

MASSACHUSETTS *f · a · c · t · s*

A Review of the History, Government,
and Symbols of the Commonwealth



Published by
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Updated 03/14/23



The State Flag flying in front of the State House



Dear Citizen,

What is the longest river in Massachusetts? The State Bird? Or the number of State Parks? You don't have to be a trivia buff to seek out these answers. This publication, *Massachusetts Facts*, is a splendid documentation of superlatives.

First, *Massachusetts Facts* includes population, geographical and employment statistics, among others. Second, it highlights the "who's who" of government for your quick and easy access. Third, it lists over fifty official state symbols with a brief description of each. Fourth, a concise and informative historical sketch is designed to help you understand where we are and how we've evolved as a Commonwealth. Fifth, a complete section on the New State House and the state-of-the-art facilities present you with a competitive look at Massachusetts in this new millennium.

Finally, the publication includes some miscellaneous facts including "famous firsts" dating back to 1602 which describe how Massachusetts time and again was both a national and world leader in so many different ways.

I hope you enjoy this reading. At the very least, I sincerely trust that you will share the historical pride of being a Massachusetts citizen both now and in the years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Francis Galvin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

"Massachusetts Facts" was originally written and issued by the Division of Tourism of the Department of Commerce and Development (now the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism). Citizen Information Service, a division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth has revised and expanded the publication.

"Massachusetts" by Arlo Guthrie, copyright 1976, 1977.

We are grateful to Leventhal Management for permission to reprint the lyrics.

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MASSACHUSETTS 2023

Massachusetts is one of the original 13 states (6th) of the Union (February 6, 1788). Boston, the capital of Massachusetts since its founding, dates from 1630.

CAPITAL: Boston

MOTTO: Ense Petit Placidam Sub Libertate Quietem
(Translation: By the Sword We Seek Peace, But Peace Only Under Liberty)

NICKNAME: The BAY STATE or the OLD BAY STATE is the nickname most commonly attached to Massachusetts. She is also occasionally referred to as the Old Colony State, the Puritan State, and the Baked Bean State.

POPULATION: (2020 Census) 7,029,917 total.

Chief Cities with Populations:

Boston.....	675,647	New Bedford ...	101,079
Worcester	206,518	Brockton	105,643
Springfield.....	155,929	Quincy.....	101,636
Lowell	115,554	Lynn.....	101,253
Cambridge	118,403	Fall River.....	94,000

GEOGRAPHY

AREA: 8,257 sq. miles

LARGEST BODY OF WATER:
Quabbin Reservoir (39 sq. miles)

LONGEST RIVER: Charles River (80 miles)

HIGHEST ELEVATION: Mt. Greylock (3,491)

LOWEST ELEVATION: Atlantic Ocean (sea level)

NUMBER OF STATE PARKS: 107

LARGEST STATE PARK: October Mtn. State Forest, Lee
(16,300 acres)

**NUMBER OF NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARKS,
SEASHORES, & HISTORIC SITES:** 12

LARGEST NATIONAL AREA: Cape Cod National
Seashore (43,500 sq. acres)

FINANCE

From "The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Governor's Budget Executive Summary Financial Statements - Financial Statement for the fiscal year from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022

TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES: \$46,927,500

TOTAL BUDGETED REVENUES: \$48,040,900

GOVERNMENT

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

GOVERNOR: Maura Healey

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: Kim Driscoll

SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH:
William Francis Galvin

ATTORNEY GENERAL: Andrea Joy Campbell

TREASURER AND RECEIVER GENERAL:
Deborah (Deb) Goldberg

AUDITOR: Diana DiZoglio

LEGISLATURE

OFFICIAL NAME: General Court

SENATE: 40 members elected every two years

REPRESENTATIVES: 160 members elected every two years

HIGHEST COURT

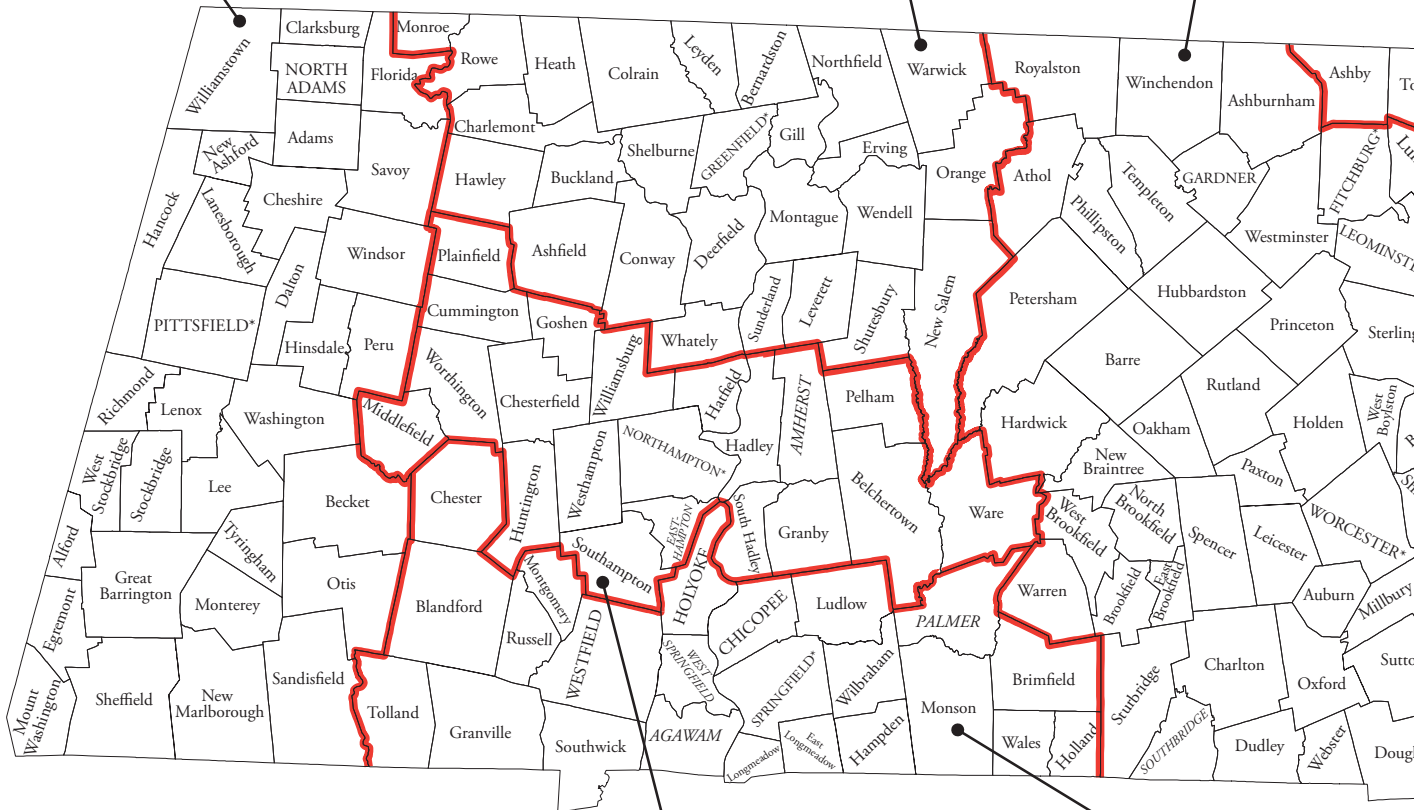
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT:

38th Chief Justice Kimberly S. Budd and six Associate Justices. All are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Executive Council.

Berkshire

Franklin

Worcester



Cities are in capital letters. * Indicates County Seat.

There are 14 Counties, with 39 cities and 312 towns.

There are thirteen communities that have applied for, and been granted, city forms of government, though they wish to be known as "The Town of". They are: *AGAWAM, AMHERST, BARNSTABLE, BRAINTREE, BRIDGEWATER, FRANKLIN, NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, PALMER, RANDOLPH, SOUTHBRIDGE, WEST SPRINGFIELD, WEYMOUTH* and *WINTHROP*. There are six communities that have been granted the title of city though they do not have wards; they are: *AMESBURY, EASTHAMPTON, FRAMINGHAM, GREENFIELD, METHUEN* and *WATERTOWN*.

The geographic center of Massachusetts is the Town of Rutland, Worcester County.

Oldest Town: Plymouth - 1620

Oldest City: Boston - 1822

Newest Town: East Brookfield - 1920

Newest City: GARDNER - 1923

Smallest by population: Town of Gosnold - 70, City of NORTH ADAMS - 12,961

Largest by population: Town of Brookline - 63,191, City of BOSTON - 675,647

Hampshire

Hampden



William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth

Citizen Information Service

(617) 727-7030 • 1-800-392-6090 (in Massachusetts only) • MassRelay: 1-866-887-6619 • www.sec.state.ma.us/cis

MASSACHUSETTS COUNTIES

Updated 2/22/2

Middlesex

Essex

Suffolk

Norfolk

Massachusetts Bay

Plymouth

Bristol

Cape Cod Bay

Barnstable

Buzzards Bay

Nantucket Sound

Dukes

Nantucket



'023 (population figures are based on the 2020 Census)

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CONCISE FACTS



"I shall enter on no encomium upon Massachusetts; she needs none. There she is. Behold her, and judge for yourselves. There is her history; the world knows it by heart. The past, at least, is secure. There is Boston and Concord and Lexington and Bunker Hill; and there they will remain forever".

- DANIEL WEBSTER, 1830

STATE/OFFICIAL SYMBOLS

NAME

MASSACHUSETTS takes its name from the Massachusett tribe of Native Americans, who lived in the Great Blue Hill region, south of Boston. The Indian term, roughly translated as, “at or about the Great Hill”.

There are, however, a number of interpretations of the exact meaning of the word. The Jesuit missionary Father Rasles thought that it came from the word Messatosec, “Great-Hills-Mouth”: “mess” (mass) meaning “great”; “atsco” (as chu or wad chu) meaning “hill”; and sec (sac or sacco) meaning “mouth”. The Reverend John Cotton used another variation: “mos” and “wetuset”, meaning “Indian arrowhead”, descriptive of the Native Americans’ hill home. Another explanation is that the word comes from “massa” meaning “great” and “wachusett”, “mountain-place”.

Massachusetts, like Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Kentucky, is called a “Commonwealth”.

Commonwealths are states, but the reverse is not true. Legally, Massachusetts is a commonwealth because the term is contained in the Constitution. In the era leading to 1780, when the state Constitution was ratified, a popular term for a whole body of people constituting a nation or state was the word “Commonwealth”. This term was the preferred usage of some political writers. There also may have been some anti-monarchic sentiment in using the word “Commonwealth”. The name, which in the eighteenth century was used to mean “republic”, can be traced to the second draft of the state Constitution, written by John Adams and accepted by the people in 1780. In this second draft, Part Two of the Constitution, under the heading “Frame of Government”, states, “that the people...form themselves into a free, sovereign, and independent body politic, or state by the name of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts”.

The people had overwhelmingly rejected the first draft of the Constitution in 1778, and in that draft and all acts and resolves up to the time between 1776 and 1780, the name “State of Massachusetts Bay” had been used. Thereafter, John Adams utilized the term “Commonwealth” when framing the Massachusetts Constitution. In his “Life and Works”, Adams, wrote: “There is, however, a peculiar sense in which the words republic, commonwealth, popular state, are used by English and French writers, who mean by them a democracy, a government in one centre, and that centre a single assembly, chosen at stated periods by the people and invested with the whole sovereignty, the whole legislative, executive and judicial power to be included in a body or by committees as they shall think proper”.

COAT OF ARMS

The COAT OF ARMS, according to legislative enactment, consist of “a shield having a blue field or surface with an Indian thereon, dressed in a shirt and moccasins, holding in his right hand a bow, and in his left hand an arrow, point downward, all of gold; and, in the upper corner of the field, above his right arm, a silver star with five points. The crest is a wreath of blue and gold, on which in gold is a right arm, bent at the elbow, clothed and ruffled, with the hand grasping a broadsword”. The shield’s shape is called “Plantagenet”; the Native American model used was of the Algonquin nation; the arrow points downward to indicate that the Indian is peaceful; and the star indicates that Massachusetts was one of the original thirteen states; it was sixth. The sword illustrates the Latin motto that is written in gold on a blue ribbon around the bottom of the shield: “Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietem”. This is the second of two lines written about 1659 by Algernon Sydney, English soldier and politician, in the Book of Mottoes in the King’s Library in Copenhagen, Denmark. It was adopted in 1775 by the Provincial Congress and means, “By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty”.

STATE SEAL

The STATE SEAL, adopted by Governor John Hancock and the Council on December 13, 1780 and made official by the General Court on June 4, 1885, is circular and bears a representation of the arms of the Commonwealth encircled with the words, “Sigillum Reipublicae Massachusettensis” (Seal of the Republic of Massachusetts). The final form of the seal was determined by a statewide contest.





Mayflower

STATE FLAG

The STATE FLAG is white, bearing on both sides a representation of the coat of arms like the state seal (except that the five-pointed star is white instead of silver). It was approved for the Commonwealth in its final form on July 3, 1971; before that, the obverse side depicted a green pine tree.

STATE FLOWER OR FLORAL EMBLEM

The MAYFLOWER (*Epigaea repens*), also commonly known as the ground laurel or trailing arbutus, has ovate hairy leaves and fragrant, pink or white, spring-blooming flowers with five petals. It grows in woods, preferring sandy or rocky soil, under or near evergreens. It was adopted as the official flower of the Commonwealth by the General Court on May 1, 1918. Unfortunately, since 1925 it has been on the endangered list.

STATE TREE OR TREE EMBLEM

The AMERICAN ELM (*Ulmus Americana*) was adopted as the state tree on March 21, 1941, to commemorate the fact that General George Washington took command of the Continental Army beneath one on Cambridge Common in 1775. It is a large tree with gray flaky bark. When growing in the forest it often attains a height of 120 feet, but in the open it is wide-spreading and of lesser height. The leaves are oval, and dark green, turning to a clear yellow in the autumn. The American Elm, like most elms, has been severely afflicted by Elm Disease.

STATE BIRD OR BIRD EMBLEM

The BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE (*Penthestes atricapillus*) was adopted as the state bird by the Massachusetts Legislature on March 21, 1941. It is also known as the titmouse, tomtit, and the dickybird, and it is one of the most familiar of the North American birds. It is from four to five inches in size, its tail accounting for nearly half its length. The general coloring is ashy-grey, the back having a brownish tinge; the crown, nape, chin, and throat are black, and the cheeks white. It nests in a stump, tree, or fence post close to the ground, and broods twice a year. It is a cheerful bird and has a pleasing call: "Chick-adee-dee-dee".



American Elm

STATE BEVERAGE

CRANBERRY JUICE was named the beverage of the Commonwealth on May 4, 1970. This was a tribute to the great Massachusetts cranberry industry.

STATE HORSE OR HORSE EMBLEM

The MORGAN HORSE (*Equus caballus morganensis*), descended from a little bay stallion born in West Springfield, MA, in 1789, who could outrun and outwork any horse brought against him. Named "Figure" by his owner, schoolteacher and singing master Justin Morgan, in later years he was known by his master's own name, "Justin Morgan". The gallant little horse died in Vermont in 1821 at the age of 32; the sturdy breed bearing his name was adopted as the state horse on May 14, 1970.

STATE INSECT OR INSECT EMBLEM

Most common in the state is the Two-Spotted Lady Beetle (*Adalia bipunctata*). Its head is black with pale yellowish margins; elytra reddish, with two black spots. The idea originated with a second-grade class in the Town of Franklin and the LADYBUG became the state insect on April 17, 1974.

STATE FISH OR FISH EMBLEM

The COD (*Gadus morrhua*). A soft-finned fish, usually 10-20 lbs. General coloring is olive grey with lateral lines paler than rest of body tint. Indians and Pilgrims used them as common food and fertilizer. A sculpture of a cod hangs in the House of Representatives as a tribute to this useful aquatic creature. For over 200 years, the emblem of the cod has remained a symbol of the Commonwealth's economic beginnings, as the fishing industry provided the Puritans with food, fertilizer, and revenue for trade. The Cod was approved as the state fish as of May 2, 1974.



Black-capped Chickadee

*Boston Terrier***STATE DOG OR DOG EMBLEM**

The BOSTON TERRIER (*Canis familiaris bostenensis*), the first purebred dog developed in America (1869), is a cross between an English bulldog and an English terrier. It was recognized by the Legislature on May 14, 1979 as the state dog or dog emblem of the Commonwealth.

STATE GEM OR GEM EMBLEM

RHODONITE is the most beautiful gem material found in the state. It varies in hue from a light pink to a deep rose or reddish pink and is associated with black manganese. It was adopted in 1979 as the gem or gem emblem of the Commonwealth.

STATE MARINE MAMMAL OR MARINE MAMMAL EMBLEM

The RIGHT WHALE (*Eubalaena galcialis*) got its namesake from whalers for being the “right” whale to hunt due to slow speed, surface feeding habits, buoyancy, and high profits in blubber products. By the late 1800’s it was critically endangered and became illegal to hunt. The RIGHT WHALE became the marine mammal or marine mammal emblem of the Commonwealth in 1980.

STATE FOSSIL OR FOSSIL EMBLEM

The DINOSAUR TRACKS in Massachusetts, which were made over 200 million years ago. In Granby, the prints of a theropod dinosaur fifty feet in length from head to tail (the first record of a theropod of such magnitude), were found. They were made the state fossil in May 23, 1980.

*Babingtonite***STATE MINERAL OR MINERAL EMBLEM**

Although the commonwealth is not overly blessed with mineral resources, Massachusetts is one of the few locations in the world where BABINGTONITE is found. This jet black material with a brilliant submetallic luster is the finest quality babingtonite found in America. The Legislature made this mineral the ‘state mineral’ of the Commonwealth on April 24, 1981.

SONG OF THE COMMONWEALTH

“ALL HAIL TO MASSACHUSETTS”, words and music by Arthur Marsh, was designated by an act of the Legislature on July 6, 1981 (informally “official song” since September 1966.)

FOLK SONG OF THE COMMONWEALTH

“MASSACHUSETTS”, words and music by Arlo Guthrie, was adopted by the Legislature on July 6, 1981 as the folk song of the Commonwealth.

OFFICIAL STATE POEM

On September 24, 1981, the General Court designated “THE BLUE HILLS OF MASSACHUSETTS” by Katherine E. Mullen of Barre as the official state poem of the Commonwealth.

STATE ROCK OR ROCK EMBLEM

The ROXBURY PUDDINGSTONE, sometimes called Roxbury Conglomerate, became the state rock or rock emblem of the Commonwealth on May 23, 1983.

STATE HISTORICAL ROCK

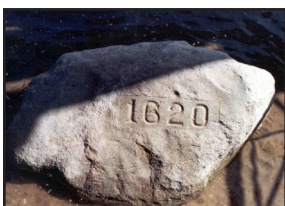
PLYMOUTH ROCK, although the Pilgrims did not actually land on it, has historical significance that led the Legislature to commemorate it on May 23, 1983.

STATE EXPLORER ROCK

DIGHTON ROCK was made the explorer rock of the Commonwealth on May 23, 1983.

STATE BUILDING AND MONUMENT STONE

GRANITE was made the building and monument stone of the Commonwealth on May 23, 1983. The last Ice Age did leave Massachusetts with exceptionally fine samples of this rock; granite from Quincy was used to build the Washington Monument.

*Plymouth Rock*



Corn Muffin

OFFICIAL HEROINE

DEBORAH SAMSON fought in the War of Independence under the name of Robert Shurtleff (also spelled “Shurtliff” and “Shurtleiff”) with courage, determination, and outstanding service, and rendered a unique contribution as a woman to American independence. Her masquerade remained undiscovered until she was wounded in battle. In later years, she travelled extensively, lecturing about her experiences, and a grateful nation gave her the first military pension ever awarded to a woman. The Governor annually issues a proclamation setting apart May 23 as an anniversary day to appropriately observe her enlistment in the Continental Army. The Legislature recognized her heroism on July 22, 1983. (Note: While “Sampson” is the generally used spelling, “Samson” has also been said to be correct and is the spelling used in the statute).

OFFICIAL CEREMONIAL MARCH

The song “THE ROAD TO BOSTON”, whose composer is unknown, has been the official ceremonial march of the Commonwealth since November 13, 1985.

OFFICIAL MUFFIN

The school children of Massachusetts petitioned for the CORN MUFFIN, a staple of New England cooking, and the Legislature made it official on May 27, 1986.

STATE SHELL

The NEW ENGLAND NEPTUNE (*Neptuna lyrata decemcostata*) was made the Shell of the Commonwealth on June 26, 1987.

OFFICIAL CAT

The TABBY CAT (*Felis familiaris*) was made the official state cat on July 11, 1988, in response to the wishes of the school children of Massachusetts.



Tabby Cat

PATRIOTIC SONG OF THE COMMONWEALTH

“MASSACHUSETTS (BECAUSE OF YOU OUR LAND IS FREE)”, words and music by Bernard Davidson, was made official on October 23, 1989.

OFFICIAL FOLK DANCE OF THE COMMONWEALTH

SQUARE DANCING became the official folk dance on April 8, 1990.

OFFICIAL SOIL

The PAXTON SOIL SERIES was adopted by the Legislature on July 10, 1990.

OFFICIAL VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL

The VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL was approved on December 11, 1990 and is located in the City of Worcester, Massachusetts.

OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF CITIZENS

On December 18, 1990, the Legislature decided that the people of the Commonwealth would be designated as BAY STATERS.

STATE GAME BIRD

The WILD TURKEY (*Meleagris gallopavo*), which was eaten at the first Thanksgiving, was designated the state game bird of the Commonwealth on December 23, 1991.



Wild Turkey

OFFICIAL SOUTHWEST ASIA WAR MEMORIAL

The SOUTHWEST ASIA WAR MEMORIAL was approved on June 2, 1993.

OFFICIAL BEAN

Cultivated plants and the colloquial names for them change over the centuries, but on June 23, 1993 the legislature finally determined that the NAVY BEAN had been the original bean in the famous and venerable Boston Baked Bean recipe.



Cranberries

STATE VESSEL

On January 13, 1994, the *SCHOONER ERNESTINA* was designated the official vessel of the Commonwealth, with New Bedford as its official homeport.

OFFICIAL BERRY

A fifth-grade class on the North Shore adopted the cause of making the *CRANBERRY* (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*) the official berry of the state. Their two years of lobbying, petitions, and hearings were finally rewarded on July 11, 1994.

OFFICIAL FOLK HERO

JOHNNY APPLESEED was designated the official folk hero of the Commonwealth on August 2, 1996. Applesseed was born John Chapman on September 26, 1774 in Leominster, MA and lived until 1845. An American pioneer and hero of folklore, he was nicknamed Johnny Applesseed due to his planting of apple trees from New England to the Ohio River Valley.

OFFICIAL DESSERT OR DESSERT EMBLEM

The *BOSTON CREAM PIE*, created in the 19th century, was chosen as the Commonwealth dessert on December 12, 1996. A civics class from Norton High School sponsored the bill. The pie beat out other candidates, including the toll house cookie and Indian pudding.

OFFICIAL COOKIE

The *CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE* was designated the official cookie of the Commonwealth on July 9, 1997. A third grade class from Somerset proposed the bill to honor the cookie invented in 1930 at the Toll House Restaurant in Whitman.



Boston Cream Pie

STATE GLEE CLUB SONG

The song “*THE GREAT STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS*”, words by George A. Wells, and music by J. Earl Bley, was designated the state glee club song of the Commonwealth on November 24, 1997.

OFFICIAL POLKA SONG

On October 1, 1998, “*SAY HELLO TO SOMEONE FROM MASSACHUSETTS*” by Lenny Gomulka was approved as the official polka of the Commonwealth.

OFFICIAL PEACE STATUE

In recognition of veterans who served in WWI, the *ORANGE PEACE STATUE* shall be the official peace statue of the Commonwealth as of February 25, 2000.

OFFICIAL KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL

Located in the Shipyard Park of the Charlestown Navy Yard, the *STATE KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL* was approved on April 7, 2000 for the Commonwealth.

OFFICIAL ODE

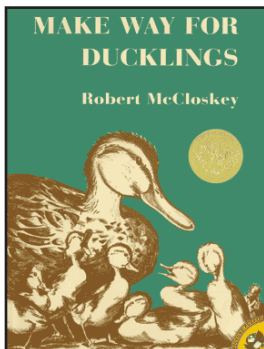
On November 22, 2000 the words and music of “*ODE TO MASSACHUSETTS*” by Joseph Falzone was approved as the official ode of the Commonwealth.

OFFICIAL MIA / POW MEMORIAL

The *STATE MIA/POW MEMORIAL* is located in the town of Bourne at the Massachusetts National Cemetery and was approved on July 3, 2002.

OFFICIAL CHILDREN’S BOOK

MAKE WAY FOR DUCKLINGS by Robert McCloskey was designated the official children’s book of the Commonwealth on January 1, 2003. The third grade class at the Dean S. Luce Elementary School in Canton sponsored the legislation.



Make Way For Ducklings

OFFICIAL CHILDREN’S AUTHOR AND CHILDREN’S ILLUSTRATOR

On January 1, 2003, author *THEODOR GEISEL*, better known as Dr. Seuss, was made the official children’s author and illustrator of the Commonwealth.



Bay State Tartan

OFFICIAL DONUT

In 2003 the BOSTON CREME DONUT was officially made the Commonwealth donut.

OFFICIAL DISTRICT TARTAN

On August 14, 2003, the BAY STATE TARTAN became the official district tartan of the commonwealth. Registered with the Scottish Tartans Authority, and may be viewed at www.tartansauthority.com/.

OFFICIAL COLORS

On February 21, 2005, BLUE, GREEN and CRANBERRY became the official colors of the Commonwealth.

OFFICIAL BLUES ARTIST

On February 8, 2006, musician HENRY ST. CLAIR FREDERICKS, better known as Taj Mahal, was approved as the official blues artist of the Commonwealth.

OFFICIAL SPORT

On August 8, 2006, BASKETBALL became the official state sport. Invented in 1891 by Springfield, Massachusetts teacher Dr. James Naismith.

OFFICIAL INVENTOR

On November 16, 2006, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN became the official inventor of the Commonwealth.

OFFICIAL REPTILE

The GARTER SNAKE became the official reptile of the Commonwealth on January 3, 2007.

OFFICIAL ARTIST

On February 21, 2008, NORMAN ROCKWELL became the official artist of the Commonwealth.



Garter Snake

STATE GLACIAL ROCK

On August 4, 2008, ROLLING ROCK located in the city of Fall River became the state glacial rock of the Commonwealth.

BIRTHPLACE OF NATIONAL GUARD

On August 11, 2011, SALEM became the birthplace of the National Guard for the Commonwealth.

OFFICIAL GROUNDHOG

On July 31, 2014 Ms. G. OF THE MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY was named the Official Groundhog of the Commonwealth and shall be utilized as a way to educate elementary school children on the importance of meteorology.

OFFICIAL RECREATIONAL AND TEAM SPORT

On July 31, 2014 VOLLEYBALL was named the Official Recreational and Team Sport of the Commonwealth.

OFFICIAL DINOSAUR

On April 29, 2022 Podokesaurus Holyokensis was named the Official Dinosaur of the Commonwealth.



*Podokesaurus
Holyokensis*

POLITICS

GOVERNMENT

The MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTION was ratified in 1780 while the Revolutionary War was still in progress, nine years before the United States Constitution was adopted. It is the oldest written Constitution now in use in the world. It specified three branches of Government: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The GOVERNOR is head of the executive branch and serves as chief administrative officer of the state and as commander-in-chief of Massachusetts's military forces. His or her responsibilities include preparation of the annual budget, nomination of all judicial officers, the granting of pardons (with the approval of the Governor's Council), appointments of the heads of most major state departments, and the acceptance or veto of each bill passed by the Legislature. Several Executive Offices have also been established, each headed by a Secretary appointed by the Governor, much like the President's Cabinet.

The Governor may recommend new policies for Massachusetts, new legislation, and changes in the administration of departments that conduct the government from day to day. He or she has the power to order out the National Guard to meet domestic emergencies, and is the state's chief spokesman with the federal government.

The Lieutenant Governor serves as Acting Governor in the absence, death, or removal of the Governor. He or she is by law a voting member of the Executive Council, except when presiding over it in the absence of the Governor.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL (also called the Executive Council) is composed of the Lieutenant Governor and eight councillors elected from councillor districts for a two-year term. It has the constitutional power to approve judicial appointments and pardons, to authorize expenditures from the Treasury, to approve the appointment of constitutional officers if a vacancy occurs when the Legislature is not in session, and to compile and certify the results of statewide elections. It also approves the appointments of notaries public and justices of the peace.

OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

The four other Constitutional Officers of Massachusetts are elected for four-year terms. They are listed in order of their succession to the Office of the Governor.

The SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH, Keeper of the Great Seal and custodian of the records of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has many responsibilities which include: the administration of elections, maintenance

of public records, filing and distribution of public documents, corporate registration, recordings of appointments and commissions, the storage of historical data, the preservation of historic sites, the administration and enforcement of the Massachusetts Uniform Securities Act, and information and referral on all aspects of state government.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL is the chief legal officer of Massachusetts and its chief law-enforcing agent. He or she advises and represents the government of the Commonwealth, rendering opinions upon the request of its officials and serving as its lawyer in all court proceedings. The Attorney General also consults with and advises the state's 11 district attorneys. Through his or her efforts in the areas of consumer and environmental protection, the office provides a voice for the average citizen.

The TREASURER AND RECEIVER-GENERAL is the custodian of all Massachusetts state funds and is the only party authorized to make payment of those funds. Every state agency must deposit receipts and revenues which it has received with the Treasurer. The Treasurer is responsible for the issuance of state bonds and for the investment policy of the state. The State Board of Retirement and State Lottery Commission are under his or her jurisdiction.

The AUDITOR of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is in charge of auditing the accounts of all state entities and related activities at least once every two years. Based on legal guidelines, the Auditor's Division of Local Mandates also determines whether the state or a municipality is responsible for a specific state-mandated service or program.

All of the Constitutional Officers serve on and work with Massachusetts boards and commissions.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

"The Great and General Court", elected every two years, is made up of a Senate of forty members and a House of Representatives of one hundred and sixty members. The Massachusetts Senate is the second oldest democratic deliberative body in the world. Each branch elects its own leader from its membership. The Senate elects its President; the House its Speaker. These officers exercise power through their appointments of majority floor leaders and whips (the minority party elects its leaders in a party caucus), their selection of chairs and all members of the joint committees, and in their rulings as presiding officers. Joint committees of the General Court are made up of six senators and fifteen representatives, with a Senate and House Chair for each committee. These committees must hold hearings on all bills filed. Their report usually determines whether or not a bill will pass. Each chamber has a separate Rules and a Ways and Means Committee and these are among the most important committee assignments.

MAKING A LAW

Surrounded by laws as we are, how do we enact a law? Any citizen of Massachusetts may file a bill through a state legislator. The bill is assigned to a committee, given a public hearing, and reported by the committee to the appropriate chamber with a recommendation to pass or defeat. An adverse committee report may be accepted by majority vote of the House or Senate and the matter is thus disposed of. Sometimes the House or Senate substitutes a bill for the adverse committee report. Bills coming from committee with a favorable report or substituted bills must take three readings in each branch, but are subject to debate only on the second or third readings.

When both chambers have passed the bill in exactly the same form, it is then printed for final passage and returns for the vote of enactment. If the bill is changed by amendments in one house, it must return to the originating house for concurrence. It may be killed by either house, or if the two houses cannot agree on its form it may go to a conference committee which works out a compromise.

Once a bill is enacted by both houses the Governor has ten days in which to act upon it. He or she may:

- a) Sign it and it becomes law (Usually to become effective in ninety days).
- b) Return it for reconsideration with an Executive Amendment.
- c) Veto it, requiring a two-thirds vote of both houses to pass it over his or her veto.
- d) Refuse to sign it. After ten days it becomes law unless the Legislature prorogues during that time. If this happens, the bill dies. This is called a “pocket veto”.

JUDICIAL BRANCH

Judicial appointments are held to the age of seventy. The Supreme Judicial Court, consisting of a Chief Justice and six Associate Justices, is the highest court in the Commonwealth; it is empowered to advise the Governor and the Legislature on questions of law. All trials are held in departments and divisions of a unified Trial Court, headed by a Chief Administrative Justice assisted by an Administrator of Courts. It hears civil and criminal cases. Cases may be appealed to the Supreme Judicial Court or the Appeals Court for review of law, but findings of fact made by the Trial Court are final. The Superior Court, consisting of a Chief Justice and sixty-six Associate Justices, is the highest department of the Trial Court. Other departments are the District, Housing, Juvenile, Land, and Probate Courts.

COUNTIES

The fourteen counties, moving roughly from west to east, are Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden, Worcester, Middlesex, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Bristol, Plymouth, Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket. Traditionally, each has been served by three County Commissioners with the exception of Nantucket and Suffolk. The five town selectmen of Nantucket serve as Commissioners; Suffolk's Commissioners are the Mayor and City Council of Boston.

Massachusetts has 14 counties which were regional administrative districts before the Revolutionary War. Over time the counties administered jails, health facilities, agricultural schools, registries of deeds and probate, county courthouses, county roads and extension services. The counties were funded by local communities and the Commonwealth.

In 1997, Middlesex county government was abolished followed by the abolition of Berkshire, Essex, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Suffolk and Worcester county governments. Their functions were turned over to state agencies. Sheriffs in these counties still administer jails but their employees are state employees. The legislation to abolish these county governments transferred registries of deeds to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Registers of Deeds and probate, sheriffs and district attorneys, even where county government has been abolished, are still elected in county political districts. In counties that have not been abolished or restructured, county commissioners and treasurers are still elected. It is important to understand that counties as geographical/political regions are not abolished or restructured; it is the government which is abolished and restructured.

Home rule legislation (since 1985) allows officials or voters in a county to establish a regional charter commission to study its government. The commission can submit one of three model charters for approval of voters in that county at a statewide election or it can submit a special charter that must first be approved by the state legislature.

Cities and towns may choose a Regional Council of Government charter that will be binding on those communities where a majority of voters in a city or town approve it. The regional council of governments can provide a variety of services to cities and towns, such as planning, public safety, engineering, water and waste disposal, and many other services. The participating communities pay assessments based on local property evaluation.

The legislature approved special charters to allow Franklin and Hampshire counties to become regional councils of government following the abolishment of certain county governments in 1996 and 1998. The “Cape Cod Regional Government” has been responsible for Barnstable county since

1988, and has not successfully sought legislative approval to changes in its charter. Northern Middlesex Council of Governments continues to provide planning and development assistance since 1963. Essex county is awaiting legislative approval to form a Council of Governments to streamline local governments and finances.

Bristol, Dukes, Nantucket, Norfolk, Plymouth and Suffolk county governments remain substantially unchanged.

The county level of government is not mentioned in the state Constitution and has been established by legislative action. No area of the Commonwealth is governed by a county, and as is usual in New England, county government is not a strong entity.

Note: Portions of this text provided by the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts whose website is at: lwvma.org/your-government/counties/

MUNICIPALITIES

The cities of Massachusetts are governed by MAYORS and CITY COUNCILS, but towns are usually governed by groups of officials called SELECTMEN. A Board of Selectmen is usually elected for a one-or-two-year term, and town meetings, a tradition from Colonial times, are still held regularly.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

In order to vote, you must be a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years old, and you must have been registered to vote in Massachusetts 20 days before the election. Massachusetts residents may pre-register to vote if they are 16 or 17 years old. Pre-registrants become registered voters when they turn 18.

STATISTICS

LEGAL HOLIDAYS

Note: Whenever a holiday falls on a Sunday it is observed on the following Monday.

January 1	New Year's Day
3rd Monday in January.....	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
3rd Monday in February.....	Washington's Birthday
3rd Monday in April.....	Patriots' Day
Last Monday in May.....	Memorial Day
June 19.....	Juneteenth
July 4	Independence Day
1st Monday in September	Labor Day
2nd Monday in October	Columbus Day
November 11	Veterans' Day
4th Thursday in November	Thanksgiving Day
December 25.....	Christmas

POPULATION AND AREA

Massachusetts, according to the 2020 United States census, has a population of 7,029,917. It has a gross area of 8,257 square miles and a net land area of 7,838, and ranks 15th in population and 45th in area among the states of the nation. It is divided into 14 counties, varying in size and population from Nantucket (area 50.34 sq. mi., pop. 14,255) to Worcester (area 1575.95 sq. mi., pop. 862,111) and Middlesex (area 844.21 sq. mi., pop. 1,632,002).

The 14 counties are made up of 39 cities and 312 towns, of which Boston with a population of 675,647 is the largest and Gosnold with a population of 70 is the smallest. More than half the state's total population lives in the Greater Boston area. Other Massachusetts cities over or approximating 100,000 population are:

1. Boston: 675,647	2. Worcester: 206,518
3. Springfield: 155,929	4. Cambridge: 118,403
5. Lowell: 115,554	6. Brockton: 105,643
7. Quincy: 101,636	8. Lynn: 101,253
9. New Bedford: 101,079	10. Fall River: 94,000

According to the 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, 16.9% of Massachusetts residents are 'foreign born'. Moreover, the seven largest ancestry groups of the total number of people who responded with a particular ancestry include: Irish (19.7%), Italian (12.0%), English (9.3%), French-except Basque (5.6%), German (5.6%), Polish (4.2%), and Portuguese (4.0%). In the 2020 Census, Hispanics or Latinos comprised 12.62%, Asians 7.18%, African Americans 6.50%, American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIAN) 0.13%, and Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders 0.02%, of the state.

BOUNDARIES

Massachusetts lies between the parallels of 41° 10' and 42 degrees 53' north latitude and between 69 degrees 57' and 73

degrees 30' west longitude. It has a shoreline of approximately 1,519 miles on the Atlantic Ocean, Massachusetts Bay, and Buzzards Bay. The state is 190 miles, east-west, and 110 miles, north-south, at its widest parts. The northern, or New Hampshire-Vermont border, runs almost due east and west for 135 miles; the western, or New York boundary, is 49 miles long. On the south, the state borders Connecticut for 91 miles and Rhode Island for 65 miles.

TIME

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is on United States Eastern Standard Time, and by law employs the Daylight Saving Plan, advancing the clock one hour at 2 a.m. on the second Sunday in March, and retarding it one hour at 2 a.m. on the first Sunday in November.

CLIMATE

The prevailing wind is from the west, with an average velocity of 10 to 13 miles per hour. Average monthly temperatures in Boston range from 28.2° in January to 72.0° in July. The lowest temperature recorded by the U.S. Weather Bureau in Taunton since its establishment (October 1870) was -18° in February 1934; the highest, 104° in July 1911. The last killing frost generally occurs before May 10, and the earliest fall frost usually comes in late September or early October. The normal annual precipitation is 44.23 inches.

TOPOGRAPHY

Massachusetts topography varies greatly; from the rocky shores, sandy beaches and salt marshes of the coast; through rolling hills, and fertile valley to lofty wooded hills in the western part of the state.

MINERALS

Although valuable mineral resources are not usually credited to Massachusetts, the mining of non-metallic minerals is a considerable industry within the state. Clay, lime, marble, sand and gravel, silica, quartz, granite, limestone, sandstone, slate, and traprock are all mined to a varying extent. From time to time small deposits of alum, asbestos, barite, feldspar, graphite, mica, peat, and semi-precious stones, such as beryl, aquamarine, and tourmaline have been worked. Test borings in the Narragansett Basin (southeastern Massachusetts) indicate the possibility of fairly substantial coal deposits.

There is no metal mining in Massachusetts, but ores of copper, gold, iron, lead, silver, zinc, and other metallic minerals have at times been discovered.

Dolomitic marbles are found in Ashley Falls, West Stockbridge, and Lee, all in Berkshire County. Verd antique is quarried near Westfield, in Hampden County. The Quincy quarries produce monumental granite (including that used for the Washington Monument), while building granites come chiefly from Milford, West Chelmsford, Becket, and Fall River. Diatomite, a hydrous or opaline form of silica is found in South Framingham. Mineral production within the state

was valued at \$101,100,000 in 1984. The valuation was based on returns from clay, lime, sand, and stone (mostly granite and basalt).

SOIL

Massachusetts soils vary widely in color and in character. Broadly speaking, the uplands contain an abundance of mineral matter, while more or less organic matter is present in the lowlands.

The western region is hilly and is separated by the Connecticut River Valley from a central upland plateau region which slopes to the Atlantic coast. Except on Cape Cod where there are long stretches of sandy, treeless flats, almost all of the land was originally covered with dense forests. Even after the forests were cleared or thinned, however, the soil did not yield readily to cultivation by the early farmers, and their skill and patience were taxed heavily before it became productive. The most arable soil is found in the broad Connecticut Valley in the west-central part of Massachusetts. Rich alluvial deposits are found in the fertile river valleys.

On the whole, Massachusetts soils yield profitably when production is carried on under modern procedures. Even the sandy soils on Cape Cod have been made extremely fruitful when farmed by skillful agriculturists.

FARMING

Major farm products, on the basis of income, are milk, nursery and greenhouse, eggs, vegetables, cattle, hogs, sheep, cranberries, and fruit. According to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, the total cash receipts from farm marketings in 2012 were \$515,600,000 of which greenhouse/nursery accounted for 31%, fruit/vegetables 19%, cranberries 20%, milk, livestock/poultry 19%, and other crops 11%.

KEY INDUSTRIES

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts remains a vibrant and attractive area for industry. According to the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, she attracts creativity in the arts, defense technology, financial services, information technology, the life sciences and biotechnology, manufacturing as well as maritime commerce. The Commonwealth has a rapidly growing film industry with over twenty-one productions filmed recently. The financial service industry ranks as the third largest industry sector in the state and ranks third in the country in asset management jobs and investment. Massachusetts continues to be a global leader in the life sciences with its world-class academic institutions. Manufacturing also has a rich and diverse history and is the fourth largest employer in the state. It continues to be a growth industry where the Commonwealth has increased productivity twice as fast as the average manufacturer in the country since 1997.

RIVERS

There are 4,230 miles of rivers within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The largest is the Connecticut, which flows from north to south. Its tributaries are the Deerfield, Westfield, Chicopee, and Miller's rivers. In the far western part of the state the Housatonic River flows south and the Hoosic River flows north between the Hoosac and Taconic mountain ranges.

The Merrimack River, in the northeast, rises in New Hampshire and empties into the Atlantic Ocean. It is navigable for shipping up to a distance of about 15 miles from its mouth. The Nashua and Concord rivers are tributaries of the Merrimack. The Blackstone River flows south from the center of Massachusetts. The Mystic and Charles rivers flow into Boston Harbor, and the Taunton River enters Mount Hope Bay at Fall River.

LAKES

Massachusetts has more than 1,100 lakes and ponds. The largest of these, Quabbin Reservoir (24,704 acres) and Wachusett Reservoir (4,160 acres) are manmade. These two reservoirs will provide Metropolitan Boston with most of its water for many years to come.

Among those of natural origin, the largest are Assawompsett Pond (2,656 acres) in Lakeville and Middleborough, drained by the Taunton River; North Watuppa Pond (1,805 acres) and South Watuppa Pond (1,551 acres) in Fall River and Westport, drained by the Quequechan River; Long Pond (1,361 acres) in Lakeville and Freetown, drained by the Taunton River; Lake Chargoggagommanchaugagochaubunagungamaug – usually and mercifully called Lake Webster (1,188 acres) – in Webster, drained by the French River; Herring Pond (1,157 acres) in Edgartown on the island of Martha's Vineyard; Great Quittacas Pond (1,128 acres) in Lakeville, Rochester and Middleborough, drained by the Taunton River; Lake Quinsigamond (1,051 acres) in Worcester, Shrewsbury, and Grafton; and Monponsett Pond (756 acres) in Halifax and Hanson, drained by the Taunton River.

ISLANDS

Lying off Cape Cod are Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, and the Elizabeth Island group.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD, triangular in shape, is about 19 miles long and less than 10 miles in width. It contains the towns of Edgartown, Chilmark, Tisbury, West Tisbury, Aquinnah, and Oak Bluffs.

NANTUCKET, also roughly triangular, about 15 miles long and from three to four miles wide, was once famed for its whaling industry. Both Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket are now popular summer destinations.

THE ELIZABETH ISLANDS are a group of about 22 small islands lying between Vineyard Sound and Buzzards Bay. On

one of those, Cuttyhunk, Bartholemew Gosnold established a colony in 1602, abandoning it the same year.

THE BOSTON HARBOR ISLAND group includes The Four Brewsters, Bumpkin, Calf, Deer, Gallop's, George's (used for thousands of Confederate prisoners of war during the Civil War), Grape, The Graves, Green, Hangman, Long, Lovell's, Nixes Mate, Peddock's, Raccoon, Rainsford, Sheep, Slate, Spectacle and Thompson. Some islands have been made part of the mainland by the great amount of landfill that has gone on over the years. Governor's Island, where the first apple and pear trees in America were planted, is now a part of Boston's Logan International Airport. Most of the islands have been used for farming, resort-recreation areas, public facilities, or fortifications.

MOUNTAINS

Massachusetts' landscape was extensively re-formed during the last Ice Age; the only substantial ranges left are the Berkshire Hills and the Blue Hills.

Mount Greylock, altitude 3,491 feet, in Berkshire County, is the highest mountain in Massachusetts. Other important mountains are Mount Williams (2,951 feet) in North Adams; East Mountain (2,660 feet) in Hancock; Mount Everett (2,602 feet) in Mt. Washington; Spruce Hill (2,588 feet) in Adams; Mount Frissel (2,453 feet) in Mt. Washington; Potter Mountain (2,391 feet) in Lanesboro; French Hill (2,214 feet) in Peru; and Mount Wachusett (2,006 feet) in Princeton.



HISTORICAL SKETCH



"...devotion to and distinction in history [is] the mark of a special philosophical attitude, one that reflects the passing scene against the background of the past, connects each generation with something bigger than itself, links past, present and future in a meaningful continuum, and by recalling the indebtedness of the present to the past, dramatizes the responsibility of the present to the future: those who are history-conscious are generally posterity-conscious."

- HENRY STEELE COMMAGER

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Archaeological excavations in Massachusetts reveal that the earliest human beings arrived here more than 10,000 years ago. Archaeologists call these earliest settlers “Paleo-Indians”. They are the ancestors of today’s Native Americans or Indians. The descendants of the Paleo-Indians lived in small, mobile groups, hunting, gathering, and fishing. Over thousands of years, their numbers grew and they began to manage their environments and ultimately to farm, growing corn, beans, squash, and other plants for food and medicine, as well as hunting and fishing according to the seasons. They invented a sophisticated technology appropriate to their forested habitat, which included tools of chipped or ground stone, wooden implements, ceramics, textiles, leather, basketry, dome-shaped houses known as wetus or wigwams, and maneuverable canoes. They established social, political, and religious institutions embedded in family, clan, community, and the natural and supernatural worlds.

At the time of earliest European contact (around 1500 A.D.) tens of thousands of Native Americans made their homes in Massachusetts. They were speakers of a variety of dialects and languages, all of which were part of the Algonquian language family and lived in many communities among which some of the best known were the Massachusett, Wampanoag, Pennacook, Mahican (Stockbridge), Pocumtuck, and Nipmuck. Their settlements and hunting grounds were spread across the entire state from easternmost Cape Cod (Nauset) to the western mountains (Housatonic). Tragically, early European travelers introduced new diseases to which the Indians had no natural immunities. The first recorded epidemics began in coastal Massachusetts in 1616 and 1617, and devastated populations by as much as 90%. When the Pilgrims arrived in 1620 they found many areas abandoned. Plimoth plantation itself was established on the site of Patuxet, a depopulated Native American settlement. Disease and war took a heavy toll of Native American lives during the remainder of the seventeenth century. Despite decades of oppression and poverty, Native American communities persevered and continue to this day. They are a deeply rooted, vigorous part of the diverse mix of peoples that comprise twenty-first century Massachusetts.

European history in Massachusetts begins with adventurous explorers, who roved about the coast of Massachusetts

centuries before the MAYFLOWER made its famous voyage. There is a legend that Leif Ericson and his Norsemen touched here in the year 1000, and probably fishermen from France and Spain, bound for the teeming waters off the Grand Banks, stopped now and again to cast their nets for cod. In 1497 and 1498 John Cabot carried through the explorations upon which England based her original claim to North America. Other occasional landings were made by voyagers seeking a new route to the fabled treasures of the exotic East, and occasionally abortive plans for colonization took vague shape. In 1602 Bartholemew Gosnold explored the bay and christened Cape Cod for the fish that swarmed about it. Twelve years later John Smith wrote of his New England journeyings with a fervor that stirred the blood of discontented English farmers, describing “Many iles all planted with corne; groves, mulberries, salvage gardens and good harbours”. A second enthusiast, William Wood, in 1634 contributed his “New England Prospect” to the growing travel literature of the New World. There was talk in Europe of the wealth that lay here and the trade that might be established; but the first important movement toward settlement originated not in material but in religious aspirations.

The Pilgrims, seeking religious freedom, set sail for North America. After approximately 65 days at sea their first landing was in what is now Provincetown harbor on Saturday, the 11th of November 1620. The Pilgrims spent a few weeks exploring the surrounding area before deciding to cross the bay establishing their colony in Plymouth December 2, which they had chosen under the influence of Smith’s “A Description of New England”. There they set up a democratic government in accordance with the terms of the famous “Mayflower Compact”, an agreement binding all to conform to the will of the majority. In spite of great hardship, the Pilgrim settlement prospered (the local Wampanoag, including the English-speaking Squanto and Chief Massasoit, were very helpful), and in 1621 the first Thanksgiving was observed. Gradually small fishing and trading stations were established, notably at Wessagusset (Weymouth), Quincy, and Cape Ann.

More important, however, was the arrival of the Puritans, who were also determined to find a place where their religious views and practices would be free from persecution. In 1628 a shipload of emigrants led by John Endicott left England for Salem to join Roger Conant’s band of refugees from the abandoned fishing station on Cape Ann, which had been originally formed in 1623 as the “Dorchester Company”



by Rev. John White. It had originally consisted of a group who came to be called the “Old Planters”, and included Richard Norman, John Balch, Peter Palfrey, Walter Knight, and John Woodbury. The company was not successful as a fishing station, so it was abandoned and some of the members returned to England. The remaining settlers, including John Woodbury, moved in 1626 from Cape Ann further south to Salem, then called “Naumkeag”. In 1627 Woodbury was chosen to return to England to try and obtain a charter for Rev. White’s supporters. On March 19, 1628, a royal charter was granted to the Massachusetts Bay Company, to promote the settlement of the territory “from sea to sea” that had been granted to the Puritans, and to govern its colonies. The charter given to the Company was the foundation of the government of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. It provided for a General Court which was a single body, of which the Court of Assistants was an integral part. Later the Court of Assistants separated from the General Court and became America’s first elected Upper House.

COLONIZING

When John Winthrop and a large group of Puritans arrived at Salem in 1630, bearing with them the prized charter, a self-contained English colony, governed by its own members, was assured. Winthrop moved from Salem to Charlestown and thence to Boston, other settlements were founded, and by 1640 the immigrants in Massachusetts numbered 16,000, all seeking greater opportunity and a free environment for their dissentient religious views. Many also felt it their mission to “civilize” the land and its people; the seal of the Massachusetts Bay Colony shows a Native American saying “Come Over and Help Us”.

The colonizing movement spread rapidly along the coast and then westward; those who were restless and rebellious against the rigid rule of the ministers went out into what are now other New England states, founding towns based upon the Massachusetts pattern. Small-scale farming was the fundamental way of earning a living, and compact settlements with outlying fields grew up around the central green, which is a characteristic of old New England towns. The long winters gave leisure for handicraft, and “Yankee ingenuity” first showed itself in the variety of products the farmers turned out to supply their own and their neighbor’s needs. The most enduring feature of the community pattern was the town meeting, in which every taxpayer had equal voice. In evolving that most democratic of governmental procedures, Massachusetts contributed greatly to the political development of the nation.

BAY COLONY

The Massachusetts Bay Colony worked out its problems without interference from across the sea until 1660, when the Stuarts were restored to the throne. Thereafter, a policy of stricter control was instituted. Massachusetts stoutly resisted all attempts at regulation from abroad, and consequently lost its charter in 1684, becoming a part of the Dominion of New

England under the administration of Sir Edmund Andros. Massachusetts continued to oppose the will of the Crown for four years. When James II fled in 1688 the Puritans failed in their attempt to revive the Massachusetts Bay Company, and Massachusetts, in 1691, became a Royal Province under a Governor appointed by the Crown. Two legislative houses were permitted, however, and the requirement that every voter must be a church member was abolished.

The new restrictions incidental to the status of a Royal Province, applied in Massachusetts and elsewhere, provoked the series of controversies that culminated in the Revolutionary War. During the end of the seventeenth century and the beginning of the eighteenth century, Massachusetts grew in population and in maritime trade. These were the years of the so-called Second Hundred Years’ War between France and England. In these wars, 1688-1760, Massachusetts played an important part. Its crowning feat was the capture in 1745 of the fortress of Louisburg on Cape Breton Island (NS), a fortress so strong it was known as the Gibraltar of America. At the same time, Massachusetts’ maritime trade, especially with Caribbean ports, rose to the point that Boston was known as “The Mart (or market town) of the West Indies”.

REPRESSIVE MEASURES

Lax enforcement of the restrictive laws, due to the fact that England was engrossed through much of the eighteenth century by a series of wars with France, gave Massachusetts a breathing spell. The conduct of the colonies, however, in carrying on trade with the enemy during these struggles of the mother country, and their failure to pay a fixed share of the war’s expenses finally brought about a stricter colonial policy. The Sugar Act (1764) almost abolished the foreign trade upon which Massachusetts depended for its gold; the Stamp Act (1765) taxed out of the colony most of the funds remaining to her. Rioting and boycotts brought about the repeal of the Sugar Act in 1766, but other repressive measures followed and the people of Massachusetts were active in their defiance of each new imposition.

The “Boston Massacre” of March 5, 1770, when British soldiers of the garrison stationed in that recalcitrant town fired upon a taunting crowd of citizens, was an ominous portent of the Revolution to come. When the Tea Act was passed in 1773 it gave overwhelming subsidies, by means of a tax rebate, to the East India Company. Samuel Adams organized and directed a group of Bostonians, disguised as Indians, and dumped the cargoes of three East India Company ships into Boston Harbor. England retaliated by closing the Port of Boston and by other “Intolerable Acts”, and the colonial patriots called a Continental Congress that ordered a general boycott of English goods. On April 19, 1775, the embattled farmers, warned by the historic rides of Paul Revere and William Dawes, engaged the British regulars at Lexington and Concord, firing “the shot heard round the world”. There followed the siege of Boston, the “glorious defeat” at the Battle of Bunker Hill, and on March 17, 1776, the British

evacuation. Massachusetts, where the first blood of the Revolution was shed, had won the first important victory. hereafter, the State had no enemy troops within its borders.

POST-WAR PROBLEMS

With independence came the post-war problems of government, social, and economic progress without, for the first time in history, the English Parliament's guidance. After several years of friction under an unsatisfactory Executive Council, which did not properly represent the people, a Constitutional Convention drew up a Constitution drafted in the main by John Adams, and the people ratified it on June 15, 1780. Massachusetts originated the Constitutional Convention and insisted on separate popular ratification of every article in the original Constitution and of every subsequent amendment. The Constitution of Massachusetts is the oldest written Constitution in the world still in effect.

After a period of economic depression and political discontent, the Federal Constitution was adopted, and under the presidency of Washington, Massachusetts prospered and expanded her foreign commerce both by entering upon the renowned and immensely profitable China trade and by acquiring, after 1793, much of the carrying trade formerly shared between England and France, then at war.

The Commonwealth remained affluent and satisfied with the state of the nation throughout Washington's administration and through Jefferson's first term. After his re-election, however, the President imposed the Embargo Act as retaliation for the interference of France and England with American shipping. Maritime Massachusetts suffered more than any other state. Worse was to come, for the war of 1812 put a complete stop to her ocean trade, and the Commonwealth opposed "Mr. Madison's War" until its conclusion in 1815.

A NEW ERA

Then began a new era, the gradual development of the industrial interests that were eventually to absorb the capital and enterprise heretofore devoted almost entirely to commerce. During the Embargo and the War of 1812 the American States had been forced to manufacture essential goods, which could not then be brought across the sea from England. In 1816 a protective tariff was enacted to shield the infant industries from foreign competition. Gradually manufacturing became more and more concentrated in New England and particularly in Massachusetts. Waterpower was plentiful, the labor of farmers trained in handcraft was available, and capital was looking for new investments. In 1814 Francis Cabot Lowell set up his perfected power loom in Waltham, and the textile

industry, which was to transform Lawrence, Lowell, Fall River, New Bedford, and other cities into great manufacturing centers, was off to a flying start.

The opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 accelerated the decline of agriculture. Products from the fertile West now moved cheaply and rapidly to New England, and competition was difficult. Massachusetts farmers went West or left their farms for the factories. Young women were also employed in great numbers in the factories, for the first time; this allowed women to be more accepted in public life, and later, in political activism.

Dismayed by the westward movement of its people, the Commonwealth attempted to stay the trend by reforming governmental and religious affairs.

The Constitutional Convention of 1820 liberalized the Constitution in a number of ways, giving the people a greater voice in their government, and in 1833 another Constitutional Amendment completely separated Church and State. The course of government had moved nearer to the goal of a democratic people.

INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITY

The early decades of the nineteenth century were marked by vigorous intellectual activity. Emerson, Thoreau, and their followers were preaching the Transcendentalist theory of the innate nobility of man and the doctrine of individual expression. Social strivings were exemplified in the campaign of Horace Mann for universal education and in the crusade of Dorothea L. Dix on behalf of the mentally disturbed. Colonies of idealists gathered here and there, notably at Brook Farm, in West Roxbury, seeking to demonstrate that the sharing of labor and the fruits of labor was the ideal basis for community living. Minds teemed with ideas for social progress.

Out of this lively intellectual ferment came the abolitionist fervor. In 1831, William Lloyd Garrison, a most ardent and uncompromising foe of slavery, founded his weekly, "The Liberator". The next year the New England Anti-Slavery Society was formed in Boston. Prominent men and women of this society helped slaves to escape to Canada by means of the "Underground Railway", and a reforming spirit dominated the Commonwealth throughout the years until the conclusion of the Civil War. To that war, Massachusetts gave men and money without stint, including the first African-American regiments to be mustered.

The post-war years were devoted primarily to the expansion of industry. The Port of Boston was now depending mainly upon the increasing volume of imported raw materials that its factories required. The Commonwealth continued to net large



sums from its fisheries, concentrated mainly in Boston and Gloucester after the decline of New Bedford whaling, but its living henceforth came largely from machines.

PROSPEROUS INDUSTRY

At the close of the century Massachusetts factories produced more than one-third of the nation's woolen goods, and Fall River, Lawrence, Lowell, and New Bedford were preeminent in cotton textiles. The boot and shoe industry and the associated industry of leather tanning spread by leaps and bounds, until by 1900 the factories of Lynn, Brockton, Haverhill, Marlborough, Worcester, and other Massachusetts cities were making about half the boots and shoes produced in the entire country.

Much of the basic pattern of the Bay State's continuing success was woven during this period. Machinery of all kinds became increasingly important and large plants were established for its manufacture. These plants employed thousands of workers, a large percentage of whom were highly skilled. Industrial diversification plus a large reservoir of expert workers have played major roles in maintaining the status of Massachusetts as an important segment of the country's economy.

The floods of immigrants that had rolled in since the early nineteenth century, drawn here by the industrial opportunities, transformed the once predominantly English population into a mixture of national groups. In 1930 the inhabitants of Massachusetts numbered 4,249,614, of whom 65.04% were either foreign-born or of foreign or mixed parentage. Into the Puritan Commonwealth, enriching it with their varied Old World cultures, came new Americans from most countries of the world. Finns, Letts, Lithuanians, and Turks joined the Scots and Irish who had arrived in large numbers before the Civil War; French, Italians, Poles, Portuguese, Germans, and Slavs came around the turn of the century. (In recent years, numbers of people from Asia, Latin America, Africa, and others from the Indian Subcontinent and the Caribbean have come to cast their fortunes along with the descendants of those first immigrants, the Pilgrims and the Puritans).

PROGRESSIVE LAWS

New ways of living, new types of citizens, brought fresh problems for the Commonwealth to solve. The General Court enacted laws, more progressive for their day than any in the nation, to prevent the exploitation of women and minors, and to guard the health of all workers. The civil rights laws of Massachusetts were also quite progressive at an early stage. However, although many prominent suffragettes came from Massachusetts (Susan B. Anthony and Lucy Stone among them), the Commonwealth was still debating the full enfranchisement of women when the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution rendered the question moot.

The public school system soon became established in every village and city; and Massachusetts also attained a high degree of fame for its many universities and colleges. Public libraries,

which by the turn of the century had been established in every Massachusetts community, and many museums, some of national repute, provided important educational and cultural advantages.

INDUSTRIAL EVOLUTION

Industry, which had expanded to meet the demands of World War I, continued to spiral until 1929 when the nationwide depression began. The trend toward decentralization and the movement of industry nearer to the sources of raw materials slowed recovery in the years that followed.

By 1939, however, when World War II began in Europe, the economy had returned to normal. Massachusetts was again profiting by two of her major assets, skilled labor and proximity to major markets. World War II expanded the economy to levels never before attained.

Employment after World War II remained high. Workers were busy in ever-widening fields and new industries were attracted by the unsurpassed research facilities in Massachusetts.

The Korean War kept industry stimulated, and activity continued after the war was over, maintaining a high level of employment.

During the early years of the war in Vietnam, the economic future of the Commonwealth appeared to lie in the military and aero-space industries. By the end of the 1960s, however, de-escalation of the war and a cutback in funds for the space program made it evident that new industrial markets would have to be found.

The latter part of the seventies saw the leadership trend of Massachusetts in more sophisticated and efficient manufacturing methods become apparent in the evolution of segments of the manufacturing industry known as high technology, once again demonstrating the Commonwealth's proficiency in adapting new techniques developed by research.

THE FUTURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A large pool of educated people, a fortuitous economic atmosphere, and perhaps some of the old Yankee entrepreneurial spirit fueled an economic boom in Massachusetts in the mid-1980s, mostly in the high-tech industries. Unemployment rates were among the lowest in the nation; many ambitious social and environmental programs were begun; and Route 128, a road encircling Boston, earned its title as "America's Technology Highway" as high-technology companies continued to cluster there. However, in the late 1980s, an economic decline struck Massachusetts and the rest of the Northeast, forcing a retrenching and reappraisal of the government and economy of the state. This cycle is a phenomenon that Massachusetts has encountered often in its long history. Fortunately, Massachusetts is not standing still. Logan International Airport and improvements in the Port of Boston have made Boston one of America's premier transport centers. The Export Program takes advantage of

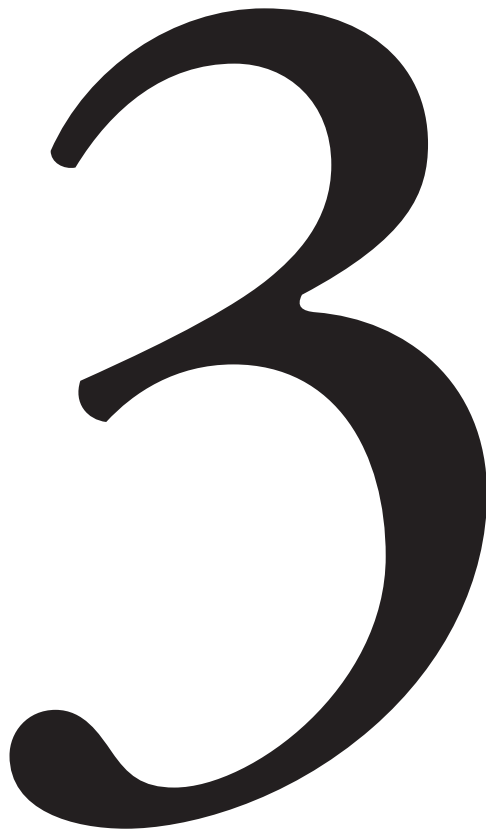
the Commonwealth's trading potential with Canada, which signed a treaty fully opening trade with the U.S. in 1988, with Europe, whose economic borders now have disappeared within the European Economic Community created in 1992, and with other nations as well. Newer industries such as biotechnology, biomedicine, artificial intelligence, marine sciences, and polymer technology are being strengthened, many in conjunction with the Centers of Excellence program, an ambitious mutual support network of government, business, and academia. Indeed, the Commonwealth's more than eighty colleges and universities, its still impressive industrial capacity, its environmental study institutions, and its world-renowned medical centers are reasons for Massachusetts to be optimistic about its future in a changing world.

Massachusetts has undergone a profound economic transition over the past ten years. While the old manufacturing base lost much of its competitive edge, the state adapted - by necessity as much as by choice - to a "New Economy" characterized by knowledge-intensive production, high-tech innovation, and global trading. During the 1990s, especially between 1993 and 2000, great statewide economic expansion occurred. The Commonwealth expanded its export sector in the following industries: information technology, financial services, knowledge creation, health care, traditional manufacturing and travel and tourism.

Massachusetts continues to have an abundance of assets in the area of entrepreneurship and innovation. The Commonwealth attracts substantial venture capital (VC) investment that supports the creation of new business ventures. Much of this investment leverages the state's solid knowledge creation network, comprised of universities, laboratories, incubators, angel investors, and supporting service firms. The state is also a leader in attracting federal investments in research and development (R&D).

Indeed, Massachusetts continues as a leader in the nation, working hard to ensure a high quality of life for all citizens of the Commonwealth.

(Source: Department of Economic Development's *Toward A New Prosperity: Building Regional Competitiveness Across the Commonwealth*, 2002).



THE STATE HOUSE



*“May the principles of our excellent
Constitution, founded in Nature and in the
Rights of Man, be ably defended here: And
may the same principles be deeply engraven
in the hearts of all citizens”.*

- GOVERNOR SAMUEL ADAMS,
ASSISTED BY PAUL REVERE, AS HE LAID THE
CORNERSTONE OF THE NEW STATE HOUSE,

JULY 4, 1795

THE STATE HOUSE

THE OLD TOWN HOUSE AND THE OLD STATE HOUSE

Boston's original Town House was a market place on its open first floor and enclosed town meeting space on the second floor which stood at the corner of King, Queen and Cornhill



Old State House

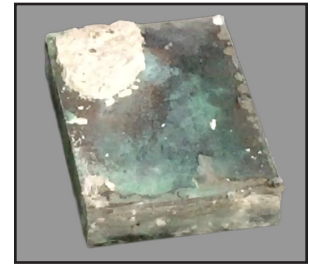
Streets. (Intersection of present-day Court, State and Washington Streets.) The wooden building was completely destroyed in the Great Fire of October 2, 1711. Rebuilt in brick eighteen months later, it continued to serve as a place to conduct the business of the town, as well as a place to hold court proceedings for the county until the interior was destroyed by a second fire on December 9, 1747. Fortunately, the outer walls had been so substantially built

that reconstruction of the interior was all that was required. Though burnt, altered and repaired many times over the years, the Old Town house survived carrying on the business of the town and county through the end of the colonial period and into the new republic serving as the Commonwealth's first State House until January 11, 1798. The Old State House then served as the Town Hall for the City of Boston before becoming the first City Hall of Boston. When a new city hall was built on School Street the old Town House fell on hard times for many years before preservationists stepped in to rescue and restore it. Many important historical events occurred within or upon the grounds of the Old State House such as the creation of North America's first (and the world's third oldest) military organization now known as the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, chartered in 1638 with Robert Keyne its first captain, and the Boston Massacre of March 5, 1770, to name just two. It was John Adams who said, "Here the child Independence was born."

MASSACHUSETTS STATE HOUSE CORNERSTONE AND TIME CAPSULE

At the close of the American Revolution the state's citizens and leaders desired a larger and more elegant structure to better represent the new country and optimism of the new age of independence and self-rule. The site of former patriot and Governor John Hancock's cow pasture, on Beacon Hill, was secured and plans were laid for the new State House. On July Fourth, 1795, in a grand procession lead by Governor Samuel Adams, Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge Paul Revere and Revolutionary War Colonel William Scollay followed by fifteen white horses, one representing each state in the union drew the cornerstone from the Old South Meeting House through the streets of Boston to the top of Beacon Hill. Amidst an escort of fusiliers and a fifteen gun salute

that echoed across Boston Common the cornerstone was set in place. During the ceremony two sheets of lead with the corners flanged over was placed under the cornerstone with 11 coins one being a pine tree shilling dating back to 1652, a copper medal with George Washington's likeness, and a silver plate which may have been engraved by Paul Revere commemorating the erection of the new State House.



1855 Time Capsule

In 1855 work was being done on the foundation of the State House and the time capsule was unearthed. The contents were cleaned, catalogued and returned to their resting place in a newly built brass box along with new silver and copper coins dated 1851 to 1855 along with an impression of the state seal then in use, assorted morning newspapers, two business cards, and additional script engraved on the reverse side of the original silver plate by then Governor Henry J. Gardner and Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge Winslow Lewis. With the discovery of water penetration into the south east corner of the basement, an investigation ensued and the time capsule was unearthed for the third time on December 11, 2014. The capsule measuring 5 ½ x 7 ½ x 1 ½ inches and weighing about 10lbs was taken by State Police escort to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston to be opened, examined, and conserved by Ms. Pamela Hatchfield (Robert P. and Carol T. Henderson Head of Objects Conservation). On Wednesday June 17, 2015, which was the 240th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, to much pomp and ceremony mirroring the original procession, the "cornerstone" represented by a granite plinth inscribed with the date of 1795 was drawn by fifteen white horses through the streets of Boston to the steps of the State House where the original cornerstone waited for the commencement ceremony. Governor Charles Baker, Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin and Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge Harvey Waugh, along with many dignitaries of the day, oversaw the formal cornerstone blessings that date back to Biblical times ending in a cannon salute on Boston Common. The cornerstone was returned to its original place rather quietly Thursday June 18, 2015. Items added to the cornerstone time capsule in 2015 were a new silver plate commemorating the occasion and a mint set of 2015 United States coins.

THE NEW STATE HOUSE

The Massachusetts State House was designed by American-born architect Charles Bulfinch and was completed in 1798. Its neoclassical-federal style was inspired by the magnificent Greek and Roman temples of Europe. In particular Bulfinch was inspired by federal-style civic architecture in London. The most recognizable feature of the



New State House

State House is its golden dome, which was originally covered in wooden shingles, then copper-plated, before being gilded in 23 karat gold leaf. At the very top of the dome Bulfinch placed a gilt pine cone as a symbol of the forests that made it possible for the early settlers to survive. The State House has been modified and expanded several times. The first addition in 1831, four fireproof rooms were added to the north portico designed by Isiah Rogers for the safe-keeping of the Commonwealth's records. In 1853 a second addition, also to the north portico, created a much larger space for the State Library and other departments which were designed by Gridley J. F. Bryant was completed in 1856. During this time a basement was added in 1855. The third addition by Charles E. Brigham began in 1889 created the large yellow brick extension still in use today. Completed in 1899 it removed and replaced the previous two additions to the north portico. Between 1914 and 1917 the fourth addition was the Chapman, Sturgis, Andrews designed east and west wings built of white Vermont marble framing the original Bulfinch front of the State House. The fifth addition was a bomb-proof archives constructed in 1958-1960 located in the basement. The most recent addition was the conversion of a former central air and light-well into two floors of hearing rooms below a four story atrium known as the Great Hall completed in 1990. In 1991 Ashburton Park was completed returning what had become a parking lot into a welcoming open public space by placing a parking garage underneath.

Some interesting facts about the State House:

- The dome was far from watertight when first covered by wood shingles 1798 requiring the dome to be sheathed in copper by Paul Revere and Sons in 1802;
- The dome was first gilded in gold leaf in 1874 at a cost of two thousand nine hundred dollars and most recently in 1997 at a cost of more than three hundred thousand dollars;
- The dome was painted a dark gray color during WWII so as not to attract the attention of possible enemy ships at sea or enemy planes overhead and to aid in the minimalizing of any reflected light during the day or during ordered black-outs at night;
- Brothers John and Simon Skillin, who carved the first figurehead of the U.S.S. Constitution, also carved the pine cone atop the dome as well as assisted in carving the Corinthian columns and capitals. The columns were so strong that with the exception of one they lasted over 150 years. In 1960 all of the columns were replaced by reproductions made of iron;
- The original Corinthian columns were hand-carved on the front lawn of the State house from solid logs 25 feet long and 30 inches in diameter brought down from Calais, Maine (then a territory of Massachusetts) from the estate of then Speaker of the House, Edward H. Robbins;

- The red brick Bulfinch front was painted white in 1825, painted yellow in 1855, then white again in 1917 to match the white marble wings of the 1914-1917 addition. In 1928 the brick walls were cleaned of paint and have remained unpainted since.

GROUNDS

There are interesting statues on the grounds outside the State House. At the far left (west) is a statue of Anne Hutchinson with one of her nine children. She was banished from the colony in the early seventeenth century because she dared to question Puritan theology. A martyr to her Quaker faith was Mary Dyer, whose statue is at the far right (east) side of the building. The two men whose statues stand by the entrance steps are Daniel Webster, on the left, a spellbinding orator in the U.S. Senate; and Horace Mann, on the right, a compassionate educator who fought for public education for all children. The soldier on horseback near the east wing is Civil War General Joseph "Fighting Joe" Hooker. The most recent addition, designed and sculpted by Isabel McIlvain and paid for by the contributions of private citizens, is a bronze statue of President John F. Kennedy on the west entrance staircase. It was dedicated on May 29, 1990.

Looking away from the State House, towards the Common, there is a bas relief monument sculpted by Augustus St. Gaudens honoring the Civil War's Massachusetts 54th Regiment. This first all African-American volunteer unit was led by Colonel Robert Gould Shaw, who died in its first battle at Fort Wagner, South Carolina. In the same battle, Sergeant William Carney of New Bedford, though badly wounded, rescued the flag of the 54th and bore it safely back to the Union camp. For his valor, he became the first African-American to receive the Medal of Honor.

DORIC HALL

The name of Doric Hall comes from the double row of columns with Doric capitals that Bulfinch employed. A banquet was held there for President Monroe when he visited Boston in 1817, and a reception was given for General Lafayette during his American tour in 1824. It is still used for social gatherings, official ceremonies and art exhibits.



Doric Hall

The big double doors at its front entrance are ceremonial doors and are opened on only three occasions: when a Governor leaves the State House for the last time after his or her term of office has expired (a tradition called "The Long Walk"), and when a President of the United States or foreign head of state comes to visit, and when the Massachusetts Regimental Flags are received into the permanent collection.

The room has been carefully preserved and appears much as it did when it was built, except for the marble floor that

has replaced the original wooden one. A bronze bust of John Hancock, first elected Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, is on the west wall, surrounded by portraits of Artemus Ward and General Gage, adversaries at the Battle of Bunker Hill. General Gage was the last Royal governor of Massachusetts. The two cannons surrounding Hancock were captured during the War of 1812. On the opposite east wall hangs one of the three known full-length paintings of President Lincoln. He was said to be sensitive about his great height and preferred not to be painted in a standing position. This painting by Albion Bicknell was completed forty years after his death. The two cannons below Lincoln's portrait are commemorative cannons that are replicas of the American Revolution.

BARTLETT HALL

Upon leaving Doric Hall, one enters the Brigham Addition of the State House. This addition was completed in 1895 and was designed in the Italian Renaissance style. There is a heroic-sized statue honoring William Francis Bartlett, a civil war hero from the North. Overhead is a colored glass window with the names of various republics.

NURSES HALL

There are actually two marble staircases in Nurses Hall. The one on the east side leads to the Senate (in fact, the hall used to be called the Senate Staircase Hall), and the one on the other side goes to the Governor's office. There are many tablets and souvenirs of the past. The most conspicuous is a large statue of a young lady tending to a fallen soldier, a memorial to the nurses who took part in the Civil War. Called the Army Nurses' Memorial, this statue was sculpted by Bela Pratt in 1911 and was installed in this chamber in 1914.

High on the north wall are three splendid paintings by Robert Reid representing dramatic events in Massachusetts history. The one in the center shows James Otis, a young Boston lawyer, arguing against the Writs of Assistance in 1763. The Writs were issued by the Royal Governor to enable his officers to enter and search any home or warehouse. On the right, Bostonians are dumping tea in the harbor, protesting the tax that was imposed by a faraway Parliament in England. On the left, Paul Revere is making his famous ride to warn that the British soldiers in Boston are planning to seize the gunpowder stored in Concord.

MEMORIAL HALL

This circular room is surrounded by tall columns of Siena marble, and its floor is patterned with many other kinds and colors of Italian marble. It was built as a memorial to those who fought and died in the Civil War. The flags now include those of the Spanish-American War and the World Wars. High on the east wall is a painting of the Civil War flags being returned to the State House. The other paintings represent the

Pilgrims on the Mayflower, north wall; the Battle at Concord Bridge in 1775, west wall; and John Eliot, a Puritan minister, teaching the Indians, south wall. Overhead is a large skylight of stained glass, showing the seals of the original thirteen states.

GREAT HALL

Completed in 1990, the Great Hall is the newest interior addition to be added to the State House. The purpose of the room is to hold state functions, as Massachusetts does not have a Governor's Mansion. It is decorated with the flags of cities and towns in the commonwealth.

STATE SEAL WINDOW

A large stairway, referred to as the Grand Staircase, behind Memorial Hall leads to the third floor. On the landing is a colored window showing the various seals that have been used by the governments of Massachusetts. At the top is the one with a figure of a Native American used by the first colony. The central seal is the one used today, adopted under the Constitution of 1780. The figure of a man holding the Magna Carta was used during the Revolution. Surrounding these three seals are the ones used by Provincial Governors from 1685 to 1775.

The motto on the seal used today is Latin and it means, "By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty".

FINGOLD STATE LIBRARY

At the rear of the third floor is the George Fingold State Library. It contains over a million volumes dealing with state and local history, public documents, directories, and government laws.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The House of Representatives is the larger of the two legislative chambers; 160 Legislators meet here to discuss legislative matters. The room was completed in 1895 and is constructed out of Honduran Mahogany.

High on the wall in the front of the room are paintings done by Albert Herter, picturing the growth of freedom in Massachusetts. The one on the left shows the Puritans, led by Governor Winthrop, landing in Massachusetts in 1630. The one on the far right shows an unpopular Royal Governor, Edmund Andros, being asked to leave. The second on the left shows one of the judges of the Salem Witchcraft trials, repenting for having sentenced accused witches to death. Second on the right depicts John Adams, Samuel Adams, and James Bowdoin writing the Massachusetts Constitution. In the middle, John Hancock is shown, asking that the Bill of Rights be included in the Federal Constitution.

Directly opposite the Speaker's chair, hanging in the gallery,



Nurses Hall



House of Representatives

can be seen the famous “Sacred Cod”, carved out of a solid piece of pine, and symbolizing the importance of the fishing industry.

SENATE CHAMBER



Senate Chamber

The Senate Chamber was originally used by the Representatives and prior to 1895, the Senate occupied the room across the hall. That is now called the Senate Reception Room. There are forty state senators who meet in this chamber.

The current Senate Chamber is directly under the golden dome. At the base of its inverted rim are three hundred and sixty pieces of carved wood, each representing a degree of the compass. High on the corners of the four walls are carved emblems representing Commerce, Agriculture, War, and Peace. The wrought iron chandelier has a fish worked into the design (it’s called the “Holy Mackerel” in response to the House’s famous “Sacred Cod”). Two Revolutionary muskets, one British and one American, hang on the south wall.

RECEPTION ROOM

The Senate formerly met here, and it is now used for meetings and conferences. The unusual ceiling is called a barrel vault because it is carved like the inside of a barrel. Bulfinch used the Ionic form of column in this room. These are the only original hand-carved wooden columns that still exist in the building today.



Reception Room

EXECUTIVE SUITE

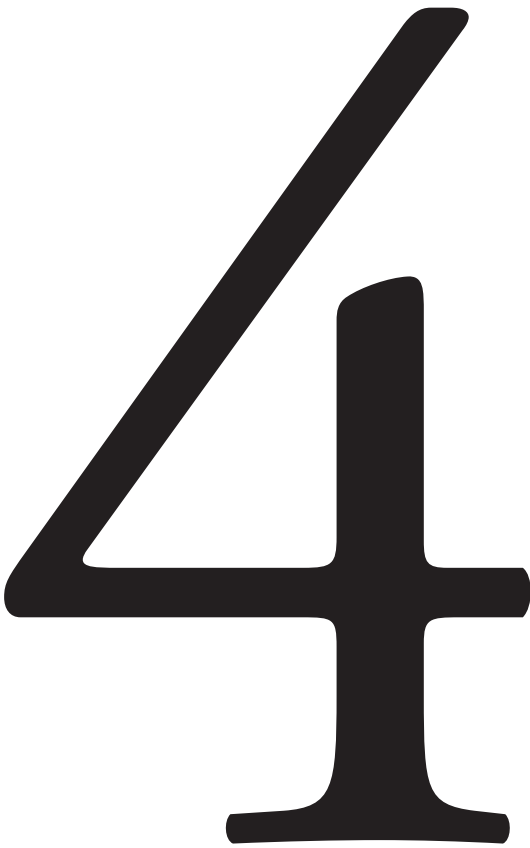
The Governor’s office and the Council Room are on the west side of the original building.

A reception room, hung with portraits of the most recent Governors, leads into these two rooms. The Governor’s Office looks out over the Boston Common and has large arched windows on two sides. The gold star on the east wall signifies that Massachusetts was one of the original thirteen states.

Across a narrow hall is the Governor’s Council Room, interesting because its dimensions form a perfect cube. This room was once the Governor’s Office.

ASHBURTON PARK

Ashburton Park, with the Beacon Hill Eagle Monument in the center, has been rebuilt on the right side of the exterior of the State House, where a parking lot had been for decades. The Beacon Hill Monument was designed by Charles Bulfinch to commemorate the events that led up to the American Revolution.



MISCELLANEOUS FACTS



- PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE COMMONWEALTH, 1780
WRITTEN BY JOHN ADAMS, SAMUEL
ADAMS, AND JAMES BOWDOIN

"The end of the institution, maintenance and administration of government, is to secure the existence of the body-politic, to protect it, and to furnish the individuals who compose it, with the power of enjoying in safety and tranquility their natural rights, and the blessings of life: And whenever these great objects are not obtained, the people have a right to alter the government, and to take measures necessary for their safety, prosperity and happiness. The Body-Politic is formed by a voluntary association of individuals: It is a social compact, by which the whole people covenants with each Citizen, and each Citizen with the whole people, that all shall be governed by certain Laws for the Common good. It is the duty of the people, therefore, in framing a Constitution of Government, to provide for an equitable mode of making laws, as well as for an impartial interpretation, and a faithful execution of them; that every man may, at all times, find his security in them.

WE, therefore, the people of Massachusetts, acknowledging, with grateful hearts, the goodness of the Great Legislator of the Universe, in affording us, in the course of His Providence, an opportunity, deliberately and peaceably, without fraud, violence or surprize, on entering into an Original, explicit, and Solemn Compact with each other; and of forming a new Constitution of Civil Government, for Ourselves and Posterity, and devoutly imploring His direction in so interesting a design, DO agree upon, ordain and establish, the following Declaration of Rights, and Frame of Government, as the CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS".

FAMOUS FIRSTS IN MASSACHUSETTS

For over three hundred years, Massachusetts has led the nation and the world in many ways. Here are just a few of them:

- | | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|--|
| 1602 | Bartholomew Gosnold established the first trading post in Massachusetts. | 1780 | First State Constitution. |
| 1620 | Pilgrims first land in Provincetown. | 1789 | The first American novel, William Hill Brown's "The Power of Sympathy", was published in Worcester. |
| 1620 | The first religious meeting house was built in Plymouth. | 1803 | The Middlesex Canal, the first canal built for commercial use in the United States, was completed. |
| 1621 | The first Thanksgiving was celebrated in Plymouth. | 1806 | The first church built by free blacks in America, the African Meeting House, opened on Joy Street in Boston. |
| 1628 | John Endicott established a settlement in Salem. | 1826 | The first American railroad was built in Quincy. |
| 1629 | The first tannery in the U.S. began operations in Lynn. | 1827 | Francis Leiber opened the first swim school in America. Among the first to enroll was John Quincy Adams. |
| 1634 | Boston Common became the first public park in America. | 1831 | The first abolitionist newspaper, "The Liberator", was published in Boston by William Lloyd Garrison. |
| 1635 | The first American public secondary school, Boston Latin Grammar School, was founded in Boston. | 1837 | Samuel Morse invented the electric telegraph based on Morse Code, a simple pattern of "dots" and dashes. |
| 1636 | Harvard, the first American university, was founded in Newtowne (now Cambridge). | 1839 | Rubber was first vulcanized by Charles Goodyear in Woburn. |
| 1638 | The first American printing press was set up in Cambridge by Stephen Daye. | 1840 | The typewriter was invented by Charles Thurber in Worcester. |
| 1639 | The first free American public school, the Mather school, was founded in Dorchester. | 1845 | The first sewing machine was made by Elias Howe in Boston. |
| 1639 | The first post office in America was Richard Fairbanks' tavern in Boston. | 1846 | The first public demonstration of ether anesthetic was given in Boston at Massachusetts General Hospital. |
| 1650 | The first American ironworks were established in Saugus. | 1848 | Esther Howland of Worcester printed the first mass-produced Valentine cards. |
| 1653 | The first American public library was founded in Boston. | 1848 | November 9, the Western world's first female medical school opens in Boston under the name of Boston Female Medical College. |
| 1656 | The first Quakers arrived in this country in Massachusetts in 1656. | 1850 | The first National Women's Right Convention convenes in Worcester. |
| 1686 | Oxford became the first non-Puritan town. | 1865 | Massachusetts established the first Statewide Police Force in the nation. |
| 1704 | The first regularly issued American newspaper, "The Boston News-Letter", was published in Boston. | 1865 | Robert Ware of M.I.T. began the first professional training program for architects. Prior to this, architects trained in Europe or learned through apprenticeship. |
| 1713 | The first schooner was built in Gloucester by Andrew Robinson. | 1866 | The first African-American legislators in New England were elected to the General Court. |
| 1716 | The first American lighthouse was built in Boston Harbor. | 1874 | The first American Christmas card was printed by Louis Prang in Boston. |
| 1775 | The first battle of the Revolution was fought in Lexington and Concord. | | |
| 1775 | The first ship of the U.S. Navy, the schooner "Hannah", was commissioned in Beverly. | | |
| 1778 | The Town of Franklin was the first community to change its name to honor Benjamin Franklin. | | |

- 1876** The first telephone was demonstrated by Alexander Graham Bell in Boston.
- 1877** Helen Magill White becomes the first woman to earn a Ph.D in the U.S. at Boston University.
- 1881** The Country Club in Brookline became the first dedicated to “outdoor pursuits”.
- 1886** The first transformer was demonstrated by William Stanley in Great Barrington.
- 1888** The first electric trolley in the state runs in Lynn.
- 1891** The first basketball game was played in Springfield.
- 1893** The first successful gasoline-powered auto was perfected by Charles and Frank Duryea in Springfield.
- 1895** The first volleyball game was played in Holyoke.
- 1896** Landscape architect Charles Eliot developed Revere Beach as the first public beach in America.
- 1897** April 19, 1897 was the first Boston Marathon. The race was run from Boston to Ashland and the starting field was 15 runners. John J. McDermott was the winner.
- 1897** The first American subway system was opened in Boston.
- 1903** Using Guglielmo Marconi’s wireless telegraph President Theodore Roosevelt sent the first trans-Atlantic message from Wellfleet to King Edward VII in London.
- 1905** The Knox Automobile Company of Springfield is credited with making the first purpose built fire truck.
- 1906** On December 24 the first wireless broadcast of music and entertainment was sent by Reginald A. Fessenden from Brant Rock in Marshfield.
- 1925** Clarence Birdseye invented frozen food.
- 1926** The first successful liquid fuel rocket was launched by Dr. Robert Goddard in Auburn.
- 1928** The first computer, a non-electronic “differential analyzer”, was developed by Dr. Vannevar Bush of M.I.T. in Cambridge.
- 1944** Not to be outdone by M.I.T., Howard Aiken of Harvard developed the first automatic digital computer.
- 1947** Dr. Sidney Farber pioneers chemo-therapy as a treatment for cancer.
- 1961** The first nuclear-powered surface ship, USS Long Beach, was launched in Quincy.
- 1975** First Night, which celebrates New Year’s Eve, originated in Boston on December 31.

- 2004** First legally married same-sex partners in the United States.

FAMOUS FIRSTS FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS

- 1923** Susan Fitzgerald (D - Jamica Plain) and Sylvia Donaldson (R - Brockton) are the first women elected to the Massachusetts legislature, specifically to the Massachusetts House of Representatives.
- 1925** Edith Nourse Rogers (R - MA) of Lowell is the first woman elected to serve Massachusetts in the United States House of Representatives.
- 1926** On February 18th, Sylvia Donaldson is given the honor of being Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives for a day.
- 1935** Representative Mary Livermore Norris Barrows (R - Melrose) is the first woman to hold a committee chair (Committee on Pensions and Old Age Assistance) in the legislature.
- 1937** Sybil H. Holmes (R) is the first woman to be elected to the Massachusetts Senate.
- 1972** Representative Iris Holland (R -Longmeadow) is the first female legislator from western Massachusetts.
- 1973** Representative Doris Bunte (D - Roxbury) becomes the first black woman elected to the legislature.
- 1973** Senator Mary L. Fonseca (D - Fall River) is the first woman to hold a position of leadership in the Massachusetts Senate, specifically as Senate Majority Whip
- 1979** Representative Iris Holland (R -Longmeadow) is the first woman to hold a position of leadership in the Massachusetts House, specifically as House Minority Whip.
- 1986** Evelyn Murphy (D) becomes the first woman to serve as Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts and the first female constitutional officer of the Commonwealth.
- 2007** Therese Murray (D) becomes the first female Senate President in the Massachusetts legislature.
- 2012** Elizabeth Warren (D - MA) is the first woman elected to serve Massachusetts in the United States Senate.
- 2021** Michelle Wu (D - MA) is the first woman and person of color to be elected to serve as Mayor of Boston.
- 2023** Maura Healy (D - MA) is the fifth first woman and first openly LGBTQ person elected to serve as Governor of Massachusetts.

NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS

The following is a list of noteworthy people who were born in Massachusetts. Not included are those who were educated or settled here, which would expand the list considerably. It is not complete, of course, but it gives a fair indication of what the Bay

State has contributed to American art, history, and culture.

AUTHORS

Henry Adams (Boston)
 Horatio Alger (Chelsea)
 John Bartlett (Plymouth)
 Edward Bellamy (Chicopee Falls)
 Robert Benchley (Worcester)
 William Cullen Bryant (Cummington)
 John Cheever (Quincy)
 Robert Cormier (Leominster)
 E.E. Cummings (Cambridge)
 Richard Henry Dana (Cambridge)
 Emily Dickinson (Amherst)
 Ralph Waldo Emerson (Boston)
 Esther Forbes (Westborough)
 Margaret Fuller (Cambridge)
 Erle Stanley Gardner (Malden)
 Theodore Geisel—"Dr. Seuss" (Springfield)
 Nathaniel Hawthorne (Salem)
 George V. Higgins (Brockton)
 Oliver Wendell Holmes (Cambridge)
 Jack Kerouac (Lowell)
 Stanley Kunitz (Worcester)
 Amy Lowell (Brookline)
 James Russell Lowell (Cambridge)
 Robert Lowell (Boston)
 Samuel Eliot Morison (Boston)
 Francis Parkman Jr. (Boston)
 Sylvia Plath (Boston)
 Edgar Allan Poe (Boston)
 William Hickling Prescott (Salem)
 Anne Sexton (Newton)
 Paul Theroux (Medford)
 Henry David Thoreau (Concord)
 Theodore H. White (Dorchester)
 John Greenleaf Whittier (Haverhill)

PAINTERS

John Singleton Copley (Boston)
 Frederick Childe Hassam (Boston)
 Winslow Homer (Boston)
 Fitz Hugh Lane (Gloucester)
 Frank Stella (Malden)
 James McNeil Whistler (Lowell)

INVENTORS

Robert Goddard (Worcester)
 Elias Howe (Spencer)

Samuel Morse (Charlestown)
 Eli Whitney (Westborough)

PERFORMING ARTISTS

Jane Alexander (Boston)
 Fred Allen (Cambridge)
 Ed Ames (Malden)
 Leroy Anderson (Cambridge)
 Leonard Bernstein (Lawrence)
 Ray Bolger (Dorchester)
 Walter Brennan (Lynn)
 Peggy Cass (Boston)
 Paula Cole (Rockport)
 Chick Corea (Chelsea)
 Jane Curtin (Cambridge)
 Charlotte Cushman (Boston)
 Matt Damon (Cambridge)
 Bette Davis (Lowell)
 Geena Davis (Wareham)
 Cecil B. DeMille (Ashfield)
 Olympia Dukakis (Lowell)
 Bob Elliot (Winchester)
 Ray Goulding (Lowell)
 Charles Farrell (Walpole)
 Edith Fellows (Boston)
 Arthur Fiedler (Boston)
 Arlene Francis (Boston)
 Georgia Gibbs (Worcester)
 Paul Michael Glaser (Cambridge)
 Ruth Gordon (Quincy)
 Robert Goulet (Lawrence)
 Tammy Grimes (Lynn)
 Jasmine Guy (Boston)
 George Irving (Springfield)
 Ann Jillian (Cambridge)
 Madeleine Kahn (Boston)
 Nancy Kelly (Lowell)
 Arthur Kennedy (Worcester)
 Denis Leary (Worcester)
 Jack Lemmon (Newton)
 Dorothy Loudon (Boston)
 Jeffrey Lynn (Auburn)
 Bill Macy (Revere)
 Agnes Moorehead (Clinton)
 Robert Morse (Newton)
 Leonard Nimoy (Boston)
 Conan O'Brien (Brookline)
 Estelle Parsons (Lynn)
 Lee Remick (Quincy)
 Kurt Russell (Springfield)
 Donna Summer (Boston)

James Taylor (Boston)
 Sam Waterston (Cambridge)
 Mark Wahlberg (Boston)

PATRIOTS OF THE REVOLUTION

John Adams (Quincy)
 Samuel Adams (Boston)
 Crispus Attucks (Framingham)
 Benjamin Franklin (Boston)
 John Hancock (Braintree)
 Henry Knox (Boston)
 James Otis (Barnstable)
 Robert Treat Paine (Boston)
 Samuel Prescott (Concord)
 William Prescott (Groton)
 Israel Putnam (Danvers)
 Paul Revere (Boston)
 Peter Salem (Framingham)
 Artemas Ward (Shrewsbury)
 Joseph Warren (Roxbury)

PRESIDENTS

John Adams (Braintree)
 John Quincy Adams (Braintree)
 John F. Kennedy (Brookline)
 George H. W. Bush (Milton)
(All from Norfolk County)

OTHER FAMOUS BAY STATERS

Abigail Adams (Weymouth)
 Susan B. Anthony (Adams)
 Clara Barton (Oxford)
 Charles Bulfinch (Boston)
 Fannie Farmer (Boston)
 Marshall Field (Conway)
 Marvin Hagler (Brockton)
 Horace Mann (Franklin)
 Rocky Marciano (Brockton)
 Cotton Mather (Boston)
 Lucretia Mott (Nantucket)
 Robert Gould Shaw (Boston)
 Lucy Stone (West Brookfield)
 Elihu Yale (Boston)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE STATE FLAG

1. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE FLAG, ITS COMPONENT PARTS, AND WHAT EACH STANDS FOR.

The present law states that “the flag of the Commonwealth shall consist of a white rectangular field, bearing on either side a representation of the arms of the Commonwealth, except that the star shall be white”.

Chapter 2, Section 1 of the Massachusetts General Laws describes “The Coat of Arms of the Commonwealth” as follows: “The coat of arms of the Commonwealth shall consist of a blue shield with an Indian thereon, dressed in a shirt, leggings, and moccasins, holding in his right hand a bow, and in his left hand an arrow, point downward, all of gold; and in the upper right-hand corner of the field a silver star of five points. The crest shall be, on a wreath of gold and blue, a right arm, bent at the elbow, clothed and ruffled, and grasping a broad-sword, all of gold. The motto ‘Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietem’ (By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty) shall appear in gold on a blue ribbon”.

2. WHEN WAS THE CURRENT MASSACHUSETTS FLAG ADOPTED?

The current flag law was approved on June 3, 1971, and took effect on November 1, 1971.

Before 1971 the flag had the coat of arms on the front side, but the obverse side had a drawing of a green pine tree, to indicate the importance of the lumbering industry in the early life of the state (in further tribute, the top of the State House dome is adorned with a gold pine cone). Although all flags made after 1971 had to have the coat of arms on both sides, the “old” flags are still valid.

3. WAS IT THE FLAG USED IN COLONIAL TIMES?

No. Massachusetts did not become a state until 1780. During the Colonial period, research indicates that the colonists flew a marine flag on their ships, but it was not an “official” flag and could not properly be described as a state flag.

4. WHY WERE THE PARTICULAR COLORS INCORPORATED IN THE FLAG?

Unfortunately, there is no present way of determining why certain colors were selected. It is almost impossible to divine the intent of legislation filed hundreds of years ago.

5. WHAT DOES THE STATE MOTTO MEAN?

“Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietem” (By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty) is the second of two lines written about 1659 by Algernon Sidney, English soldier and politician, in “The Book of Mottoes” in the King’s Library.

SERGEANT WILLIAM H. CARNEY, CIVIL WAR HERO

(From “It Wasn’t in Her Lifetime, But it was Handed Down: Four Black Oral Histories of Massachusetts”, Dr. Eleanor Wachs, ed., 1988; published by the Commonwealth Museum at Columbia Point, Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth)

In view of the current interest in the Civil War, reflected in motion pictures, television, books, and other media, we offer the story of a soldier whose gallantry earned him the first Congressional Medal of Honor awarded to an African-American. Please see the section on “The New State House – Grounds” for a description of the commemorative statue of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment. The short biography of Sgt. Carney is included in the state’s booklet on African-American oral histories.

A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF SGT. CARNEY

Sergeant William H. Carney, born on February 29, 1840 in Norfolk, Virginia, was the son of slaves. His father, William, escaped from slavery by the underground railroad. He arrived in New Bedford in the 1850s. Soon after, he purchased his family out of slavery.

In his fourteenth year, Carney attended a school secretly kept by a minister in Norfolk, Virginia. In his fifteenth year, he embraced the gospel. Like his father, who was engaged in the coastal trade, Carney worked for a short time at sea.

Upon his arrival in New Bedford, Carney became a jobber for stores. At this time, he also joined the Salem Baptist Church, a Black church, where he soon became a trustee.

In 1863, Carney heard the call for Blacks to join the Union Army. On February 17, 1863, he enlisted as a private in the Massachusetts 54th Regiment as did the son of Frederick Douglass and Lewis Douglass. Carney was one of 46 volunteers from New Bedford who comprised Company C.

Sergeant Carney’s mark on history can be traced to the assault at Fort Wagner, South Carolina on July 18, 1863. For his bravery beyond the call of duty, Carney was promoted to the rank of sergeant and was given the Gilmore Medal of Honor for gallant and meritorious conduct. He would later receive this nation’s highest honor, the Congressional Medal of Honor, thus becoming the first Black American to receive this medal.

Carney was discharged on June 30, 1864. In 1866, he was appointed superintendent of street lights for the City of New Bedford. After a few years at this job, Carney moved to California. In 1869, he returned to New Bedford where he took a job at the postal service; the first Black to do so. He worked at this position for 32 years. In 1901, he was asked by

Massachusetts Secretary of State William H. Olin to take the job of messenger at the State House; a position he held until his death. He was the second Black to hold the position. The first was abolitionist Lewis Hayden of Boston.

On October 11, 1865, Sergeant Carney married Sussannah Williams of New Bedford. They had one child named Clara Heronia who would later become a well known music teacher in the New Bedford area.

Sergeant Carney died on December 8, 1908 as the result of an elevator accident in the State House. Carney's funeral was well attended by state officials. As a final tribute, all flags in the Commonwealth were ordered at half mast, marking the first time it was done for a Black man and an "ordinary" citizen.

THE BATTLE OF FORT WAGNER, JULY 18, 1863, IN SERGEANT CARNEY'S OWN WORDS

(From "History of New Bedford and Vicinity, 1602-1892", by Leonard B. Ellis, 1892: Syracuse, NY, D. Mason & Co. Publishers, pp. 348-349)

"Having arrived at Hilton Head, we were ordered up the river to Beaufort, S.C. We were here only a few days, however, before we were ordered to St. Simon's Island. Upon arriving there, we found it deserted by all but one man, and we took charge of him. From here we made a successful raid to Darien, capturing a lot of supplies – vessels–loaded with cotton and cattle – and the city itself. Thence we proceeded to James Island, SC, staying only four days, during which time we were engaged with the rebels [and] successfully repulsed them. Thence the attack and charge on Fort Wagner. On the 18th of July, 1863, about noon, we commenced to draw near this great fort, under a tremendous cannonading from the fleet, directed upon the fort. When we were within probably a thousand yards of the fort, we halted and lay flat upon the ground, waiting for the order to charge. The brave Colonel Shaw [Commander Robert Gould Shaw] and his adjutant, in the company with General Strong, came forward and addressed the regiment with encouraging words. General Strong said to the regiment: 'Men of Massachusetts, are you ready to take the fort tonight?' And the regiment spontaneously answered in the affirmative. Then followed three cheers for Colonel Shaw; three cheers for Governor Andrews of Massachusetts, and three cheers for General Strong.

We were all ready for the charge, and the regiment started to its feet, the charge being fairly commenced. We had got but a short distance when we were opened upon with musketry, shell, grape and canister, which mowed down our men right and left. As the color-bearer became disabled, I threw away my gun and seized the colors, making my way to the head of the column; but before I reached there the line had descended the embankment into the ditch and was making its way upon Wagner itself. While going down the embankment one column was staunch and full. As we ascended the breastworks, the volleys of grapeshot which came from right and left, and of musketry in front, mowed the men down as a scythe would do. In less than twenty minutes I found myself

alone, struggling upon the ramparts, while all around me were the dead and wounded, lying upon one another. Here I said, 'I cannot go into the fort alone,' and so I halted and knelt down, holding the flag in my hand. While there, the musket balls and grapeshot were flying all around me, and as they struck, the sand would fly in my face. I knew my position was a critical one, and I began to watch to see if I would be left alone. Discovering that the forces had renewed their attack farther to the right, and the enemy's attention being drawn thither, I turned [and] discovered a battalion of men coming towards me on the ramparts of Wagner. They proceeded until they were in front of me, and I raised my flag and started to join them, when, from the light of the cannon discharged on the fort, I saw they were [the] enemy. I wound the colors round the staff and made my way down the parapet into the ditch, which was without water when I crossed it before, but was now filled with water that came up to my waist. Out of the number that came up with me there was now no man moving erect, save myself, although they were not all dead, but wounded. In rising to see if I could determine my course to the rear, the bullet I now carry in my body came whizzing like a mosquito, and I was shot. Not being prostrated by the shot, I continued my course, yet had not gone far before I was struck by a second shot. Soon after I saw a man coming towards me, and when within hailing distance I asked him who he was. He replied, 'I belong to the 100th New York,' and then inquired if I were wounded. Upon my replying in the affirmative, he came to my assistance and helped me to the rear. 'Now then,' he said, 'let me take the colors and carry them for you.' My reply was that I would not give them to any man unless he belonged to the 54th Regiment. So we pressed on, but did not go far before I was wounded in the head. We came at length within hailing distance of the rear guard, who caused us to halt, and upon asking us who we were, and finding I was wounded, took us to the rear through the guard. An officer came, and after taking my name and regiment, put us in the charge of the hospital corps, telling them to find my regiment. When we finally reached the latter the men cheered me and the flag. My reply was 'Boys, I only did my duty. The old flag never touched the ground.'"

“ALL HAIL TO MASSACHUSETTS”

by Arthur J. Marsh, Official Song of the Commonwealth

ALL HAIL TO MASSACHUSETTS
Song of the Commonwealth

Words & Music by
Arthur J. Marsh

spirited

All hail to Mass - a - chu - setts, the land of the free and the
All hail to grand old Bay State, the home of the bean and the
All hail to Mass - a - chu - setts, re - nowned in the Hall of

brave! For Bun - ker Hill and Charles - town, and
cod, Where pil - grims found a land - ing - ing - ton, and
Fame! How proud - ly wave her ban - ners and em -

flag we love thanks to wave; For Lex - ing - ton and
gave their thanks to God; A land - ing - ton and
- bla - zoned with her name! In un - i - ty - por - and

Con - tu - bro - cord, - ni - ther - ty hood, and in the sons and the shot heard 'round the world; All Where All good old U. S. A. in hand;

hail men live long and hail to Mass - a - chu - sets, pros - per, there we'll keep her flag un - furled. She Don't It's come to stay! land! no fi - ner

stands up - right for free - dom's light that shines from sea to sea; All All All sell her short but learn to court her in - dus - try and stride; M - A - S - S - A - C - H - U - S - E - T - T - S.

hail to Mass - a - chu - sets! Our coun - try 'tis of thee! hail to grand old Bay State! The land of pil - grim's pride! hail to Mass - a - chu - sets! All hail! All hail! All hail!

ritard

“ODE TO MASSACHUSETTS”

by Joseph Falzone, Official Ode of the Commonwealth

Ode To Massachusetts

WORDS AND MUSIC BY:
JOSEPH FALZONE

SLOW, GOSPEL FEEL

The musical score is written in treble clef with a 3/4 time signature. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, and guitar chords are indicated above the staff. The chords include C, G7(sus4), F, G, C, Dmi, C7/E, F, F#7, C/G, Dmi7, G7, C, and F.

Free - dom. Free - dom.

Free - dom. From the

Free - dom Trail in Bos - ton to the dome on Bea - con Hill, to

Fram - ing - ham and Wor - cester and Spring - field if you will. From

Con - cord on ___ to Lex - ing - ton, no mat - ter where you roam. There's a

not so com - mon Com - mon - wealth, it's the place that I call

home. You are the heart ___ of New Eng - land, Old

2

G C G7(sus4) C

I - ron - sides and Bunk - er Hill. _____ Where J. F. K. once

F G Dmi7 G7

paved the way to the day the world _____ stood still. _____ Your

C Cma7 C7 F

One By Land and Two By Sea, help'd set our coun - try free. You can't get

F#o7 C/G Dmi7 G7 C

bet - ter _____ Mass - a - chu - setts.. _____ You'll al - ways be sweet home to me.

C7/E F F#o7 C/G Ami

No, you can't get bet - ter _____ Mass - a - chu - setts. _____ You'll al - ways

Dmi7 G7 Ab Fmi7

be sweet home to me. _____ Free - dom. _____

Bb Gmi7 C B

Free - dom. _____ Free - dom. _____

“MASSACHUSETTS”

by Arlo Guthrie, Official Folk Song of the Commonwealth

Words and Music by
ARLO GUTHRIE

Moderately slow

mf

Verse:

1. Like a dream_ in the night as the snow set - tles white, There's a
 2. up to meet the dawn, an - oth - er day that must go on, There's an -
 3. you could on - ly see, well, I know you would a - gree There ain't

mf

fire burn - ing bright in Mas - sa - chu - setts. And there's a house up - on a hill that
 oth - er night that's gone in Mas - sa - chu - setts. And I could spend all of my days and re -
 no - where else to be like Mas - sa - chu - setts. And there's a house up - on a hill that

Guitar Chords: G, G (F bass), C, Am, G (B bass), C, D, G7sus4, G, G (F bass)

Cover photo by John Pilla, Washington, Mass.

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keeps us from the chill, And by the Grace of God we will be in Mas-sa - chu - setts. You can
 main each day a - mazed At the way each day is phrased in Mas-sa - chu - setts. You can
 keeps us from the chill, And by the Grace of God we will be in Mas-sa - chu - setts. Come on

tell me 'bout the times you spent in the Rock-ies and on the plains, Please don't think that I'm the last to

say That there ain't lots of oth-er plac-es in this world that still re - main Beau - ti - ful and un - changed, but

they're just not the same! 2. The sun comes they're just not the same! 3. Now if they're just not the same as Mas - sa - chu - setts!

ritard.

“SAY HELLO TO SOMEONE IN MASSACHUSETTS”

Official Polka of the Commonwealth

So they say you booked a flight and you'll be leaving.
Is it business, is it pleasure, is it both.
And they say that you'll be landing in New England,
What a perfect time of year you chose to go,
The weather's fine out there, this time of year is lovely.
With all the color and the mountainside to view,
And the people there are friendlier than ever,
So to fit right in here's what you've got to do.

Say hello to someone in Massachusetts,
Tip your hat to every lady that you meet,
Shake a hand, you'll make a friend in Massachusetts,
That New England old-time custom can't be beat.

So they say you've never been to Massachusetts,
Are you ready to be pleasantly surprised,
Between the scenery and the folks in Massachusetts,
All the beauty you just won't believe your eyes,
Home of the University of Massachusetts,
The Boston Red Sox, Patriots, B-Ball Hall of Fame,
Just talk the talk and walk the walk in Massachusetts,
Soon they all will know and call you by your name.

Say hello to someone in Massachusetts,
Tip your hat to every lady that you meet,
Shake a hand, you'll make a friend in Massachusetts,
That New England old-time custom can't be beat.

“BLUE HILLS OF MASSACHUSETTS”

by Katherine E. Mullen of Barre, Official Poem of the Commonwealth

Massachusetts! Massachusetts!
Lovely Bay State by the sea,
Chosen by the Pilgrim Fathers
In their search for liberty.

Massachusetts! Massachusetts!
How we love your Indian name!
Meaning “Great Blue Hill” in Boston,
Named before the white men came.

High locations in the distance,
Are serene, majestic blue,
Like Mount Greylock or Wachusett,
They are fascinating, too.

But from Boston to the Berkshires,
Lesser heights are bathed in blue,
In early dawn or distance,
Like the “Great Hill” Indians knew.

Close to Nature lived the Red Man,
Keen to every form and hue,
Knew the paths, and streams, and wildlife,
And the hills around him, too.

On the wide base of “Great Blue Hill”,
Lived the Massachuset tribe,
Kept their Great Chief’s Pilgrim Treaty
While the good man was alive.

Made in faith with Governor Carver,
Sixteen hundred twenty-one,
Kept for forty years, sincerely,
Till his death in sixty-one!

Massachusetts Seal and State Flag
Show the Chief in deerskin brown,
Proudly holding firm his strong-bow,
And one arrow, pointing down.

“Coat of Arms” of Massachusetts,
With our State Star just above,
Tribute to a noble Indian,
Loyal history that we love!

Gentle hillsides and green valleys,
Make our lives so pleasant here,
While the ever-changing seasons
Bring glad contrasts through the year.

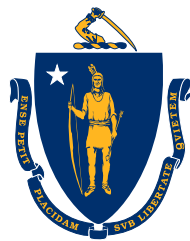
Autumn foliage is so brilliant
It is known throughout the world!
Crimson, gold, and blazing orange
In exultant praise unfurled.

But by Christmas time in winter,
There’s a wonderland of snow!
Everywhere, a lovely picture
Anywhere that we might go.

And the vigor of the climate
With the challenges we meet,
Make our lives in Massachusetts,
A delightful bitter-sweet!

Massachusetts! Massachusetts!
What a splendid history!
Like our great and glorious Nation,
In its strength for Liberty!

Massachusetts! Massachusetts!
Keep the faith true pride instills!
May our trust in you be steadfast,
As the everlasting hills!



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Citizen Information Service