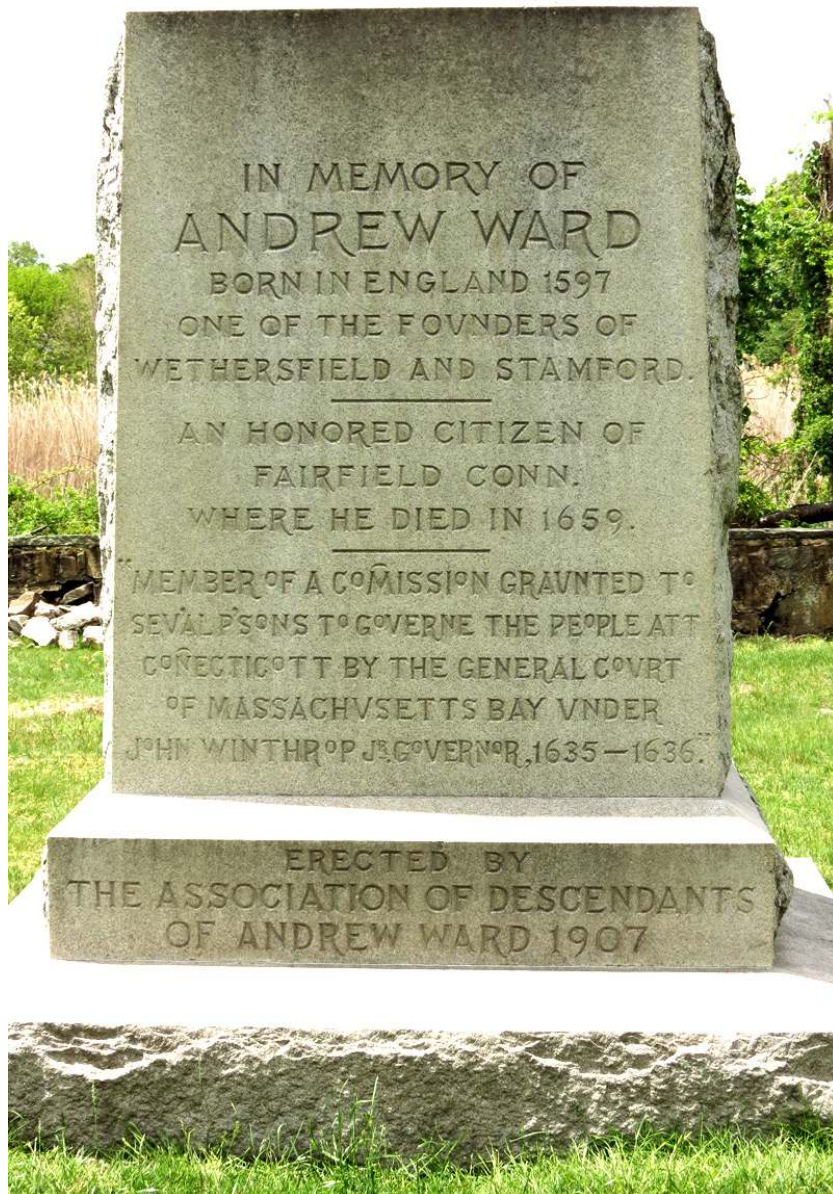


In Memory of **ANDREW WARD (1597-1659)**
Governor of Connecticut



Based on Genealogical records, studies and expert opinion in WikiTree.

Researched and compiled by JOHN GRAHAM WARD, March 2023.

In the Beginning...

■ **ANDREW WARD** was probably born about 1597 in Homersfield, Suffolk, England.

Homersfield, also known as St Mary, South Elmham, is a Village in the English County of Suffolk, in the East Suffolk district, 4 miles south-west of the Market Town of Bungay and 3 miles north-east of Harleston.

ANDREW WARD'S Parents are unknown, as is much of his early life. His Parents were previously in some sources to be linked to an unverifiable couple. This is hotly contested by many Genealogists as an "intentional error" and is a suspected case of "genealogical fraud" seeking to claim his Mother was related to a long line of English Nobles. The experts state that *"No parents should be attached to this profile without a discussion."* The problem seems to be that there is no definitive record of names & dates for many of our Ancestors from the period before the modern era. We do the best we can with the data that becomes available...

WikiTree (Where Genealogists Collaborate) is one of the best sources of our data.



From his Book Cover ...

The Life of Andrew Ward in New England

■ **ANDREW WARD** was one of the Founders of Puritan Connecticut. He governed (with seven others) the initial Settlement of Connecticut by Massachusetts Bay Colony English. He specifically was a Founding Father of the Connecticut Towns of Wethersfield, Stamford, and Fairfield. He served Connecticut/New Haven as a Judge/Magistrate, Legislator and Farmer.

- Commissioner appointed by Massachusetts to Govern Connecticut, Mar., 1636;
- Assistant, Connecticut Colony, Apr., 1636. Sept., 1636, Mar., 1637, May, 1637;
- Deputy (Wethersfield) to Connecticut Legislature, Nov., 1637, Mar., 1638, Apr., 1638, Aug, 1639, Sept., 1639, Jan., 1640;
- Judge (Stamford Town), Oct., 1642;
- Deputy Judge, Apr., 1643;
- Deputy (Stamford) to New Hampshire Legislature, Apr., 1644;
- Assistant, New Hampshire Colony, Oct., 1646;
- Deputy (Fairfield) to Connecticut Legislature., May, 1648, May, 1649, Sept., 1649, May, 1650, Sept., 1650, May, 1651, May, 1652, May, 1653, Sept., 1653, May, 1654, Oct., 1654, May, 1655, May, 1656, Oct., 1656, Oct., 1658;
- War Committee for Fairfield, May, 1653, Oct., 1654.

Born in England, probably near the beginning of the 17th. Century, **ANDREW WARDE**, while yet a comparatively young man, left his home and emigrated to New England. This is said to have been about the year 1630. Among his fellow voyageurs are said to have been **JOHN WINTHROP, JR.**, afterward Governor of Massachusetts; **REV. MR. PHILLIPS**, and other emigrants from Suffolk and Essex counties, who came across the sea to join that resolute and hardy band of Pioneers who were conquering a New World.

■ We first hear of **ANDREW WARDE** at Watertown, Massachusetts Bay Colony, where he early assumed prominence as a man of affairs in the small Colony there established. His name is recorded in the second book of inventory, as having "*an homestead of 10 acres, by estimation, bounded, the east by the driftway and John Dogget, the west by Winifred Wolcott, and the north by the great Pond, granted him.*"

He was made Freeman May 14, 1634. "*Under the first Charter of the Massachusetts Colony none were regarded as Freemen, or Members of the body politic, except such as were admitted by the General Court, and took the oath of allegiance to the Government here established. This custom continuing in existence until by the 2d Charter the Colony was transferred into a province.*".... He held this Estate as late as the year 1642, some seven or more years after his departure from Watertown.



The above **HISTORICAL MARKER** in Wethersfield, Connecticut names **ANDREW WARD** with the other nine adventurers who founded arguably the oldest English Town in Connecticut.

"In 1634, at a deep bend in the CONNECTICUT RIVER, John Oldham and nine other adventurers from Watertown, Massachusetts were welcomed by the Wongunk Indians, anxious to trade beaver pelts. Marsh hay in the low meadows and the rich alluvial soil soon attracted settlers who planted their farms on the broad terrace above the River. The surrounding forest gave up timber for houses, and the town was laid out with a Common alongside the present Cove. The settlers named the town **Wethersfield**. At that time it included the parishes of Rocky Hill to the south, Newington to the west, and Glastonbury to the east, across the river, where they pastured their livestock."

■ WATERTOWN LAND RECORDS.

The First Month and 24th Day, 1640.

"Lands of **ANDREW WARDE**, lying in Wethersfield on the Connecticut river. One piece whereon his house and barn stand, containing fouer acres more or less. The ends abutt against the street west and Great Meadows east, the sides against the house lotte of Mr. Smith south, and John Reynolds north. One piece lying in the Great Meadows contains fourteen acres two roods. One piece lying in the Great Meadows. One piece lying in the Great Meadows. . . . foure acres. One piece lying in on backe lotte contains 2 acres 3 roods. One piece lying in the Dry Swamp ... 8 acres. One piece lying in the middle rowe of Wet Swamp ... 5 acres. One piece lying on Westfield . . . 54 acres. One piece lying on the west side of the Connecticut river, 274 acres. These lands abut against the Connecticut river west, the side against the lands of Mr. Smith and Jo. Reynolds, north. The lands across the Conn, river, opposite Wethersfield would be in what is now Glastonbury."

- As the MONUMENT pictured above states, he was one of several persons granted to govern the people at **CONNECTICUT** by the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony.

"On the 3rd day of March 1636, he was appointed with Roger Ludlow & six others by the GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS to govern the Colony of Connecticut for one year. He was therefore one of the Assistants or Judges of the first legislative body held in Connecticut at Newtown or Hartford, on the 26th. of April 1636."

This was for the transition period of people migrating in from Massachusetts Bay Colony and the formation of a formal Government.

In 1638, **ANDREW WARD** likely attended the Meeting that formed the **CONNECTICUT RIVER COLONY'S** government. From which, Fundamental Orders described the structure and powers of the Government. The Orders had features of a Constitution and are considered the first written Constitution in Western history, and thus Connecticut has "The Constitution State" nickname.

For the **CONNECTICUT RIVER COLONY**, **ANDREW WARD** would serve in both the Upper House (like a Senator) and Lower House of the Court.

ANDREW WARD was a member of the Upper House, when War was declared against the **PEQUOT** Indians in 1637. He served as a Magistrate.

In 1638, he was appointed with CAPTAIN JOHN MASON & MR. ALLEN to go to Agawam or Springfield, *"to treat with the Indians of Waronocke concerning the tribute towards the charges of the PEQUOT WAR, to the value of one fathom of wampum per man, & also to the Nawattocke & Pacomtuckett Indians one fathom & a quarter per man."*

WAMPUM: small cylindrical beads traditionally made by some North American Indian peoples from shells, strung together and worn as decoration or used as money. A fathom (six feet of strung beads) of white wampum was worth ten shillings and double that for purple beads. A coat and Buskins set thick with these Beads in pleasant wild works and a broad Belt of the same belonging to King Philip (Wampanoag) was valued at Twenty pounds.

- The **PEQUOT** are a Native American people of Connecticut. The modern Pequot are members of the federally recognized Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, four other state-recognized groups in Connecticut including the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation, or the Brothertown Indians of Wisconsin. They historically spoke Pequot, a dialect of the Mohegan-Pequot language, which became extinct by the early 20th Century. Some tribal members are undertaking revival efforts.

The Pequot and the Mohegan were formerly a single group, but the Mohegan split off in the 17th Century as the Pequot came to control much of Connecticut. Simmering tensions with the New England Colonies led to the **PEQUOT WAR of 1634–1638**, which dramatically reduced the population and influence of the Pequot; **many members were killed, enslaved, or dispersed.** Small numbers of Pequots remained in Connecticut, receiving reservations at Mashantucket in 1666 and at the Pawcatuck River in 1683; others lived in different areas and with other tribes.

In the 18th Century, some **CHRISTIAN PEQUOT** joined members of several other groups to form the Brothertown Indians in western New Hampshire. They relocated to western New York in the 19th Century, where they were allowed land by the Oneida people of the Iroquois League, and later to Wisconsin, where they were granted a reservation.

- **ANDREW WARD** relocated to New Haven soon after, and his name is there found among the Free Planters at the gathering of the Church on the 4th of June 1639. On the 27th of Oct. 1641, he was with Francis Bell represented at Stamford and New Hampshire, and both were admitted as Members of that Court, and received the title of FREEMAN.

In 1640, he founded and settled the Plantation of **TOQUAHT** (later **STAMFORD**) for New Haven Colony that had recently been purchased from the Natives. At a General Court held at New Haven on the 4th, March 1640, **ANDREW WARD** & ROBERT COE of Wethersfield were appointed *"to treat with that Court about the Plantation (lately purchased by said Town) called Toquaht, or Stamford."* He was appointed CONSTABLE OF STAMFORD on the 26th. of March 1640.

At the assembling of the GENERAL COURT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE on the 5th of April 1643, his letter was presented, written in the name of the freeholders, introducing CAPTAIN JOHN UNDERHILL & RICHARD GILDERSLEEVE, as Deputies to that Court from Stamford; at the same time requesting that a Magistrate might be chosen, for the better administration of the prudential affairs of that Town.—There he was the CONSTABLE (1642), then MAGISTRATE (1647).

■ **ANDREW WARD**, with ROBERT COE, was appointed to assist at the next GENERAL COURT OF ELECTION at New Haven, Connecticut *"in Counsel & Advice for the more comely carrying on of public affairs."*

■ He was again elected one of the Deputies from STAMFORD to the GENERAL COURT OF **NEW HAMPSHIRE** in 1644 and in 1646.

The restless Town-Maker was not finished. In about 1648, he moved to **FAIRFIELD**.

About 1651, he purchased SIMON HOYT'S home-lot west of Hyde's Pond, which he sold in 1653, to EDWARD ADAMS; and purchased from ALEXANDER BRYAN the same year, THOMAS NEWTON'S house and home-lot on the Ludlow Square.

He was one of the most important, & one of the most influential men in FAIRFIELD."

At the same time (1651) he, with GEORGE HULL & WILLIAM BEARDSLEY of Stratford, were nominated as Assistants,

"to join with the Magistrates for the execution of Justice in the Towns of Connecticut by the sea-side."

He may have gone, as Trumbull & Goodwin think, to **HEMPSTEAD, LONG ISLAND** but he could only have remained there a short time, for, on the 6th of October 1651, at the sitting of the GENERAL COURT at **HARTFORD, Connecticut** he was appointed with John Banks of Fairfield to settle the Estate of Peter Johnson of Fairfield.

■ Death of ANDREW WARD (1597-1659)

ANDREW WARD died in 1659, between the date of his Will (8th. June, 1659) and the date of his inventory (18th. October, 1659).

The Monument in the Old Burying Ground, Fairfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut, pictured at Find a Grave is obviously not an original marker, but the Old Cemetery is the most logical place for him to have been buried.

Claims that he was buried in Woodbury, Litchfield, Connecticut 28 Feb 1660 are mistaken as Woodbury was unsettled in 1659.

■ Marriage (1618)

On January 2, 1618, the 21-year old "mystery man", ANDREW WARD (1597-1659) is thought to have married HESTER SHERMAN (born 1606) in Dedham, Essex, England.

Dedham is a village within the borough of Colchester in northeast Essex, England, on the River Stour and the border of Essex and Suffolk. The nearest town to Dedham is the small market town of Manningtree.

ANDREW WARD Died before 8 Oct 1659 before about age 62 in Fairfield, Connecticut, BCA.

■ Children (Andrew and Ester Sherman had 5-Sons & 5-Daughters)

1. EDMUND WARD, born say 1628. He was mentioned in the 8 June 1659 Will of his Father, but not in the 27 Dec 1665 Will of his Mother. Indications are that he did not live in New England in 1665.
2. ANN WARD born about 1630; married by 1650 Caleb Nichols.
3. WILLIAM WARD, born say 1632; married Deborah Lockwood in 1664.
4. HESTER WARD born say 1634; probably married (1) Joseph Boosey and then (2) Jehu Burr, son of Jehu Burr.
5. MARY WARD born say 1636; married probably John Burr, son of Jehu Burr.
6. JOHN WARD born say 1638; married Middletown, Connecticut, 18 April 1664 Mary Harris, daughter of William Harris.
7. SARAH WARD born say 1640; married Nathaniel Burr, son of Jehu Burr.
8. ABIGAIL WARD, born say 1642; married (1) Moses Dimon; m. (2) Edward Howard.
9. ANDREW WARD (1645-1690); married Tryal Meigs. Died in Fairfield, Connecticut.
10. SAMUEL NICHOLAS WARD (1646-1693); married (1) daughter of Richard Ogden; married (2) Hannah (Hawkins) Nichols. Samuel was a Surgeon to Company F and killed in War against Narragansett Indians.

The Ward - Homersfield Connection Fraud

■ In 1995, ROBERT CHARLES ANDERSON, in the "GREAT MIGRATION BEGINS," stated that the origins of ANDREW WARD of Connecticut are still unproven, but cites JACOBUS'S "FAMILIES OF OLD FAIRFIELD," which called out a fraud stating that he was related to a noble family from Homersfield, Suffolk, England and also to an article in "The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record" pointing to the correct family.

In the erroneous Ward Genealogy, Andrew is stated to be ANDREW WARD of Homersfield, Suffolk, England son of RICHARD WARD of of Gorleston or Homersfield and a fictional wife named ANNE GUIVILLE with a long noble lineage. Further, RICHARD WARD is styled a KNIGHT which is a complete fraud.

In "FAMILIES OF OLD FAIRFIELD," Jacobus writes: *"the family of Richard Ward of Gorleston or Homersfield have been investigated. No such person as Sir Richard Ward, Kt. was found; no Anne (Guiville) Ward. No Gunville family existed in that vicinity as Lords of the Manor; and every reference given has proved to be fictitious.*

It is likely that these statements were the invention of a fraudulent Genealogist, innocently accepted by members of the WARD FAMILY, through whom they found their way into the book."

In 1913, J. HENRY LEA and J. R. HUTCHINSON of the NEW YORK GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY pointed out that ANDREW WARD of Homersfield, Suffolk, England, son of Richard Ward of Gorleston or Homersfield, had died in 1615 and therefore couldn't be the immigrant in question:

"It is also noteworthy, in further contravention of that erroneous derivation, that we find in the Parish Registers of ST. MILDRED'S CORNHILL, London, England the burial of a Mr. ANDREW WARDE, Gentleman, on the 23rd. of January, 1615, who was probably the SON of that RICHARD WARD of Homersfield and Gorleston, Suffolk, who was so lightly accepted as the American Immigrant without a scintilla of evidence beyond the Christian name.

The authors then goes on to present strong evidence that the immigrant was related to STEPHEN and JOYCE (TRAFFORD) WARD who had a son RICHARD of Faxton, County of Northampton, whose Will in 1640 named various relatives, including a brother ANDREW:

"If further confirmatory evidence were needed of the derivation of the WETHERSFIELD people from the BRAFFIELD stock, we find it in the constant recurrence, among the American descendants, of the Christian names of the last mentioned English family, as shown in the Will, every one of which is repeated and notably the very unusual ones of

Ambrose, Andrew, Richard, Alice, Grace and Margery, while those of Stephen, Robert, Daniel and Isabell of the recorded pedigree also appear. All of them but Richard and Andrew being conspicuous by their absence from the Homersfield pedigree."

■ FAXTON is an abandoned Village and Chapelry in the County of Northamptonshire in England. Nearby are the villages of Old, Lamport and Mawsley. It is believed that the name *Faxton* comes from the Scandinavian *Fakr* and the Anglo-Saxon *tun*, meaning *Fakr's Farm*. This would indicate that Faxton grew from a Viking or Norse settler's farmstead and, therefore, would date from approximately the 9th Century.

The Domesday Book (completed by 1086), naming FAXTON as the Manor of *FEXTONE*, notes that the population was of approximately 60 to 80 people. The village is documented as having consisted of a Church, a Rectory, a hall, an aviary, almshouses and a number of ponds. Archaeological evidence has been found of settlement at Faxton as early as around 1200.

It has been said that, in an attempt to escape the PLAGUE in London in 1665, a family relocated to Faxton with their servants, one of whom carried the fatal disease which spread and almost wiped out the Village. However, this tale is disproved by comparing the number of householders recorded in the hearth tax lists for Faxton in years before and after that date. 30 householders were listed in 1662, but 34 were recorded for the year ending 25 March 1674.

Former residents have recalled that Faxton could only be reached by horse-drawn vehicles, as none of the roads leading to it were made up to accommodate motor vehicles; they considered that to be a major factor in the decline of the Village.

The Parish Church of St Denis suffered extensive vandalism in the early 20th Century. It ceased to be used for Public Worship in 1939 and was demolished in 1958.



Only the CHURCH FONT remains. There is now just one house in FAXTON, standing on this remote hilltop location, overlooking the rolling farmland.