

From Hingham to Hollywood....

The story of Joseph Underwood and  
his descendants

This narrative is dedicated to Joseph and those that followed. He was an ordinary Englishman who did something extraordinary. He took a leap of faith in coming to America looking for a chance at a better life. His determination made all the difference. Many of his descendants had (and have !) that same drive and determination. They continued to look to the horizon and were unafraid to venture into the unknown. We are glad they did. This is their story


Mark Reider  
Spouse of Christie Underwood Reider  
July 2011




## Relationship: Joseph UNDERWOOD to Harry Burton UNDERWOOD

Harry Burton UNDERWOOD is the 7th great grandson of Joseph UNDERWOOD


Self

	<b>Joseph UNDERWOOD</b>
	b: 1614
	England
	d: 17 Feb 1677 Watertown, Middlesex, MA


Son

	<b>Thomas UNDERWOOD</b>
	b: 11 Oct 1658
	Watertown, Middlesex, MA
	d: 01 Mar 1691 Watertown, Middlesex, MA


Grandson

	<b>Jonathan UNDERWOOD Sr.</b>
	b: 18 Aug 1686
	Watertown, Middlesex, MA
	d: Aft. 1736 Massachusetts, USA


Great grandson

	<b>Jonathan UNDERWOOD Jr.</b>
	b: 26 Jan 1716
	Lexington, Middlesex, MA
	d: 29 Jan 1804 Wayland, Middlesex, MA

2nd great grandson

	<b>Reuben UNDERWOOD</b>
	b: 09 Jun 1751
	Sudbury, Middlesex, MA
	d: 20 Nov 1830 Spencer, Worcester, MA

3rd great grandson

	<b>Jonas UNDERWOOD</b>
	b: 11 Mar 1797
	Spencer, Worcester, MA
	d: 05 Jan 1864 Chautauqua, New York, USA

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Harry Burton UNDERWOOD is the 7th great grandson of Joseph UNDERWOOD

4th great grandson



**Charles Browning UNDERWOOD**

b: 26 May 1829

Spencer, Worcester, MA

d: 27 Jul 1911

Westfield, Chautauqua, NY

5th great grandson



**George Farwell UNDERWOOD**

b: 17 Jul 1861

Mayville, Chautauqua, NY

d: 21 Feb 1939

Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

6th great grandson



**Harry Charles UNDERWOOD**

b: 07 Jun 1896

Mayville, Chautauqua, NY

d: 18 Jun 1985

Hollywood, Los Angeles, CA

7th great grandson

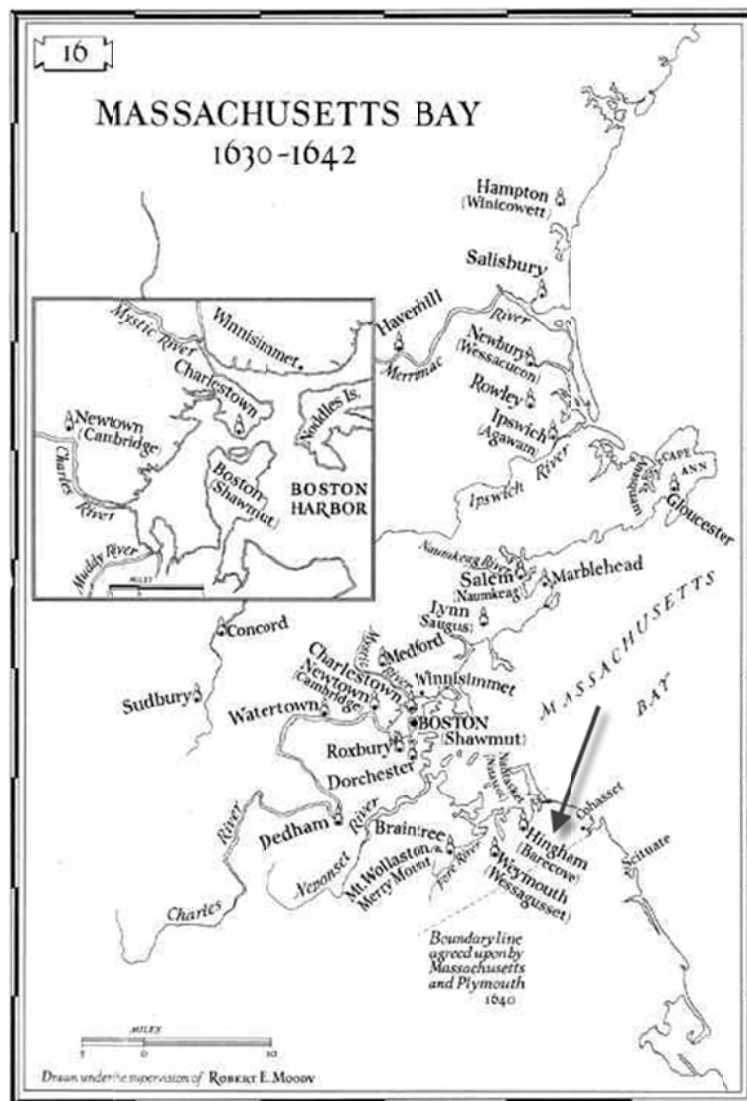


**Harry Burton UNDERWOOD**

b: 07 Jul 1927

Hollywood, Los Angeles, CA

1637 was a tumultuous year in many parts of world. Ferdinand III became the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. Tulipomania was in full swing in Holland. People were spending the equivalent of thousands of dollars for a single tulip bulb. Protestant religious fervor was forcing many to seek a safer haven in parts of Europe or the New World. Charles I of England tried to force Anglicanism on the Scots. This eventually led to English Civil Wars and extreme turmoil in the growing English empire. In addition, it was in 1637 that Joseph Underwood decided follow his older brother Thomas to Hingham, a new community in the Massachusetts Bay colony in America. He faced a largely unknown and dangerous future.



This is what the towns of the Massachusetts Bay looked like in the first wave known as the Great Migration. Location of Hingham shown with the earlier name of Barecove underneath in parentheses.

Joseph Underwood was a single man who likely saw the opportunity for the kind of economic gain he could never achieve in England. Common people in England simply did not own land. They rented it from large (often royal) landowners. This new world offered a chance for land ownership. When Joseph left London in the early spring of 1637<sup>1</sup>, he was also beginning a new and potentially very dangerous way of life. That danger began with the voyage to the new world.

It is not known which ship Joseph chose for his journey nor his exact departure date. The ships often left in late spring for their 10-12 week voyage. It was cramped, dirty and dingy for most of the voyage with rotting food, seasickness, disease and death. Cleanliness was a bucket of sea water. People died (buried at sea) and babies were born. It was very common for several deaths to occur depending upon the health of the passengers at the beginning of the voyage. It was a very welcome sight when land was sighted. Joseph was obviously a healthy young man in his twenties but when the ship arrived at the port of Charleston, I am sure he was relieved.

Joseph made his way to Hingham where his arrival in 1637 was noted by the town. Thomas had arrived 1 or 2 years earlier and quickly became a town leader as a selectman and representative to the General Court as early as 1637:

Sometime in the year 1637 the settlement at Hingham adopted the system of having nine picked men to manage the affairs of the colony. The first men selected for this purpose were: Edward Hobart, Sr., Nicholas Jacob. Oement Bates, Henry Tuttle, Thomas Hammond, Anthony Eames, Henry Rust. Samuel Ward and **Thomas Underwood**. They had authority "to receive any person into the municipality; to give, grant, let & set, all for the good of the whole," but had not the power to fix the rate of taxation. A rule was adopted that if anyone of these nine men should fail to attend a meeting he should be fined "one peck of Indian com."<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Most voyages were timed to arrive in the months of spring or summer. The small size of these ships made them very susceptible to bad weather.

<sup>2</sup> Cook, Louis, *History of Norfolk Massachusetts*, New York, SJ Clarke, 1918, pg 108

Despite the trappings of civilization, this was a very small community and its existence remained precarious for many years. What was Hingham like when Joseph Underwood arrived?

Hingham was originally known as Barecove for its open windswept view of the harbor.<sup>3</sup> Initial settlement by a few adventurous souls began in 1633-1634. It was in 1635 that a large number of devout folks arrived from a church in Hingham, Norfolk County, England led by Reverend Peter Hobart. The population jumped to over 50 families and brought some stability and hope for the future to the town. Fears of starvation diminished as the Massachusetts Bay area grew but danger was never very far away. Disease, accidents and Indians were constantly on the minds of the people. In a look to the future, the town began awarding plots of lands to all heads of families. The next wave of immigrants in early 1636 brought Thomas Underwood, the older brother of Joseph.

Thomas Underwood was already an established merchant in his mid-30s when he decided to come to the New World. The depression in the cloth trade in England in the 1630s may have influenced his decision.<sup>4</sup> His social standing is confirmed in that he is referred to as a “gentleman”. He had a wife, Magdalen Underwood, but no children. *See Appendix A – Thomas Underwood Family Group Sheet*. Thomas had established connections to the cloth and weaving industry in the Norfolk and London area. He would use these once he arrived to secure needed items for the colonists. These purchases were actually recorded by Thomas Aspinwall who serves as a broker between the merchants and ships

Thomas quickly established himself as a town leader. In the Fall of 1636, he was awarded a house-lot (also known as a home-stall) in “Hingham Center over the river”.<sup>5</sup> Although we have found no formal record, it is virtually certain that he was a “freeman” which required a formal oath. These were the leaders of the community. This title or designation showed support of the church and was necessary if you were to vote or hold public office. With Thomas’ high social and economic standing, it was a foregone conclusion he would become a

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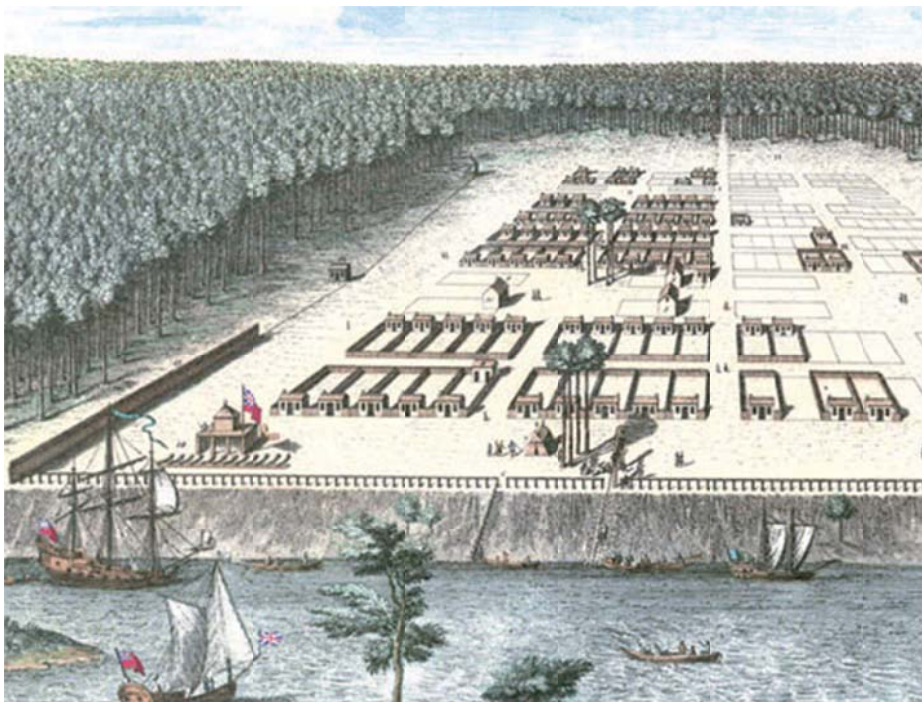
<sup>3</sup> Hingham Tercentenary Committee, *Hingham Old and New*, Hingham, MA, 1935

<sup>4</sup> Thompson, Roger, *Divided We Stand*, Watertown 1630 – 1680, Univ. of Mass., Amherst, MA, 2001

<sup>5</sup> Town of Hingham, *History of the Town of Hingham*, Hingham, MA, 1893, pg 271

freeman. As he settled into life in colonial America, he was soon to be followed by younger brother Joseph. Whether his brother's arrival in Hingham was planned or spontaneous we may never know.

When Joseph Underwood arrived in Hingham, the town was still in the Palisade style in which the town was surrounded by a tall fence of tree posts in the manner of a fort. (See the drawing below) Land outside the fence was used for farming and pasture. Residents could retreat inside the fort in case of danger from Indians which would be a problem for many years culminating in King Phillip's War.<sup>6</sup> There were an estimated 175 people total in the community.<sup>7</sup>



This is an example of a palisade or stockade being built.

Although Joseph Underwood was younger than his brother Thomas, the town granted him land not long after his arrival. These towns were initially eager for new settlers who could ensure their continued existence. That would change in the years ahead but for now the town would grant land to new arrivals. Joseph Underwood was listed as receiving land but no record of its location in

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<sup>6</sup> King Phillips War was between New England colonists and the Native Americans under the command of Metacomet known as King Phillip. Almost half the English towns were destroyed but the English eventually killed Metacomet and forced an end to the war in 1678.

<sup>7</sup> Hingham Tercentenary Committee, *Hingham Old and New*, Hingham, MA, 1935

Hingham has yet been found. We might speculate that his land was somewhere near that of an earlier arrival, Edward Wilder, as Edward's sister became an important part of Joseph's life. Land divisions or dividends (land being given to citizens) continued in the early years. At one point Joseph was granted pasturage on an island in the harbor!<sup>8</sup> As the years went by, newly arrived immigrants were forced to accept land in the outlying areas or purchase land from earlier arrivals.

Hingham continued to accept new arrivals with a major influx coming on the ship *Diligent* in 1638. Two of the passengers were the widow Martha Wilder and her "spinster" daughter Mary.<sup>9</sup> They were joining Mary's brother Edward who had arrived 3 years earlier. At some point Mary Wilder met the young Joseph Underwood and they were married in May of 1644. *See Appendix B – Joseph Underwood Family Group Sheet*. Although Hingham's early records are spotty, their first child Mary Underwood was baptized April 13, 1645.<sup>10</sup> It was their only child recorded as being born in Hingham.

In the early 1640s controversy erupted in the town of Hingham. A long time militia leader was unhappy with new recruits and refused to train them. The militia company sent in the name of a new commander to be confirmed but the colony magistrates balked. Folks in the town took sides and the controversy ended up in the Massachusetts General Court. The feeling of town unity was broken and many families moved away over the next several years.<sup>11</sup> The Underwoods were among those that eventually left.

Joseph had risen to a respectable position in the community and was part of a group that surveyed and divided land. He was confirmed a freeman in May 1645.<sup>12</sup> Despite all that, Joseph Underwood and his young family made the decision to go to Watertown in the late 1640s or early 1650s. Joseph's brother

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<sup>8</sup> Bigelow, Victor, *Narrative History of the Town of Cohasset*, Cohasset, MA , 1898, Pgs 134-138

<sup>9</sup> Town of Hingham, *History of the Town of Hingham*, Hingham, MA, 1893, pg 312

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Hingham Tercentenary Committee, *Hingham Old and New*, Hingham, MA, 1935

<sup>12</sup> Paige, Lucius R. *List of Freemen of Massachusetts*. Orig Published in the "New England Historic & Genealogical Register" 1949. Oath of Freemen in Massachusetts: "I.....being by God's Providence an inhabitant and freeman within the jurisdiction of this commonwealth, do freely acknowledge myself to be subject to the government thereof; and therefore do swear by the great and dreadful name of the everliving God that I will be true and faithful to the same, and will accordingly yield assistance and support thereunto with my person and estate, as in equity I am bound; and will also truly endeavor to maintain and preserve all the liberties and privileges thereof, submitting self to the wholesome laws and orders made and established by the same. And further, that I will not plot or practice any evil against it, or consent to any that shall so do; but will timely discover and reveal the same to lawful authority now here established for speedy preventing thereof. Moreover, I do solemnly bind myself in the sight of God that, when I shall be called to give my voice touching any such matter of this state, in which freemen are to deal, I will give my vote and suffrage as I shall judge in my own conscience may best conduce and tend to the public wealth of the body, without respect of person or favor of any man. So help me God in the Lord Jesus Christ." **Joseph** appears on page 21, listed under May 1645.

Thomas came to Watertown in 1651 so they would spend their remaining years in the same community again.

The town of Watertown was founded in 1630 and was a starting point for many new communities. Towns such as Wethersfield, Lexington, Cambridge, Sudbury, Concord, and others were either founded by folks from Watertown or were split off from the original boundaries. By the time Joseph and Thomas arrived it was a very strong and ordered community. Thomas quickly became a leader and was elected as a selectman (town leader) by 1656. Thomas acquired several hundred acres of land in various locations in Watertown. Thomas and Magdalen remained childless but had Joseph and Mary's children as nieces and nephews.

Joseph and Mary Wilder Underwood had children on a regular basis. Martha was born in 1647, Joseph was born in 1650, Sarah in 1652, Hannah in 1654, and Elizabeth in 1656. Their youngest child, Thomas, (named for his uncle) was born October 11, 1658.<sup>13</sup> Unfortunately Mary Wilder Underwood died soon after on December 13, 1658. Cause of death is unknown but childbirth and complications from childbirth were some of the leading causes of death. Joseph was left with 7 young children ranging in age from 13 to infant. Prior to Mary's death they had built a good life.

Joseph's status as a freeman made him a respected member of the church and community. He held his share of assigned town jobs as required of all citizens<sup>14</sup> and was a member of the church which enabled his children to be baptized. He purchased land in Watertown in 1654 buying a home-stall and several other parcels totaling over 70 acres for £30 (30 English pounds). The sale was somewhat controversial because the owner (Joshua Stubbs) had died and not all those who stood to inherit were in favor of selling. Finally the widow, who was about to be remarried, agreed to sell. See an excerpt from the original recorded deed that follows. Although the handwriting is difficult to read, you can make out names as well as number of acres and selling price. To accurately translate or read one of these often takes a greatly enlarged view of the document and patience.

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<sup>13</sup> Town Clerk of Watertown, *Watertown Vital Records*, Historical Society of Watertown, Watertown, MA, 1894

<sup>14</sup> Historical Society of Watertown, *Watertown Records Vol. 1*, Watertown, MA 1894, pg 102



A Sale of Steepes Roushing & Land, standing, long & strait in — Joshua Stubb  
 Water-Dowse in New Engl<sup>d</sup>. by Joshua Stubb Inhabitant in — Joseph Underwood  
 Charles-Dowse, unto Joseph Underwood Inhabitant in the said Water-Dowse  
 =Dowse on the other part, the eight day of the ninth month, a thousand  
 Six hundred fifty & four.  
 Know all men by these presents that Joshua Stubb Inhabitant  
 in Charlottown New Engl<sup>d</sup>. for the Steepes & water, by content of  
 my mother Abigail Benjamin, and of my wife Abigail Stubb  
 have sold and hereby declares it that I do sell unto Joseph Underwood, for 30<sup>th</sup> day  
 of Water-Dowse for the sum of thirty pounds, to be paid as after  
 is expressed, all Roush, or Home-stall, standing & strait in — 16<sup>th</sup> day of Underwood  
 Water-Dowse, with sixteen days of upland by estimation more or  
 less adjoining to the said Roushing, all being bounded South by the  
 High way, East by Thomas Underwood, north by Thomas Stubb, and west  
 by George Underwood, more two days of meadow more adjoining 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Underwood  
 being by estimation more or less, bounded East by Jacob Mixon, north  
 by Thomas Underwood, south & west by John Knight, also thirty and 35 days of upland

In this excerpt you can see the name of Joseph Underwood in the upper right. As was common with deeds of the time they followed a set written formula to ensure transfer of ownership and were very particular in assigning a description to the land being sold. Some of the notes on the side indicate approximate acreage.

As land sales continued over the years, the description often involved simply naming the prior owners or the prior deed listed in a particular volume or a particular page. One later genealogist, Henry Bond, went ahead and attempted to overlay a map of Watertown along with the various successive landowners. It is in this way we can find at least some of the property of Joseph and Thomas Underwood.



= Joseph Underwood Properties 1649 - 1676

= Thomas Underwood Properties 1649 - 1668

As the years passed, Joseph's son Thomas went to live with his namesake Uncle Thomas Underwood and wife Magdalen. They were childless but obviously were fond of young Thomas who was remembered in his Uncle's will in a significant way. Thomas Underwood died April 7, 1668.<sup>15</sup> The inventory of his estate establishes that he was fairly wealthy by town standards. See *Appendix D – Inventory of Estate*. It is through the will of Thomas Underwood that we are able to confirm that he is indeed the brother of Joseph as well as the names of Joseph's children. He leaves Joseph and his nephews and nieces (referred to as "cousens") varying amounts of money. In his will he also makes his nephew, Thomas, a primary recipient of his land when he comes of age. See *Appendix E – Will of Thomas Underwood*. His wife Magdalen is named his executrix and given a large share of his estate. Magdalen is also given the ability to revoke Thomas' promised land if she decides he proves to be "....stubborne or rebellious". That would make Thomas a major landowner when he came of age. Unfortunately, this story does not have a happy ending.

To the everlasting confusion of genealogists for generations, Magdalen married again in 1669 to another Thomas Underwood. This Thomas was unrelated to her late husband or her nephew or brother-in-law Joseph. Many genealogists actually wrongly assumed she had remarried to her nephew Thomas who would have been only 11 years old! This new husband was known as a "gentleman" which implied elevated social standing. When this Thomas died in 1680 he left his estate to his son Thomas (another one) who lived in England. Magdalen and new husband Thomas began selling the land acquired by her first husband Thomas. She often sold land to her own kin and when she died in 1687, she left everything to her own nephews and nieces rather than giving Thomas what her first husband had promised.

As Joseph's children grew, the older girls, Sarah and Martha, were surely called on to help with the younger children as there was no mother. Joseph waited longer than is the norm to remarry. It was very common to remarry within a year but Joseph did not remarry until early 1665. He married widow Mary How of Dorchester<sup>16</sup>. Not much is known about her and she died in January of 1667. Joseph did not marry again.

One interesting note is that Joseph took on an apprentice in 1667 for a stipend of £12 a year. The apprentice's name was Ben Davis and he was a 10 year old orphan. Joseph was required to provide food, lodging, and religious instruction. There is no mention of teaching a trade but perhaps it was something in the

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<sup>15</sup> Town Clerk of Watertown, *Watertown Vital Records*, Historical Society of Watertown, Watertown, MA, 1894

<sup>16</sup> Records of the First Church of Dorchester 1636-1734, ...*March 28, 1665 Mary How also (who married to one Underwood of watter-towne) was the same day dismissed to Joyn to that church at watertowne*

cloth or weaving area. A pragmatic view is that it paid him £12 a year which would help him with expenses. When Joseph died, his son Joseph took over the role of Master to Ben.

Joseph Underwood, immigrant ancestor, died February 17, 1676.<sup>17</sup> See *Appendices F & G - original death record from Watertown*. He was 62 years old. Probate records of the time do not list a will but there are two estate papers. The first is an inventory of Joseph's estate. See *Appendix H for original copy*. It includes his land which was the most valuable asset but also many mundane everyday items.

**Inventory of Joseph Underwood's estate**  
(spelling corrected as appropriate)

**"Inventory of the Estate of Joseph Underwood**

**A true inventory of the housing, land, chattels and other goods of Joseph Underwood who deceased the 16 day of Feb. 1676, appraised by us whose names are underwritten the 3 of March 1676/7.**

<b>£40 -</b>	<b>Housing and home-stall of 20 acres</b>
<b>£33</b>	<b>A dividend of thirty-three acres</b>
<b>£2 10s</b>	<b>fifteen acres, more of dividend land</b>
<b>£3 -</b>	<b>twenty acres of Township land</b>
<b>£6 -</b>	<b>An acre and half of meadow land in patch meadow</b>
<b>£9 10s</b>	<b>Two cows and a steer</b>
<b>£3 12s</b>	<b>fourteen sheep and six lambs</b>
<b>£1 07s</b>	<b>swine</b>
<b>£3 06s</b>	<b>Twenty two bushels of Indian Corn</b>
<b>£1 12s</b>	<b>four bushels of Barley and four bushells of rye 11b 12 shillings</b>
<b>- 03s</b>	<b>one bushel of Indian meal</b>
<b>£1 15s</b>	<b>Pork and bacon</b>
<b>£1 15s</b>	<b>Bedding, bedstead and curtains</b>
<b>£1 05s</b>	<b>A trundle bed and bedstead</b>
<b>- 15s</b>	<b>A pr of old sheets and some other old linen</b>
<b>£1 15s</b>	<b>His wearing apparel</b>
<b>£2 11s</b>	<b>Brass and pewter</b>
<b>- 09s</b>	<b>Iron ware in the house for housekeeping</b>
<b>- 12s</b>	<b>One barrel of Cider</b>
<b>- 14s</b>	<b>Lumber</b>

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<sup>17</sup> Ibid

- 04s	<b>A Spinning Wheel</b>
- 14s	<b>Two chests and a Cupboard</b>
- 05s	<b>Two old chests and a Sack</b>
- 10s	<b>An old Matchlock musket &amp; old sword, powder &amp; bullets</b>
£1 19s	<b>A plow and plow chain &amp; several parcels of Iron ware</b>
- 02s	<b>Earthen ware and a small parcel of Tobacco</b>
- 08s	<b>A parcel of books</b>
- 06s	<b>Ten pound of Sheep's wool</b>
- 03s	<b>Dishes and spoons &amp; an old chair &amp; an old Table</b>
£9 -	<b>A Servant Boy</b>

**Appraisers: Henry Spring, Samuel Stearns, Thomas Loverane**

**£ = English pound sterling      s = English shillings      20 shillings = 1 pound**

One intriguing item is the last one “A servant boy”. Was this the apprentice Ben Davis or someone else? Indentured servants often worked as servants for several years to pay for passage to the new world. In this case, it likely refers to Ben. An apprentice was legally bound and had value. Joseph's son, Joseph, took over the apprentice contract after the estate was settled.

The second estate document is the administration of the estate and division of the assets. As was common, the oldest son, Joseph, was named the administrator of his father's estate. *See Appendix I.* Joseph also received a double share of the estate as the oldest often did. Joseph's other children are listed with the exception of his first born Mary. No mention is made of her. There is a listing of the siblings giving some additional funds to Hannah. She was 22 and not yet married so maybe she cared for her father and they were acknowledging her. Hannah was married a few years later. Although the sums may seem to be relatively small by today's terms, they represented a substantial amount of money.

Thomas Underwood was the youngest son of Joseph and Mary. While much of his youth was spent with his Uncle Thomas, by the time his father Joseph died, Thomas was 18 and approaching manhood. With the money inherited from his father's estate and whatever he may have received from Uncle Thomas, he would be able start his adult life. Unfortunately it would not be a very long one.

As indicated previously, Underwood genealogists have had problems for years in identifying each Thomas as there were so many over 2 or 3 generations. The problems with correctly identifying the second husband of Magdalen and his

son continued to the next generation in trying to identify Thomas (son of Joseph) in records. Fortunately there are some areas most agree.

Thomas Underwood married Mary Palmer November 19, 1679. *See Appendix J for an excerpt from the original record.* They were both from Watertown and set about making a life for themselves. Eleven months later their first child named Thomas is born. *See Appendix K – Thomas Underwood Family Group Sheet.* Mary was born in 1682, Elizabeth follows in 1684, Jonathan in 1686 (see appendix L), Abigail in 1687, Martha in 1689 and finally another Thomas in 1691.

Thomas was not a “public” member of the church but had “owned the covenant” privately which meant he agreed to follow the teachings of the church while not being a full member.<sup>18</sup> Mary Palmer Underwood had owned the covenant publically and was a full member. Thomas’s agreement was important because it allowed his children to be baptized.

“Ye 28<sup>th</sup> of Nov, 1686, I baptized viz; 4 children of Thomas Underwood who owned the covenant privately, and his wife publicly viz, Thomas, Jonathan, Mary, and Elizabeth.”<sup>19</sup>

Thomas was listed in town records as a farmer and served in the militia during King Phillip’s War for which he was paid £1 10 shillings in February 1677.<sup>20</sup> Thomas and his family live in a part of Watertown that will be eventually become Lexington. His days would have been spent at hard physical labor but that was normal for most men.

One curious incident was a lawsuit brought by Thomas Underwood against two fellow citizens for theft of some letters that were addressed to him. The contents were never made clear but Thomas was obviously aggravated enough to pursue a civil lawsuit or damages. The outcome of the lawsuit was never published.<sup>21</sup>

Life seems to be good for the Underwood family when tragedy strikes over several months in 1691. Father Thomas Underwood, only 32 years old, dies of smallpox on March 1, 1691.<sup>22</sup> Thomas had been pestered for years by the

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<sup>18</sup> This would haunt Thomas to his literal dying day as shown in the notes by the pastor on Thomas’ death

<sup>19</sup> Historical Society of Watertown, *Book of Pastors 1686 – 1819*, David Clapp , Boston, MA 1906

<sup>20</sup> Sons of the American Revolution, *Watertown Military History*, David Clapp, Boston, MA 1907, pg 8

<sup>21</sup> This was in a series of publications dealing with the Middlesex County Court of Common Pleas.

<sup>22</sup> Town Clerk of Watertown, *Watertown Vital Records*, Historical Society of Watertown, Watertown, MA, 1894

pastor to join the church and only agreed as he lay on his deathbed. Here are the comments from the pastor's record:

"1 March 1691, I admitted one Thomas Underwood but he was buried just 3 hours before he was to be admitted, a stupendous providence. He died of ye smallpox. He was a thriving man both as to his own world and other and likely to have been of great use to this church and town. He died comfortably..."<sup>23</sup>

In June of 1691 Mary is nearly ready to give birth to their 7<sup>th</sup> child. Oldest son Thomas was stricken with illness or suffered an accident and dies. Mary named their latest child born June 3, 1691 with the name of Thomas. Repeating names of deceased children was a common practice.

The only other definite mention of Mary Palmer Underwood is in 1692. The selectmen of Watertown issue a warning on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March 1692:

"...on understanding that the widow Underwood has taken into her house one Benaneuell Davis and his family, the selectmen sent for said Underwood and informed her they did not approve of her entertaining of any of them and that if she did she must give the town sufficient bond to hold the town harmless which she refused to do..."<sup>24</sup>

Towns such as Watertown which were prosperous jealously guarded their treasury and offered support only for official residents. They did not want anyone who was not a resident of the town actually living there. It was very common practice to issue such "warnings to leave". They were often followed by instructions to the constable to enforce the edict. If these visitors were living with a citizen, the citizen might be allowed to post a bond with the town that would be used if the newcomers needed financial help. This ensured no financial drain on the town. Joseph Underwood had received such a warning from the city of Dorchester in the 1660s. Perhaps he had been visiting his future wife Mary How.

It is not difficult to imagine that Mary Palmer Underwood might need the financial and physical help the visitors/boarders could potentially provide as she was a young widow with small children but that made little difference to the town. In 17<sup>th</sup> century New England rules were taken seriously. Nothing more is known of Mary Palmer Underwood.

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<sup>23</sup> Historical Society of Watertown, Book of Pastors 1686 – 1819, David Clapp , Boston, MA 1906, pg 203 & 204

<sup>24</sup> Historical Society of Watertown, *Watertown Records Vol. 2*, Watertown, MA 1894, pg 50

One of the sons of Thomas Underwood was Jonathan born on August 18, 1686. *See Appendix L for an excerpt from the original record.* This would become a common name for several generations. This particular Jonathan has been identified as everything from a farmer to sea captain with hometowns being listed as Boston, Framingham and Sudbury among others. Thankfully we have some definitive records but a complete history of this Jonathan is elusive and sketchy.

Jonathan grew up in a section of Watertown that would become Lexington in the early 1700s. As he grew older he also spent time in Cambridge, Sudbury, and Weston but he is not listed as being “of Watertown” any more although he most certainly had relatives there and had been baptized there as indicated previously.

Jonathan’s ties to Watertown were evident in that he met and married a Watertown girl, Ruth Holland. Jonathan had visited Watertown so often he was officially warned by the selectmen in 1709 that he needed to return to Lexington.<sup>25</sup> He was no longer considered a resident even though his father and grandfather had been residents. Despite any difficulty, he married Ruth Holland (the obvious reason for his frequent visits to Watertown) and they settled in Lexington. *See Appendix M – Jonathan Underwood Family Group Sheet.*

Their marriage is listed in the vital records of Watertown and Lexington. Watertown lists the marriage in 1709 while Lexington lists it as 1710. This would not necessarily give anyone pause but the possible difference may play a part in a later incident in Ruth’s life.

Following their marriage in 1709/1710, 5 children were born in Lexington. We only have baptismal dates. Ruth was baptized on September 23, 1711, Thomas was baptized on Feb 10 1712, Sarah on May 23, 1714, Jonathan on January 26, 1716 and Sarah on May 10, 1719. The naming of Sarah indicates the earlier Sarah had died. The use of Jonathan again in our particular line will cause further genealogical confusion.

Watertown proved to remain a strong attraction for this family. In February 1732 Ruth went back to her home town. She went to the church:

“Ruth Underwood made a public confession of her sin and was received into favor.”<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Historical Society of Watertown, *Watertown Records Vol. 2*, Watertown, MA 1894

<sup>26</sup> Historical Society of Watertown, *Book of Pastors 1686 – 1819*, David Clapp, Boston, MA 1906, pg 104



This meant that Ruth confessed to violating the seventh commandment forbidding “fornication prior to marriage”. This was often a condition of being accepted into a church. This allowed the baptism of her child who was conceived before marriage. The child was not named.

In 1736 the selectmen of Watertown were notified that Jonathan and Ruth Underwood (along with 3 children) “late of Woburn” were living with Nathaniel Bowman<sup>27</sup>. They were warned to leave town. Although Ruth was “town born” she gave up her right to be an inhabitant of Watertown when she married Jonathan. Even her return to the church in 1732 was not enough to overturn this rule. The Underwoods had to leave.

There is no positive identification of this particular Jonathan and Ruth Underwood in future years. We do not have death or estate information. It is likely they remained in Middlesex County as some of their children settled in Sudbury. Perhaps Jonathan lived in the area as well. There were several Jonathan Underwoods alive in the mid-1700s in the Massachusetts Bay colony which makes pinpointing the family of Jonathan and Ruth difficult. Perhaps someday a record will surface to identify their eventual location but for now their later life remains hidden. Jonathan would have been close to 50 when Watertown warned he and Ruth to leave. Although never certain, the average life span would lead one to believe he probably lived until sometime in the 1750s.

His son Jonathan enjoyed a very long life. Born on January 26, 1716<sup>28</sup>, Jonathan was the first Underwood to be publicly identified as a shoemaker. For much of his life he lived in the Sudbury/Wayland/Weston area of Middlesex county. Court records as well as land records always refer to him as Jonathan Underwood, Cordwainer. This is an old-fashioned description for a shoemaker. That skill would persist for several generations.

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<sup>27</sup> Levy, Barry, *Town Born: The Political Economy of New England*, Univ. of Penn Press, 2009, pg 104

<sup>28</sup> Town Clerk of Lexington, Records of Births, Marriages, & Deaths, Wright & Potter, Boston, MA 1898, pg 83

To all People to whom these Presents shall come Greeting<sup>to</sup>  
 Know Ye, That I Jonathan Underwood of Weston in the County of Middlesex within his Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Cordwainer for and in Consideration of the Sum of Two hundred Pounds lawful money to me in hand before the en-  
 casing hereof well and truly paid by Joseph Livermore of Weston in the County and Province aforesaid sent the Receipt whereof he hereby acknowledge, and myself therewith fully satisfied contented and

Jonathan Underwood  
 to  
 Joseph Livermore

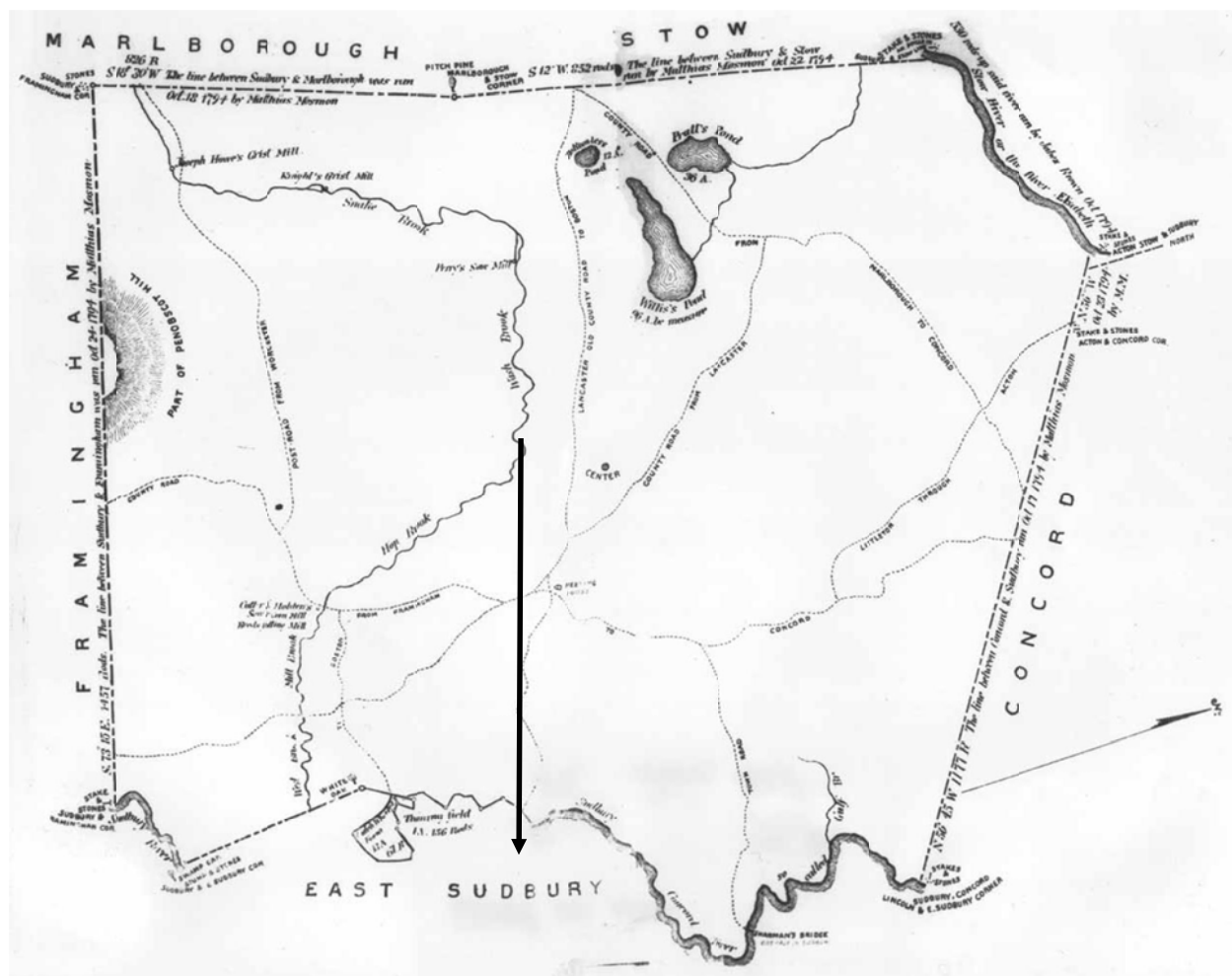
The above is a description of a land sale from Jonathan Underwood to Joseph Livermore who is the brother-in-law of Jonathan's son Reuben. You can see that Jonathan is described as Cordwainer. (Outlined in the figure above) If he is described in official documents as a Cordwainer, it is likely that description was well known and used to differentiate this Jonathan from others of the same name. This Jonathan was usually named as being from Sudbury, Weston or Wayland depending upon the circumstances and range of years but almost always as a Cordwainer.

Sudbury (and later Wayland) were well known as centers for early colonial shoemaking and became prominent for it by the early 1800s.<sup>29</sup> Jonathan's shoemaking was more of an individual enterprise rather than a manufacturing process which developed later. Jonathan was something of an entrepreneur who also bought and sold parcels of land his entire life. It is likely he farmed or perhaps rented out farmland to others.

Jonathan met and married Lydia Muzzey in June 1744.<sup>30</sup> The Muzzey family had roots in many of the same places as the Underwoods. They were married and settled down in Sudbury. The central town of Sudbury was well established but the eastern end was largely unsettled and available. The Underwoods migrated slowly in that direction.

<sup>29</sup> Emery, Helen Fitch, *A Puritan Village Evolves*, Phoenix Publishing, 1981, pg 211

<sup>30</sup> Town Clerk of Weston, *Vital Records of Weston*, Weston, MA, 1901, pg 140, 305, & 339



Jonathan and Lydia Underwood had a large family befitting a rural family of the time. See *Appendix N – Jonathan Underwood Jr. Family Group Sheet*. They had a total of 10 children with each one approximately every two years. Their first, Kezia, was born in 1746 and the last, Mary, was born in 1764. Reuben Underwood was born on June 9, 1751.

Jonathan quickly became a respected member of the community. He served a wide variety of town offices. Typically, a male resident would be appointed to a particular job for one year. These jobs generally involved ensuring fairness and enforcing town policies. These men were considered town officers. See *Appendix O – Massachusetts's Town Officials*. Some of the positions Jonathan held included: Surveyor of Highways, Sealer of Leather, Hog Reeve, and Field Driver.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>31</sup> Each year the town records of Sudbury would list the new officials for each job. Those jobs mentioned are just those from town records that were available.

Jonathan also felt the call of duty to protect his neighbors and towns. With the outbreak of hostilities with the French in the French and Indian Wars, he enlisted in the Sudbury militia in 1757 and served for several years. He was a corporal in the First Foot Company of Sudbury under the command of Captain Moses Maynard. Later he served in the regiment of Colonel Elisha Jones.

Jonathan also felt obligated to protect his livelihood as a Cordwainer and would bring suit if necessary. It was very common for citizens to bring a matter to the Court of Common Pleas if it could not be resolved by the selectmen or the church. An example of one such lawsuit is shown below:

Jonathan Underwood (Cordwainer) sued Aaron Brown of Leominster in 1755. Jonathan was awarded £2 3s 8d. Aaron was also fined for court costs. There are several of these sprinkled throughout court records with Jonathan as the plaintiff.<sup>32</sup>

Lydia Muzzey Underwood died on April 9, 1766 when she was just 41 years old.<sup>33</sup> She is buried in the Farmers Burying Ground of Weston, MA. Her gravestone is slowly becoming illegible as the slate flakes off but reads:

April ye 9th 1766  
Here lies ye body of  
MRS. LYDIA

<sup>32</sup> These can be found in the records of the Middlesex Court of Common Pleas. Microfilm is available at the FHL

<sup>33</sup> Town Clerk of Weston, *Vital Records of Weston*, Weston, MA, 1901, Vol. 1, pg 104

ye wife of Jonathan Underwood  
who died April ye 9th, 1766  
in ye 41st year of her age

Her youngest child was just 2 years old. There is no listed cause of death but pockets of smallpox still caused great havoc and death very quickly in New England. There had been a severe outbreak in January in Chatham that killed many members of the Rider family. Descendants of those stricken would unite with the Underwoods several generations later. It is also possible Lydia died in childbirth as this was two years since the birth of her last child. She had a child with Jonathan roughly every two years but this is only speculation. We may never know the cause but she was an otherwise healthy woman who had ten children over a span of 20 years.

With such a large family in the mid – 18<sup>th</sup> century, Jonathan would need another wife and it did not take long before he married widow Eunice Grout.<sup>34</sup> It was September 16, 1766 which was just 5 months after Lydia's death. There has never been any mention of any children Eunice may have brought to the marriage. Jonathan would outlive Eunice as she died in July of 1800<sup>35</sup> but they were married for over 30 years.

Jonathan and his family lived through the American Revolution. 3 of his sons served in the war with both Samuel and Jonas listed as possibly dying during the conflict. There is no evidence that son Reuben, who was married and had children, ever served in the colonial army. The American Revolution obviously had an effect on their life but there is no record of their thoughts or feelings on the changes or the conflict. Massachusetts was a center of the fighting but how much may have touched the Underwoods we may never know.

With the creation of the United States, Jonathan became the first of this Underwood line to be noted on the 1790 census and later the 1800 Federal Census. You can see from the cropped 1790 census page following, Jonathan had some sons old enough to be listed separately as well. Not a lot of information but some clues as to who was still in the home, gender, and age range. Jonathan's son, Jonathan Jr., is shown here.

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<sup>34</sup> Town Clerk of Weston, *Vital Records of Weston*, Weston, MA, 1901, Vol. 1, pg 124

<sup>35</sup> Town Clerk of Wayland, *Vital Records of Wayland*, NEGHS, Boston, Ma, 19109, pg 158

East Sudbury continued.					
<i>Names of Heads of Families.</i>	<i>Free white Males, of 16 years and upwards.</i>	<i>Free white Males under 16 years.</i>	<i>Free white Females.</i>	<i>All other free Persons.</i>	<i>Slaves.</i>
Jon <sup>d</sup> . Underwood	2	1	3		
Jon <sup>d</sup> . Underwood	1	2	3		

Jonathan also appeared in the 1800 census in what was still officially listed as East Sudbury.

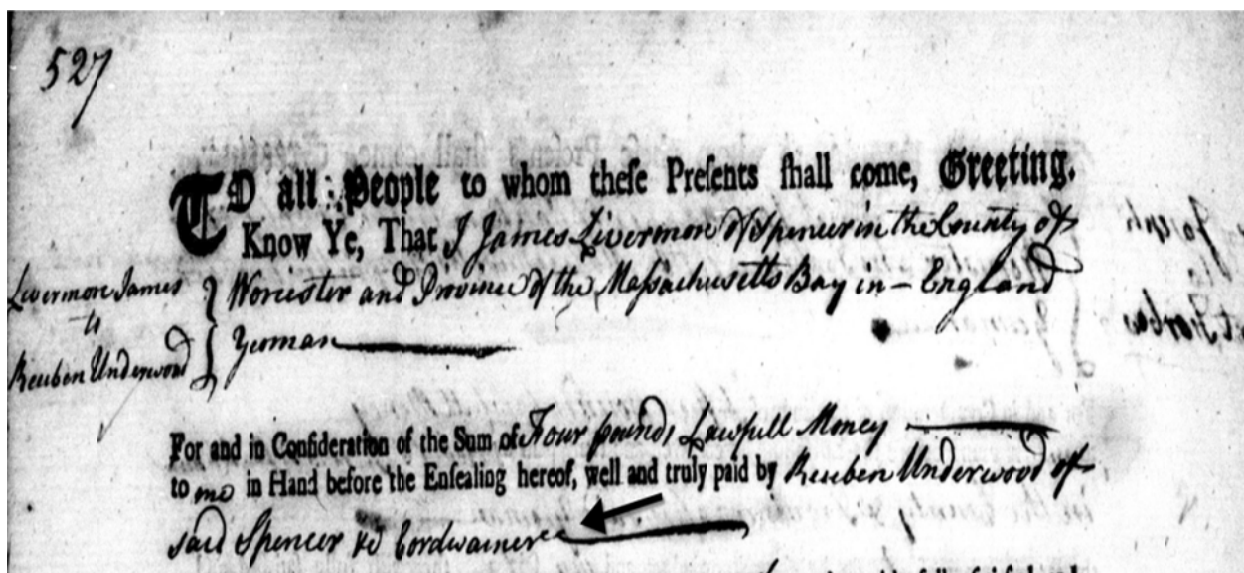
On the 29<sup>th</sup> of January, 1804, 88 year old Jonathan Underwood died. His death is recorded in the official vital records of Wayland, MA.<sup>36</sup> No grave site has ever been located nor is there any record of an estate. Hopefully one or both will eventually come to light.

Reuben Underwood was the first of this lineage to settle outside of Middlesex county. Born on June 9, 1751 in Sudbury<sup>37</sup>, Reuben was the third of 10 children. He spent his youth in Sudbury and later Weston. He would have been 6 years old when he father first left to fight in the French & Indian War. He was

<sup>36</sup> Ibid

<sup>37</sup> Town Clerk of Sudbury, Vital Records of Sudbury, NEGHS, Boston, MA, 1903, pg 144

nearly 14 when his mother died in 1766. At that age he was likely finished with school and was now assisting his father. The skill Jonathan was known for (shoemaking) would now be passed to Reuben. On most official documents such as deeds, Reuben was known as Reuben Underwood of Spencer, Cordwainer. Here in a land deed document the label is applied to Reuben:



Reuben would produce shoes for sale and for family almost his entire life. Like most people of the time, Reuben would have many other skills such as farming, animal husbandry, leather work and of course shoemaking. It took this and more to survive. This was not considered unusual but rather just a part of life. Families needed diverse set skills to survive.

A study of shoemaking in Massachusetts<sup>38</sup> showed a copy of an account ledger of a merchant who purchased shoes from Reuben. Merchants would purchase shoes from local “Cordwainers” to sell in their store which was usually located in an adjacent town. Styles would not vary much but each one was handcrafted and so no two were exactly alike. An excerpt follows:

<sup>38</sup> Hazard, Blanche, The Org. of the Boot & Shoe Industry in MA prior to 1875, Harvard Univ., 1913, pg 242

\* The "general store" account books of Skinner and Ward of North Brookfield for 1813 to 1815 when the second stage still survived there, show Reuben Underwood making \$10.90 of shoes between Dec. 21, 1813 and July 10, 1815 to put on sale. Doliver and Norwell, joining forces, worked on a larger scale. These same books show that they made \$155.25 shoes "to be left" at Skinner & Ward's "on account" between July 2 and Nov. 1, 1813.

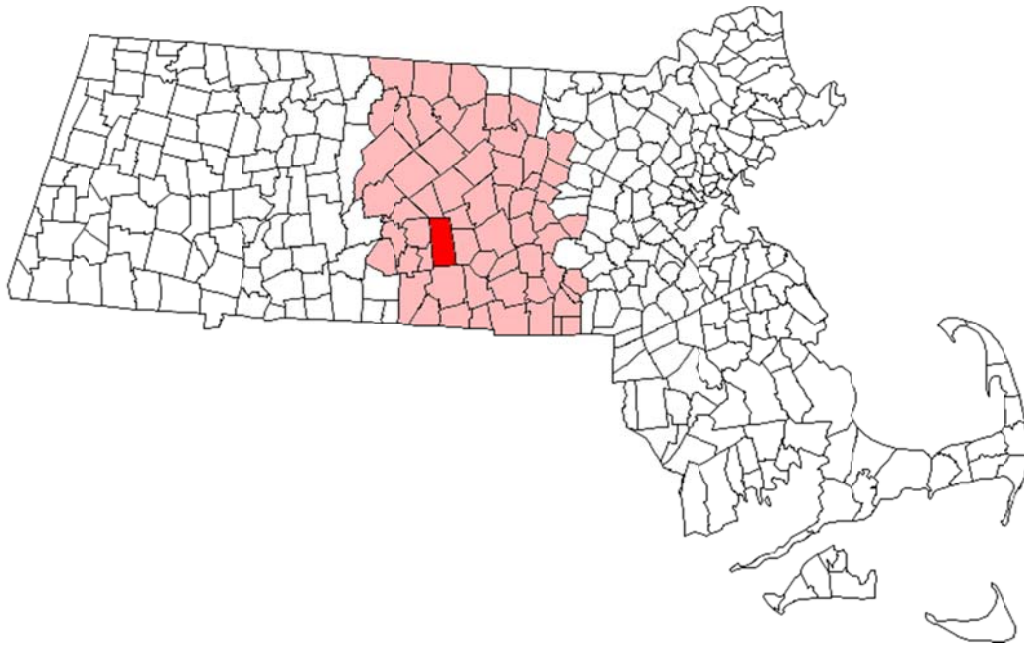
1813				
July 2.	By shoes taken and left	.....		\$ 47.79
Aug. 9.	" "	43.54, Aug. 14, shoes 18.75	.....	62.26
Oct. 4.	" "	1.04, Oct. 16, " 13.50	.....	14.54
Oct. 27.	" "	29.62, Nov. 11, " 1.04	.....	30.66
<b>Total</b> .....				<b>\$155.25</b>

Reuben made shoes for the burgeoning shoemaking industry although in this case, Skinner and Ward was a general store. Reuben would make shoes to order for a customer (likely a neighbor) or if there was available time, he would make shoes for a retail store. He might also barter this skill for goods or services he did not possess. While making shoes was not necessarily unusual, it was not a skill all families possessed. Reuben might barter for someone who could make some tools for him or perhaps as payment for a doctor visit.

The first thought of migrating east towards Worcester county came from Reuben's father, Jonathan, who purchased some land there in 1770. Reuben would have been 19 at the time and may have been involved. Perhaps this is where he first met Eunice. On November 3, 1773 he married Eunice Livermore<sup>39</sup>. Her family, like the Underwoods, had been in New England for generations. Her family was settled in Spencer which was in Worcester county. The newly married pair settled in Spencer to begin their life. See the map of Massachusetts that follows. Worcester County is highlighted

<sup>39</sup> Town Clerk of Weston, *Weston Vital Records*, NEGHS, 1903





Worcester County is highlighted with the Town of Spencer in red. Middlesex County which was home to the Underwoods for over 100 years is to the Northeast.<sup>40</sup>

Reuben and Eunice have their first child, Susannah in September of 1774. She is followed by Sally in 1778, Samuel in 1779 and Reuben in 1784<sup>41</sup>. Samuel died in 1781 but the family would weather this tragedy that was all too common. The American Revolution was coming to an end and excitement was in the air. The world seemed alive with possibilities.

Reuben had begun buying and selling parcels of land much as his father had done before him. His purchases often involved family and his first few purchases were from Jonas Livermore who was the father of Eunice. Much of a family's wealth was tied up in land which was passed down to later generations. Land was taken very seriously with painstaking descriptions of a parcel. These descriptions could be confusing without a clear understanding of the geography of the local area. Legal descriptions of land at the time used a system called metes and bounds. This example is from Wikipedia:

*A typical description for a small parcel of land would be: "beginning with a corner at the intersection of two stone walls near an apple tree on the north side of Muddy Creek road one mile above the junction of Muddy and Indian Creeks, north for 150 rods to the end of the stone wall bordering the road, then northwest*

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<sup>40</sup> Wikipedia, *Worcester County*, 2011

<sup>41</sup> Town Clerk of Spencer, *Vital Records of Spencer to 1849 Vol. 1*, NEGHS, Boston, MA 1909, pg 107

*along a line to a large standing rock on the corner of John Smith's place, thence west 150 rods to the corner of a barn near a large oak tree, thence south to Muddy Creek road, thence down the side of the creek road to the starting point."*

As long as all parties agreed to an understanding it went fine. Disagreements frequently ended up in court. As years passed, parcels tended to be bounded by buildings and roads which made for an easier understanding.

Earlier it had noted that Reuben was in the 1790 census. He was shown living next to his father-in-law in Spencer. Here is an excerpt from the census:

An Enumeration of the Inhabitants of the town of <i>Spencer</i>					
<i>Names of Heads of Families.</i>	<i>Free white Males of 16 years old, and upwards.</i>	<i>Free white Males, under 16 years.</i>	<i>Free white Females.</i>	<i>All other free Persons.</i>	<i>Slaves.</i>
<i>James Livermore</i>	2	3	5		
<i>Reuben Underwood</i>	2	1	3		
<i>U. A. ...</i>	1	2	3		

The census taker showed 2 white males over the age of 16 living in Reuben's household. His only living son was 6 so maybe another relative, farm laborer or apprentice shoemaker. The three females are wife Eunice and both daughters.

Tragedy struck the Reuben Underwood family in 1790. Just about the time of the first federal census Eunice Livermore Underwood died. The date was July 17, 1790 and she left behind a husband and 3 small children. No cause of death is known.

As was commonplace, Reuben quickly remarried. On February 3, 1791 he married Sybil Whittemore<sup>42</sup> who was 32<sup>43</sup> and unmarried. She was the daughter of Jeremiah and Mary Whittemore. The Whittemores had deep roots in New England and were major landowners in the area. Jeremiah had moved to Spencer from Weston in 1760.

The labor engine of any rural 18<sup>th</sup> century family was comprised of children and the Underwood family was no exception. Just over 10 months from marriage, Amos Underwood was born. Children followed at regular intervals including twins Jonas and Sybil in 1797. Reuben and Sybil had 7 children bringing the total of the blended family to ten children however two died in infancy. *See Appendix P – Reuben Underwood Family Group Sheet.*

Reuben continued his business as a Cordwainer and continued to buy and sell land. He purchased and sold several parcels with Jeremiah Whittemore who was Sybil's father. On the death of Jonas Livermore (father of Eunice and grandfather to his 3 oldest children) he took part in the administration of the estate to protect the interests of his older children. When Jeremiah Whittemore passed away in 1803, he became involved in the probate to protect the interests of his wife Sybil and younger children. Reuben was by all accounts a sharp businessman who was very prepared to protect his family's interests.

Reuben was a respected member of the community as well. In the History of Spencer<sup>44</sup> he is described as follows:

“Mr. Underwood was a farmer and shoemaker and Deacon of the Congregational Church.”

Reuben is often referred to as Deacon Reuben Underwood. His duties included assisting the pastor, looking after the welfare of the sick and poor, collecting the tithes and protecting the finances of the church. The Underwood's church in Spencer, Massachusetts has been operating for the last 260 years.

Descendants often yearn for a picture of their ancestors but photography did not become commonplace until the mid to late 1800s. Generally only the well-to-do had paintings made but there was an alternative. Silhouette artists were very popular and relatively inexpensive. Even though you did not get the detail of a painting you could get a general likeness. In a remarkable coincidence, the

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<sup>42</sup> 32 would have been a relatively late age for a woman to marry for the first time but the circumstances are unknown.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid

<sup>44</sup> Draper, James, History of Spencer, Howland Press, Worcester, MA 1860, pg 258

Museum of the Daughter's of the American Revolution (DAR) located in Washington, D.C. has a framed cutout of Reuben and Sybil Underwood:



They also have painting of Cyrus Underwood (son of Reuben) and his wife Emeline as well as a cutout of Reuben's son Amos. As of yet, we have no information as to how they came to be in the possession of the DAR but likely were donated by Cyrus and his wife or a descendant who was a member of the DAR. Quite a coincidence and a bit of astonishing good luck.

Reuben Underwood died on November 20, 1830 at the age of 79.<sup>45</sup> He had a long and productive life. He would be the last of this particular line to live his entire life in Massachusetts. At this point, the next generation looked to the frontier which was the wilds of New York.

Reuben's will was written in 1828. It is clear and concise in outlining how his estate should be divided. *See Appendix Q - Reuben's will.* He made sure that Sybil would have every need provided...as long as she remained a widow and did not remarry. The properties left by Jonas Livermore and Jeremiah Whittemore were left to their respective grandchildren. Special provision is made for daughter Eunice Underwood. Although there is no mention, one does get the feeling that Eunice may have been sickly or disabled. She never married and lived with her mother and later her brother Jonas. Reuben's son, Jonas, was named executor and prime recipient of Reuben's estate. Jonas was required to pay his siblings \$100.00 and provide for his mother but the land was worth much more than that. The eventual sale of this land in Spencer would bring Jonas thousands of dollars.

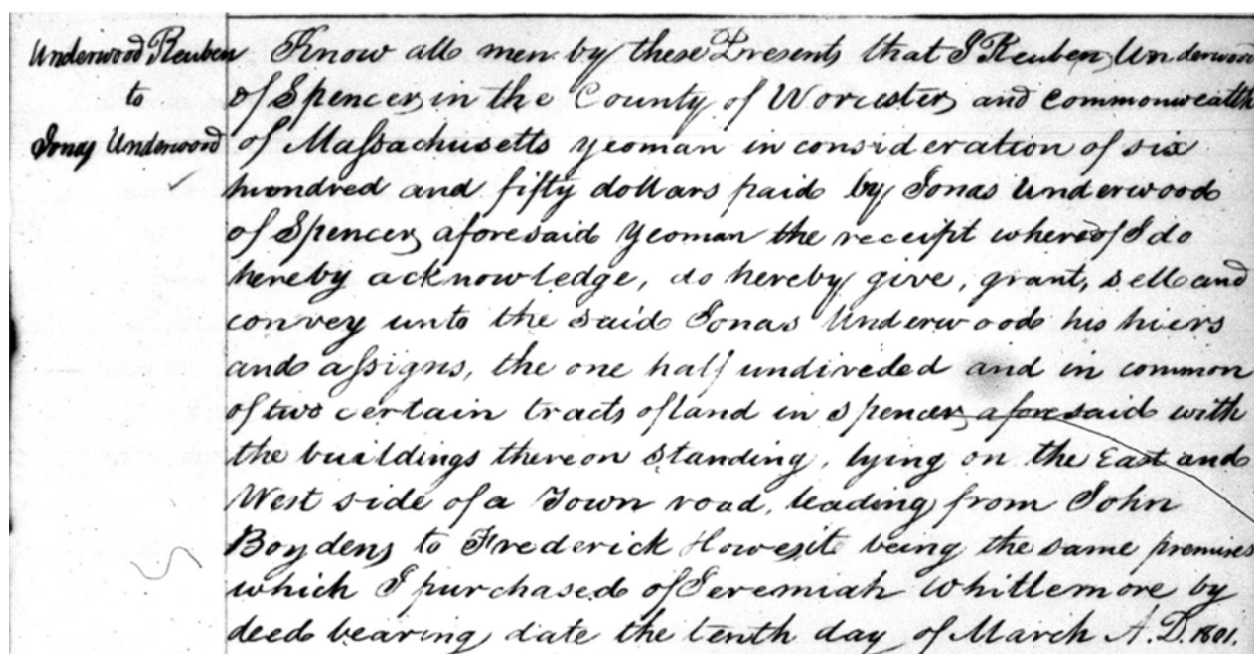
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<sup>45</sup> Town Clerk of Spencer, Vital Records of Spencer to 1849 Vol. 1, NEGHS, Boston, MA 1909, pg 271

Jonas Underwood, along with his twin sister Sybil, was born on March 11, 1797 in Spencer.<sup>46</sup> He grew up in a large family and at a young age, he would be expected to complete daily chores and attend school. He learned shoemaking from his father and used that skill throughout his life although it was never as prominent as it had been for his father. Life in the early 1800s was still very difficult. Each family was basically self sufficient. If the family needed something they could not produce, they would have to spend precious dollars or even barter for it. They would often make do with what they had or do without

Jonas was born not long after the American Revolution but he would have been 15 when the War of 1812 broke out. The scarcity of records relating to service in the war means we do not have any indication that his older brother Amos served. Jonas and his younger brothers would have been too young to serve in the Army. By the early 1820s, Amos had left to seek new opportunities on the frontier of New York. Land was cheap and plentiful there. A smart young man could build a life buying and selling. Other Underwoods would follow.

Jonas grew to adulthood in Spencer. He met Hannah Browning from the adjoining town of Rutland and they were married on May 23, 1824 in Spencer.<sup>47</sup> In 1822 when Jonas was 25 years old, his father sold him about 60 acres of land. An excerpt from the recorded deed is below. Some of the land was that which Reuben had purchased years earlier from Jeremiah Whittemore, Jonas' grandfather



Underwood Reuben Know all men by these Presents that I Reuben Underwood  
to of Spencer, in the County of Worcester, and Commonwealth  
of Massachusetts Yeoman in consideration of six  
Sonny Underwood hundred and fifty dollars paid by Jonas Underwood  
of Spencer, aforesaid Yeoman the receipt whereof I do  
hereby acknowledge, do hereby give, grant, sell and  
convey unto the said Jonas Underwood his heirs  
and assigns, the one half undivided and in common  
of two certain tracts of land in Spencer, aforesaid with  
the buildings thereon standing, lying on the East and  
West side of a Town road, leading from John  
Boyden to Frederick Howesit being the same premises  
which I purchased of Jeremiah Whittemore by  
deed bearing date the tenth day of March A.D. 1801.

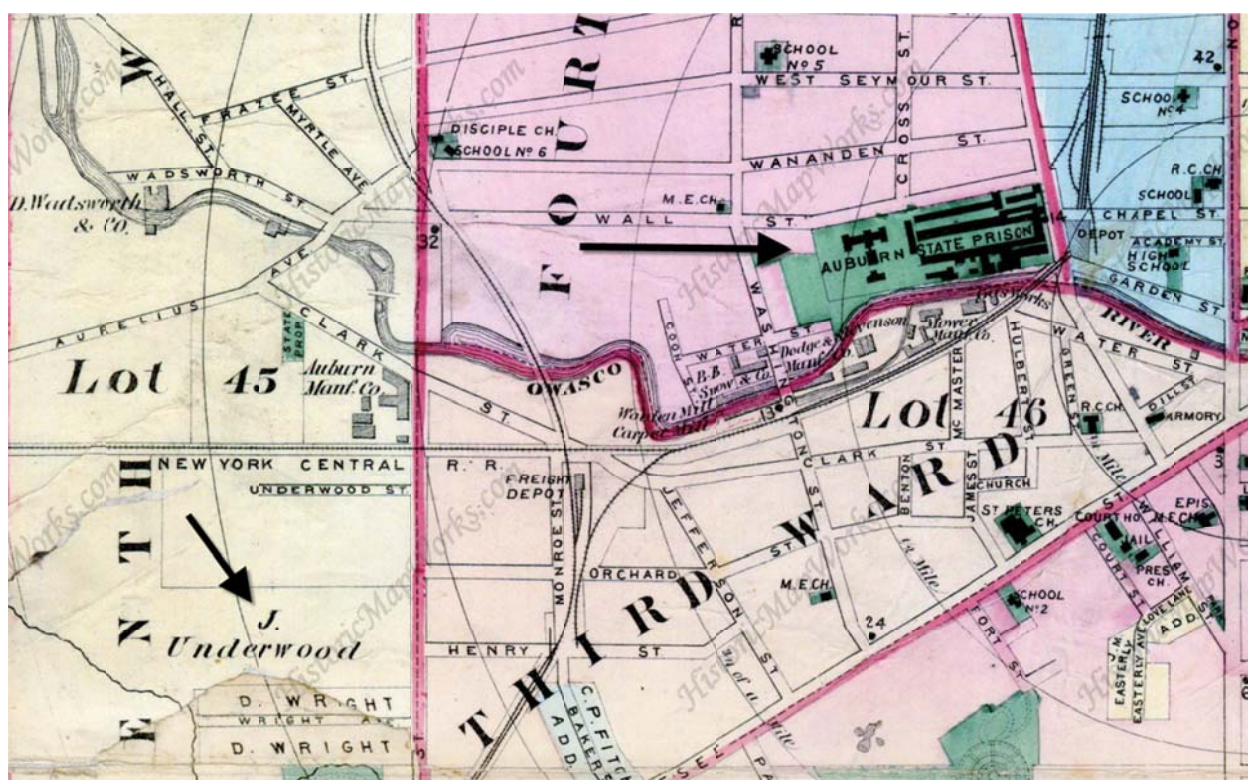
<sup>46</sup> Town Clerk of Spencer, Vital Records of Spencer to 1849 Vol. 1, NEGHS, Boston, MA 1909, pg 107

<sup>47</sup> Ibid



This land would become the family farm for Jonas and Hannah. See *Appendix R - Jonas Underwood Family Group Sheet*. Mary Elizabeth Underwood was born to them on February 25, 1825 followed by Cyrus in 1827, Charles Browning in 1829 and James Reuben in 1831. James died before his second birthday. Following the death of Jonas' father Reuben in 1830, Jonas and Hannah made the decision to leave Massachusetts altogether and migrate to Cayuga County, New York which was "out west" in the 1830s. Jonas' older brother, Amos, had migrated several years earlier and made quite a name for himself in Cayuga County.

Jonas and family moved to the city of Auburn in Cayuga County in early 1832. Jonas had sold some land inherited from his father and was able to buy, in Auburn, parcels totaling almost 200 acres. One of the parcels included a mill which was a sure moneymaker for the operator in a growing community. Jonas had a solid block of land on what was then considered the outskirts of Auburn.



This map shows a section of Auburn. The land of Jonas is pointed out. You may also notice there is an Underwood St. shown and is still there today. The sawmill was located on a river running through the property. Two more

children were born in Auburn. William was born in 1833 and Lewis followed in 1835.

One other noteworthy location pointed out on the map is the Auburn State Prison. It was hailed around the world for its innovative practices. Built in 1816, it was famed for the “Auburn System” which was believed to rehabilitate prisoners. Some of its principles:

*In contrast with the purely reformatory type prison instituted in Pennsylvania, introduced by the Quakers, the "Auburn System" modified the schedule of prayer, contemplation, and humane conditions with hard labor and work.*

*Prisoners were compelled to work during the day, and the profit of their labor helped to support the prison. Prisoners were segregated by type of criminality into different locations within the prisons and by the use of special clothing. The traditional American prison uniform, consisting of horizontal black and white stripes, originated at the Auburn prison. The prisoners had their heads closely cropped and walked in lockstep, keeping step with their heads bowed. Each prisoner placed a hand on the shoulder of the man in front of him to maintain a rigid separation.*

*There was a communal dining room so that the prisoners could gather together for meals, but a code of silence was enforced harshly at all times by the guards. Thus the inmates worked and ate together, but in complete silence. At night the prisoners were kept in individual cells (even though the original plan called for double cells).<sup>48</sup>*

While interesting, this is important to us because Jonas Underwood served as a guard, known as a “keeper”, at the prison. Keepers were formally dressed with top hat and long formal coat. They were expected to see to the needs of an assigned group of prisoners. This meant everything from spiritual needs to discipline. Discipline often involved “caning” or a bath of ice water. Jonas’ name can be seen in the following excerpt from a list of prison officials in 1842<sup>49</sup>:

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<sup>48</sup> Wikipedia, *Auburn System, Auburn Correctional Facility*, 2009

<sup>49</sup> New York State Assembly, Documents of the 65<sup>th</sup> Session, Thurlow Weed . New York, 1842, vol. 4 pg 32

*List of the officers and guards of the State Prison at Auburn, with their respective grades, salaries, &c. on the 27th January, 1842.*

NAMES.	Office,	Salary per ann'm.	How appointed.
Henry Polhemus, .....	agent, ...	\$1,200,	Board of inspectors.
Robert Cook, .....	keeper, ..	1,200,	do do
Abraham Gridley, .....	clerk, .....	800,	Governor and Senate.
Thomas R. Townsend, ..	chaplain, ..	500,	Board of inspectors.
Erastus Humphrey, ....	physician, ..	500,	do do
Freeman Richardson, ...	as't keep'r,	550,	do do
Theron Green, .....	do	do	do do
Ralph Barber, .....	do	do	do do
Aretas A. Saben, .....	do	do	do do
George S. Hall, .....	do	do	do do
James E. Tyler, .....	do	do	do do
Robert D. Cook, .....	do	do	do do
Jonas Underwood, .....	do	do	do do

Jonas was paid an annual salary of \$ 550.00 which was a substantial sum of money. If he continued farming and ran the sawmill as well, he probably needed to hire outside help to supplement the efforts of his family. By all accounts it would have been a comfortable life financially. The job was certainly secure as the prison was there to stay (and is still there today).

The rigid system at the prison was not without controversy. The state government often sponsored studies and reviews of the practices and monitored the treatment and complaints by prisoners. I have attached one such review in which a prisoner complains of treatment and names Jonas who had administered standard punishments for a difficult prisoner. Jonas was not censured. *See Appendix S – Auburn Prison Review*

One last prison related item is a list of expenses reimbursed to employees and vendors:

**Jonas Underwood, expenses in  
pursuit of escapes, .....**

**4 44**

No other information is available on this but it is fun to speculate.



In the same report further down:

<b>Clothing and bedding :</b>	
<b>Wm. W. Horton, 300lb. wool,</b>	
<b>30c, .....</b>	<b>\$90 00</b>
<b>John Eldridge, one hat, .....</b>	<b>0 50</b>
<b>Charles B. Underwood, one hat, ..</b>	<b>0 50</b>
<b>Charles N. Dodge, two hats, ...</b>	<b>0 50</b>

Charles Browning Underwood, who was about 13 years old, was reimbursed 50¢ for making a hat for the prisoners.<sup>50</sup> We can find no other mention of Charles' millinery talents.

Jonas quickly became a respected citizen and was often mentioned in local newspaper articles. He signed a letter in support of the banks that appeared in the local newspaper during the Panic of 1837.<sup>51</sup> He is mentioned as a member of the Whig political party.<sup>52</sup> In April 1844 it is noted that his house was damaged by a fire.<sup>53</sup>

By the early 1850s, Jonas decided to move further west to Chautauqua County. He sold his property in stages but eventually netted over \$10,000. This is an astounding sum and the equivalent of almost a half million dollars today. It may have been its location as Auburn expanded or perhaps the sawmill contributed to making it so valuable. Whatever the case, Jonas Underwood was set financially for the remainder of his life

The family moved to the village of Mayville which was the county seat for Chautauqua and set on the shores of Lake Chautauqua. Jonas purchased land there and settled into life as a farmer. Jonas was a respected member of the community serving in several town offices and positions. In 1858 he was elected the Supervisor of Elections for the Mayville area<sup>54</sup> and several times he served as a judge of horses in the Chautauqua County Fair.<sup>55</sup> He was also elected as a Commissioner for Chautauqua.

In the 1860 Federal census, there was an agricultural data collection as well. Shown below is the data for Jonas that he reported in 1860.

<sup>50</sup> New York State Assembly, Documents of the 66<sup>th</sup> Session, Thurlow Weed . New York, 1843, pg 44, 57 & 58

<sup>51</sup> Auburn Journal & Advertiser, *County Meeting*, May 12, 1837

<sup>52</sup> Auburn Journal and Advertiser, Whig Young Men of Cayuga County, September 11, 1839

<sup>53</sup> NY Tribune, House Fire, April 1, 1844

<sup>54</sup> Jamestown Journal, Edition of February 19, 1858, Jamestown, NY, pg 2

<sup>55</sup> Jamestown Journal, *Edition of July 4, 1856*, Jamestown, NY, pg 4

In the 1860 Federal census, there was an agricultural data collection as well. Shown below is the data for Jonas that he reported in 1860.

Page No. 5

**SCHEDULE 4—Productions of Agriculture in Chautauque in the County of Chautauque in the Post Office Fortfield N.Y.**

NAME OF OWNER, AGENT, OR MANAGER OF THE FARM.	ACRES OF LAND.		CASH value of Farm.	Value of Farming Implements and Machinery.	LIVE STOCK, JUNE 1, 1860								PRODUCE DURING THE YEAR							
	Improved.	Unimproved.			Horses.	Asses and Mules.	Milk Cows.	Working Oxen.	Other Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.	Value of Live Stock.	Wheat, bushels of.	Rye, bushels of.	Indian Corn, bushels of.	Oats, bushels of.	Rice, lbs. of.	Tobacco, lbs. of.	Ginned Cotton, bales of 400 lbs. each.	Wool, lbs. of.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<u>J. Underwood</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>6250</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>5</u>		<u>9</u>		<u>3</u>			<u>3</u>	<u>550</u>	<u>30</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>75</u>			

The second page is listed below:

State of New York enumerated by me, on the 13<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> day of June 1860.

John D. Phelps Ass't Marshal.

Page No. 6

YEAR ENDING JUNE 1, 1860.

22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
Peanut Beans, bushels of.	Irish Potatoes, bushels of.	Oats, bushels of.	Barley, bushels of.	Buckwheat, bush. of.	Value of Orchard Produce, in full.	Wine, gallons of.	Value of Produce of Market Gardens.	Butter, lbs. of.	Cheese, lbs. of.	Hay, tons of.	Clover Seed, bushels of.	Grass Seed, bushels of.	Hops, lbs. of.	Dew Rotted, tons of.	Water Rotted, tons of.	Other prepared Hemp.	Flax, lbs. of.	Flaxseed, bush. of.	Silk Cocoons, lbs. of.	Maple Sugar, lbs. of.	Cane Sugar, lbs. of.	Molasses, gallons of, and from what made.	Beeswax, lbs. of.	Honey, lbs. of.	Value of Home-made Manufactures.	Value of Animals slaughtered.
	<u>6</u>							<u>1400</u>			<u>15</u>															<u>60</u>

This agricultural information shows Jonas has a farm of roughly 150 acres. He had 5 horses, 9 cows and 3 swine. His farm produced 100 bushels of Indian corn, 75 bushels of oats and 30 bushels of wheat. The production is somewhat low but Jonas is 62 years old by this time. His son Lewis is unmarried and assists with the farm. His sister Eunice lives with them as well. The money made on the sale of their land in Cayuga would help ease any shortfall.

Jonas Underwood was 66 years old when he died on January 5, 1864 in Mayville. He is buried in what is known as the "Barnes Cemetery" alongside

many of his family members.<sup>56</sup> Lewis took over the farm supporting his mother Hannah and sister Eunice. Hannah died in 1885 at the age of 85 and was laid to rest next to Jonas. Most of the farm land was deeded to Lewis who cared for his mother. Jonas' sister Eunice lived with them until her death in 1880. She is listed on the later census records as an invalid.

Charles Browning Underwood was born on May 26, 1829 in Spencer, MA<sup>57</sup> and was just about 3 years old when the family moved to Cayuga county, NY. When Charles was born not quite 50 years had passed since the American Revolution but by the time he dies in 1911 the United States is on the verge of adding its 48<sup>th</sup> state. Charles lived through America's greatest expansion as well as several wars including the Civil War. America began the transition from a largely rural economy into one in which cities were dominant.



Charles Browning Underwood in the late 1800s

Charles spent most of his adolescent years growing up in Auburn. With his father so busy as a Keeper at the prison and the family farm and sawmill to run, the children would have been expected to be a big part of sustaining each enterprise. He also would have learned to do shoemaking which had been passed down for four generations. Charles was a farmer but part of a generation that began to look past farming if not for themselves then perhaps their children. By the time the family moved to Chautauqua, he would have been an adult or nearly so.

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<sup>56</sup> Fenton Historical Society, *Jamestown Journal* Nov 30 1968 edition, Jamestown, NY, 1968

<sup>57</sup> Town Clerk of Spencer, Vital Records of Spencer to 1849 Vol. 1, NEGHS, Boston, MA 1909, pg 107

In the early 1850's in Mayville, he met Frances Cornelia Farwell known to her family as Fanny. The Farwells had deep roots in America and England stretching back generations. Frances' father, Omar Farwell, was a major landowner in Mayville as well as a prominent tanner. Leather was an important and valuable commodity. Frances has been born and raised in Mayville along with 3 brothers and sisters.



Frances Cornelia Farwell Underwood in the 1860s.

Charles married Frances on June 29, 1852 in Mayville. He began a partnership with Omar Farwell both in farming and in the tanning business. In addition, he served as an "express agent". He would handle packages that were sent via the stage or railroad. An express company would act as a shipper much like UPS today. Wells Fargo was an early Express Company.

Following is an excerpt from the 1865 New York state census. This census was taken every 10 years but mid-decade instead of at the start of the decade like the federal census. It shows Charles as an express agent. One interesting note is that the owner of the land is shown as being Frances (see arrow below). Living next to the Underwood family are Frances' parents, Omar and Fanny Shepard Farwell.

Dwellings.				Name of every person whose usual place of abode was in the family on the 1st day of June, 1865. <small>Include as in the family those absent in the army and navy.</small>	Age.	Sex.	White, black or color.	Relation to the head of the family.	In what county of this state, or in what other state, or foreign country born.	Of how many children the parent.	Number of times married.	Now married.	Now widowed.	Single.	Profession, trade or occupation.	Usual place of employment, if out of the city or town, where the family resides.	Totals.			Colored person not taxed.	Owner of land.	Over 21, and not able to read and write.
Numbered in order of visitation.	Of what material built.	Value.	Families numbered in order of visitation.														Native.	Naturalized.	Alien.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	134	Frame	1200	126	Charles B. Underwood	35	M		Map	1	1				Expunct		1					
25					Francis Underwood	24	F	Wife	Chaut	2	1	1										1
26					Henty Underwood	7		Boys	"													
27					George Underwood	2		Son	"													
28	135	Brick	2000	127	Omar Harrell	6	M		W.	1	1				Farmer		1					1
29					Fanny S. Harrell	4	F	Wife		4	1	1										

At one time Charles even provided wood for the Chautauqua County Jail. With a payment \$ 52.00 it must have been a substantial amount of wood. Here is his a copy of his reimbursement:

1883		COUNTY ACCOUNTS.		95	
No.	Claimant.	Nature of Claim.	Claimed.	Allowed.	
462	Gustof Stromgren,	lumber, county clerk's office .....	22 00	22 00	
463	Herman Sixbey,	repairs court house and jail .....	22 50	22 50	
464	Chauncy Keys,	wood for court house ..	9 00	9 00	
465	Mayville Clothing Co.,	clothing for prisoners .....	8 00	8 00	
466	Charles Edmunds,	repairs in jail, etc ..	10 25	10 25	
467	Gleason & Budd,	labor in jail and court house .....	4 25	4 25	
468	H. T. Honeysette,	wood for court house ..	2 50	2 50	
469	Charles B. Underwood,	wood for jail ..	52 00	52 00	

During the 1860s, the nation suffered through the Civil War. Its effect was severe on the entire nation and I am sure the Underwoods were no exception.

Inflation was rampant as gold and silver disappeared from circulation. In 1864-65 there was an insect infestation that completely wiped out the county wheat crop.<sup>58</sup> Annual taxes were imposed and an entire bureaucracy was created to process them to pay for the war effort. Taxes were imposed at various rates. Here is an excerpt from a record of taxes collected during a two month period:

ALPHABETICAL LIST of Persons in Division No. 3, of Collection District No. 91, of the State of New York, liable to a tax under the Excise laws of the United States, and the amount thereof as assessed by William Joyce Assistant Assessor, and by Lewis Hall, Assessor, returned to the Collector of said District for the month of Monthly November.

Assessors must be particular to fill all the blanks in this form, as far as practicable, and to number all articles and occupations upon which taxes are assessed to correspond with the entry in the Abstract.

No. of List.	NAME.	LOCATION AND POST OFFICE ADDRESS.	ARTICLE OR OCCUPATION.	No. in Abstract.	QUANTITY OR VALUATION.	RATE OF TAX.	AMOUNT OF TAX UPON PARTICULAR ARTICLE.	TOTAL.
Sept- Oct. 1	Tiffany Niram	Hastfield	Leather Finished	83	661	6	33.66	
2				89	893	6	22.58	56.64
3	Underwood Charles B.	Mayville	Stages GR	166	819	2 1/2	8.97	8.97

The occupation says "Stages GR" (Gross Receipts). He was taxed on the amount of money taken in while working as an Express Agent for the Stage Coach line. He was taxed \$8.97 for the months of September and October. This was what Lincoln used to pay the staggering financial cost of the Civil War.

Charles and Frances were blessed with two children. See Appendix T – Charles Browning Underwood Family Group Sheet. Hattie (Harriet) Louise Underwood was born in 1857. George Farwell Underwood followed in 1861. Charles continued to work at several occupations and described as a farmer, express agent, and "Master Tanner"<sup>59</sup> at various times and in various documents. As his ancestors before him, he would do whatever it took to see to the well-being of his family.

<sup>58</sup> 1865 New York State Census, Chautauqua County Agricultural Census, 1865

<sup>59</sup> US Census Bureau, 1860 Federal Census, Chautauqua, pg 5

Continuing the long family tradition, Charles was also known as a boot and shoemaker as seen in this directory of 1870:

Wells John A. blacksmith  
Woodworth W. D. saw mill

**Mayville, Chat. Co.**

On the Buffalo, Corry & Pittsburg R. R. 29 miles from Corry.

Banzean Rufus, photographs  
Barney F. S. hotel  
Bemus Matthew P. capitalist  
Birdsall John. billiard saloon  
Tracy A. B. cabinet maker  
Underwood C. B. boots and shoes  
Van Valkenburgh H. hotel  
Warren & Gifford, saw and grist mills

EW Jewellery, 294 Bowery  
N. Y. City.



One other interesting federal record is related to the 1860 census. It was called the Industry Census and recorded information about those involved in some type of industry or manufacturing. Charles B. Underwood is mentioned twice. In the first instance it is a listing for Farwell and Underwood.

7	Farwell & Underwood Tanners	3,500	1,000	Hides & Skins
8			100 pounds	Wards

The occupation is listed as Tanners. All of the items listed as being on hand are related to this ranging from Hides to finished leather.

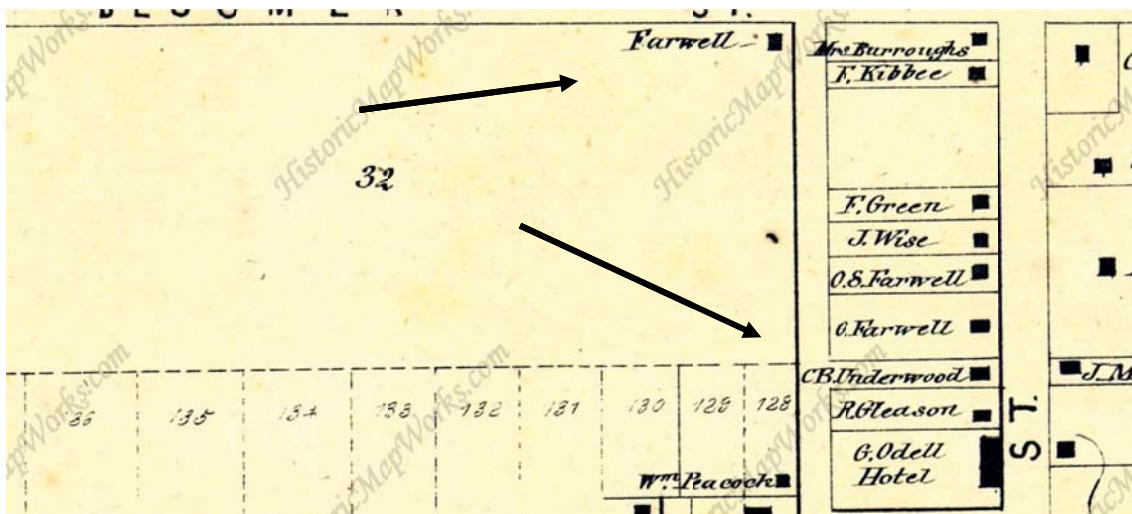


The next mention is just Charles B. Underwood by himself. This record (below) notes an additional occupation as a Wagon Maker

Name of Corporation, Company, or Individual, producing articles to the annual value of \$500.	Name of Business, Manufacture, or Product.	Capital Invested, in real and personal estate, in the Business.	RAW MATERIAL USED, INCLUDING FUEL.			Kind of Motive Power, Machinery, Structure, or Resource.	AVERAGE NUMBER OF HANDS EMPLOYED.		WAGES.		ANNUAL PRODUCT.		
			Quantities.	Kinds.	Values.		Male.	Female.	Average monthly wage of male labor.	Average monthly cost of female labor.	Quantities.	Kinds.	Values.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
19 Charles B. Underwood	Wagon Maker	250	5000 ft. Lumber	5000 ft.	450	Wagon	2		52		Wagon		250
			3000	Spoke	45						Spoke		
				Spoke	100						Wagon		100

Some of the items on hand includes wagons, spokes and sleighs for wintertime. Perhaps this related to his work with the Stage lines.

A popular type of map from this time period is called a plat map. It shows land ownership in a town or county. Below is a section from a plat map of Mayville in 1867





You can see the large parcel of land for Omar Farwell as well as the location of the family home of CB Underwood. Charles would be purchasing additional land in the years ahead. Frances would also inherit some land from Omar.

Charles was a well-respected member of the Mayville community. In April of 1873 he was elected a trustee of the Village of Mayville.<sup>60</sup> This was one of many times he held office in Mayville. One newspaper in 1871 noted his appearance as a constable during a disturbance.

—A disgraceful drunken row occurred at Mayville on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Odell, of the Fox House, becoming annoyed with the presence of half drunken boys in his bar-room, ordered them to leave, and enforced the order by putting them out. About six o'clock a party of rowdy young men and boys congregated in front of the hotel bent on having a row, when a general melee ensued, several parties on both sides getting bloody noses and black eyes, and but for the presence of Deputy Sheriff Hiller, of Dunkirk, there would have been a more general fight. Constables Ed. Dearing and C. B. Underwood soon put in an appearance, when Eugene Moore, Dazna Kibbee, Clinton Dayton, Ed. Hazeltine, Jude and Arthur Spencer were arrested.

Disaster struck the Underwood family early in 1875. On January 9, Frances Cornelia Farwell Underwood died.<sup>61</sup> She left behind her husband Charles and 2 teenage children. Frances is buried in the Mayville Cemetery. Her gravestone says "Died 1-19-1875 Age 45y0m7d - "Wife"". Just two years later daughter Hattie Louise Underwood died at the age of 19. She is buried next to her mother.<sup>62</sup> Only Charles and 16 year old George are left in this Underwood family. In the span of about five years, George lost his grandfather (Omar Farwell), his mother and his sister.

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<sup>60</sup> Buffalo Daily Courier, *Edition of April 3, 1873*, Buffalo, NY, 1873, pg 1

<sup>61</sup> Chautauqua County Court, *Hearing on Estate of Frances Farwell Underwood*, 1897

<sup>62</sup> Painted Hills Genealogical Society, *Mayville Cemetery Burials and Inscriptions*, 2007



Hattie Louise Underwood 1875



Hattie L. and George F. in 1868

Charles remarried in 1878. His second wife was 38 year old Addie Robinson. There is no mention of any children but the 1910 census asks the questions how many children and then how many still alive. The notation here is one child born but zero still alive.

STATE New York COUNTY Chautauque TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY Westfield Township (Port of)

DEPART THIRTEENTH C

NAME OF INSTITUTION \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION.				NAME	RELATION.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.						
Street, house, farm, etc.	House number (in cities or towns).	Number of dwelling house in order of visitation.	Number of family in order of visitation.	of each person whose place of abode on April 15, 1910, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on April 15, 1910. Omit children born since April 15, 1910.	Relationship of this person to the head of the family.	Sex.	Color or race.	Age at last birth-day.	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.	Number of years of present marriage.	Mother of how many children.	Number now living.
		1	2			5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	51	145	209	Underwood Charles B	Head	M	W	80	M	21		
				Addie	Wife	F	W	71	M	21	1	0

The 1880 census does not show any young children and there is not another census until 1900 because the 1890 census was destroyed by a disastrous fire. The question of accuracy will have to go unanswered for now.

Sometime in the 1890s Charles and Addie moved to nearby Westfield. They would spend their remaining years there. In the 1900 census the occupation for Charles is listed as "none" and in 1910 as "retired".

Charles Browning Underwood died on July 27, 1911.<sup>63</sup> He was 82 years old. Charles is buried with Addie (who died in 1920) in the Westfield cemetery. His will left his estate to Addie and George F. his only surviving child.

### **Last Will and Testament.**

*June 21st. 1911.*

*I, Charles B. Underwood*  
*of the Town of Westfield in the County of Chautauqua and State of New York, being of sound*  
*mind and memory, do make, publish and declare this my last Will and Testament, in manner following, that is to say:*

*First. - I direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid.*

*Second: I will to my wife three hundred dollars.*  
*All the rest of the property we own jointly together consisting of real and personal, my half of which I leave the use of to my wife as long as she lives, and at death of both of us my property less three hundred dollars to be given to my son George F. Underwood if living, if not to his children.*

*The joint property consisting of money notes and real estate we each had at the death of both of us. Also the small black walnut bedstead dresser and washstand and feather bed to be given to George F. Underwood.*

*After debts and funeral expenses twenty five dollars to Cemetery Association for perpetual care of our lot.*

George Farwell Underwood was born on July 17, 1861 in Mayville. By all appearances he led a fairly uneventful childhood. He would have assisted his father with whatever jobs he was doing. As he grew up, the country began to rebuild from the Civil War. The country was slowly moving from a farming economy and way of life. George had watched his father work at several different occupations while still maintaining a farm. At some point along the way, George made the decision to try a different way of life. His life was not destined to be tied to a farm.

<sup>63</sup> Painted Hills Genealogical Society, Westfield Cemetery, 2007



George F Underwood in 1888

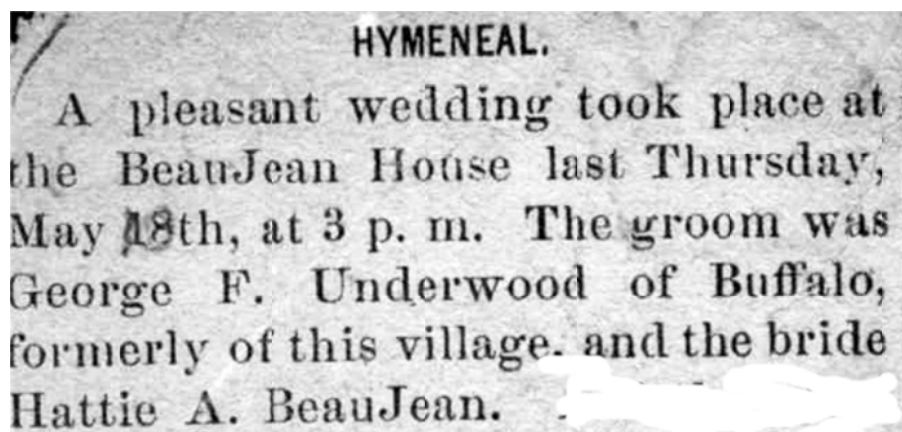
Another family that had been in Mayville for years was the Beaujean family. The family was originally from France but in the 1700s had shipping interests in the French West Indies island of Guadeloupe and Boston. One Charles Beaujean of Boston served in the American army during the American Revolution. His descendants moved to upstate New York and eventually to Mayville. One of the Beaujean families in Mayville was that of George Reed Beaujean who much like C.B. Underwood tried his hand at a variety of occupations including farming. His family consisted of a wife, Martha Kelsey Beaujean and 5 daughters. One of them was Hattie Althea Beaujean,



Hattie Althea Beaujean 1895

Young George F. Underwood took notice of Hattie but he was about to embark on a new career. In 1886 George left Mayville for Buffalo. He got a job as a compositor (which was another name for typesetter) working for the Buffalo Daily News.<sup>64</sup> He had moved to the city! Buffalo was a major port and an important center of shipping. It had a population of over 100,000 compared to Mayville's population of 6000. He did not however forget Hattie. On May 10, 1888 George and Hattie were married in Mayville.

The excerpt from the local paper following had an incorrect date that apparently a family member attempted to correct.



They then settled into life in Buffalo for several years with George working as a compositor. They would return to Mayville for a few years beginning in about 1894.

There was an interesting series of court hearings in 1897. When Frances Farwell Underwood died, the land she had inherited from her father Omar passed to her children. Unfortunately there was no probate and so the ownership of the land was in doubt when George was ready to sell. It was referred to as a life estate of Frances. His sister had passed away as well so it was going to take a probate court to settle the matter.

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<sup>64</sup> City of Buffalo, 1886 City Directory, Footnote, 2008

During the hearings a series of questions were put to George as well as H. Louise Farwell Green who was the sister of Frances. *The records are attached as Appendix U.* Following this hearing, it was established that George was the rightful owner as heir of his mother and grandfather. George was able to sell the property and in 1900, the family moved back to Buffalo.

It was at this point that George's entrepreneurial spirit surfaced. When he and Hattie moved back to Buffalo they set up a store selling groceries. *See Appendix V - Letterhead.* They operated the store for several years with Hattie serving as the bookkeeper. At the same time the Underwood family had grown. *See Appendix W – George Underwood Family Group Sheet.*

Elbert Victor Underwood was born on September 12, 1889 in Buffalo. Francis Omar Underwood followed on May 19, 1894 once the family had moved back to Mayville. Harry Charles Underwood was born June 7, 1896 in Mayville just a few years before the family moved back to Buffalo at the turn of the century. The Underwoods would not be leaving all family behind as Hattie's father and her unmarried sisters moved to Buffalo at the same time.



Francis Omar, Harry Charles, and Elbert Victor Underwood about 1907

After a few years as a grocer, George went back to the printing business. He worked for several different firms as well operating his own shop. His last

employer was JW Clement Printing which became one of the largest printers in the United States and a pioneer in color printing.

Education was a priority for the Underwood family. A farm family often needed all children working on the farm in order to survive. By moving to Buffalo, that type of need was no longer present. All the children graduated from Lafayette High School which was built in 1903 and is still operating today. The two older sons, Victor and Francis, went to Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Harry chose Wesleyan University in Middleton, Connecticut. Wesleyan University was founded in 1831 by Methodist leaders and named for the founder of Methodism John Wesleyan. The school focused on service and education offering a liberal arts education rather than just theological training.



Harry Charles Underwood  
1918 while attending college

Victor and Francis both stayed close to their agricultural roots. Victor was a county Farm Bureau manager and worked with the state while Francis ended

up teaching agricultural science at Cornell as well as working with the Farm Bureau. Harry chose a different path focusing on education and a liberal arts major.

Harry had a wide circle of friends and obviously enjoyed college life. At some point he met a young woman who shared many of his beliefs. Mary Edith Rider was born in 1900 and lived in Oswego, New York. She was the daughter of Burton L. Rider and Laura (Lottie) Goodier. As the years passed, their friendship deepened.



Mary Edith Rider 1918 High School Graduation picture

Harry graduated from Wesleyan in 1920. He was to be awarded a Bachelors of Science degree. When his parents planned a train trip to his graduation ceremony in Connecticut, they included Mary Rider. Years later, Mary described the event to her daughter-in-law:

*“George and Hattie boarded the train in Buffalo to go to the college graduation of their son Harry. They had asked Mary Rider to join them*



*and paid for her trip. Burton Rider drove his daughter to Syracuse to catch the train so she could join the Underwoods on their way to Wesleyan.*

*After graduation, they all boarded a boat on the Connecticut River which went down into the Long Island Sound and on to New York City. They all enjoyed the sights and sounds of the city and had a wonderful time celebrating Harry's graduation.*

*They boarded another train in New York to return home. Mary got off the train in Syracuse where her travels began. Her father picked her up for the return home to Oswego. Mary had a great time and appreciated the Underwoods paying for her trip."*

Harry was now ready to face the world. His first job was as a Y.M.C.A. director in Virginia. It was a good job but took him away from his family and more importantly Mary ! Something had to change and Mary again described the events to her daughter-in-law. This was many years later:

*"Harry got his job with the YMCA in Virginia. He wrote to Mary and asked her to look for any kind of a job teaching in a school. He found he could not live without her ! The YMCA would not allow a married man to live there as a director.*

*Mary went to see the Superintendent of Schools in Oswego who happened to be her old High School Principal. She had a very difficult time with this and had to walk around City Hall twice before getting enough "courage" to go in and meet with him.*

*He asked, "and what was it little Mary wanted today?" She replied, "Any kind of a teaching job for Harry Underwood." He asked, "Any relation to Victor Underwood?" She replied, "Yes, his little brother."*

*About a month later she received a letter from Harry that he had secured a history teaching position at Oswego High School. Mary's only difficulty was that she had attended Oswego High and her ex-teachers were now her social friends. She found that difficult to handle."*

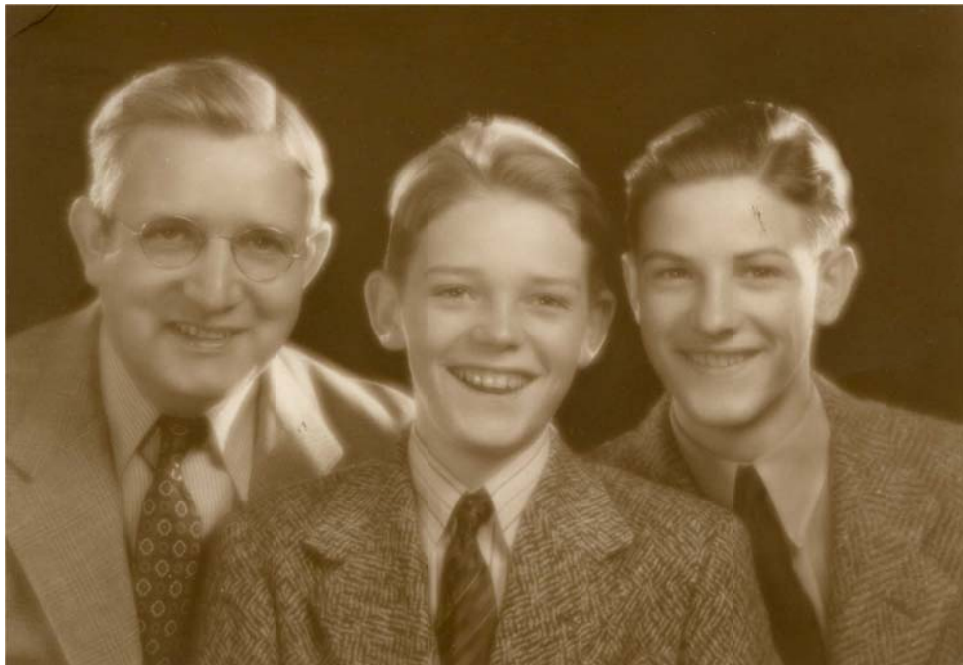
Harry Charles Underwood and Mary Edith Rider were married at her parent's home in Oswego on August 27, 1921. They settled into life in Oswego. George

Beaujean Underwood was born March 24, 1923 in Oswego. *See Appendix X–Harry C. Underwood Family Group Sheet.*

It was about this time that Harry's father, George F. Underwood decided to retire from printing. In what was probably a surprise to the family, George and Hattie were moving to Southern California ! There is a family story that George won some land in Hemet and that precipitated the move. For whatever reason, he and Hattie moved lock, stock and barrel to Los Angeles, California.

George began investing in property and houses in various areas. They lived in a home on Belmont St. In 1924, he had a very nice house built for them which included all the modern conveniences of the time. It was located on Glenalbyn Dr. on about .75 acres and is still there today. Although far from family, they certainly had a pleasant life. It was about this time Harry and Mary decided to follow his parents to California.

In 1924 Harry C, Mary, and young George packed up their belongings and moved to Los Angeles, California. Harry first found a position at Lincoln High School before settling in for a long career at Fairfax High School. Initially they lived on Belmont St. In the late 1920s, they had moved to stay in their home on Spaulding Ave. in Hollywood. Harry Burton Underwood was born on July 7, 1927. He was the first of this line born in California. Church, school and family would dominate the life of this young family.



Despite the depression, Harry had a good job as a teacher and so the family lived comfortably. Many activities involved the local Methodist Church. Harry

served as Superintendent of the Sunday School while Mary served in many of the auxiliary organizations. As the children grew, many of the church youth groups became a large part of their lives. Between school and church their lives were very full.

George F. Underwood died on February 21, 1939.<sup>65</sup> George and Hattie had celebrated their Golden Anniversary the year before. His life had seen many changes as he was born in the first year of the Civil War and died on the eve of World War II. America (and the Underwood family) had undergone quite a change. George was 77 years old. Hattie lived until November 26, 1943.<sup>66</sup>



George F. & Hattie A.  
Underwood on the Golden  
Wedding Anniversary in 1938

As the 1940s approached George Beaujean and Harry Burton Underwood were entering young adulthood. When the U.S. entered World War II after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, George was old enough to enlist and he joined the Army Air Force in 1942. He ended up flying 68 missions and has written about his experiences during the war. He rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant and served as a top turret gunner on a B-25. He was honorably discharged in September 1945.

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<sup>65</sup> Death Certificate, State of California, Department of Health

<sup>66</sup> Ibid

Harry C., Mary and Burt served on the homefront as the entire nation went to war. There were many jobs and sacrifices to be done at home as well. Harry Burton Underwood had made the decision to go by his middle name and so would be known as Burt. He was an outgoing young man who was musical and creative as well as having a love of automobiles. He played trombone in the band at Fairfax High and has a wonderful sense of humor.

It was during this time he met a young lady named Lois Jean Denaple. They met through the church youth group and a friendship blossomed. Lois is the daughter of Richard Werner Denaple and Ruby Lillian Beckenbach. Lois was born in Opportunity Washington in July 1927<sup>67</sup> (just 5 days prior to Burt!) Her family which included an older sister and younger brother moved to California when she was very young. She was living in North Hollywood when she met Burt.



Lois Jean Denaple



H. Burt Underwood

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<sup>67</sup> Family records

They began spending more time together and obviously enjoyed each other's company. Their affection for each other turned into love.



Burt and Lois 1946

Burt and Lois were married on September 30, 1948 at the First Methodist Church of Hollywood.<sup>68</sup> Burt began a long successful career in advertising sales and publishing. He held positions with several firms and finished his career as a publisher based in Boston, Massachusetts. Their daughter Christie was born in Oct 1949<sup>69</sup> followed by Glen in June 1951<sup>70</sup>, Leslie in May 1953<sup>71</sup> and Keith in 1955<sup>72</sup>. The family moved to Tustin in Orange County, California in the early 1960s when the area was just beginning to boom. With 4 active children, life was rarely dull around the Underwood household. *See Appendix Y- H. Burton Underwood Family Group Sheet.*

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<sup>68</sup> Certificate of Marriage, Los Angeles County, State of California

<sup>69</sup> Certificate of Live Birth, Los Angeles County, State of California

<sup>70</sup> Ibid

<sup>71</sup> Ibid

<sup>72</sup> Ibid

Meanwhile Burt's parents, Harry C and Mary remained in Hollywood. Their life centered around school and church. Harry had received his Master's degree from the University of Southern California in 1956 and was Principal of Jordan High Adult School. Harry retired from education in 1961. He and Mary lived in the same house on Spaulding and celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1971. Harry Charles Underwood died on June 18, 1985<sup>73</sup>. Mary Edith Rider Underwood died on December 29, 1991<sup>74</sup>.



Harry and Mary in the late 1950s

In Tustin, Burt still loved working with his hands and his creative impulses found an outlet in wood working. With an artist's eye and patient determination, he made many fine pieces for family use. In his later years, he has donated his time in making wooden toys for under-privileged children. His sense of family and respect for those who came before were evident in his house. He proudly displayed cherished artifacts from his ancestors. That respect for family history have been passed on to his children and grandchildren.

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<sup>73</sup> Social Security Death Index

<sup>74</sup> Ibid



Burt and Lois Underwood have led full rich lives with a sense of history behind them and the hopes of the future in the eyes of their descendants. They have been married for over 60 years as of this writing. Besides the four children, they have many grandchildren and great grandchildren who love them dearly and continue to be inspired by them. Their sense of dignity and of duty coupled with an absolute zest for life has rewarded all of us



Burt & Lois in 1983

It has been almost 400 years since Joseph Underwood landed on the shores of a new world at Hingham in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The story of the Underwood family has been one of courage, optimism and resilience tempered by pragmatism and a healthy dose of common sense. It is the duty of succeeding generations to honor what they have done. The story will continue.

## Family Group Sheet for Thomas Underwood

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**Husband:** Thomas Underwood

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Birth: Abt. 1600 in England

Death: 07 Apr 1668 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA

Father: Unknown Underwood

Mother:

Other Spouses:

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**Wife:** Magdalen

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Birth: 1607

Death: 10 Apr 1687 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA

Father:

Mother:

Other Spouses: Thomas Underwood

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**Children:**

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### Notes

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#### Thomas Underwood

Brother to Joseph Underwood. Joseph's son Thomas lived with Thomas and Magdalen

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1636; To America. Settled first at Hingham, later Dorchester? and finally at Watertown in 1651. (The Underwood Families of America)

1637, freeman

Town Offices: 1636, and 1638, representative Hingham. Selectman Watertown 165613

---

#### Magdalen

After Thomas' death in 1668, she married another Thomas Underwood unrelated to the first who died in the 1680s. He left part of his estate his son, yet another Thomas Underwood, *gentleman* who was noted as currently living in England.



## Family Group Sheet for Joseph UNDERWOOD

<b>Husband:</b>		Joseph UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	1614 in England
	Death:	17 Feb 1677 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	May 1644 in Hingham, Plymouth, Massachusetts, USA
	Father:	Unknown Underwood
	Mother:	
	Other Spouses:	Mary How (29 Apr 1665)
<b>Wife:</b>		Mary WILDER
	Birth:	1623 in Shiplake, Oxfordshire, England
	Death:	13 Dec 1658 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Father:	Thomas Wilder
	Mother:	Martha Wilder
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Children:</b>		
1 M	Name:	Thomas UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	11 Oct 1658 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	01 Mar 1691 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	19 Nov 1679 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	Mary PALMER
	Other Spouses:	
2 F	Name:	Mary Underwood
	Birth:	13 Apr 1645 in Hingham, Plymouth, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	18 May 1670 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	Isaac Onge
	Other Spouses:	
3 F	Name:	Martha Underwood
	Birth:	Abt. 1647 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Other Spouses:	
4 M	Name:	Joseph Underwood
	Birth:	1650 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	07 Apr 1691
	Marriage:	1672
	Spouse:	Elizabeth Bond
	Other Spouses:	Mary
5 F	Name:	Sarah Underwood
	Birth:	Abt. 1652 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	Abt. 1679
	Other Spouses:	
6 F	Name:	Hannah Underwood
	Birth:	Abt. 1654 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	1717 in Groton, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	14 Oct 1680 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	John Gibson
	Other Spouses:	

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7	Name:	Elizabeth Underwood
F	Birth:	Abt. 1656 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	13 Sep 1683
	Spouse:	William Bull

Other Spouses:

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### Notes

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#### Joseph UNDERWOOD

Joseph came to America in 1637 (brother Thomas came in 1636) and settled in Hingham, MA. He left Hingham for Watertown following his brother Thomas.

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#### Mary WILDER

Mary, spinster daughter of Mrs. Martha Wilder of Shiplake, County Oxford, sailed from Southampton last of April, by virtue of the Lord reasurers warrant of the 11 April 1638 on the *Confidence* of London 200 tons, John Gibson, master.

---

#### Thomas UNDERWOOD

Paid for service in King Philip's war

"Ye 28 of Nov. 1686, I baptised 9 viz; 4 children of Thomas Underwood who owned cov. privately, and his wife publickly viz. Thomas, Jonathan, Mary, and Elizabeth." (Watertown Record Book 1686 - 1819 Book of the Pastors) Descendants settled in Lexington, Massachusetts 172 Military Service: February 24, 1676/77, paid 1 lb. 10 s for service in King Philips War



# A Map

## OF THE ORIGINAL ALLOTMENTS OF LAND

### AND THE ANCIENT TOPOGRAPHY OF

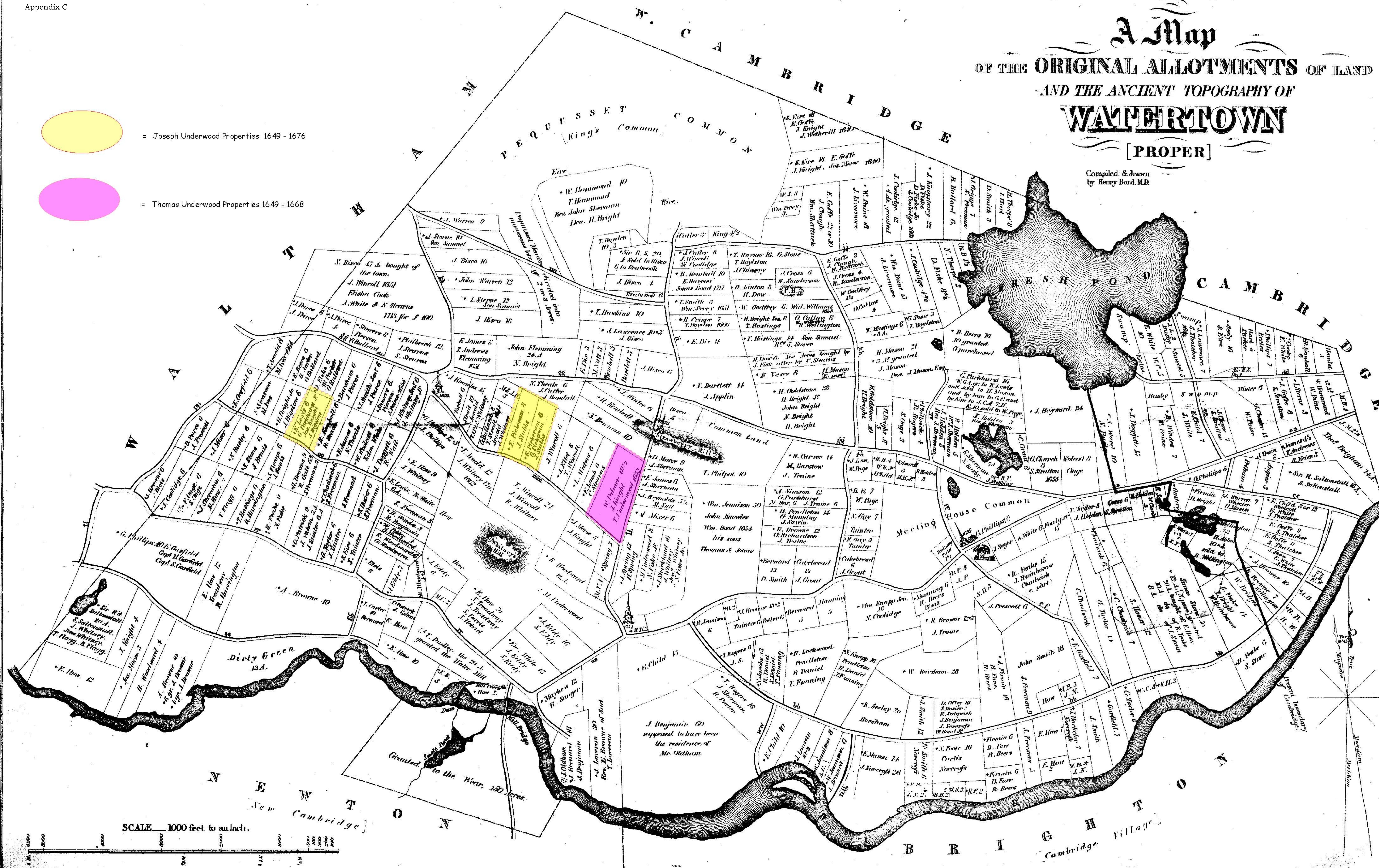
# WATERTOWN

## [PROPER]

Compiled & drawn  
by Henry Bond M.D.

Joseph Underwood Properties 1649 - 1676

Thomas Underwood Properties 1649 - 1668



SCALE 1000 feet to an inch.



Thomas Underwood The Inventory of the housing, lands, goods, chattels  
& debts of Thomas Underwood late of ceester, town  
deced

The dwellinghouse, barne, outhousing } 1 s 2  
upland & meadow at Home. } 150 00 00

Two acres & halfe of meadow in patch }  
meadow. } 00 8 00 00

Forty acres of land called great dividend. 020 00 00

Eighteen acres in lew of Towneship. 010 00 00

12. acres more in lew of Towneship. 001 04 00

200. acres of farne land. 010 00 00

Three acres of plow land in the hither playne 003 00 00

0. acres in Cambridge bounds 012 00 00

214-04-00

His Apparrell.

1. dublet. 1. p<sup>r</sup> of drawers. 2. Coates, all of Serge 001 10 00

1. p<sup>r</sup> of drawers. 2. coates of Kersie 002 10 00

1. p<sup>r</sup> of drawers. 2. coates 000 10 00

3. p<sup>r</sup> of drawers. 3. wascoates 000 12 00

4. p<sup>r</sup> of Stockins. 000 08 00

1. p<sup>r</sup> of boots. 2. payre of Shoes 000 06 00

2. hatts 000 08 00

3. Shifts. 4. hand napkins. 3. caps. 8. bands. 000 08 00

6-12-00

In the Parlour

1. feather bed, 1. bolster, 3. Pillows, 2. blankets }  
1. Rug. curtaynes, vallans, bedstead } 006 10 00

1. preps cubbard. 001 05 00

1. Table, forme, carpett. 001 05 00

3. chayres, 7. cushings 001 10 00

1. baskett, 1. grater. 000 01 06

6. yds of Serge. 9. yds of Cotton cloath. 002 18 00

1. great bible, 20. books of Divinity 003 10 00

glass potts & other small things 000 02 00

1. Chest. 8. yds of cotton cloath. with }  
other small things. } 001 00 00

## In the Hall.

4. brass Kettles. 2. brass pans, 3. brass potts,	
1. brass skillitt	005 00 00
1. warming pan & brass scales	000 12 00
10. Pewter dishes, 2. candlesticks, 1. beere	
bowle. 1. quart pott. 2. porringers,	002 00 00
2. Saucers. Chamber pott.	
1. Tin pan. dishes, trays, trenchers.	000 05 00
Cob-jrons, trammel. tongs, firejrons	000 12 00
1. Table. 2. Chayres. 2. Stooles, 1. spitt.	000 06 00
2. Silver spoones.	000 10 00
Silthes. beetle, wedges, saw, Hammer Augor,	
axes, Prow, Stowe, Iron crow with other small things	002 10 00
	55
	11-15-00

## In the Lodging roome.

7. payre of Sheets, & 1. Single Sheet	004 12 00
6. payre of pillow beers.	001 12 00
1. Table, cloath. 1. cubbard cloath. 12. napkins.	000 18 00
4. Towels, & a peece of linnen cloath.	000 08 00
1. feather bed, bolster, 4. pillows. 1. payre of sheets	
1. blankett, curtynes, vallans. bedstead.	005 10 00
1. Trundle bedstead, feather bed, bolster, 2. pil-	
lows, 1. blankett, coverlett, 2. pillows, 1. blankett,	003 00 00
coverlett. 1. pr of Sheets.	
2. chests. 1. trunk	000 10 00
2. tubs of meate.	003 10 00
Armes and ammunition	001 10 00
Yarne & other small things	001 03 00
	22-13-00

## In the leantoo.

Frying pan, & wooden vessels	001 04 00
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## In the Cellar.

Cheeses, butter, Apples, beere vessels with other lumber.	001 06 00
---	-----------

## Upon the chamber



Thomas Underwood 1. bed blankett. 1. sheet. 1. Covered, 1  
 Barly. 6. bush. 24<sup>¢</sup>. Indian 30. bush. 4<sup>¢</sup> }  
 Oates. 6. bush. 10<sup>¢</sup> } 5 1/4  
 Hops. 2<sup>¢</sup>. Cotton weoll 10<sup>¢</sup>. hemp. 4<sup>¢</sup>. 2 1/4  
 3. wheels. 1. pillion. & old lumber. 1  
 10.08-00

## Cattell.

1. payre of oxen. 10<sup>¢</sup>. 4. Cows. 15<sup>¢</sup>. 1. 3. year  
 old steer. 3<sup>¢</sup>. 1. 3. years Old heiffer. 3<sup>¢</sup>. - } 031 00 00  
 2. 2. years old Steers 4<sup>¢</sup>. 2. 1. year 30. 3<sup>¢</sup>. 2. weaning calves. }  
 1. Horse. 5<sup>¢</sup>. 5. swine 3<sup>¢</sup>. } 016 00 00  
 47-00-00

## In the barn.

1. saddle, bridle, 1. hayre cloath. with other small things 001 00 00  
 Carts. wheels, yokes, chaynes, plows. 001 10 00

002-10-00

214-04-00

006-12-00

018-01-06

011-15-00

022-13-00

001-04-00

010-08-00

047-00-00

6. sacks 000-06-00

334-13-06

56

20. 1. 1667. Prised by vs. John Shearman. Nathaniel Tredeauy.  
 Henry Spring.

Entred. by Tho. Danforth. R.

mem<sup>r</sup>. This Inventory was p<sup>r</sup>esented with it Will, but  
 it Executrix being not well no probate was then  
 made thereof.

T. D. R.

## Will of Thomas Underwood

"In the name of God Amen, I Thomas Underwood of Watertown, in the County of Middlesex, within the Jurisdiction of the Massachusetts, being sicke and weake of body, but of sound mind and good memory, blessed and praised be God, do constitute and ordeine this my last will and testament in manner and forme following, vizt first. I comend my Soul and Spirit into the hands of God, that gave it, hoping throw the merrits of Jesus Christ to have eternal life, and my body to the ground whereof it was made and to be decently buried by the discretion of my Executrix hereafter mentioned.

I give and bequeath unto my **Brother Joseph Underwood** the Sume of Ten Shillings, further I give and bequeath unto my Couson Joseph Underwood the sume of Three Shillings foure pence. further, give and bequeath unto my Couson Mary Underwood the sume of three shillings foure pence, further I give and bequeath unto me Couson Martha Underwood the sume of three shillings foure pence, further I give and bequeath unto Couson Hannah Underwood the sume of three shillings foure pence, further I give and bequeath unto Couson Elizabeth Underwood the sume of three shillings foure pence, further I give and bequeath unto my Couson Sarah Underwood three shillings foure pence.

Further my mind and will is that if my loveing wife Magdalene Underwood hath not need to sell all or any part of my homestall, for her comfortable livelihood in the time of her life, that after her decease, Thomas Underwood, sonne to my Brother Joseph Underwood now liveing with mee shall have and injoy as his propper inheritance my Homestall both house and barne and all the land adjacent, except the lott which I purchased of Charles Sternes, but in case the said Thomas shall prove stubborne and rebellious against my beloved wife his Aunt, that then I do hereby impowerher to disinherit him of it, and to give it to whome shee pleases that may better deserve it, but all the rest of my estate, both houseing lands, goodes, chattels, debts, or whatsoever is myne, I do freely fully, and wholly give and bequeath to my deare and loveing wife Magdalen Underwood, making her my full and sole executrix, of this my last will and testamt, willing and requiring her to performe all and every respecively of this my will according to the true intent and meaning hereof, for confirmation whereof I have hereinto annexed my hand and Seale this 15th of the 12th mo. 1667.

92.

1675

Watertown

Capt. Asa Bodin slain by Indians. Sept. 4.  
 John Henry dyed. Sept. 5.  
 Abigail Whitney of Jondra & Lora born Aug. 18.  
 Jno. Cady & Abigail Burt married Dec. 12.  
 Sarah Woodward of Georg & Elizab. born Oct. 3.  
 Timothy Hawking & Mary Himes married. July 23.  
 Susan Stone of Simon & Mary born Nov. 4.  
 Abigail Hark of Jno. & Sarah born Oct. 8.  
 John Cuyus of Jno. & Mary born Dec. 17.  
 D. Hoady. D. Dec. 31.  
 Elizab. Melanson of Jno. & Elizab. born Oct. 22.  
 Sarah Smith of David & Mary born Dec. 27.  
 Joseph Leavins of Jno. & Hannah born Jan. 27.  
 Abigail Hark of Nathan & Elizab. born Feb. 18.  
 Benoni Carfield of Benj. & Minda Habbell. born Dec. 4.  
 Minda Habbell Carfield dyed. Dec. 9.  
 David Mixer of Isaac & Abottahs born Feb. 21.  
 John Bright & Mary Barham married May 7.  
 John Shearman.

1676.

David Coolidge of Jno. & Hannah born Apr. 24.  
 Ebenezer Page of Samuel & Hannah born July 17.  
 Nathan Harkins dyed. June 22.  
 David Hay of Jno. & Mary dyed. Sept. 23.  
 Mary Hay of Jno. & Mary dyed. Aug. 2.  
 John Child dyed Oct. 14.  
 Minda Habbell Child wife of David Child dyed Aug. 18.  
 Margaret Eames of Jno. & Mary born July 29.  
 Gershom Eames dyed. Nov. 25.  
 John Page aged 21. gone dyed. Dec. 18.  
 Sarah Parkhurst of Jno. & Abigail born Nov. 26.  
 Elizab. Holland of Nath. & Sarah born Dec. 18.  
 Sarah Chiquier of Jno. & Sarah born Nov. 28.  
 Joseph Underwood dyed Apr. 6. 66.  
 Leda Coolidge of Simon & Hannah born Feb. 3.  
 Margaret Stratton wife dyed Dec. 7.  
 Enock



1676.

Appendix G Death of Joseph Underwood

Daniel Coolidge of Jno. & Hannah born Apr. 24  
 Ebenezer Page of Samuel & Hannah born July 17  
 Nathan Hick born. dyed. June 22.  
 David Hay of Jno. & Mary dyed. Sept. 23  
 Mary Hay of Jno. & Mary dyed. Aug. 2.  
 John Child dyed Oct. 14.  
 Michell Child wife of Arch. Child. dyed. Aug. 18  
 Margaret Exum of Jno. & Mary born. July 25  
 Gershom Exum dyed. Nov. 25.  
 John Page aged abt. 90 years dyed. Dec. 18.  
 Sarah Parkhurst of Jno. & Abigail born Nov. 26.  
 Elizab. Holland of Nath. & Sarah born. June 18.  
 Sarah Chadwick of Jno. & Sarah born. Nov. 28  
 Joseph Underwood dyed Feb. 16.  
 Lidon Coolidge of Simon & Hannah born Feb. 3.  
 Margaret Stratton wife dyed. Dec. 7.  
 Enock.

18  
Joseph Underwood

A true inventory of the housing land & cattle  
& other goods of Joseph Underwood, who deceased  
the 16 day of Feb. 1676. appraised by us whose hands  
and underwritten the 7 of March 1676

Housing & home land of 20 acs	240 00 00
A dividout of thirty three acs	033 00 00
fifteen acs more of dividout land	002 10 00
Even by acers of Township land	003 00 00
An acre & half of meadowland in patch meadow	006 00 00
Two cows & a steer	009 10 00
fourteen sheep & six lambs	003 12 00
Swine to the value of	001 07 00
Twenty two bushells of Indian corn	003 06 00
four bushells of Barley & four bushells of rye	001 12 00
one bushell of Indian meal	000 03 00
Pork & Bacon	001 15 00
Bedding, bedstead & curtains	001 15 00
A crumpled bed & bedstead	001 05 00
A pair of old shoes & some other old linen	000 15 00
His wearing Apparell	001 15 00
Brass & pewter	002 11 00
Iron ware in the house for house keeping	000 29 00
One barrill of Cyder	000 12 00
Lumber	000 14 00
A Spinning wheel	000 04 00
Two chests & a chest	000 14 00
Two old chests & a sack	000 05 00
An old malklock, muskett, & old sword, powder & bullets	000 10 00
A plow & plow chaine & severall piddles of Iron ware	001 19 00
Earthen ware & a small piddle of Tobacco	000 02 00
A piddle of Books	000 08 00
A small piddle of cotton wool & cotton yarn	000 08 00
One pound of Shaggs wool	000 06 00
Dishes & spoons & old chaine & an old cable	000 03 00
He. A Servant Boy	009 00 00

Henry Spring

Samuel Storer

Thomas Lovdano

thereunto.

(at a County Court Apr. 7. 1691) (See also No. 23053 files of Probate Court)

Appendix I - Joseph Underwood Estate Administration

March y<sup>e</sup> 29 - 1677

We whose names are underwritten beinge desired by the children of Joseph Underwood to help them to devid their father's estate into equall proportions wee havinge cast it by the debte beinge taken out that Joseph Underwood's part comes to 30 - 6 - 8 and Hannah parte to bee 15 - 03 - 4 and Martha part to bee 15 - 03 - 4 and Sarah her part to bee 15 - 3 - 4 and Elizabeth her part to bee 15 - 3 - 4 and Thomas his part to bee 15 - 3 - 4 And farther Joseph Underwood hath given out of his double portion to his sister Hannah Underwood four pounds and Thomas Underwood hath promised to give his sister Hanah four pounds and Martha and Elizabeth Underwood hath given to ther sister Hannah forty Shillings a peece which makes ther two shares to bee but 13 - 03 - 4 a peece which maketh Hannah Underwoods part in all to bee 27 - 3 - 1 and farther Joseph Underwood hath Agreed with his sisters Martha and Elizabeth Underwood to pay them ten pound a peece in currant money of New England within six year after the date hearof &c

John Bisco

Henry

John Robinson

Joseph <sup>his mark</sup> Underwood  
the mark of  
Hannah Underwood  
the mark of  
Martha Underwood  
the mark of  
Elizabeth Underwood  
the mark of  
Thomas Underwood

Jos. Underwood  
Box 1677

Joseph Underwood is granted admistraccon to y<sup>e</sup> estate of his deid father Joseph Underwood an Inventory whereof he presented in Court on oath, together with a writing for the setting the said estate, w<sup>ch</sup> was allowed by the Court.

(at a County Court Apr. 3, 1677) (See also No. 23156 files of Probate Court)

The last will of Joseph Underwood exhibited in Court by y<sup>e</sup> Executo<sup>rs</sup> and proved by y<sup>e</sup> Witnesses Subscribed, Elizabeth Lamb, Joshua Kebbe & Tho: Hammond who made oath that they were p<sup>r</sup>sonally p<sup>r</sup>sent, and saw y<sup>e</sup> Sub-scriber Joseph Underwood, Sign Seal and heard him publish y<sup>e</sup> Same as his last will & Testament, and y<sup>t</sup> he then was of a disposing mind

(at a County Court Apr. 7. 1691)

The Executo<sup>rs</sup> Tho: Hammond & Eliab: Underwood p<sup>r</sup>esented an Inventory thereof to y<sup>e</sup> Court upon oath, being obliged that if anything more shall come to there knowledge to Cause it to be

(at a County Court Apr. 7. 1691)

Jos. Underwood  
Vol. 3 Page 168

Jos. Underwood  
Vol. 6 Page 80

Jos. Underwood  
Vol. 6 Page 80

1679

Mary Stewart of Samuel & Hannah Born Apr. 5

Mary Barron of Eliz. & Lidea Born Apr. 25.

Ditto Mary Dyed, Apr. 26.

Jonath. Rine of Jonath. & Sarah, Born March. 26

Elisab. Hammond, wife of Tho. Hammond Dyed, Apr. 4

Jammon Cary of James & Hannah Born Apr. 1.

Lidea Selderson of Wm & Sarah Born Apr. 21.

Elisab. Underwood of Joseph & Elizab. Born May 2.

Benja. Mixon of Isaac & Rebecca Born May 22

Samuel Davis Jr. of Jn. & Mary Born Apr. 14.

Elisab. Fairfield of Thos. & Elizab. Born June 30

Jno. Cowden of Martyn & Abigail Born May 26

Elliz Barron & Mary Siderman Mary & May 27

John, David & Mary Coldodge Mary & Aug. 6

John Coldodge Jun. & Mary, Mather married Sept. 16.

Sam. Biggellah of Jaul. & Mary Born Sept. 18.

Tho. Coldodge & Mary Palmer married Nov. 19

Shirley Cook & Rebecca fly Mary & Nov. 19

Deborah wife of Philip Shattuck Died Nov. 24

Sarah Underwood of Joseph & Sarah Born Dec. 18

Hannah Barr of Jn. & Hannah Born Dec. 25

John

## Family Group Sheet for Thomas UNDERWOOD

<b>Husband:</b>		Thomas UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	11 Oct 1658 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	01 Mar 1691 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	19 Nov 1679 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Father:	Joseph UNDERWOOD
	Mother:	Mary WILDER
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Wife:</b>		Mary PALMER
	Birth:	23 Feb 1663 in Rehoboth, Bristol, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	Aft. 1709 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Father:	Jonas Palmer
	Mother:	Elizabeth Grissell
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Children:</b>		
1	Name:	Jonathan UNDERWOOD Sr.
M	Birth:	18 Aug 1686 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	Aft. 1736 in Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	17 Nov 1709 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	Ruth HOLLAND
	Other Spouses:	
2	Name:	Thomas Underwood
M	Birth:	20 Oct 1680 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	07 Jun 1691 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Other Spouses:	
3	Name:	Mary Underwood
F	Birth:	05 Jun 1682 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	02 Nov 1686 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Other Spouses:	
4	Name:	Elizabeth Underwood
F	Birth:	13 Aug 1684 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	25 Mar 1709
	Spouse:	Jonathan Hewes
	Other Spouses:	
5	Name:	Abigail Underwood
F	Birth:	26 Mar 1687 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Other Spouses:	
6	Name:	Martha Underwood
F	Birth:	30 Jun 1689 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	14 May 1718
	Spouse:	Samuel Bixby
	Other Spouses:	

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7	Name: Thomas Underwood
M	Birth: 03 Jun 1691 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death: 10 Apr 1711 in Lexington, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA

Other Spouses:

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## Notes

### Thomas UNDERWOOD

Paid for service in King Philip's war

"Ye 28 of Nov. 1686, I baptised 9 viz; 4 children of Thomas Underwood who owned cov. privately, and his wife publickly viz. Thomas, Jonathan, Mary, and Elizabeth." (Watertown Record Book 1686 - 1819 Book of the Pastors) Descendants settled in Lexington, Massachusetts 172 Military Service: February 24, 1676/77, paid 1 lb. 10 s for service in King Philips War

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### Mary PALMER

Jonas (Jonah) Palmer married (1) in Rehoboth, May 3, 1655, Elizabeth, daughter of Francis Grissell .(Griswold) of Charlestown, formerly of Cambridge, Mass.; she was buried in Rehoboth, February 11, 1691-2; he married (2) November 9, 1692, Abigail, widow of John Titus (née Carpenter), who died in Rehoboth, March 5, 1709; he died in Rehoboth, June 22, 1709.

Children by the first wife:

- 24. i. Hannah, 3 born November 8, 1657.
- 25. ii. Samuel, born November 22, 1659.
- 26. iii. Jonas, born March 29, 1662.
- 27. iv. **Mary**, born February 23, 1663.
- 28. v. Elizabeth.
- 29. vi. Martha, born July 6, 1666.
- 30. vii. Grace, born October 1, 1668.

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### Jonathan UNDERWOOD Sr.

Jonathan's death record has never been found. Lexington was set off from Cambridge in 1712. At the time of his marriage he was known as being "of Cambridge"



# Appendix L - Jonathan Underwood Birth 1686

Watertowne.			
Births			
John Benish, son of John & Mary Benish	born Octob <sup>r</sup> 26.	1686	
Martha, Daughter of Samuel & Mary Bigelow	born April 7.	1686	
Mary, Daughter of Joseph & Mary Grant	born Sept. 13.	1686	
Deliverance Daughter of William & Pharisah Bond	born May 2.	1686	
Abigail, daughter of John & Hannah Bond	born Novemb <sup>r</sup> 3.	1686	
Sarah, daughter of John & Elizabeth Gentry	born July 13.	1686	
Abigail daughter of John & Sarah Ball	born Octob <sup>r</sup> 5.	1686	
Quid, daughter of Henry & Lydia Spring	born Aug <sup>t</sup> 12.	1686	
Sarah, daughter of Allen & Sarah Tice	born Aug <sup>t</sup> 13.	1686	
Thomas, son of Joseph & Elizabeth Whiting	born Novemb <sup>r</sup> 16.	1686	
George son of John & Hannah Whiting	born April 20.	1686	
Jonathan, son of Thomas & Mary Underwood	born Aug <sup>t</sup> 18.	1686	
Ephraim, son of Joseph & Elizabeth Sherman	born		
Esther, daughter of Joseph & Mary Watson	born July 3.	1686	
George, son of George & Mary Robinson	born July 14.	1686	
Joseph, son of John & Elizabeth Dixon	born Aug <sup>t</sup> 15.	1686	
Deaths.			
Deacon Henry Briggs	died Aug <sup>t</sup> 9.	1686	
Grace wife of Robert Jennison	died Novemb <sup>r</sup> 26.	1686	
Anthony White	died March 28.	1686	
Widow Winy	died Octob <sup>r</sup> 13.	1686	

## Family Group Sheet for Jonathan UNDERWOOD Sr.

<b>Husband:</b>		Jonathan UNDERWOOD Sr.
Birth:		18 Aug 1686 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
Death:		Aft. 1736 in Massachusetts, USA
Marriage:		17 Nov 1709 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
Father:		Thomas UNDERWOOD
Mother:		Mary PALMER
Other Spouses:		
<b>Wife:</b>		Ruth HOLLAND
Birth:		07 May 1690 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
Death:		Aft. 1736 in Massachusetts, USA
Father:		Joseph HOLLAND
Mother:		Elizabeth
Other Spouses:		
<b>Children:</b>		
1 M	Name:	Jonathan UNDERWOOD Jr.
	Birth:	26 Jan 1716 in Lexington, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	29 Jan 1804 in Wayland, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	04 Jun 1744 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	Lydia MUZZEY
	Other Spouses:	Eunice Grout (16 Sep 1766 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA)
2 F	Name:	Ruth Underwood
	Birth:	23 Sep 1711 in Lexington, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
Other Spouses:		
3 M	Name:	Thomas Underwood
	Birth:	10 Feb 1712 in Lexington, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	16 Feb 1743
Other Spouses:		
4 F	Name:	Sarah Underwood
	Birth:	23 May 1714 in Lexington, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	Bef. 1719 in Lexington, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
Other Spouses:		
5 F	Name:	Sarah Underwood
	Birth:	10 May 1719 in Lexington, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
Other Spouses:		

### Notes

#### Jonathan UNDERWOOD Sr.

Jonathan's death record has never been found. Lexington was set off from Cambridge in 1712. At the time of his marriage he was known as being "of Cambridge"

#### Jonathan UNDERWOOD Jr.

Jonathan was in the First Foot Company in Sudbury as a corporal in April 1757 under the command of Capt. Moses Maynard. Jonathan Underwood of Sudbury enlisted 6 April, 1759. in" Col. Elisha Jones's regiment. This was in the French and Indian Wars.



## Family Group Sheet for Jonathan UNDERWOOD Jr.

<b>Husband:</b>		Jonathan UNDERWOOD Jr.
	Birth:	26 Jan 1716 in Lexington, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	29 Jan 1804 in Wayland, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	04 Jun 1744 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Father:	Jonathan UNDERWOOD Sr.
	Mother:	Ruth HOLLAND
	Other Spouses:	Eunice Grout (16 Sep 1766 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA)
<b>Wife:</b>		Lydia MUZZEY
	Birth:	07 Feb 1725 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	09 Apr 1766 in Weston, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Father:	Joseph MUZZEY
	Mother:	Patience RICE
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Children:</b>		
1	Name:	Reuben UNDERWOOD
M	Birth:	09 Jun 1751 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	20 Nov 1830 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	03 Feb 1791 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	Sybil WHITTEMORE
	Other Spouses:	Eunice Livermore (02 Nov 1773 in Weston, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA)
2	Name:	Kezia Underwood
F	Birth:	04 Aug 1746 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	09 Jan 1836
	Burial:	Wayland, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Other Spouses:	
3	Name:	Jonathan Underwood
M	Birth:	13 Dec 1748 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	09 Jun 1811
	Marriage:	03 Feb 1780 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	Mary Revere
	Other Spouses:	
4	Name:	Samuel Underwood
M	Birth:	14 Nov 1753 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	04 Oct 1776
	Burial:	
	Other Spouses:	
5	Name:	Jonas Underwood
M	Birth:	26 Dec 1755 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Other Spouses:	

6 F	Name: Lydia Underwood Birth: 26 Feb 1758 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA Death: Jul 1842 in Wayland, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA Marriage: 13 Feb 1783 in Weston, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA Spouse: Thomas Pierce Jr. Other Spouses: Silas Whetcomb (10 Dec 1780)
7 M	Name: Joseph Underwood Birth: 25 Mar 1760 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA Death: 29 Aug 1778  Other Spouses:
8 M	Name: Benjamin Underwood Birth: 25 Mar 1760 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA  Other Spouses:
9 F	Name: Sarah Underwood Birth: 27 May 1762 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA Death: 25 Jul 1823 Marriage: 24 Feb 1785 Spouse: Benjamin Gleason Other Spouses:
10 F	Name: Mary Molly Underwood Birth: 25 Aug 1764 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA  Other Spouses:

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**Notes**


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**Jonathan UNDERWOOD Jr.**

Jonathan was in the First Foot Company in Sudbury as a corporal in April 1757 under the command of Capt. Moses Maynard. Jonathan Underwood of Sudbury enlisted 6 April, 1759. in" Col. Elisha Jones's regiment. This was in the French and Indian Wars.

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**Lydia MUZZEY**

She is buried in the Weston Central cemetery which is also called the Farmers Burying ground.

## Massachusetts Town-Appointed jobs

### Sealer of Leather

The leather sealer was the town officer who had authority to see that all sales of leather were made honestly as to quality and quantity. The sealer of leather was authorized to put his "seal" or stamp of approval on items he inspected, tested and certified.

### Field Driver

requires the field driver to "take up horses, mules, asses, neat cattle, sheep, goats or swine going at large in the public ways, or on common and unimproved land within his town and not under the care of a keeper" and to impound the same.

### Constables

Constables were elected by town officials to serve the writs and processes described in section ninety-two of the General Court and warrants and processes in criminal cases, where their town, parish, religious society or district is a party or interested. They shall have the powers of sheriffs to require aid in the execution of their duties. They shall take due notice of and prosecute all violations of law respecting the observance of the Lord's day, profane swearing and gaming. They shall serve all warrants and other processes directed to them by the selectmen of their town for notifying town meetings or for other purposes. They may serve by copy, attested by them, demands, notices and citations, and their returns of service thereof shall be prima facie evidence; but this provision shall not exclude the service thereof by other persons.

### Hog Reeves

New England towns appointed hog reeves (officers charged with the prevention or appraising of damages by stray swine). Hogs were usually supposed to be yoked (wear collars) and have rings in their noses, which reduced the amount of damage they could do to gardens and crops by rooting. This was not a minor concern, because this food was necessary for human survival. There were punishments established for failure to control animals.

If the owner of a hog had not 'rung' and 'yoked' their hogs, and they got loose and became a nuisance in the community, one or more of the men assigned as Hog Reeve would be responsible for capturing the animal and performing the necessary chore for the owner; who could legally be charged a small fee for the service.

## Family Group Sheet for Reuben UNDERWOOD

<b>Husband:</b>		Reuben UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	09 Jun 1751 in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	20 Nov 1830 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	03 Feb 1791 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Father:	Jonathan UNDERWOOD Jr.
	Mother:	Lydia MUZZEY
	Other Spouses:	Eunice Livermore (02 Nov 1773 in Weston, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA)
<b>Wife:</b>		Sybil WHITTEMORE
	Birth:	17 Jun 1758 in Weston, Middlesex, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	13 Aug 1848 in Auburn, Cayuga, New York, USA
	Father:	Jeremiah WHITTEMORE
	Mother:	Mary CARTER
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Children:</b>		
1	Name:	Jonas UNDERWOOD
M	Birth:	11 Mar 1797 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	05 Jan 1864 in Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Marriage:	23 May 1824 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	Hannah BROWNING
	Other Spouses:	
2	Name:	Amos Underwood
M	Birth:	22 Dec 1791 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	23 Jun 1846 in Auburn, Cayuga, New York, USA
	Marriage:	23 Oct 1814 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	Mehetable White
	Other Spouses:	
3	Name:	Eunice Underwood
F	Birth:	19 Mar 1793 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	27 May 1875 in Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Other Spouses:	
4	Name:	Jonas Underwood
M	Birth:	12 May 1795 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	16 Apr 1796 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Other Spouses:	
5	Name:	Sybil Underwood
F	Birth:	11 Mar 1797 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	14 Oct 1872 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Marriage:	02 Oct 1821 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Spouse:	Josiah Green
	Other Spouses:	

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6	Name:	Cyrus Underwood
M	Birth:	16 Sep 1801 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	12 Oct 1881 in Jamestown, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Marriage:	17 Nov 1824
	Spouse:	Emeline Waite
	Other Spouses:	

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7	Name:	Jeremiah Underwood
M	Birth:	04 Sep 1803 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	24 Nov 1804 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Other Spouses:	

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**Notes**

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**Sybil WHITEMORE**

Buried at Fort Hill Cemetery: Underwood Sybil Age - 90 Date Died - 8/13/1848 Location : Forest Lawn 11 - 17 65

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**Jonas UNDERWOOD**

Jonas was a farmer in Spencer, Mass with his father. After his father's death, he moved to Auburn, NY and later Chautauqua, N.Y.

Reuben Underwood Will

In the Name of God. Amen.

I Reuben Underwood of Spencer in the County of Worcester Yeoman being advanced in age and somewhat infirm of body but sound in mind and memory and wishing to dispose of my worldly property equitably and in such a manner as shall be for the best interest of my family. do make and Ordain this to be my last will and testament.

First I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Sybil Underwood the use and improvement of the East room on the lower floor in my dwelling house, the chamber over the same and the bedroom north of the same so long as she shall remain my widow.

Also I give and bequeath to my said wife a good and comfortable support and maintenance, to be provided for her by my Executors hereafter to be named, in manner following that is to say, she is to have good and sufficient, meat, drink, clothing, lodging, washing, mending and doctoring, and in fine every necessary comfort and convenience which her situation, and circumstances may require both in sickness and in health so long as she shall remain my widow - Also I give to my said wife all my household furniture, of every description for her own free use and disposal, including however my Desk, Book case and clock - Also I give and bequeath to my Daughter Eunice Underwood one horse for her own free use and disposal whenever she shall call for the same, and the same shall be kept on my farm summer and winter at the expense of my said Executors so long as she shall live with her Mother - Also I give and bequeath to my said daughter Eunice a home in my dwelling house, and an equal right to use the fire in common with the family as long as she shall remain single - Also a right to a seat in my pew in Spencer Meeting house as long as she shall remain single -

Also I give and bequeath to my son Jonas Underwood all the remainder & residue of my property of every description, whether real, personal or mixed, to him the said Jonas his heirs and assigns forever upon the following condition viz, that he support his mother Sybil Underwood and pay all legacies as is herein provided and directed - And whereas my three eldest children viz Sary Sawin, Sally Ormes and Reuben Underwood Jr did receive out of the Estate of their grand father James Livermore deceased, all the property which would have descended to their Mother who was my former



wife now deceased. It is also my will that my five youngest children should have all the property which descended to their mother now my present wife as heir to the Estate of her Father Jeremiah Whittiermore deceased - therefore I direct that my said son Jonas Underwood should pay the sum of one hundred dollars to my son Amos Underwood; to Eunice Underwood the sum of one hundred dollars, to Sybil Green one hundred dollars and to Cyrus Underwood one hundred dollars which is their share out of the estate which I received from the Estate of their grand father Jeremiah Whittiermore deceased. And the remainder of my property after paying all my just debts and funeral charges and the funeral charges of my said wife, and after reserving sufficient to pay all the legacies and provisions of this will. I estimate at thirty five dollars, and I further order and direct my said son Jonas to pay the same as follows, viz, to the rest of his brothers and sisters or their heirs, that is to say, Susy Sawin, Sally Ormes, Reuben Underwood Jr. Amos Underwood, Eunice Underwood, Sybil Green and Cyrus Underwood, the sum of five dollars each; and it is my will that all the aforesaid legacies should be paid in one year after my decease.

Also I hereby appoint my said son Jonas Underwood to be the Executor of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all former Wills by me made. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this second day of February in the year of our Lord 1828.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Reuben Underwood to be his last will and testament, in presence of persons who have hereunto set our hands in presence of the testator and of each other -

James Oraper  
Charles Watson  
Alden Bisco

Reuben Underwood. (Seal)

Worcester Jr. Probate Court January 4th 1831 Proved and approved. N. Paine J. Robt Worcester Jr. To all People to whom these Presents shall come. Nathl. Paine (Seal) Judge of the Probate of Wills &c in the County of Worcester within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts do hereby Certify that on the fourth day of January Anno Domini 1831 the Instrument hereunto annexed (purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Reuben Underwood late of Spencerville in the County of Worcester deceased) was presented for Probate by Jonas Underwood the Executor therein named; then present James Oraper one of the witnesses thereto subscribed, who made oath that he saw the said testator sign & seal, and heard him declare the said Instrument to be his last will and testament; and that he, with Charles Watson & Alden Bisco subscribed their names together as witnesses to the execution thereof in the said testator's presence; and that he was then (to the best of the deponent's Judgment,) of sound and disposing mind -

## Family Group Sheet for Jonas UNDERWOOD

<b>Husband:</b>		Jonas UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	11 Mar 1797 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA <sup>1</sup>
	Death:	05 Jan 1864 in Chautauqua, New York, USA <sup>2</sup>
	Marriage:	23 May 1824 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA <sup>3</sup>
	Father:	Reuben UNDERWOOD
	Mother:	Sybil WHITTEMORE
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Wife:</b>		Hannah BROWNING
	Birth:	22 Apr 1800 in Rutland, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA <sup>4</sup>
	Death:	1885 in Chautauqua, New York, USA <sup>5, 6</sup>
	Father:	James Browning
	Mother:	Elizabeth Estabrook
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Children:</b>		
1 M	Name:	Charles Browning UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	26 May 1829 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA <sup>7, 8</sup>
	Death:	27 Jul 1911 in Westfield, Chautauqua, New York, USA <sup>9</sup>
	Burial:	Westfield, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Marriage:	29 Jun 1852 in Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Spouse:	Frances Cornelia FARWELL
	Other Spouses:	Adelaide E. Spring Robinson
2 F	Name:	Mary Elizabeth Underwood
	Birth:	25 Feb 1825 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	Abt. 1839 in Auburn, Cayuga, New York, USA
	Other Spouses:	
3 M	Name:	Cyrus Underwood
	Birth:	1827 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	1901 in Buffalo, Erie, New York, USA
	Marriage:	Buffalo, Erie, New York, USA
	Spouse:	Juliette Baines
	Other Spouses:	
4 M	Name:	James Reuben Underwood
	Birth:	25 Mar 1831 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	Abt. 1833 in Auburn, Cayuga, New York, USA
	Other Spouses:	
5 M	Name:	William Underwood
	Birth:	1833 in Auburn, Cayuga, New York, USA
	Death:	1908
	Spouse:	Phebe W. Waite
	Other Spouses:	



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6	Name: Lewis W. Underwood
M	Birth: 1835 in Auburn, Cayuga, New York, USA
	Death: 31 Mar 1899 in Chautauqua, New York, USA

Other Spouses:

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**Notes**

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**Jonas UNDERWOOD**

Jonas was a farmer in Spencer, Mass with his father. After his father's death, he moved to Auburn, NY and later Chautauqua, N.Y.

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**Sources**

- 1 Town Clerk of Spencer, Spencer Town Records (Boston, MA, NEGHS, 1909), New England Genealogical & Historical Society, Vol 1, Page 107.
- 2 Jamestown Journal.
- 3 Town Clerk of Spencer, Spencer Town Records (Boston, MA, NEGHS, 1909), New England Genealogical & Historical Society, Vol 1, Page 210.
- 4 Town Clerk of Rutland MA, Rutland Town Records (Boston, MA, NEGHS, 1905), New England Genealogical & Historical Society, Volume 1, Page 22.
- 5 Jamestown Journal.
- 6 Rootsweb, Barnes Cemetery (Ancestry.com),  
[http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nychauta/CEMETERY/Barn\\_cem.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nychauta/CEMETERY/Barn_cem.htm).
- 7 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, International Genealogical Index, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT.
- 8 Town Clerk of Spencer, Spencer Town Records (Boston, MA, NEGHS, 1909), New England Genealogical & Historical Society, Vol 1, Page 270.
- 9 Glenn Griswold, Westfield Cemetery List (Cleveland, OH, Glenn Griswold, 1931), Rootsweb, Gravestone Marker.

*Feb'y. 19th*, (No. 586, R. No.2, p. 105.) Sentenced for five years for petit larceny, second offense, was discharged from Auburn State Prison 15th instant. Says that Wells, late warden, is a cruel tyrant, was very passionate ; has seen him cut the hair close off their heads and showered them, and put iron collars on them. The present warden is a much better man than Wells; E. L. Porter is a fair man.

A prisoner by the name of Bennet, who went from Sing Sing to Auburn on the 27th of last August, on leaving his cell in the morning had on a thin muslin cap that he had taken with him from Sing Sing, and which he had been allowed to wear while there; when he got in the yard, Underwood, a deputy keeper, ordered him to take it off;

He replied, I will not, but when I get in the shop I will if you order me to do so. Underwood complained to the warden who ordered Bennet to be punished. Underwood then ordered him to the bath; he refused to obey because he thought he did not deserve punishment;

He said that he had always had the privilege of wearing it at Sing Sing, and he could not see why the same privilege should not be allowed him at Auburn. Underwood then called to his assistance several of the prisoners and ordered them to take him to the bath by force.

Underwood beat the man over his head with his cane till he broke it; they then put Bennet in the bath and showered him with two barrels of water with ice in it. Bennet complained to Wells and Comstock, Inspectors, but they took no notice of it. Not long afterwards Dr.

## Family Group Sheet for Charles Browning UNDERWOOD

<b>Husband:</b>		Charles Browning UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	26 May 1829 in Spencer, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA
	Death:	27 Jul 1911 in Westfield, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Burial:	Westfield, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Marriage:	29 Jun 1852 in Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Father:	Jonas UNDERWOOD
	Mother:	Hannah BROWNING
	Other Spouses:	Adelaide Spring Robinson
<b>Wife:</b>		Frances Cornelia FARWELL
	Birth:	12 Jan 1830 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Death:	19 Jan 1875 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Burial:	22 Jan 1875
	Father:	Omar FARWELL
	Mother:	Fanny Maria SHEPARD
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Children:</b>		
1	Name:	George Farwell UNDERWOOD
M	Birth:	17 Jul 1861 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Death:	21 Feb 1939 in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, USA
	Burial:	23 Feb 1939
	Marriage:	10 May 1888 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Spouse:	Hattie Althea BEAUJEAN
	Other Spouses:	
2	Name:	Hattie Louise Underwood
F	Birth:	17 Jul 1857 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Death:	03 Mar 1877 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Burial:	
	Other Spouses:	

### Notes

#### George Farwell UNDERWOOD

1886 George was in Buffalo NY as a "Compositor" for the Buffalo Daily News. This was two years before marrying Hattie Beaujean. He worked for two different newspapers and eventually opened his own printing shop. He also operated a grocery store for a number of years before returning to printing. In the 1920s George and Hattie came out to California.

In the matter of Establishing the right  
of Inheritance to the real property of which  
Francis C. Underwood died seized, and also of  
which Hattie L. Underwood, died seized.

Appendix U - Estate of Frances Farwell Underwood

George F Underwood having heretofore presented  
to this Court his petition, duly verified, praying that a decree be  
made, establishing the right of inheritance to the real property  
of which both the said Francis C. Underwood and the said Hattie  
L. Underwood, died seized, and having also presented to and filed  
with this Court a waiver of the issue and service of citation  
executed by Charles B. Underwood, consenting that a decree may be  
made herein, establishing the right of inheritance to the real prop-  
erty of which the above named decedents died seized, without further  
notice, to him, and the Surrogate, having heard the allegations and  
proof of the parties and there being no contest respecting the heirship  
of any party, nor respecting the share to which any party, is  
entitled as an heir of the said Francis C. Underwood or of the said  
Hattie L. Underwood, and the Surrogate having enquired into the facts  
and circumstances of the case, and the said petition having established  
by satisfactory evidence that on or about the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January,  
1875, the said Frances C. Underwood died at the Village of Mayville,  
Chautauque County N.Y. which at the time was her place of residence,  
leaving her surviving a husband Charles B. Underwood, a daughter,  
Hattie L. Underwood, and the petitioner, a son, George F. Underwood,  
that the said Frances C. Underwood died seized of the real property  
in said petition mentioned and hereinafter described, that said Frances  
C. Underwood died intestate; that the said George F. Underwood and  
the said Hattie L. Underwood were the only heirs at law of the  
said Frances C. Underwood and each inherits an undivided one half  
part of the said real property, subject to the life estate therein  
of the said Charles B. Underwood, husband of said decedent; that  
subsequently and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 1877, the said Hattie  
L. Underwood, died at the Village of Mayville, Chautauque County  
N.Y. which was at that time her place of residence, that said  
Hattie L. Underwood died intestate; that the said Hattie L. Underwood  
died seized of the said undivided one half part of said real property  
subject to the life estate therein of the said Charles B. Underwood;  
that the said Hattie L. Underwood left her surviving as her only  
heir at law her said father, Charles B. Underwood, who inherits from  
her the said undivided one half part of said real property so inher-  
ited by her from the said Frances C. Underwood; that the said  
George F. Underwood, is a son of the said Francis C. Underwood and  
resides at Mayville, Chautauque County N.Y. and is aged 35  
years; that the said Charles B. Underwood is the husband of the

said Frances C. Underwood and father of the said Hattie L. Underwood and resides at the Town of Westfield C. hantanguas County, N. Y. and is aged sixty eight years; that the said George F. Underwood is proved to be entitled to an undivided one half part of said real property of which the said Frances C. Underwood died seized and intestate, subject to the life estate therein of the said Charles B. Underwood, that the said Hattie L. Underwood is proved to have been, at the time of her death, seized of an undivided one half part of the real property of which the said Frances C. Underwood died seized and intestate, subject to the life estate therein of the said Charles B. Underwood, husband of the said Frances C. Underwood and father of the said Hattie L. Underwood; that the said Charles B. Underwood is proved to be entitled to the undivided one half part of said real property owned by the said Hattie L. Underwood at the time of her death and of which she died intestate, and also of a life estate in the said undivided one half part of said real property inherited by the said George F. Underwood, now on motion of the said petitioner.

It is ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that the right of inheritance of George F. Underwood and Charles B. Underwood in and to the real property situate in the town of C. hantangua, County of C. hantangua, and State of New York, of which the said Frances C. Underwood and the said Hattie L. Underwood both fate of the said Village of Mayville, deceased, died seized, and which is hereinafter described, has been established to the satisfaction of the Surrogate of C. hantangua County in accordance with the facts hereinbefore recited, and that the said George F. Underwood is entitled to an undivided one half part of the said real property inherited by him from the said Frances C. Underwood subject to the life estate therein of the said Charles B. Underwood and that the said Charles B. Underwood is entitled to an undivided one half part of said real property inherited by him from the said Hattie L. Underwood and also to a life estate in the undivided one half part of said real property to which the said George F. Underwood is entitled, which said real property is bounded and described as follows:

All that certain piece or parcel of land situate lying and being in the Village of Mayville and distinguished as part of lot No. 104 in said village bounded southwesterly by a street one chain wide 88 links, northwesterly by lot Number 32, 5 chains; northeasterly by Erie street 88 links, and southeasterly by a line parallel to the northwestern bounds of said lot number 104, 5 chains, containing  $\frac{44}{100}$  of an acre or the same more or less.

All that tract or parcel of land situate in the Town of C. hantangua and known as a part of lot number 16 and 24 in the 3 township and 14" range of the Holland Land Company's survey bounded as follows:

Beginning at the northeast corner of land decided by Clement Strong to Hattie Moor, thence west along said Morris north line to the northwest corner thereof, thence north four links to the northeast corner of land decided by the Holland Land Company to Joseph Blackner (formerly), thence west bounding on said Blackner's land 26 chains 50 links to a stake in a creek, thence northwesterly along said creek far enough to make eight chains due north from stake, thence east 61 chains 56 links to the east line of said land above mentioned decided by Charles B. White.



man to Clement Strong; thence south along said line 8 chains to the place of beginning, containing 50 acres or the same more or less.

Also all that other piece of land in said town, being a part of said lots 16 and 24 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> township and 14<sup>th</sup> range of the Holland Land Company's survey bounded as follows: Beginning at the south east corner of land conveyed by Charles S. H. Putnam to Clement Strong, thence north on a line parallel to the west bounds of said lot 16, 6 chains and 66 links; thence west on a line parallel to the north bounds of said lot 37 chains and 15 links; thence south on a line parallel to the west bounds of said lot 24, 19 chains and 97 links; thence east in a line parallel to the north bounds of said lot 24, 18 chains and 98 links; thence north along the east bounds of said lot 24 13 chains and 31 links; thence east on a line parallel to the north bounds of said lot 16, 18 chains and 11 links to the place of beginning, containing 50 acres or the same more or less.

Also about one acre of land situate in the town of Chautauque County of Chautauque and State of New York, being a part of lot number 23, third township and fourteenth range of the Holland Land Company's survey and being the property excepted from the conveyance made by C. Maria Lifford to Darius M. Spring and Henry D. Spring by deed dated the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1875, recorded in the Clerk's office of the County of Chautauque in Lib. 171 of deeds at page 404, and therein described as the 'Furnery Lot' and also being the same premises devised by the Will of Omar Farwell to Frances C. Underwood, recorded in the Clerk's office of the County of Chautauque in lib. 131 of deeds, at page 386.

Witness the hand of the Surrogate and the seal of the Surrogate Court the day and year first above written.

L. D. E. E. Woodbury, Surrogate.

Surrogate's Court, Chautauque County.

In the matter of establishing the right of inheritance in the real property of which Francis C. Underwood died seized and also of which Mattie L. Underwood died seized.

Surrogate's Office, Mayville N. Y. March 22, 1897.  
George F. Underwood, the petitioner and one of the heirs at law of decedent, appears in person.

Charles B. Underwood waives the issue and service of citation and consents that a decree establishing the right of inheritance to the real property of which the above named decedents died seized may be made without further notice to him at such time as the Surrogate may fix for that purpose.

It is claimed that Charles B. Underwood is father and only heir at law of Mattie L. Underwood, a daughter of Frances C. Underwood who has died since the decease of her mother.

George F. Underwood, sworn, testifies as follows:

By Surrogate, Where do you reside? A. Mayville, Chautauque County, N. Y.

- Q. And have for how long? A. I have steady for the last six years.
- Q. What is your age? A. Thirty five.
- Q. Were you acquainted with Frances E. Underwood in her life time. A. Yes.
- Q. What relationship did she bear to you? A. She was my mother.
- Q. Is she now dead? A. Yes. Q. When did she die? A. The 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1885.
- Q. Where did she reside at the time of her death? A. Mayville, Chautauque County, N.Y.
- Q. Of whom did her family consist at the time of her death? A. It consisted of a husband, Charles B. Underwood, a daughter, Hattie E. Underwood, and myself.
- Q. Charles B. Underwood is your father? A. Yes.
- Q. Did your mother ever have children who had died prior to her decease leaving children? A. No, sir.
- Q. You and your sister then were the only heirs at law of your mother at the time she died? A. Yes.
- Q. I understand you to state that Hattie E. Underwood, your sister, has since died? A. Yes.
- Q. When did she die? A. She died the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 1877.
- Q. Where did she reside at the time of her death? A. Mayville, Chautauque County, N.Y.
- Q. How old was she at that time? A. In her twentieth year.
- Q. Was she married or unmarried? A. Unmarried.
- Q. Then she left no children or descendants? A. No, sir.
- Q. Her nearest relatives were her father, Charles B. Underwood and yourself a brother? A. Yes.
- Q. Where does Charles B. Underwood now reside? A. In the town of Westfield, Chautauque County, N.Y.
- Q. And what is his age? A. Sixty eight years of age.
- Q. Did Frances E. Underwood own any real property at the time of her death? A. Yes.
- Q. Of what real property did she die seized and the owner? A. She owned a house and lot in the Village of Mayville, Chautauque County, N.Y.
- Q. Situate on what street? A. On Erie street.
- Q. How large a plot of land was there in that? A. I think it contains  $\frac{11}{100}$  of an acre.
- Q. What other real property did she own at the time of her death? A. She also owned a farm of 100 acres in the Town of Chautauque, Chautauque County, N.Y.
- Q. Where situate? A. On lots 16 and 24.
- Q. What other property did she own at the time she died? A. She had a tannery of about one acre, and I think that was in the town of Chautauque.
- Q. Describe it by location, generally, A. It is west of Mayville.
- Q. Did she own any other property at the time she died? A. No, sir.
- Q. She died intestate? A. Yes.
- Q. Did Hattie E. Underwood your sister leave any will? A. No, sir.
- Q. She died intestate? A. Yes.
- Q. From the time of the decease of your mother until the time of the decease of your sister was there any change in the condition of this property? A. No, sir. Q. Any of it sold? A. No, sir.
- Q. Then your sister died seized and the owner of her share of the real estate left by your mother at the time of her death? A. Yes.
- Q. And this is the property which you have already described? A. Yes.
- Q. And in that property your sister had an undivided one half interest at the time of her death subject to the life estate of your father therein? A. Yes.
- Q. From what source did your mother obtain the tannery property

which you have referred to in your testimony? A. From the Will of my grand father, her father.

Q. Do you know how much there was? A. It is my impression there was just an acre.

Q. And the tannery property of which your mother died seized is the same tannery property which was willed to her under and by the Will of Omar Farwell, and that is the will to which you refer? A. Yes.

Q. The property described in the petition is all the property of which your mother died seized? A. Yes.

Q. And is a correct description of each parcel? A. Yes.

H. Louisi Berry, sworn testifies as follows:

By Surrogate, Where do you reside? A. Mayville, Chautauqua County, N. Y.

Q. How long have you lived here? A. Always.

Q. What is your age? A. 62.

Q. Were you acquainted with Francis C. Underwood in her life time? A. Yes.

Q. And that acquaintance was that of a neighbor, friend? A. A sister.

Q. You are a sister? A. Yes.

Q. Mrs Underwood is now deceased? A. Yes.

Q. When did she die? A. The 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1875.

Q. Were you acquainted with her family at the time of her death? A. Yes.

Q. Of whom did the family consist? A. Her husband, Charles B. Underwood, Hattie L. Underwood and George F. Underwood.

Q. Did she ever have any other children who had died leaving children?

A. No sir. Q. These were the only children she ever had? A. Yes.

Q. Where does the husband Charles B. Underwood now reside? A. Town of Westfield, Chautauqua County, N. Y.

Q. Do you know about his age? A. I should think he was about 68.

Q. How old is George F. Underwood the son? A. 35 years of age.

Q. Where does he reside? A. In Mayville, Chautauqua County, N. Y.

Q. With respect to Hattie L. Underwood, the daughter what with reference to her, has she since died? A. Yes.

Q. When did she die? A. March, 1877.

Q. What was her age at the time of her death? A. She was in her 30<sup>th</sup> year.

Q. Did she ever have any children? A. No sir.

Q. She died unmarried? A. Yes.

Q. Her nearest relatives then were her father and brother whom you have mentioned? A. Yes.

Q. Do you know whether your sister Frances C. Underwood left any Will? A. She did not.

Q. Do you know whether Hattie L. Underwood left any Will? A. She did not.

Q. Did your sister own some real estate at the time she died? A. Yes.

Q. Of what did that consist? A. a house and lot in Mayville on Erie street, and a farm of 100. acres.

Q. Where was that situate? A. I don't know as I could tell.

Q. Town of Chautauqua? A. Yes West of Mayville

Q. What other property? A. A Tannery.

Q. Did she own any other property that you know? A. No.

Petitioner reads in evidence deed from Omar S. Farwell to Frances C. Underwood, recorded in lib 125 of deeds at page 482, conveying the house and lot mentioned in the evidence.

Also reads in evidence will of Omar Farwell, dated the 15<sup>th</sup> day of



May 1870, recorded the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December in liber 131 of deeds at page 386, conveys the farm and Hattery referred to.

Also deed from E. Maria Duffer to Daniel M. Spring and Henry Spring, dated the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 1875, recorded in liber 171 of deeds at page 404.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes of testimony taken by or under the direction of the Surrogate, in the within entitled proceedings are correct.

Dated Mar. 24, 1897.

C. D. Babcock

Stenographer for the Surrogate Court of Chautauque Co. N.Y.

State of New York, Chautauque County, ss.  
Surrogate Court.

I, Will R. Parker, Clerk of the Surrogate Court of the said County of Chautauque, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing papers viz: Decree establishing right of inheritance to the real property of which Frances E. Underwood died seized and also of which Hattie E. Underwood died seized with the original record and found them, now remaining in the office of said Surrogate Court, and in my care and custody as the Clerk of said Surrogate Court, and that I have found the same to be a full, exact and correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of such original record.

In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, at the Village of Mayville, New York, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety seven.

L. S.

Will R. Parker

Clerk of the Surrogate Court.

State of New York, Chautauque County, ss.  
Surrogate Court.

I, E. E. Woodbury, Surrogate of said County, and sole Judge and Presiding Magistrate of the said Surrogate Court, do hereby certify that Will R. Parker, the person attesting the above certificate, is the Clerk of said Surrogate Court, that his signature to said attestation is genuine, that he is the legal custodian of the records and files of said Court and that said certificate and attestation are in due form and entitled to full faith and credit.

In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Surrogate Court this 29<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety seven.

L. S.

E. E. Woodbury Surrogate

Chautauque County ss.

Recorded Dec. 14, 1897 at 4 o'clock P. M.

J. L. Lacey Clerk.

OFFICE OF

GEO. F. UNDERWOOD,

DEALER IN

Butter, Eggs & Cheese.

*Chautauqua County Butter*

A SPECIALTY.

871 Niagara Street.

*Buffalo, N. Y.*

## Family Group Sheet for George Farwell UNDERWOOD

<b>Husband:</b>		George Farwell UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	17 Jul 1861 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Death:	21 Feb 1939 in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, USA
	Burial:	23 Feb 1939
	Marriage:	10 May 1888 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Father:	Charles Browning UNDERWOOD
	Mother:	Frances Cornelia FARWELL
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Wife:</b>		Hattie Althea BEAUJEAN
	Birth:	03 Mar 1865 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Death:	26 Nov 1943 in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, USA
	Burial:	1943
	Father:	George Reed BEAUJEAN
	Mother:	Eunice Martha KELSEY
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Children:</b>		
1	Name:	Harry Charles UNDERWOOD
M	Birth:	07 Jun 1896 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Death:	18 Jun 1985 in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, USA
	Marriage:	27 Aug 1921 in Oswego, Oswego, New York, USA
	Spouse:	Mary Edith RIDER
	Other Spouses:	
2	Name:	Elbert Victor Underwood
M	Birth:	12 Sep 1889 in Buffalo, Erie, New York, USA
	Death:	31 Jul 1974 in Ithaca, Tompkins, New York, USA
	Burial:	1974 in Ithaca, Tompkins, New York, USA
	Marriage:	17 Jun 1916 in Oswego, Oswego, New York, USA
	Spouse:	Violet Ruth Stewart
	Other Spouses:	
3	Name:	Francis Omar Underwood
M	Birth:	19 May 1894 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA
	Death:	13 Aug 1968 in Ithaca, Tompkins, New York, USA
	Burial:	15 Aug 1968 in Ithaca, Tompkins, New York, USA
	Marriage:	24 Jun 1926 in Ithaca, Tompkins, New York, USA
	Spouse:	Erma Evangeline Hollen
	Other Spouses:	

### Notes

#### George Farwell UNDERWOOD

1886 George was in Buffalo NY as a "Compositor" for the Buffalo Daily News. This was two years before marrying Hattie Beaujean. He worked for two different newspapers and eventually opened his own printing shop. He also operated a grocery store for a number of years before returning to printing. In the 1920s George and Hattie came out to California.

#### Harry Charles UNDERWOOD

Harry was a teacher at Oswego High School 1921-24. Harry and Mary moved to LA in 1924. They were members of the 1st United Methodist Church of Los Angeles.

Harry taught at Lincoln High School 1924-26, Fairfax High School 1926-56. Acting principal of Lincoln Evening High School 1950-51.

Principal of Jordan High Adult School 1956-61

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**Notes (con't)**

Retired in 1961.

Elected Superintendent of 1st Methodist Church Sunday School July 1934

Joined Kiwanis in 1957. President 1960, secretary 1963-76

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**Elbert Victor Underwood**

Graduate of Cornell University Ithaca NY 1913. Taught agriculture and was farm agent for Oswego county and later Erie county

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**Francis Omar Underwood**

County Agricultural agent. Graduated Cornell 1918

## Family Group Sheet for Harry Charles UNDERWOOD

<b>Husband:</b>		Harry Charles UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	07 Jun 1896 in Mayville, Chautauqua, New York, USA <sup>1</sup>
	Death:	18 Jun 1985 in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>2</sup>
	Marriage:	27 Aug 1921 in Oswego, Oswego, New York, USA <sup>3</sup>
	Father:	George Farwell UNDERWOOD
	Mother:	Hattie Althea BEAUJEAN
<b>Wife:</b>		Mary Edith RIDER
	Birth:	26 Feb 1900 in Minetto, Oswego, New York, USA
	Death:	29 Dec 1991 in Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>4</sup>
	Father:	Burton Lynn RIDER
	Mother:	Laura (Lottie) Amanda GOODIER
<b>Children:</b>		
1	Name:	Harry Burton UNDERWOOD
M	Birth:	07 Jul 1927 in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>5</sup>
	Marriage:	30 Sep 1948 in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>6</sup>
	Spouse:	Lois Jean DENAPLE
2	Name:	George BeauJean Underwood
M	Birth:	24 Mar 1923 in Oswego, Oswego, New York, USA
	Marriage:	01 Jan 1947 in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, USA
	Spouse:	Beverly Ann Grigg
<b>Notes</b>		
<b>Harry Charles UNDERWOOD</b>		
		Harry was a teacher at Oswego High School 1921-24. Harry and Mary moved to LA in 1924. They were members of the 1st United Methodist Church of Los Angeles.
		Harry taught at Lincoln High School 1924-26, Fairfax High School 1926-56.
		Acting principal of Lincoln Evening High School 1950-51.
		Principal of Jordan High Adult School 1956-61
		Retired in 1961.
		Elected Superintendent of 1st Methodist Church Sunday School July 1934
		Joined Kiwanis in 1957. President 1960, secretary 1963-76
<b>Sources</b>		
1	Lucien Marcus Underwood, Underwood Families of America (Lancaster, PA, New Era Printing Company, 1913), Digitized by Google Books, Page 314.	
2	State of California, California Death Records (Sacramento, CA, State of California), 1985 Index.	
3	Family Records.	
4	Social Security Death Index, www.ancestry.com.	
5	State of California, California Birth Index, 1905-1995 (Sacramento, CA, State of California), www.ancestry.com.	
6	State of California, California Marriage Records (Sacramento, CA, State of California), Rootsweb, 1948 Index.	

## Family Group Sheet for H. Burton UNDERWOOD

<b>Husband:</b>		Harry Burton UNDERWOOD
	Birth:	07 Jul 1927 in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>1</sup>
	Marriage:	30 Sep 1948 in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>2</sup>
	Father:	Harry Charles UNDERWOOD
	Mother:	Mary Edith RIDER
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Wife:</b>		Lois Jean DENAPLE
	Birth:	02 Jul 1927 in Opportunity, Spokane, Washington, USA <sup>4</sup>
	Father:	Richard Werner DENAPLE <sup>3</sup>
	Mother:	Ruby Lillian BECKENBACH
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Children:</b>		
1	Name:	Christie Lee UNDERWOOD
F	Birth:	04 Oct 1949 in Burbank, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>1</sup>
	Marriage:	17 Jun 1978 in Tustin, Orange, California, USA
	Spouse:	Mark Edward REIDER
	Other Spouses:	David Kellams
2	Name:	Glen Allen Underwood
M	Birth:	23 Jun 1951 in Burbank, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>1</sup>
	Marriage:	07 Nov 1987 in Tustin, Orange, California, USA
	Spouse:	Marcia Kay Finck
	Other Spouses:	
3	Name:	Leslie Jerene Underwood
F	Birth:	26 May 1953 in Burbank, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>1</sup>
	Marriage:	18 Aug 1973 in Tustin, Orange, California, USA
	Spouse:	Steven Robert Schmitz
	Other Spouses:	Tom Chegwidden
4	Name:	Keith Norman Underwood
M	Birth:	11 Jan 1955 in Burbank, Los Angeles, California, USA <sup>1</sup>
	Marriage:	27 Oct 1990 in Tustin, Orange, California, USA
	Spouse:	Brenda Marylee Bryant
	Other Spouses:	
<b>Notes</b>		
<b>Christie Lee UNDERWOOD</b>		
Born at St. Joseph's Hospital - 6:38 am, on a Tuesday - 7 lbs 15 oz - 20 " long		
<b>Glen Allen Underwood</b>		
Born at St. Joseph's Hospital 2:13 pm, on a Saturday - 7 lbs 5 oz - 20" long		
<b>Leslie Jerene Underwood</b>		
Born at St. Joseph's Hospital on a Tuesday, 7:29 am - 7 lbs 2 oz - 19 1/2" long		
<b>Keith Norman Underwood</b>		
Born at St. Joseph's Hospital 4:45 am, on a Tuesday - 6 lbs 9 oz - 18" long		
<b>Sources</b>		

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**Sources (con't)**

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- 1 State of California, California Birth Index, 1905-1995 (Sacramento, CA, State of California), [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- 2 State of California, California Marriage Records (Sacramento, CA, State of California), Rootsweb, 1948 Index.
- 3 Family Data Collection - Individual Records, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- 4 Family Records.