

Guide to Historic Newbury

First Settlers' Landing (1) located on the north bank of the Parker River. The first settlers of Newbury left Ipswich in the Spring of 1635 and traveled by boat up the Parker River. It is thought they may have landed near the site of the present Town Landing.

The Dam (12) located between Jericho Creek, which runs into Plum Island River, and Pine Island Creek. It was built to control the water for the Tide Mill (28).

Jerry Field (14) named after Jeremiah Plumer, an early settler. Jackman-Willet House (15) originally located near the First Burying Ground (23), the house was moved to Cottage Street in the 1980s. It was built in 1696 by Richard Jackman, keeper of the ferry over the Parker River. Lime from Devil's Den (52) was used in the plaster for the walls. The house is now owned by The Sons and Daughters of the First Settlers of Newbury.

Old School (16) located on the Lower Green. The school was built in 1870 and remained in operation until 1909. It was restored in 1975 with funds from the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission.

Marston's Pond (17) located east of High Road near the Parker River. Once used for harvesting ice, the pond is now used for ice skating.

The Gutters (18) located on the east and west sides of High Road at the Parker River. These were used to drain the roadway.

Marston's Wharf (19) located on the north bank of the Parker River at High Road. Fred "Shorty" Marston, called Shorty because he was very tall, ran a sea food restaurant here. The restaurant was torn down in the 1930s.

Crown Point (89) located below the falls behind Triton Regional High School on the Parker River. There is a cut out area in the river bank made to accommodate a very large boat which was built and launched here.

Longfellow Hill, Longfellow Brook, (93) located near the site of the early Longfellow House on Orchard Street. The poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, dedicated a poem to his great, great grandfather, Stephen, a blacksmith.

The Falls (94) located near the Central Street bridge over the Parker River. A grist mill and six acres of land were purchased on March 26, 1794 at this location. Converted to what is thought to be the first woolen mill in the U.S., the building burned down on August 12, 1932.

Turner's Eden (97) located near Courser Brook off Fruit Street. The site of a family burying ground.

Downfall Road (98) extending from Old Town to Byfield. The early road is not completely joined today.

Nutting Plain (101) located between Downfall Road and the railroad tracks. Hickory nuts were harvested here.

Goodrich's Corner (103) located at the junction of South Street and Indian Hill Street, West Newbury. There is a small burying ground behind the corner house.

Pound Hill (104) located on South Street. The early town pound was the walled in area on the north (West Newbury)*side of South

Gould's Causeway (105) (Carsey) located on South Street from Great Rock (106) to Pound Hill (104).

Great Rock (106) located at the intersection of Main, South, and Moulton Streets, Byfield. In 1830, a small Methodist chapel was erected near here.

New Rowley Road (20) located at the southern end of High Road. This road was designed as a short-cut across the marshes.

The Gut (21) located on the Little River above the junction of the Parker and Little Rivers. There are large rocks on either side of the river at this old swimming hole.

Tide Mill (31) located on Pine Island. On March 8, 1680 the town of Newbury granted John Badger permission to use two rods of land to build a mill to make oatmeal.

Cartaxle Lot (Cartax) (33) located off Pine Island. The lot was originally marked with a cart axle driven into the ground at each corner.

Coffin House (39) located at 16 High Road. The house was built in 1647 by Tristram Coffin, an early settler licensed by the General Court to keep an ordinary and a ferry over the Merrimack River in connection with George Carr. The house remained in the Coffin family for nearly 250 years. Today it is owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Handtub Lane (43) located near the intersection of Green and Hanover Streets. It is the first street in Massachusetts named for the popular sport of handtubbing. Many handtub musters continue to be held on the adjacent town green.

Short House (44) located at 39 High Road. Said to have been built by Nathaniel Knight in 1717, the house is now owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Old Hole (50) located on the north side of Four Rock Bridge. Site of an early swimming area.

New Hole (51) located on the south side of Four Rock Bridge. Site of an early swimming area.

Devil's Den (52) located on Boston Road across from the town dump. Serpentine rock was a source of limestone used for plaster.

Patty Rock (Paddy Goodrich, Goodrich Cellar) (107) located between Ash and Forest Streets. The story is told that because a poor family lived at this location a notch in the town bounds was designed so that West Newbury had to support the family.

Camp Hill (109) located behind 146 Main Street in Byfield. Revolutionary soldiers are said to have camped here.

Byfield Depot (110) located at the junction of Main and Central Streets. Railroad service in Byfield ended on December 13, 1941.

Blacksmith Shop (111) located at 15 Main Street, Byfield. It serviced both the mills and surrounding farmers for the repair of machinery and the shoeing of horses. It was sold in 1944 and converted to a private residence.

Snuff Mill (113) located off Main Street in Byfield. Established in 1804 as the Larkin and Morrill Mill, it was purchased by Benjamin Pearson in 1865 and is still operated by his descendant as the Byfield Snuff Mill.

Pearson's Tavern (115) located at 36 Main Street, Byfield. Built by Jeremiah Pearson, it was operated as a tavern for over 100 years.

Pearson's Sawmill (116) located on River Street in Byfield. The mill is not in operation at the present time.

Slab Bars (117) an entrance gate located on the west side of Forest Street in Byfield about halfway toward West Newbury.

Hemlock Bank (118) located off Forest Street just across the Groveland town line. The hemlock grove can be entered by way of the Slab Bars (111) or Wells Avenue, Georgetown.

Project coordinated by Ruth Yesair, with special thanks to those who contributed their time.

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Devil's Pulpit (53) located on Boston Road near the town dump. The site consists of two large rocks, one piled atop the other.

Knight's Crossing (56) located on Hay Street between Newman Road and Kents Island Road. A Boston and Maine passenger railroad station, it was also used by local farmers to ship their produce of mostly apples and onions to market.

Noyes' Cider Mill (62) located across from milestone 35B at the junction of Middle Road and Boston Road. It was torn down but the foundation is visible.

Adams' Cider Mill (63) operated by Newell and Raymond Adams on their Middle Road farm. Famed for its "Golden Glow," the mill operated until 1957.

Adams' Town (64) included the area on Middle Road from Thurlow's Bridge to Highfield Road. Many members of the Adams family lived in this area of Newbury.

Joe Martin's Bedroom (66) located on the north side of Orchard Street at the intersection with Maple Street. Joe would sleep off effects of Adams' cider (63) at this spot on soft pine boughs.

Ordway Boat House (69) located on Middle Road at the Parker River. The pilings are still visible.

The Slip (70) located where Middle Road parallels the Parker River. The remains of early pilings can be seen.

Governor's Farm (72) comprising all of Governor Dummer Academy and the Ould Newbury Golf Club east to Oyster Point.

First School House (73) located on the campus of Governor Dummer Academy. Upon his death in 1761, Lieutenant-Governor Dummer left all his real estate in Newbury to found a grammar school. His mansion and farm (72) were rented and the proceeds used to build the small schoolhouse in 1763.

Witch Stone Farm (76) located on Coleman Road. A stone carving near the road was probably carved by the same stone cutters who carved the Boston Road milestones in the area.

Poor Farm (Town Farm, Ambrose, Noyes) (79) located on the site of Triton Regional High School. The farm was purchased by Newbury in 1828 and on April 7, 1828 all persons receiving town assistance were ordered to be relocated to the Town Farm. The old house on the property was torn down to make way for Triton which opened in 1972.

Tide Gates (80) located off Orchard Street where Cart Creek joins the Parker River. The gates were for tide control to facilitate the harvest of salt hay. The foundations are still visible.

Balancing Rock (82) located on Kent's Island behind Blue Hill (81) off Orchard Street. The site of a huge rock that if pushed will sway.

Sawmill Woods (84) located off Orchard Street. Now the Martin H. Burns Wildlife Management Area, Edmund Goodrich and John Noyes were granted permission on June 22, 1708 to set up a sawmill here on Cart Creek. Martin Burns was a Newbury selectman and a State Fish and Game Commissioner.

Jellison House (85) located at 80 Orchard Street. The home of Benjamin W. Jellison, Civil War hero and Medal of Honor recipient.

Boynton Farm (86) located on northwest side of Orchard Street extending to Central, School, and Elm Streets. The last of the Boynton family died in 1723, but the foundation of the farm house is still visible.

Great Meadow Farm (87) located on the south side of Orchard Street along the Parker River. This conservation land became the property of the town of Newbury on July 6, 1984.



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Pearson's Sawmill

First Settlers' Landing