

Family/Historical Research Notes

Tracking Family Movement:

1. Reading, Berkshire, England to Reading, Middlesex, MA – 3,241 mi/5,215 km
2. Dorchester, MA to Salem, MA – 18 mi
3. Waterton, MA to Salem, MA – 18 mi
4. Salem, MA to Dudley, MA – 60 mi
5. Dudley, MA to Charlton, MA – 7 mi
6. Charlton, MA to Whitehall, NY – 175/200 mi
7. Whitehall, NY is on the border with Vermont approx. 600 mi to Concord, MI (as the crow flies)

8. Family residence in:	Greater Boston, MA	1635-1784	150 yrs
	Whitehall, NY	1784-1834	50 yrs
	Concord/Kalamazoo, MI	1834- late 1880's	50 yrs
	Downers Grove Village, IL	late 1880's – 1901	15 yrs
	Napoleon/Jackson, MI	1901 – Present	<u>115 yrs</u>
		Total	330 yrs

Significant Historical/Family Dates:

1. **Samuel Jr. born in Reading, MA (10 mi west of Salem, MA).** Could have been in Salem, MA at the time of the witch trials in 1692 as Samuel Jr. would have been 32 yrs old. First born was Phillip in Salem, MA in 1705.
2. French & Indian Wars from 1754-63 with Treaty of Paris signed Feb 10, 1763, resulting in the French surrendering all of their territory east of the Mississippi River to Britain. **Joseph Clemons is 26 at the start of the War in 1754.**
3. By 1764, the British are in firm control of MI, having expelled the French.
4. Family was in Charlton, MA, not in Boston, at the time of the 1770 Massacre and the 1773 Tea Party. At the start of the American Revolution, **Joseph Clemons is 47 years old in 1775 and Jonathan Clemons I is 17 years old at the beginning and 25 at the end.**
5. England officially declares the end of hostilities in America on Feb 4, 1783 and the Congress ratifies the treaty on Jan 14, 1784 ending the American Revolution. British territorial possessions were assigned to the new USA including the NW territory (i.e. OH, IN, MI, etc.) with the exclusion of Canada.
6. Little western migration, or movement beyond the Appalachian Mountains from 1763-84.
7. Jonathan Clemons I was in the American Revolution and received a land grant for his service.
8. After the War of 1812 with England, and between 1795-1842, Indian lands in MI (1796 England gained control) were ceded to the federal government, removing Native Americans from the area.

9. The Erie Canal is completed in 1825 opening the west to settlement and commerce. American pioneers turned their attention to these northern areas and during the 1820's settlers for the first time push into the interior of southern MI.
10. The Congress passes the Indian Removal Act on May 28, 1830.
11. The Blackhawk War begins on Apr 6, 1832.
12. The Bad Axe Massacre on Aug 2, 1832 ends last major Native American rebellion east of the Mississippi.
13. By 1833, MI had attained a population of 60,000 qualifying it for statehood. The first request made in 1834 was rejected by Congress because of a dispute over MI southern boundary. When Indiana became a state in 1816, it had been given a 10 mi. strip of land in the southwest MI and MI now refused to accede to Ohio's claim that it should be awarded lands in southeast MI, including the present site of Toledo. Congressional approval to establish a state government was granted in 1835 when MI relinquished the Toledo strip. MI became a state Jan 1837.
14. Agriculture sparked the initial MI growth and by 1850, the southern half of the Lower Peninsula was filling up with 85% of the population dependent upon agriculture.
15. Michigan became a state on Jan 26, 1837.

Historical Whitehall, New York:

1. Whitehall, NY is located in up-state NY near the Vermont border. It was first founded as Skenesborough in 1759 and settled as a land grant to a British officer by the name of Philip Skene (1725-after 1785). During the French & Indian War, the town was one of two major routes connecting the English and French colonies. During the American Revolution, the village of Skenesborough was captured by American forces in 1774. Benedict Arnold under Philip Schuyler built a fleet of vessels to confront the British forces at Valcour Island (thus the claim that this the birthplace of the U S Navy). During the War of 1812, the area was used to build ships to battle British forces on Lake Champlain, culminating in the Battle of Plattsburgh. In 1823, the Champlain Canal was completed to Whitehall which connected it to the Erie Canal complex. The Rensselaer & Saratoga RR was extended to Whitehall in 1848.