

**OLD
BRIDGEWATER
TERCENTENARY**

(1656-1956)

JUNE 13-17 1956

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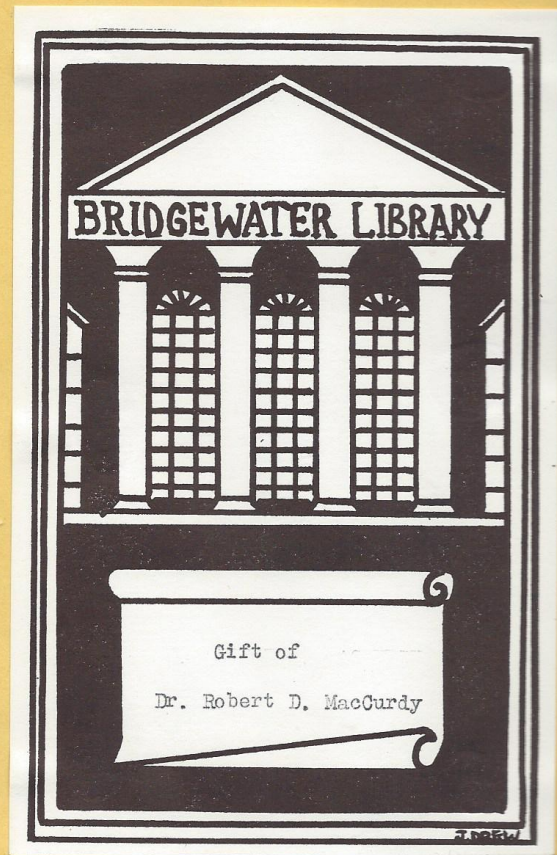
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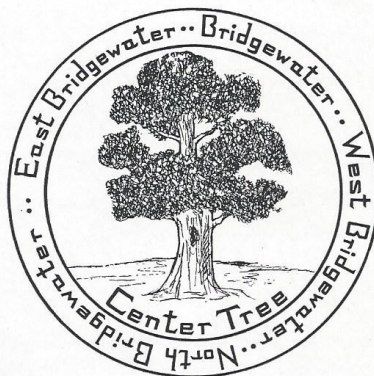
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1656



1956

The inception of the plan to celebrate the three hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Old Bridgewater was expressed in a resolution adopted by the Old Bridgewater Historical Society.

To a committee appointed by the Old Bridgewater were added the joint committees of the towns of Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, West Bridgewater and the City of Brockton (North Bridgewater). Subsequently the members of all the committees were included in the general committee and became known as the Old Bridgewater Tercentenary Committee for the purpose of this celebration.

The Old Bridgewater Historical Society wishes to express its gratitude for the support and enthusiasm given to this venture by the Selectmen of the various towns of old Bridgewater and to the Mayor and Councilmen of Brockton. The members of the Tercentenary Committee deserve great credit for their patient service and contributions toward the fulfillment of the desires of the Society.



The General Committee wishes to thank all the people who so generously contributed to the advertisement section of this book in contributing material for the industrial history of this area.

(Copy of Original Deed for the Purchase of Old Bridgewater)

Nash and Constant Southworth in behalf
of all the townsmen of the town of Duxbury
to them and their heirs forever for ever
I have received of the said Ousamequin
lawyer unto putt my hand the 23 of m^ory
1649

purchase of  Ousamequin

In consideration of the aforesaid bargain
and sale now yet and Miles Standish
Samuel Nash and Constant Southworth do
bind ourselves to pay unto the said Ousamequin
for and in consideration of the said tract
of land as followeth

- 7 Coats and a half in a coat
 - 9 hatchets
 - 8 Jordae
 - 20 Knives
 - 4 moose skins
 - 10 a half of cotton
- Miles Standish
Samuel Nash.
Constant Southworth

Nash and Constant Southworth in behalf of all townsmen of the town of Duxbury to them and their heirs forever. In witness whereof I the said Ousamequin have hereunto set my hand this 23d of March 1649.

In consideration of the aforesaid bargain and sale we the said Miles Standish Samuel Nash and Constant Southworth do bind ourselves to pay unto the said Ousamequin for and in consideration of the said tract of land as followeth; 7 coats a yard and a half to a coat, 9 hatchets, 8 hoes 20 knives, 4 moose skins, 10 yards and a half of cotton. Miles Standish. Samuel Nash. Constant Southworth.

— Translation by Stella J. Snow.



OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY GENERAL COMMITTEE, 1956.

FRONT ROW — Left to Right: W. Noyes, Selectman, West Bridgewater; Leo Nourse, Selectman, Bridgewater; Bradford Alexander, Vice Chairman, Tercentenary Committee, East Bridgewater; Laurist Reynolds, Chairman Tercentenary Committee, Brockton; Margaret Alexander, Secretary, Tercentenary Committee, East Bridgewater; Hjalmar Peterson, Mayor of Brockton; Marjory MacDonald, Selectwoman, West Bridgewater.

SECOND ROW — Left to Right: Professor L. Stearns, Bridgewater; H. Sowerby, Bridgewater; E. Leonard, Brockton; Marie Mitchell, Bridgewater; Thelma Cook, West Bridgewater; Ruth Caswell, West Bridgewater; Stella Snow, Historical Spots Committee, West Bridgewater; Max Berkowitz, Chairman Printing Committee, West Bridgewater; Wm. R. Brown, West Bridgewater; Edward Lalli, Chairman Brockton Committee.

THIRD ROW — Left to Right: R. King, Bridgewater; Wm. Shinnick, Historian, Brockton; Rev. W. L. McKinney, Historian, Bridgewater; A. Atwood, Brockton; E. A. MacMaster, Bridgewater; J. E. McDuffy, Brockton; J. J. Gorman, Bridgewater; T. W. Prince, Committee Attorney; W. C. Holmes, Bridgewater; F. Adams, East Bridgewater.



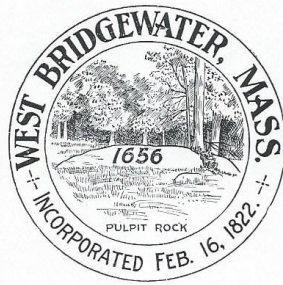
To those who will celebrate the 350th and 400th anniversary, we, the printing committee of 1956 salute you. We hope that these pages have given you a fair glance at our way of life. Those of us who were born before the turn of the 20th Century have in the last fifty years seen what, to us, are a series of miracles in science, industry, medicine, aviation and electronics. From gas lights to flourescent lighting, from horse drawn vehicles to air flight greater than the speed of sound. In medicine we have seen many diseases conquered, we are working and praying that in your day you will see cancer conquered just as we feel we have diphtheria, poliomyolitis and many other scourges of humanity con-

quered to make life for those who come after us more secure and happier. The Printing Committee has tried its utmost to make this book pleasant and informative both by the written word and pictorially. We wish to thank the historians William T. Shinnick, Mrs. Ethel B. Chandler, and Rev. William L. McKinney for the many hours of research and preparation. To the advertising committee for their tireless effort in solicitations, Mrs. Margaret Alexander, Mrs. Marie Mitchell, Mrs. Thelma Cook — many thanks. To the many people who supplied the photographs you see, especially Mrs. Stella Snow and Mr. Laurist Reynolds of the Old Bridgewater Historical Society, we are deeply grateful.

MAX BERKOWITZ, *Chairman*
FRANK ADAMS
MARIE MITCHELL
RICHARD COOPER

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956

WEST BRIDGEWATER



SELECTMEN

MARJORY E. MACDONALD WILLIAM W. NOYES
H. ROY HARTSHORN

THE recorded history of the old town of Bridgewater began in 1628, when King Charles I of England located the southern boundary line of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, which became the northern boundary line of Plymouth Colony, and in part the northern boundary line of old Bridgewater.

When the Town of Marshfield was incorporated in 1642, with land taken principally from Duxbury, the latter town petitioned the Plymouth Colony Court for a grant of land to compensate it for the loss of land to Marshfield. In 1644 the Court ordered, "a view taken of the lands—twelve miles up into the woods from Plymouth bounds at Jones' River", for the purpose of confirming same to Duxbury, "if it prove not prejudicial to the plantation to be erected at Titicut", nor to the meadows of Plymouth at Winnetuxet", (Plympton).

In 1645 Duxbury was granted "lands about Satucket, (East Bridgewater), for a plantation, and to have it four miles every way", from a center to be determined by the inhabitants of Duxbury. On March 23, 1649 (Old calendar), or April 2, 1650 (New calendar), Captain Miles Standish, Samuel Nash, and Constant Southworth purchased this land from Ousamequin, formerly Massasoit, at Sachem Rock

in East Bridgewater for the "township of Duxbury" for seven coats, nine hatchets, eight hoes, twenty knives, four moose skins, and ten and one-half yards of cotton.

This deed from Massasoit conveyed land, from the "wear" at Satucket river seven miles in all directions, and it was recorded at Plymouth in May of 1650. In June of 1650 some Indians appeared and claimed that this land did not belong to Massasoit; that it belonged to Chickatabet, gave a confirmatory deed of the land "lying northward of the south four mile line of Bridgewater" to the purchasers of Bridgewater, for ten pounds in money and one hundred acres of land at Poor Meadow. In 1662 Constant Southworth and Samuel Nash made a sworn statement in the Plymouth Court that they bought from Massasoit the land from the "wear" as the centre six miles, but that the deed "expressed" seven miles.

The first settlements in old Bridgewater were on both sides of the Town river in what is now West Bridgewater in the year 1651, by some of the Duxbury people, and it was then known as, "Duxburrow New Plantation". When Nicolas Robbins of Duxbury, one of the original proprietors of old Bridgewater, made his will on "the 9th day of the twelfth month



OLD RAILROAD STATION

anno Domini: 1650", or on February 19, 1651, according to our present calendar, he bequeathed his "lands which I have in the New Plantation *and yet not Inhabited*" to his son, John, and his three daughters.

Originally there were 54 proprietors of the town, to which later were added, Deacon Samuel Edson, who built the first mill, and the Reverend James Keith, their first permanent minister. Only sixteen of the original purchasers or proprietors became settlers, the others sold, conveyed, or bequeathed their shares to relatives mostly, or to others who became residents of the town.

The original purchasers who settled in Bridgewater were: John Ames, William Bassett, William Brett, John Cary, John Fobes, Thomas Gannett, Arthur Harris, Thomas Hayward, John Howard, Solomon Leonard, Experience Mitchell, Samuel Tompkins, John Washburn, Sr., John Washburn, Jr., John Willis, and Nathaniel Willis. The writer is of the opinion that John Starr and possibly John Irish may have been residents of Bridgewater for awhile in the sixteen fifties and around 1660 and 1661. They also were original purchasers.

The first lots laid out were called garden lots or house lots, and were six acres in area, butting on Town river twelve rods in width, and extending eighty rods in length from the river. Then followed the laying out of lots from ten to fifty acres in area, and of meadow lots of two and a half acres each. On the north side of the river, from west to east, house lots were laid out to, or occupied by, Guido Bailey, Mark Lathrop, Samuel Packard, Nathaniel Willis, Rev. Ralph Partridge, Rev. James Keith, John Starr, John Howard, Zaccheus Packard, Francis Godfrey, Samuel Edson, Church lot, Arthur Harris,

William Brett, Thomas Hayward, John Cary, Sr., John Robbins, Samuel Tompkins, Thomas Hayward, Esq., William Bassett, Joseph Bassett, and Joseph Alden.

On the south side of the river were the lots of William Snow, Samuel Edson, Experience Mitchell, John Fobes, John Cary, Jr., John Ames, Giles Leach, Samuel Wadsworth, John Willis, Jr., and Solomon Leonard. Some of the above had two or three adjoining lots, such as John Ames who had three lots, which were bought or inherited, in whole or in part, from others.

Some of the other early settlers at West Bridgewater were: Joshua Rae, John Richmond, Jr., George Turner, John Field, Thomas Snell, John Hayward, John Tompkins, Daniel Bacon, Thomas Randall, John Kingman, James Dunbar, Lawrence Willis, Thomas Alger, and possibly Edward Bumpas, John Bolton, and Joseph Lapham.

The center tree, which is the motif of the beautiful cover to this booklet, and which marked the alleged center of the town, was located on the south side of East Centre street, south of the Westdale railroad station on the West Bridgewater and East Bridgewater town line. A stone marker now marks the location of the center tree.

By 1656 the plantation had grown sufficiently in population and worldly goods to be incorporated as a separate town with the name of Bridgewater; on June 3, 1656, according to the old calendar, or on June 13, 1656, according to our present calendar. In the old records, and in Nahum Mitchell's history of the town, there does not seem to be any connection between the people of old Bridgewater and the town of Bridgewater, England. Note that the English Bridgewater does not have the letter "e" after letter "g". However, in the old records Bridgewater, Massachusetts, is often spelled Bridgwater.

In 1668 Bridgewater was granted "the six miles they purchased of Indians from the center, — where the line of the Colonie hindereth not, that graunts of land formerly made by the Court be not molested, and that all those graunts that are within this six mile shall belong to the township of Bridgewater". In February of 1691 the General Court of Plymouth made the following order: "And the lands between Bridgewater & Waymouth, called Foords Farms, & ye parts adjacent are hereby put under ye constable rick of Bridgewater, till this Court shall otherwise order". In 1692 Plymouth Colony was united with Massachusetts Bay Colony, and never did "otherwise order".

At its greatest extent old Bridgewater included the present towns of West Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Bridgewater, Whitman, the major part of Abington, part of Rockland, the westerly part of Hanson, a few acres in Halifax, and the City of Brockton.

In 1712 "several of the inhabitants of the easterly part of old Bridgewater, and several proprietors of land adjoining" petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts "to be made a township". Their petition was granted, and their town was named, "Abingdon". It included within its bounds the present towns of Abington, Whitman, and Rockland, and parts of the towns of Hanson and Hanover.

Deacon Samuel Edson deeded his house, barn, and 57 acres in Salem to a William Browne, on December 4, 1655, (new calendar). This deed is recorded in the Essex County Registry of Deeds at Salem. In this deed Mr. Edson is described as being "late of Salem", and from the description of his land as being "on Cape Ann side" it appears that the deacon lived in that part of Salem that is now the City of Beverly. According to a book on the Edson family in

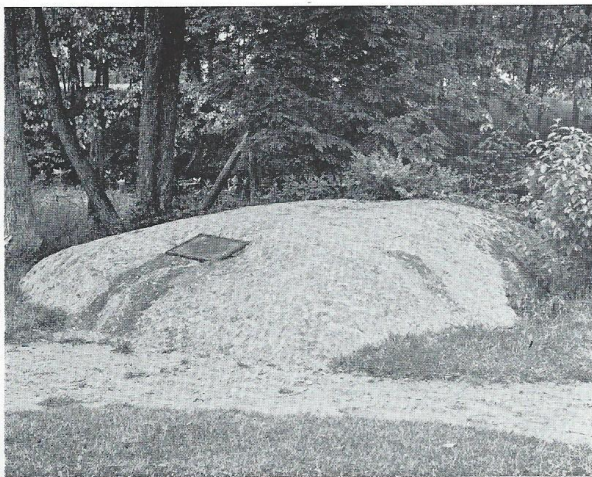
the Brockton Public Library the deacon was in West Bridgewater on May 27, 1656, (new calendar), when Joshua Rea, then of Salem, sold him his, Rea's, house with two house lots, a full purchase right of lands and *saw-mills* in Bridgewater.

On September 25, 1662, William Brett and others, as guests for the Town of Bridgewater, "having Power Given us by the Town to agree with Samuel Edson of ye same Town to Build a Mill having now finished ye same according to our agreement", granted Mr. Edson a full purchase of land in Bridgewater, the lands about the mill, and also the mill itself. This deed is recorded at Plymouth Registry of Deeds. The deacon's new mill was a grist mill, and was needed to save the people from a long trip through the wilderness to the nearest grist mill in Taunton.

The first preacher of old Bridgewater was a young man named Benjamin Bunker, from Charlestown, who served for a year in 1660 - 1661 for twenty-five pounds and his "diet". He was a brother to Martha Starr, the wife of John Starr, who was one of the original proprietors. It may be that it was because of the presence of his sister and his brother-in-law in the town that Mr. Bunker came to Bridgewater. He went to the Church in Malden, and died in that town in 1670. John Starr's purchase right in Bridgewater became the property of George Turner, whose two house lots were on the west side of Howard street and the east side of Mr. Keith's lots.

The first permanent minister was another young man named James Keith, from Scotland, who served his people faithfully and well for 55 years, from 1664 to 1719. His homestead on River street is still standing, and it may be the oldest house in West Bridgewater. It is said that the Reverend Mr. Keith preached his first sermon from

OLD BRIDGEWATER TRICENTENARY—1656-1956



PULPIT ROCK, WEST BRIDGEWATER



SACHEM ROCK, EAST BRIDGEWATER

what is known as Pulpit Rock, near the Town river. The story of Mr. Keith is so well known it will not be repeated here. Mr. Keith's successor was the Reverend Daniel Perkins, who died in 1782 in the 62nd year of his ministry. His successor was Reverend John Reed. Mr. Reed passed away in 1831. Therefore, for 167 years the parish had only three ministers, a truly remarkable record.

The south parish, now the town of Bridgewater, was established in 1716. The east parish, now the town of East Bridgewater, was established in 1723. The north parish, now the City of Brockton, was established in 1738. West Bridgewater was known as the west parish until 1823, when it became the town of West Bridgewater. A considerable part of the northern section of West Bridgewater was annexed to Brockton in 1893.

Any history of old Bridgewater, however condensed, must mention the heroic stand of its people during King Philip's Indian war in 1675 and 1676. They could have retreated to the coastal towns for greater safety, in fact they were strongly advised to do so, but they refused. They fortified some of their buildings and strengthened their fort, which was located on a hill on the south side of Town river near Forest street in West Bridgewater. They were fortunate in not having any of their people killed by the Indians, but their financial losses and expenses were staggering considering their economic conditions at that time. The late Mrs. Fred (Idella) Packard of Montello stated that the Bridgewater people did not recover from their fear of the Indians for years and years afterwards.

Down through the years West Bridgewater has remained an agricultural town principally. It still retains its well shaded streets, its green lawns and meadows, and

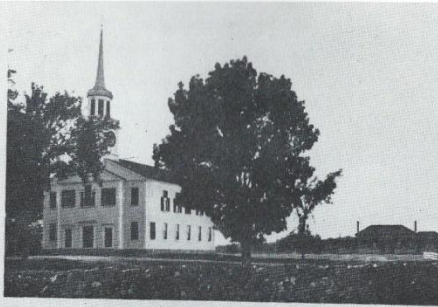
the charm of an old town grown serene with age.

THE COCHESSETT METHODIST CHURCH

Methodism began in Cochesett (Indian word meaning "Hill of the Pine Tree") in 1806 with intermittent preaching at the home of George Howard and his son Nehemiah. This continued for a period of years until a Methodist "class" of fifteen persons was organized in 1832. Nehemiah Howard's son Caleb then deeded the present site and a small meeting house to the new society. The first resident pastor, the Rev. I. J. P. Colloyer, was appointed by the Methodist Conference in 1841. The society soon outgrew its original quarters and raised a new building on the present site in 1844. The total cost was \$2,468.00, most of which was donated by Caleb Howard. A parsonage was built beside the church at a later date and burned to the ground in 1878. Another parsonage was then acquired across the street. In 1888 the building was raised up, the vestry built under it and the wooden Gothic vestibule attached to the front to enclose the stairs. Shortly after the turn of the century the church began to be served by student pastors from the Boston University School of Theology. The first of these was Edgar Sheffield Brightman in 1909. This was the beginning of Dr. Brightman's brilliant career as an author and world-famous professor of philosophy. With the exception of the Rev. Lewis B. Coddington, who was pastor from 1914 - 1926, theological students have continued to serve the church. In 1932 the Cochesett Church was joined with the East Mansfield Methodist Church in a yoked parish, the Cochesett minister serving both congregations. The Church celebrated its centennial in 1940 with ap-



WELPHIT ROCK



FIRST PARISH STATION



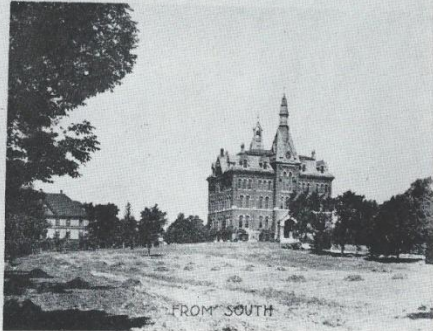
BAPTIST



JUDGE HOWARD HOUSE



CHURCH
ASSES



FROM SOUTH

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956



propriate ceremonies under the leadership of the Rev. Raymond Spears. In 1954 the parsonage was moved back beside the Church and received a long needed renovation and remodeling which made it a modern house. Fifty-five ministers have served the church during the 116 years of its existence. It has produced one minister, the Rev. J. Kenneth Pearson, now District Superintendent of the New Bedford District of the Methodist Church. The church has enjoyed steady growth through the years with 120 members listed on its rolls now. The present pastor, the Rev. Ronald G. Whitney, was appointed in 1952 and has enjoyed a good ministry in church and community.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL-UNITARIAN CHURCH

As soon as the first settlers and their families had arrived and built houses along the river they began to gather regularly for religious services. The First Society was organized in 1651 and in 1662 called James Keith, a young student from Aberdeen, Scotland, as minister. His first sermon was given on Pulpit Rock in Town Park. The house built for him on River Street about the time of his arrival is still standing and occupied.

A small log meeting-house stood on South Elm Street and was used until 1671 when a larger edifice (40 x 26) was voted and built near the monument in Central Square. A third Church and Town-House with three balconies occupied the same spot about 1750, and upon completion of the fourth and present building on Howard Street, was given to the Town in 1801. Lightening and fire caused the loss of the tall, white spire in 1951, but a complete restoration of the old land-mark is anticipated within the year.

Of thirty ministers who have served the Church, the first three, James Keith, Daniel Perkins and John Reed, accounted consecutively for a total of 169 years. This record is believed to be unequalled anywhere.

Of Congregational affiliation until about 1825, the church then became a member of the American Unitarian Association and continued solely as a Unitarian Church until 1954 when it united with the Sunset Avenue Congregational Church which had been organized about 1920.

The evolution from Congregational to Unitarian to Congregational - Unitarian reveals a natural cycle of development in a free fellowship of faith having deep roots, modern meaning and endless expectations.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH West Bridgewater, Massachusetts

The establishment of St. Ann's parish is of recent origin in terms of the history of the town. Until 1928 the Catholic population of West Bridgewater attended services at St. Thomas' Church, Bridgewater. In the spring of 1928 Dr. Ellis Le Lacheur gave a piece of land at the corner of Ellis Avenue and West Center Street to Dr. A. O. Belmore for the purpose of building a Catholic Church in the town. Dr. Belmore organized a committee, consisting of Mr. Frank Ferranti, the late Mr. John Kent and Mr. Thomas Davock. When the matter was brought to the attention of the pastor of Bridgewater, Rev. Francis S. Hart, he gave his whole-hearted approval for a mission Chapel in West Bridgewater. In the meantime permission was obtained to use the local town hall for Sunday services. Father Hart was shortly succeeded by the Rev. James A. Brewin. After four and one-half years of earnest work land was bought next to the Town Hall from Mr. M. A. Simmons because the land do-

nated by Dr. Le Laucheur was not large enough for the size of building needed. Work was started on November, 1932, and the first Mass was said in it on January 29, 1933, by Father Brewin. The Church was called St. Ann, the name chosen by Dr. A. O. Belmore, who was given the privilege because of his donation of \$5,000.00. Numbers increased and on April 27, 1938, St. Ann's became an independent parish with Rev. Cornelius L. Reardon as its first pastor. In the following year a Rectory in garrison colonial style was erected. Succeeding pastors have been Rev. Thomas F. Devlin (1942), Rev. John J. Scollan (1946), Rev. Francis Foley (1950), Rev. Francis S. Shea D.D., (1950). Starting with a group of 150 families, St. Ann's now comprises over 400 families. Every Sunday over 1,100 persons attend Mass at its four services. Activities became so numerous that on October 12, 1953, Rev. Robert V. Meffan, the first curate, was assigned to the parish. Now firmly established, St. Ann's is a tribute to the sacrifices and faith of the people and clergy who continue to work for their families, their God and their country.

HISTORY OF BAPTIST CHURCH

West Bridgewater

In May, 1785, sixteen members were legally discharged from the First Baptist Church in Middleboro to form the First Baptist Church, West Bridgewater. On June 7, 1785, a formal organization was formed with the following as the first membership. Elezer Snow, Seth Howard, Nathaniel Ames, James Perkins, Rhoda Lothrop, Bathsheba Carver, Rebecca Pool, Maltiah Howard, Mary Perkins, Mary Snow, Mary Ames and Charity Howard. Elder George Robinson was the first pastor.

The first meeting house was on West Center Street in Cochesett where meetings were held until 1833 when the Church was declared extinct because of a lack of interest.

In February, 1835, the church was reorganized with twelve members of the former church. The first meeting house had become unfit to hold meetings in because of neglect so that a new meeting house was built in 1837. This meeting house was used until 1887 when it was decided to move to the center of town. Services were held in Gardner Hall until the new edifice was completed in 1889.



WEST BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS, 1956.

EDUCATION THEN AND NOW

One hundred years ago, with a school population of about 300 and a school budget of \$1,484.59, the educational picture was a far cry from today in West Bridgewater when there are approximately 1,000 students and the school budget hits over \$275,000, with a teaching staff of forty-seven.

There were eight district schools in town and one union school with East Bridgewater; with each district financially responsible for the conducting of classes. A school committee of three members made their annual report to the Town. Even then, the problem of underpaid educators was a matter of note as is shown by a quote, "The teachers all labored faithfully, and earned well their wages. Many of them deserved more than they received — May Heaven reward them!"

Adequate housing was a controversial subject — even as in the 20th Century. A report on school houses included this remarkable statement, "Dist. 8 school needs extending. There is no room on the floor for a class, none for visitors, and but very little for the teacher, — hardly enough for suitable respiration."

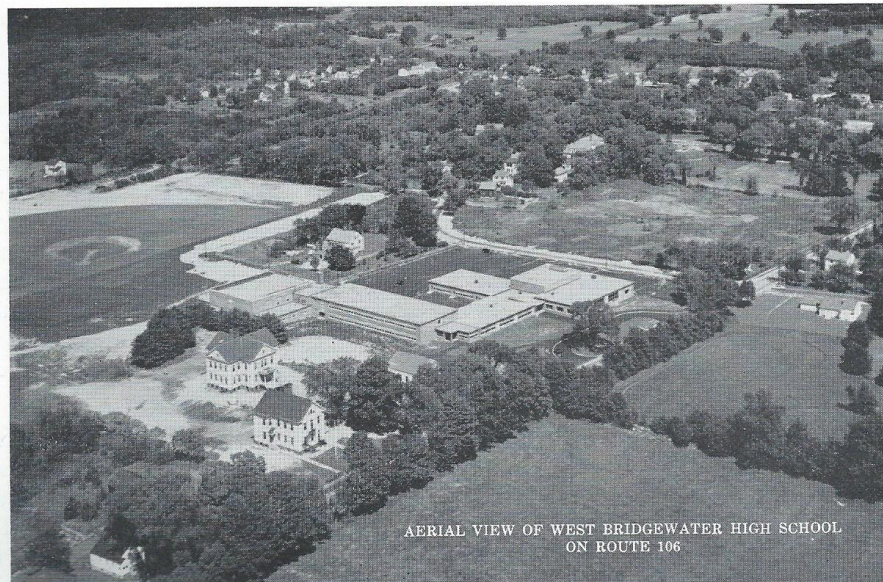
Conditions improved in the short span of ten years as the school budget jumped to over \$4,000. The highest paid teacher received the astounding sum of \$62.50 a month and the lowest was supposed to live on the munificent \$28 salary. A school superintendent was "hired"; also serving on the school committee. His yearly remuneration was \$92. The Cochesett grammar and primary schools had both the largest attendance and the highest paid teacher. A note of interest is the fact that serving on the school board was Erland Thayer. A direct descendant, bearing the same name serves on the school committee of 1956.

In the Town Report of 1868, Simeon J. Dunbar, school superintendent, submitted the following: "For some time our citizens have had a desire, and seen the increased necessity for a High school. This has been supplied by the wise and generous provision of the late Captain Benjamin B. Howard, a native and citizen of this town. Although the entire management of this contemplated school is very wisely left in the hands of eleven competent trustees, yet the school committee should be largely interested and recognize the excellent means which has come to our benefit."

"Captain Howard should be held in grateful remembrance for his munificent bequest for the educational and religious purposes in this, his native town." His will in part reads: I give and bequeath to my sons (and several others) the sum of \$80,000, to be paid to them by my executors in 60 days after the probate of my will, in trust and for the foundation and endowment of a High school, to be called the Howard School, in West Bridgewater, and to apply the income thereof, but no part of providing secondary education to the support of said school."

The report goes on, "Whatever the trustees in their wisdom shall make the character of this institution, its instruction is expected to be free, by the interest of the will, to scholars of the town. These scholars are to be taken from our public schools."

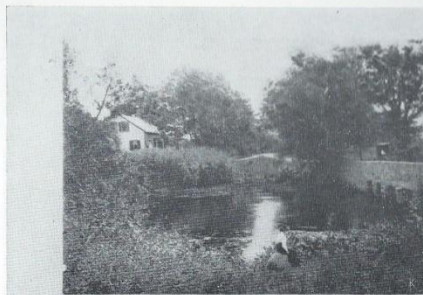
The Howard High school (and Seminary) was built and served its purpose of providing secondary education to the young people of town; until the disastrous fire in the mid-century which razed the well-loved structure. West Bridgewater was now faced with the problem of erecting a high school and shouldering the full



burden of expense. The Seminary, housed in other buildings, continued as a private enterprise, under the supervision of Howard trustees.

The new Junior - Senior High school, with elementary wing, was built at an approximate cost of one and a quarter million dollars and students first used its facilities in September of 1952. At the town meeting in March of 1953 the name was changed to West Bridgewater High school but the first class to graduate insisted on continuing to commencement as "Howard High school, Class of 1953."

The one-room buildings are now all gone, with pupils attending Sunset avenue, front and rear Centre schools and the new school. Nevertheless, space became crowded and double sessions were necessary as soon as two years after the opening of the new school. A survey showed that at least fourteen more rooms were mandatory and in 1955 an elementary school on Spring street was commenced. This building, of a new construction with a "cluster" design, will be ready for occupancy in September, the year of Old Bridgewater's Tercentenary — 1956.



HOWARD BRIDGE FROM NORTH



HOWARD ST. FROM SOUTH



CHURCH SITE



THE CENTRE



KEITH HOUSE

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY — 1656-1956

WEST BRIDGEWATER — 1956

West Bridgewater remains a rural area, with pleasant suburban homes, well-kept farms and about seventy-five business establishments, ranging from grocery stores and service stations to light manufacturing and heavy transportation. Among the articles produced are electronic equipment, rubber molds, wooden clothes racks, automobile batteries, rear-view truck mirrors, electric controls, braided rugs and sportswear. The extent of dairy and poultry farming may be judged by the assessed value of livestock of \$115,335.00 in 1955, consisting of 30 horses, 920 cows, yearlings, bulls and heifers, 39 swine, 69 sheep, 45,770 fowl and 58 chinchilla. There are several large market gardens, each specializing in produce.

The population as of January 1, 1955, was 4,559. 1,169 dwellings and 8,610.17 acres of land were assessed in 1955. The Board of Assessors reported a total value of all assessed property of \$6,478,392.00 for 1955, and indications are that this figure will be increased by over \$320,000.00 by the end of 1956. The total value of all exempted property was \$1,111,033.00. The 1956 tax rate is \$60.00 per thousand, which is broken down into a School Tax Rate of \$36.00 and a General Tax Rate of \$24.00.

Howard Seminary, founded in 1875, has an enrollment of 80 girls from a number of states and several foreign countries. A gymnasium has recently been added to the various dormitory and classroom buildings on the campus. Mrs. Vida S. Clough has been headmistress since 1951, and the present teaching staff numbers fifteen.

Our own school facilities are dealt with elsewhere, and we can be glad that the town has never treated this ever-present problem in the manner deplored by the Secretary of the State Board of Education in

1856, "I would not object to making a school house a costly ornament to a village, if it is so built with the understanding on the part of those who pay for it, that much of their money is expended for show." Bert L. Merrill is Superintendent of Schools under the West Bridgewater - Raynham School Supplementary Union No. 50. Total enrollment as of October 1, 1955, was 1,002 pupils, with forty-seven teachers. The 1956 High School graduating class is the largest in our history with fifty-seven members. Of the thirty-six graduates of 1955, sixteen are continuing their education.

The Public Library occupies a small building (formerly a school) conveniently located near the High School and Elementary School Buildings. Miss Jean Murdock is Librarian and Mrs. Hazel Fletcher is Assistant Librarian. The total circulation in 1955 was 23,083 books, and 390 books were added by purchase.

On February 19, 1955, the new Police and Fire Station on West Center Street was dedicated. It has proved to be ample for our present needs, and adequate for the foreseeable future.

The Police Department consists of the Chief, Douglas Eaton, Sr., two regular patrolmen, Edwin T. Gibson and Ervin G. Lothrop, two reserve officers and seven special policemen. The Police Cruiser is a 1956 model, equipped with a two-way radio connecting with Brockton and vicinity. An Auxiliary Civil Defense Police Force was organized in 1956, and holds regular weekly drills with about 30 men enrolled.

The Chief of the Fire Department is Antoine Sousa, with one Deputy Chief, three Captains, three Lieutenants and twenty-six privates, all on call. There is a Master Electrician, Five Deputy Forest Wardens, and an Alarm Operator, James Peterson, who has served in this confining capacity for fifteen years.

WEST BRIDGEWATER
OLD HOMESTEADS



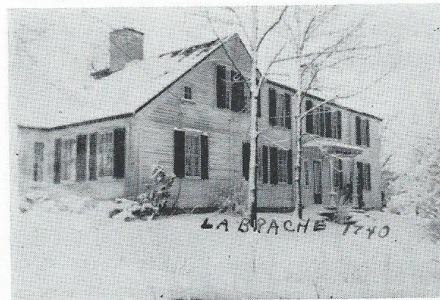
McDONALD



KEITH



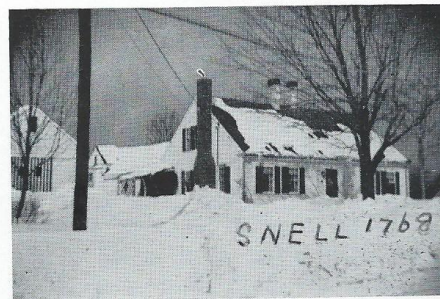
SURETTE



LABRACHE



EMERSON



SNELL

The Tree Department is now housed in the former fire station in the rear of the Town Hall. Thomas B. MacQuinn, Tree Warden, and Superintendent of the Insect Control Department, has two full-time employees. The principle concern today, as it has been for the past fifty years, is control of the Dutch Elm Disease. 37 elms were infected and removed in 1954, and after the damage caused by the hurricanes in that year the disease rapidly spread, and 76 elms had to be removed in 1955. A shade-tree nursery has been established as part of the Town Forest behind Memorial Field, and there are now about five hundred young trees in the nursery, to supply replacements for the Town trees as they are removed. A Poison Ivy Eradication Project has been carried on for the past four years, with excellent results along our roadsides. By state law, towns are now allowed to proceed 100 feet in on private property to spray poison ivy, and this program will be started this summer. The Tree Department is now caring for five old Town-owned cemeteries; Alger and South, on South Street; Cochesett, next to the Methodist Church; Manley Street, and the Tucker cemetery off Union Street. The Insect Pest Control Department sprays all roadside trees each Spring. Very beneficial results have been achieved by an aerial spray of swamp areas for mosquito control. Japanese beetles have become a very serious nuisance in recent years, and the department will step up its control program against them.

The Highway Department is also located behind Town Hall, in its own building. Richard Berglund is Superintendent, with a working force that varies with the need. The town has thirty-seven miles of paved roads, two miles of gravel roads, mostly in the Hockamock Swamp area, five miles of sidewalk, and eleven bridges,

excluding State roads, bridges and sidewalks. The State roads, Route 106, East and West Center Streets, and Route 28, North and South Main Streets, carry heavy seasonal automobile traffic. The Amvets Highway (also called the Fall River Expressway) through Cochesett is now in use between Fall River and Brockton.

Our War Memorial Park on River Street, dedicated in 1936, is a beautiful spot, not only for the townspeople, but for hundreds of visitors each summer. It was photographed for the National Geographic Magazine several years ago, stressing the beauty of its waterways, the old mill stones and the flowering shrubbery. It was designed by Evelyn C. Johnson, and the Custodian is Antonio F. Silveira. We hope it's still a part of our town a hundred years from now.

Our Town Clerk, Anna E. Brown, is the first woman to be elected to that office and has served since 1949. Marjorie E. MacDonald, elected in 1956, is the first woman member of the Board of Selectmen. In 1952 Hastings Keith was elected State Senator for the Plymouth Senatorial District.

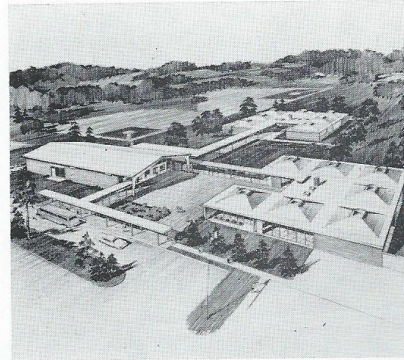
After more than fifty years of public service, not only in the town, but in the state government, Orvis F. Kinney was not a candidate for re-election as Town Treasurer, an office he had held since 1937. Mr. Kinney was active in the celebration of the 250th anniversary.

On March 21, 1949, Howard High School, a famous landmark for many years, was totally destroyed by fire. For a full report of this disaster, the help offered, and the emergency measures taken, we refer you to the Principal's report in the 1949 Town Report. Also in 1949, the town put into operation its own water system.

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956



FIRST GRADUATING CLASS WEST BRIDGEWATER, 1883.



WEST BRIDGEWATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

POSTER COMMITTEE

ELIZABETH WHELAN, *Chairman*, Brockton

ROBERT DANSTEDT
Bridgewater
LUICE MONCY
West Bridgewater

GLORIA GLASER
East Bridgewater
HAZEL MERRIMAN
Brockton

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY POSTER CONTEST PRIZE WINNERS
Grand Prize: Jeanne Burnham, East Bridgewater High School.

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL:

First Prize: Julia Bassett, West Bridgewater High School.
Second Prize: A. Robert Thorburn, Jr., Brockton High School.
Third Prize: Patricia Smith, Bridgewater High School.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL:

First Prize: Joan Arms, North Junior High School, Brockton.
Second Prize: Karen McDonnell, North Junior High School, Brockton.
Third Prize: Katherine Monaghan, North Junior High School, Brockton.

GRADES 4, 5, 6.:

First Prize: Marcia Phaneuf, Grade 5, Kingman School, Brockton.
Second Prize: Cathy Semeter, Grade 4, Center School, West Bridgewater.
Third Prize: Connie Hale, Grade 6, Lincoln School, Brockton.

JUDGES

MR. FRED PATRONE
Brockton

MISS MARY WALKER
East Bridgewater

MR. JOSEPH DRISCOLL
Brockton

COMMITTEE ON HISTORAL DATA

MR. WILLIAM T. SHINNICK, *Chairman*, Brockton

MRS. ETHEL B. CHANDLER
East Bridgewater

REV. WILLIAM L. MCKINNEY
Bridgewater

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY — 1656-1956

EAST BRIDGEWATER



SELECTMEN

MYRON H. HAYDEN, GEORGE A. RIDDER, CHARLES LELAND

EAST BRIDGEWATER

The Town of East Bridgewater, the original territorial center of Bridgewater at the time of the purchase of Bridgewater from the Indians, was settled about 1660. In 1722 the inhabitants of the east end of the North Precinct of Bridgewater petitioned the legislature to be set off as a separate precinct, and on December 14, 1723, the East Precinct was incorporated. Later it became known as the East Parish and on June 14, 1823, it was incorporated as the Town of East Bridgewater, having then a population of about 1,500. The first Town Meeting was held July 4, 1823, with Nahum Mitchell as moderator.

Samuel Allen, Jr., the first settler, is said to have settled here in 1660, on the east side of the Matfield River near the present plant of the Brockton Edison Company. His land included that in the center village, the two central burial-grounds, the Common, and what is known as the Plain. Nicholas Byram and his son-in-law, Thomas Whitman, came here in 1662. Byram, who was the moderator of the first meeting held by the Parish, owned five of the fifty-six shares of the original proprietors, including the west part of the village. He settled on the west bank of Snell Meadow Brook near what is now North Central Street.

Thomas Whitman owned the peninsula between the Satucket and Matfield Rivers and built his house near the present junction of Bedford and Whitman Streets in Elmwood. Robert Latham, the fourth settler, came from Marshfield in 1663 and became the owner of a large tract of land on the south side of the Satucket River, including Sachem Rock. Arthur Harris and his sons, Isaac and Samuel, owned land adjoining Latham, on the north. Latham built a saw-mill on the river, just below the Indian herring-weir. In 1726

Isaac Harris, Thomas Whitman, and Jonathan Bass built a new mill at what later became the Carver Cotton-gin Company's dam.

During King Philip's War in 1676, nine houses, all the homes except that of Nicholas Byram, were burned by the Indians. After King Philip's death, the population increased rapidly. Experience Mitchell, one of the passengers in "The Ann" in 1623, came from Duxbury with his son, Edward Mitchell, about 1680.

They built a house in what was then known as Joppa, now Elmwood. A tannery was located on their estate as early as 1700. Elisha Hayward, Nathaniel Hayward, Jr., Jonathan Hill, and John Howard also settled in Joppa.

Isaac Alden, a grandson of John Alden, the Pilgrim, settled here about 1685. He owned a large tract of land on Beaver Brook, and built a house near Jones's Mill Pond. Joseph Shaw settled here in 1699 at what was later known as Shaw's Mills at the present intersection of Pleasant and Summer Streets.

The parish grew in population during the next 15 years, and became one of the most important manufacturing centers in the state. In 1700 there was a saw mill built by John Whitman on Snell Meadow Brook. In 1726 this mill-site was overflowed by the Forge Pond, Capt. Jonathan Bass having built a dam and a forge farther down the stream. Hugh Orr owned mills on Matfield River near Vinton's corner. As early as 1748 he made muskets for the Province of Massachusetts; at the outbreak of the Revolution he made muskets for the Patriot cause and successfully produced a great number of iron and cylindrically bored brass cannon. While a member of the Massachusetts Senate he persuaded that body to encourage the establishment of textile mills in the state.

About 1788 Samuel Rogers established a machine shop near the brick store now owned by the Swanson-Wallin Company. He invented a tack machine, successfully made a machine which would cut and head a nail at one operation, and in 1802 made two silver watches complete except for mainsprings, supposed to be the first made in America.

Josiah Whitman, living on Whitman Street, manufactured shoes. Cushing Mitchell and Seth Bryant, descendants of Experience Mitchell, in 1822 formed a partnership to manufacture "sale shouse" in Elmwood.

Before the Revolution a slitting and rolling-mill below Orr's Works on Matfield River was owned by the Keith family. In 1935 the Keith Iron Company built a new rolling-mill above where the old rolling-mill stood. This company sold out to the East Bridgewater Iron Company, operated by Rogers and Sheldon.

Many other iron manufacturers were located in East Bridgewater. A chain-works firm did a prosperous business here in 1870. Gen. Silvanus Lazell employed a great number of men from various neighborhoods to manufacture wrought iron nails in his mills on Forge Pond. James Brown and James Eaton built an iron foundry in 1850 which later became the Matfield Manufacturing Company. The Brown Locomotive Works which built locomotive engines in 1851, four years after the railroad was put through town, stood beside the foundry. The foundry became the property of Joshua Dean in 1880 and was bought in 1902 by the Old Colony Foundry. Rebuilt after the disastrous fire of 1903, this property was sold to the Eastern States Steel Company in 1950.

From 1828 the water power at Satucket was used for the weaving of cotton cloth; Nathaniel Wheeler, Wallace Rust and Al-

len Whitman were incorporated as the East Bridgewater Manufacturing Company for this purpose. In 1843 E. Carver Company bought the privilege and began the manufacture of cotton gins. For many years known as the Carver Cotton Gin Company it is at present owned by the Murray Company of Texas, Inc.

Late in the 18th Century there was a brick kiln near the park at Central and Bedford Streets. Records show that several other brick yards were located in town. About the year 1820 Josiah Need made a piano-forte. In 1822 Samuel Keen who operated a mill on the Matfield River in Elmwood and made shoe machinery, also made the first clothes wringer having rubber rolls. The inventor of the twist drill for boring holes in metal was Stephen A. Morse.

In its earliest days East Bridgewater was an industrial community, devoting itself largely to metals. For generations iron and brass castings, tack machines, cotton gins, caststeel shovels and hoes, nails, brass pins, building supplies, bricks, cotton and woolen goods were manufactured here. Today while agriculture and dairying are as important as manufacturing in East Bridgewater, cotton machinery, iron and brass castings, bricks and shoe lasts are among the articles still produced.

A Post Office called Bridgewater Post Office was established in the East Parish as early as 1799 in the law office of Judge Nahum Mitchell, who was the first postmaster. The mail was brought from Boston once a week by horse-back. In 1831 the name was changed to East Bridgewater Post Office. It was moved in 1909 from Union Street to its present location in Central Square. In 1940 the interior of the office was completely remodeled, and in 1956 the number of boxes was increased.

CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, LIBRARY, BANKS

THE HISTORY of the First Parish (Unitarian) in East Bridgewater begins on December 14, 1723, when an Act of the General Court incorporated the East Precinct of Bridgewater.

The meeting-house was begun in 1721 on land given by Samuel Allen, Jr.; the first meeting of the Parish was held in the meeting-house on January 27, 1724, and Precinct officers were elected: Captain Nicholas Byram, moderator; Ebenezer Byram, clerk; Nathaniel Hayward, Samuel Allen, Recompense Cary, assessors; Josiah Allen, collector; Samuel Allen, treasurer. In the forty feet square meeting-house there were eleven "pues" next the wall, an open space in the center for long benches, and nine pews in the gallery. Indians were allowed to worship in the church but sat by themselves under the stairs.

On April 14, 1724, John Angier, a Harvard graduate, was chosen as pastor of the church; he was ordained on October 28, 1724, over a church of thirty-three members. His ministry extended over sixty-two years until his death at the age of 85.

The original church building was replaced in 1754 by a larger one built a little to the east of the first. The lumber from the first building was purchased by Hugh Orr.

In 1787 Samuel Orr Angier, son of the first minister, succeeded his father as pastor after serving with him as colleague for

twenty years. His pastorate represented thirty-eight years of service. During his ministry in 1794 the church in use today was built. It stands in the exact position of the first church erected. The second church stood until the third was occupied; it was then sold to General Sylvanus Lazell.

In 1805 the Parish installed a bell cast by Paul Revere and weighing 931 pounds. It bears his name and the date 1804, Boston. This bell still hangs in the belfry but it is cracked and no longer has its fine resonance.

In 1824, one year after the incorporation of the Town of East Bridgewater, the congregation was authorized by the legislature to be called "The First Parish in East Bridgewater".

Rev. Eliphalet Crafts, whose ministry began in 1828, started the Sunday School of the church. Also, during his ministry, the church finally severed all ties with the town government when the Parish voted to refuse the town the use of its meeting-house for the purpose of holding town meetings. Parishes were now separated by law and all religious societies were put on equal footing.

In 1844 Nathaniel Whitman was installed as minister. He is believed to be the only native son to become pastor of the First Parish. In 1850, during his ministry, the church then facing west was turned one quarter round to face the south, its present position. Also, during this period, the in-

terior of the church was remodelled and a fence was placed around the Common.

On September 7, 1871, the Reverend John W. Quinby was ordained. Until his coming the church had a morning and an afternoon service on Sunday. He accepted the call on the condition that but one service be held on a Sunday. In 1900, during his ministry, the Parish House adjoining the church, was dedicated.

Several parsonages have been owned by the Parish. The present parsonage at 353 Central Street was a gift of the late Joseph W. Strong.

The hurricane of 1938 caused considerable damage to the church structure. The steeple was blown off and broke through the roof of the building. To the present day the steeple has not been replaced.

At the 200th Anniversary Celebration of the Parish in 1924 there was still alive a man who could remember when all the men of the Parish waited outside the church until the women and children had entered and were seated. This custom was stated to have continued from the days when the men sat at the outer ends of the pews with guns ready in case of an Indian attack.

Many interesting customs still persist in the church. For example: the congregation, during the singing of the hymns, turns to face the choir situated in the rear balcony as was the custom nearly two centuries ago.

At present the Parish is in the process of selecting a new minister and looks forward to an uninterrupted teaching of the liberal doctrine for centuries to come.

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

REV. M. JAMES WORKMAN, *Pastor.*

The Union Church of East and West Bridgewater was organized June 20, 1826, by an Ecclesiastical Council which convened at the request of 19 persons whose names are first on Church Roll. A legal parish, the Union Trinitarian Society, had already been formed on April 29, 1826.

The meeting-house was dedicated October 24, 1827. It was 49 by 50 feet in size, and contained 58 pews. The entry was seven by twenty-four feet. A bell was added in 1835. On Sunday, July 28, 1844, this meeting-house was entirely destroyed by fire. A new house of worship was started at once, and on January 1, 1845, the completed building was dedicated. During the building of this church, Sabbath services were held in the Beaver school house.

A vestry was added in 1883; a parsonage opposite the church building was built in 1886. The church was re-dedicated November 8, 1891, after extensive repairs were made and the auditorium remodeled.

The steeple was lost in the gale of November 27, 1898.

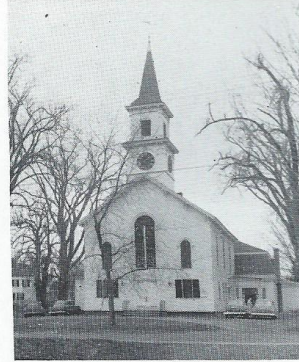
On January 24, 1928, the church was incorporated as "The Union Congregational Church".

There have been many bequests and gifts during the years — consisting of trust fund, memorial windows and cash donations of considerable amounts; a memorial gift of an electric organ blower and a memorial addition of two class rooms on the south side of the vestry.

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956



EAST BRIDGEWATER METHODIST CHURCH



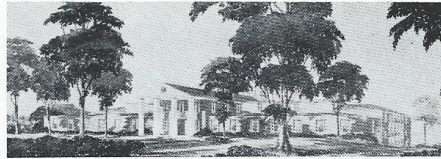
ELMWOOD NEW CHURCH



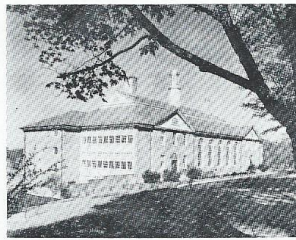
EAST BRIDGEWATER CATHOLIC CHURCH



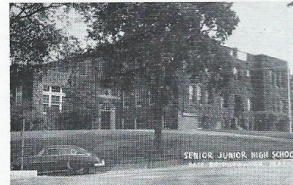
UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



NEW HIGH SCHOOL



CENTRAL SCHOOL



SENIOR - JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



EAST BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS, EAST BRIDGEWATER, 1956.

ELMWOOD NEW CHURCH

“East Bridgewater Society of the New Jerusalem”

Minister, REV. PAUL ZACHARIAS
Elmwood, Massachusetts

- 1820 — Meetings in homes to study writings of Emmanuel Swedenborg.
1831 — Legal Society organized under Massachusetts laws.
1836 — Sabbath School established.
1845 — Ladies’ Sewing Circle formed.
1854 — Church Building dedicated — December 4.
1894 — Young People’s League formed.
1900 — Hall and stage built.
1906 — Church interior remodeled.
1934 — Joppa Guild organized.
1954 — Building rededicated on its 100th Anniversary, the twelfth minister of the Society officiating at the ceremony.

THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

In 1834 a Universalist Society was formed which held services occasionally in the home of Lewis Keith near the Unitarian Church. In 1851 they erected a House of Worship on the site where the Crombie Tavern stood near the present site of the Public Library. In 1857 the Universalist Society was disbanded.

THE METHODIST CHURCH

REV. JOHN D. SPANGLER, *Pastor*.

The Methodist Protestant Church was organized in 1842. In 1844 the meetings were held in the Satucket schoolhouse. This society disbanded a few years later, but another Society, the Methodist Episcopal Church, was formed and met in Northville.

In 1856 a group of Methodists met for preaching services with Deacon R. M. Smith in the “old Voight Place” at the corner of Pearl and West Union Streets. They were joined by the Northville group as well as a small group from So. Abington. A canvass for funds for the support of a pastor was made, and Mr. Smith purchased the building formerly used by the Universalists.

Many memorable years followed. The year 1867 saw the purchase of a bell said to have been cast by Paul Revere. In 1878 the Church Hymnal was introduced in this pastorate; in 1889 an Epworth League was organized.

Seeming disaster struck the church on May 21, 1903, when the building was destroyed by fire. With the encouragement and aid from citizens and other churches plans for a new building were started immediately. This edifice was dedicated on May 8, 1904. The organ in the church was made by the Cole Organ Company of Boston and the new bell was made in Cincinnati.

The Epworth League of 1889 became the Youth Fellowship: Junior, Intermediate and Senior. The “Sewing Society of 1857”, through steady expansion, became in 1942 the Woman’s Society of Christian Service.

In 1949 an extensive program of repairs and improvements on church and parsonage was completed. This year the auditorium was redecoreated.

In June, 1957, the centennial of the church will be celebrated. The church now, as in 1857, is striving to fulfill the spiritual needs of its members and to serve the community wherever it is called upon to do so.

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956



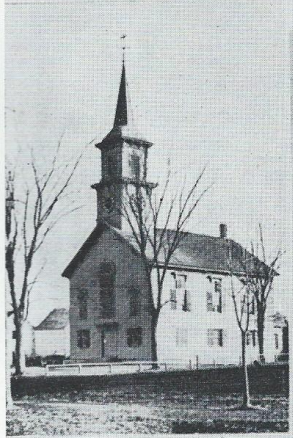
CATHOLIC



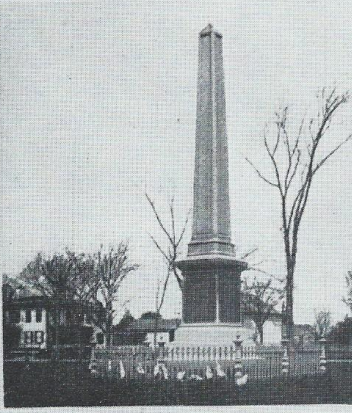
METHODIST



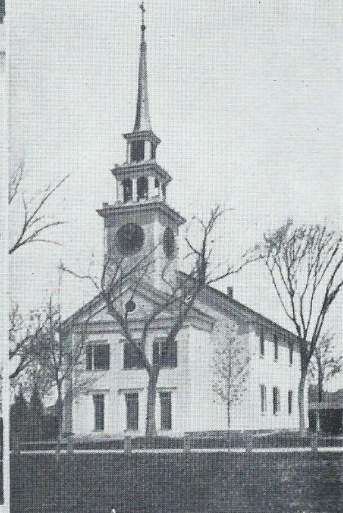
UNION



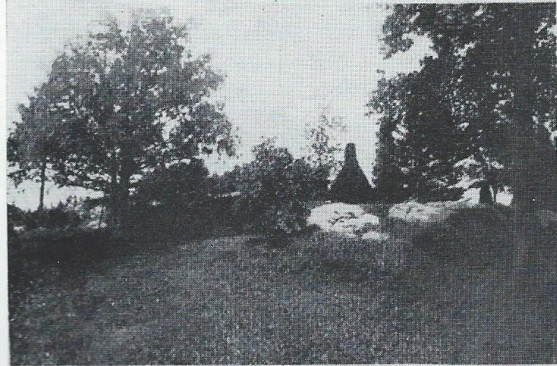
ELMWOOD



OBELISK



FIRST PARISH



SALMON ROCK



LIBRARY

ST. JOHN'S PARISH, 1863 - 1956

REV. DANIEL J. SCULLY, *Pastor*.

Early town records reveal the presence of many Catholic families in East Bridgewater prior to the Civil War, but until 1863 no Catholic Church was erected in the town for St. Patrick's Church in North Bridgewater served the needs of the Catholics of the three Bridgewaters. In 1862, however, the number of Catholics in East Bridgewater had so increased that it was thought feasible to establish in this town a church of their own. Under the leadership of Reverend Thomas B. McNulty, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, North Bridgewater, a committee of local Catholics arranged for the purchase of a church which had previously served the Methodists. In January 1863, this building became the first Catholic Church in East Bridgewater and was known as St. Bridget's. But on Sunday, March 5, 1893, fire demolished this tiny edifice and once again the Catholics were without a church.

Construction was started in the summer of that year and on Sunday, April 29, 1894, the new building was formally dedicated by His Excellency, Archbishop John J. Williams.

*"A room of quiet — a temple of peace,
The home of faith — where doubtings
cease.*

*A house of comfort — where hope is
given;*

*A source of strength — to make earth
heaven;*

*A shrine of worship — a place to pray —
I found all this in my church today."*

Sunday afternoon June 20, 1954, fire raged uncontrollably throughout the entire structure until only the foundation remained. In a short time plans were approved for the third Catholic Church in East Bridgewater. Reverend Edward J. Sullivan received expressions of sympathetic understanding in the forms of donations and offers of buildings for temporary use by the townspeople of all faiths, reaffirming the spirit of unity and brotherhood characteristic of the town. During the fifteen months of construction, the Central School auditorium was used for the celebration of the Mass on Sundays and holy days as the Town Hall had been used sixty-one years previous.

Of Colonial architecture the brick veneer building with a white tower stands to the right of the original site. Adjoining the main church is a side chapel so situated that the altar of the main church may be observed by those seated in the chapel. Here a bronze tabernacle, a gift of the parishioners in 1920 in memory of Reverend William E. Kelly, pastor of the mission church, and the only article not destroyed by fire, adorns the altar. Select and choice appointments throughout the church are evidence of the generosity of parishioners and friends and of the careful thought and planning of the pastor, Reverend Daniel J. Scully, the fifteenth pastor to serve the East Bridgewater parish.

The parish now numbers 1,500 Catholics equally active and devoted to their church as the 759 who first established the parish.

NO SCHOOLS seem to have been established in East Bridgewater before 1700. In 1705 "Nathaniel Brett was chosen schoolmaster, to be paid 15 pounds per annum, and 4 schooldames for the several quarters of the town to instruct small children in reading". The schools were probably kept in private houses as there was no school house in East Bridgewater until 1720.

The first schoolhouse stood near the Common and parts of its foundation could still be seen around 1900. This was the only schoolhouse for about fifty years. By 1773 East Bridgewater was divided into seven school districts and by 1785 there were ten school districts: Centre, Black Brook (later Eastville), Beaver, Joppa, North Ville, Setucket, West Crook (later Auburnville), Pond, Barrell (later The Common), and Curtis (later Robbins Pond). East district provided its own schoolhouse, also a Prudential Committee and the expenses of the school from the district's share of the money appropriated by the town for that purpose. Edward Everett, then a student at Harvard College, taught the winter term in the Black Brook District, now Eastville.

In 1818 the Bridgewater Academy, a school for young ladies was built next to and west of the Old Cemetery. It was incorporated in 1937. In 1845 it was sold to William Allen and used as a private school. The original building is now standing on Keith Place.

The first East Bridgewater High School was built in 1860 on the sandhill between what was later Keith Place and the railroad track. The first, eighth and ninth school districts were united; the upper room was "highly furnished with desks and apparatus for the accommodation of a

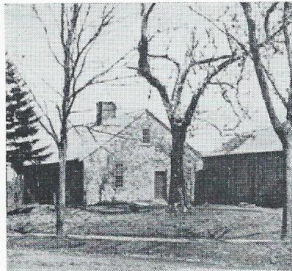
Grammar School. The schools in the District were partially reorganized, and a selection made of as many scholars as, in the best judgment of the Committee, were fitted, on account of age and advancement in study, for the Grammar department". Horace Cannon was the first teacher of the High and Grammar School, and the whole attendance was 65. A large proportion each term included more advanced scholars who studied Latin and Greek and "made good use of the black-boards in mathematics".

The Central School, a new consolidated school for pupils in grades one to six, inclusive, was dedicated on June 17, 1950. The general design of the exterior of the brick school building is of colonial character. The interior design and plans are based on the latest teaching methods. There are eighteen classrooms, an All Purpose Room (with a stage) which is used both as an auditorium and a lunchroom, a serving kitchen, and a medical unit. The school faces Central Street and is accessible from both Bedford and Central Street for use of school buses and cars.

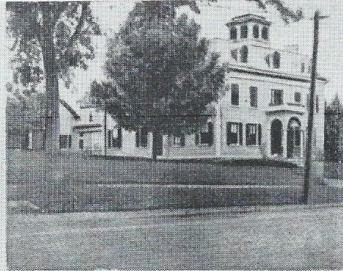
The present and second high school building was destroyed by fire in 1911. There was an attendance of 110 pupils when the new high school was opened in the Fall of 1913. This building was enlarged and rededicated as the Senior-Junior High School in 1937.

In 1953 due to a sharp increase in population, the Central School housed three sixth grades in the Town Hall and by 1955 it was necessary to move two more grades there. Overcrowding existed also at the Senior - Junior High School. On October 24, 1955, the town voted to construct, equip, and furnish a senior high school building.

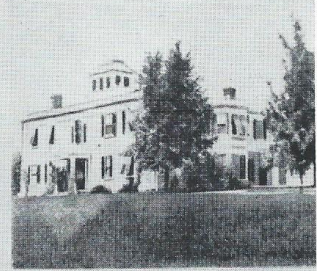
OLD BRIDGEWATER TRICENTENARY—1656-1956



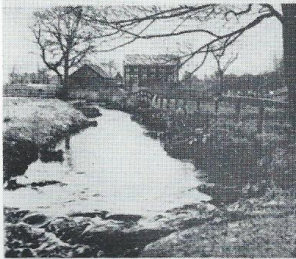
DEACON AZOR HARRIS HOUSE



JUDGE HARRIS HOUSE



HENRY HOBART HOUSE



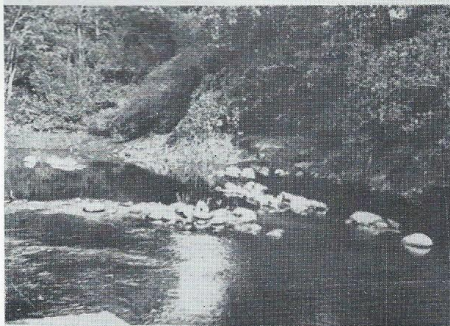
OLD FORGE SITE



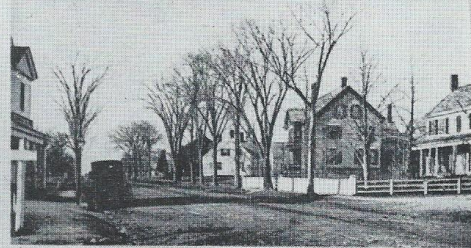
CENTRAL ST.



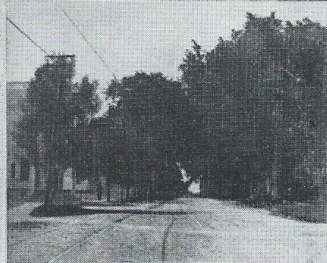
OLD BRICK STORE



INDIAN HERRING WEIR



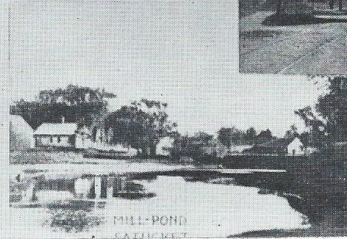
ELM-WOOD



ELMWOOD



CHAMBERLAIN BRIDGE



MILL-POND

THE LIBRARY

Libraries were established in East Bridgewater at different periods. The Library of the East Parish of Bridgewater, a library of religious books, was in use in 1770. In 1793 the Proprietors of a Library in the East Precinct of Bridgewater formed a library society. From the records the selection of books was judicially made. In 1836 the Reverend Adonis Howard and others formed a Social Library in Joppa village. About 1838 a Village Library was kept in the law office of Welcome Young. John Adams Conant, Jr., started a library in Eastville about 1840, and an Agricultural Library was established in 1860.

The East Bridgewater Library Association was formed in 1870. The voters of East Bridgewater voted on March 10, 1884, to establish a public library. The East Bridgewater Library Association presented 468 books to the Public Library which was opened June 25, 1884, in a room over Isaac N. Nutter's store. The library was moved, with the town offices, into the Savings Bank building in 1885 and into the Masonic block in 1892.

On July 18, 1894, Cyrus Washburn of Wellesley Hills, a native of East Bridgewater, set aside \$10,000 by a deed of trust stipulating that the trustees should purchase the lot formerly occupied by the Catholic Church and, upon his death, a building should be erected for the use of the town as a library. Later, Mr. Washburn decided to have the building erected during his life. This building was dedicated September 22, 1897. As the building was unfurnished, a fair was held netting over \$300. From this sum curtains and 170 books were bought. During the years that followed rummage sales and fairs were held, and several permanent trust funds were established. In 1909, the 25th an-

niversary of the Public Library, there were nearly 6000 books in the library and a catalog had been made.

In the early 1930's the book stacks were opened to the public and the former trustees' room was used as a children's room. Pupils from the High School were permitted during school hours to use the library for reference work and deposits of books were sent to the grade schools. In 1938, by a WPA project, the present children's room was completed, and the following year, also by a WPA project, the interior of the library was painted. In 1941 the library was recatalogued in the Dewey decimal system and the library was opened to the schools and public fifty-six hours a week during the school year.

During the war years, 1941 to 1946, the library was a headquarters for Civilian Defense activities. A service roll for citizens in the armed forces in World War II was kept in the entrance to the library and data obtained for their records. Cigarettes, food and books were wrapped and mailed from the library with a mimeographed service paper.

In 1949 the third floor of the library was remodeled for work rooms and an historical room; in the basement a periodical room and a fine arts room were finished. Out doors a new garden room was completed with the Mary Parker memorial fountain at the entrance. A new school branch library was opened in the Center School in 1950 and in 1954 a library room was equipped in the Town Hall school. A library of recorded music was added in the fine arts room during 1954. As of December 31, 1955, there are 21,844 volumes in the library.

A bank called the East Bridgewater Bank was chartered in 1828 but closed after a few years as a result of speculation in Eastern Lands.

The East Bridgewater Savings Bank is the oldest banking institution of any kind in the Bridgewaters, including Brockton (North Bridgewater). Incorporated on March 8, 1870, the first report to the Commissioner of Banks on October 31, 1871, listed total deposits of \$4,062.06. Today the Bank has the distinction of having more depositors than there are inhabitants of the Town of East Bridgewater. The assets on April 5, 1956, were \$7,804,380.36.

The bank building has twice been extensively remodeled, in 1922 and 1955. At the time of remodeling in 1955, a safe deposit department was added.

Throughout its entire history the affairs of the East Bridgewater Savings Bank have been conducted by representative citizens of this community. A notable feature in the history of the bank is that the third and present treasurer, and three trustees are the third generation of their families to serve the bank.

The East Bridgewater Cooperative Bank was incorporated in 1913. For 25 years it was quartered on the second floor of Fred E. Fuller's store in Central Square.

In 1938 the Vinton property, formerly the Charles Rogers home on the corner of Bedford and Central Streets, was sold to M. F. Roach and Sons. The house, one of the oldest in town, was redecorated by the new owners. On January 4, 1939, the Co-operative Bank moved to a suite on the first floor of this building. The total assets of the bank, March 30, 1956, were \$921,239.61.

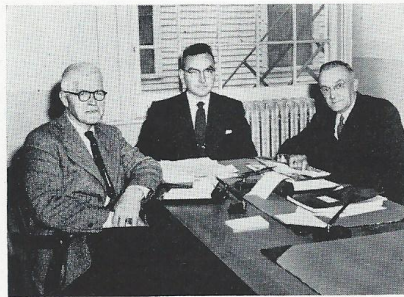
Changes brought about by economic and scientific developments were reflected in East Bridgewater. Indian paths gave way to roads and roads to streets. The Bedford Turnpike was built in 1806.

The steam railway brought here in 1847 was abandoned in 1925. Electric trolley lines established in 1897 were replaced in 1929 by motor bus service. A public water system, electricity and telephone service were installed soon after the turn of the century. Antennas were raised for radio in the early 1920's and for television 20 years later.

The town is still governed by the town meeting. The town offices were for many years on the second floor of the Savings Bank building. In 1950 the Hobart estate opposite the Town Hall was purchased for a town office building. The population has grown nearly four times greater since the incorporation of the town, from about 1,500 in 1823 to 5,359 in the 1955 state census.

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956

BRIDGEWATER



SELECTMEN

BARTHOLOMEW F. CASEY, HARRY P. DUNN, LEO F. NOURSE

OLD BRIDGEWATER TRICENTENARY — 1656-1956

By WM. LORD MCKINNEY

In the South Parish the name of Bridgewater was inherited after the North, West and East Parishes became separate towns in that sequence in the years 1821 - 1823. Until the year 1822 the people of this parish attended town meetings in what is now West Bridgewater. This town was the last to be incorporated, thus retaining the name of Bridgewater, as a legacy.

It is likely that the first white men to visit this area were Winslow and Hopkins en route to see Massasoit in the summer of 1621. They encamped with the friendly Indian Tisquantum on the banks of the Titicut. It was formerly thought that this encampment was in Middleboro on the southern bank of the river but recent excavations by Dr. Maurice Robbins have shown that the encampment was situated at the bend of the river on the north bank.

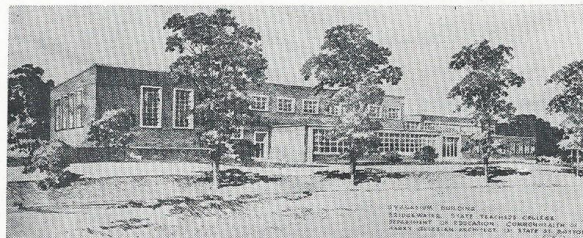
In the year 1633 the renowned Chickataubet "passed to the Happy Hunting Grounds", and there followed a division among the Titicut Indians and the question arose as to which group shall fall heir to these fertile lands north of the river. Then it was that the Duxbury men looked with longing eyes at the fresh meadows and giant timbers with an abundance of game and good fishing. Their dreams were realized in the purchase in the year 1649 from the friendly Sachem, "Ousamequin".

Within a few years a name was chosen for the plantation still known as a part of Duxbury. In all probability many other names were suggested but when it was finally decided to name the new settlement Bridgewater, no record was left as to the occasion which produced the name.

Edward Southworth and his family were interested in Somersetshire and one of the family built a chapel at Wick. Alice Carpenter of Wrington and Edward met there in that part of the country and the historians of the Southworth family seem to stress the importance of the place of their meeting. They journey with the pilgrim company and were married at Leyden, where a son, Constant, and his brother were born and their father died.

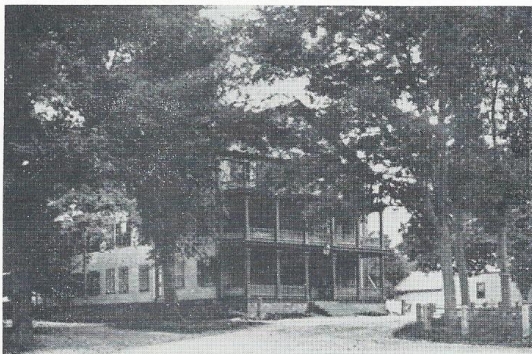
Now the scene changes to Plymouth where widow Alice Southworth arrived on the third ship Ann. Her two sons, Constant and Thomas Southworth, probably came with her or soon after her arrival. Thomas, the younger of the two, was about six years of age.

Alice Southworth becomes the wife of Governor Bradford, and the first lady of the Old Colony was a capable person with a fine family tradition. When Constant Southworth was appointed by the court to assist Captain Miles Standish in the purchase of the new plantation, now Bridgewater, from the Indians, Mrs. Bradford was concerned with the outcome of her stalwart son's adventure and the new lands.

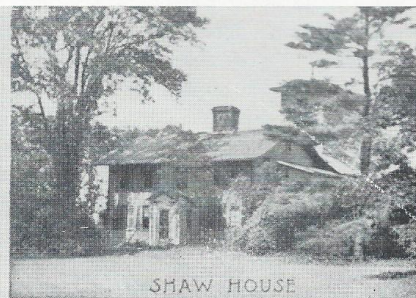


GYMNASIUM
STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

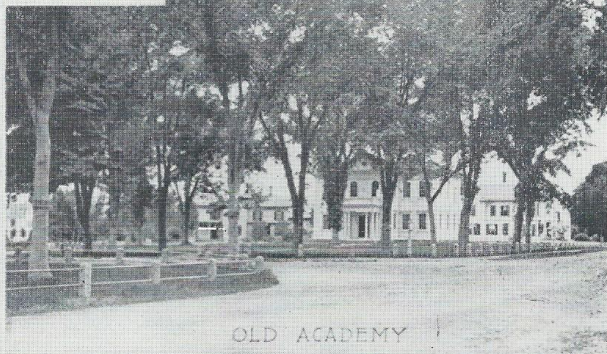
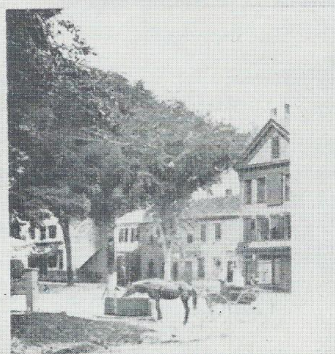
OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956



THE INN



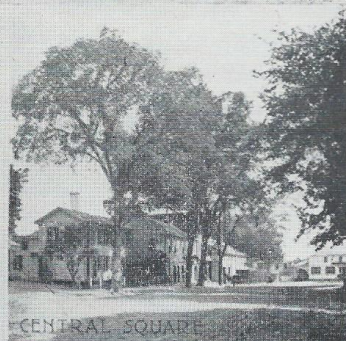
SHAW HOUSE



OLD ACADEMY



BROAD ST



CENTRAL SQUARE



And these Southworths were clear in character and decisive. The story is told of Constant's daughter Elizabeth and her increasing interest in William Fobes, a son of John Fobes, one of the original proprietors of the town. Her father had declared his opposition to the courtship as indicated in his will: "to give my daughter Elizabeth my next best bed and furniture, with my wife's best bed, provided she does not marry William Fobes, but if she do, then to have but five shillings". Elizabeth chose the five shillings and William. They were married and left these parts for Little Campton, and William served with Captain Church in King Philip's War with distinction, in defense of Bridgewater.

INDUSTRY AND EDUCATION

Two rival destinies through the centuries have been contending for supremacy in the growth of Bridgewater. In the early days it achieved some distinction as an "iron town", so-called; and later but no less seriously it as designated a "classic town".

Perhaps it was the ore deposits hereabouts three centuries ago that had an appeal equaling that of the fresh meadows, the fertile fields, the abundant game in the forests and good fishing in our "Great River".

A few years ago the late Samuel A. Eliot, author of many volumes on New England history, speaking here at an Academy anniversary, said: "few people realize that Bridgewater 150 years ago was one of the largest towns in the Commonwealth, both in acreage and in population.

This early growth was due in no small measure to the ore deposits in our ponds and bogs, and perhaps in like measure to

the stress laid on the importance of education by the early clergy in Old Bridgewater, "in which the ministers of all four of its parishes for over 150 years were university bred men."

From the earliest times here and elsewhere the nail industry was of prime importance. At the forges iron was gathered from the blast furnaces and elsewhere and made into bars. The next step was to the slitting mills of which we had several even in the early years, and these bars which had been rolled into the width of about three inches, were cut into nail rods of varying thicknesses as the size required.

The nail rods were for sale in the stores and purchased by those desiring to make their own nails. The process seems to have been common in the early years of heating the rods in a small forge in a shed and cutting the nail to the desired length on a chisel attached to an anvil. This practice was common up to the beginning of the last century, when machine-made nails entered the picture.

Perhaps it is well to mention the fact that with the forges, sawmills and tanneries occupying the dam sites on the "Great River" and its streams, there arose the problem of fishing rights and as early as three centuries ago the disputes were many as to the taking of the alewives in the spring. The dams in some cases prevented the fish from reaching the upper ponds which in places resulted in the dams being displaced by interested parties. An early court action ended in a ruling that the dam should be so constructed as to allow the passage of the alewives in season.

In the year 1716 the southern part of old Bridgewater was organized as the South parish and the parish church be-

came the central point of interest. The Rev. James Keith preached the dedication sermon in the new meeting-house August 14, 1717, and the minister of Taunton preached in the evening service. Copies of both sermons have been preserved.

The first meeting house was rather small. The deacons sat facing the congregation and a partition separated the men and the women. The first settled minister was the Rev. Benjamin Allen graduate of Yale College, and he lived in the house now known as the Tory house, but earlier spoken of as the Leonard, Edson and Washburn house, at various times. Mr. Allen served the parish with distinction, but within ten years there arose difficulties in administration, which finally resulted in his retirement.

The Rev. John Shaw's ministry brought many innovations including the introduction of many psalm tunes. Col. Josiah Edson, as deacon in the church, was accustomed to lining out the psalm tunes, as he stood in front of the pulpit. At the beginning of the Revolutionary War the deacon as usual one Sunday morning sounded forth and no one but his son responded. It was during the coming week that several of the citizens suggested to the Colonel that since his sympathies were with the British that he vacate his residence, which he did, with little bitterness on either side, since Josiah Edson had been one of the community's most respected citizens.

The colonel served with the British on Long Island, where he died in the year 1781, according to the records in the Harvard archives. His property was not confiscated here until the year 1783.

The historic Shaw residence on Plymouth street, situated where the residences of Walter S. Little and Charles P. Lewis now stand, was the scene of his noted Greek and Latin school for boys, which he con-

ducted with great distinction till the coming of Dr. Sanger as his associate, who then added scientific studies and conducted the school in his own residence on Plymouth street. In the year 1799 Dr. Sanger was the leading spirit in the organization and founding of the Bridgewater Academy.

The first Academy building was erected in the year 1799 near where the old Bridgewater Inn stood and about opposite the Home National Bank's branch office.

On July fourth, in the year 1800, the trustees officially met and elected the Rev. Zedekiah Sanger the first Preceptor and "the school immediately commenced under most favorable circumstances.

In midwinter of 1822 late in the night the Academy building was discovered in flames and burned to the ground. Much discussion developed over the question of a new site for the Academy. Now the town was just laying out the town common in that year and the Lazell men and the school treasurer, Dr. Noah Fearing, were enthusiastically seeking to locate the new building where it stands today.

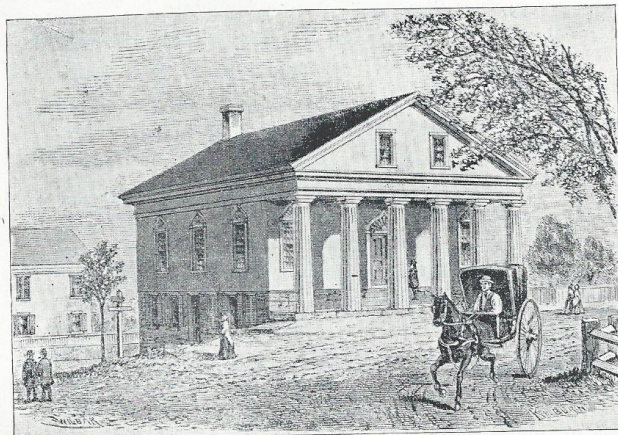
Captain Abram Washburn offered three hundred and seventy-five dollars for the old site of the Academy and after a bitter controversy it was accepted. The captain had a business motive and five years later erected the Inn, then but a two-story building, on the land. At this time the town was ready to take on the name and traditions of Bridgewater, the other parishes having been styled the North, the West and East Bridgewaters.

To the sum received for the sale of the land, the Legislature added three hundred and fifty dollars. Subscriptions totaling thirteen hundred dollars were forthcoming, but the prolonged debate over the location of the new building caused some to withdraw their pledges and only one thousand dollars of the amount was collected.

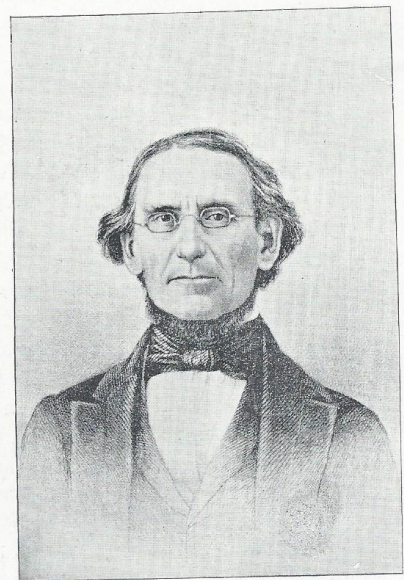
OLD BRIDGEWATER TRICENTENARY—1656-1956



STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

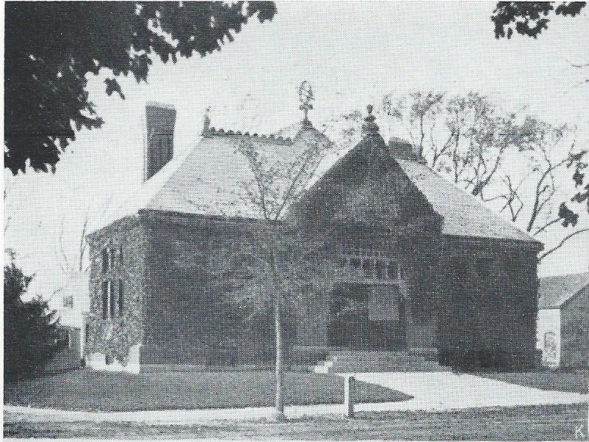


BRIDGEWATER TOWN HALL WHERE THE NORMAL SCHOOL WAS STARTED.

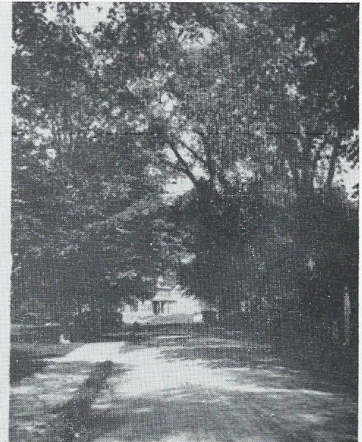


NICHOLAS TILLINGHAST
First Principal of Bridgewater Normal School.

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956



LIBRARY



PLEASANT ST.



SOUTH ST.



The Lazell family came to the relief of the situation and purchased the land and gave other substantial assistance. Lazell, Perkins and Company contributed for the brick ends of the building, which was of the same dimensions as the first building, namely 54 ft. x 27 feet in width.

Succeeding generations have perfected things mechanical in Bridgewater. It is stated that the iron and nail industry started almost as soon as the Pilgrims stepped ashore at Plymouth. As a matter of fact England had encouraged, within ten years of the landing of the Pilgrims, a thorough search for mineral deposits. This fact doubtless soon led the Duxbury men here in search of iron deposits.

In the year 1786 two events of historical significance took place in Bridgewater. The first was the result of the inventive genius of one of our expert machinists, Ezekiel Reed, who achieved lasting fame by the invention of a machine to manufacture nails. The other event was the partnership between Robert Perkins and the Lazell brothers, Nathan and Isaac, junior, sons of Isaac Lazell.

Isaac Lazell, Sr., with Robert Perkins, constructed a Slitting Mill near the same site, which was the second mill of that kind to be erected in America. Within ten years it was recorded that 445 tons of iron annually were cut and rolled, of which one hundred tons were for hoop-iron and nails.

In the year 1793 another Slitting Mill was erected. This notable development of the iron industry, after the Revolutionary War, was the result of the lag caused after the British Act of 1750 which had prohibited the building of such mills.

In the year 1815 Jesse Reed, the son of Ezekiel, who invented the nail machine, patented a tack machine made here in Bridgewater which made tacks in one operation, and almost revolutionized the industry.

The tack machine, perhaps invented by the Reed father and son was exhibited in duplicate by the D. B. Gurney Company of Whitman at the Bi-centennial Celebration at Abington in the year 1912. That machine is now in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington.

Generation after generation have controlled the Henry Perkins Foundry, which carried on the traditions of the 18th Century when an ancestor first "damified" the town river. Later Perkins interests joined with the Lazell men and the Iron Works achieved mightily.

In more recent years the Independent Nail and Packing Company, now in its third generation, has reached a position of leadership in the nail industry. For some years it has sponsored research projects and established a research foundation at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, introducing scientific research in place of the old system of trial and error technique.

The two oldest houses in town are Edson - Washburn house now known as the "Tory House" in Central Square and the Alden house on High Street. Both houses date from about 1700.

In 1716 John Washburn and his wife Rebecca gave the land for the old churchyard and the First Parish Church with the beautiful green in front extending to Summer Street. Both donors were buried in the western corner of the graveyard.

In 1842 the Mount Prospect cemetery was dedicated.

In 1823 a paper mill was established at Pratt Town where there had been a dam in 1792, a grist-mill in 1794 and a fulling-mill in 1798. The site is now occupied by the expanding George O. Jenkins Co., mills.

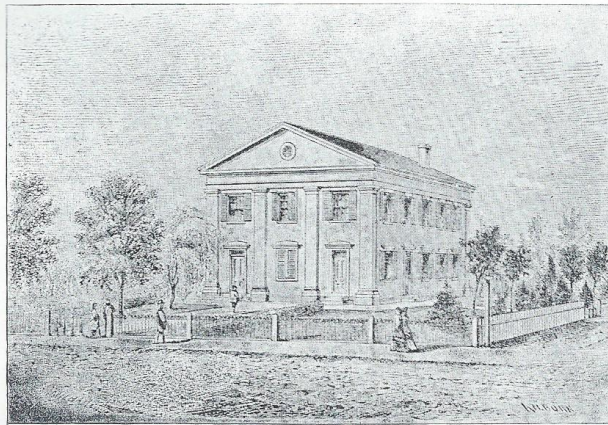
The present town hall was built in 1843.

The Old Bridgewater Inn was built in 1827 by Captain Abram Washburn.

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956



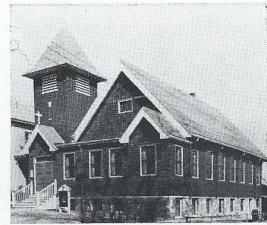
BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL



FIRST NORMAL SCHOOL



MCELWAIN SCHOOL



BAPTIST CHURCH

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY — 1656-1956



GRADUATING CLASS, BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL, 1956

BRIDGEWATER CHURCHES

The present First Parish Church, Unitarian, was built in 1845. The architect, Solomon K. Eaton, also designed the Academy building. The hurricane Carol destroyed the steeple completely in 1954. A community committee has been formed to raise funds for the restoration of the steeple. It was planned as a feature of the present celebration. Rev. Wm. Lord McKinney.

The Roman Catholic was built in 1855 and enlarged in 1898. Rev. Percival J. Quill.

The Central Square Congregational in 1862 and remodelled in 1883. This was a transfer from the Scotland Church which was formed about 1821. Rev. Robert Mayhew.

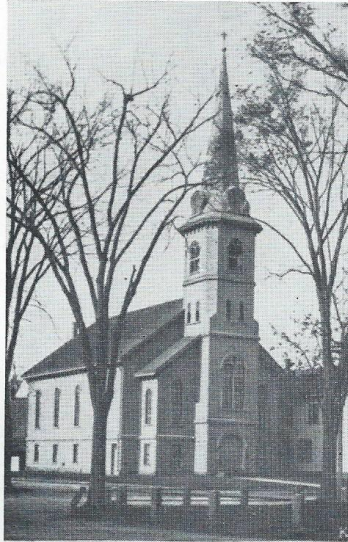
The Swedenborgian Church was built in 1871. Rev. Harold R. Gustafson.

The Trinity Episcopal Church was built in 1883. Rev. Clinton H. Blake, Jr.

The Baptist Church was dedicated March 5, 1902. Rev. Carl R. Bartle.

The Methodist Church (Gammons Memorial) was built in 1913. Rev. John P. McCallum.

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956



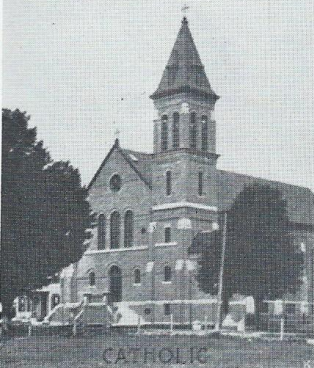
CENTRAL SQUARE



EPISCOPAL



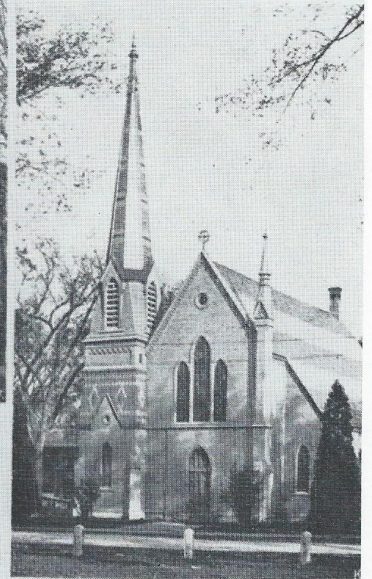
SCOTLAND



CATHOLIC



FIRST PARISH



NEW CHURCH



METHODIST

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY—1656-1956

BROCKTON

(NORTH BRIDGEWATER)



MAYOR HJALMER PETERSON

BROCKTON'S recorded history began in 1628 also, when the southern boundary line of Massachusetts Bay Colony was established, as that line, in part, became the northern boundary line of Brockton. In 1637 the Bay Colony granted to the town of Boston all the land from Mount Wolliston to the Plymouth line. This grant included what is now the extreme north-eastern corner of Brockton. In that same year of 1637 the Bay Colony granted to the town of Dorchester the land beyond the "Blew" Hills to Plymouth line. This grant included the present towns of Canton, Stoughton, the most of Avon, and the north central part of Brockton.

In the year 1640 Governor Endicott and Israel Stoughton for the Bay Colony and Governor Bradford and Edward Winslow for Plymouth Colony attempted to locate the line between the colonies. They started at the mouth of a brook, which they named Bound brook, on the line between Cohasset and Scituate, and ran the line to the middle of a pond called Accord pond. They then proceeded to run a straight line from the pond to the southernmost part of Charles river.

Aaron Hobart, the Abington - Whitman historian, says that it is not so stated in their report, but the fact is said to be, that when they arrived on the easterly side of Rhode Island they found their course would carry them far south of the true station. So they marked a white oak tree and made an angle in the line. In the course of their survey they must have walked through the northerly part of Brockton, and they may have been the first white men to visit Brockton. The line from Bound brook to the pond was thereafterwards accepted as being the correct line for that part, but the survey from the pond to the angle tree was not confirmed, and that part of the line remained unsettled.

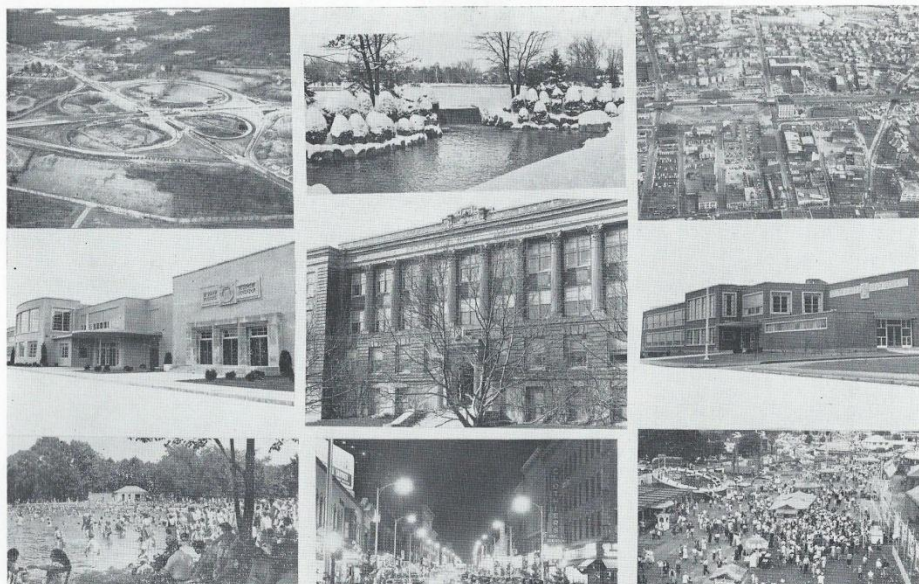
In 1642 another attempt was made by Nathaniel Woodward and Solomon Saffery of the Bay Colony to locate the line, and especially to locate the point three miles south of the most southerly part of the Charles river, which point was the westerly end of the line. Their survey was not confirmed.



FIRE ENGINE, 1910



CITY HALL



TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT—BELMONT STREET CLOVERLEAF, D. W. FIELD PARK, PARKING LOTS; MIDDLE ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT—WEST JR. HIGH, BROCKTON HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH JR. HIGH; BOTTOM ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT—ELLIS BRETT, BROCKTON AT NIGHT, MIDWAY AT FAIR GROUNDS.

About three and a half miles easterly of that tree they marked another tree and *made an angle*, and then proceeded toward's Accord pond. They "were cast more than halfe a mile to the southward of the middle of the said pond". They do not state in their report that the angle tree they marked was the same one marked in 1640, but the fact that they proceeded *easterly* three and a half miles, and then made an angle is some evidence that they marked the same tree that was marked in 1640.

To rectify their line they located the middle of the pond, returned about seven miles to "a late way that goeth from Brantrey to Bridgewater", and there marked the line with heap of stones and a stake. The "late way" is now North Main street, Brockton, and is the first reference in the old records to that way. The heap of stones and stake mentioned were located about where the Montello Fire Station is now. They then agreed, "that the line stretched from Accord pond upon such a course" would strike the angle tree. As a matter of fact, and as it was later proved the line from the pond to the Montello Fire Station if continued would go far south of the angle tree. This mistake caused many arguments petitions and law suits before it was finally corrected in 1773.

In 1665 certain lots of land were granted in Brockton. Thomas Hayward was then granted 60 acres around North Main and Huntington streets and running easterly to Trout brook. Thomas Snell was granted meadow land just east of Hayward's grant on Trout brook, between Elliot and Ashland streets, and other meadow lots in the city was granted to other men in that year.

In that same year of 1665 Peregrine White, because "hee was the first of the English that was borne in these ptes, and

in answere vnto his owne petition", was granted 200 acres "lying and being att the path that goes from Bridgewater to the Bay, adjoyning to the Bay line". In 1667 Peregrine White obtained a deed of this grant from Josias Wampatuck, "allies Chickatabuck", giving the Indian names for Searles and Trout brooks.

In September of 1667 Peregrine White deeded this grant to Col. Daniel Searle, Esq., describing it as 400 acres, and bounding it on Searles brook "called by ye Indians Manamachenog, and from thence circularly as ye brook runs until it meets with another stream called by ye Indians Shumacastacut" (Trout brook), and then 320 rods (one mile) eastward, and then upon a due square to ye Massachusetts line". This deed included all of the Montello and the Cary Hill sections of Brockton and comprised 673 acres. In 1703 Samuel Searle of Dunstable, the son of Daniel Searle, sold the Peregrine White grant for forty pounds to Thomas Snell, John Howard, and Ephraim Howard, of Bridgewater.

The north four mile line of the original grant to old Bridgewater was partly in Brockton, and partly in Whitman. Torrey street on the west side of Brockton is located on that four mile line. It ran easterly from the Easton town line, and crossed Main street, Brockton, just north of Lawrence street. The corner of Crescent and Quincy streets, Brockton, is on the four mile line, and from there it continued on into Whitman.

In 1668, when old Bridgewater was granted an additional two miles, the north additional two miles extended to May avenue and North Main street in the Montello section of Brockton where it "molested" the Peregrine White grant. The boundary line between Brockton and Abington running from North Quincy

street, Brockton, easterly to Beaver brook is a part of that north six mile line.

The north additional two mile grant was divided into three parts, which were called the "West Shares", the "East Shares" or the "Old Men's Shares", and the "Young Men's Shares". The West Shares began at the Brockton-Easton line and extended three miles easterly to a little east of Main street on the southerly end, and to a little westerly of North Main street on the northerly end.

The Old Men's Shares began at the east end of the West Shares and extended three miles easterly into Abington and Whitman. The Young Men's Shares were east of the Old Men's Shares.

In 1673 Thomas Snell was named to make and maintain two horse bridges in Brockton, one over the brook on Main street near the Campello car barn, and the other over Salisbury brook on Main street near Allen street.

In 1683 the Old Men's Shares were divided into forty-two lots of about 15 rods in width and three miles in length, and allotted to forty-two of the Bridgewater men. These lots were numbered from north to south, and "molested" the Peregrine White grant on the north. It might be of interest at this time to note that the new Cardinal Spellman High School will be erected in Brockton on land that was part of the 24th to 29th lots of the Old Men's Shares. Those lots were originally laid out as follows: 24th to John Hayward; 25th to Nathaniel Packard; 26th to Samuel Packard; 26th to Samuel Leonard; 27th to John Washburn, Sr.; 28th to John Cary, Sr., and 29th to Rev. James Keith.

The first permanent settlement in Brockton was in 1697 by Zaccheus Packard, a son of Samuel Packard, on the northwest corner of Copeland street and Samuel avenue, where Warren Keith lives now.

A deed from John Turner to Zaccheus Packard, dated May 7, 1697 (new calendar), recorded at Plymouth, conveys 20 acres "bounding Southerly with the said Zaccheus Packard his own Land whereon his new Dwelling House standeth". Zaccheus Packard and his wife, Sarah, a daughter of John Howard, were the parents of eight boys and one girl. Seven of the eight sons settled in Brockton, and the eighth son settled just over the Brockton line in West Bridgewater at the end of Samuel avenue. Their youngest child, Abiel Packard, was born on May 9, 1699 (new calendar), and he was the first white child born in Brockton.

Daniel Waldo moved his family down from Chelmsford in 1700 to what is now the Montello section of Brockton, but was then a part of the old town of Dorchester. He was the second settler in Brockton. He built his house on the west side of North Main street between Woodland and Hillcrest avenues. His youngest child, Zachariah, born on December 5, 1701, was the first white child born in Montello and the second born in Brockton. In 1716 Waldo and his family moved to Pomfret, Conn., except some of his daughters, who married Bridgewater men.

The official seal of the City of Brockton states that the city was settled in 1700. That was true when the seal was adopted about 1881, but in 1983 part of West Bridgewater, including the site of Zaccheus Packard's farm, was annexed to Brockton. Therefore, the seal of the city could now be changed to read, "settled in 1697".

In 1703 Richard Field, a son of John Field of old Bridgewater, built his house on the east side of Main street in the Campello section of Brockton, just south of the car barn. That house is still standing, being numbered 1466 Main street, and it is the oldest house in Brockton. His father's

house, built in 1677 on River street, West Bridgewater, is also still standing, and is now occupied by Senator Hastings Keith.

Late in 1703 John Snell, a son of Thomas Snell, settled on Copeland street, Campello, just south of Southworth street. In 1705 John Wormald of Duxbury settled on the northerly side of Summer street, between Perkins avenue and Edson street. In 1712 administration was taken out on the estate of John Wormald, "who deceased the beginning of October, 1711, in an expedition to Anopolis royal" (Nova Scotia). He was Brockton's first war casualty. In 1707, ten years after the first settlement, the population of what is now Brockton was about 30 persons.

The first street laid out in Brockton was the Bay path, or Bay road, now Main street, in the sixteen sixties. The second street laid out was Meadow lane and a part of Summer street in Campello in 1703. It was described in the records of old Bridgewater as, "a way from the bay road on Little Plain, south of Richard Field's house, easterly to Matfield river and crossing the river at the cartway, and across Thomas Snell's land, — to the southeast corner of Samuel Kingman's field. The third street to be laid out was also in 1703. It is described as being, "a way beginning a little to the west of Zaccheus Packard's land, so as to run square over Daniel Field's land to the southwest corner of John Snell's orchard, and by his house to the common". That way is now Copeland street from Hayward avenue northerly to Southworth street, and a part if not all of Southworth street.

Other early settlers in the Summer street and Plain street section of Brockton were: — Richard Holt on the south side of Summer street opposite Wormald's farm; Samuel Kingman on the west side

of Summer street near Plain street; David Packard on Plain street south of Summer street; Solomon Packard on Plain street east of his brother, David Packard; Benjamin Edson on the Wormald place on Summer street; John Kingman the 2nd on the east side of Summer street, south of Perkins avenue; John Kingman the 3rd on the west side of Summer street, opposite East street; Henry Kingman on the east side of Summer street, north of Parker avenue; and James Packard in the vicinity of Summer and Lyman streets near Crescent street.

Daniel Field settled on the east side of Main street, south of Meadow lane; Timothy Keith on the west side of Main street, north of Brookside avenue; John Packard on the north side of Crescent street, opposite the post office; Zaccheus Packard, Jr., on the west side of Lyman street, opposite Saint Colman's church; Abiel Packard on North Main street south of Wyman street; Robert Howard at the corner of North Main and Manners avenue, where the Laird homestead is now; and Daniel Howard on the north corner of North Main and Woodland avenue.

Ephraim Howard had a saw mill on Torrey street, near the Easton town line in 1717. James Packard had a saw mill at Crescent and Summer streets about 1720. In 1722 James Packard and ten other men agreed to build an iron works or forge "to make iron with on the Damm of Packard's Saw Mill nigh unto James Packard's Dwelling house, and to bring in what iron oar we have or can find in any of our lands in our North Precinct at Twenty shillings a Tun at said Iron Works". This forge was located where they could make use of the water power from Trout brook, and was the first one built in Brockton.

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY — 1656-1956



TOP ROW: LEFT TO RIGHT—GODDARD HOSPITAL, ROBERTSON HOSPITAL, AND PHARMACY HOSPITAL; SECOND ROW: LEFT TO RIGHT—YMCA, YWCA AND YNA; BOTTOM ROW: LEFT TO RIGHT—VA MEMORIAL BUILDING, VA HOSPITAL AND BROCKTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The West Shares on the west side of Brockton were laid out into 22 lots in 1716. These lots were two miles long running north and south. The four lots nearest North Main street were combined by their owners and divided into half mile lots. East of those lots the rest of the West Shares were laid out into 22 little lots running east and west on North Main street, and across Main street down to near Lawrence street.

In 1738 Brockton and a part of the town of Avon were set off as the North Parish of Bridgewater. The first pastor of the North Parish was Rev. John Porter of Abington, who served until 1802 when he died at the age of 87 years. In 1750 the population of what is now the City of Brockton was about 520, of which 90 were Packards. The people of the North Parish contributed their share in men and taxes during the Revolutionary War. Levi Keith, who lived on the north corner of Main and Plain streets in Campello, made shoes for most of the people of the parish before the Revolution. He may have been Brockton's first shoe manufacturer.

Micah Faxon, in 1808, bought the old John Packard farm at the corner of Main and Crescent streets, and moved over to Brockton from the southwest corner of Brookville square in Holbrook. In 1811 Micah Faxon transported the first shoes on horseback from Brockton to Boston, and really started Brockton on the road to become a shoe town. In 1821 the North Parish was incorporated as the Town of North Bridgewater. During the Civil War the town again contributed its share, if not more than its share, towards winning one of our major wars.

By 1870 the town had grown so in population, and in the manufacture of boots and shoes, that it began to consider

changing its name. It was the opinion of the great majority of the people that the town should have a strong, distinctive name, one that would not be confused with the name of any other town or city. Meetings were held to suggest names. Petitions were signed by many of the citizens in favor of this name or that name. The town was more deeply stirred and excited than it had ever been before in peace time.

For awhile the name of Standish was favored. In fact the state legislature passed an act giving the town the right to take the name of Standish, but the people refused to accept it. Then the name of Brocton was suggested and favored after putting in the letter "k" to make it, Brockton. Finally in March of 1874 the legislature authorized the town to take the name of Brockton received 1,080 votes, the name people voted on those three names the name of Borckton received 1,080 votes, the name of Avon 411 votes, and the name of Allerton was forgotten, and North Bridgewater thereby became the town of Brockton.

On January 10, 1881, the town voted in favor of becoming a city by a vote of 631 to 124, which was approved by the legislature on April 9, 1881, and then accepted by the town on May 23, 1881. Brockton, therefore, in this year of 1956 is celebrating its 75th anniversary as a city. The first city election was held on December 6, 1881, with Ziba C. Keith being elected as our first mayor. He was afterwards re-elected several times.

In this brief article it is not possible to give the necessary space to write the history of our Brockton churches. Brockton has many churches and synagogues of different denominations and religious beliefs that have contributed much for the betterment of the city and its people.

OLD BRIDGEWATER TERCENTENARY — 1656-1956

Brockton has a world-wide reputation as a shoe city. Since the days of Levi Keith and Micah Faxon many of its prominent citizens became shoe manufacturers. Some of the manufacturers and shoe companies of the past and present are: William L. Douglas, who became governor of Massachusetts in 1905; George E. Keith, a descendant of Levi Keith; Daniel Waldo Field and Fred F. Field, brothers; Moses A. Packard; Thompson Brothers; the Howards; the Packards; the Keiths; T. D. Barry; Knapp Brothers; Stacy Adams; Stone - Tarlow; Sandler - Fenton, Strathmore; Victory Shoe; Berco Shoe; Taylor; Flint; Kent; Whitman; Doyle; Burke; Eaton; Foote; Foster; Potvin; Reynolds; Cary; Ford; Herrod; Leach and Marshall.

In 1957 the V. and F. W. Filoon Company of Brockton will celebrate its 100th anniversary as manufacturers of shoe findings. Their factory is located at the corner of North Warren avenue and Prospect street. There are also other shoe findings factories in Brockton, as well as many other kinds of manufacturing plants.

Brockton has modern, up-to-date schools, with others to be erected soon; a very fine library; a fine War Memorial building; wonderful water from sandy, springy Silver lake, and a beautiful park.

It also has excellent police and fire departments; a national guard and a naval reserve unit; a good civilian defense organization, and many civic, veteran, and fraternal organizations.

The population of Brockton for 1956 is about 63,000. It is the home of ex-Champion Rocky Marciano, who needs no introduction. The mayor of Brockton for 1956 is Hjalmar R. Peterson. The city clerk is Melvin B. Clifford, a former mayor. The eleven city councillors are: Wilfred A. Derosier, president; James P. Downey, Leonard H. Ellershaw, Roger G. Fisher, Gordon P. Fyhr, Cornelius W. Hallisey, Raymond P. Manning, Hipolit Moncevicz, Oscar F. Nevens, Joseph T. Phaneuf, and Robert J. Tighe.

WILLIAM T. SHINNICK



BROCKTON CITY COUNCIL
1956

JAMES P. DOWNEY
LEONARD H. ELLERSHAW
ROGER G. FISHER
RAYMOND P. MANNING
GORDON P. FYHR
CORNELIUS W. HALLISEY
OSCAR F. NEVENS
ROBERT J. TIGHE
WILFORD A. DEROSIER
HIPOLIT MONCEVICZ
JOSEPH T. PHANEUF

OLD BRIDGEWATER TRICENTENARY — 1656-1956

BROCKTON

FRIDAY, June 15:

8:30 P. M.—Pageant on Stage.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16:

12:00 M. — Parade with all towns participating—Miss Boston, Miss Massachusetts.

2:00 P. M. to 4:00 P. M.—Special Events at Fair Grounds. Band Concert.

5:00 P. M.—Old Fashioned New England Bean Supper (Buffet Style) at Food Building, Brockton Fair Grounds. All you can eat.

8:30 P. M.—Pageant on Stage.

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Laurist W. Reynolds, *Chairman*

A. J. Bradford Alexander, *Vice Chairman*

Margaret O. Alexander, *Secretary*

Frank W. Burrill, *Treasurer*

Roger Keith, *Chairman of the Day*

Max Berkowitz
William T. Shinnick
Marjorie E. MacDonald
Edmund Leonard
Sen. Hastings Keith
Prof. Louis Stearns
Arthur L. Atwood
Willard Jackson
Walter Holmes
Stanley B. Goldman
Ethel Chandler
M. Francis Guerin
Ruth Caswell

Thelma Cook
A. Edward Lalli
John J. Williams
Leo Clancy
Charles A. Fuller
F. Milton McGrath
Carlton J. Lawson
Stella J. Snow
Atty. Joseph Keith
James Gorman
Mrs. Walter Little
Atty. Edward MacMaster
Rev. William L. McKinney

Elizabeth Whelan
James McDuffy
Rufus Sargent
Rodney May
Franklin Mitchell
Harry P. Dunn
Atty. Thomas Prince
Police Lt. J. Frank Cavanaugh
Vera DeSimone
George L. Wainwright
Police Chief Joseph C. Wright
Herbert H. Wydom
H. F. Soderholm

EX-OFFICIOS

George A. Ridder Mayor Hjalmer Peterson
William Noyes Leo Nourse

FINANCE COMMITTEE

George O. Jenkins
Robert King
Ralph H. Keith
Alan Stone
Herbert Woodward

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Marjorie E. MacDonald
Henry Sowerby
Rev. Paul E. Lauffer

SOUVENIR COMMITTEE

Walter Holmes, *Chairman*
James Gorman
Ruth Caswell
Stanley Goldman

INVITATION COMMITTEE

Leo Nourse, *Chairman*
Mayor Hjalmer Peterson
George A. Ridder
William Noyes
Harry Dunn

HISTORIC SITES COMMITTEE

Atty. Edmund W. Nutter Mrs. Stella J. Snow, *Chairman*
Rev. William L. McKinney Atty. William Shinnick

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

BRIDGEWATER

SUNDAY, JUNE 30:

Opening of box left by printing committee in 1856—Old Academy Building Lawn, 4 P. M.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9:

Lions Club Field Day and Parade.
Tory Episode—Tory House, 7:30 P. M.
Band Concert—Square Dancing — Fireworks.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10:

Luncheon Central Square Church. Historical Exhibits.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13:

Flower Show, 2 4 P. M.
Historical Episodes — Horace Mann Auditorium.
Banquet College Dining Room, 6:30 P. M.

EAST BRIDGEWATER

SUNDAY, June 10:

Special Church Services in all Churches.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14:

Parade at 10 A. M. Open House at all Public Schools — A. M. Only.
Open House at All Historical Homes and Industrial Plants.
2 P. M., Pageant at Sachem Rock during the afternoon.
Dinner at Central School, 6:30 P. M. Lieut. Gov. Whittier Speaker. Grand Ball at 8:00
P. M. Roger Keith, M. C.

WEST BRIDGEWATER

SATURDAY, JUNE 9:

Bay State Historical League Meets at the West Bridgewater High School.
An exhibit of historical data and general information, with pictures, of all Bridgewaters in the
English-Speaking World.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17:

7:00 A. M.—Sunrise Service at Pulpit Rock. Rev. Paul Lauffer. Combined Choirs of
all Churches.
1:00 P. M.—Dinner at West Bridgewater High School. Noted Speakers. Followed by Pag-
eant in High School Auditorium. Historical Pilgrimage of Old Homes and Spots of In-
terest.
Vesper Service at First Congregational - Unitarian Church.

A 17th Century Communion Service will be on display at the Church for the Tercentenary Cele-
bration.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23:

First Congregational - Unitarian Church Fair in Church Vestibule, carrying out the
Historical Theme.



SACHEM ROCK is located on the property of Chandler D. Hall, Plymouth Street, East Bridgewater. Chandler D. Hall and his son, Robert D. Hall, own and operate the Hall Motors, Inc., DeSoto - Plymouth dealer in Brockton—originally known as North Bridgewater. They are both direct descendants of the Pilgrims at Plymouth.

CHANDLER D. HALL

Eleventh generation from Governor Bradford of the Mayflower.

ROBERT D. HALL

Twelfth generation from Governor Bradford of the Mayflower.

Governor Bradford was born in England, March, 1590. He died in Plymouth, May 19, 1657. He was the second signer of the compact, signed in the cabin of the Mayflower.

The Hall name has been associated with the automobile business for thirty-seven years, and they are still liberal traders as their ancestors were at Sachem Rock in 1649.

Hall Motors, Inc.

DeSoto — Plymouth

"Serving Brockton Area Since 1919."



GENEOLOGY OF HAYWARD FAMILY

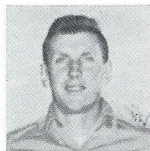
From "Geneology and Biography of Southeastern Massachusetts".

THOMAS HAYWARD

Came to Plymouth Colony in the summer of 1635 in the ship "Hercules", the fourth vessel to bring immigrants to the new colony, the first being the Mayflower, which landed in December, 1620. In 1650 Thomas Hayward and two other settlers, namely James Keith and Deacon Sam Edson, purchased 196 square miles from Massasoit, including what is now West Bridgewater. For it they paid Massasoit 7 coats, 9 hatchets, 8 hoes, 20 knives, 4 moose skins, and 10½ yards of cotton. Their settlement, adjacent to and just east of what is now the square and the monument at West Bridgewater, was the first settlement in the interior of the "Old Colony". The five boys came over in the Hercules with their father and mother, and the two girls were born here. Thomas died in 1681.

JOHN — Born in England
JOSEPH — Born 1666
BENJAMIN — Born 1717
DANIEL — Born 1752
PLINY — Born 1792

JOHN LOWELL — Born 1827
JULIAS LOWELL — Born 1857
JOHN LOWELL — BORN 1887
Established present firm.
Died 1953.



Howard

PRESENTLY LIVING ON OLD HOMESTEAD
TENTH GENERATION IN DIRECT LINE.



Layton

1650

HAYWARD'S DAIRY FARM

1956

DAIRYMEN FOR OVER 300 YEARS

Still Serving the Public.



George O. Jenkins purchased this mill in Bridgewater, on the site of the first dam built on the Taunton River, sixty years ago, in 1896. Its two successor mills in Bridgewater remain today, strategically located near dependable supplies of raw materials, economical power, and skilled labor, thus facilitating production and sale of the best leather fibre products at the lowest possible prices. From an original production of a few tons of heeling board a day, the company has moved to a position of leadership in an intensely competitive industry through continued expansion of plant, improvements and diversification of product, and continued service and satisfaction to customers throughout the world.

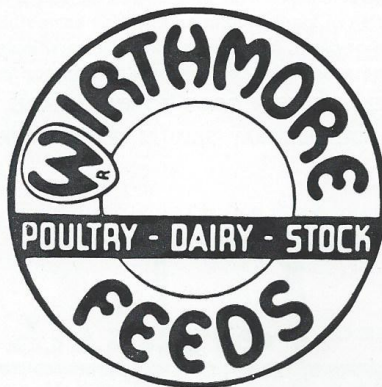
**BRIDGEWATER HAS BEEN GOOD TO THE JENKINS COMPANY.
JENKINS, ON ITS 60TH BIRTHDAY, SALUTES BRIDGEWATER, ON ITS 300TH.**

GEORGE O. *Jenkins* CO.
BRIDGEWATER - MASSACHUSETTS
leather fibre's first name

**EASTERN
GRAIN COMPANY**

BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

— Manufacturers of Wirthmore Feeds —

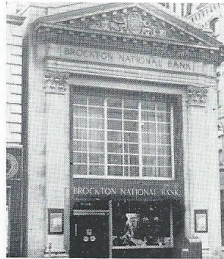


THE BROCKTON NATIONAL BANK

BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS

MAY, 1956

FOUR CITY OFFICES



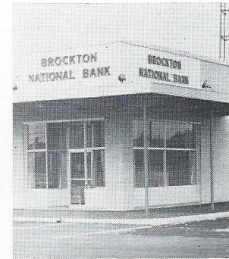
NEW FRONT
Corner Main and Church Streets



CAMPELLO OFFICE
1098 Main Street



BELMONT STREET OFFICE
27 Belmont Street



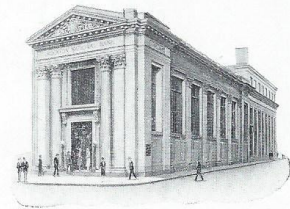
WEST SIDE BRANCH
593 Belmont Street

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Member Federal Reserve Bank

Present Bank Building completed September 16, 1913

In 1927, a three story addition was built.



Corner Main and Church Streets
OLD FRONT



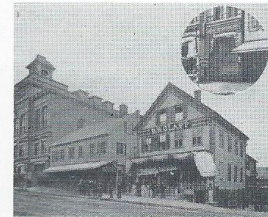
Northeast Corner Main and Centre Streets

On September 18, 1894, the Bank moved to larger quarters.

Original Home of The Brockton National Bank.

Articles of Association drawn on November 29, 1880.

Open for business March 1, 1881.



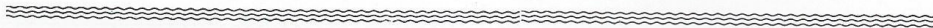
50 MAIN STREET
Southeast Corner of Main and Ward Streets



JOHN E. LUCEY CO., INC.

BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

"The Profit Sharing Factory"



Paul Clark, Inc.

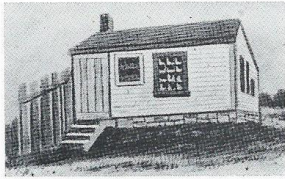
389 WARREN AVENUE
BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS

PAUL CLARK, *President*

Telephone 9040-9745



Mr. Clark originated the present firm in Rockland in 1937, as ROCKLAND MOTORS, with a small number of employees. In 1939 Mr. Clark acquired the Brockton Ford Agency and employed ten people, with an annual gross business of about \$75,000. Now PAUL CLARK, INC. employs sixty people with an annual gross business of about \$3,000,000. Fourteen full time salesmen are ever ready to serve the public courteously and efficiently.



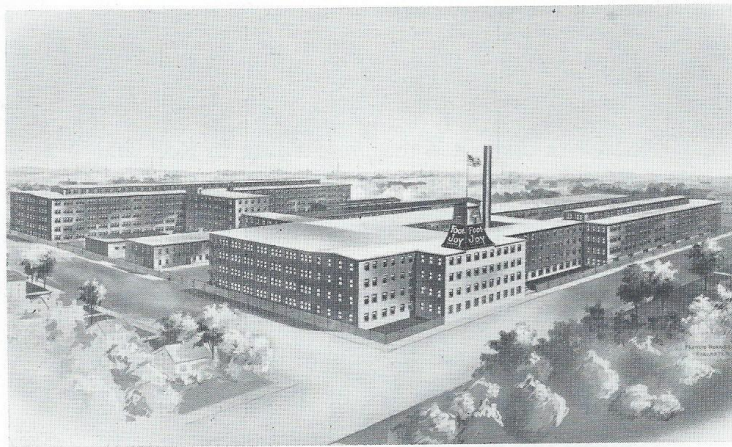
1857

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
and our
HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS
in celebrating

OLD BRIDGEWATER'S 300th ANNIVERSARY

FIELD and FLINT CO.

1956



Established 1857

Makers of FOOT-JOY* and DR. LOCKE SHOES for Men
BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS

* Reg. U. S. PAT. OFF.

CAMPELLO BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

CAMPELLO NEWS STAND — Established 1878

ALDEN'S HARDWARE — Established 1890.

TAFTS JEWELERS — 75 years of continuous operation.

W. R. MORSE — 77 years of continuous operation.

MIKE DELANI — 1086 Main Street.

FRANKLIN PHARMACY — Established 1896.

CAMPELLO COAL CO. — 50 years of continuous operation.

PEOPLES MARKET — 22 years of continuous operation.

CAROLE ANN SHOPPE — 1149 Main Street.

ALLEN'S SHOE STORE — 1146 Main Street.

CARLSON BROTHERS — Established 1902.

FELBER PAINT & SEED — Established 1902.

ASKERS BAKERY — 1072 Main Street.

BROCKTON LUMBER CO — Established 1902

CAMPELLO PHARMACY — Continuous operation since 1885.

CAMPELLO SHOE STORE — Established 1918.

ATLANTIC FISH MARKET — 50 years of continuous operation

BREEN'S SOCIAL CATERING — Established 1939.

MARTINS FINE FURNITURE — Tenth Anniversary.

THE MARVILL SHOP — Established 1939.

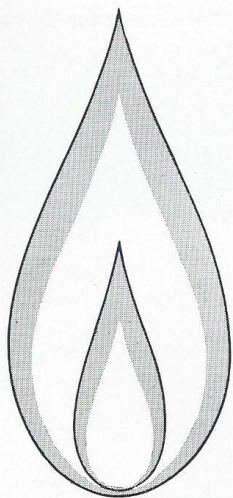
BEN'S 5c to \$1.00 STORE, INC. — Established 1937.

VERRYS FRIENDLY SERVICE STATION — 1123 Main Street

BURKE RUSCO CO. — 866 Main Street.

DUNBAR'S VARIETY STORE — Established 1896.

A. F. GERMAN CO., INC. — Established 1898.



GAS

SETS THE PACE FOR PROGRESS

In Modern Living

THERE WAS NO SUCH THING as central heating—much less *automatic* heating with Gas—when the first Gas plant in the Bridgewaters was built a century ago. The site was on West Elm Street in Brockton—North Bridgewater, then—where now is Eldon B. Keith Field. Later, the Gas plant was moved to the corner of School and Montello Streets; and later still to its present location on Grove Street.

Back in those days, Gas was made from coal; the process supplemented by other, more flexible methods as demand increased. It was a pretty satisfactory fuel, too—and as the years went by, the mains of the Gas Company reached out from Brockton to serve the Bridgewaters and a score of neighboring towns.

Gas brought a new and better way of living to thousands—and as the district grew, so, too, grew the demand for Gas.

Today, with marvelous modern Gas appliances bringing new beauty, new leisure into the home—

with Natural Gas, nature's most perfect fuel, here in abundant supply—with new thrift and economy resulting from the lower rates for Natural Gas—Gas is gaining as never before!

Today, in this section first settled 300 years ago, Gas gives the superlative comfort of warm and comfortable homes with never a worry over fuel failure despite the severest winter weather. Gas makes abundant hot water available night and day—in ample supply for every household need—at the turn of a faucet. Gas cooks tastier-than-ever meals in automatic ranges that almost literally “think for themselves.” Gas brings the joys of silent, trouble-free refrigeration; of clothes that come out of the Gas Dryer softer, fluffier, cleaner-smelling.

★ ★ ★

In the past two years alone, residential use of Gas in this territory has increased more than 25 per cent. Today, more than ever before, Gas is *setting the pace for progress in modern living.*

Brockton Taunton Gas Company, outgrowth of Gas Companies established in Brockton and Taunton a century ago, serves more than 50,000 customers in three cities and 31 towns, covering an area of nearly 900 square miles.

BROCKTON TAUNTON GAS COMPANY

Offices in BROCKTON • CANTON • STOURTON • RANDOLPH • SCITUATE • MARSHFIELD • SMARON
TAUNTON • ATTLEBORO • WALPOLE • MARSHFIELD • FRANKLIN



ONLY GAS GIVES YOU SO MUCH FOR SO LITTLE . . . IT'S TODAY'S FUEL FOR MODERN LIVING

OFFICERS

EDWIN W. HUNT
Chairman of the Board

WAYNE E. CLARK
President

A. BYRON MANSBACH
CARLTON C. CAMPBELL
RAYMOND P. PAULSON
STANLEY W. HORSMAN
Vice Presidents

HERBERT E. SMITH
Cashier

FREDERICK S. HOYT
MARCUS C. SOUTHWORTH
Assistant Cashiers

ROBERT L. SHAVE
Auditor

WILLIAM A. FAVOR
Trust Officer

BRIDGEWATER OFFICE
HERMON F. WHEELER
*Assistant Vice President
and Manager*

WHITMAN OFFICE
EVERETT L. MESERVE
Manager

MONTELLO OFFICE
DONALD J. DUNBAR
Acting Manager

★

Directors

WILLIAM H. BASSETT
FREEMAN E. BURGESS
CARLTON C. CAMPBELL
WILLIAM H. CARY
WAYNE E. CLARK
GEORGE I. CHOWELL
STANTON W. DAVIS
WALTER A. FORBUSH
EDWIN W. HUNT
GEORGE O. JENKINS
JOSEPH W. KEITH
CLARENCE E. KNAPP
WILLIAM F. MCCARTHY
ALBERT B. MCINTYRE
PAUL W. PROUTY
GEORGE C. STONE
FRED T. WALTER
ELWOOD A. WYMAN



The Friendly Bank

SERVING BROCKTON AND THE BRIDGEWATERS

• Brockton was still North Bridgewater when THE HOME NATIONAL BANK was founded in 1874, the first commercial bank in the section. And in the 82 years since, this bank has kept pace with the growth and progress of the area . . . From a handful of customers in the early years, the number has grown to more than 15,000. Deposits were \$155,726 when the first statement was issued; today they exceed \$25,000,000.

Our services have expanded, too, as have the number of our offices. On January 2, 1949, the former Bridgewater Trust Company was merged to become the Bridgewater Office of THE HOME NATIONAL BANK; and five months later, by a similar merger, the Whitman National Bank became our Whitman Office . . . In 1955, the main banking offices at 34 School Street, Brockton, were completely remodelled and modernized. Our Montello Office began operations in April of this year; the East Bridgewater Office will open for business in late June or early July. Our Trust Department has assets of more than \$12,000,000.

Naturally, we are proud of the sound and continuing growth of THE HOME NATIONAL BANK. Even more, we are proud of the people who make up its officers and staff. One and all, they are competent, capable, courteous—alert always to find better ways to meet *your* banking needs. They make, and keep, THE HOME NATIONAL BANK what it has been since 1874—the friendly “home town” bank of the Brockton-Bridgewater area.

The Home National BANK OF BROCKTON

MAIN OFFICE: 34 SCHOOL STREET, BROCKTON

MONTELLO
836 North Main Street

BRIDGEWATER
20 Central Square

WHITMAN
584 Washington Street

EAST BRIDGEWATER
6 Central Street

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Established 1848

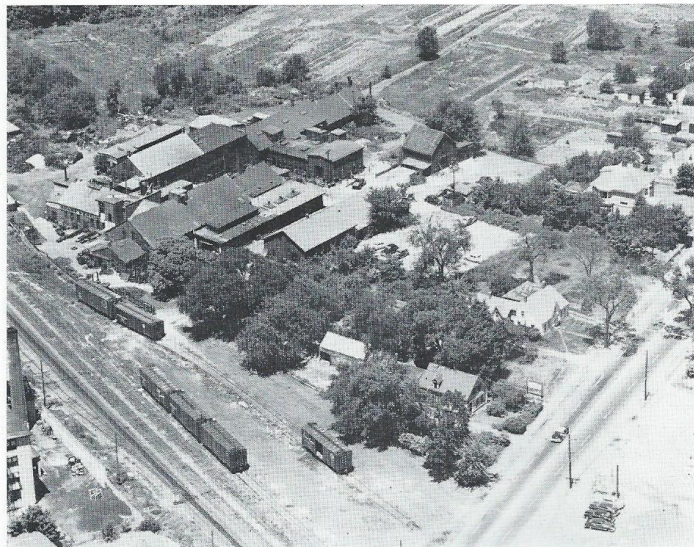
Incorporated 1902

THE HENRY PERKINS CO.

BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

Manufacturers of

MEEHANITE[®] CASTINGS FOR HIGH STRENGTH, PRESSURE
and RESISTANCE to ABRASION, HEAT and IMPACT



*We, the residents of WEST BRIDGEWATER
wish
OLD BRIDGEWATER
A HAPPY BIRTHDAY.*

ANDERS and ELMER ANDERSON 289 Crescent Street	MRS. ALICE M. DEAN 255 Pleasant Street
MR. and MRS. ADOLPH CHEYUNSKI 755 West Center Street	MR. and MRS. WALTER C. DUNBAR 22 Ellis Avenue
MR. and MRS. FRANCIS CHEYUNSKI 187 North Elm Street	MR. and MRS. ARVID HAGGLUND 61 Howard Street
MR. and MRS. ALBERT B. COOK 488 West Center Street	MR. and MRS. H. ROY HARTSHORN 19 Ellis Avenue
MR. and MRS. WILLIAM CROWLEY 88 Prospect Street	MR. and MRS. HERBERT HOLMES 312 South Elm Street
MRS. WILLIAM F. CURTIS 44 West Center Street	MR. and MRS. SAMUEL C. JOHNSON 221 West Center Street

MR. and MRS. JOHN KENT
161 South Main Street

MR. and MRS. HENRY G. KUNDZICZ
258 Pleasant Street

ALVERO MUCCI
ELM SQUARE

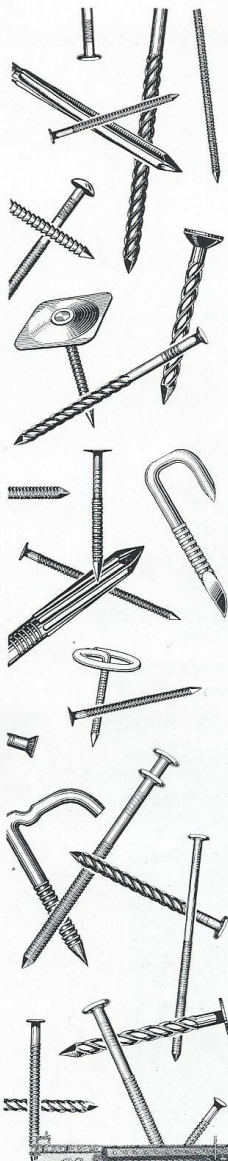
MRS. EDGAR E. PERKINS
16 Francis Avenue

MRS. MARGARET A. PERKINS
210 North Elm Street

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM W. PHILLIPS
402 West Center Street

MR. and MRS. CLIFFORD T. ROHNSTROM
266 Pleasant Street

MR. and MRS. H. W. SHAW
29 Ellis Avenue



America's Best-Known Name In Nails

We join in the celebration of Bridgewater's 300th Anniversary with the pleasure that comes of having had a part in the growth and progress of this historic section. Throughout our 40 years in business here we have enjoyed the happiest of relations with the people of Bridgewater, many of whom have found employment with us, and all of whom we count among our friends.

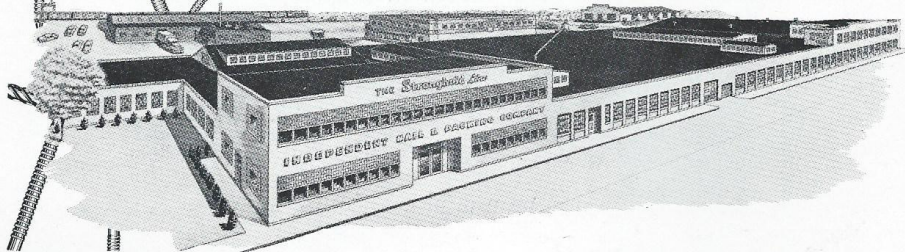
Nearly 25 years ago, with some 15 years of experience in the making of nails for special applications, we set ourselves to the task of developing a type of nail which would do its important job of fastening better than any nail ever could before. We found the answer in the *threaded* nail, which we have developed to such a point that our STRONGHOLD Annular Thread and SCREW-TITE Spiral Thread Nails are now used by the millions of pounds annually, and we have become the largest manufacturer of threaded nails.

STRONGHOLD and SCREW-TITE Nails have revolutionized construction methods. They are recognized the world over. They are backed by a continuing program of field research and scientific laboratory testing such as no other nail manufacturer has ever undertaken—and by the most extensive program of advertising and merchandising in the history of the nail business.

And as a result, The STRONGHOLD Line—made exclusively here in Bridgewater—has become America's Best-Known Name In Nails.

"STRONGHOLD," "THE STRONGHOLD LINE," "SCREW-TITE" are Trade Marks of Independent Nail & Packing Company, Registered U. S. Pat. Off. Always demand The STRONGHOLD Line by name—do not accept substitutes.

There is only one STRONGHOLD Line—the Original. Made only by
INDEPENDENT NAIL & PACKING CO.
Pioneer Developers and Largest Manufacturers of Threaded Nails
BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS, U. S. A.



PLANT AND GENERAL OFFICES : INDEPENDENT NAIL & PACKING COMPANY, BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OLD BRIDGEWATER
ON ITS 300TH ANNIVERSARY

ROGER KEITH & SONS

ROGER KEITH

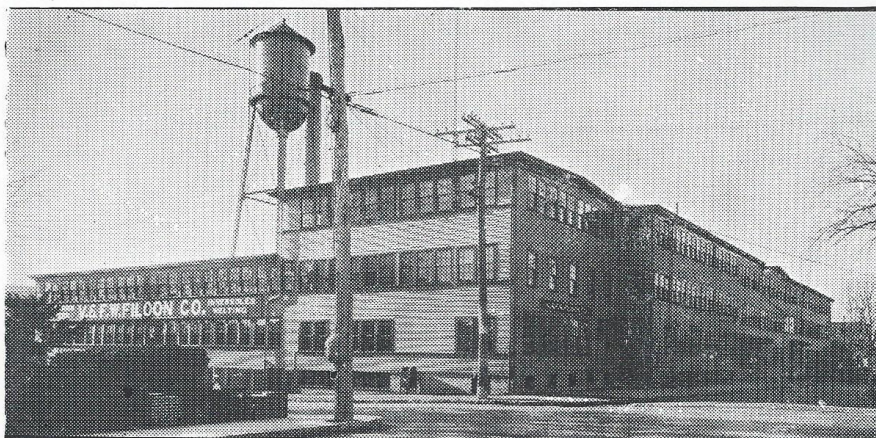
HASTINGS KEITH

PAUL KEITH

RELIABLE **INSURANCE** SINCE 1870

1106 MAIN STREET

BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS



V. & F. W. Filoon Co.

Not often is it granted to a business firm to enjoy one hundred years of continued success. When any concern arrives at such a record it is evidence not only of sustained and well-directed effort on the part of those directing the firm but also of the great merit and solid worth of the product which that firm is producing.

The V. & F. W. Filoon Company of Brockton, formerly North Bridgewater manufacturers of shoe counters, innersoles and Goodyear welting is now entering its 100th year of business. It has grown from a small beginning slowly and steadily as befits a firm grounded on fine old New England traditions of worth and honor and it occupies a niche alone in its line of endeavor.



COLONEL JAMES EDGAR

- man of initiative, vision and courage
- benefactor of children
- civic-minded booster
- honored founder of

EDGAR'S

BROCKTON'S LARGEST DEPARTMENT STORE

—: 1878 to 1956 :—

As We Complete the Greatest Expansion Program
in Our 78 Years, We Pause to Salute

"Colonel Jim" . . .

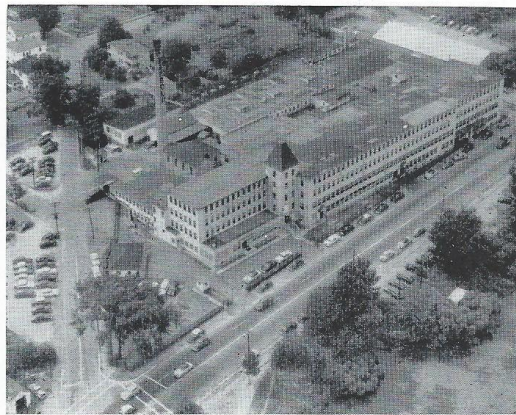
Born in Scotland in 1843, James Edgar emigrated as a boy. After learning the dry goods business in New Brunswick, Boston and Providence, he founded the Boston Store of North Bridgewater in 1878. "Colonel Jim" prospered and expanded; in 1907 opened the James Edgar Company. Throughout the years it has maintained its leadership as Brockton's largest department store . . . and now, with bigger and better expansion plans, EDGAR'S pledges its faith in Brockton's future.

ALDEN PRODUCTS



Milton Alden, the originator of the concern bearing his name, was born in West Bridgewater in 1890. In 1930 he started with a crew of 20 people to manufacture electronic components. Mr. Alden represents the ninth generation in a direct line from John Alden who purchased this territory from Massasoit at Sachem Rock, in East Bridgewater, in 1649.

In 1942 the firm moved to its present location, utilizing about 42,000 square feet of floor space, with about 250 employees, manufacturing production aids and machinery for Alden Systems Co., and high speed facsimile communications systems for Alden Electronic Impulse Recording Co.



**KNAPP BROS.
SHOE MFG.
CORP.**

BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS

The Company was formed in 1920 by E. D. and C. E. Knapp in the city of Boston as a small sales organization. In 1938 the firm purchased the old E. E. Taylor factory and began manufacturing about 1200 pairs a day. The firm now makes over 15,000 pairs of shoes a day and conducts the largest direct selling shoe organization

in America. Knapp Bros. today have the most complete factory fitting service in the world with over 400,000 pairs of shoes in stock, ranging in sizes from 2 to 18 and in widths from AAAA to EEEE. The firm has over 6000 salesmen and does a gross business of about \$25,000,000.00 a year.

Compliments of

Woodard and Wright Last Co.

EAST BRIDGEWATER
MASS.

BROCKTON CUT SOLE CORPORATION

Representatives in St. Louis - Milwaukee - Cincinnati - Hagerstown, Md. - New York City

INNERSOLES - OUTERSOLES - COUNTERS - OFFAL

53 Spark Street (Montello Station)

BROCKTON 68, MASS.

Telephone 693

The incorporators of the Brockton Cut Sole Corporation are represented by people who have lived in the area for many years. The Corporation itself is the outgrowth of previous organizations, and therefore based on the fact that the area is celebrating its 300th anniversary, the celebration of the Corporation itself of course is rather young compared to the 300 years of the area.

The Brockton Cut Sole Corporation was organized and incorporated on the 2nd of May, 1941. However, the officers and incorporators have been active in the sole leather business in this area for many years.

The President of the Corporation, Mr. Thomas L. Magistrate, has lived in Bridgewater for 46 years, having spent at least 25 years with the L. Q. White Shoe Company up to the time of their dissolution of business, and is still maintaining and active interest in this area.

The Vice-President and Treasurer of the Corporation, Mr. Abraham Horowitz, has been in the area and in the leather business since October, 1916, which represents forty years in the producing leather soles of some sort.

The Secretary of the Corporation, Mrs. Amy E. Elver, has been associated with leather operations

and shoe factory operations for many years. Mrs. Elver has worked for the L. Q. White Company for many years, and since 1937 has been associated with the two above mentioned gentlemen in the cut sole business.

The three organizers of the Brockton Cut Sole Corporation were originally the organizers of the Standard Cut Sole Co. of Bridgewater, which was originally put into operation in 1937, and later liquidated so that the officers could become active in the Brockton Cut Sole Corporation.

The Brockton Cut Sole Corporation has maintained an enviable record of steady employment for their organization, and has proven themselves very successful in their operations for the past 15 years.

Due to changes in the shoe production and requirements, many other items have been added to the lines of insoles, midsoles, leather counters, etc., so that now the company also produces Polyethylene counters by injection molding, and also handles various leatherboard materials that are imported from Europe.

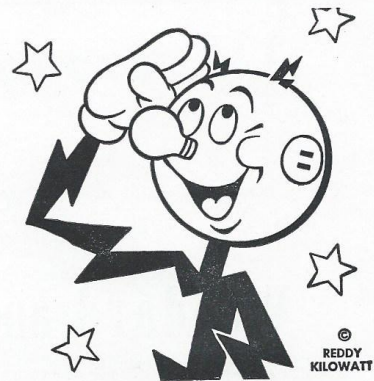
At the present time the Corporation operates a factory in Brockton and also one in Nashua, New Hampshire.

Reddy Kilowatt Salutes

OLD BRIDGEWATER

on the occasion of

It's 300th Anniversary



LIVE BETTER...Electrically

Brockton **EDISON** Company

Your 300th!

Our 61st!

We are only 61 years young but experienced enough to serve you
and your families.

MORTGAGE LOANS
SAVINGS ACCOUNTS
REGISTER CHECKS

COLLATERAL LOANS
CLUB ACCOUNTS
TRAVELERS CHECKS

LIFE INSURANCE

People's Savings Bank

221 MAIN STREET

BROCKTON

Walter F. Stephens Ralph W. Copeland

Congratulation Old Bridgewater
on your
300th Anniversary

Stephens & Copeland
ATTORNEYS - AT - LAW

1106 MAIN STREET
BROCKTON 28 MASSACHUSETTS

RIDDER'S

"Farm—Maid"

ICE CREAM

EAST BRIDGEWATER
MASSACHUSETTS

SHOP **Fraser's** FIRST
Downtown Brockton

The BEST In QUALITY
For OVER
55 Years

OPEN DAILY, 9:15 to 5:30 — FRIDAYS, 9:30 to 8:30.

MAIN STREET, BROCKTON

*Congratulations
On Your 300th Birthday*

ATHERTON'S

Fine Furniture
Since 1898

2 Stores
41 CENTRE STREET
610 MAIN STREET
BROCKTON

Don't Say Furniture
Say Atherton's



Chartered in 1877, the fourth Co-operative Bank in the State, assets at the end of the first year were \$9,489.57.

Current Assets are over \$13,000,000.

GOOD DIVIDENDS PAID REGULARLY.

MORTGAGE MONEY ALWAYS AVAILABLE

1090 MAIN STREET

The Only Co-operative Bank in Brockton.

BARBOUR WELTING COMPANY of Brockton, one of the city's largest and oldest industries, owes its existence to the fact that the Goodyear Welt process of making shoes requires a narrow strip of leather, known as welting, to join sole to upper. This strip must be of particular quality, as upon it depends to a large extent the very life of the shoe.

Barbour Welting Company makes this welting — fifty to a hundred miles of it in a normal working day, and it's used all over the world wherever shoes are made.

The present officials of the company are:

RICHARD H. BARBOUR, President

CHARLES E. MASON, Treasurer

FRANCIS L. SHEA, Vice President and Sales Manager

The business was founded by Mr. Barbour's grandfather, John Barbour, as the Brockton Rand Company, in 1892. The two sons of the founder, Perley E. and John A., managed the business until the death of the latter in 1925, from which period until 1954 Perley E. remained as head of the Company. At that time there was a reorganization, officers being elected as above.

It is interesting to note that Richard H. Barbour, Jr. has recently been taken into the Company, making the fourth generation of the same family in the organization.



Barbour Welting Co.

932 North Montello Street

Brockton, Massachusetts

Tel. 8200

STANDARD PRINT, INC.

64 CHURCH STREET
BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Commercial and Job Printing

LETTERPRESS — OFFSET

Phone Brockton 4300 for Prompt Service.

W. B. MASON

Largest Office Supply, Equipment
and Printing Co. in the area.

DITTO DUPLICATING MACHINES and SUPPLIES

VERIFAX COPYING

STENERETTE DICTATING MACHINES

Telephone 751

59 CENTRE STREET

BROCKTON

MOTHERS CLUB — West Bridgewater

Founded July, 1942

The purpose of the Mothers Club is to educate and improve the lives of its members, so that they may better train their children and through them build the better citizens of tomorrow.

Membership

Mrs. G. Crosby Alger	Mrs. Minot A. Edson
Mrs. Robert S. Alger	Mrs. Norman W. Estabrooks
Mrs. Loring Anderson	Mrs. Howard L. Farnum
Mrs. Weston J. Andre	Mrs. J. Layton Hayward
Mrs. Robert W. Bowman	Mrs. Henry G. Kundzicz
Mrs. Luke M. Boyd	Mrs. Myron W. Mather
Mrs. William R. Brown	Mrs. Joseph F. McCann
Mrs. Kenneth L. Buker	Mrs. William W. Phillips
Mrs. Carl W. Carlson	Mrs. Leslie W. Pierce
Mrs. Adolph Cheyunski	Mrs. Roy E. Sharp
Mrs. Albert B. Cook	Mrs. Alexander Stutz
Mrs. Edward H. Thomas	

Pillsbury's Greenhouses

506 NORTH ELM STREET

WEST BRIDGEWATER

MASS.

This business was started by A. J. Pillsbury, in 1912, with one greenhouse. His son, Frank, took over the business in 1922 and it has expanded to seven greenhouses. The business is now being operated by Frank E. Pillsbury and his son-in-law George A. Earle, Jr.

THE HOCKOMOCK

IN ELM SQUARE

WEST BRIDGEWATER

Originally opened as a Wayside Stand in 1945, it has, through its friendly service and quality expanded to its present size as a family shopping center.

Mr. Aris Amerigian acquired the store in 1953 and has carried on the same friendly character of the business that patrons have come to know.

RECOGNIZED HIGHEST QUALITY
FOR MORE THAN 60 YEARS

Oak Hill

Importers — Packers — Distributors



**E. C. HALL
FOOD PRODUCTS**

BROCKTON and HYANNIS

NATION-WIDE DISTRIBUTORS FOR
SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

WIND WELTING CO.

MAX E. WIND, Founder

PURCHASED BROCKTON WELT, 1925

MOVED TO RUTLAND SQUARE, 1931

STARTED WITH 5 EMPLOYEES

NOW EMPLOYS 200

*Congratulations Old Bridgewater
on your
300th Birthday*

NEW ENG. TEL. & TEL. CO.

Organized in Brockton

February 14, 1880

BRIDGEWATER CREDIT UNION

11 CENTRAL SQUARE
BRIDGEWATER

Organized 1941

FRANK SMUDIN President
ROBERT G. CLARK, JR. Vice-President
PHILIP GOLDSTEIN Vice-President
ROBERT F. KING Treasurer
GEORGE C. RICHMOND Assistant Treasurer
STANLEY SMUDIN Clerk
PETER J. BARONI Director
MORRIS GOTSHALK Director
JOSEPH E. HIRST Director
MENRY PISCATORI Director
NICHOLAS P. SACCOCIA Director
ROBERTA I. DONATI Staff
MARY R. LALLY Staff
SHIRLEY R. TRINQUE Staff

"OVER 60 YEARS ON MAIN STREET"

Congratulations!

From

*"The Men's Shop
where Women
like to Trade"*

Linehan

MAIN STREET AT PLEASANT
BROCKTON MASS.

A. R. Parker Co.

JINNY PARKER WHITING DON WHITING



GOOD FOOD

plus

FINER ICE CREAM

Where you meet your friends.

A. R. PARKER CO.

Route 106
635 PLYMOUTH ST. EAST BRIDGEWATER
Open 7 days a week, 5 A. M. 'till Midnight

Compliments of

W. H. Luddy & Sons



Swanson - Wallin Co.

EAST BRIDGEWATER

•••

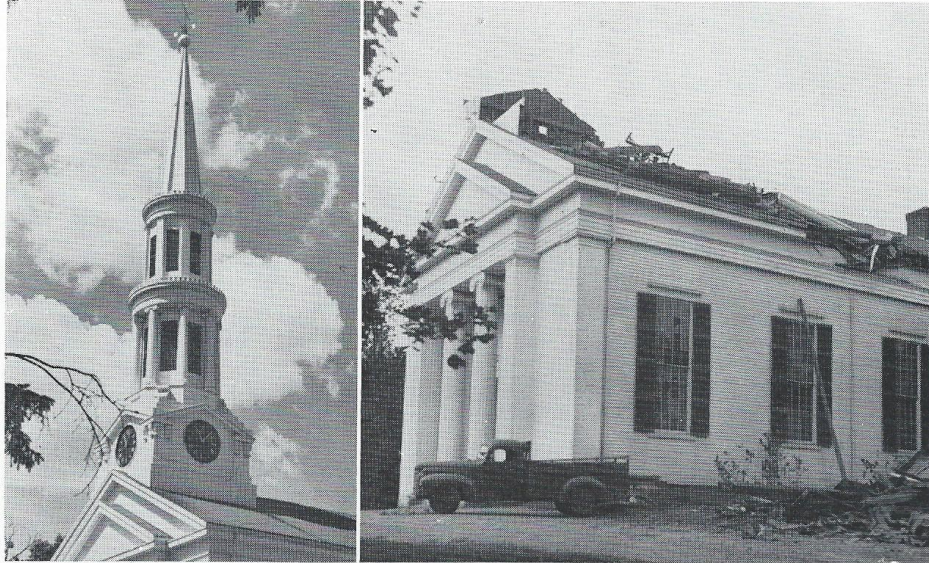
Compliments of

EAST BRIDGEWATER

COOPERATIVE BANK

•••

HELP RESTORE THIS BEAUTIFUL STEEPLE DESTROYED IN HURRICANE "CAROL".



FIRST PARISH CHURCH, BRIDGEWATER AFTER HURRICANE "CAROL" HIT.

The restoration of the classic steeple with its Paul Revere bell is a Tercentenary Project. Make checks payable to ALAN D. STONE, Treasurer, Steeple Fund, Bridgewater.



JOSEPH JACOBSON President
MAX BERKOWITZ Vice President
LUCIUS C. CHANDLER Secretary
WARREN TURNER Treasurer
William E. Turner John J. Kent
Bruce Soderholm Julian Lucini
Harvey A. Scranton Thomas B. MacQuinn
Frank Howe Burt Merrill
William R. Brown Dwight Newell
Herbert Holmes Edward D. Ginn
Dr. Louis Fuller
Douglas P. Eaton
Page Conant
Luke M. Boyd
Robert E. Berglund
Loring B. Anderson
Matt Owens
Cortland Mather
Roger H. Burill

Compliments of

Edward A. MacMaster Estella B. Hunt
Harold D. Hunt Edmund W. Nutter

**MACMASTER, HUNT & NUTTER
COUNSELORS AT LAW**

201-204 TRUST CO. BUILDING
BRIDGEWATER MASS.

Telephone OWen 7-2511; OWen 7-4751

Compliments of

M. B. CLAFF & SONS, Inc.

BROCKTON, MASS.

Compliments of

CHARLES E. GILES

JOPPA GRILLE

JOPPA MARKET

JOPPA SERVICE STATION

KIDDIE PRODUCTS, INC.

EAST BRIDGEWATER

"Best in Styles for Men"

Bridgewater Workers

Co-op. Ass'n., Inc.

BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

Compliments of

**BRIDGEWATER FOUNDRY
COMPANY, INC.**

- Gray Iron Castings -

OFF HIGH STREET

BRIDGEWATER

MASS.

Telephone OW-7-6907

Compliments of

Ward Machine Co., Inc.

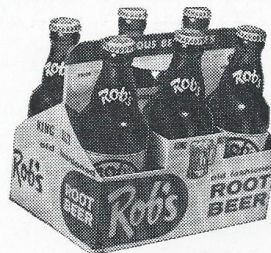
966 MAIN STREET
BROCKTON - MASSACHUSETTS

Founded at the turn
of the century.

BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL
CELEBRATION

**LaSALLE
BEVERAGES**

Bottlers of
**ROB'S ROOT BEER
ORANGE CRUSH**



515 NORTH MAIN STREET
BROCKTON MASSACHUSETTS
Established 1937



**HOME FREEZER
OWNERS**

Quality: the highest
Price: The lowest

You can purchase at your neighborhood stores,
OAKDALE prepared meats for your freezer.

If, by chance, he doesn't carry our line at the
present time, contact us directly.

Oakdale Packing Co.

378 PLEASANT STREET
EAST BRIDGEWATER - MASS.

Wholesalers of
Heavy Western Beef - Pork - Lamb - Veal
Phone Brockton 35W, 8-0300, 8-0350



Compliments of

A

Friend



Congratulations to
OLD BRIDGEWATER
on its 300th Anniversary

**FRANKLIN AUTO
SUPPLY CO.**

333 WARREN AVENUE
BROCKTON

Established 1923

Incorporated 1938

Gurney Bros. Co.

Jewelers
Since
1841

101 MAIN STREET

BROCKTON

MASS.

**GROWING WITH BROCKTON'S BUSINESS
FOR 52 YEARS**

**GILBERT'S
PAINT and WALLPAPER**

24 CENTRE STREET

BROCKTON

MASS.

Established 1904

For Your Every Clothing Need

IT WILL PAY YOU TO VISIT

Besse - Baker's

MAIN STREET AT LEGION PARKWAY
BROCKTON

In 1892 Mr. Lyman W. Besse, in partnership with Mr. Arthur H. Baker, one a Cape Cod and the other a Vermont Yankee, bought out the MacRoy and Cushing Menswear Clothing Store located in the City Block, changing the firm name to "Besse-Baker's", moving in 1908 to our present location at the corner of Main Street and Legion Parkway. Mr. Arthur H. Baker, a resident of, and ardent booster for Brockton, acquired sole ownership of the firm in 1928.

In observing our 64th Anniversary of unbroken ownership this year, and looking forward to our Centenary Anniversary, Besse-Baker's pledges maintenance of the high standards of quality, service, and satisfaction that enabled them to become Brockton's Leading Men's and Boyswear store for more than three generations.

MRS. ARTHUR H. BAKER
President and Treasurer

MR. H. EDWARD PARRY, *Manager*

Compliments of

Bridgewater Brick Co.

SPRING STREET
EAST BRIDGEWATER

**EAST BRIDGEWATER
SAVINGS BANK**

*The Oldest Savings Institution
In The Bridgewater*

Compliments of

Chandler Construction Co.

EAST BRIDGEWATER
MASS.

Compliments of

Clifton M. Edson & Son, Inc.

EAST BRIDGEWATER

We are proud to announce our
80th. ANNIVERSARY
JUNE 1956



**Bridgewater
Independent**

GET TO KNOW

George Blanchard

—
**BLANCHARD
CHEVROLET**

—
YOUR CHEVROLET DEALER
BRIDGEWATER

Compliments of

**BRIDGEWATER
CO-OPERATIVE BANK**

*Serving Bridgewater and vicinity
since 1902*

CORNER of SOUTH and CHURCH STREETS
BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

OWen 7-4686

Established in 1872

BRIDGEWATER
Savings BANK

BRIDGEWATER

Monday through Thursday, 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.
Friday, 9 a. m. to 6 p. m.

—
WEST BRIDGEWATER

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,
9 a. m. to 3 p. m.
Wednesday, 9 a. m. to 6 p. m.

Cynthia's
Beauty Salon

CYNTHIA ASACK, Proprietor

Serving the ladies in this community
since May 1945

22 RIVER STREET
WEST BRIDGEWATER MASSACHUSETTS

Compliments of

Jack Stengel

Towne Pharmacy

EAST BRIDGEWATER

MASS.

READ BROS. GARAGE

WEST BRIDGEWATER

Started business on Matfield Street in two-car garage in rear of home. Arthur Read came to West Bridgewater in 1899 and has been in continuous residence ever since. Samuel Read, born in West Bridgewater, joined his brother in 1937 and they were located on North Main Street until they built their present building in 1950.

READ BROS. GARAGE has been a
STUDEBAKER DEALER since 1939.

Andre's Market

Joseph J. Andre, Proprietor

COCHESETT - - MASSACHUSETTS

Established around 1850, has been in continuous operation for more than 100 years. There has been a branch Post Office at that location for nearly 100 years.

The present owner, Joseph Andre, took over the business in 1923. He has served the Cochesett area as its Postmaster for 33 years, having received his appointment from Post Master General Harry S. New, during President Coolidge's administration.



We've come a long way and
made a lot of friends since 1875

Eighty-one years of fine shoemaking is the proud record of Stacy-Adams Company. Founded in 1875 by William H. Stacy and Henry L. Adams, legend has it that Mr. Stacy, to maintain the standard of workmanship and quality of his shoes, refused to allow the old-time shoemakers to work by artificial light. Such tradition of quality workmanship has been maintained through the 81 years.

Expert hand-craftsmen are still relied upon at this old New England shoemaking firm. Hand work has not been replaced by machine operations except in such parts of the manufacture which would not impair the superior quality of the shoes. Stacy-Adams is one of the few concerns to keep faith with the old tradition of hand-made shoes.

The executives of the company, President B. Harrison Cort and Treasurer Arthur F. Luce, credit much of Stacy-Adams' success to the keen interest, loyal cooperation and personal pride their employees show for the company and the product of their hands. Thirty men and women have been with the company for more than 25 years, and employees with records of 30, 40 and 50 years' service are not uncommon. The firm has always employed the finest of skilled craftsmen, training them in the traditional rigid

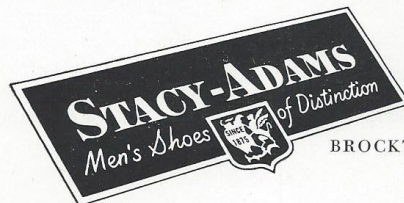
standards which have always characterized Stacy-Adams shoes.

Over the generations, this company whose shoes are known wherever famous brands are sold, has had an interesting history. Many distinguished men have worn Stacy-Adams shoes, including Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson, and Coolidge, as well as many present-day governmental officials and cabinet members.

One especially remarkable achievement for a firm steeped in the tradition of fine custom-grade shoemaking was the manufacture of approximately 1,000,000 pairs of navy shoes during World War II.

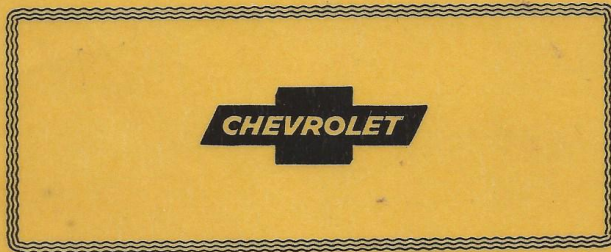
An old frame building on Montello Street was the first home of Stacy-Adams shoes. Continued growth of the company has made it necessary to enlarge quarters several times. In 1931, the present factory at the corner of Warren Avenue and Dover Street was purchased from Bion F. Reynolds, and last year this plant was enlarged with a 25% addition to take care of the ever-increasing demand for Stacy-Adams shoes.

Today, Stacy-Adams shoes are known all over America and, in fact, throughout the world for superlative styling, expert leather selection, quality craftsmanship and luxurious comfort.



BROCKTON 62, MASS.

Congratulations
on your
300th Anniversary



Calli Motors Co.
Brockton, Mass.

STANDARD PRINT, INC.



BROCKTON, MASS.

