circuit 1817-1818 - Durham (CT) Circuit 1821-1822 - Middletown 1823-1824 - Albany (NY) 1825-1826 - New Rochelle (NY) 1827-1828 - Suffolk (NY) Circuit 1829-1830 - Redding (CT) Circuit 1831/1834 - New York City - 1832-1833 - Derby (CT) Circuit 1835-1836/1839-1841 - Westville and Woodbridge 1837-1838 - Milford and Birmingham 1841 - Superannuated 1842-1870 - 60 years in ministry.

Source:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/6890211/josiah-bowen>

1820 Census Joseph Brevo South Carolina, enlarged image

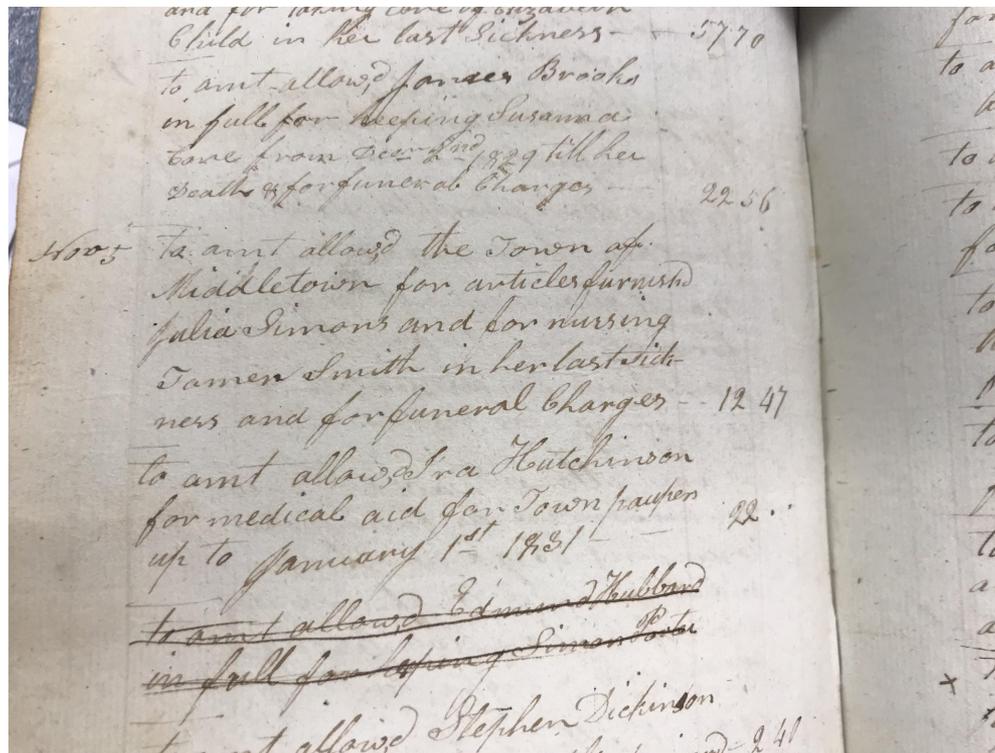


| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| John Bull | | | | 1 | | 3 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Sam. Suptain | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Nicholas Mashburn | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | 2 | 1 |
| M. Brevo | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Thomas Hill | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| P. O. Callaghan | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 2 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Emanuel Pado | | | | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | 3 | | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | 1 |
| James Larkin | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | 1 |
| M ^r . Collins | | | | | | | | | 2 | 3 | 3 | | | | | | 2 | 1 | 3 |

M. Brevo



Jan Peake's Research Produced This Important Document from Haddam



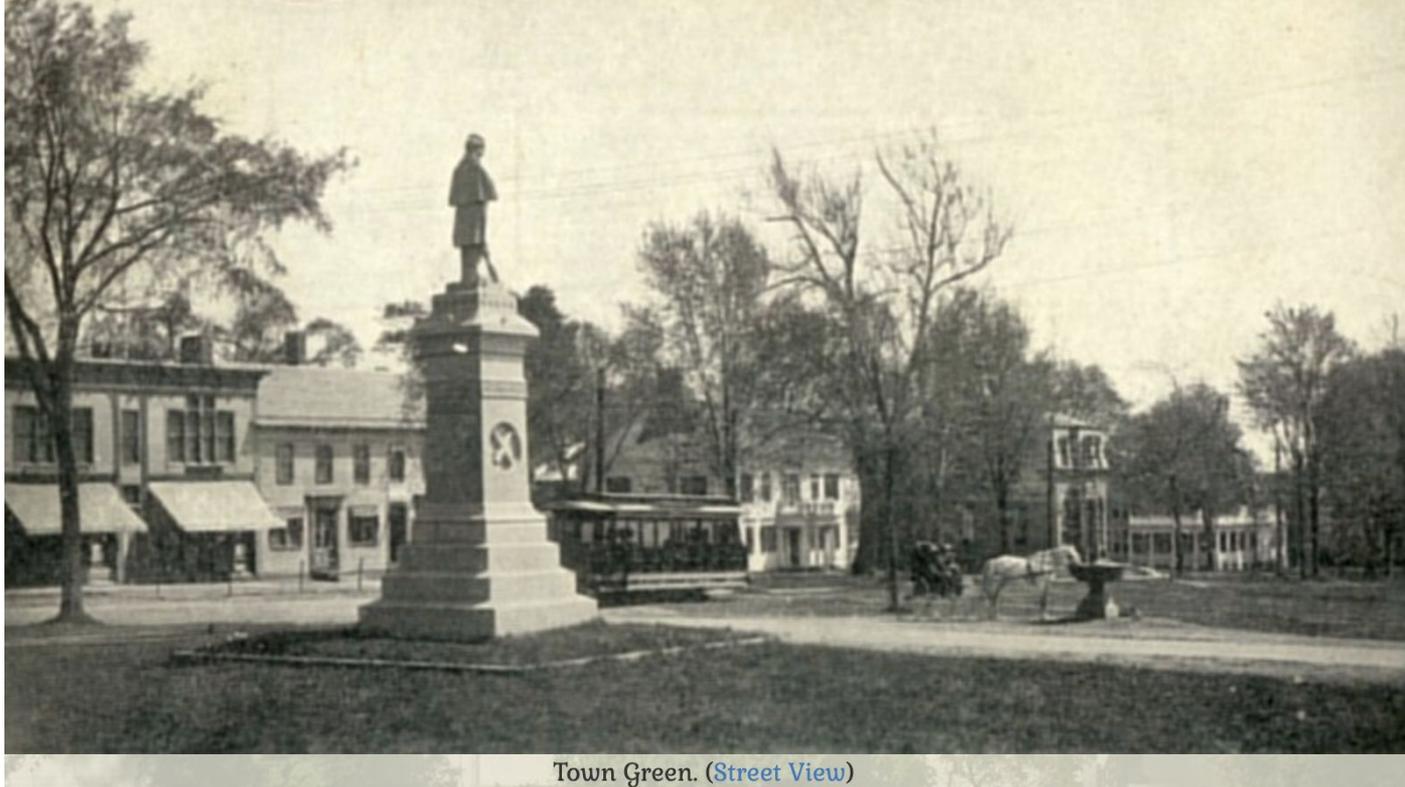
and for taking care of orphan
Child in her last sickness - 57 70
to amt allowd for Mrs Brooks
in full for keeping Susanna
Cove from Dec 22nd 1829 till her
death & for funeral charges - 22 56
1803 To amt allowd the Town of
Middletown for articles furnishd
Julia Simons and for nursing
Tamer Smith in her last sick-
ness and for funeral charges - 12 47
to amt allowd for Hutchinison
for medical aid for Town paupers
up to January 1st 1831 - 22 ..
~~to amt allowd Edmund Hubbard
in full for keeping Simon Porter~~
to amt allowd Stephen Dickinson - 2 41

Nov 5 [1829]

To amt allowed the Town of
Middletown for articles furnishd
Julia Simons and for nursing
Tamer Smith in her last sick-
ness and for funeral charges \$12.47

Dr. Karl Shapiro's good point: no
burial charges listed here. He is
looking into a record that may
include a bill for a coffin for Tamer.

Luther Loomis' Mansion & Block of Stores Stands behind the trolley



Town Green. (Street View)

Source:

<http://www.suffieldhistoricalsociety.org/pictures>

Secondary Source for Tamar's Narrative

Traditions of Venture - Known as Venture Smith* - Compiled by H.M. Selden
(1896)

Mr. Robert S. Cone of Moodus, says:

"Solomon had seven children. He was married twice. First, to **Tamar**, a worthy, useful woman. A friend to everybody, every one her friend. Think she had two children. One, William, lived to grow to manhood, a straight, handsome fellow, well formed and well spoken. Died in Hartford, unmarried.

I recollect a short episode which occurred in my boyhood days in connection with the above William. We, that is, Tom Summers with others and myself when a lad, were sailing up the cove in a scow. Summers was tall and very conceited of his strength, thinking himself more than a match for the strong. Solomon's place was noted at that time for its early peaches, delicious apples, and fine vegetables, far ahead of his neighbors. As we moved along, when the scow stood opposite Solomon's place, Summers remarked, 'Now for a bag of Sol's apples!' He jumped ashore, sprang up the hill into the orchard and began to gather. William soon appeared, tall, well dressed and very comely. He very politely asked Mr. Summers to go away. Instead, Mr. Summers showed his two fists in fighting array. William again said, 'Will you go? Will you go?' Summers still showed fight. William, with a cat-like movement, seized him by the nape of the neck and seat of his pants and tossed him down the bank to the Cove with as little effort as we would manage a little child.

Witness Stones Project & themes help with learning this hard history. So does Black Patriots Documentary

Restore History

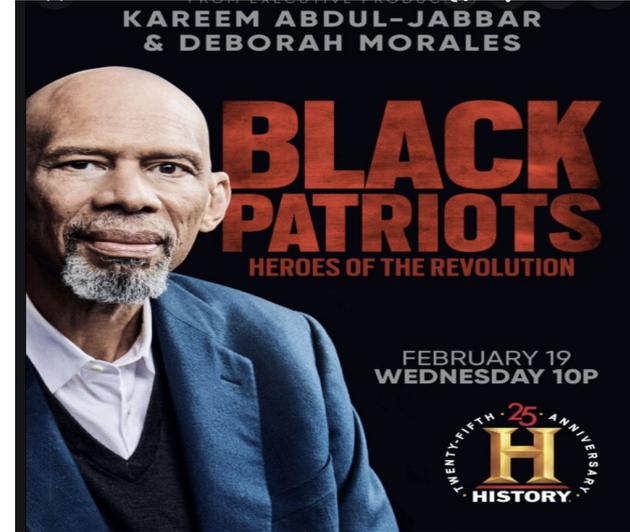
Through research, education, and civic engagement, the WITNESS STONES PROJECT, Inc. seeks to restore the history and to honor the humanity and contributions of the enslaved individuals who helped build our communities.



Witness
STONES
Project™

Our Vision

Communities committed
to learning their history,
dismantling current inequities,
and building a just future.



We used Google Docs to appreciate Elizabeth Freeman's narrative in Black Patriots documentary

Witness Stones Project
Suffield Historical Society
Exploring the Witness Stones Project's
Five Themes
in the *Black Patriots* documentary for
Elizabeth Freeman.

<https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/elizabeth-freeman>

Elizabeth Freeman was later remembered as saying, "Any time, any time while I was a slave, if one minute's freedom had been offered to me, and I had been told I must die at the end of that minute, I would have taken it—just to stand one minute on god's airth a free woman—I would."



Second Theme
Treatment of the Enslaved: What explicit and implicit information can you gather about how Mumbett was treated?

Please type your (name) before your responses.
(Annabelle) Elizabeth Freeman, aka Mumbett, was one of the first enslaved individual to sue for her freedom following the Revolutionary War. Her life's narrative displays elements of the Witness Stone Project's theme of dehumanization throughout her enslavement. She was married in 1780, and had a child. During her enslavement, Mrs. Ashley, her enslaver, struck her daughter with a heated shovel. In order to protect her daughter, Mumbett shielded her daughter, resulting in a lifelong scar on her forearm. She chose not to treat her injury in order to essentially keep evidence of her maltreatment. She had heard discussions of freedom during the 1774 alarms as well as the declaration of independence a few years later. She then became knowledgeable of her rights under this new system of government. Quoting article 1, All men are free and equal she used this to sue the Massachusetts government resulting in her freedom and the abolishment of the practice of slavery in Massachusetts. She is deeply inspirational as she used the power of law to free herself and others followed.

Dennis Culliton Discovered Samuel Kent's Probate Records Provide Biographical Details about Titus: Elihu Inherits Titus in 1772

ESTATE OF
Kent, Samuel
Attached Deceased Incompetent Insolvent Minor
Trust
TOWN OF *Suffield*
DATE *1772* NO. *3210*

**Hartford
Probate District**

Wills and Codicils
 Bonds
 Applications and Petitions
 Inventories
 Orders of Court
 Returns to Court
 Distributions
 Accounts of Administration
 Receipts
 Miscellaneous
 2 Total Documents

DEPOSITED IN
CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY
UNDER PROVISIONS
PUBLIC ACTS 1909 CHAP. 175
September 23, 1915

Item I give to my son Elihu to him and his heirs forever my lot
Call: Remington lot containing about ten acres and lying not far from
Tho: Norton's Dwelling house the East end of Nephew's lot. So called
to wit what is East of the Mill lane, the land I mortgaged to the
Widow Dwight of Springfield being about ninety acres upon his or his
heirs paying up the Mortgage money and Redeeming the same and

mentioned to be given to my said son I give and bequeath to him
and his heirs forever he or they paying all my just Debts. Further
I give to my said son to him and his heirs my Negro Titus and Negro
boy Loto as also all the Debts Due and Demands that shall be due and
Owing to me at my Decease, also my Working Oxen, all my cows, Cattle
Sheep and Horses, Excepting those already bequeathed, and further I give

(Dennis Culliton)

Top image of first slide regarding Samuel Kent's Probate Records

Item I give to my son Elisha to him and his heirs forever my lot
Call. Remingtons lot containing about ten acres and lying not far from
Thos. Nortons Dwelling house the East end of Nephers lot. So called
to wit what is East of the Mill lane, the land I mortgaged to the
Widow Dwight of Springfield being about ninety acres upon his or his
Heirs paying up the Mortgage money and redeeming the same and

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| ESTATE OF | |
| <i>Kent, Samuel</i> | |
| TOWN OF | <i>Suffield</i> |
| DATE | 1772 NO. 2010 |
| Hartford Probate District | |
| — / Wills and Codicils | |
| — Bonds | |
| — Applications and Petitions | |
| — Inventories | |
| — Orders of Court | |
| — Returns to Court | |
| — Distributions | |
| — Accounts of Administration | |
| — Receipts | |
| — Miscellaneous | |
| — 2. Test Documents | |
| DEPOSITED IN CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY UNDER PROVISIONS PUBLIC ACTS AND CHAP. 175 September 23, 1915 | |

(Dennis Culliton)

Bottom image of first slide regarding Samuel Kent's Probate Records

mentioned to be given to my said son. I give and bequeath to him
+ and his heirs forever he or they ^{and legacies} paying ^{the residue after paying and bequeathing} all my just Debts. Further
I give to my said son to him and his heirs my Negro Siter and Negro
boy lots as also all the Debts Dues and Demands that shall be due and
Owing to me at my Decease, also my Working Oxen, all my cows, Cattle
Sheep and Horses, Excepting those already bequeathed, and further I give

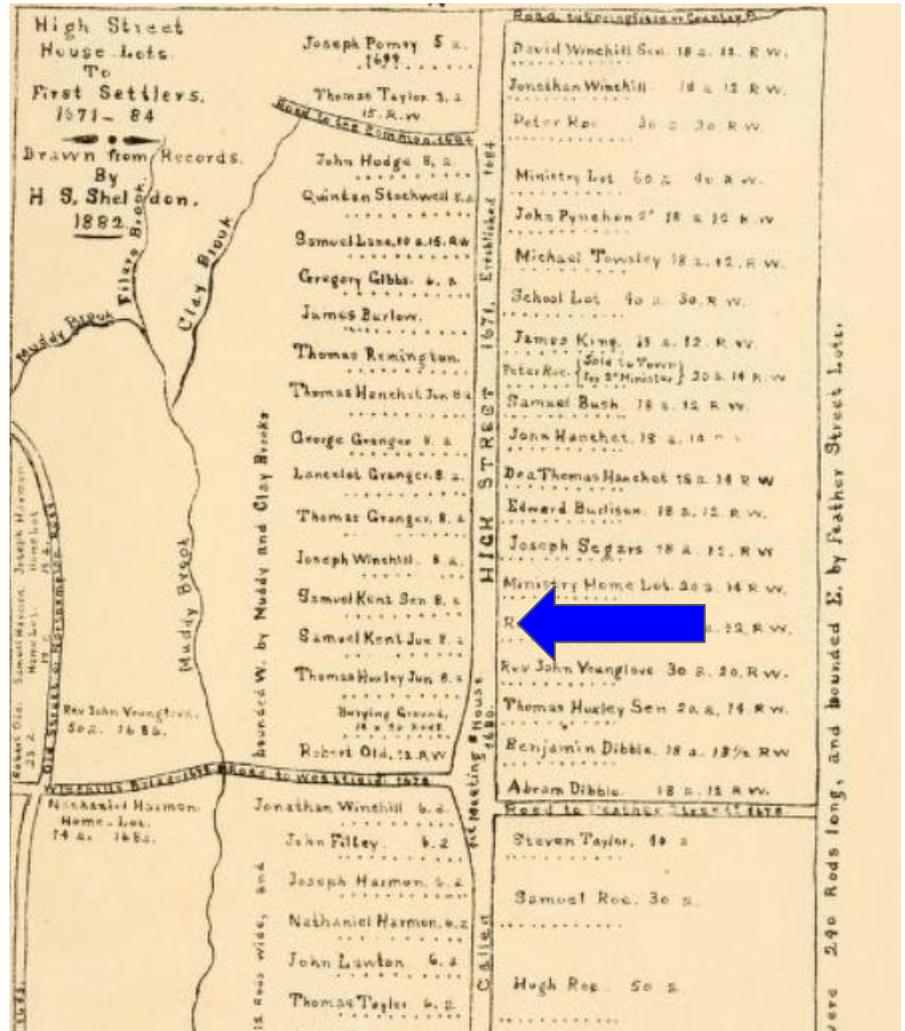
ESTATE OF
Kent, Samuel
TOWN OF *Suffield*
DATE *1772* NO. *3210*
Hartford
Probate District

Wills and Codicils
 Bonds
 Applications and Petitions
 Inventories
 Orders of Court
 Returns to Court
 Distributions
 Accounts of Administration
 Receipts
 Miscellaneous

2 Total Documents
SUPPORTED BY
CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY
UNDER PROVISIONS
PUBLIC ACTS 199-524P, 175
September 23, 1915

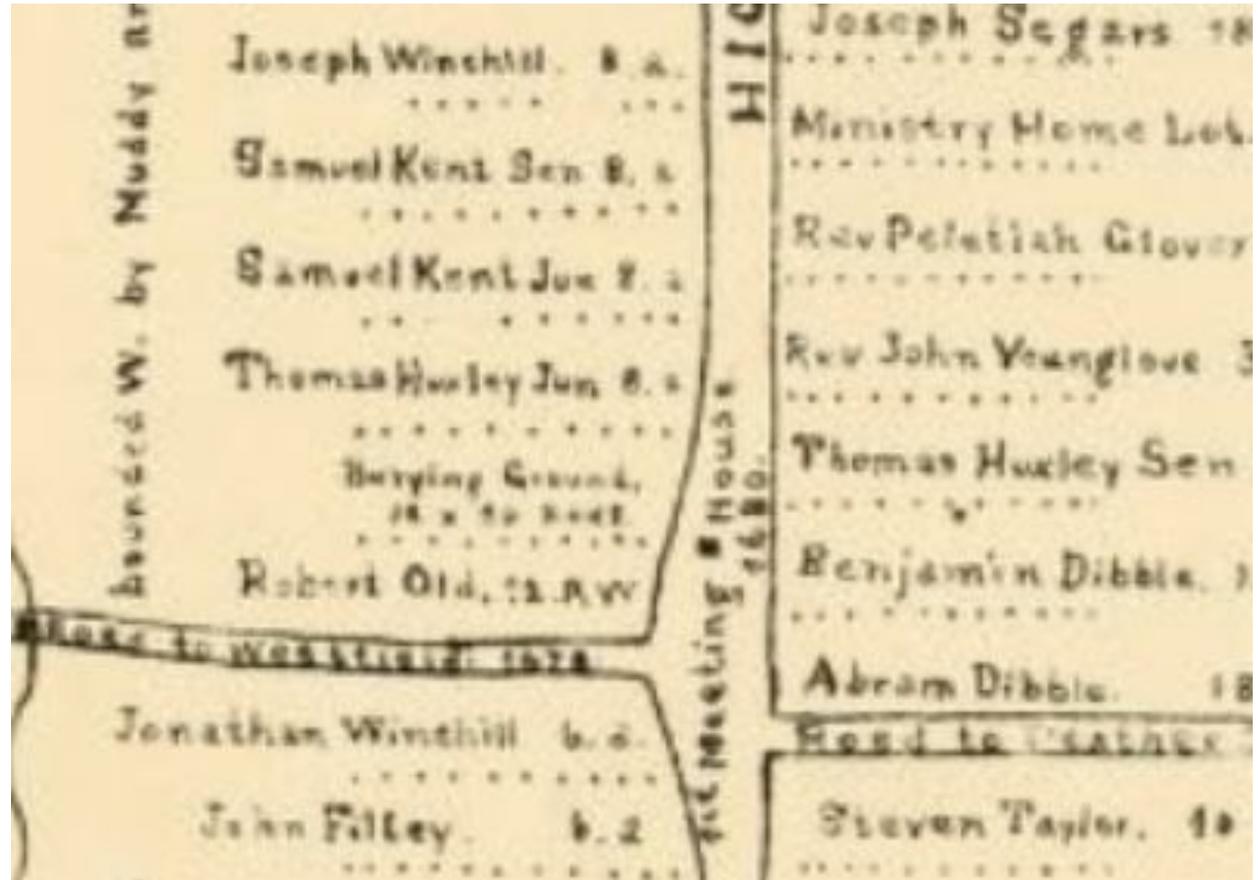
(Dennis Culliton)

Original settlers
and their original town
lots. Map drawn by
Hezekiah Spencer
Sheldon.



Samuel Kent
Sr.
Lives north of
Samuel Kent Jr.

Present day
Sidney Kent
Legare Library



Samuel Kent Sr.
Lives north of
Samuel Kent Jr.

Present day Sidney A.
Kent. Sidney Kent Legare
Library has inscription
above the door explaining
Samuel Kent's land grant.

Source: <https://historicbuildingsct.com/s-kent-legare-library-1899/>

Historic Buildings of Connecticut

[Contact](#) [Follow](#) [Search](#) [Categories](#) [Index by Town](#)

S. Kent Legare Library (1899)



The town of Suffield's [first library building](#) was erected in 1899 at 119 High Street on land where the Old South building on the Connecticut Literary Institute (now [Suffield Academy](#)) campus once stood. Designed by [Daniel Burnham](#), the library was built using funds provided by Suffield native Sidney A. Kent, [as described in Celebration of the Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Settlement of Suffield, Connecticut, October 12, 13 and 14, 1920](#) (1921):

In 1897 Mr. Sidney A. Kent, a native of Suffield and for many years a prominent and successful business man in Chicago, returned to Suffield and, desirous of erecting a memorial to his parents whose ancestors were prominent in the early history of the town, offered to erect a library building costing not less than \$35,000, if the town would provide a suitable site. The site of the Old South building was secured from the Connecticut Literary Institution and was a part of the grant or allotment of land made in 1678 to Samuel Kent, the first of his ancestors to come to Suffield. Upon this

Daniel Burnham, Famous Architect Designed Our Library



Union Station in Washington, D.C.,
(1908)



Reliance Building (1890-95)



Flatiron Building (1901)



Gilbert M. Simmons Memorial
Library, Kenosha, Wisconsin (1900)



No Record of Titus Kent in the 1790s Census

1790 United States Federal Census for Elihu Kent

Connecticut > Hartford > Suffield

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Amos Granger | 1 | 3 | 2 | |
| Rev. Ebenezer Gay | 2 | | 2 | 5 |
| Rev. John Estlin | 1 | 2 | 1 | |
| Eleazar Hastings | 4 | 1 | 4 | |
| Ladoc Granger | 2 | | 2 | |
| Elihu Kent | 2 | | 3 | |
| John Granger | 1 | | 2 | |

This image is from the 1790s census. It reports that Reverend Ebenezer Gay has five enslaved people living in his household. It also reports that Elihu Kent has no enslaved people in his household.

NB: we still do not know the year of Titus Kent death.

Source: Ancestry.Com

What do we know about Titus Kent?

Enslaved and lived with Samuel Kent until Samuel Kent's death, 1772

Elihu Kent enslaved Titus Kent from 1772 on; we don't know until when...perhaps until 1775 when General Assembly makes it easier for enslavers to manumit and no longer be financially responsible for the person's retirement

Fought in the Revolutionary War from 1775-1783

Not certain about his birth and death dates

Titus Kent was paid during throughout the war

Titus Kent's name is on the Veterans' Monument at Veterans' Park and listed in many archives as serving from Suffield

Jonathan Kent, Elihu's grandson, will argue for Titus Kent's Land Grants 1830s. Therefore, we speculate that he was never freed.



K | **3** | **Conn.**

Titus Kent

P., *Barnard* Co.,

Col. Samuel Wyllys' Regiment.

(Revolutionary War.)

Appears in a book*

Copied from Rolls

of the organization named above.

Date of appointment } *Jan 1*, 1777.
or enlistment }

Term *War*

Casualties *Deserts Nov 20. 79.*

Joined March 8. 80

Remarks :

U.S Compiled
Revolutionary War Military
Service Records 1775-1783

This document indicates
that he left the army for
the winter of 1779-80,
which was typical for
farmers. This is the winter
when the army returns to
Morristown, NJ.

Top Portion of the Document

K | **3** | **Conn.**

Titus Kent

P. Barnard Co.,

Col. Samuel Wyllys' Regiment.
(**Revolutionary War.**)

The top portion of the document informs us that Titus Kent was under Captain Barnard's command in Col. Samuel Wyllys' Regiment.

Here's more information about Col. Wyllys:
<https://www.americanwar.org/ct-american-revolution/colonel-wyllys-regiment-1776.htm>

Copied from Rolls

of the organization named above.

Date of appointment
or enlistment

} *Jan 1*, 1777.

Term

War

Casualties

Deserted Nov 20. 79.

Joined March 8. 80

Remarks :

The bottom portion of the document has an interesting descriptor. Not that the "Term" blank line has the word "War" written in that space. This indicates that Titus Kent served the whole war.

Deserted does not carry the negative tone; he, along with many other farmers, went home for winter months as both armies retired to winter quarters.

N | **3** | **Conn.**

Titus Kent
6th Co

Appears as shown below on a

Receipt Roll

under the following heading:

"We the subscribers of the 3^d Conn['] Reg['] have rec^d of Sam['] Richards, Pay master of s^d Reg['], the sums annex'd to our names respectively for deficiencies of clothing in the year 1777."

(Revolutionary War.)

Roll dated

Morristown
April 3, 1780.

Oct^r 1779

Titus Kent 3 60 Titus x Kent

U.S Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records 1775-1783

As shown by this receipt roll, Titus Kent was a member of the 3rd regiment starting in the year 1779 and was paid in 1780 while serving in Morristown, New Jersey, for a deficiency of clothing during 1779 while fighting.

Source: <https://www.fold3.com/>

Titus Kent's name on June 1780, Muster Roll, Fishkill, NY

Titus Kent's Company returns to the Hudson River Valley region.

*Muster Roll of the Colonel's Compy 3 Connecticut Regiment in Service of the United States
Commanded by Col Saml Wyllip - Taken for June 1780*

| Commissioined | | Samuel Wyllip Colonel Comdr Kingd ✓ | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Commissioined | | Jonathan Heart Capt Lt ✓ | | | | | |
| Commissioined | | Heaken Pride Lt Recruting ✓ | | | | | |
| Appointed | Sergeant Major | Sergeant | Remarks | Appointed | 2nd Sergeant | Sergeant | Remarks |
| | George Cotton ✓ | D Wts | | | Levi Goodrich ✓ | D Wts | |
| | Drum Major | | | | Life Major | | |
| | Abel Bailey ✓ | | | | | | |
| | Sergeant | | | | Corporals | | |
| | Joshua Williams ✓ | | | | Henry Smith ✓ | | Comd Morris town |
| | Drummers | | | | Drummers | | |
| Enlisted | Privates | | | Enlisted | Privates | | |
| | Benjn Butler ✓ | | | | Edw. M. Ham ✓ | | with Sabbath Nov 18th |
| March 3 78 | Stephen Butler ✓ | | | | Titus Kent ✓ | | In duty |
| June 10 78 | Michael Burnham ✓ | | In duty | Aug 22 78 | James Luffen ✓ | 7 years | Comd James Point |
| July 28 78 | Erastus Booth ✓ | | Colonel's Comdr | | Wm Lewis ✓ | | In duty |
| | Thos J Davis ✓ | | and with Comdr's Comdr | Sept 11 77 | Andrew M. Key ✓ | 22 | Command Newcastle |

Source

<https://www.fold3.com/>

Titus Kent, June 1780, Muster Roll, Fishkill, NY. Enlarged images of previous slide.

Muster Roll of the Colonel's Company 3 Connecticut Regiment in Service
 Commanded by Col James Wyllys - Taken for June 1780

Commissioned

Samuel Wyllys Colonel Comd^t Brigad ✓
 Jonathan Heart Capt Lt ✓
 Keuben Wride Lt Recruiting ✓

Ebenezer Wham ✓
 Titus Kent ✓ ✓
 James Luffen ✓ 7 years
 Wm Lewis ✓
 Andrew McKey ✓ Lt

at Fishkill West Nov 18th
 On Duty
 Camp Stony Point
 On Duty
 Command West Point

U.S., Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783 for Titus Kent
 Connecticut - 01st Regiment, 1777-1781 (Folders 45-50)

| Company | Rank | Service | Remarks | Pay | Arrests | Discharges | Remarks |
|------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|-----|---------|------------|---------|
| Col James Wyllys | Colonel | Comd ^t Brigad | | | | | |
| Jonathan Heart | Capt Lt | | | | | | |
| Keuben Wride | Lt | Recruiting | | | | | |
| Ebenezer Wham | | | | | | | |
| Titus Kent | | | | | | | |
| James Luffen | | 7 years | | | | | |
| Wm Lewis | | | | | | | |
| Andrew McKey | Lt | | | | | | |

Titus Kent's service at Fishkill, NY



This painting by Hudson Valley artist John Gould, "The Last Cantonment 1783," is "a good depiction of what the Fishkill Supply Depot would have looked like during the Revolutionary War," according to Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot. (Courtesy John Gould)

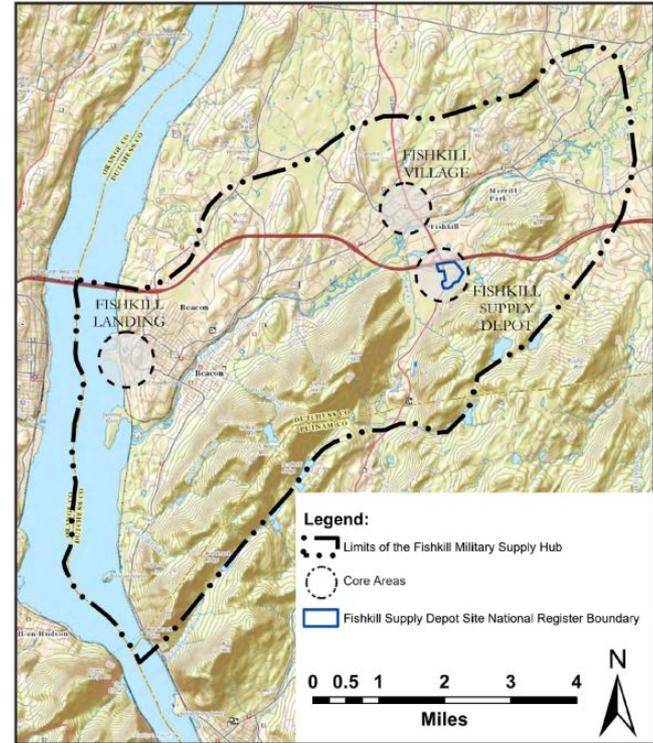


Figure 1.1. Location of the Fishkill Military Supply Hub.

Was Titus Kent legally free after the Revolutionary War?

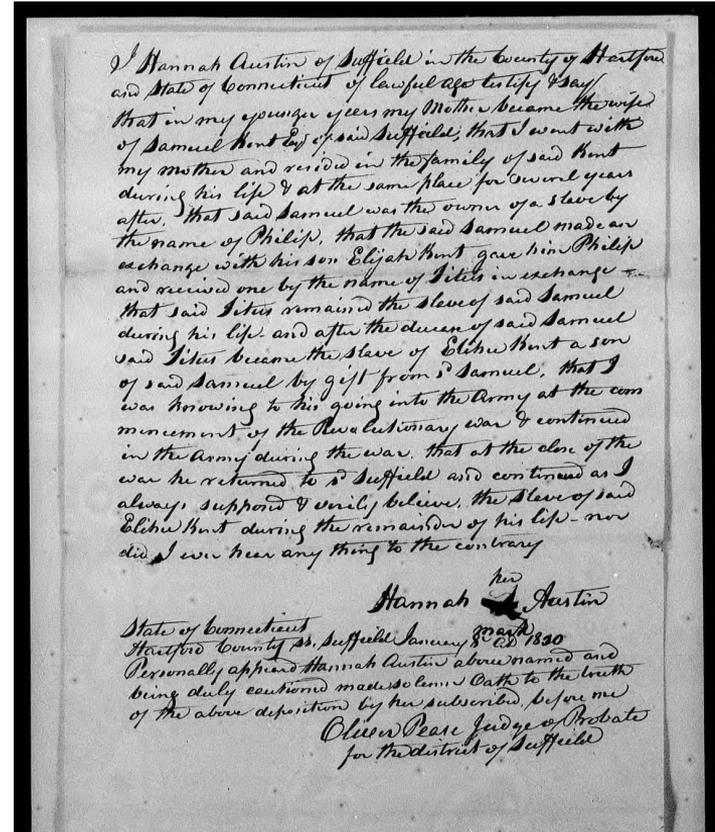
What was the purpose of this document?

- Pensions were sought by three types of people: survivor (the veteran himself), widow, or invalid.
- The Kent family, Jonathan Kent, is asking as an heir to his family owning Titus Kent.

Is the information they provide likely to be accurate? Is it recorded to serve a specific purpose?

What do they tell us about Titus Kent?

Source: <https://www.fold3.com/>



Was Titus Kent legally free after the Revolutionary War?

Using Revolutionary War Pension Files to Find Family Information

Summer 2015, Vol. 47, No. 2 | Genealogy Notes

By Jean Nudd



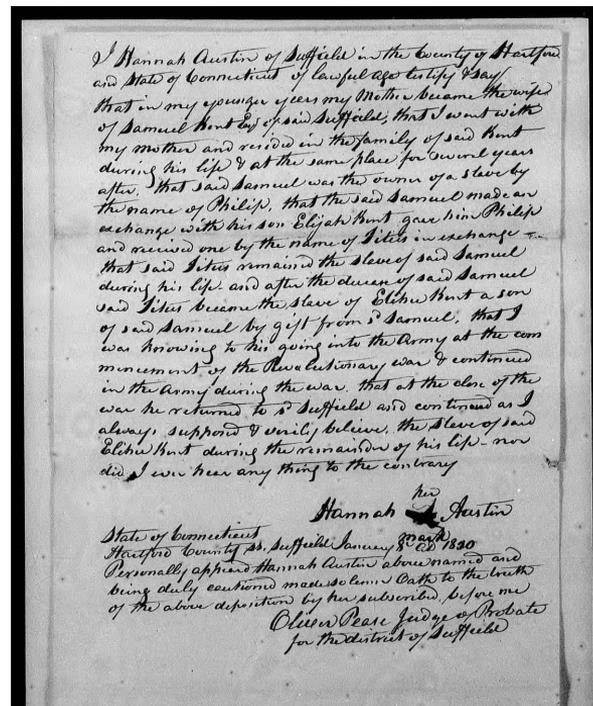
Revolutionary War pension files can be a gold mine of information for genealogists searching for ancestors from the era of the nation's birth.

Take, for example, Daniel Ide, a member of the prolific Ide family of Massachusetts.

Daniel Ide was born in Westminster, Vermont, in 1783.¹ A published genealogy of the Ide family lists an Ichabod Ide who lived in Westminster, Vermont, in the mid-1700s. Ichabod had many sons who could have fathered Daniel, but there is no Daniel listed in any of the family groups for Ichabod's children.² A search of the Vermont vital records microfilm also failed to find a Daniel Ide other than his death record and birth records of his children.

There are quite a few pension files for the Ide family of Massachusetts, and fortunately for our search for Daniel, there is one for Israel Ide, one of Ichabod's sons. At first glance, a researcher might not consider this pension file because Israel served from Massachusetts. The pages within, however, show that Israel came from Westminster, Vermont, to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he signed on with Captain Wood's Regiment. Israel's brother Ichabod and several cousins were already serving in Wood's regiment. Almost at the end of the file is an affidavit from one Daniel Ide, who stated:

I, Daniel Ide of Coventry in the County of Orleans and State of Vermont aged fifty six years depose and say that I am a Son to Israel and Martha Ide who formerly lived in Westminster in this State and afterwards lived in Coventry aforesaid further State my Father the said Israel Ide died on the 9th day of October 1787 since which my Mother the said Martha Ide has ever continued a Widow.



We have to explore this pension file more. While we are relying on Hannah's memory here, she made an oath before supplying this information. Much to balance when we interpret this event. What do you think?

<https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2015/summer/rev-war-pensions.html>

Was Titus Kent legally free after the Revolutionary War?

Prose for document

- (1) I Hannah Austin of Suffield in the county of Hartford
- (2) and state of Connecticut of lawful age testify & say
- (3) that in my younger years my mother became the wife
- (4) of Samuel Kent Esq of said Suffield that I went with
- (5) my mother and (resided?) in the family of said Kent
- (6) during his life & at the same place for several years
- (7) after that said Sameul was the owner of a slave by
- (8) the name of Philip, that the said Samuel made an
- (9) exchange with his son Elihu Kent gave him Philip
- (10) and received one by the name of Titus in exchange
- (11) that said Titus remain as the slave of said Samuel
- (12) during hs life and after the (death?) of said Samuel
- (13) said Titus became the slave of Elihu Kent, a son
- (14) of said Samuel by gift from S [said] Samuel, that I
- (15) was knowing to his going into the Army at the com
- (16) mencement of the Revolutionary War & continued
- (17) in the Army during the war that at the close of the
- (18) war he returned to S [said] and continued as I
- (19) always (always?) support & verily believe the slave of said
- (20) Elihu Kent during the remainder of his life--nor
- (21) did I ever hear any thing to the contrary

her
Hannah X Austin
Mark

State of Connecticut

Hartford County (ss?) Suffield January 8 AD 1830

Personally appeared Hannah Austin aboved named and
being duly cautioned made solemn Oath to the truth
of the above deposition by her subscribe before me

Oliver Pease Judge of Probate
for the district of Suffield

I Hannah Austin of Suffield in the county of Hartford
and State of Connecticut of lawful age testify & say
that in my younger years my Mother became the wife
of Samuel Kent Esq of said Suffield; that I went with
my mother and resided in the family of said Kent
during his life & at the same place for several years
after that said Samuel was the owner of a slave by
the name of Philip, that the said Samuel made an
exchange with his son Elihu Kent gave him Philip
and received one by the name of Titus in exchange
that said Titus remained the slave of said Samuel
during his life and after the death of said Samuel
said Titus became the slave of Elihu Kent a son
of said Samuel by gift from S Samuel, that I
was knowing to his going into the Army at the com
mencement of the Revolutionary war & continued
in the Army during the war. that at the close of the
war he returned to S Suffield and continued as I
always support & verily believe the slave of said
Elihu Kent during the remainder of his life--nor
did I ever hear any thing to the contrary

Hannah Austin
State of Connecticut
Hartford County ss. Suffield January 8 AD 1830
Personally appeared Hannah Austin aboved named and
being duly cautioned made solemn Oath to the truth
of the above deposition by her subscribe before me
Oliver Pease Judge of Probate
for the district of Suffield

Affidavit were common in pension files. Hannah Austin's penalty for lying was severe

(15)was knowing to his going into the Army at the com
(16)mencement of the Revolutionary War & continued
(17)in the Army during the war that at the close of the
(18)war he returned to S [said] and continued as I
(19)always (always?) support & verily believe the slave of said
(20)Elihu Kent during the remainder of his life--nor
(21)did I ever hear any thing to the contrary

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Hannah X Austin
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Personally appeared Hannah Austin aboved named and
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of the above deposition by her subscribe before me
Oliver Pease Judge of Probate
for the district of Suffield

Henry Explains Importance of the Witness Stones Project

Mission: seeks to restore the history and honor the humanity & contributions of enslaved people in Suffield, Connecticut, as well as greater New England



Restore History

Through research, education, and civic engagement, the **WITNESS STONES PROJECT, Inc.** seeks to restore the history and to honor the humanity and contributions of the enslaved individuals who helped build our communities.



Witness
STONES
Project™

FROM EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
**KAREEM ABDUL-JABBAR
& DEBORAH MORALES**

BLACK PATRIOTS

HEROES OF THE REVOLUTION

FEBRUARY 19
WEDNESDAY 10P



25
ANNIVERSARY
H
HISTORY

The Witness Stones Project: <https://witnessstonesproject.org/>

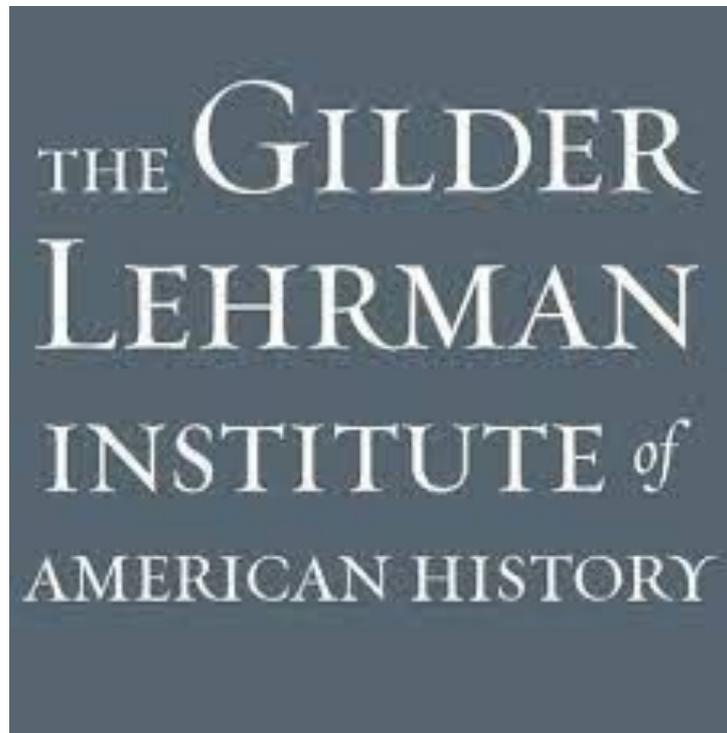
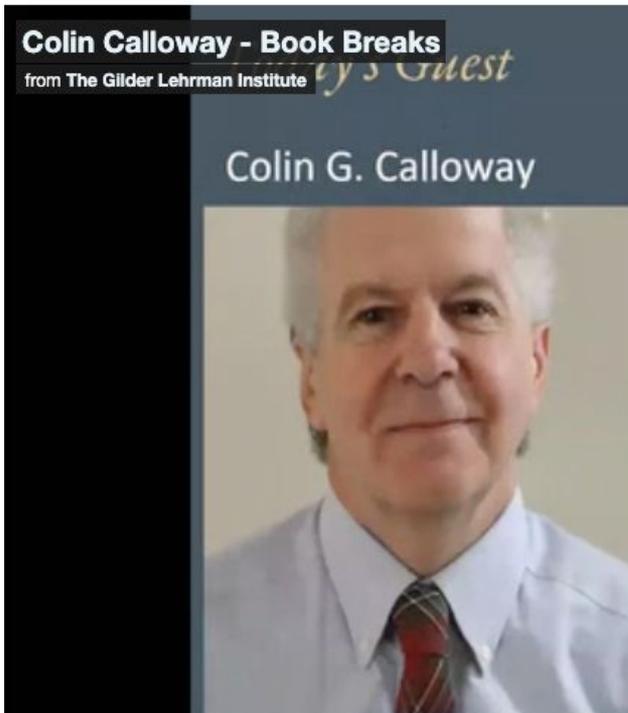
Part III Oliver Phelps Relationship to the Native Americans in New York State

Oliver Phelps and the present day
Phelps-Hatheway House and Garden below
Michael Galban,



Michael Galban, Curator at the Seneca Art & Culture Center at Ganondagan.

Colin Calloway, Professor of History and Professor of Native American Studies at Dartmouth College, insightfully explains the “Tyranny of the Textbook Map.”



Timing of Native Peoples in New England



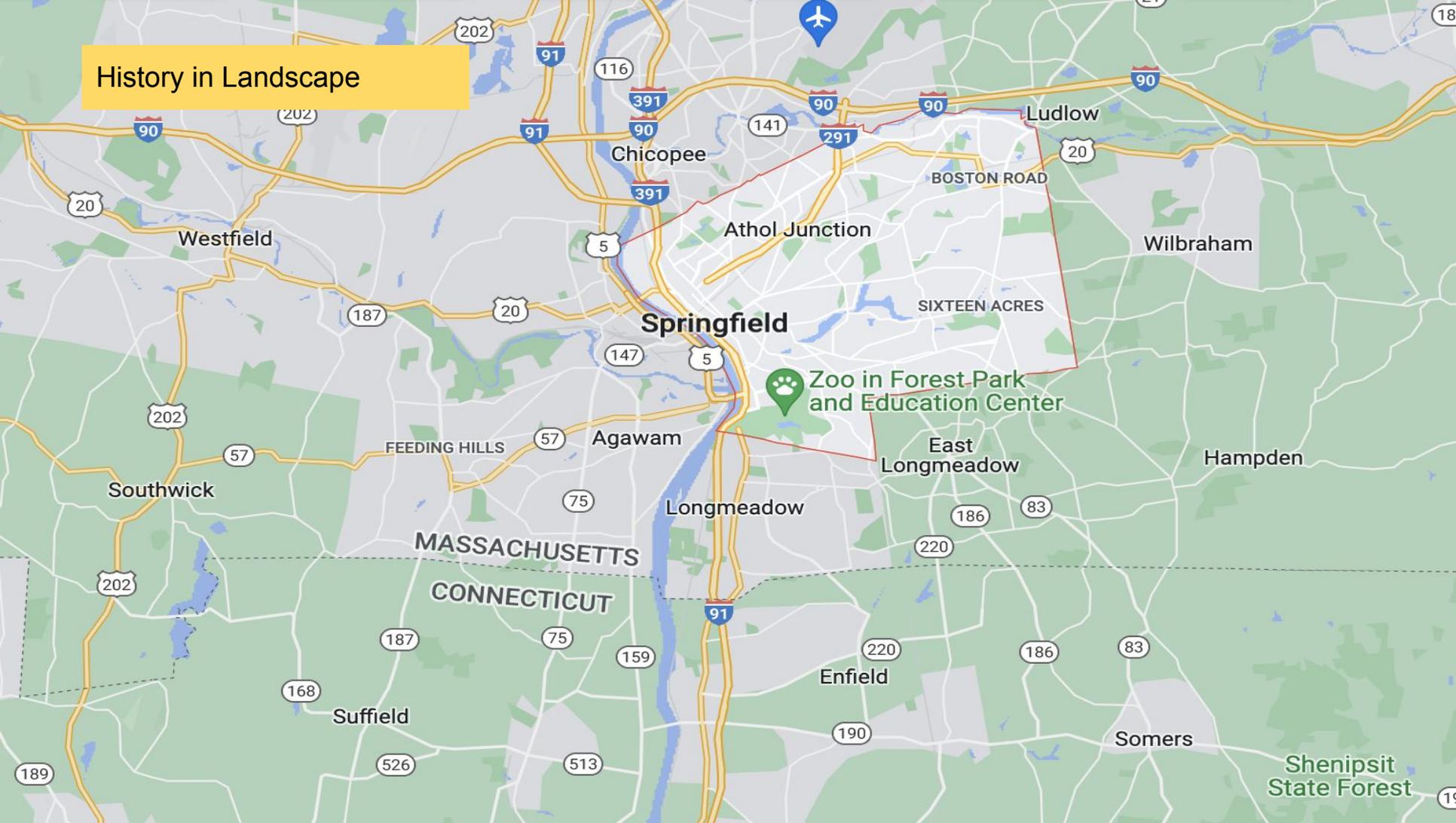
Henry: My Local Deep Dive

It's Fascinating how the Tunxis Tribes used hunting and gathering to survive. They were able to train their bodies to go days without eating. It shows their perseverance.

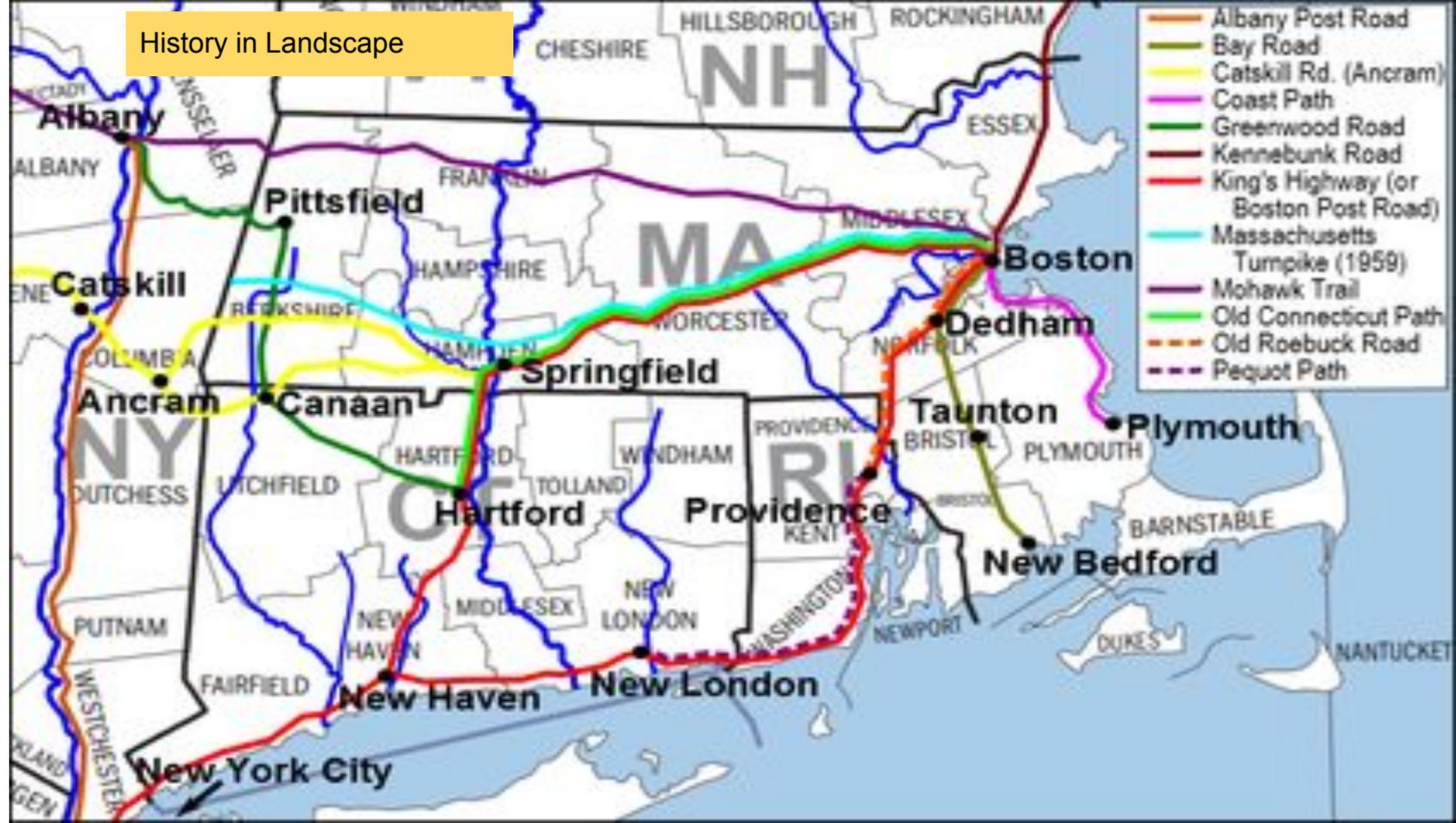


Barkhamsted, Connecticut

History in Landscape



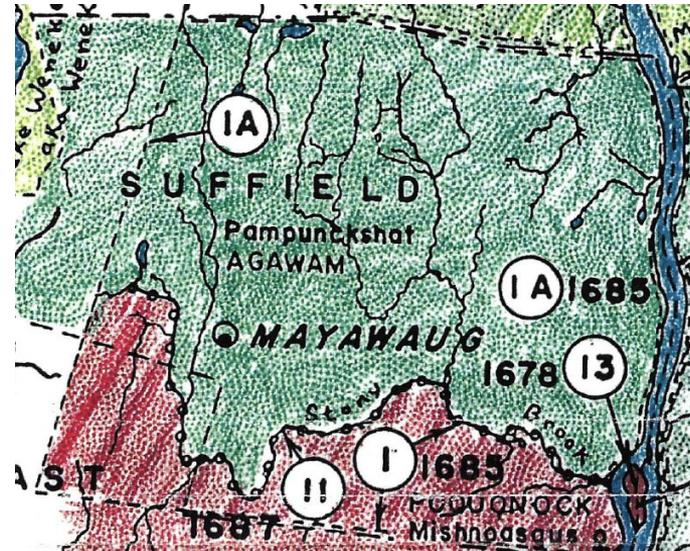
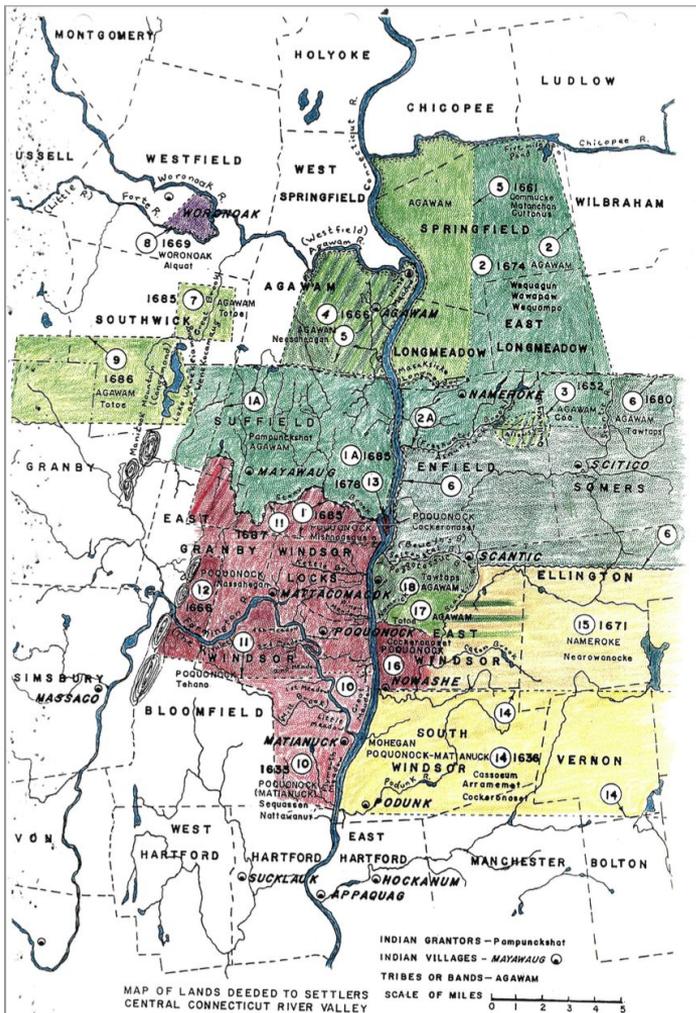
History in Landscape



History in Landscape



The American Studies class enjoyed reading *A Cultural History of the Agawam Indians* by Robert C. Stewart



Exploring the Complexities of the Treaty Of Canandaigua



This treaty was signed on November 11th, 1794.

All six nation were present:

- Seneca
- Cayuga
- Onondaga
- Oneida
- Mohawk
- Tuscarora

Each year United States government provides \$4,500 for the annual distribution of cloth to the six nations, this annual distribution is a 200+ year obligation the United States government made in this treaty

Source:

<https://ganondagan.org/Learning/Canandaigua-Treaty>

Save the Date: 7pm on Monday, May 9th at the Kent Memorial Library

Michael Oberg Appointed SUNY Distinguished Professor

Thursday, May 14, 2015



Michael Oberg from SUNY Geneseo's Department of History and an internationally renowned scholar in Native American studies, has been appointed a SUNY Distinguished Professor by the SUNY Board of Trustees. **Oberg** is the sixth Geneseo faculty member to receive a SUNY Distinguished Professorship.

The prestigious honor is conferred upon faculty who have achieved national or international prominence and a distinguished reputation within the individual's chosen field through significant contributions to research and scholarship, or through artistic performance or achievement in the fine and performing arts. Oberg is a leading international authority on the intersection of colonial English and Native American societies. He has published six books and is under contract for two more in addition to a variety of seminal articles and other publications. He is a master ethnohistorian, who mines the scarce historical record for Native American voices, breaking new ground in much of his published work.

Check out Michael Oberg's blog: <https://michaelleroyoberg.com/>

The American Studies Class: Becoming Curators and Asking for Advice



The class is working to help the Phelps-Hatheway House and Garden interpret Oliver Phelps's relationship with the Indigenous population of New York State. We will use Michael Galban's "Three Legged Stool" concept for making a meaningful material culture exhibit.

Image of 18th century stool at Phelps-Hatheway House and Garden

Michael Galban

Curator at the Seneca Art & Culture Center at Ganondagan.

A lesson we learned from Michael Galban was making our own ideas out of primary sources.

“Finding the sources of your sources”

A second hand text about this information can very easily be biased or just incorrect. So it essential to check sources.

Source: <https://nysmuseums.org/michael-galban>

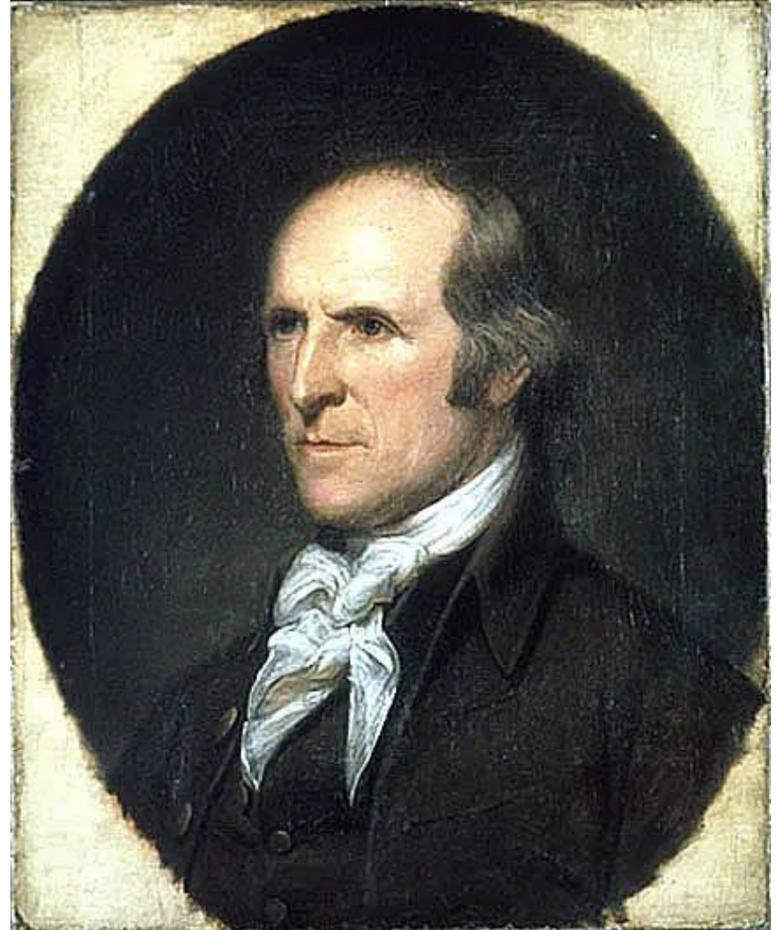


Thomas Pickering

- Fought in Revolutionary War
- Appointed Quartermaster in 1780
- Washington's negotiator for Native American Treaties in 1790s

Source:

<https://www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/digital-encyclopedia/article/timothy-pickering/>



George Washington to Oliver Phelps

N^o. 16. To Oliver Phelps & Sam^l. Osgood Esquires:

Head Qu^{rs}. New Windsor Jan^y 20th 1781.

Gentlemen

Since my Letter to you of the 28th of December,
the supply of Beef Cattle has been so inconsiderable, that we have
been compelled to break in upon the salted Provisions which were

Since my Letter to you of the 28th. of Decr the supply of Beef Cattle has been so inconsiderable, that we have been compelled to break in upon the salted Provisions...

Source: <https://www.loc.gov/resource/mgw3c.004/?sp=73&st=text>

We're exploring more primary source documents: Oliver Phelps to George Washington.

Driving Questions: What were the relationships among Washington, Phelps and Pickering? How did this help Phelps with his land speculation business?

TO GEORGE WASHINGTON FROM OLIVER PHELPS, 2 MAY 1781

Sir

Boston May 2d 1781

I had the honor to receive the day before yesterday your Excellency's favour of the 16th Ulto I am sorry that Mr Blaine should have made any positive assurances, that the State of Massachusetts would furnish a regular supply of beef Cattle, which have turned out so greatly to your disappointment.

On my appointment I informed the Commissary-General, that I could not engage him more than sixty head by the week, and at the same time informed him, that as I had no fund for supplies but the specific tax laid on the several towns, I could make him no positive assurances—The beef required, and money in lieu thereof, has been paid in but very slowly by the towns, the weight of other taxes, almost intolerable, and the raising the new Recruits, who have on an average received two hundred dollars in specie as a bounty, rendered it impossible for them to raise the beef—However, knowing that the army must suffer, were the supplies to stop, I exerted myself as much as possible, for their support, and involved myself in debt untill I could move no further—I therefore made a representation of my embarrassments to his Excellency the Governor of this State near seven weeks ago, and on the meeting of the General Court did the same to them. a Committee was appointed to examine the state of my department, and provide a remedy if possible; fortunately for me your Excellencys letter reached me at the time they were considering the matter, and I laid the same before them—a temporary supply has been afforded me I expect to forward fifty head of Cattle by the 5th Instant, and am not without hopes, that the number required of us will be sent forward in future.

All the beef which I have received, since my appointment would not be sufficient to fill 2500 Barrels out of this I have been obliged to supply the several Issuing stores within the Common[] I have salted at Springfield 800 Barrels, four or five hundred of which has been delivered over to Mr Tuckerman the assistant of Colo. Hatch—the residue delivered to the Issuing Commisy there.

The greatest part of the beef salted at Barrington has been I am informed, sent to the Northward, by whose order I know not[.] I have also been obliged to send a drove or two of live Cattle to Albany, for the relief of the western Garrisons—I have had [no] orders from Mr Blaine in the matter, yet could wish to know how to conduct myself in future in this Respect.

Your Excellency may depend on that as far as the utmost exertions can be extended, nothing on my part shall be wanting to forward the supplies required; If Cash can be procured these will be no difficulty; provisions of every kind being plentier & cheaper than at the opening of the last Campaign. I have the honor to be your Excellencys most Obedient and very humble servant

Oliver Phelps

Save The Date: Saturday, May 21, at 10am.

The Sibbil Dwight Kent Chapter (Suffield & Windsor Locks) of The Daughters of The American Revolution (DAR) and the Suffield Historical Society will partner to install a Witness Stone Memorial for Titus Kent. An installation ceremony will be held in front of the Sidney Kent Legare Library (Suffield Academy) on High Street at 10am on Saturday, May 21.



Great News About Writing Tamer's Narrative for the AANB We will be working with Steven Niven, Executive Editor

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General Editors: Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham

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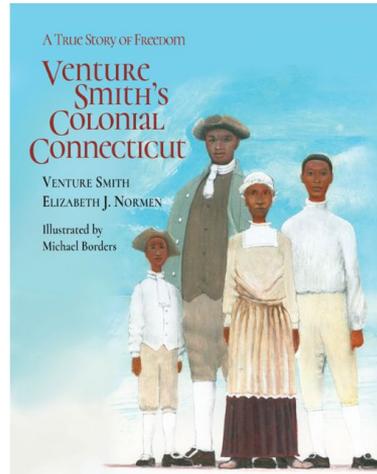
- [Purchase from Oxford University Press](#)
- [Visit the Oxford African American Studies Center](#)
- [Read an expanded version of Bruce Mouser's AANB biography of George Poage, the first African American Olympic medallist \(PDF\).](#)
- [Download the Contributor's Manual \(PDF\).](#)



Henry Louis Gates, Jr. is the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and Director of the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University.

Emmy and Peabody Award-winning filmmaker, literary scholar, journalist, cultural critic, and institution builder, Professor Gates's most recent books are *Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow* and *The Black Church: This Is Our Story, This Is Our Song*. He has also produced and hosted more than 20 documentary films, most recently *The Black Church* on PBS and *Black Art: In the Absence of Light* for HBO. *Finding Your Roots*, his groundbreaking genealogy and genetics series, is now in its eighth season on PBS.

Great News About Writing Tamer's Narrative. Elizabeth Normen wants our class to publish on her Venture Smith resource page.



Buy Single Copies

SOCIAL STUDIES — GRADES 5 - 8

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Link: <https://venturesmithcolonialct.org/>

Save the Date: 7pm on Monday, May 9th at the Kent Memorial Library

Michael Oberg Appointed SUNY Distinguished Professor

Thursday, May 14, 2015



Michael Oberg from SUNY Geneseo's Department of History and an internationally renowned scholar in Native American studies, has been appointed a SUNY Distinguished Professor by the SUNY Board of Trustees. **Oberg** is the sixth Geneseo faculty member to receive a SUNY Distinguished Professorship.

The prestigious honor is conferred upon faculty who have achieved national or international prominence and a distinguished reputation within the individual's chosen field through significant contributions to research and scholarship, or through artistic performance or achievement in the fine and performing arts. Oberg is a leading international authority on the intersection of colonial English and Native American societies. He has published six books and is under contract for two more in addition to a variety of seminal articles and other publications. He is a master ethnohistorian, who mines the scarce historical record for Native American voices, breaking new ground in much of his published work.

Check out Michael Oberg's blog: <https://michaelleroyoberg.com/>

Follow Our Witness Stones Project Instagram. Goal: inspiring curiosity & curating history to honor the humanity & contributions of enslaved people in Suffield, CT.



Historian James Loewen: “Telling the truth about the past helps cause justice in the present. Achieving justice in the present helps us tell the truth about the past.”

Source: https://www.instagram.com/witnessstonesproject_suffield/

Or type “@witnessstonesproject_suffield” into an Instagram Search Box

Any Questions?

Thank you to everyone who helped our work this year!



Venture Smith Day Festival Friends: Susi Ryan, Angi Perron, Corinne Henry Brady, and Dr. Karl Stofko. Elizabeth Normen, author of *Venture Smith's Colonial Connecticut*.

Suffield Historical Society: Art Sikes, Jackie Hemon, Jan Peake, Anne Borg, Dianne Seaman, Rick Seaman, Norm Noble, Jackie Hemond, Bob Stewart, Laurie Tavino, Barry Sisk, Chris Childs, Jennifer Yergeau, Sara Zak, Jim Reeves, Nancy Noble, and Lester Smith.

The Sibbil Dwight Kent Chapter (Suffield & Windsor Locks) of The Daughters of The American Revolution: Judy Hanmer, Ellen Banks, Liz Stanley and others.

Thank you to everyone who helped our work this year!



Lynn Mervosh, site administrator of the **Phelps-Hatheway House and Garden** and Aaron Marcavitch, Executive Director of CT Landmarks.

Kent Memorial Library: Jackie Hemond, and Wendy Taylor.

Suffield Academy: Lindsey Fava, Sidney Kent Legare Librarian, Sara Yeager, Dean of Academics and Faculty; Liz Warren, Cultural Diversity Director; Beth Krasemann, inquiry-based history teacher; Kelli Tosone, (former librarian, current college counselor); Josh Hillman, Chris Brown, critical friends.

Bryna O'Sullivan, proprietor of **Charter Oak Genealogy:** <https://charteroakgenealogy.com/>

Thank you to everyone who helped our work this year!



The Witness Stones Project: Patricia Wilson Pheanious, J.D., M.S.W, Chair of the Board of Directors; Dennis Culliton, Executive Director & Co-Founder of; Liz Lightfoot, Director of Operations. Susan and Ted Ruddocks. Dave Gauthier, Temporary Chair of the Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee and thoughtful, committed citizen.

Cliff McCarthy, Vice-President, **Pioneer Valley History Network**, Wood Museum of Springfield History & Stone House Museum, Belchertown.

Tonia Galban and Michael Galban from the **Ganondagan State Historic Site and Seneca Art & Culture Center**. Colin Calloway, Professor of History and Professor of Native American Studies at Dartmouth College. Michael Leroy Oberg, Distinguished Professor of History at SUNY-Geneseo.

Thank you to everyone who helped our work this year!



Special thanks goes to these organizations for this community program and our future installations of the Witness Stones Project.

- The Amiel P. Zak Public Service Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving for supporting this year's Witness Stones Project and partnership between the Sibbil Dwight Kent Chapter (Suffield & Windsor Locks) of The Daughters of The American Revolution and the Suffield Historical Society.
- The Greater Together Community Fund for the Town of Suffield at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving for supporting this year's collaboration with the Phelps-Hatheway House & Garden, the Suffield Historical Society, and the American Studies class at Suffield Academy.
- The Friends of Suffield Grant for supporting this year's Witness Stones Project.

Thank you to everyone who helped our work this year!



Restore History

Through research, education, and civic engagement, the **WITNESS STONES PROJECT, Inc.** seeks to restore the history and to honor the humanity and contributions of the enslaved individuals who helped build our communities.



Witness
STONES
Project™



Big shout-out to those who participated in the **Suffield Historical Society's Online Adult Education** class in the fall of 2000 as well as this past February when those folks returned and new community members joined our first ever, **Black History Online Adult Education** class.

Black History Online Education Class

Click here for more:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CZvkpcSu240/>

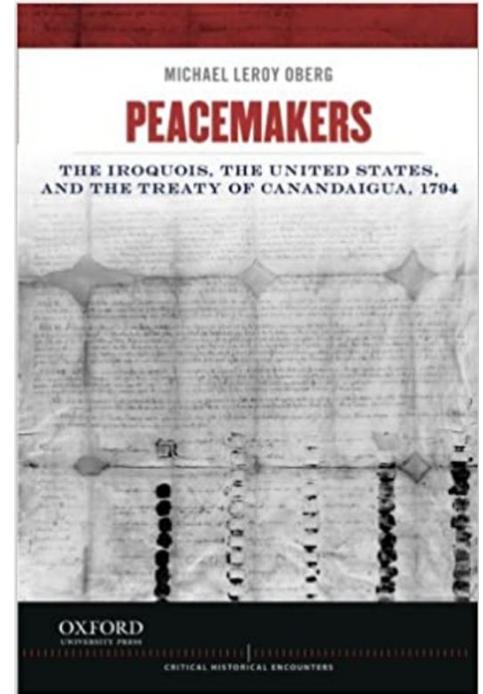
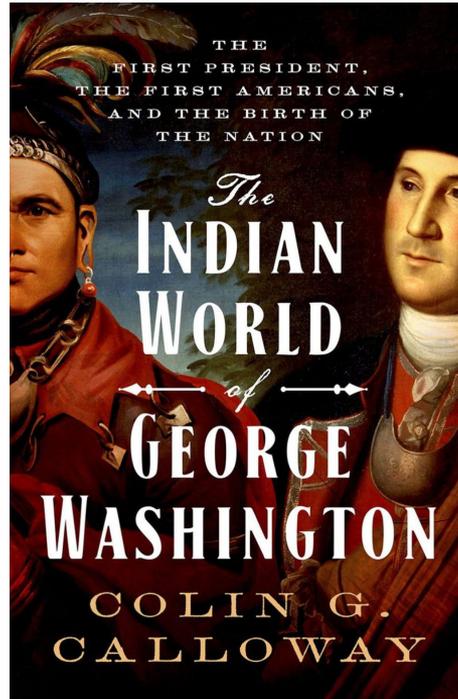
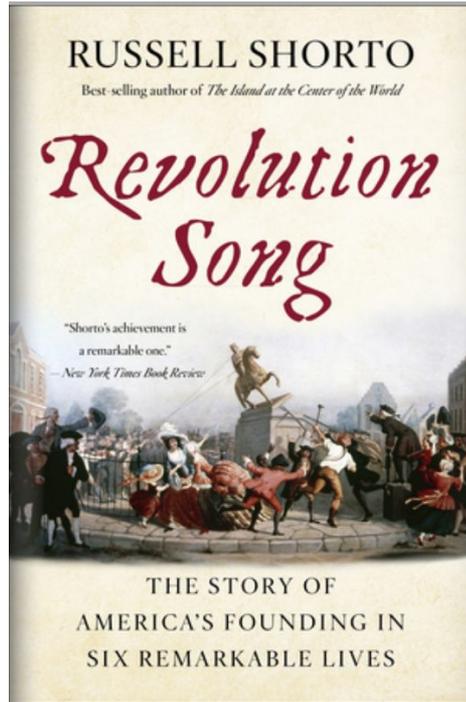


Black History Online Education Class
A Program by the
Suffield Historical Society
Bill Sullivan, SHS Trustee
bsullivan@suffieldacademy.org
Dennis Culliton, [Witness Stone Project](#)
Executive Director & Co-Founder

February 10, 17, 24: 8-8:45pm on Zoom

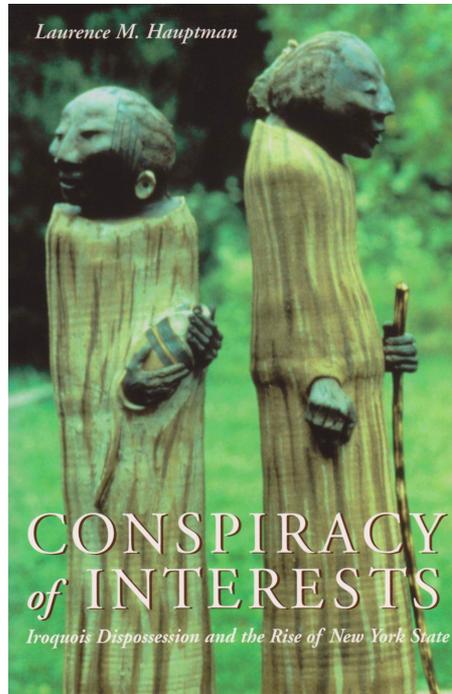
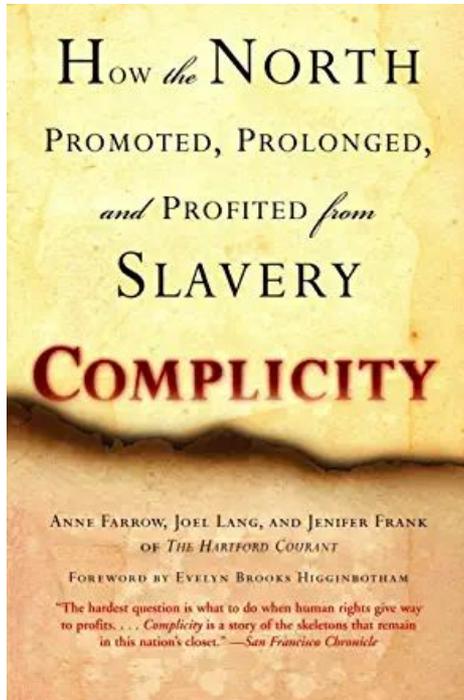
Resources That Helped Our Learning!

Please make a list of names and titles of everyone who helped our work.



Resources That Helped Our Learning!

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Resources That Helped Our Learning!



The Ganondagan Seneca Art & Culture Center, a New York State Historic Site located in Victor, NY, is a National Historic Landmark, the only New York State Historic Site dedicated to a Native American theme (1987), and the only Seneca town developed and interpreted in the United States. Please visit their webpage: <https://ganondagan.org/>