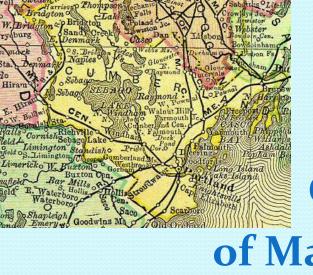
# **Cumberland County Deed**

Index Project (1760-1796)

Greater Portland Chapter of Maine Genealogical Society Feb 2011 Project Update



# Volunteers Who Have Helped with this Project so far!

Janice and Jerry Gower, Harold Leland, Will Haskell, Diane Brakeley, Norm Jordan, Pam Eagleson, Liz Johnson Charlotte Olson, Sheri Bishop, Tricia Breeze, Bob Greene, Dana Edgecomb, Rita Weimer, Sue Hawes

People from Away: Ray Niro (Mass.), Cathy Decourcy (R.I.)

Project Leader—Carol McCoy Web Master and Technical Coordinator—Diane Brakeley Project Adviser—Joe Anderson

P.S. Please let me know if I accidentally left you off!

(c) Carol P. McCoy

# Early Cumberland County

- Originally created in 1760 from York county—which covered the entire District of Maine (then part of Massachusetts)
  - Lincoln county created at the same time.
  - Included a much larger area.
  - Cumberland county went up to the Canadian border.
- Eventually parts of Cumberland county went to other counties
  - To Oxford county (early 1800s)
  - To Androscoggin county in 1854
  - County borders changed fairly often
  - Parts of early Cumberland are now in Kennebec, Franklin, and Somerset counties

# Need for a Deed Index

- A researcher must look at microfilm or go to the courthouse to check the index
- Current Deed Index Covers Volumes 1-381, 1760-1870
  - Lists only names of 2 parties, vol., page grantor/grantee
- Need to look at 34 different indexes to find names
- Don't know if it's the right person
- Must check deed books (on microfilm or on computer at the Courthouse) for location, dates & other parties

# **Purpose of Project**

- Create an Index of Volumes 1-25 of Cumberland County Deeds for the period 1760 – 1796
  - Include grantor, grantee, location, date of execution and recording of deed, volume/page
  - User-friendly, searchable spreadsheet
  - Facilitate deed research in Cumberland County
  - Encourage people to use deeds!
  - Originally we wanted to publish the index, but the purpose has now changed.

# **Change in Project Purpose**

- Share the searchable index of deeds directly with researchers on the GPC website
  - Data made available now
  - No cost to use the index
  - Data available to all people with internet access
  - New information can be added to the website as each volume is completed
  - People can download the index onto their on computers

# **Current Format of the Index**

#### Ledger Index to Records from Vol. 1, 1760, to Vol. 381, 1870, inclusive.

For date of Vol. and kind of Instrument, see first page of this Book.					Рлак. Grantee.
adams	Isaiah	Stephen Furbish	188	27	
	Isaiah H	Israel H. Hodgdo.	N 190		416
	Isaiah	Ebenezer Hodgkir	13 212		355
	Isaiah	William Mayber	ry 242	358	
	Isaiah	Thomas Hancock	247	443	

All grantors and grantees are not included (wives who release dower rights)No location is indicated

•You don't know the year of execution or year of record

- You cannot sort the data for ease of use
- •Some deeds are missing from the index!

# **Our Index Format**

Grantor	Grantee	Location	Date of Deed	Date Record	Vol	Page
Abbott, Aaron	Vaughn, William	Scarborough	1787	1788	11	577
Abbott, Elizabeth	Phillips, Wm., Jr	Township 1	1795	1795	23	34
Abraham, Tabitha	Bayley, James	Windham	1763	1766	3	301

•Clearly identifies grantor and grantee

•Includes grantors not in index (co-signing spouses, etc.)

•Shows location of property and dates

•Can sort by grantor, by grantee, by location, date, volume/page.

•Sorting by Volume/page will show all parties on the deed!

# Sample Database

Grantor	Grantee	Location	Date	Record	Vol	Page
Abbott, Aaron	Vaughan, William	Scarboro	1787	1788	11	577
Abbott, Elizabeth +	Phillips, William, Jr.	Township 1	1795	1795	23	34
Abbott, Ephriam	York, John	Sudbury Canada	1792	1794	21	487
Abbott, Jacob	Phillips, William, Jr.	Township 3	1794	1794	21	92
Abbott, Jacob	Weld, Benjamin +				21	379
Abbott, Moses +	Phillips, William, Jr.	Township 1	1795	1795	23	34
Abbott, Philip	Putman, Stephen	Androscoggin River	1794	1795	22	477
Abbott, Stephen	Small, George	Raymond Town	1795	1796	25	205
Abraham, Tabitha	Bayley, James	Windham	1763	1766	3	301

 The index of Grantor & Grantee & Volume/Page created from the Index Book or from LDS Microfilm of Cumberland County Indexes

• Deeds are viewed at the Cumberland Courthouse or on microfilm

# Sample Deed from Volume 2

Delevid by these Tresents In Testum only where of We the 2? Dru and gilman and These my Wije Jane Heen aaron Good and Saroh my tipe in Them of her free Consent to the above Cale ~ Relinquishment of Dowry in the Tremises have her unto Let our hands and toals the four Day of august <u>Annoque Domini one</u> Thousand Leven Hund and Sixty Invo Tigno Jeald a Delinerd . These Hillman had in Acsence

Grantor Edward Gilman signs name (in existing Index)Grantor Phebe Gilman signs (not indexed)

- Location of property (not indexed)
- •Date deed signed: 1762 (not indexed)
- •Date of record (not indexed)

# **Phases of Project**

- I —Copy the current index as it exists into an Excel spread-sheet. (Completed!)
- II —Enter location, dates, extra grantors/ grantees into an Excel spread-sheet. (Partially completed)
- III—Make the spread-sheet available as a pdf. and as Excel spread-sheet on the GPC website.

# Logistics – We Need Your Help!

- For your deed volume you will receive an Excel spreadsheet showing current information (ordered by page)
- Check for accuracy and add deeds which have been missed in the current index
- Add additional grantors/grantees (wives who release their dower rights), location, year of execution and year of record
- Use spread-sheets on the GPC website to take down data or enter data directly into your Excel spread-sheet

### **Cumberland County Courthouse**

- Deeds have been digitized through Digital Magic and are available on computer at the Court
- If needed, see the deed volumes for hard to read deeds
  - Court staff must retrieve originals from the attic
  - Large books are easier to read than the small books.
- You can use your computer to record information, but you cannot plug it in (so have your battery ready!)
- Parking meters 15 minutes per quarter; limit 2 hours
- No cameras

# Logistics (Continued)

- Please read the guidelines and talk with Carol McCoy before starting
- If you cannot get to Portland, you can order the FHL microfilm for your deed volume to view the deeds at a local FHL library.
- Call Carol McCoy (207-373-0318) or email her at <u>cmccoy3333@aol.com</u> with any questions
- When finished, email your file to Carol McCoy
- THANK YOU!