

**INVENTORY**  
of  
**TOWN AND CITY**  
**ARCHIVES**  
of  
**MASSACHUSETTS**  
**NO. 7. HAMPDEN COUNTY**  
**VOL. VIII. HAMPDEN**

**Boston, Massachusetts**  
**THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY**  
**Division of Community Service Programs**  
**Work Projects Administration**  
**1942**



"To bring together the records of the past and to house them in the buildings where they will be preserved for the use of men living in the future, a nation must believe in three things. It must believe in the past. It must believe in the future. It must, above all, believe in the capacity of its people so to learn from the past that they can gain in judgment for the creation of the future."-----Franklin Delano Roosevelt.



INVENTORY OF TOWN AND CITY ARCHIVES  
OF MASSACHUSETTS

No. 7. Hampden County

Vol. 8. Hampden

Prepared by  
The Historical Records Survey  
Division of Community Service Programs  
Work Projects Administration

\* \* \* \* \*

The Historical Records Survey  
Boston, Massachusetts  
1941



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## PREFACE

This inventory of the town records of Hampden is one volume in a series bearing the title Inventory of the Town and City Archives of Massachusetts. It is anticipated that eventually in such series will be listed the records of every governmental unit in the State. Copies of this volume and of every publication of the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey are distributed to prominent libraries of the nation and to the larger and more centrally located libraries of Massachusetts.

The purpose of the project is to survey, preserve, and render accessible historical source materials of all kinds. The work is divided into the following main classifications: Public records, private manuscripts, church records, early American imprints, historical portraits and newspapers. In the development of this survey, certain techniques have been found practicable, depending on the nature of the subject matter, such as the methods of the inventory, the guide, the calendar, the check list, and the index.

The actual work of gathering information concerning historical materials at their place of storage or custody has in most cases been preceded by the necessary task of putting records in order, of cleaning, dusting, refiling, and treating them. This function of the project, often performed by its workers under very difficult conditions, may well be regarded by future generations as a most important contribution of the survey. Scarcely less important, however, are the editorial processes to which all information must be subjected before publication. As a result of such editing, gaps and inadequacies are spotted, inconsistencies reconciled, and order brought out of chaos.

In the field of public records it has been found necessary not only to sketch briefly the history of the county or town and its government but also to preface the inventory of each subordinate office or institution with an outline of its development based upon its own records or upon statutory or other sources. In the inventories of church records, similarly, the preparation of the history of each church constitutes a task equally arduous with that of locating and listing its records. In Massachusetts two broader works have been undertaken. The general historical background, statutory origin and functioning of county, city, or town offices have been studied with a view to providing satisfactory accounts of the development of county and municipal government generally. These latter undertakings are now happily nearing completion.

The inventory of the town archives of Hampden is the second in the series of such inventories covering the towns of Hampden County. The Survey is indebted to the town officials of Hampden for their cooperation and to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Frederic W. Cook, without whose sponsorship this project would not be possible.

Mary Elizabeth Sanger  
State Supervisor  
Historical Records Survey



## FOREWORD

The Inventory of the Town and City Archives of Massachusetts is one of a number of bibliographies of historical materials prepared throughout the United States by workers on the Historical Records Survey of the Work Projects Administration. The publication herewith presented, an inventory of the Archives of Hampden in Hampden County, is volume VIII of number 7 of the Massachusetts series.

The Historical Records Survey was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic, and social history. Up to the present time approximately 1400 publications have been issued by the Survey throughout the Country. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by town officials, and also the needs of lawyers, business men and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalogue for printed sources.

The inventories produced by the Historical Records Survey attempt to do more than give merely a list of records--they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and city inventories for the entire country will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of the Historical Records Survey, even in a single town, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The survey was directed by Luther H. Evans from its inception in January 1936 to March 1, 1940 when he was succeeded by Sargent B. Child formerly National Field Supervisor. It operates as a nation-wide project in the Division of Professional and Service Projects, of which Mrs. Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner, is in charge.

Howard O. Hunter  
Commissioner of Work Projects  
Administration



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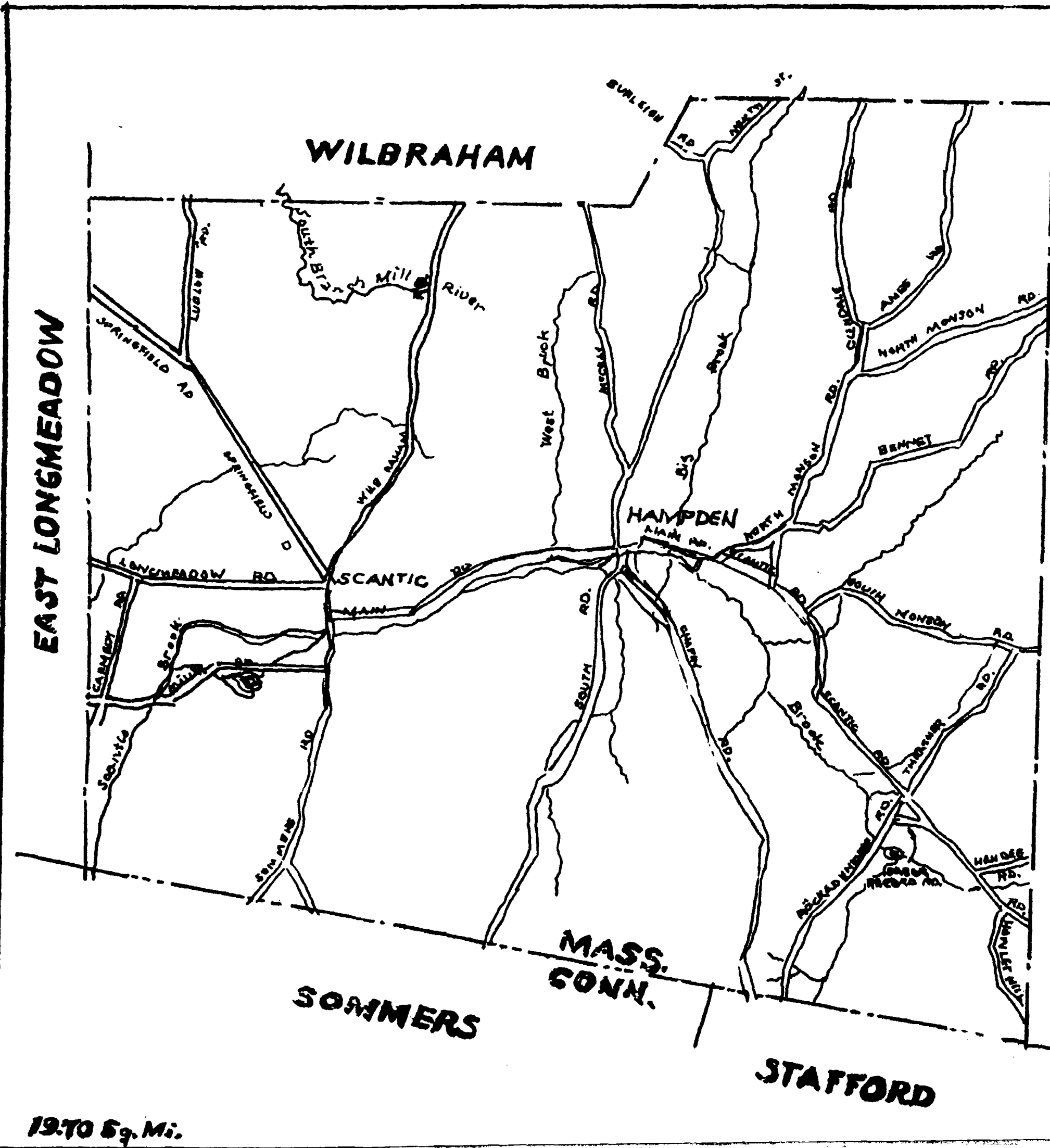
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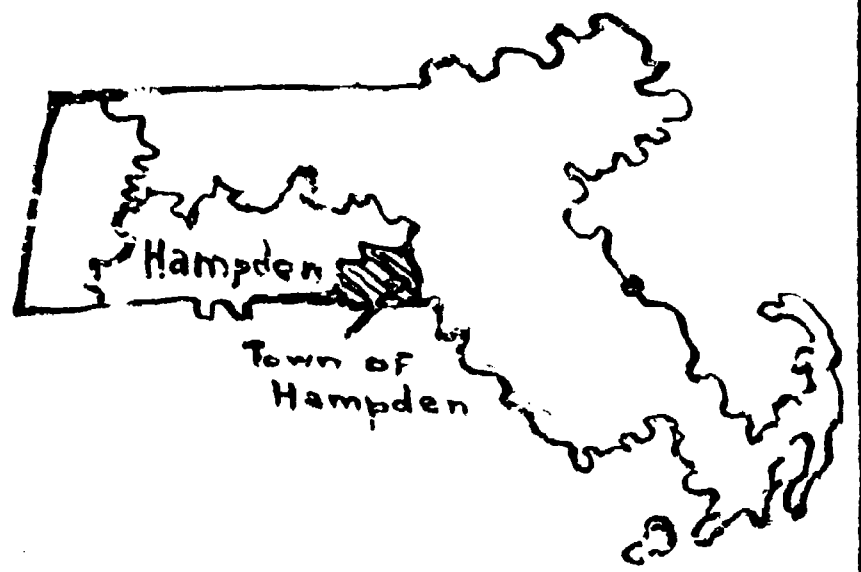
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**MAP OF  
HAMPDEN**  
HAMPDEN COUNTY  
1939

MONSON

~~Scale in thousand feet~~  
SCALE IN THOUSAND FEET



MASS. City And Town Map Series:  
~~Published by the W.S.A.~~  
Published by the W.S.A.  
Mass. Geodetic Survey—  
Boston ~ 1939

19.70 Sq. Mi.





## PART A HAMPDEN AND ITS RECORDS SYSTEM

### Historical Sketch

The town of Hampden, in Hampden County on the Connecticut border, was incorporated in 1878, but it had been settled for almost 140 years before that time. The original settlers, headed by Stephens Stebbins, moved into what was then the fourth precinct of Springfield about 1741.<sup>1</sup> These early settlers were farmers, but in 1750 a sawmill was erected on the Scantic,<sup>2</sup> and in 1764 a gristmill was established on Twelve Mile Brook.<sup>3</sup> Soon the area had been sufficiently freed from woods and forests to enable the scattered inhabitants to grow enough wheat, rye, and corn to meet their needs.<sup>4</sup>

The town of Wilbraham, which developed from the fourth precinct, was incorporated in 1763.<sup>5</sup> By 1775 there were four school districts in the southern part of the new town which, in 1782,<sup>6</sup> became the "South Parish of Wilbraham," and eventually the town of Hampden. The south parish did not win this degree of autonomy without a struggle. The initial move for separation took place in 1772,<sup>7</sup> and it necessitated arbitration by a committee of out-of-town residents before the south parish came into existence.<sup>8</sup> It then took more than a century before the south parish gained political as well as religious autonomy.

The people in the south parish lost little time in using their newly-won authority. In 1783 the erection of a meetinghouse was begun,<sup>9</sup> but it was 10 more years before the parish appropriated 246 pounds 15 shillings to finish the church and to "see it glassed."<sup>10</sup>

Possibly to save the expense of a lot, this building was erected in the road running through the south village, a short-sighted action, which brought much trouble in later years. After many unsuccessful attempts to move it to a more desirable situation, the present lot was purchased in 1834. At the time of removal the church was remodeled and in 1869 the expenditure of \$3,000 made possible a complete modernization of the structure.<sup>11</sup> The Reverend Moses Warren, who had been ordained in 1788, served as the first

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1. Rufus P. Stebbins, Historical Address Delivered... June 15, 1863, pp. 70, 71.

2. Ibid., p. 157.

3. Wilbraham, Town Clerk, Town Records, I, 15.

4. Stebbins, op. cit., p. 164.

5. Province Laws, IV (1757-1768), 1763, ch. 9.

6. Acts, 1782, ch. 1.

7. Wilbraham, Town Clerk, Town Records, I, 196-197.

8. Ibid., II, 123, 128.

9. Stebbins, op. cit., p. 144.

10. Wilbraham, Town Clerk, Town Records, II, 149.

11. Stebbins, op. cit., p. 146.

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minister from that time until his death in 1829 <sup>1</sup>

For almost half a century the Congregational Church remained the only religious society in the south parish. In 1830, however, a Methodist society was established, drawing the membership partly from the parish church and partly from new settlers of that faith. <sup>2</sup> Prior to this time the Methodists had been obliged to travel to the north parish, where a Methodist society had been founded as early as 1791. Services in the south village were originally held in the schoolhouse, but the society soon became sufficiently strong, both numerically and financially, to erect its own place of worship. A harmonious relationship seems to have existed between the Methodists and those of the "standing order", as no serious doctrinal disturbance of the peace of the community <sup>3</sup>

The Baptists did not establish themselves officially in the south parish until 1854. Many of their members had been formerly affiliated with two Baptist churches in Wilbraham which had become inactive <sup>4</sup>

Two other religious denominations flourished for a time. One of these, the Universalists, organized a society in 1826 but never gained sufficient strength to erect its own church building, various schoolhouses serving for meetings. For a few years prior to 1843, the "Millerites" had also been active, arousing no little comment by their "demonstrations" and prophecies that the end of the world would arrive in April 1842. The members, finding themselves and the world still intact when the predicted day of judgment had passed, quickly lost interest, and the majority transferred to more orthodox denominations <sup>5</sup>

By 1875 Wilbraham was divided into twelve school districts, four of which (numbers 3, 4, 5 and 6) lay within the south parish. In its report for 1877, the last year before the incorporation of Hampden, the Wilbraham school committee presented educational statistics showing a total of 369 pupils, 97 of whom lived in the south parish. Of the \$2,957.49 expended in the town, \$1,107 was charged to the southern area <sup>6</sup>

No attempt seems to have been made to establish a public high school in the south parish, but secondary education was not forgotten. In 1844 the southern inhabitants organized the Hampden Academy and erected a small but well-equipped building, the whole enterprise financed by local subscription. An association of public-spirited people controlled the academy,

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1 Ibid , p. 147

2 Alfred Minot Copeland, A History of Hampden County, Massachusetts, III, 555

3 Stebbins, op cit , pp 137, 138

4 Ibid , pp 135, 136

5 Ibid , p. 138

6 Wilbraham, Selectmen, Annual Reports, 1877, p 23

which supplied a well-balanced curriculum at an annual cost of \$88.50 per pupil. The academy prospered for about 30 years, but the opening of public high schools provided competition which it could not meet.<sup>1</sup> The building was later used as the Hampden Town Hall.

Like virtually all early New England settlements, agriculture was for many years the principal occupation of the people. Although limited in area, because of the proximity of the adjacent hills, the valley of the Scantic proved fertile and provided some of the most productive land in the whole town. As in the north parish, the settlers raised wheat, corn, and rye; then in the early nineteenth century dairy products began to gain ascendancy and the dairy business has since become the most lucrative pursuit of Hampden farmers. At the time of the incorporation of the town in 1878, vegetable growing and poultry farming had acquired a place of importance, while fruit growing, an earlier development, was still carried on to some extent. The natural timber which covered the south parish constituted an important product until after 1880. Since the development of the great wheat fields of the west, however, wheat raising has proved unprofitable and rye is seldom seen, but corn and hay still grown in considerable quantities to provide fodder for cattle. Although, for a few years at the close of the nineteenth century, tobacco was raised with some success this eventually gave way before the competition of planters in the more suitable lower Connecticut Valley.<sup>2</sup>

While agriculture has always provided the principal source of livelihood for the people of Hampden, a few industries, not to be included in the small enterprises which formed necessary adjuncts to early New England communities, sprang up during the parish period. Following the establishment of the first sawmill on the Scantic by Lewis Langdon in 1750, another was erected two decades later by Abner Badger on Third Brook. During or shortly prior to the Revolutionary War, Langdon also started a gristmill a short distance below his sawmill, which stood near the spot later occupied by the Ravine Mill. This was followed by two gristmills, one erected by David Burt in the southeast part of the town, the other by a man named Wright on Middle Brook.<sup>3</sup> A settler named Bacon from Brimfield built a third gristmill on the Scantic a short distance above Langdon's two mills, but soon sold out to Christopher Langdon, grandson of Lewis. The business afterwards passed into the hands of William Moseley, who rebuilt both the mill and the dam, adding a sawmill and a shingle mill. Later the establishment burned down and the Ravine Mill was erected on the same site.

About the turn of the century, Burt added a sawmill to his gristmill, while Charles Sessions built still another sawmill on the Scantic, which he afterwards abandoned to erect one on the site later occupied by the South Wilbraham Manufacturing Company. About 1850 a sawmill and a gristmill appeared to the west of the mountain, where the Lacousic Woolen Mill

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1 Edward A. Chase, Historical Address Delivered November 18, 1885, pp 39-40.

2 Stebbins, op cit, pp 164, 165; Copeland, op cit, III, 549

3 Stebbins, op cit, p 157

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afterwards stood This was the property of Milton Stebbins Although details are lacking it is known that tanneries were once operated in the south parish by a man named West, and by Daniel and Jonathan Chaffee Walter Burt and Jonathan Flint each had fulling mills, while small potash workers were owned by Paul Langdon and William King, both of whom were conspicuous figures in the early life of the settlement <sup>1</sup>

During the early part of the nineteenth century, a greater variety in manufacturing activities became apparent About 1800 a factory was established on the Scantic by John Roper for the manufacture of chains for farm use Also about 1800 Stewart Beebe erected a cider distillery of considerable size A few years later paper-making was carried on for a time in the sawmills and gristmills built by Moseley, but this industry failed to survive. <sup>2</sup>

An important new development in the industrial life of the south parish began in 1843 As the successful fabrication of textiles in many parts of New England had brought prosperity hitherto unknown, Sumner Sessions, an influential business man, determined to establish a woolen factory in the parish Accordingly he built a mill on the Scantic, renting it to Bradford and Scriptor, who commenced the manufacture of woolen goods in 1844 Levi Bradford retired in 1847 and the firm then became a partnership composed of Luther E Sage, William Sessions, and Samuel Beebe They in turn were succeeded by Scriptor, Sage, and Company <sup>3</sup> The capacity of the plant increased steadily, and in 1854 it incorporated under the name of the South Wilbraham Manufacturing Company, with holdings of \$50,000 <sup>4</sup> In addition to the original satinets, the plant turned out tweeds, cassimeres, and doeskins, and for some years did a flourishing business, which led to its expansion in 1862 Later it passed into the hands of the Lacousic Woolen Mill Company, but failed after a few years and was then taken over by Brown and Chapman <sup>5</sup>

Another woolen factory, established in 1858, became known as the Ravine Mill Although it had been built by Eleazer Scriptor, Luther Sage soon acquired the establishment and prosperity during the Civil War made a larger factory necessary in 1868 Soon afterward, however, profits began to decline and the plant passed into the control of outside interests <sup>6</sup> Meanwhile in 1865 Luther Sage, ever active in the industrial life of the village, had promoted the Scantic Woolen Mill Company, which for 10 years manufactured fancy cassimeres, but in 1875 came into the hands of Judson Leonard <sup>7</sup>

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1 Ibid , p 158  
 2 Ibid , p 159  
 3 Copeland, op cit , III, 551  
 4 Acts, 1854, ch. 233  
 5 Copeland , op cit , III, 551  
 6 Ibid , p 552  
 7 Ibid

The plow works of Marcus Beebe, another industry which at one time flourished in Hampden, was established about 1850 and soon developed a considerable market in the south, where Beebe's brothers had established themselves in business. It was said that his plows were designed to be "drawn by slaves." As support for this theory may be cited the failure of the business soon after the Civil War.<sup>1</sup>

In view of the industrial activity of the south parish, which greatly overshadowed that of the north, it is surprising that complete separation should have been so long delayed and that the continued opposition of the northern village checked early attempts to divide the town of Wilbraham.<sup>2</sup> However, by 1820 town meetings were held alternately in the two parishes.<sup>2</sup>

On January 19, 1824 a proposal to divide the town was defeated at a regular meeting in the south parish by 119 to 67.<sup>3</sup> On December 14, 1829 the matter was again broached by inserting an article in the warrant to choose a committee to consider the division of the town. The article was "passed in the negative."<sup>4</sup> In 1840,<sup>5</sup> again in 1844,<sup>6</sup> and subsequently at various intervals, attempts to secure civil independence for the south parish met defeat with monotonous regularity. As late as November 7, 1876, a year before success was finally achieved, there was "no action on dividing the town."<sup>7</sup>

Town meetings continued to alternate fairly regularly between the meetinghouses in the north and south parishes until 1840. By that time the old meetinghouse of the north parish had become inadequate and a committee was appointed to secure terms for the rental of suitable quarters. On April 16, 1840 the committee reported that the Methodist church in the north village could be obtained for \$25 a month, while the south parish wanted \$300 for the use of its meetinghouse.<sup>8</sup> Shortly afterward, however, the south parish relented, offering the quarters gratis to the town.<sup>9</sup> Consequently on November 8, 1841, it was decided to hold all meetings in the south parish, "unless a place could be found in the center village free of expense."<sup>10</sup>

After some years a new meetinghouse was erected in the north parish and meetings were again alternated. This practise apparently proved unsatisfactory, for in 1874 a vote to hold all meetings in the center village was passed by the narrow margin of 191 to 190, which seems to indicate a

- 
1. Ibid , p 551.
  2. Wilbraham, Town Clerk, Town Records, II, 470, 486
  3. Ibid , p 518
  4. Ibid , III, 99.
  5. Ibid , p 239
  6. Ibid , p 349
  7. Ibid , V, 359
  8. Ibid , III, 223.
  9. Ibid , p 238
  10. Ibid , p 263.

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great gain in the numerical strength of south parish.<sup>1</sup>

The efforts of "South Wilbraham", as it was known, to secure complete independence met with success on the 7th of November 1877. At a Wilbraham town meeting held in the Methodist Church in the southern village a motion to divide "at or near existing parish lines" finally passed by the decisive margin of 184 to 19 votes.<sup>2</sup> On petition of the town of Wilbraham, the act incorporating the south parish as the town of Hampden passed the State legislature on March 28, 1878.<sup>3</sup> The new township, roughly square in shape, covered 11,281 acres, bounded on the north by Wilbraham, on the east by Monson, on the west by East Longmeadow, and on the south by the towns of Stafford and Somers in Connecticut. The only irregular line is the one on the north.<sup>4</sup>

The citizens of Hampden lost little time in organizing the machinery of government. Only 11 days after the act passed the legislature, they held the first town meeting, where the principal officers were elected and a committee was formed to draw up the proposed settlement with the town of Wilbraham.<sup>5</sup> This committee submitted its report on April 18. On acceptance by the town, the selectmen with two others were authorized to proceed with the settlement, provided that the proposals proved satisfactory to Wilbraham.<sup>6</sup> By the final agreement, with which the latter town concurred on November 5 of the same year, the allotment of property valuations gave \$586,721 to Wilbraham and \$362,982 to Hampden. On the other hand, a proportionate allocation of the town debt charged Wilbraham with \$560 93, and Hampden with \$346 98, this town agreeing, moreover, to repay its share of the old Warriner Fund. Town-owned property, such as schoolhouses, fire equipment, the pound, and furniture in the south parish became the property of Hampden, which received quitclaim deeds for the school lands and burial grounds within its territory.<sup>7</sup>

The first town meeting on April 8, 1878 was quickly followed by another on April 18th; the remaining offices were filled and the collection of taxes was let out to the lowest bidder - the customary procedure in those days.<sup>8</sup> The citizens then proceeded to make the necessary appropriations. These included \$1,100 for the support of the schools, to which the dog fund was added; \$1,100 for the care of the poor, and \$6,000 for highway work.<sup>9</sup> According to the annual report for the first year, actual expenditures amounted to \$1,285 71 for schools, \$918 75 for the poor, and \$542 12 for highways, - the

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- 1 Ibid , V, 292
  - 2 Wilbraham, Town Clerk, Town Records, V, 388
  - 3 Acts, 1878, ch. 88.
  - 4 Mass. Secretary of State, Historical Data Relating to Counties, Cities and Towns, p. 28.
  - 5 Hampden Town Records, vol A, pp. 3-6, see entry 13.
  - 6 Ibid , p. 21
  - 7 Wilbraham, Town Clerk, Town Records, V, 414, 415
  - 8 Hampden Town Records, vol A, pp. 8-10, see entry 13.
  - 9 Ibid , p. 11.

last figure only being very widely at variance with the appropriation.<sup>1</sup> Lastly, to ensure funds for the necessary operating expenses of the town, the treasurer was authorized to borrow up to \$2000 at any time. It was also decided to hold annual meetings on the first Monday in April.<sup>2</sup>

For the first few years all town meetings were held in either the Congregational or the Methodist Church but in 1883 a committee was appointed to investigate the feasibility of building or of purchasing some structure suitable for this purpose.<sup>3</sup> Possibly as an experiment, the next annual meeting gathered in Academy Hall, which had been used by the Hampden Academy and now belonged to an organization known as the South Wilbraham Educational Society.<sup>4</sup> The hall evidently proved satisfactory for it was decided to take no action on matter of securing other quarters.<sup>5</sup> However, in 1889 the selectmen were instructed to consider the question again and to report a year later,<sup>6</sup> with the result that the town, on their recommendation, voted not to buy or build a town hall.<sup>7</sup> Thus, Academy Hall became firmly established as the official quarters, although ownership was not acquired until 1909, when the town secured a partial title from the society.<sup>8</sup> In the following year the voters appropriated \$400 to put it into good repair,<sup>9</sup> and in 1895 they equipped the office with safes for the proper preservation of the records.<sup>10</sup>

Throughout the history of Hampden, in their conduct of municipal affairs the citizens have been "cautiously progressive." Never wealthy, the town has perforce delayed various moves for the public good. Moreover, the voters have always upheld a "pay as you go" policy. While postponing civic improvements, this has kept the town solvent and free of burdensome public debt. Innovations have never been adopted spontaneously or on sudden impulse, and it is seldom that any radical change has been passed by a town meeting the first time it appeared on the warrant. Hampden had inherited a small debt from Wilbraham, but the entire amount of \$725 was paid off by 1881.<sup>11</sup>

The adoption of gaslights along the main street of the village came in 1890.<sup>12</sup>

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1. Annual Reports, 1878, p. 7, see entry 2.
  2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 11, see entry 13.
  3. Ibid., p. 88.
  4. Ibid., p. 98.
  5. Ibid., p. 105.
  6. Ibid., p. 183.
  7. Ibid., p. 196.
  8. Ibid., vol. B, p. 8.
  9. Ibid., p. 13.
  10. Ibid., vol. A, p. 310.
  11. Annual Reports, 1882, p. 7, see entry 2.
  12. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 196, see entry 13.

For these and for the installation of guide posts the town spent \$113.08<sup>1</sup> At the same time a public watering-trough was set in the main street and connect by a small aqueduct with a spring in the adjacent hills<sup>2</sup> Light service has continued without interruption since that time, but 2 years passed before electric lights were adopted

In 1896 came another important improvement when \$500 was appropriated to secure an extension of the telephone line lately installed in East Longmeadow<sup>3</sup> At no time has a railroad or streetcar line passed through the township, despite a number of serious efforts to obtain an extension of the Springfield Street Railway from Longmeadow to the town The final attempt to improve connections occurred in 1913 when Hampden joined the Hill Town Association, an organization of smaller towns united for the specific purpose of securing electric railroad communications<sup>4</sup> In the case of Hampden, however, this final effort proved of no avail Thus, a stage line connecting with the trolley line in East Longmeadow remained the only available means of public transportation In 1911, however, the horse-drawn vehicles were replaced by automobiles<sup>5</sup> and later a regular bus service was maintained between Hampden and Springfield

Although electric current had been brought into Hampden in 1912, when the Scantic Mill arranged with the Central Massachusetts Electric Company to run its wires to that point,<sup>6</sup> general public electric service and street lighting were not made available until 1916 Then at the annual meeting held on February 7 the citizens appropriated the first of five annual payments on a contract for the installation of 50 street lights<sup>7</sup> At the conclusion of that period an extension of the service was again voted<sup>8</sup>

Road construction and maintenance gradually became more burdensome during the first 40 years of Hampden's corporate existence The \$542<sup>9</sup> expended in 1878 had increased in 1898 to \$921.40,<sup>10</sup> and in 1918 to \$3,368.88<sup>11</sup> Up to this time however, old style gravel roads had not been superseded by modern heavy macadam The first heavy construction voted by the town did not come until 1924, when a section of the main road to East Longmeadow was modernized after an appropriation of \$4,000 had been made for the purpose<sup>12</sup>

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- 1 Annual Reports, 1891, p 18, see entry 2
  - 2 Ibid
  - 3 Hampden Town Records, vol A, p 327, see entry 13
  - 4 Ibid, vol B, p 63
  - 5 Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings, II, 20 Hereinafter cited as Scrapbook
  6. Ibid, p 45
  - 7 Hampden Town Records, vol B, p 121, see entry 13
  - 8 Ibid, p 219
  - 9 Annual Reports, 1879, p 7, see entry 2
  - 10 Ibid, 1899, p 16
  - 11 Ibid, 1919, p 20
  - 12 Hampden Town Records, vol B, p 121, see entry 13.



Since that time all principal roads into Hampden have been hardened. The greatly increased cost of this type of work is indicated by highway expenditures for 1938 which totaled \$17,939.<sup>1</sup> Essential highway machinery has now been purchased, beginning with a tractor in 1925<sup>2</sup> and a snow plow in 1928.<sup>3</sup> The town made its first appropriation for snow removal in 1920, when \$600 was allocated for the work.<sup>4</sup>

Hampden has been the recipient of many bequests from public-minded citizens. In 1919 Mr. Charles Burleigh offered to donate and erect a memorial to the Hampden soldiers who had served with the American forces in the World War. The town accepted his gift on June 28, 1919 and ordered the dismantling of the old town pound in order to use stone from its walls for the foundation of the memorial.<sup>5</sup> It was dedicated with appropriate exercises on May 30, 1920. The cost amounted to \$4000 and the design was copied from the Civil War monument in Wilbraham.<sup>6</sup>

In 1931 Miss Elizabeth Sessions offered to erect a community building free of cost to the town. The academy had long been outgrown as an assembly hall for town meetings, school facilities were inadequate, as were those of the library, and there was no building in the town large enough to hold a general gathering of the people for any social purpose. Consequently, it was decided that the new town house should contain quarters for a consolidated school, an assembly hall which could be used also as a gymnasium, a town office and vault, and a library, at an estimated cost of \$60,000. Funds of \$6,000 were already available through a previous gift for the construction of a library building and Miss Session offered to furnish the remaining \$54,000. This was gratefully accepted by the people at a meeting held on August 7, 1931. At the same meeting an appropriation of \$7,000 was voted for the purchase of a suitable lot, to be raised by absorbing \$1,000 into current expenses, and making a loan of \$6,000 to be repaid in 15 years.<sup>7</sup>

The site decided upon lay at the intersection of Main Street and North Road, including the lot formerly occupied by the Congregational Church before it was burned in 1924. On September 7, 1931 the town voted to take this tract of approximately two acres by eminent domain.<sup>8</sup> By the following spring the building was completed, and \$2,000 was voted for the purchase of the necessary furniture and equipment.<sup>9</sup> Dedication of the Hampden Town House took place the following June 19th, when it was opened for general public use.<sup>10</sup>

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1. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 27, see entry 2.
  2. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 281, see entry 13.
  3. Ibid., p. 327.
  4. Ibid., p. 209.
  5. Ibid., p. 194.
  6. Scrapbook, III, 54, 76.
  7. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 379, see entry 13.
  8. Ibid., p. 381.
  9. Ibid., p. 395.
  10. Scrapbook, VI, 63.

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Thus, the town has become the owner of a splendid building of red brick construction with two stories and basement, and a single-story assembly hall. In addition to the facilities already named, a fully equipped kitchen and dining hall have been provided in the basement. The high quality of materials and workmanship are particularly noticeable in the interior finishing.

Although the town now had little use for Academy Hall, when an opportunity arose in 1934 to acquire full title to the building, the people bid \$4,000 for it and remodeled the basement as a garage for town equipment.<sup>1</sup> Later, the main floor was made available for a boys' club and a social center,<sup>2</sup> and space was given to such organizations as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Ladies Aid, and Young Men's Christian Association.<sup>3</sup>

Numerous decisions at town meetings have reflected the character of the citizens and their reactions to the questions of the day. Since 1883,<sup>4</sup> for instance, the inhabitants of Hampden have prohibited the sale of intoxicating beverages. Paralleling this action, an appropriation was invariably made for the prosecution of violations of the liquor laws.<sup>5</sup> The eighteenth amendment itself did not prove universally popular, for Hampden, in the state election of 1922 voted against its ratification 55 to 49.<sup>6</sup> Moreover, Hampden went on record in 1933 as favoring repeal by a count of 88 to 40.<sup>7</sup> Since then the sale of intoxicants has been allowed in the town, but at present only one license is in operation and this establishment lies on the outskirts, where a large part of its business is transient.<sup>8</sup> In the referendum on pari-mutuel betting, presented at the state election of 1934, Hampden voted "yes" on horse racing and "no" on dog racing,<sup>9</sup> but four years later when the question was again submitted, the citizens said "no" on both counts.<sup>10</sup>

Since 1933 the town has taken advantage as far as possible of the Federal relief program. The initial appropriation for the Civil Works Administration work was made in February 1934<sup>11</sup> and a number of projects, usually calling for construction and road work, have been undertaken under the Emergency Relief and Works Progress Administration. In 1938 the town spent \$855.09 as its contribution,<sup>12</sup> but since then activity has ceased.

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- 1 Hampden Town Records, vol B, p 459, see entry 13
  - 2 Scrapbook, VII, 120
  - 3 Hampden Town Records, vol B, p 312, see entry 13
  - 4 Ibid , vol A, p 86
  - 5 Ibid , passim
  - 6 Ibid , vol B, p 244
  - 7 Ibid , p 421
  - 8 Ibid , vol C, p 15
  - 9 Ibid , vol B, p 456
  - 10 Ibid , p 549
  - 11 Ibid , p 432
  - 12 Annual Reports, 1939, pp 29, 30, see entry 2

because of the scarcity of available relief labor. At present no WPA projects operate in the town<sup>1</sup>

As we have seen, Hampden, at the time of its incorporation in 1878, was engaged in considerable industrial activity, with three woolen mills operating locally. Unfortunately, however, these enterprises did not survive. A number of factors contributed to their failure, particularly the isolation of the town from other more populous centers, making it difficult to secure workers, and the general decline of textiles in the smaller towns of New England. As still another contributing factor, there may be mentioned the series of disastrous fires which have injured the Hampden mills.

The story of the dissolution of these industries may be told briefly. Brown and Chapman were succeeded as operators of the South Wilbraham Mill by Hinsdale Smith, who placed the actual management of the factory in the control of his son<sup>2</sup>. Fire brought an end to its existence in 1892, when the plant was completely gutted and never rebuilt.<sup>3</sup>

For some reason, the Ravine Mill was particularly susceptible to fires. After its destruction in 1878 with a loss of \$50,000, a second fire in 1886 caused damage to the building amounting to \$20,000 and destroyed \$15,000 worth of stock. The owner, Horace Kimball of Providence, repaired the damage and in the following year leased the mill to a man named Risley<sup>4</sup>. Little can be learned concerning its operators during the next few years, but on April 11, 1904 the factory completely and finally burned to the ground.<sup>5</sup> The 75-foot brick smokestack of the Ravine Mill, which stood for many years as a reminder of Hampden's former industries, was finally razed in 1933.<sup>6</sup>

The Scantic Mill, last of the three to survive, belonged to Judson Leonard in 1878. After a few years he failed and the Kenworthy Brothers conducted a successful business for some time in the manufacture of yarn, blankets, and cloth.<sup>7</sup> By 1903, however, the business had ceased to be profitable with the resultant departure of the Kenworthys. For three years the mill stood idle, but in 1906 operations were resumed under a Mr. Redding.<sup>8</sup> The last phase of its activity began in 1912, when the Hampden Woolen Company commenced operations in the mill with a force of about 25 people.<sup>9</sup> In 1900, while the Ravine and Scantic Mills were still

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1. Information secured from C. F. Medicke, WPA coordinator, by Lawrence Green in February 1941.

2. Copeland, op. cit., III, 551.

3. Scrapbook, I, 11.

4. Ibid., p. 8, 13.

5. Ibid., p. 33.

6. Ibid., VI, 97.

7. Copeland, op. cit., III, 552.

8. Scrapbook, I, 46.

9. Ibid., II, 43.

in operation, but apparently surviving only under difficulties, the town made a vain attempt to ease their financial burdens by voting to petition the legislature to exempt from taxation all manufacturing concerns in the town employing 25 or more employees.<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately, the causes for the departure of industry proved too deep-rooted to disappear before such a small dispensation. On the failure of the Hampden Woolen Company the mill was dismantled, thus bringing to an end the industrial era in the town of Hampden, at least so far as textiles were concerned.

Available records fail to describe the ultimate fate of all the old gristmills and sawmills, which existed in the early days. One at least still stood as late as 1885, when George W. Smith sold his sawmill to Alpheas Peck for \$3,400.<sup>2</sup> A cidermill now over a hundred and fifty years old, is now being operated successfully by Mr. Neil S. Kibbe, one of the selectmen of the town.<sup>3</sup>

The Congregational, Methodist, and Baptist denominations were all firmly established in Hampden before the incorporation of the town. In 1881, by act of the legislature, the Congregational society changed its legal title from "the South Parish of Wilbraham" to "the First Congregational Society of Hampden."<sup>4</sup> Apart from this none of the three underwent any radical change until the year 1914, when, on August 23, the Congregationalists and Baptists federated.<sup>5</sup> Two years later they asked the Methodists to join them; the last named society accepted the invitation on November 27, 1916. Since at the time the Federated church had no pastor, the Methodist minister assumed charge of the union.<sup>6</sup> For five years services alternated between the three church buildings, but in 1921 a new and progressive clergyman, the Rev. H. F. Fulton, proposed that the Congregational Church be used for the religious services exclusively, the Methodist building be converted into a community house, and the Baptist Church into a town library.<sup>7</sup>

Before this plan could materialize, however, events occurred which made realization impossible. On July 9, 1923 the Federated church reorganized, revised its constitution to put control into the hands of a central executive committee, and changed its name to the Community Church.<sup>8</sup> During the same summer the Congregational building was completely renovated and reopened for use on November 9,<sup>9</sup> but a few months later on January 24, 1924, it was completely destroyed by fire, thus leaving only the Methodist and Baptist structures for the use of the church.<sup>10</sup> At about that time the

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1. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 406, see entry 13.
  2. Scrapbook, I, 7.
  3. Ibid., VIII, 97, 98.
  4. Acts, 1881, ch. 85.
  5. Scrapbook, II, 87.
  6. Ibid., p. 151.
  7. Ibid., III, 91.
  8. Ibid., IV, 21.
  9. Ibid., p. 33.
  10. Ibid., p. 39.

Rev. John Cameron, a Baptist minister who had held the pastorate from 1898 to 1904 returned to Hampden. With former members of the Baptist church who preferred not to remain in the Community Church, he reestablished the Baptist society, which retained the Baptist Building.<sup>1</sup> The Community Church, therefore, had but one meetinghouse; the former Methodist Church, and on May 17, 1926 the Methodist members confirmed the action of the Methodist conference by selling the property to the Community organization.<sup>2</sup>

On March 6, 1932, a disastrous fire broke out in the Baptist Church. Not only was that building entirely destroyed but the adjacent house of the town clerk was burned to the ground, the total loss being estimated at \$25,000.<sup>3</sup> The new Baptist Church, erected in 1935, is a substantial brick structure, containing an assembly room for services on the first floor and an apartment to serve as a home for the minister on the second floor.<sup>4</sup> It was opened for use on August 10, 1936.<sup>5</sup>

While a separate parish of the Roman Catholic Church has never been formed in Hampden, services have been held in the town since the development of the textile industries attracted people of that faith. At first Cornelius Flynn opened his home for the celebration of Mass; later, when larger quarters were necessary, Academy Hall was secured. St. Mary's Church was built in 1881 and since that time has been operated as a mission of the Catholic parish in Monson.<sup>6</sup> Part of the town cemetery was set aside as a Catholic cemetery in 1881.<sup>7</sup>

Four of the Wilbraham school districts lay within the town of Hampden. Immediately following separation, they were renamed and renumbered, as follows: #1, the Center School; #2, the McCray or West Side School; #3, the Scantic School; #4, the Hendrick, or East Side School, which later became the Newell School.<sup>8</sup> Repaired and improved from time to time, they remained in operation until 1902, when the old Scantic School building was replaced.<sup>9</sup> Ten years later, on January 30, 1913, the Center School burned<sup>10</sup> and at a town meeting held on the following March 17 it was voted to appropriate \$1,500 to add to the \$2,000 realized from the insurance, to finance the erection of a new and larger two-room building.<sup>11</sup> As the Newell School had always been the smallest of the four, the town in 1917 voted to discontinue the holding of classes there. With its closing at the end of the school year,<sup>12</sup> three schools remained in Hampden.

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1. Ibid., IX, 47.
  2. Ibid., IV, 108.
  3. Ibid., VI, 49.
  4. Ibid., VIII, 99.
  5. Ibid., IX, 47.
  6. Ibid., III, 124.
  7. Annual Reports, 1882, p. 5, see entry 2.
  8. Ibid., 1879, p. 23.
  9. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 453, see entry 13.
  10. Scrapbook, II, 53.
  11. Hampden Town Record, vol. B, p. 67, see entry 13.
  12. Annual Reports, 1917, p. 46, see entry 2.

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Fire struck again in 1918, when the West Side School was burned <sup>1</sup>. The town received \$1,500 from the insurance company to cover the damage. To this sum the voters on August 19 appropriated \$5,500 to erect a two-room building to replace the former structure <sup>2</sup>. The three schools continued to operate without change for another 10-year period. By 1929, however, improved methods of transportation had made it possible for the children in that area to reach the larger and better equipped Center School; accordingly the Scantic School was closed in January 1929 <sup>3</sup>.

Further consolidation followed the erection of the new Town House, which was opened in the summer of 1932. Since the new building contained four large, well equipped classrooms, as well as other facilities, all school activities were concentrated there at the beginning of the September term <sup>4</sup>. In anticipation of this move, the town authorized the selectmen to sell the West Side, Center, and Scantic School buildings <sup>5</sup>. However, the Center School did not immediately find a purchaser and on February 7, 1938 it was voted to transform it into a town garage at an estimated cost of \$500 <sup>6</sup>. On the following May 2, this vote was rescinded, and it was decided to dispose of the building and land <sup>7</sup>. Miss Elizabeth Sessions, to whose family the land originally belonged, is the present owner.

Probably because of the limited population, few civic or social organizations have gained a firm foothold in Hampden. The local group of the National Grange has had a checkered career, for since its establishment in 1887 no less than three reorganizations have taken place <sup>8</sup>. Beginning on September 29, 1913, however, agricultural fairs have been held each year <sup>9</sup>. Other societies with agricultural interests have flourished spasmodically. On February 7, 1921 an appropriation of \$50 was made to promote the work of the Hampden County Improvement League, <sup>10</sup> and two years later a like sum was given for the support of the County Aid to Agriculture <sup>11</sup>. In 1938, one year after the introduction by the State of child clinics for children of preschool age, the town voted \$350 for the continuance of the work. <sup>12</sup> Although at the annual meeting on April 2, 1900 the citizens appointed a committee to investigate the possibility of establishing a board of trade, this organization never materialized. <sup>13</sup>

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- 1 Scrapbook, III, 26
  - 2 Hampden Town Records, vol B, p 172, see entry 13
  - 3 Annual Reports, 1929, p 65, see entry 2
  - 4 Ibid , 1932, pp 70, 73
  - 5 Hampden Town Records, vol B, p 389, see entry 13
  - 6 Ibid , p 529
  - 7 Ibid , p 537
  - 8 Scrapbook, passim
  - 9 Ibid , II, 68
  10. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 219, see entry 13.
  11. Ibid., p. 250.
  12. Ibid., p. 529.
  13. Ibid., vol. A, p. 406.

The first census of Hampden took place in 1880, 2 years after incorporation; the population numbered 958 persons<sup>1</sup> in comparison with 1628 found in Wilbraham.<sup>2</sup> For almost 50 years thereafter a slight but consistent decrease in population occurred in Hampden. From 958 to 782 in 1900,<sup>3</sup> to 670 in 1915, and to 632 in 1925.<sup>4</sup> Since that time the town has been slowly retrieving its former losses; in 1930 there were 684 people in the town and in 1935, 854.<sup>5</sup> The first decline was probably influenced by the gradual decrease in industrial activity, although even when the textile mills were in full operation Hampden was not greatly effected by an influx of foreign-born. In 1895 only 148, or 20 percent, of the 743 inhabitants were immigrants and of these 88 came from the British Isles.<sup>6</sup> Since 1925, with the improvement of roads, the general use of automobiles, and the scenic charm of the country, Hampden has attracted many Springfield people, who have helped to make it a desirable residential area.

In view of these trends in population, a table showing the operating costs of the town at 20-year intervals is illuminating:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Operating expenses</u>
1878	\$4,426.79 <sup>7</sup>
1898	\$7,469.64 <sup>8</sup>
1918	\$27,244.00 <sup>9</sup>
1938	\$83,601.37 <sup>10</sup>

Again we may attribute the increasingly heavy burden which has fallen upon the taxpayers of Hampden to three principal factors: The high cost of modern road construction, for since 1924 five principal roads have been rebuilt with heavy macadam; the expansion of secondary school education, necessitating expenditures the transportation and tuition fees; and lastly, greatly increased outlays for relief. To quote only from the report for the year 1939, total expenditures for highways amounted to \$17,939;<sup>11</sup> for education, \$20,800.95;<sup>12</sup> and for charities soldiers' benefits, and WPA, \$13,370.31.<sup>13</sup> These three items accounted for almost 70 percent of the total budget for the year. As accounts show a net funded debt of only \$4,400,<sup>14</sup> despite greatly increased obligations, it is evident that Hampden has retained the financial stability with which it began its career.

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1. Mass. Secretary of State, Census of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1895, I, 165.

2. Ibid., p. 169.

3. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Thirteenth Census of the United States, Taken in the Year 1910, p. 575

4. Mass. Secretary of State, The Decennial Census, 1935, p. 12.

5. Ibid.

6. Mass. Secretary of State, Census of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1895, II, 623

7. Annual Reports, 1879, p. 7, see entry 2.

8. Ibid., 1899, p. 19.

9. Ibid., 1918, p. 23.

10. Ibid., 1938, p. 50.

11. Ibid., 1939, p. 27

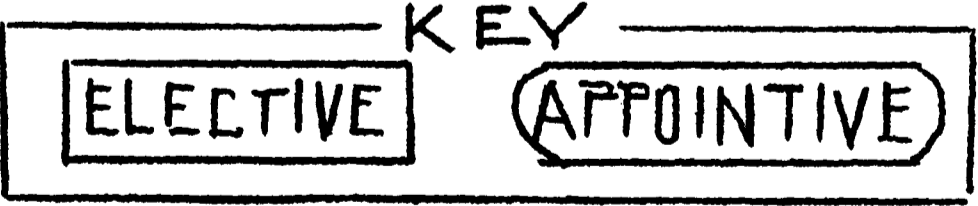
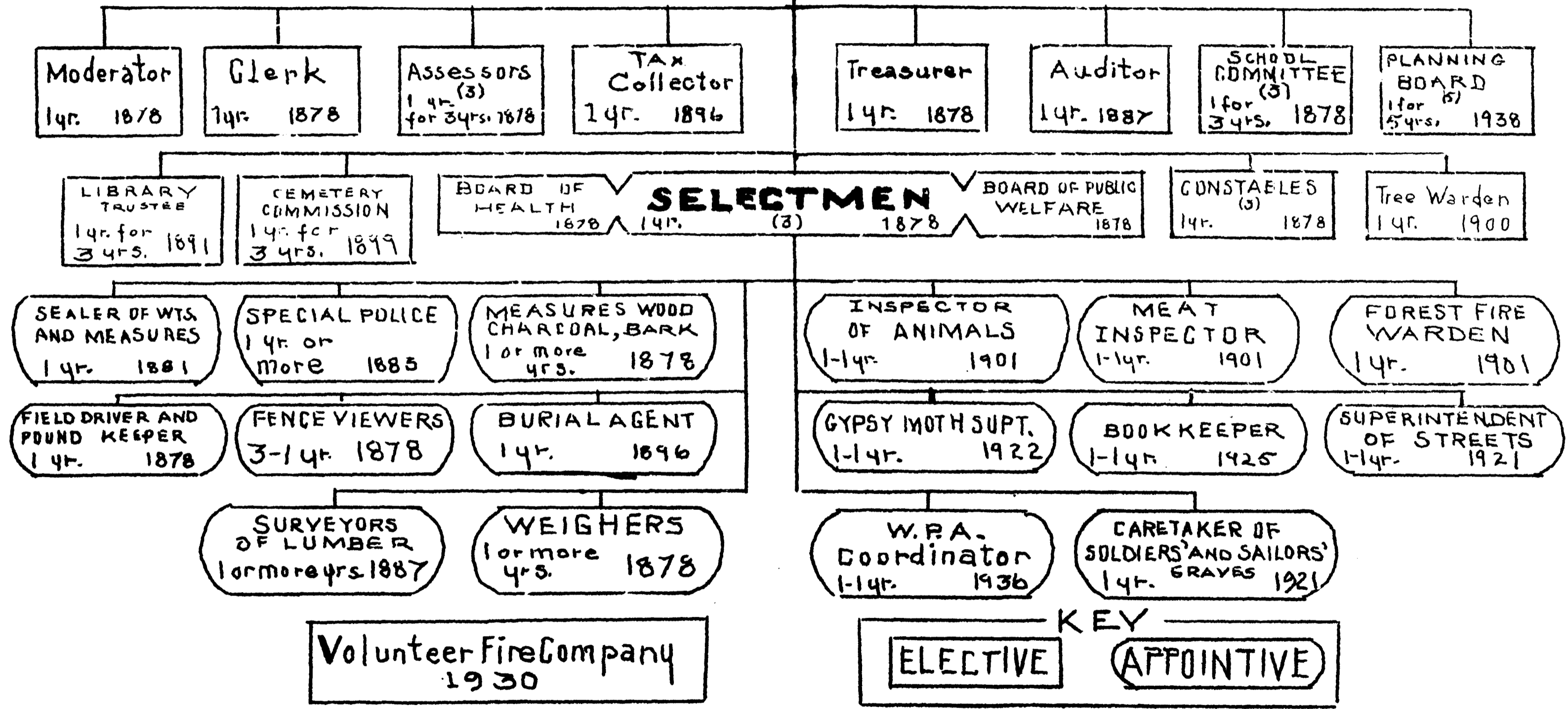
12. Ibid., p. 34.

13. Ibid., p. 30.

14. Ibid., p. 44.

CHART OF TOWN GOVERNMENT - HAMPDEN - 1941

**ELECTORATE**





## GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

As indicated in the historical sketch, separate civil government did not begin in Hampden until its incorporation as a town in 1878,<sup>1</sup> even though the territory had been inhabited almost 140 years.

The establishment in 1741 of the fourth precinct of Springfield, which composed most of the area of the present towns of Wilbraham and Hampden,<sup>2</sup> gave this section some self-government. The precinct was allowed to levy taxes for the support of the ministry and to elect parish officers, but other public affairs, such as the establishment of schools and the building of roads remained under the control of Springfield. In 1763 the town of Wilbraham, of which the southern section, now Hampden, was a part, secured complete independence.<sup>3</sup> But the division of Wilbraham into the north and south parishes in 1782 was again purely a separation of the areas into two religious organizations.<sup>4</sup>

The warrant of the first Hampden town meeting, held on April 8, 1878, instructed "the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote" to meet for action upon the various articles of the warrant.<sup>5</sup> Thus, the open town meeting was established. At first all officers were elected by popular ballot,<sup>6</sup> but later it became customary to choose by acclamation the minor officials<sup>7</sup> or to give the selectmen power of appointment. From the first, financial control remained with the voters, for only by their decision could appropriations be made, but the administration of finances within the limits set by the town was vested in the selectmen. The voters only could authorize loans.<sup>8</sup>

While there have been numerous changes in relation to the various offices, comparatively few alterations in the fundamental methods of procedure have been made. These have consisted largely of improvements made possible from time to time by the general statutes.

At the second meeting held in the town on April 18, 1878, the annual meeting and election of officers was set for the first Monday in April in each year,<sup>9</sup> where it remained until 1910, when the third Monday in March was chosen, with the fiscal year ending on the first Monday of that month.<sup>10</sup>

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1. Acts, 1878, ch. 88.
  2. Province Laws, XII, 1734-1740, 1740-41, ch. 147
  3. Ibid., IV (1757-68), 1763, ch. 9.
  4. Acts, 1782, ch. 1.
  5. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, pp. 1, 2, see entry 13
  6. Ibid., pp. 3-6, 8-11.
  7. Ibid., p. 53.
  8. Ibid., p. 11.
  9. Ibid., p. 10.
  10. Ibid., vol. B, p. 13.

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In 1915, however, the voters decided that the fiscal year should coincide with the calendar year; consequently the annual meeting was moved to the first Monday in February,<sup>1</sup> when it is held today.

Progressive modernization in the matter of balloting has taken place from time to time. In 1884 a voting machine was put into use<sup>2</sup> Although the first attempt to introduce an official ballot for town elections suffered defeat in 1903,<sup>3</sup> Hampden in 1907 accepted the Australian ballot.<sup>4</sup> In 1917 the town adopted an amendment of the 1916 State constitutional convention relative to legalizing absentee voting.<sup>5</sup>

The employers' liability compensation law, passed by the State legislature in 1911,<sup>6</sup> was adopted by Hampden in 1914. At the same time the town approved the 8-hour day for municipal employees.<sup>7</sup> The voters in February 1934 established a 30-hour week for town employees on highway work at the time the Federal relief program began,<sup>8</sup> but this evidently proved impractical, for in the following April the action was rescinded and the selectmen were authorized to set working hours.<sup>9</sup>

Hampden has never adopted an official code of town bylaws, although an article to that effect was inserted in the warrant for the annual meeting of 1939, which the voters passed over without action.<sup>10</sup> The official seal of the town was accepted in 1900.<sup>11</sup>

Nonpartisan politics prevail in town elections, but Republican and Democratic town committees were organized on September 2, 1932 and the first party caucuses were held prior to the elections in November of that year.<sup>12</sup>

According to the warrant for the annual meeting held February 1, 1941, the present governmental organization consists of the following elected officers: A moderator, a clerk and a treasurer (one man elected to both offices), three selectmen and members of the board of public welfare, a tax collector, three constables, a tree warden, and an auditor, all at present serving 1-year terms; a cemetery commission, a school committee, a board of assessors, and a board of library trustees, each consisting of three members on 3-year terms, with one member elected each year; and a five-member planning

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1. Ibid , p 101
  2. Ibid , vol. A, p. 107.
  3. Ibid , p. 470.
  4. Ibid , p. 573.
  5. Ibid , vol. B, p. 160.
  6. Acts, 1911, ch. 494.
  7. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 87, see entry 13
  8. Ibid , p. 432.
  9. Ibid , p. 438.
  10. Ibid , p. 564.
  11. Ibid , vol. A, p. 405.
  12. Ibid , vol. B, p. 402.

board, for 5 years with one member elected annually.<sup>1</sup> In addition, the selectmen annually appoint: A bookkeeper, a superintendent of streets, a burial agent, a caretaker of soldiers' and sailors' graves, three fence viewers, two weighers, three measurers of wood, bark, and charcoal, a sealer of weights and measures, a field driver (listed also as pound keeper in the published list of officers, but not so designated in the actual appointment), a moth superintendent, a forest warden, an animal inspector, and a meat inspector.<sup>2</sup> Besides the regular officials, three special police officers were named in 1940.<sup>3</sup> While the list of appointments for 1941 is not yet complete, probably no radical changes will be made. Beginning in 1942, however, the selectmen and welfare board will serve 3-year terms.

Since the town has adopted no bylaws or local ordinances, the functions of all town officers are entirely controlled by statute or by action of the town meeting. Appointed officers function under direct control and supervision of the selectmen, although in the case of the animal inspector, meat inspector, forest warden, and moth superintendent the State shares responsibility and approves appointments.

#### Records System

The public records of the town of Hampden are, on the whole, complete and well arranged, virtually all the basic records being extant from the date of the town's incorporation in 1878. Among these might be cited the town-meeting minutes (entry 13) and vital statistics (entries 16-25) kept by the town clerk, the assessors' property valuations (entry 38), and the treasurer's receipts and expenditures (entry 52). However, a few essential records could not be located, notably the assessors' minutes of meetings and 15 years of the collector's tax-commitment records (entry 47).

It will be noticed that many of the unbound records are kept in boxes, bundles, and folders which are not labeled properly. It would be useful to label these containers according to subject matter and by inclusive dates of the records contained therein.

The contents of the file drawer used for the current records of the clerk and treasurer might well be split up and the records of each office kept separately. The same suggestion is made for the drawer used for the current records of the bookkeeper and public welfare department.

There is a general lack of indexes and it is suggested that proper indexes be prepared for the following records: General file of the selectmen (entry 6), legal records kept by the town clerk (entry 28), general file of the clerk and treasurer (entry 29), general file of the bookkeeper and public welfare (entry 86), and records of contagious diseases kept by board of health (entry 91).

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1. Ibid., vol. C, p. 42.

2. Ibid., p. 19.

3. Information secured from Mrs. Violet M. Gottsche, town clerk, by Lawrence Green in March 1941.

## HOUSING, CARE, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE RECORDS

All the public depositories of Hampden are situated in one building, the Town House. They contain an estimated 93% of the total volume of records. The Town House is a splendidly built, modern brick and stone structure, erected in 1931. The section of the building containing the school and library consists of two stories and basement, while the remaining portion, which includes the assembly hall, is one-story high, with an unfinished basement below. In the southeast corner of the basement will be found the town office. Here many of the current records of the clerk and treasurer, the selectmen and board of public welfare, and the town bookkeeper are housed in modern steel filing cabinets. All are well kept and arranged under properly organized filing systems. Conveniently situated near the office stands a roomy fireproof vault which constitutes the principal depository for the town's records. Steel shelving lines three sides of the vault from ceiling to floor, together with one steel safe-cabinet used by the clerk; this equipment provides ample facilities for all town records for many years to come. On the first floor of the building are the offices of the librarian and dental clinic. The school principal's office is on the second floor. While these depositories do not provide full fire protection, the records there are well cared for and arranged, with modern filing equipment providing adequate storage facilities.

A few records are housed in a public depository outside the town. These are the records of the school committee in possession of the superintendent of the East Longmeadow, Wilbraham, and Hampden School Union. They are housed in the office of the superintendent, on the second floor of the Town Hall, East Longmeadow. While they are excellently kept, arranged, and housed, fire protection is poor, for most of the files containing them are of wood and the building itself is of second-class construction.

The condition of records in the Town House and the Town Hall in East Longmeadow is summarized in the following tables:-

TOWN HOUSE, MAIN ST			
Depository	Town Off	Town Va.	Librarian's Off.
Location	Basement	Basement	1st fl
*Dimensions	15x15x9	8x8x7	10x14x10
Cubic Feet	2025	448	1400
Fire Resistant	No	Yes	No
Shelving	Wood	Steel	Wood
Containers	Steel	Steel	Steel
Lighting	Good	Good	Good
Physical Condition	Good	Good	Good
Accessibility	Good	Good	Good
Arrangement	Good	Good	Good
Future Capacity	Ample	Ample	Ample
Departments Using			
Town Office: Town Clerk, Board of Public Welfare, Bookkeeper, Treasurer, Selectmen			
Town Vault: Bookkeeper, School Committee, Tax Collector, Selectmen, Board of Public Welfare, Town Clerk, Assessors, Treasurer, Board of Health, Board of Registrars			
Librarian's Office: Selectmen			

\*Dimensions are given as length by width by height in feet

	TOWN HOUSE, MAIN ST.		Town Hall, Main St. East Longmeadow
Depository	Dental Clinic	Principal's Office	Office of School Supt.
Location	1st fl.	2nd fl.	2nd fl.
*Dimensions	15x10x10	30x20x12	10x8x9
Cubic Feet	1500	7200	720
Fire Resistant	No	No	No
Shelving	Wood	None	Wood
Containers	Wood	Wood	Wood & Steel
Lighting	Good	Good	Good
Physical Condition	Good	Good	Good
Accessibility	Good	Good	Good
Arrangement	Good	Good	Good
Future Capacity	Ample	Ample	Ample
Departments Using	Board of Health	School Committee	School Committee

\*Dimensions are given as length by width by height by feet

#### Private Depositories

For convenience in operation, a number of town officers keep records in their homes. In total, they represent only about 5% of the records of the town, and in most cases they comprise only recent or current records. In no case is fire protection afforded these privately housed records, but otherwise they are properly kept, with all due care being taken for their safety and proper preservation. The following list shows the name, address, and title of each officer, and the name of the department to which the records belong:-

Name	Address	Title	Department
Homer L. Hatch	Main St.	Assessors	Bd. of Assessors
Edwin C. Stacey	Main St.	Tax Coll.	Tax Coll.
Charles D. Fiske	Main St.	Sealer of Wts. & Msrs.	Sealer of Wts. & Msrs.
E. J. Thresher	Main St.	Inspector of Slaughtering	Inspector of Slaughtering
Percy Fuller	Scantic Rd.	Inspector of Animals	Inspector of Animals
Leroy O. Howlett	Chapin Terrace	Supt. of Sts., Tree Warden	Supt. of Streets, Tree Warden
Mrs. Grace M. Carew	Main St.	Library Trustee	Library Trustees
Richard Joyce	Glendale Rd.	Cemetery Comm'n.	Cemetery Comm'n.
Charles Lemon	Glendale Rd.	Moth Supt.	Moth Supt.
Charles F. Medicke	Somers Rd.	Clerk	Hampden Volunteer Fire Company

### Recommendations

The following recommendation is made for the ultimate preservation of the records of the town: In the vault in the basement of the Town House the steel shelving is not suitable for permanent storage of loose records. For these records, file boxes or cabinets, preferably of steel, should be provided, with the records properly arranged and labeled.

Of a more general nature is the suggestion that all town officers turn in records kept at their residences for permanent storage in the vault immediately after those records cease to be current. In fairness to the present officers it must be stated that at present very few such past records are being held by them.

## ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Abbreviations

alph.	alphabetically	num.	numerically
arr.	arranged, arrangement	off.	office
bdl(s).	bundle(s)	<u>op. cit.</u>	work cited
ch.	chapter	p., pp.	page, pages
chm.	chairman	<u>passim</u>	here and there
chron.	chronologically	ptd.	printed
coll.	collector	Rd.	Road
discont.	discontinued	res.	residence
estab.	established	sec(s).	section(s)
f.b.	file box(es)	St.	street
f.d.	file drawer(s)	supt.	superintendent
fl.	floor	T, H.	Town House
hdw.	handwritten	va.	vault
ibid.	<u>ibidem</u> (in the same place)	vol(s).	volume(s)
no.	number	WPA	Work Projects Administration

## Symbols

x	by	'	feet
--	continues to date	. . .	denotes omission in quoted matter
"	inches	:	equivalent to

## Explanatory Notes

Inventory Arrangement

The town offices are arranged in the order of their importance from a functional viewpoint, with related offices grouped together. Records within an office are classified by subject. Within each subject classification, entries are listed in the order of their importance, and for records considered of equal importance, a chronological sequence is used.

Titles of Records

Exact titles of records are written in solid capitals without parentheses. In the absence of titles, descriptive titles have been assigned, which are written in solid capitals and enclosed in parentheses. If a record title is not descriptive of the contents of the record, an assigned explanatory title (or explanatory words), written with initial capitals and enclosed in parentheses, has been added. The current or most recent title of a record is used as the entry title, and any title variation is indicated.

## Explanatory Notes

### Labeling

The numbering, lettering, or other markings on a record are shown in parentheses following the quantity. If no labeling is indicated, it may be assumed there is none.

### Discontinuances

Where no statement is made that the record was discontinued at the last date shown in the entry, it could not be definitely established that such was the case. Where no comment is made on the absence of prior, subsequent, or intermediate records, no definite information could be obtained.

### Cross References

Title-line cross references are used to show the continuity of a record series which has been kept separately for a period of time and with another record or records for a different period of time. An example is shown in entry 18: "1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-i." In entry 29-i there is a corresponding body-of-entry reference carrying a descriptive title and number of entry 18: "Birth certificates, 1941--, entry 18."

Title-line references are also used in artificial entries, i.e., those entries set up to cover records which are shown separately under their proper office even though they are kept in files or records appearing elsewhere in the inventory, as for example, the title-line reference in entry 90: "In (General File of) Selectmen, entry 6-i."

Separate third-paragraph cross references from entry to entry, and See also references with subject headings or subheadings are used to show prior, subsequent, or closely related records which are not parts of the same series.

### Indexing

If a record is indexed, mention is made of a self-contained index or reference to a separate index is indicated. If there is no index to a record, the fact is stated in the entry.

### Condition of Records

If no comment is made regarding the condition of records, it may be assumed to be satisfactory.



## Explanatory Notes

### Dimensions

Except where otherwise indicated, dimensions of volumes, file boxes, or maps are shown in inches; dimensions of volumes are given in the order of length along binding edge, width, and thickness; dimensions of file cases, boxes, and drawers in the order of height, width, and depth.

### Location

The location noted is that of the date of the final check of the inventory, approximately 4 months prior to publication. Many records, especially current ones, are in constant use by officials, and subject to frequent transfer from office to vault and from vault to office. Shifts from one vault to another also occur, but less frequently. The Historical Records Survey cannot guarantee that the record will be found in the location noted, but merely that the record was found there at the date of the inventory field check.

## PART B. TOWN OFFICERS AND THEIR RECORDS

I. BOARD OF SELECTMEN<sup>1</sup>

At the first meeting of the town, on April 8, 1878, the voters elected, as their executive officers, three selectmen who were chosen as "overseers of the poor also."<sup>2</sup> This procedure has been followed consistently to the present time.

As executive officers of the town the selectmen include in their functions the operation of all town business not specifically delegated to some other office or board. In addition they exercise supervisory control over the other officers of the town within certain legal limitations. In financial matters their authority is complete in respect to authorizing expenditures and approving bills, restrained only by the limits of the appropriations voted by the town.

In addition to these general powers, many specific duties have been voted to them by the town. For the first few years all town officers were elected by the people, but in 1883 the selectmen received authority to appoint a special police officer.<sup>3</sup> Two years later, on April 6, 1885, they were directed for the first time to act as agents in instituting suits for the town or in defending it against suits brought against it.<sup>4</sup>

An important phase of the activities of the selectmen has been the supervision of highway work. Shortly after the incorporation of the town, the voters ordered the division of the town into six highway districts and the distribution of appropriated funds among them for the maintenance of roads. At the same time a highway surveyor was chosen for each district to work under the direct supervision of the selectmen.<sup>5</sup> From 1880<sup>6</sup> to 1888 the selectmen appointed the highway surveyors; in the latter year, as directed, they themselves served.<sup>7</sup> In 1889, although instructed to appoint a road commissioner, the selectmen continued to act as surveyors<sup>8</sup> and in 1890 the office was abolished. Despite the election of three road commissioners<sup>9</sup> the selectmen retained supervisory control, as they did from 1909<sup>10</sup> to 1920, when one highway surveyor was elected. In 1920 the expanding program of modern road building made further centralization of

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 3, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 91.

4. Ibid., p. 120.

5. Ibid., p. 8.

6. Ibid., p. 34.

7. Ibid., p. 165.

8. Ibid., p. 184.

9. Ibid., p. 203.

10. Ibid., p. 630.

authority necessary and the highway surveyor was replaced by a superintendent of streets, appointed by the selectmen.<sup>1</sup>

With two other citizens, the selectmen formed the committee appointed to make final settlement with the town of Wilbraham at the time of separation.<sup>2</sup> The town in 1903 directed the selectmen to encourage the establishment of an electric railroad into Hampden, but their efforts were unsuccessful.<sup>3</sup> Many of the specialized duties assigned to this board concerned the purchase or improvement of town property. When in 1889 agitation was renewed for securing a town hall, the selectmen were commissioned to investigate the matter and report at the next annual meeting.<sup>4</sup> Again in 1909 they acted as agents of the town in purchasing a part interest in the Academy Hall.<sup>5</sup> In 1927, when the town voted to give the use of the hall to various civic and social organizations, the voters stipulated that this should be done under supervision of the selectmen.<sup>6</sup> Many responsibilities incident to the planning, building, and furnishing of the new Hampden town house and the improvement of the surrounding grounds devolved upon the board in 1931 and 1932.<sup>7</sup> Afterward, they sold the school buildings which consolidation of classes in the town house had rendered vacant.<sup>8</sup>

For many years the selectmen served without salary, but in 1921 increasing responsibilities made a small compensation justifiable. Thus, at the annual meeting on February 7, 1921, in accordance with the provisions of a State law enacted the previous year,<sup>9</sup> a schedule of salaries was approved for a number of town officers and the selectmen were included. A recompense of \$100 a year went to the chairman of the board and \$30 to each of the other members.<sup>10</sup> In 1938 these salaries were increased, the chairman receiving \$150 a year, and the other members, \$50.<sup>11</sup>

Elections to the office of selectmen have always been made annually and the original number of three has been maintained since 1878.<sup>12</sup> At the annual meeting in 1930, an article was inserted in the warrant to extend the term of office to 3 years, one member of the board being elected each year. The town was not yet ready for this innovation, and the article was passed without action.<sup>13</sup> At the annual meeting in 1941, however, a similar

- 
1. Ibid., vol. B, p. 217.
  2. Ibid., vol. A, p. 21.
  3. Ibid., p. 480.
  4. Ibid., p. 183.
  5. Ibid., vol. B, p. 8.
  6. Ibid., p. 312.
  7. Ibid., pp. 379, 381, 395.
  8. Ibid., p. 389.
  9. Acts, 1920, ch. 591.
  10. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 218, see entry 13.
  11. Ibid., p. 527.
  12. Ibid., passim.
  13. Ibid., vol. B, p. 351.

[1]

article was approved by the voters, making effective in 1942 the election of three selectmen for 1, 2, and 3-year terms respectively. Thereafter one member of the board will be chosen annually to serve for a 3-year term.<sup>1</sup>

Functioning under State law and without official action by the town, the selectmen have served, since 1878, as registrars of voters.<sup>2</sup> On a similar basis, through legislation enacted in 1894, they became the board of health, although again no definite action was taken in respect to creating the office in the town.<sup>3</sup>

Reports of the selectmen have been published annually since the incorporation of Hampden. These include summaries of work accomplished as overseers of the poor from 1878<sup>4</sup> and to 1927 and as a board of public welfare since that period.<sup>5</sup>

All records are in the Town House; except where otherwise noted, they are in the town vault. In addition to the following records, see entry 13-i for clerk's record of licenses issued by selectmen 1881-1919, 1933--.

Minutes and Reports  
(See also entry 6-x)

1. RECORDS, 1878--. 5 vols. (2 vols., 1878-95, A, B; 3 vols., 1895--, unlabeled). Title varies slightly.

Minutes of selectmen's meetings: Discussion of and action taken on paupers, highway districts, contracts, jury lists, appointment and election of town officers and committees, licenses, permits, grants, petitions, financial matters; place, date, time of meeting; name of chairman, secretary. Also contains:

- i. Miscellaneous licenses and permits, record of, 1878--: Name of grantee; type, conditions, dates of issue and expiration of license or permit.
- ii. Orders to treasurer to pay bills, record of, 1878-1920: Name of payee; amount, number of order. For original warrants ordering payment of bills 1933--, see entry 58.
- iii. Perambulation of town boundaries, record of, 1878-88, 1934: Copy of vote to perambulate town lines; description of boundaries. For certificates of perambulations 1884-1909, see entry 10-ii.

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1. Ibid., vol. C, p. 51.
2. Acts, 1878, ch. 251.
3. Ibid., 1894, ch. 219.
4. Annual Reports, 1879, pp. 3-8, see entry 2.
5. Ibid., 1927, pp. 10-42.

Board of Selectmen -  
Minutes and Reports

[1-5]

RECORDS, 1878-- (Cont'd)

- iv. Petitions (copies) for pole locations, 1891, 1900, 1920--:  
Name of petitioner; date of petition, vote; proposed location, height of poles; specifications of materials.
- v. Voting list, 1882: Names of voters.

Minutes arr. chron. by date of meeting; i-v arr. by subject. No index.  
Hdw. 250 to 500 pp. 14 x 9 x 1 to 14 x 9 x 1½.

- 2. ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF HAMPDEN, 1878--.  
63 vols. (dated). Title varies slightly.

Reports of town officers, departments, and committees, giving statement of activities, finances, and recommendations. Also contains copies of town-meeting warrants: Text, number of article; place, date, time of meeting; instructions to constable. Arr. chron. by year. 1878-1933, no index; 1934-- , indexed alph. by subject. Ptd. 30 to 120 pp. 9 x 6 x 1/8 to 9 x 6 x 1/2. Librarian's off.

For original town-meeting warrants 1933-- , see entry 30.

#### Licenses

(See also entries 1-i, 6-ii, -iii, -iv)

- 3. LICENSE (Stubs), 1928-- . 2 vols. Prior records destroyed. Stub record of licenses issued to merchants, innholders, peddlers, auctioneers, amusement operators: Name of licensee, location of business; type, number of license; date of issue, expiration. Arr. chron. by date of issue. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 14 x 6 x 3/4.

#### Roads and Pole Locations

(See also entry 1-iv)

- 4. (ROAD PETITIONS), 1933-- . 1 folder. Prior records destroyed. Contains:
  - i. Copies of petitions of selectmen to county commissioners for road construction: Name of county, town; location, dimensions, type of construction requested; date of petition, names of selectmen.
  - ii. Notices of public hearing on petitions: Name of county, town; text, date of petition; place, date, time of hearing; date of notice, signature of sheriff.
  - iii. Replies from county commissioners: Name of county, town; date of petition, hearing; decision, signatures of commissioners; date of decision, attestation of town clerk.

Arr. chron. by date of petition. No index. Typed. 10 x 8 x 1/4. Box.

- 5. RECORDS (Pole Locations), 1914-- . 2 vols. (A, B). Record of pole locations granted to public utility companies: Name of utility company; date of petition, grant; specified number, locations of poles; specified number of wires; signatures of selectmen, clerk. Arr. chron. by date of grant. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

For pole-location orders 1936-- , see entry 29-viii.

[6]

## Miscellaneous

6. (General File of) SELECTMEN, 1933--. 1 f.d. Prior records destroyed.

## Contains:

- i. Applicant's statement of family resources (in WPA cases) 1936--, entry 90.
- ii. Applications for common victualers' licenses, 1934--: Name, address of applicant; location of business, description of premises; date of application, signature of applicant.
- iii. Application for license to sell alcoholic beverages to be drunk on premises, 1934--: Name, address, signature of applicant; location, nature of business; type of license required, date of application.
- iv. Applications for oil burner permits, 1938--: Name, address of applicant; name of oil burner; location, capacity of oil storage tank; description of building; signatures of applicant, selectmen; date of application, approval.
- v. Contractors' bids: Name, address of contractor; description, specifications, quantity, unit cost of materials or services to be supplied; total cost, terms, date of bid; signature of contractor.
- vi. Contracts for construction materials, supplies and services, 1936--: Names, signatures of contractors, selectmen; articles, amount of consideration, terms, specifications, conditions, date of contract.
- vii. Correspondence with State Department of Public Works relative to road program; with State Director of Accounts relative to financial procedure; with state alcoholic beverage commission relative to legal rulings on licenses; with State Department of Conservation relative to approval of appointments; with State institutions relative to care of welfare recipients; with Federal Civilian Conservation Corps relative to applications and quotas; with district WPA office relative to approval and operation of projects; with other towns relative to welfare claims and perambulations of town lines; with other town departments relative to appropriations; with business concerns relative to bids, prices and contracts; with individuals relative to complaints, requests for licenses.
- viii. Deeds to town property, 1934--: Name of grantee, grantor; location, description of property; terms, date of deed; volume and page reference to recording in county registry of deeds, date of recording.
- ix. Release of claims in taking of land by right of eminent domain, 1938--: Name, address of grantor; name, location, type of project; nature, terms, conditions, date of release; signature of grantor, witness, attorney.

Board of Selectmen -  
Miscellaneous

[6-9]

(General File of) SELECTMEN, 1933-- (Cont'd)

- x. Reports from collector to selectmen of unpaid taxes 1936--:  
Date of report; year, kind, amount of unpaid tax; name, address of taxpayer.

Arr. alph. by subject or name of correspondent. No index. Hdw., hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 12 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 26. Town off.

7. AGREEMENTS, INSURANCE POLICIES, AND OFFICERS' SURETY BONDS), 1917--. 1 wooden box. Prior records destroyed.

Contains:

- i. Agreements (copies) with State Department of Public Works, 1934--:  
Name of town, county; date of petition by town; date, terms, conditions of agreement; description, location of work; amount of state allotment, contribution by town; signatures of commissioner of public works or his agent, selectmen.
- ii. Fire insurance policies on town property: Name, address of insurance company; date of issue, expiration; amount of coverage and premium, conditions, terms of policy; name, location, type of construction insured; description, valuation of building, contents; signature of insurance company official.
- iii. Surety bonds of town officers: Name of officer, title of office, date of appointment or election; name, address of bonding company; date, number, period, terms, amount of bond; signatures of sureties, bonded officer, representative of bonding company, witnesses; date of approval, signatures of selectmen.

Arr. by subject and thereunder chron. by date of record. No index. Typed on ptd. form. 12 x 8 x 14.

8. JOURNAL, 1878-1925. 4 vols. System discontinued. 1925.

Record of appropriations and selectmen's orders authorizing expenditures therefrom: Name, year, amount of appropriation; amount, purpose, date, number of order; name of payee; total annual expenditures, amount of unexpended appropriation balance. Includes annual summary of appropriations, receipts, expenditures, assets, liabilities, departmental appropriation balances. Arr. chron. by year. No index. Hdw. 300 pp. 14 x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

9. RECORD - JUROR (and Militia List), 1878--. 1 vol.

Contains lists of:

- i. Men eligible for military service, 1879-1920: Name, age of resident; date of list, signature of town clerk.
- ii. Residents drawn for jury service, 1878--: Names of jurors, date of drawing; kind, place, date of service; signature of town clerk.

Arr. chron. by date of list. No index. Hdw. 160 pp. 16 x 10 x 3/4.

[10-12]

10. TOWN LINES PERAMBULATED AND DIVISION OF FENCES, 1884-1909. 1 vol.  
Contains copies of:

- i. Agreements between adjoining landowners relative to erection, re-location, or maintenance of division fences, 1884-1903: Location, dimensions, description of fence; terms, date of agreement; signatures of landowners, witnesses; attestation of clerk, date of recording.
- ii. Certificates of perambulations of town lines, 1884-1909: Names of adjoining towns; statement, date of perambulation; location of lines, signatures of selectmen, attestation of clerk, date of recording. For record of perambulations 1878-88, 1934, see entry 1-iii.

Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. 250 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

11. RECORD OF FIRES - PROPERTY OF MASS. INSURANCE DEPT. IN HAMPDEN, 1884-92. 1 vol. System discontinued. 1892.

Date, cause of fire; location, type, valuation, use of building involved; names of occupants, owner; amount of damage, insurance on building and contents; percentage of loss, amount of insurance paid. Arr. chron. by date of fire. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 75 pp. 15 x 15 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

12. (Register of) TRAVELLERS & VAGRANTS, 1901-13. 1 vol. System established. 1901, discontinued. 1913.

Name, age, employability, mental condition of transient; number, date, purpose of visit; nature of work sought. Arr. chron. by date of visit. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. 150 pp. 18 x 12 x  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

## II. TOWN CLERK<sup>1</sup>

At the first meeting of the town on April 8, 1878 the warrant called for the election of one man as a town clerk and treasurer.<sup>2</sup> This practice of combining the two offices was followed until 1908, when the clerk and the treasurer were elected on separate ballots.<sup>3</sup> However, this change has made little actual difference, for it has been the invariable custom to elect the same person to both offices. From the beginning the term of office has been 1 year.<sup>4</sup>

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 3, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 595.

4. Ibid., passim.



The town clerk serves without fixed compensation, receiving only the customary fees for issuing licenses and recording instruments. A report by the clerk showing the number and kinds of licenses issued, accounts of fees, and figures on vital statistics has been published in the annual reports of the town since 1883.<sup>1</sup> The clerk is ex-officio clerk of the board of registrars.

All records are in the Town House; except where otherwise noted, they are in the town vault.

### Minutes and Reports

#### 13. RECORDS - TOWN OF HAMPDEN, 1878--. 3 vols. (A-C).

Minutes of town meetings: Discussion and action on reports, appointments, salaries, and fidelity oaths of town officers, school and special committees, special employees; on appropriations, granting of authority to treasurer to borrow money, expenditures from dog fund, purchase of property for town's use, perambulations, erection of school buildings, approval of jurors, highway construction and acceptance, liquor laws. Includes results of national, state, and local elections. Also contains:

- i. Record of liquor, auctioneer, innholder, and poolroom licenses issued by selectmen, 1881-1919, 1933--: Name of licensee; conditions, purpose of license; date of issue, expiration; names of selectmen.
- ii. Warrant (copy) for town meetings 1878--: For description, see entry 30.

Arr. chron. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 600 pp. 14 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### 14. (REPORTS OF DOG LICENSES AND FEES), 1933-40. 1 folder. Prior records destroyed. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-ix.

Monthly report of dog licenses issued and fees collected, sent to treasurer and acknowledged and returned by him: Number, types, serial numbers of licenses issued; amount of fees collected, retained, transferred to treasurer; date of report; signature of clerk, treasurer; date of receipt by treasurer. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 10 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Box.

For copies of reports kept by bookkeeper 1936-- , see entry 67.

#### 15. (REPORTS OF FISH AND GAME LICENSES AND FEES), 1933-40. 1 folder. Prior records destroyed. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-x.

Duplicate monthly report of sporting, hunting, and fishing licenses issued, originals sent to State Department of Conservation, Division of Fisheries and Game: Number, types of licenses issued; amount of fee per license,

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1. Annual Reports, 1884, p. 16, see entry 2.

[15-22]

total amount of fees collected; amount retained by clerk, forwarded to State; date of report, signature of clerk. 1941-- includes names and addresses of licensees whose licenses have been revoked. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 10 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Box.

## Vital Statistics

16. (Record of) BIRTHS, 1878--. 1 vol.  
Name, sex, color, condition of child; place, date of birth; number, date of registration; names, addresses, birthplaces of parents; occupation of father. Arr. chron. by date of registration. For index, see entry 17.  
Hdw. under ptd. head. 350 pp. 22 x 14 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .
17. INDEX TO BIRTHS, 1878--. 2 vols.  
Index to (Record of) Births, entry 16: Name of child, page reference.  
Arr. alph. by name of child. Hdw. under ptd. head. 200 pp. 13 x 10 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .
18. (BIRTH CERTIFICATES), 1903-40. 2 bdl. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-i.  
Name, sex, color, condition, place and date of birth of child; names, addresses, ages, birthplaces, color of parents; occupation of father, maiden name of mother; name, address of attendant; name of clerk; number, date of certificate. Arr. chron. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 8 x 7 x 1. Box.
19. MARRIAGE (Intention) RECORDS - HAMPDEN, 1878--. 1 vol.  
Name, address, age, occupation of prospective bride, groom; date of recording, signature of clerk. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. 160 pp. 16 x 10 x  $\frac{3}{4}$ .
20. (Record of) MARRIAGES, 1878--. 1 vol.  
Name, address, age, color, birthplace, occupation, prior marital status of bride, groom; place, date of marriage; names of parents; name, address, title of person officiating; number, date of registration. Arr. chron. by date of registration. For index, see entry 21. Hdw. under ptd. head. 350 pp. 22 x 14 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .
21. INDEX TO MARRIAGES, 1878--. 2 vols.  
Index to (Record of) Marriages, entry 20: Names of contracting parties, page number. Arr. alph. by names of contracting parties. Hdw. under ptd. head. 200 pp. 13 x 10 x  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .
22. (MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES), 1903-40. 1 bdl. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-vii.  
Name, address, age, color, occupation, prior marital status of bride, groom; place, date of marriage; names of parents, maiden name of mother; name, address, title of person officiating; number, date of certificate; signature of clerk. Arr. chron. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 8 x 7 x 1. Box.

23. (Record of) DEATHS, 1878--. 1 vol.  
Name, address, age, sex, color, birthplace, occupation, marital status of decedent; cause, place, date of death; place of burial, names of parents; number, date of registration. Arr. chron. by date of registration. For index, see entry 24. Hdw. under ptd. head. 350 pp. 22 x 14 x 1½.
24. INDEX TO DEATHS, 1878--. 2 vols.  
Index to (Record of) Deaths, entry 23: Name of decedent, page reference. Arr. alph. by name of decedent. Hdw. under ptd. head. 200 pp. 13 x 10 x 1½.
25. (DEATH CERTIFICATES), 1903-40. 3 bdls. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-v.  
Name, address, age, sex, color, birthplace, marital status, occupation of decedent; cause, place, date of death; place of burial, name of undertaker; names, birthplaces of parents; name of doctor filing report, signature of clerk; number, date of certificate. Arr. chron. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 8 x 7 x 1. Box.

Licenses and Permits  
(See also entries 13-i, 14, 15)

26. (COPIES OF DOG LICENSES), 1933--. 3 bdls. (dated). Prior records destroyed.  
Name, address of owner; name, color, breed, sex of dog; date of license issue, expiration; amount of fee, license number, signature of clerk. Arr. chron. by date of issue. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp. 10 x 4 x 1½.
27. (BURIAL OR REMOVAL PERMITS), 1901-40. 2 bdls. Prior records destroyed. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-ii.  
Name, address, age of decedent; cause, date of death; name, address of undertaker; name, location of cemetery; date of permit, certification that terms of permit have been observed; signature of cemetery superintendent or undertaker, board of health agent or clerk. Arr. chron. by date of permit. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 10 x 8 x 2. Box.

Miscellaneous

28. RECORDS (of) MORTGAGES AND ASSIGNMENTS - TOWN OF HAMPDEN, 1878--. 4 vols. (A-D).  
Contains the following transcribed records:
- i. Assignment of wages, 1879-1927: Name of assignor, assignee, employer, witness; amount, cause, term, date of assignment; attestation of clerk.
  - ii. Auditor's oath of office, 1891-1908: Name of auditor; text, date of oath; signature of auditor, clerk.

[28-29]

## RECORDS (of) MORTGAGES AND ASSIGNMENTS (Cont'd)

- iii. Bill of sale, 1892--: Name, signature of vendor, vendee; description of property sold; place, date of delivery; amount, conditions, date of sale; date of instrument, recording; attestation of clerk.
  - iv. Constable's surety bond, 1882-1905: Amount, date of bond; signature of constable, surety.
  - v. Crop-control and feed-loan contracts made with Federal Agricultural Adjustment Administration, 1935--: Names of contracting parties; terms, date of contract; period covered; signatures of selectmen, federal government officials.
  - vi. Discharge of personal property mortgage, 1879--: Name, address, signature of mortgagor, mortgagee; location, description, valuation of property; amount of consideration; conditions, term, date of mortgage; attestation of clerk; time, date of discharge.
  - vii. Notice filed by married woman conducting business under own name, 1884-1934: Name of businesswoman; name, location, nature, date of establishment of business; name, address, occupation of husband; date of registration; signature of businesswoman, clerk.
  - viii. Notice of foreclosure of mortgage, 1889--: Name, address of mortgagor, mortgagee; place, date of recording of mortgage; certification, date of service of intention to foreclose; date of intended foreclosure, signature of mortgagee, attestation of clerk, date of recording.
  - ix. Personal property mortgage: For description, see vi; omits time, date of discharge.
  - x. Writ of attachment, 1884--: Name, address of plaintiff, defendant; location, description of property attached; name of court; date, time of hearing; ad damnum, date of writ, attestation of clerk, date of recording. Includes process officer's return.
- Arr. chron. by date of record. Indexed alph. by names of principals.  
Hdw. 260 pp. 14 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

29. (GENERAL FILE OF CLERK AND TREASURER), 1936--. 1 f.d.

Contains the following clerk's records:

- i. Birth certificates, 1941--, entry 18.
- ii. Burial or removal permits, 1941--, entry 27.
- iii. Certificates for use of trade names, 1937--: Name of proprietor; name, address of business; date of certificate, signature of owner.
- iv. Correspondence with State and town departments concerning legal matters, town reports, vital statistics, registration of voters, fish and game licenses; with private firms concerning printing, purchase of supplies.
- v. Death certificates, 1941--, entry 25.
- vi. Election of State representatives, record of, 1936--: Number of votes cast for each candidate in each town district, statement of expenses filed by candidate.
- vii. Marriage certificates, 1941--, entry 22.

## (GENERAL FILE OF CLERK AND TREASURER) (Cont'd)

- viii. Pole-location orders issued by selectmen: Name of public-utility company, date of petition; date, place of hearing; date, conditions of order; volume and page reference to entry 5; signatures of selectmen and clerk. For record of pole locations 1934--; see entry 5.
- ix. Reports of dog licenses and fees, 1941--; entry 14.
- x. Reports of fish and game licenses and fees, 1941--; entry 15.
- xi. Warrants for town meetings, 1941--; entry 30.

Also contains the following treasurer's records:

- xii. Bills, pay rolls, and vouchers, 1941--; entry 57.
- xiii. Correspondence, entry 63.
- xiv. Dental-clinic receipts, board of health's report of, 1939--; entry 53.
- xv. Notices of welfare reimbursement from State, 1939--; entry 64.
- xvi. Schedule of collector's payments to treasurer, 1941--; entry 54.
- xvii. Treasury warrants, 1941--; entry 58.

Arr. alph. by subject and thereunder chron. by date of record. Typed on ptd. form. 12 x 14 x 26. Town off.

- 30. TOWN MEETING, 1933-40. 1 folder. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-xi.

Original warrants for primaries, elections, and town meetings: Text, number of article; date of warrant; place, date, time of meeting or election; instructions to constable, signatures of selectmen. Includes constable's return. Arr. chron. by date of warrant. No index. Hdw. and typed. 14 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Box.

For published copies of warrant 1878--; see entry 2; for warrants recorded in minutes of town meetings 1878--; see entry 13-ii.

- 31. (RECORD OF NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS FOR NATURALIZATION), 1887-98. 1 vol.

Name, address, age, occupation of applicant; name of court, date of filing of notice. Arr. chron. by date of filing. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. 100 pp. 15 x 10 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

### III. BOARD OF REGISTRARS<sup>1</sup>

In accordance with a legislative act passed in 1877, the selectmen have acted as a board of registrars,<sup>2</sup> but no local action in confirmation or approval of their position has been taken at any time. Because of

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Acts, 1877, ch. 208.

[32-36]

this statutory control, few references to their activities are found in the town records, the first notation appearing in 1881 when the selectmen "Issued, to be posted in the Post Office and on Bulletin Board, notices to all persons to present themselves for Registration on the 20th inst."<sup>1</sup> A later entry made on the day specified, informs us that the selectmen "revised Register of Voters in accordance with notice issued on the 14th."<sup>2</sup> By State law the town clerk acts ex officio as clerk of the board of registrars. No report of the board of registrars is included in the annual reports of the town.

All records are in the town vault, Town House. In addition to the following records, see entry 1-v for voting list kept by selectmen 1882; entry 46 for assessors' voting lists 1893-1923 (intermittently), 1928--.

32. (MINUTES OF REGISTRARS' MEETINGS), 1884--. 3 vols.

Discussions and decisions on additions to and removals from voting lists, changes in party designation, fixing of time and period for registration; names of members present, place and date of meeting, signature of clerk. Also includes list of new registrants: Name, present and former addresses, age, sex, occupation, date of naturalization of registrant, if foreign-born. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 14 x 9 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

33. (Published) LIST OF REGISTERED VOTERS, TOWN OF HAMPDEN, 1936--. 6 pamphlets (dated). Prior records destroyed.

Name, address of voter; attestation, names of registrars, clerk; date of list. Arr. alph. by name of voter. No index. Ptd. 16 pp. 12 x 6 x  $\frac{1}{8}$ .

34. RECORDS (of Voting Registration), 1884--. 3 vols.

Name of town, date of registration, signature of voter; copy of oath showing signature of justice of the peace, attestation of town clerk. Includes copy of notice of next registration period, sent to voters. Arr. chron. by date of registration. No index. Hdw. 125 pp. 16 x 10 x  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

35. (CANVASSER'S LIST OF MALE RESIDENTS), 1939--. 2 vols. Prior records destroyed.

Name, age, occupation, nationality of resident; residence as of January 1 of preceding and current years; name of informant, canvasser. Arr. alph. by name of resident. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 4 x 6 x 3.

36. (CANVASSER'S LIST OF FEMALE RESIDENTS), 1936--. 2 bdls. Prior records destroyed.

For description, see entry 35. Arr. alph. by name of resident. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 4 x 6 x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ .

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1. Selectmen's Records, I, 63, see entry 1.

2. Ibid.

37. NOTICE OF REGISTRATION, 1940--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed. Duplicate of notice sent to boards of registrars of other municipalities certifying removal of former resident's name from voting list: Name of municipality addressed; name, former address of registrant; signature of clerk, date of notice. Arr. chron. by date of notice. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  x 6 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### IV. BOARD OF ASSESSORS<sup>1</sup>

Since the first meeting of the town on April 8, 1878, the board of assessors has consisted of three members.<sup>2</sup> Until 1885 all three were elected annually, but in that year it was decided to accept the provisions of an act of 1878, which provided for 3-year terms.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, one member only has been chosen at annual elections since that time.<sup>4</sup>

In 1882, the town voted to order the assessors to print and publish a list of all valuations in Hampden.<sup>5</sup> A copy of the list for 1882 cannot now be found, but that of 1885 is included in the annual town report for the latter year.<sup>6</sup>

The assessors served without pay until 1921, when the town took advantage of State legislation enacted the previous year, relating to the remuneration of various town officers,<sup>7</sup> and voted an annual salary of \$60 for the chairman of the board and \$30 for each of the other members.<sup>8</sup>

The annual report of the assessors, giving a summary of poll, real estate, and personal property valuations, with statistics of land, property, and stock, has been issued since 1878.<sup>9</sup> Valuations for automobile excise have appeared since 1929.<sup>10</sup>

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the town vault, Town House. In addition to the following records, see entry 66 for monthly report of taxes abated by assessors 1935--.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 3, see entry 13.

3. Acts, 1878, ch. 255.

4. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 116, see entry 13.

5. Ibid., p. 75.

6. Annual Reports, 1886, back of volume, see entry 2.

7. Acts, 1920, ch. 591.

8. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 218, see entry 13.

9. Annual Reports, 1879, p. 9, see entry 2.

10. Ibid., 1929, p. 47.

[38-43]

Valuations, Assessments, Abatements  
(See also entries 43, 44)

38. VALUATION LIST FOR THE TOWN OF HAMPDEN, 1878--. 63 vols.  
List of tax assessments and poll and property valuations: Name, address of taxpayer; number of taxable polls in household, amount of poll tax; description, valuation of land, buildings, machinery, livestock, personal property; amount, type, date of tax; total poll, real and personal property tax. Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. 75 pp. 22 x 22 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .
39. (FIELD BOOK OF VALUATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS), 1878-1916. 38 vols.  
System discontinued. 1916.  
Information found in canvass of property ownership: Name, address, occupation of taxpayer; number of taxable polls in household; quantity, description, valuation of personal and real property; amount of poll, real and personal property tax; total amount, date of tax. Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. 200 pp. 14 x 10 x  $\frac{3}{4}$ .
40. (TAX-COMMITMENT WARRANTS), 1939--. 1 folder. Prior records destroyed.  
Copies of warrants, original issued to tax collector and copies submitted to treasurer and bookkeeper: Name of collector, treasurer; amount, type of tax; date, due date of collection, terms of warrant; signature of assessors. Arr. chron. by date of warrant. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 12 x 11 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Res. of Homer Hatch (chm.), Main St.  
For original warrants 1929--, see entry 49; for treasurer's copy 1933--, see entry 59; for bookkeeper's copy 1936--, see entry 77.
41. (ABATEMENT CERTIFICATES FOR POLL AND PROPERTY TAXES), 1935--.  
2 vols. Prior records destroyed.  
Duplicate certificates, original to taxpayer and triplicate to collector: Name, address of taxpayer; amount, type, year of tax; amount, cause of abatement; amount of tax due; number, date of certificate; signatures of assessors. Arr. num. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 75 pp. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 8 $\frac{1}{4}$  x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . 1 vol., 1935-38, town va., T. H.; 1 vol., 1939--, res. of Homer Hatch (chm.), Main St.  
For copy kept by collector 1930--, see entry 50.
42. (RECORD OF ABATEMENTS), 1909--. 1 vol  
Name of taxpayer; amount, type, year of tax; amount, cause, date of abatement. Arr. chron. by date of abatement. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 75 pp. 12 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{8}$ . Res. of Homer Hatch (chm.), Main St.

Motor Vehicle Excise

43. MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE FOR THE TOWN OF HAMPDEN, 1929--. 12 vols.  
Tax required by law 1929.  
Record of assessments on motor vehicles: Name, address of owner; make, model, type, year of vehicle; amount, date of valuation, tax; number of months assessed. Arr. alph. by name of owner. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. 50 pp. 22 x 22 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ .



Board of Assessors -  
Motor Vehicle Excise

44. (Certificates of) ABATEMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAXES,  
1929-- 2 vols.

Duplicates kept by assessors, original to car owner, triplicate to collector: Name, address of car owner; make, type, model, year of vehicle; amount, date of assessment, abatement; signatures of assessors. 1934-- includes number, date of registration; number of months assessed, cause of abatement, certificate number. Arr. chron. by date of abatement. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 8 x 6 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 200 pp. 12 x 8 x  $\frac{3}{4}$ .  
For copy kept by collector 1930-- , see entry 50.

Miscellaneous

45. MR. LONG'S APPROVAL FOR USE OF AVAILABLE FUNDS, 1936-- . 1  
folder. Prior records destroyed.

Letters from State Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation authorizing assessors to include in tax levy amount of special appropriations approved by the town: Amount, date of appropriation; date of levy, authorization; signature of State commissioner. Arr. chron. by date of authorization. No index. Typed. 10 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

For notices of authorization 1937-- , see entry 78.

46. (LIST OF VOTERS), 1893-95, 1897-1907, 1910-11, 1916, 1923,  
1928-- . 31 vols.

Name, address, age, occupation of voter; date of list. Arr. alph. by name of voter. No index. Hdw. 25 to 100 pp. 12 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{4}$  to 13 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

V. TAX COLLECTOR<sup>1</sup>

At the second meeting of the town held on April 18, 1878 an article was inserted in the warrant "to determine the manner of electing a collector of taxes."<sup>2</sup> When the matter came up for consideration the voters decided to let out the collection of taxes to the lowest bidder - a customary procedure in those days.<sup>3</sup> Until 1896 they continued this practice. It was then voted "to fix the compensation of the collector of taxes for the ensuing year at Forty dollars" and to elect the officer by ballot.<sup>4</sup>

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 6, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 8.

4. Ibid., p. 136.

[47-49]

Since that time the salary of this officer has several times increased. In 1901, for instance, it was raised to \$60,<sup>1</sup> continuing at that figure until 1917, when a somewhat unusual action was taken. In response to a move for further increase in the collector's salary, the voters decided to allow him \$75, if the balance of taxes still unpaid at the end of the year fell below \$1,000; if the balance were more than that figure, he would be paid \$50 only.<sup>2</sup> This experiment was not repeated, as in the following year the salary of the collector became \$100 annually.<sup>3</sup> In 1921, however, a cut to \$75 was made.<sup>4</sup> In 1924 the town voted \$125 to the collector.<sup>5</sup> The final change came in 1931, when the present salary of \$150 per year was established.<sup>6</sup>

Since the incorporation of the town, the work of the collector has proceeded without particular incident. His report, giving a recapitulation of collected and uncollected taxes, was first included in the annual reports of the town in 1899.<sup>7</sup>

In addition to the following records, see entry 6-x for collector's report of unpaid taxes 1936--; entries 54 and 73 for schedules of collector's payments to treasurer 1931--; entry 76 for collector's schedule of tax-title accounts 1936--.

47. TAX LIST, 1881-87, 1889-95, 1897-1906, 1908-10, 1918-22, 1924-26, 1928--. 48 vols.

Record of poll, real and personal property taxes committed for collection: Name, address of taxpayer; amount of poll, real and personal property taxes, special assessments; total amount, year of tax; amount of interest, collection charges, abatements; amount, date of payment. Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 8 x 5 x 1. 46 vols., 1881-1938 (intermittently), town va., T. H.; 2 vols., 1939--, res. of Edwin C. Stacy (coll.), Main St.

48. (MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE COMMITMENTS), 1929--. 11 bdls., 1 loose-leaf vol. Tax required by law 1929.

Name, address of car owner; amount of tax, abatement; amount, date of payment. Arr. alph. by name of owner. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. Bdls. 24 x 16 x 1/8; vol. 150 pp. 24 x 16 x 3/4. 11 bdls., 1929-39, town va., T. H.; 1 vol., 1940--, res. of Edwin C. Stacy (coll.), Main St.

49. (COMMITMENT WARRANTS), 1929--. 12 bdls. Prior records destroyed. Original authorizations from assessors for collection of taxes as listed: For description, see entry 40. Arr. chron. by date of warrant. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 8 x 3 1/2 x 1/4. Town va., T. H.

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1. Ibid., p. 420.
  2. Ibid., vol. B, p. 149.
  3. Ibid., p. 164.
  4. Ibid., p. 218.
  5. Ibid., p. 265.
  6. Ibid., p. 372.
  7. Annual Reports, 1899, p. 24, see entry 2.

50. ABATEMENT CERTIFICATES), 1930--. 3 bdl. Prior records destroyed.

Triplicates of abatement certificates of poll and property taxes, and motor vehicle excise: For description, see entries 41, 44, respectively. Arr. chron. by date of certificate. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 4 x 6 x 1. 2 bdl., 1930-38, town va., T. H.; 1 bdl., 1939--, res. of Edwin C. Stacy (coll.), Main St.

51. CASH, 1925--. 16 vols. Prior records destroyed.

Record of receipts from tax collections: Name of taxpayer; amount, type year of tax; amount of interest, collection charges; amount, date of receipt, transfer of collections to treasurer; page and line reference to tax lists, entries 47, 48. Arr. chron. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 100 pp. 12 x 10 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . 15 vols., 1925-39, town va., T. H.; 1 vol., 1940--, res. of Edwin C. Stacy (coll.), Main St.

## VI. TREASURER<sup>1</sup>

The office of treasurer, filled at the first meeting of the town on April 8, 1878, was a dual office combined with that of the clerk, only one person being elected to the two positions.<sup>2</sup> No alteration in this procedure took place until 1908, when for the first time separate ballots were instituted.<sup>3</sup> Actually, however, this made little difference, for the voters continued each year to elect the same person to both offices, a custom which is still in vogue.<sup>4</sup>

The treasurer served without compensation, until at the annual meeting held April 3, 1893, the citizens decided to give him \$25 for the ensuing year.<sup>5</sup> This was the first regular salary paid to any officer of the town. In 1917 the treasurer's remuneration became \$50 annually.<sup>6</sup> Because of the general decrease in monetary values following the World War and the increasing responsibilities of the treasurer, his salary was several times enlarged. In 1920 it reached \$60,<sup>7</sup> then \$75 a year later,<sup>8</sup> and a substantial increment in 1924 brought it to \$200 per year.<sup>9</sup> This figure

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 3, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 595.

4. Ibid., vol. C, p. 50.

5. Ibid., vol. A, p. 269.

6. Ibid., vol. B, p. 149.

7. Ibid., p. 200.

8. Ibid., p. 218.

9. Ibid., p. 265.

remained stable until 1938 when \$250 annually was granted to the treasurer.<sup>1</sup>

In addition to his statutory functions, the treasurer holds all trust funds accepted by vote of the citizens,<sup>2</sup> although he can make no expenditures from the principal without authorization of the town. As an example, the Mowry library fund may be cited; in 1931 the voters directed the treasurer to expend it on the library in the new Town House.<sup>3</sup>

The treasurer's annual statement of receipts and disbursements has been published in the annual reports of the town since 1878.<sup>4</sup>

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the town vault, Town House.

#### Receipts and Expenditures

52. CASH - TOWN OF HAMPDEN - TREASURY DEPARTMENT, 1878--. 4 vols.  
Title varies: Journal, 1911-25, 1 vol.

Contains record of:

- i. Expenditures: Name of payee, account charged; amount, purpose, date of payment. 1925-- includes warrant number.
- ii. Receipts: Name of payer, account credited; amount, source, date of receipt.

Includes auditor's signature certifying annual balance. Arr. by subject and chron. thereunder by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. 400 pp. 16 x 10 x 1½.

53. (BOARD OF HEALTH'S REPORT OF DENTAL-CLINIC RECEIPTS), 1939--.  
In (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-xiv.

Name of patient; amount, date of receipt; date of report.

For record of receipts 1930--, see entry 93.

54. (SCHEDULE OF COLLECTOR'S PAYMENTS TO TREASURER), 1931-40. 1 bdl. Prior records destroyed. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-xvi.

Name, year, amount of tax; amount of interest, payment to treasurer; number, date, period of schedule; signature of collector. Arr. chron. by date of schedule. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 8 x 4 x 7. Box.

For bookkeeper's copy 1938--, see entry 73.

55. CHECKS, 1933--. 53 vols. Prior records destroyed.

Stub record of checks issued: Name of payee; amount, date, number of check. Arr. num. by check no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 200 pp. 15 x 10 x 1.

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1. Ibid., p. 527.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid., vol. B, p. 379.

4. Annual Reports, 1879, p. 10, see entry 2.

Treasurer - Receipts  
and Expenditures

[56-60]

56. (CANCELED CHECKS), 1933--. 5 boxes. Prior records destroyed. For description, see entry 55; includes signature of treasurer, endorsement of payee, cancelation stamp. Arr. num. by check no. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 12 x 10 x 8.

Bills, Vouchers, Warrants

57. (BILLS, PAY ROLLS, AND VOUCHERS), 1926-40. 12 boxes. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-xii. Contains original paid bills and departmental pay rolls kept in voucher folders:

- i. Bills: Name, address of creditor; amount, itemization, date of bill; signatures of selectmen; date of payment, voucher number.
- ii. Pay rolls: Name of department, employee; numbers of hours worked; amount, rate of pay; total amount, date of pay roll; voucher number; signatures of selectmen, department head.
- iii. Vouchers: Name of creditor, department or account charged; amount, date, number of voucher.

Arr. num. by voucher no. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 12 x 7 x 16.

58. TREASURY WARRANTS, 1933-40. 4 bdls. Prior records destroyed. 1941-- in (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-xvii. Selectmen's warrants to treasurer authorizing payment of town bills: Name of creditor, account charged; amount, itemization, purpose, date, voucher number of each item; amount, date, number of warrant; signatures of selectmen, bookkeeper; check number. Arr. chron. by date of warrant. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 18 x 4 x 7. Box.

For selectmen's record of orders to pay bills 1878-1920, see entry 1-ii.

59. (ASSESSORS' TAX-COMMITMENT WARRANTS), 1933--. 2 boxes. Copy of warrant showing same information as in entry 40. Arr. chron. by date of warrant. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 8 x 10 x  $1\frac{1}{4}$ .

Bonds and Tax Titles

60. BOOK OF FORMS FOR ISSUING TOWN NOTES, 1925--. 4 vols. (2-5). Prior records lost or destroyed. Stub record of bonds issued in anticipation of tax revenue: Name of purchaser; amount, purpose, number, issue and maturity dates, date of authorization of bond; amount of previous issues, interest rate, unsold balance; method, place, date of redemption; signatures of selectmen, treasurer. Also contains original canceled bonds showing same information as above, and including date and notation of cancelation. Arr. chron. by date of issue. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 10 pp. 11 x 6 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

[61-63]

Treasurer - Bonds and  
Tax Titles

61. (TAX-TITLE RECORDS), 1934--. 4 folders. Prior records destroyed.  
Contains:

- i. Correspondence with former property owners, purchasers of fore-closed property, newspapers, county register of deeds, tax collector.
- ii. Record of property taken for nonpayment of taxes and later re-deemed: Name, address of property owner; date of demand, taking of property, foreclosure; year of tax levy; amount of tax assessment, collection costs, interest, subsequent taxes; volume and page reference to property records and date of recording in county registry of deeds; copy of newspaper advertisement of sale; statement of report to assessors, bookkeeper; name, nature of interest of person making redemption; amount, date of partial or full payment; date of redemption.
- iii. Record of property taken for nonpayment of taxes and possessed: Name, address of former property owner; date of demand, taking of property, foreclosure; year of tax levy; amount of tax assessment, collection costs, interest, tax title fees, subsequent taxes; volume and page reference to property records and date of recording in county registry of deeds; copy of newspaper advertisement of sale; date, method of foreclosure; volume and page reference, date of recording of tax-possession deed in county registry of deeds; date of report to assessors, bookkeeper.

Arr. chron. by date of property taking. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form.  
10 x 12 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

62. (TAX-TITLE DEEDS), 1934--. 1 bdl. Prior records destroyed. Deeds to property taken for nonpayment of taxes: Name of tax collector, grantor, town, county; amount, year of tax; description, location of property; date of demand, advertisement; date, time of recording and volume and page reference to property records in county registry of deeds; signature, seal of collector; signature of witness, county register of deeds; acknowledgment, signature of treasurer; date of deed. Includes notation of purchase, foreclosure, redemption. Arr. chron. by date of deed. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  x 3 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## Miscellaneous

63. (CORRESPONDENCE), 1936--. In (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-xiii.  
Correspondence of treasurer with State Director of Accounts relative to accounting procedure, legal matters; with banks relative to interest rates on loans.

64. (WELFARE REIMBURSEMENT NOTICES FROM STATE), 1939--. In (General File of Clerk and Treasurer), entry 29-xv. Notice of reimbursement for expenditures in cases of old age assistance and aid to dependent children: Amount, purpose of reimbursement; period of expenditure, date of notification, signature of State Director of Public Welfare.

For approval of reimbursements 1938--, see entry 86-ii.

### VII. TOWN BOOKKEEPER<sup>1</sup>

The exact date of origin and the official status of this office are somewhat obscure. On February 3, 1923<sup>2</sup> the town voted to install the State accounting system, which provided for a town accountant as well, but on February 1, 1926, although the State system had been installed on the books, the town voted not to appoint a town accountant, since this would entail the removal of much authority in financial matters from the selectmen.<sup>3</sup> In the meantime, however, the operation of the system had necessitated the services of a bookkeeper. Since a bookkeeper's report was published for the year 1925,<sup>4</sup> such a person was apparently appointed or hired by the selectmen at the beginning of that year. No mention can be found of this action, however, the first recorded appointment occurring on October 3, 1925.<sup>5</sup>

Since then, only two persons have held the position of bookkeeper and, since the general authority remains with the selectmen, these persons have been more truly employees of the selectmen than town officers. At the present time the bookkeeper receives \$200 per year, paid from a general appropriation for accounting.<sup>6</sup>

The annual reports of the office, continuous from 1925 to the present time, include a recapitulation of receipts and expenditures by departmental accounts, a balance sheet of town assets and liabilities, and statements of debt and trust accounts.

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the town vault, Town House.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 253, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 514.

4. Annual Reports, 1925, p. 25, see entry 2.

5. Selectmen's Records, V, 182, see entry 1.

6. Information secured from Charles F. Medicke, town bookkeeper.

65. REPORT OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS - HAMPDEN, 1926--. 15 vols.  
(dated).

Copies of reports sent to State Department of Corporations and Taxation, Division of Accounts: Receipts from taxes, license fees, fines and forfeits, grants and gifts, special assessments, trust funds, miscellaneous sources; expenditures for departmental expenses, public-service enterprises; date of schedule, signature of bookkeeper, remarks. Includes summary of town indebtedness. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 31 pp. 11 x 8½ x ¼.

66. (MONTHLY REPORT OF TAX ABATEMENTS SENT BY ASSESSORS), 1935--.  
In (General File of Board of Public Welfare and Bookkeeper),  
entry 86-xi.

Name of taxpayer; name, amount, date of tax; amount, cause of abatement; total amount of abatements, date of list, signatures of assessors.

67. (MONTHLY REPORTS OF DOG LICENSES AND FEES), 1936--. In (General  
File of Board of Public Welfare and Bookkeeper), entry 86-xii.  
Copies of monthly returns of dog licenses issued and fees collected by  
clerk: For description, see entry 14.

#### General Accounts

68. JOURNAL - TOWN OF HAMPDEN - ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, 1925--. 3  
vols.

Original journal entries for tax commitments and abatements, allocations of funded debt, tax-title loans, transfers of funds, opening and closing entries: Name of account debited, credited; amount, explanation, date of entry; ledger posting reference. Arr. chron. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 15 x 15 x 1.

69. CASH - TOWN OF HAMPDEN - ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, 1925--. 3  
vols.

Record of receipts: Name of payer, account credited; amount, date of receipt. Record of expenditures: Name of creditor, account debited; amount, date of expenditure; voucher number. Includes monthly balance. Arr. chron. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. 300 pp. 16 x 14 x 1½.

70. LEDGER, 1925--. 16 bdl., 1 loose-leaf vol. (dated).

Summary of accounts as posted from Journal - Town of Hampden - Accounting Department, entry 68; Cash - Town of Hampden - Accounting Department, entry 69: Name of account; amount, date of receipt; amount, number, date of warrant authorizing expenditure; posting reference, annual account balance. Arr. alph. by name of account and thereunder chron. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. Bdl. 20 x 11 x 1; vol. 200 pp. 20 x 11 x 1½.

71. CLASSIFICATION BOOK, 1927--. 13 bdl., 1 loose-leaf vol.  
Record estab. 1927.

Analysis of sources of receipts and purposes of expenditures: Name of



Town Bookkeeper -  
General Accounts

[71-77]

account or department, payer or payee; amount and source of receipt or amount and purpose of expenditure, date of transaction. Arr. by sources of receipts or purposes of expenditures and thereunder chron. by date of transaction. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. Bdls. 22 x 14 x 2; vols. 150 pp. 22 x 14 x 2.

#### Schedules

(See also entry 76)

72. (SCHEDULE OF TREASURER'S RECEIPTS), 1936--. In (General File of Board of Public Welfare and Bookkeeper), entry 86-xviii.  
Name of payer; amount, source of receipt; total receipts, date of schedule, signature of treasurer.

73. (SCHEDULE OF COLLECTOR'S PAYMENTS TO TREASURER), 1938--. In (General File of Board of Public Welfare and Bookkeeper), entry 86-xvi.

For description, see entry 54.

74. (SCHEDULE OF LIBRARY AND SCHOL BILLS PAYABLE), 1938--. In (General File of Board of Public Welfare and Bookkeeper), entry 86-xiv.

Name, address of creditor; amount, itemization of bill; total amount, date of schedule; signature of department official.

75. (SCHEDULE OF STREET DEPARTMENT PAY ROLLS), 1938--. In (General File of Board of Public Welfare and Bookkeeper), entry 86-xv.  
Name of employee, number of hours worked; amount, rate of pay; total amount of pay roll; signature of department head, selectmen.

#### Tax Records

(See also entry 66)

76. (SCHEDULE OF TAX TITLES), 1936--. In (General File of Board of Public Welfare and Bookkeeper), entry 86-xvii.  
Schedule of tax-title accounts pending in collector's office: Name of former owner; amount, date of unpaid assessment; amount of subsequent assessment, collection costs, interest; total charges, date of recording of tax title; amount of recording fee, volume and page reference to recording in county registry of deeds, date of schedule.

77. (ASSESSOR'S TAX-COMMITMENT WARRANTS), 1936--. In (General File of Board of Public Welfare and Bookkeeper), entry 86-xiii.  
Copies of warrants showing same information as in entry 40.

78. (AUTHORIZATIONS OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS), 1937--. In (General File of Board of Public Welfare and Bookkeeper), entry 86-x. Notices from State Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation authorizing special assessments: Name, amount, date of appropriation, text, date of authorization.

For correspondence relative to authorizations 1936-- , see entry 45.

### VIII. AUDITOR<sup>1</sup>

An office of some importance but relatively little activity, the auditor has functioned continuously since 1887, when he originally was chosen by acclamation.<sup>2</sup> In the following spring, the office appeared on the ballot,<sup>3</sup> and this has been true at every election since that time. For many years the auditor served without remuneration, but, in accordance with a legislative act passed the previous year,<sup>4</sup> the town on February 7, 1921 voted him a salary of \$15 annually.<sup>5</sup> This action has remained effective to the present day.

Certification that the books of all financial officers have been examined and verified appears under the signature of the auditor in all annual reports since the creation of the office.<sup>6</sup>

This office keeps no records.

### IX. SCHOOL COMMITTEE<sup>1</sup>

At the first town meeting held on April 8, 1878 the Hampden voters laid the foundation for a local system of public education by establishing a school committee of three persons for initial terms of 1, 2, and 3 years.<sup>7</sup> Appropriations of \$1,000 for schools and \$100 for repairs were made 10 days later.<sup>8</sup> A code of truant laws was adopted in 1879 and truant officers

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 182, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 199.

4. Acts, 1920, ch. 591.

5. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 218, see entry 13.

6. Annual Reports, 1890, p. 22, see entry 2.

7. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 3, see entry 13.

8. Ibid., p. 11.

appointed to enforce them.<sup>1</sup> According to the annual report of the committee submitted at the end of the first year, the four original schools boasted a combined total of 158 scholars and 6 teachers, - the larger schools, Center and West, each supporting two instructors. During this year expenditures amounted to \$1,169.72.<sup>2</sup>

State legislation enacted in 1888, which permitted the formation of school unions under a superintendent,<sup>3</sup> was accepted by the town in 1893,<sup>4</sup> and on May 12, following, at a joint meeting of Wilbraham, Hampden, Longmeadow, and Ludlow, a school union was formed.<sup>5</sup> Ludlow has since withdrawn and Longmeadow has been replaced by East Longmeadow, which is now the headquarters of the superintendent.

The development of Hampden schools over a period of 60 years is noteworthy more for enlargement and expansion of the curriculum and general service to the community, than for any increase in enrollment or particular improvement in facilities. In 1893, the town began to encourage attendance by appropriating funds to finance the transportation of scholars,<sup>6</sup> spending \$183.05 during the year for that purpose.<sup>7</sup> In 1893 the first school superintendent was appointed, toward whose salary Hampden contributed \$112.26.<sup>8</sup>

An important addition to the curriculum came in 1900, when music and drawing were introduced into the schools, under the supervision of special instructors who served the whole union.<sup>9</sup> The health of school children first received official attention in 1907, the town appropriating \$30 toward the salary of the first school physician.<sup>10</sup> A school nurse was appointed in 1920.<sup>11</sup> When on July 1, 1914 the contributory retirement pension system was established, two of the Hampden teachers participated.<sup>12</sup> The town voted to approve the State laws relating to continuation schools on November 4, 1919.<sup>13</sup>

Even though the town voted in 1902<sup>14</sup> to accept the provisions of the law authorizing the members of the school committee to receive compensation,<sup>15</sup> nothing was done in this respect until 1921, when the town voted

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1. Ibid., p. 29.
  2. Annual Reports, 1879, p. 23, see entry 2.
  3. Acts, 1888, ch. 431.
  4. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 201, see entry 13.
  5. Minutes of Meetings of the School Committee, p. 37, see entry 79.
  6. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 243, see entry 13.
  7. Annual Reports, 1893, p. 14, see entry 2.
  8. Ibid., 1894, p. 13.
  9. Ibid., 1901, p. 30.
  10. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 573, see entry 13.
  11. Annual Reports, 1921, p. 37, see entry 2.
  12. Ibid., 1915, p. 56.
  13. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 198, see entry 13.
  14. Ibid., vol. A, p. 452.
  15. Acts, 1838, ch. 104.

\$50 per year to the chairman, and \$30 to each of the other two members.<sup>1</sup> These salaries have been maintained to the present time. A table of figures, taken at 20-year intervals, of the enrollment in the Hampden schools and of the yearly educational costs, gives a clear picture of the greatly increased per capita expenditures in modern times as compared with the earlier years of the town.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Expenditures for year</u>
1878	158	\$ 1,169.72 <sup>2</sup>
1899	118	2,505.96 <sup>3</sup>
1918	153	8,400.84 <sup>4</sup>
1938	153	19,578.13 <sup>5</sup>

Despite the comparatively static enrollment, there has been a decided increase in the number of pupils desiring a secondary school education. Since Hampden has no high school, children must be sent out of town. Thus, in 1938, in addition to the 153 pupils enrolled in the elementary grades, 41 high school students were given transportation and tuition to outside schools, principally in Springfield.<sup>6</sup> Tuition costs totaled \$6,313.25 and transportation an additional \$1,937.80. At the same time, \$1,267.50 was spent by the town on transportation of elementary grade children to schools in Hampden, a result of the consolidation in the new Hampden Town House.<sup>7</sup>

Full reports of the school committee have been published annually since the incorporation of the town. In addition, a separate report of the union superintendent has appeared since the creation of that position in 1893<sup>8</sup> and an occasional report of the truant officer from 1899 to 1901.<sup>9</sup>

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the school superintendent's office, Town Hall, East Longmeadow. In addition to the following records, see entry 74 for schedules of school bills payable 1938--.

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1. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 218, see entry 13.
  2. Annual Reports, 1879, pp. 7, 23, see entry 2.
  3. Ibid., 1900, pp. 35-41.
  4. Ibid., 1918, pp. 39, 54.
  5. Ibid., 1938, pp. 92, 109.
  6. Ibid., p. 110.
  7. Ibid., p. 92.
  8. Ibid., 1894, p. 23.
  9. Ibid., 1900, p. 43.

79. RECORD - SCHOOL COMMITTEE - HAMPDEN, 1878--. 1 vol.  
Minutes of school committee meetings: Discussions and decisions on appointment of teachers; establishment of salaries, curricula, school calendar; approval of bills; acceptance of bids for fuel, bus transportation of pupils, school supplies and equipment; acceptance of reports of department heads, recommendations to selectmen for annual town appropriations, election of committee officers; names of members present; place, date of meeting. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. No index. Hdw. 320 pp. 14 x 9 x 2.
80. SCHOOL RETURNS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, 1939--. 2 vols. (dated). Prior records destroyed.  
Copy of annual report to State Commissioner of Education relative to curriculum, faculty, finances, general administration: Names and addresses of school committee members, teachers, departmental supervisors, school physician, school nurse; professional training and experience of teachers, principals, superintendent; total number of male, female teachers; summary of pupils' enrollment, attendance; statistics on registration of minors, enrollment in public and private day schools, evening and vocational schools; names, addresses, enrollment statistics of private schools and names of their principals; description, valuation of school property; summary of receipts, expenditures; statement certifying compliance with requirements of state laws; signature of superintendent, chairman of school committee; date of report. Arr. by subject. No index. Typed on ptd. form. 8 pp. 12 x 9 x 1/8.
81. HAMPDEN SCHOOL REGISTERS, 1910--. 3 vols. (dated). Prior records destroyed. Subtitled by name of school and teacher.  
Record of enrollment and attendance prescribed by State Department of Education: Name, grade of school; name, education, and service record of teacher; name, address, place and date of birth, age, date of enrollment of pupil; name of parent or guardian; attendance record by day, week, month, with yearly summary; opening, closing date of school year; number of pupils enrolled, school days; aggregate, average attendance by month, year; percentage of attendance against enrollment by month, year. Arr. chron. by year and thereunder num. by grade no.; daily attendance record arr. alph. by name of pupil and thereunder chron. by day. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp. 12 x 10 x 3.
82. (GENERAL RECORDS), 1919--. 1 f.d. Prior records destroyed.  
Contains the following pupils' records
- i. Census of resident pupils between ages 5 and 16, 1931--: Name, sex, place and date of birth of pupil; name, birthplace of parent or guardian; yearly record of residence, name of school attended, number of days of attendance, age October first; date of census.
  - ii. Discharge record, 1919--: Name, address, place and date of birth of pupil; name, occupation of parent or guardian; former address, name of school attended; date of discharge or graduation age of pupil at discharge or graduation.

(GENERAL RECORDS), 1919-- (Cont'd)

- iii. Employment record, 1931--: Name of pupil, employer; place of occupation, date employment certificate issued.
- iv. Enrollment record, 1919--: Name of pupil, school, teacher; date of admission, age at admission, grade number, number of days of attendance; annual grading in conduct, scholarship, health; comments on truance, corporal punishment, special characteristics; reason for nonpromotion.

Arr. alph. by name of pupil. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 13 x 6 x 24.

83. (PUPIL'S PHYSICAL RECORD), 1931--. 5 bdl. Prior records destroyed.

Name, address, age, place and date of birth of pupil; names, birthplaces of parents; occupation of father, name of school; result, date of examination; record of height, weight; standard weight at age of pupil, percentage of deviation from standard; physical defects; date, nature, result of treatment; nature of defect treated; nature, date of illness. Arr. num. by grade no. and thereunder alph. by name of pupil. 11 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . 1 bdl., 1931-39, principal's off., T. H.; 4 bdl., 1940--, in custody of teachers.

84. (RECORD OF APPROVED BILLS), 1911-24. 1 vol. System discontinued. 1924.

Name of creditor; amount, itemization, date of bill; date of approval. Arr. chron. by date of approval. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 14 x 10 x  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Town va., T. H.

## X. LIBRARY TRUSTEES<sup>1</sup>

On April 6, 1891 the town of Hampden accepted the provisions of an act of 1890 which authorized the establishment of free public libraries under the jurisdiction of town-elected boards of trustees.<sup>2</sup> At the same time the voters elected a three-member board for 1, 2, and 3-year terms respectively, thus providing for the choice of one member at each succeeding election. To finance the venture \$100 was transferred from the dog fund,<sup>3</sup> which in Hampden had hitherto been used exclusively for schools.<sup>4</sup> The finding of a suitable<sup>5</sup> location for the library was left to the discretion of the trustees.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Acts, 1890, ch. 347.

3. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 221, see entry 13.

4. Ibid., p. 10.

5. Ibid., p. 221.

The Hampden public library opened on August 1, 1891, in the home of Mrs. John A. Adams, one of the trustees, who was appointed librarian. During the first year of its existence the library owned 326 volumes and served 218 borrowers, with a total circulation of 1,471 withdrawals.<sup>1</sup> The town continued to assist the library, the annual appropriations usually amounting to \$100 or \$125, frequently taken from the dog fund.<sup>2</sup> An idea of the growth of the institution during the first decade of operation can be obtained from a comparison of the former figures with those from the report for 1901. The 218 borrowers drew 5,456 times from 1,553 volumes on the shelves.<sup>3</sup>

In time the home of Mrs. Adams became inadequate for the growing library, so when in 1918 Mr. E. A. Day offered to furnish a room in the Town Hall at his own expense, the proposal was accepted by the citizens at the annual meeting on February 4th.<sup>4</sup> The new quarters were opened to the public on September 13, 1919. At this time there were about 3,000 volumes in circulation.<sup>5</sup>

Even the new quarters soon failed to provide adequate space for necessary expansion and in 1925 Mr. William Mowry promised to donate \$3,000 toward the erection of a modern, properly equipped building, on condition that the town appropriate an additional \$2,000.<sup>6</sup> With two earlier gifts totaling \$1,000, a fund of \$6,000 would be available. The town gratefully accepted the offer on February 1, 1926,<sup>7</sup> voting the necessary \$2,000 for the library fund on the following March 27th.<sup>8</sup> A committee was chosen to proceed with plans and to secure a site,<sup>9</sup> but before these plans could materialize, the possibility of securing a general community building in which the library might have quarters came under discussion and the matter was held in abeyance.

In 1931 the town accepted the offer of Miss Elizabeth Sessions to contribute \$54,000 for the erection of a community building and authorized the treasurer to expend the Mowry fund toward the construction of that portion which was to house the library.<sup>10</sup> On June 10, 1932 the library opened its excellent modern quarters in the new Hampden Town House,<sup>11</sup> which was dedicated on the 19th of the month.<sup>12</sup>

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1. Annual Reports, 1892, pp. 20, 21, see entry 2.
  2. Hampden Town Records, passim, see entry 13.
  3. Annual Reports, 1902, pp. 30, 31, see entry 2.
  4. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 165, see entry 13.
  5. Scrapbook, III, 59.
  6. Ibid., IV, 78.
  7. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 293, see entry 13.
  8. Ibid., p. 305.
  9. Ibid., p. 313.
  10. Ibid., p. 379.
  11. Scrapbook, VI, 61.
  12. Ibid., VI, 63.

The latest report of the trustees, that for the year 1940, shows a total circulation of 10,931 volumes; accessions to date total 5,706 books, most of which are available to the 432 registrants.<sup>1</sup>

The trustees have submitted their report to the town annually since their organization in 1891.<sup>2</sup> Through 1903 this included the report of the librarian, but since 1904 the latter has made a separate and additional report.<sup>3</sup>

In addition to the following records, see entry 74 for schedules of library bills payable 1938--.

85. (MINUTES OF TRUSTEES' MEETINGS AND ORDERS TO PAY BILLS), 1891--.  
1 vol.

Discussion and action on election and reports of officers, requests for town appropriations, payment of bills, library and trust funds; record of action of town meeting affecting library, annual inventory of books and equipment. Includes record of orders drawn by trustees for payment of library bills: Name of creditor; amount, purpose, date of expenditure. Arr. chron. by date of record. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 10 x 10 x 3/4. Res. of Grace M. Carew (chm.), Main St.

XI. BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE<sup>4</sup>

At the first meeting of the town of Hampden, held on April 8, 1878, the offices of selectmen and overseers of the poor were created jointly, three men being chosen to serve in both capacities for 1-year terms.<sup>5</sup> This is the present setup, although the title "overseers of the poor" was changed to "board of public welfare" as required by a State law of 1927.<sup>6</sup> At the annual meeting in 1941, the selectmen and board of public welfare were given a 3-year term, effective in 1942.<sup>7</sup>

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1. Annual Reports, 1940, pp. 50, 51, see entry 2.

2. Ibid., 1892, pp. 20, 21.

3. Ibid., 1905, p. 33.

4. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

5. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 3, see entry 13.

6. Acts, 1927, ch. 165.

7. Hampden Town Records, vol. C, p. 51, see entry 13.



Expenditures for relief have fluctuated with prevailing business and economic conditions. In 1878, the first year of town government, the amount spent for relief was \$918.75.<sup>1</sup> Although the population of the town had decreased by 1898, the cost of supporting its poor increased to \$1,619.82,<sup>2</sup> probably a result of the decline of the textile industry. Twenty years later, during the World War boom, the total expenditures for relief amounted to only \$405.50,<sup>3</sup> a sum which was decreased to \$318.20<sup>4</sup> by 1928. During the next decade as unemployment spread, the welfare burden of Hampden became correspondingly heavy. According to the report of the selectmen for 1939, \$2,363.01,<sup>5</sup> was divided among 18 families.<sup>6</sup>

The administration of old age assistance was given to the board in 1931, when an initial appropriation of \$400 was made for this purpose.<sup>7</sup> Since then this branch of work has grown considerably and in 1939 a total sum of \$9,889.36<sup>8</sup> was expended on 30 cases.<sup>9</sup> However, reimbursements from State and Federal funds to the amount of \$8,313.84<sup>10</sup> left little to be raised from taxation. Although aid to dependent children was instituted by State law in 1937, there have been few cases. None were reported during 1940.<sup>11</sup>

While the town bookkeeper seems to have no official status in the board of public welfare, he assists in the maintenance of records and in conducting much of the routine business of the department.<sup>12</sup>

All records are in the Town House; except where otherwise noted, they are in the town vault. In addition to the following records, see entry 64 for state notices of reimbursement 1939--.

86. (GENERAL FILE OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE AND BOOKKEEPER),  
1931--. 1 f.d.

Contains the following records of the board of public welfare:

- i. Applications for aid: Name, address, color, sex, age, birthplace, marital status, occupation, settlement history of applicant; name, address, birthplace, occupation of spouse; place, date of marriage; names, sex, birthplaces, birth

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1. Annual Reports, 1879, p. 7, see entry 2.
  2. Ibid., 1899, p. 16.
  3. Ibid., 1919, p. 20.
  4. Ibid., 1928, p. 33.
  5. Ibid., 1939, p. 28.
  6. Ibid., p. 69.
  7. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 379, see entry 13.
  8. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 29, see entry 2.
  9. Ibid., p. 69.
  10. Ibid., p. 7.
  11. Ibid., 1940, p. 72.
  12. Information secured from Charles F. Medicke, town bookkeeper, by Lawrence Green in February 1941.

(GENERAL FILE OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE AND BOOKKEEPER), 1931--. 1 f.d.

- i. Applications for aid: (Cont'd)  
 dates, occupations, earnings of blood relations; valuation, description of applicant's assets; amount, source of weekly income; amount, nature of debts; name, address of last employer; amount of salary received, period of employment, reason for unemployment; name of visitor; signature of applicant, spouse, witness; date of registration, case number.
- ii. Approval of bills submitted to State by local board for reimbursement, 1938--: Name of recipients; amount, nature, date of bill; amount of reimbursement claimed, date of approval.  
 For notices of reimbursement from State, 1939--, see entry 64.
- iii. Approval of return of State aid submitted to State Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions, 1936--: Amount, date of claim; amount of reimbursement approved, date of approval.
- iv. Bank report: Name, address of bank, applicant; highest amount on deposit at any time; amounts, dates of deposits, withdrawals; date account opened, closed; signature of bank, welfare official; date of report.
- v. Bill (copy) to State Bureau of Old Age Assistance claiming reimbursement for State's share of expenditures: Name, settlement status of recipient; amount, itemization, date of aid; amount of deduction for Federal grant, reimbursement claimed; certification of welfare official, date of bill.
- vi. Correspondence with State and with other municipalities regarding legal settlement and claims for reimbursement; with banks and insurance companies regarding resources of applicants; with employers regarding employment and earnings of applicants; with individuals and relatives of recipients concerning case histories.
- vii. History card: Name, address, settlement and marital status of recipient; place, date of birth; name of last employer, amount of weekly wage received; names, birthplaces of parents; date of notice to municipality of settlement, acknowledgment or denial, opening and closing of case; case number.
- viii. Insurance company reports: Name, address of insurance company, applicant; place, date of birth of applicant; amount of insurance carried; name of policyholder, beneficiary, agent; amount, date of premium payment; policy, case number; signature of company official, date of report.
- ix. Wage report from applicant's last employer: Name, address of applicant, employer; period of employment, reason for termination, amount of weekly wage, date of report, case number.

Also contains the following records of the town bookkeeper:

- x. Approval and authorization of tax levy, 1937--, entry 78.
- xi. Monthly report of tax abatements, submitted by assessors, 1935--, entry 66.
- xii. Monthly returns of (copies) of dog licenses and fees, 1936--, entry 67.
- xiii. Notification by assessors of tax commitments, 1936--, entry 77.

- xiv. Schedule of library and school bills payable, 1938--, entry 74.
  - xv. Schedule of street department pay rolls, 1938--, entry 75.
  - xvi. Schedule of collector's payments to treasurer, 1938--, entry 73.
  - xvii. Schedule of tax-title accounts, 1936--, entry 76.
  - xviii. Schedule of treasurer's receipts, 1936--, entry 72.
- Welfare records arr. alph. by name of applicant; bookkeeper's records, no obvious arr. No index. Hdw. or typed on ptd. form. 14 x 12 x 26. Town off.

87. (DISBURSEMENTS), 1931--. 1 loose-leaf vol. System estab. 1931. Record of disbursements for general aid, 1931--, and aid to dependent children, 1937--: Name, address, date and place of birth, mental condition, settlement status of recipient; name, place and date of birth of spouse, each parent, each child; dates of application, investigator's visit, and notice to State; disposition of case; cause, date of discharge; amount, nature, date of disbursement; case number. Also contains: Record of disbursements for old age assistance, 1938--, entry 88. Arr. by type of case and thereunder alph. by name of recipient. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 250 pp. 7 x 11 x 2.

88. OLD AGE ASSISTANCE, 1931-37. 2 vols. Assistance authorized by law 1931. 1938-- in (Disbursements), entry 87. Record of disbursements: Name, address of recipient; amount, nature, date of aid; date of notice of aid sent to State Department of Public Welfare, Bureau of Old Age Assistance; amount of claim, reimbursement from State; date of first grant of aid, discharge of case. 1938-- includes settlement and marital status, mental condition of recipient; name, place and date of birth of spouse, each child, each parent; date of application, investigator's visit; reason for discharge, case number. Arr. alph. by name of recipient. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. 50 pp. 14 x 12 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

89. PAUPER REGISTER, 1878-1918. 1 vol. Record of aid recipients: Name, address, color, sex, place and date of birth, marital status, employability, habits, mental and physical condition of recipient; place of legal settlement, date of first grant; date, manner of discharge; nationality of parents, register number. Arr. num. by register no. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. 150 pp. 18 x 18 x  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

## XII. WPA COORDINATOR<sup>1</sup>

In July 1934 the board of selectmen recommended one of its members as local ERA administrator, the appointment finally being made by the

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

Federal authorities, since the position was in no way under town control.<sup>1</sup> This officer functioned until the end of 1935, making reports of activities during the years 1934 and 1935.<sup>2</sup>

With the change in the Federal program from ERA to WPA, early in 1936, a WPA coordinator, who held no Federal authority, was appointed by the selectmen to take care of the interests of the town in the operation of the program. The original appointee has served continuously<sup>3</sup> and has made annual reports of the work done under his supervision.<sup>4</sup>

90. (APPLICANT'S STATEMENT OF FAMILY RESOURCES), 1936---. In (General File of) Selectmen, entry 6-i.

Name, address, sex, color, age, place and date of birth, occupation, citizenship and marital statuses, military and employment record of applicant; amount of prior weekly earnings; names, sex, ages, health, occupations, weekly earnings of members of family; amount, source of present income; description, valuation of assets, liabilities; signature of applicant, witness; date of application, case number. Includes signature of certifying official, date of certification.

### XIII. BOARD OF HEALTH<sup>5</sup>

Various acts of the General Court have made the selectmen responsible for health work, but no action was ever formally taken in Hampden itself to establish them as a board of health, nor did the selectmen keep separate records on health matters, notations being scattered among their general records. There are, however, various indications that the selectmen met to act in this capacity. On April 2, 1901 one of their number was elected chairman of the board of health.<sup>6</sup> Appointments to the office of inspector of animals (sometimes called the cattle inspector) were made by the board of health beginning in 1898<sup>7</sup> and in 1905 the members chose a meat inspector.<sup>8</sup>

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1. Information secured from Neil S. Kibbe, chairman of selectmen, by Lawrence Green in February 1941.

2. Annual Reports, 1934, p. 68; 1935, p. 74, see entry 2.

3. Information secured from Charles F. Medicke, WPA coordinator, by Lawrence Green in February 1941.

4. Annual Reports, 1936, pp. 63, 64, see entry 2.

5. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

6. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 428, see entry 13.

7. Selectmen's Records, III, 96, see entry 1.

8. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 538, see entry 13.

Still another activity is indicated by the following quotation, dated 1883: "We the members of the Board of Health of Hampden, by virtue of the power vested in us by law, hereby license Clark Goodman of said Hampden as an undertaker."<sup>1</sup> Appropriations were made for the maintenance of public health, but in earlier years, except for remunerating the inspector of animals, little money was needed.

At the annual meeting of 1930 the town voted to accept the law enabling the board of health to establish a dental clinic,<sup>2</sup> and appropriated \$100 for its operation.<sup>3</sup> A dentist was employed by the board and, when the Town House was built in 1931, a well-equipped office for the use of the dental clinic was provided. Since that time the clinic has been a regular activity. The cost of operation amounted to \$112.50 in 1935;<sup>4</sup> by 1940, \$265 was expended.<sup>5</sup> Although much of the work has been carried on among school children, the clinic has remained under the control of the board of health.

A further expansion of activity came in 1938. The previous year a general health clinic for children of preschool age had been started by the State, and at the annual meeting on February 7, 1938 it was decided to continue and expand this work by means of a town subsidy of \$350.<sup>6</sup> During 1940, 145 cases came under the care of the clinic and attending nurses made 455 visits.<sup>7</sup> The well-child clinic is not town-controlled, since it is operated by the Visiting Nurse Association of Springfield, but the annual appropriation by the town makes possible a much wider program than the association could otherwise maintain. Close cooperation has existed between the well-child clinic and the dental clinic, children of preschool age receiving treatment when necessary.<sup>8</sup>

The selectmen's expenditures for health and sanitation are segregated in their annual statement. In 1940 a total of \$681.66 was spent on the combined activities of the well-child clinic, dental clinic, meat inspector, and animal inspector.<sup>9</sup>

All records are in the Town House.

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1. Selectmen's Records, I, 111, see entry 1.
  2. Acts, 1914, ch. 677.
  3. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 351, see entry 13.
  4. Annual Reports, 1935, p. 17, see entry 2.
  5. Ibid., 1940, p. 17.
  6. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 529, see entry 13.
  7. Annual Reports, 1940, pp. 64, 65, see entry 2.
  8. Ibid., p. 65.
  9. Ibid., p. 17.

91. RECORD OF CASES OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES, 1889-1912, 1924--. 2 vols. No title, 1924--.  
Name, address, age of patient; type of disease, name of informant, date of report. 1924-- includes school or occupation of patient; date of notice to State Department of Health, district health officer, State Board of Labor and Industries, school department, librarian; disposition of case; date of beginning, end of quarantine; results of laboratory tests, date of closing of case. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Hdw. under ptd. head. 35 pp. 15 x 15 x  $\frac{1}{4}$  and 75 pp. 16 x 12 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Town va.
92. DENTAL CLINIC (Examinations), 1930--. 1 f.b.  
Record of dental examinations: Name, address, age of patient; name of school, grade number; names of parents; date of examination, condition of teeth, number of teeth requiring treatment, type of treatment required; amount of fee received. Arr. alph. by name of patient. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 8 x 5 x 10. Dental clinic.
93. DENTAL CLINIC (Receipts), 1930--. 3 vols.  
Record of monies received for services: Name of patient, date of service; amount, date of receipt; monthly total. Arr. chron. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 8 x 6 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Dental clinic.  
For report of receipts 1939--, see entry 53.

#### XIV. INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS<sup>1</sup>

The exact date of origin of this office is somewhat obscure. An order approved by the selectmen in 1894 includes the following notation: "M. H. Warren, service as cattle inspector, \$7.50";<sup>2</sup> and in 1895; "M. H. Warren, cattle inspector, \$53.00."<sup>3</sup> Included in the annual reports for 1896 is one bearing the title "Report of Inspector of Animals and Provisions."<sup>4</sup> Since 1901, however, the selectmen have appointed annually an inspector of animals.<sup>5</sup> He is also referred to on occasion as "cattle inspector."<sup>6</sup>

All records are in the residence of Percy Fuller (inspector), Scantic Road.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.
  2. Selectmen's Records, II, 203, see entry 1.
  3. Ibid., p. 249.
  4. Annual Reports, 1897, p. 22, see entry 2.
  5. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 428, see entry 13.
  6. Ibid., p. 538; Annual Reports, 1916, p. 31, see entry 2.

94. (INSPECTION CERTIFICATES), 1937--. 3 vols. Prior records destroyed.

Copies of certificates, originals given to animal owners: Name, address of owner; number, types of animals inspected; result, date of inspection; statement of registration of animals, signature of inspector. Arr. chron. by date of inspection. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp. 8 x 4 x 1.

95. (ORDERS OF QUARANTINE), 1938--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed. Triplicate orders, originals given to animal owners for posting at places of quarantine, duplicates sent to State Department of Conservation: Name, address of owner; number, types of animals quarantined; nature of disease, date of quarantine, signature of inspector. Arr. chron. by date of quarantine. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp. 14 x 4 x 1.

#### XV. MEAT INSPECTOR<sup>1</sup>

In the records of Hampden, under the date of April 2, 1901, we find the following notation: "This certifies that the Selectmen have appointed George F. Shaw inspector of meat."<sup>2</sup> This was the first appointment to the office in compliance with the requirements of State legislation enacted that same year.<sup>3</sup> In subsequent years annual appointments by the selectmen appear regularly, the title appearing sometimes as "inspector of meat", at other times as "inspector of slaughtering." In 1931 further variety was injected by naming a "slaughterhouse inspector",<sup>4</sup> which is the usual title today, although in the annual reports of 1939 this officer gives his report as that of the "Meat Inspector."<sup>5</sup>

96. (RECORD OF INSPECTIONS OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED FOR FOOD), 1932--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed. Name, address of cattle owner; number, kinds of carcasses inspected; date, results of inspection. Arr. chron. by date of inspection. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 4 x 3 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Res. of Edward J. Thresher (inspector), Main St.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 431, see entry 13.

3. Acts, 1901, ch. 391.

4. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 376, see entry 13.

5. Annual Reports, 1939, p. 58, see entry 2.

XVI. CEMETERY COMMISSION<sup>1</sup>

At the time of the incorporation of Hampden two cemeteries existed within the bounds of the new town, one of which dated from the days of the early settlers, the other from two years before, for it had been set aside by vote of the town of Wilbraham in 1876.<sup>2</sup> Quitclaim deeds to these cemeteries were given by Wilbraham to Hampden in an agreement made between the towns in November 1878.<sup>3</sup>

For some time all matters pertaining to the cemeteries came before town meetings, as an article in the warrant of 1880 indicates: "To see if the town will build a fence on the north side of the Old Cemetery."<sup>4</sup> When in 1883 the town purchased additional land adjacent to the old cemetery, the selectmen were authorized to draw up the necessary deeds.<sup>5</sup> They were also instructed to straighten the headstones in the old cemetery.<sup>6</sup> In 1886 the town voted to number the lots in the new section of the cemetery.<sup>7</sup> The name "Prospect Hill Cemetery" was assigned in the following year and all proceeds from the sale of lots set aside for maintenance purposes.<sup>8</sup>

An act of the State legislature, passed in 1890, provided for the creation of a cemetery commission in any town which might vote to accept the act.<sup>9</sup> On April 3, 1899, when this step was taken by Hampden, the town chose a three-man commission<sup>10</sup> and accepted a legacy of \$2000, which had been left as a cemetery fund by Josiah Bumstead.<sup>11</sup> Another gift, in the form of additional land adjacent to the old cemetery, came from Mrs. Delia Ballard in March 1913.<sup>12</sup> In addition many trust funds for the care of graves have been accepted by vote of the town at various meetings.<sup>13</sup>

One cemetery commissioner is chosen annually for 3 years. Since 1901 annual reports have been published fairly regularly.<sup>14</sup> They do not, however, include statements concerning the trust funds, for by statute these remain in the hands of the town treasurer.<sup>15</sup>

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Wilbraham Town Clerk, Town Records, V, 341.

3. Ibid., p. 415.

4. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 35, see entry 13.

5. Ibid., p. 87.

6. Ibid., p. 88.

7. Ibid., p. 139.

8. Ibid., p. 155.

9. Acts, 1890, ch. 264.

10. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 387, see entry 13.

11. Ibid., p. 390.

12. Ibid., vol. B, p. 67.

13. Ibid., passim.

14. Annual Reports, 1902, p. 29, see entry 2.

15. Acts, 1890, ch. 264, sec. 4.



All records are in the residence of Richard Joyce (chairman), Glendale Road.

97. RECORD (of Deeds), 1909--. 1 vol. Record estab. 1909. Copies of deeds to lots in Old Cemetery and Prospect Hill Cemetery: Name, address of purchaser; condition, date of sale; location, description, dimensions, area, number of lot; signatures of chairman, secretary of commission, witnesses. Arr. chron. by date of sale. No index. Hdw. 250 pp. 15 x 10 x 2.

98. PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY, 1935. 1 map. Map of cemetery showing location of lots, roads, paths. Includes list of lots, showing name of owner, person interred. Draftsman, Frederick I. King. Published by the town. Blueprint. 1":13 $\frac{1}{2}$ '. 7 x 4.

#### XVII. BURIAL AGENT<sup>1</sup>

In 1896 the General Court authorized the appointment of burial agents in Massachusetts towns.<sup>2</sup> Later in the same year the selectmen of Hampden appointed their first burial agent,<sup>3</sup> repeating this action annually thereafter. The burial agent keeps no records, since, after interments, burial permits are returned to the town clerk. No annual report has ever been published.

#### XVIII. CARETAKER OF SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' GRAVES<sup>1</sup>

The need for this minor office arose only after the World War, when veterans became a matter of increased concern to the town. At the annual meeting on February 7, 1921 a vote instructed the selectmen to appoint someone to care for the graves of deceased servicemen, and appropriated \$50 to cover expenditures.<sup>4</sup> Since then annual appointments have been made by the selectmen and the town has set aside the necessary funds to finance the work. Separate reports of the office have been published since 1936.<sup>5</sup>

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office. see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Acts, 1896, ch. 279.

3. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 330, see entry 13.

4. Ibid., vol. B, p. 219.

5. Annual Reports, 1936, p. 49, see entry 2.

This office keeps no records.

### XIX. SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS<sup>1</sup>

At the second meeting of the town held on April 18, 1878 it was voted to "choose six highway surveyors to work the highways under the supervision of the selectmen." Subsequently a committee of five was named by the moderator to nominate these officers and the candidates were confirmed by vote of the town.<sup>2</sup>

In the following year the voters decided that the surveyors should hire their own help but that the detailed bills for labor be paid by the selectmen when approved by the surveyors.<sup>3</sup> In 1880 the surveyors were appointed by the selectmen,<sup>4</sup> a procedure followed until 1888, when the selectmen themselves were delegated to serve for the ensuing year.<sup>5</sup> Although instructed to appoint a road commissioner, the selectmen continued to act as surveyors until 1890, when three road commissioners were elected for 1, 2, and 3-year terms, so that subsequent elections required the choice of but one man for a 3-year term.<sup>6</sup>

For almost two decades public sentiment favored the continuance of road commissioners, despite an unsuccessful attempt to abolish the office in 1900.<sup>7</sup> Finally in 1909, 2 weeks after the usual election of a commissioner, the town voted "that the office of Highway Surveyor be placed on the official Ballot at the annual election."<sup>8</sup> Accordingly, on April 4, 1910, a single highway surveyor was elected for the ensuing year,<sup>9</sup> a procedure which was followed for a decade.<sup>10</sup>

Although a highway surveyor was elected for the year at the annual meeting held February 2, 1920,<sup>11</sup> the citizens of Hampden decided on the following 16th of November to abolish the office and to direct the selectmen to appoint a superintendent of streets.<sup>12</sup> No record can be found of

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 8, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 24.

4. Ibid., p. 34.

5. Ibid., p. 165.

6. Ibid., p. 203.

7. Ibid., p. 405.

8. Ibid., p. 630.

9. Ibid., vol. B, p. 16.

10. Ibid., p. 203.

11. Ibid.

12. Ibid., p. 217.

an appointment before February 14, 1921,<sup>1</sup> but thereafter a superintendent was chosen annually. No salary has been set for the superintendent, for the selectmen determine his pay.<sup>2</sup>

Full detailed reports of road work have been included in all annual reports of the selectmen since 1878, but from 1903<sup>3</sup> to 1910 the road commissioners reported separately as did the highway surveyors from 1913<sup>4</sup> to 1919.

In addition to the following record, see entry 75 for schedule of pay rolls 1938--.

99. (TIME AND PAY ROLL RECORD OF EMPLOYEES), 1934--. 7 vols.

Prior records destroyed.

Name of employee; name, location of job; date of employment, number of hours worked, hourly rate of pay, amount of daily earnings. Arr. by name of job and thereunder chron. by date of employment. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 3 x 6 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Res. of Leroy O. Howlett (supt.), Chapin Terrace.

## XX. PLANNING BOARD<sup>5</sup>

At the annual meeting of 1937 the town voted to establish a board of five members to serve until the next annual meeting and there to report upon the feasibility of establishing zoning laws for the town of Hampden.<sup>6</sup> Although the report, submitted on February 7, 1938 and recommending restrictions, was not received favorably by the town,<sup>7</sup> a planning board was then established on a permanent basis by the election of five members for 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5-year terms respectively. A small appropriation was also made for its use.<sup>8</sup> One member of the planning board has been elected annually since that time. While the voters passed over an article in the 1940 warrant which proposed the appropriation of \$25 for the board,<sup>9</sup> in 1941 they approved the allocation of \$15.<sup>10</sup>

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1. Ibid., p. 226.

2. Information secured from Charles F. Medicke, town bookkeeper, by Lawrence Green in February 1941.

3. Annual Reports, 1904, p. 19, see entry 2.

4. Ibid., 1914, p. 18.

5. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

6. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 514, see entry 13.

7. Ibid., p. 529.

8. Ibid., p. 533.

9. Ibid., vol. C, p. 14.

10. Ibid., p. 53.

The board has never published a report in the annual reports of the town.

This office keeps no records.

#### XXI. CONSTABLES<sup>1</sup>

At the first town meeting on April 8, 1878 the voters elected a single constable.<sup>2</sup> For the next 2 years one sufficed, but in 1881 another was added.<sup>3</sup> In 1897 the citizens chose three constables<sup>4</sup> and that number has been continued in office to the present time.

While the names of constables appear regularly on warrants calling town meetings and on their returns of service<sup>5</sup> there is virtually no other mention of their activities. By statute they constitute the law-enforcement officers of the town under the supervision of the selectmen<sup>6</sup> and the first constable is popularly known as the "chief of police", although not officially so designated.<sup>7</sup>

Apart from incidental fees, constables received no direct salary until 1921. Then, at the annual meeting held on February 7th, acting in accordance with the State law of 1920,<sup>8</sup> the town left the matter of remuneration in the hands of the selectmen. This board, instead of fixing a stated recompense pays the constables in proportion to the time and nature of work required.<sup>9</sup>

This office keeps no records.

#### XXII. SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS<sup>1</sup>

Law enforcement in Hampden has always been a responsibility of the selectmen, with the regularly elected constables serving as police officers under their direction. In 1883, however, the town authorized the

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 3, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 50.

4. Ibid., p. 344.

5. Ibid., passim.

6. Acts, 1924, ch. 82, sec. 1.

7. Information secured from Neil S. Kibbe, selectman, by Lawrence Green in February 1941.

8. Acts, 1920, ch. 591.

9. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 218, see entry 13.

selectmen to appoint a special police officer "with all the powers and duties of constables excepting the power to serve and execute civil process."<sup>1</sup> Two years later, on April 6, 1885, the town again facilitated the enforcement of law by instructing the selectmen to provide a "lock-up and tramp room," with the \$100 which was provided.<sup>2</sup>

Since the original appointment of a special policeman in 1883, it has been customary for the selectmen to name one or more annually, as the needs of the town required.

This office keeps no records.

### XXIII. HAMPDEN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY<sup>3</sup>

Although Hampden has suffered many serious losses through fire, no organized fire-fighting force existed in the town until 1930. Frequent references, it is true, can be found to appropriations for fire equipment, but these applied to the forest fire warden, an office created in 1901,<sup>4</sup> which for almost three decades provided the only person officially assigned to the work of fire prevention and fire fighting.

With the forest warden as one of the principal promoters, the Hampden Volunteer Fire Company first met for the purpose of organization on November 12, 1930.<sup>5</sup> Temporary officers were elected and a committee appointed to draw up a constitution and bylaws,<sup>6</sup> which were presented and adopted the following December 12th.<sup>7</sup> These established a chief, secretary, and a treasurer as the permanent officers of the company, provided for regular bimonthly meetings, and prescribed rules for organization and actual operations at fires. The selectmen became honorary members of the company.<sup>8</sup> Since 1930 the company has met regularly, its records covering routine business, financial matters, and social activities.<sup>9</sup>

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1. Ibid., vol. A, p. 91.

2. Ibid., p. 120.

3. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

4. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 428, see entry 13.

5. Record Book of the Hampden Volunteer Fire Company, I, 19, see entry 100.

6. Ibid., pp. 1-13.

7. Ibid., p. 23.

8. Ibid., pp. 1-13.

9. Ibid., I, II, passim.

The purchase and the maintenance of fire equipment and buildings has been borne by the town. At the time of the organization of the company, a small pump was used which had previously been bought for the forest warden;<sup>1</sup> however, in 1933 a larger and more efficient piece of apparatus was obtained.<sup>2</sup> The town provided a firehouse in 1931 when \$1,100 was appropriated to purchase a one-story cement block building on Main Street and to put in a concrete floor.<sup>3</sup> On November 28, 1934 the voters decided to enlarge the firehouse under the ERA program, by constructing a second story to provide quarters for the fire company, and \$250 was appropriated as a contribution towards the project.<sup>4</sup> The work was completed the following April.<sup>5</sup>

The members of the Hampden Fire Company receive no compensation for attendance at fires either from the treasury of the organization or from the town. The latter supplies only equipment and the building. Its willingness to fulfill this obligation faithfully was indicated in 1936 when a vote was passed to reimburse the fire company for expenditures it had made of that nature.<sup>6</sup>

The captain of the company has made brief reports since 1937 of the number of fires attended annually.<sup>7</sup>

In addition to the following record, see entry 11 for selectmen's record of fires 1884-92.

100. (GENERAL RECORDS), 1930--. 2 vols.

Contains:

- i. Minutes of meetings: Discussion and action on election and appointment of officers, adoption of bylaws, reports of committees, finances, social activities; date, time, place of meeting; signature of clerk. Includes copy of bylaws and revisions.
- ii. Record of receipts and expenditures. Receipts: Amount, source, date of receipt; total receipts. Expenditures: Name of payee; amount, purpose, date of expenditure; total expenditures.
- iii. Record of fires: Location, time, date, type of fire; name of informant, type of alarm, names of persons injured, estimate of damages, signature of captain.

Arr. chron. by date of record. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 8½ x 7 x ½. Res. of Charles F. Medicke (clerk), Somers Rd.

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1. Information secured from Charles F. Medicke, clerk of fire company, by Lawrence Green in February 1941.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 425, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 373.

4. Ibid., p. 425.

5. Scrapbook, VIII, 44.

6. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 478, see entry 13.

7. Annual Reports, 1937, p. 70, see entry 2.

XXIV. SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES<sup>1</sup>

Sometime in 1881 a sealer of weights and measures began to function in Hampden. Although his name was not included in the list of officers elected at the annual meeting that year, a sealer was afterward sworn in by the clerk.<sup>2</sup> At the next annual meeting in April 1882 the position was included among the minor offices filled by acclamation for a 1-year term.<sup>3</sup>

Despite legislation in 1914 which made the office-holder a mandatory appointee of the selectmen,<sup>4</sup> the customary method of annual election by acclamation continued until 1921, when the selectmen for the first time chose the sealer.<sup>5</sup> Since that date the appointment has been made annually by the board.

The first published report of the sealer of weights and measures appeared in the annual town reports for the year 1908;<sup>6</sup> except for the years from 1920 to 1925, it has since been published regularly.

Except where otherwise noted, all records are in the residence of Charles D. Fiske (sealer), Main Street.

101. SEALER'S RECORD (of Inspections), 1920--. 1 vol. Name, address of owner of device tested; type of business, device tested; results, date of inspection; amount of fee. Arr. chron. by date of inspection. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 150 pp. 22 x 14 x 3/4.

102. TOWN OF HAMPDEN, 1934--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed. Original inspection certificates retained by sealer, duplicates given to owners of devices tested: Name, address of owner; type of business, device tested; result, date of test; amount, date of fee, payment; certificate number. signature of sealer. Arr. chron. by date of test. No index. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp. 5 x 14 x 1.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 56, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 72.

4. Acts, 1914, ch. 452.

5. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 226, see entry 13.

6. Annual Reports, 1909, p. 30, see entry 2.

XXV. FOREST FIRE WARDEN<sup>1</sup>

This office came into existence in Hampden in April 9, 1901, when the selectmen appointed three forest fire wardens for a 1-year term.<sup>2</sup> They continued this practice through 1906, but in 1907 they chose only a single appointee,<sup>3</sup> a practice which has been followed ever since.

The first report of the forest fire warden was published in the annual town reports for the year 1908.<sup>4</sup>

This office keeps no records.

XXVI. TREE WARDEN<sup>1</sup>

Provisions for the establishment of tree wardens were made by legislative act in 1899,<sup>5</sup> and the following year this office was placed on the ballot.<sup>6</sup> Since 1900, therefore, a tree warden has been elected annually. His annual report has been published only since 1938.<sup>7</sup>

103. (DAILY PAY ROLL AND TIME BOOK), 1934--. 7 vols. Prior records destroyed.

Name of employee, date of employment, number of hours worked, hourly rate of pay, amount of earnings. Arr. chron. by date of employment. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 3 x 6 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Res. of Leroy O. Howlett (warden), Chapin Terrace.

XXVII. GYPSY MOTH SUPERINTENDENT<sup>1</sup>

The position of gypsy moth superintendent was created on September 30, 1922, when the selectmen filled the office by appointment.<sup>8</sup> Since it

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 428, see entry 13.

3. Ibid., p. 600.

4. Annual Reports, 1909, p. 29, see entry 2.

5. Acts, 1899, ch. 330.

6. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 405, see entry 13.

7. Annual Reports, 1938, p. 69, see entry 2.

8. Selectmen's Records, V, 31, see entry 1.



was too late in the season to destroy the eggs, no appropriation was made, but at the next annual meeting the voters allotted \$250 to carry on this work.<sup>1</sup> Regular appointments to the office have been made ever since and the necessary funds included in each annual budget. Since 1935, when the work of destroying gypsy and brown-tail moths was undertaken on a larger scale with the help of the Federal Relief program, the superintendent has submitted annual reports which are published in the reports of the town.<sup>2</sup>

104. (TIME AND PAY ROLL BOOK), 1938-- . 1 vol. Prior records lost or destroyed.

Name of employee; number of days, hours worked; hourly rate of pay, total amount due employee, closing date of work week, number of egg clusters destroyed. Arr. chron. by closing date of work week. No index. Hdw. 35 pp. 5 x 3 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Res. of Charles Lemon (supt.), Glendale Rd.

#### XXVIII. WEIGHERS<sup>3</sup>

Weighers of several kinds have figured among Hampden officers ever since the second town meeting held on April 18, 1878, when three weighers of hay, straw, and coal were chosen.<sup>4</sup> With slight variation in number, although three was customary, the voters elected weighers annually by acclamation until 1920, when one "public weigher" was appointed by the selectmen.<sup>5</sup> Since then one or more weighers have been named each year under various titles. Although sometimes designated merely as "weighers," at other times the names of the commodities are mentioned. Thus Hampden has had weighers of hay, coal, straw, coke, apples, etc., in different combinations.

This office keeps no records.

#### XXIX. SURVEYORS OF LUMBER<sup>3</sup>

Three surveyors of lumber were elected at the second town meeting, held April 18, 1878.<sup>6</sup> The voters chose these officers, usually three in

- 
1. Hampden Town Records, vol. B, p. 251, see entry 13.
  2. Annual Reports, 1935, p. 65, see entry 2.
  3. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.
  4. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 10, see entry 13.
  5. Ibid., vol. B, p. 207.
  6. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 9, see entry 13.

number, annually by acclamation until 1920, when the functions of surveyors of lumber were combined with those of the measurer of wood, charcoal, and bark. One man only held the dual position on appointment by the selectmen.<sup>1</sup> In 1921 this officer was called a "measurer of wood, bark, and charcoal, also surveyor of lumber."<sup>2</sup>

This office keeps no records.

### XXX. MEASURERS OF WOOD, CHARCOAL AND BARK<sup>3</sup>

This office originated at the second meeting of the town, held on April 18, 1878, when five men were elected to the office for the ensuing year.<sup>4</sup> Annual elections by acclamation followed without interruption, although the number chosen varied. Thus, in 1881, seven were elected;<sup>5</sup> by 1888<sup>6</sup> the number had increased to ten. In later years from three to five measurers served the town until 1920, when the selectmen named a single measurer, who combined with his own functions, those of the surveyors of lumber.<sup>7</sup> Thereafter the selectmen have usually appointed from one to three measurers each year.

This office keeps no records.

### XXXI. MODERATOR<sup>3</sup>

From the first town meeting, held April 8, 1878, and continuing to date, a moderator has been elected to preside over each annual or special meeting.<sup>8</sup> For many years this officer served without compensation, but at the annual meeting on February 4, 1924 the town voted to pay him at the rate of \$5 per meeting.<sup>9</sup> Permanent duties have never been delegated to the moderator of Hampden town meetings, but on numerous occasions he had been instructed to appoint committees chosen for specific purposes.

This office keeps no records.

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1. Ibid., vol. B, p. 204.

2. Ibid., p. 226.

3. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

4. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 10, see entry 13.

5. Ibid., p. 50.

6. Ibid., p. 167.

7. Ibid., vol. B, p. 204.

8. Ibid., vol. A, p. 3, see entry 13.

9. Ibid., vol. B, p. 265.

XXXII. FENCE VIEWERS<sup>1</sup>

Two fence viewers were chosen at the first meeting of the town held April 8, 1878, to serve during the ensuing year.<sup>2</sup> In 1897 their number was increased to three,<sup>3</sup> and in 1920 the office was made appointive by the selectmen,<sup>4</sup> who have named the three fence viewers annually since that time.

This office keeps no record.

XXXIII. FIELD DRIVER AND POUND KEEPER<sup>1</sup>

The merging of these two offices is of comparatively recent origin, for from April 18, 1878<sup>5</sup> through 1917<sup>6</sup> four field drivers and one pound keeper were elected separately, usually by acclamation. In 1918 the voters chose three field drivers and a pound keeper, while in 1920 the offices were given to one man, an appointee of the selectmen.<sup>7</sup> This procedure has been followed annually since that time. On numerous occasions, however, the records mention a "field driver" only and since the town pound was demolished in 1919,<sup>8</sup> the office of pound keeper may be taken as nominal. The list of officers for 1940 shows a "pound keeper and field driver."<sup>9</sup>

This office keeps no records.

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1. For the statutory origin and development of this office, see the forthcoming volume on town and city government in Massachusetts, to be published shortly by the Massachusetts Historical Records Survey.

2. Hampden Town Records, vol. A, p. 3.

3. Ibid., p. 344.

4. Ibid., vol. B, p. 206.

5. Ibid., vol. A, p. 9.

6. Ibid., vol. B, p. 168.

7. Ibid., p. 206.

8. Ibid., p. 194.

9. Annual Reports, 1940, p. 4, see entry 2.

## APPENDIX

## State Archives Relating to Hampden

The following manuscripts are in a folder marked "Acts - 1878, Chapter 88", in the Massachusetts Archives, room 438, State House, Boston

1 (PETITION FOR A SEPARATE PARISH), Nov 12, 1877 2 sheets  
Decius Beebe, Solomon C Spellman, Ira G Potter, Francis E Clark, William R Sessions and Frank Hollister, committee of Town of Wilbraham and inhabitants of said town, respectfully represent that at a town meeting held on the sixth day of November 1877, it was voted nearly unanimously, "184 yeas, 19 nays", to petition the legislature at its next sessions for a division of the town "by a line on or near the present line between the South and North Parishes" and that the above were "then elected and appointed a special committee to carry into effect said vote and to prepare and cause to be presented to your Hon(orable) Bodies the Petition, wherefore we, for and in behalf of said Town of Wilbraham, humbly pray for such division and for the establishment of two towns under appropriate names within the limits of said town " Hdw 2 pp 8 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$

2 (RECOMMENDED BOUNDS FOR SEPARATE PARISH), Nov 13, 1877 1 sheet  
Decius Beebe and four others, inhabitants of the Town of Wilbraham, represent to the General Court that the said town ought to be divided into two separate towns by a line running on or near the present line between the south and north parish Wherefore, they humbly pray for such divisions and for the establishment of two towns under appropriate names within the limits of said town of Wilbraham Hdw 1 p 8 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$

3 (PLEA FOR GRANTING OF PETITION), Nov 13, 1877 1 sheet  
Plea of William V Sessions and others, legal voters of the Town of Wilbraham, to senate and house of representatives, that the petition for a division of said town on or near the parish line in accordance with the vote of the town on the sixth day of November 1877 be granted Hdw 1 p 8 x 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

4 (PLEA FOR GRANTING OF PETITIONS), Nov 13, 1877 1 sheet  
Plea of John M. Merrick and others, legal voters of the Town of Wilbraham, to senate and house of representatives, that the petition for a division of said town on or near the parish line in accordance with the vote of the town on the sixth day of November 1877 be granted Hdw 1 p 8 x 72.

## Appendix

5. (PETITION FOR INCLUSION IN THE NORTH PARISH), Jan 23, 1878  
1 sheet.

Petition of Walter Hitchcock and twelve others to senate and house of representatives, stating that as inhabitants and legal voters and owners of estates on the west side of the great mountain and on the proposed division line of the Town of Wilbraham, they do "herby most humbly petition your honorable Body in case the said town shall be divided that we and our estates may be placed in the North town, it being our place of worship and our Post Office accommodations." Hdw. 1 p. 8 x 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

6. (REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TOWNS), March 15, 1878. 2 sheets.  
Report of Charles Adams, Jr., for the committee on towns, to the General Court, stating as follows: "The Committee on Towns, to whom was referred the Petition of the Town of Wilbraham by its duly authorized committee for a division of the territory of said town; of Decius Beebe and four others; of William V. Sessions and one hundred and sixty-nine others; and of John M. Merrick and three hundred and eleven others, all of said Wilbraham and all in aid of the same petition; also the Petition of Walter Hitchcock and twelve others of the same town, praying that in case of such division, they and their estates may belong in the North Town; after due notice to the parties interested, and a hearing upon the case and consideration of the same, report the accompanying bill." Hdw. 2 pp. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$

7. ACT TO DIVIDE THE TOWN OF WILBRAHAM AND INCORPORATE THE TOWN OF HAMPDEN, March 28, 1878 11 sheets.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives and by authority of same that: Sec 1. All territory now within the Town of Wilbraham in County of Hampden which lies to the south of the following described line that is to say beginning at a stone monument on the east line of the town of Longmeadow," etc., "is hereby incorporated into a town by the name of Hampden, which is hereby invested with all the powers, privileges," etc ; and "subject to all duties and requirements to which other towns are entitled and subjected " Sec. 2. The inhabitants of said Town of Hampden shall be holden to pay all arrears of taxes which have been legally assessed upon them by the town of Wilbraham, also their proportion of all state and county taxes"; also "all taxes heretofore assessed and not collected, which shall be collected and paid to treasurer of town of Wilbraham." Sec. 3 "Said towns of Wilbraham and Hampden shall be respectively liable for the support of all persons who now do or shall hereafter stand in need of relief as paupers;" "and the town of Hampden shall pay annually to town of Wilbraham its proportion of expenses incurred by Town of Wilbraham by reason of any settlement acquired in Wilbraham in consequence of military service in the war of the Rebellion." "Sec 4. All suits and proceedings at law in equity when action for or against town of Wilbraham arose before passage of this act may be instituted and prosecuted or defended by either or both of the said towns." "Sec 5 The corporate property belonging to the town of Wilbraham at date of passage of act", "and the public debt of said town shall be divided between the town of Wilbraham and Hampden according to valuation of the property within their respective limits." "Sec. 6. In case of disagreement between said towns in respect to division of property, debts, taxes, etc , the superior court

for county of Hampden shall, upon a petition of either town, appoint three competent and disinterested persons as commissioners to hear the parties and award thereon, and such awards shall be final." Sec 7. Town of Hampden shall continue to be a part of the eleventh congressional district, of the eighth councilor district, of the first Hampden senatorial district, of the second Hampden representative district, and the voters of the town of Hampden shall vote for the representatives and senators to the General Court, representatives to Congress, etc.; and the clerk of the town of Hampden shall make returns and meet with the clerks of the towns of Palmer, Ludlow, and Wilbraham for the purpose of ascertaining the results of the election of representatives for said second Hampden representative district, etc. Sec. 8. Any justice of the peace within and for the county of Hampden may issue his warrants directed to any inhabitant of the town of Hampden, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants thereof in town affairs to meet at the time and place therein appointed for the choosing of all town officers, etc. Sec. 9. This act shall take effect at its passage. In Senate, March 19, 1878, passed to be engrossed. In House of Representatives, March 27, 1878, passed to be engrossed in concurrence (approved, March 28, 1878). Hdw. 11 pp 8 x 10.

For printed version of act, see Acts 1878, ch. 88, pp. 60-63.

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PUBLICATIONS OF THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY IN MASSACHUSETTS

Note: Except where noted, all volumes are published at the state headquarters of the Historical Records Survey, Sharp School, Pinckney & Anderson Streets, Boston, Mass.

- Abstract and Index of the Records of the Inferiour Court of Pleas, (Suffolk County Court) Held at Boston, 1680-1698, (iii, 224 pp., mim., 1940).
- American Portraits, 1620-1825, Found in Massachusetts, 2 vols., (iv, 254 pp. and 318 pp., mult. dupl., May, 1939).
- American Portraits, 1645-1850, Found in Maine, 1 vol., (90 pp., mim., 1941).
- Brief History of the Town of Braintree in Massachusetts, 1640-1940, compiled and written for the Tercentenary Committee, Marion Sophia Arnold, ed., (64 pp., Boston, Thomas Todd Co., 1940).
- Calendar of the General Henry Knox Papers in the Boston Public Library, (ii, 19 pp., mult. dupl., May, 1939).
- Calendar of the Letters of Charles Robert Darwin to Asa Gray, (vii, 148 pp., mult. dupl., December, 1939).
- Calendar of the Ryder Collection of Confederate Archives at Tufts College, (v, 165 pp., mim., 1940).
- Description of the Manuscript Collections of the Massachusetts Diocesan Library, (ii, 80 pp., mult. dupl., February, 1939).
- Diary and Journal, 1755-1807, of Seth Metcalf, (iii, 31 pp., mult. dupl., October, 1939).
- Guide to Manuscript Depositories in Massachusetts, (ii, 160 pp., mim., September, 1939).
- Guide to the Manuscript Collections in the Worcester Historical Society, (iii, 56 pp., mim., October, 1941).
- Index to the Hampshire Gazette, 1786-1937, 3 vols., (vii, 213, 217, and 295 pp., mim., May, 1939).
- Index to the Proclamations of Massachusetts, 1620-1936, 2 vols., (xvii, 200 and 153 pp., mim., April, 1937).
- Inventory to the County Archives of Massachusetts, No. 5. Essex County, (ii, 370 pp., mim., December, 1937).
- Inventory of the Town and City Archives of Massachusetts, (Series) No. 6 Franklin County  
Vol. I Ashfield, (ii, 108 pp., mim., 1940).  
Vol. II Bernardston, (iii, 90 pp., mim., 1941).  
Vol. III Buckland, (ii, 74 pp., mim., 1940).

List of Publications

Inventory of the Town and City Archives of Massachusetts, (Cont'd)

No. 7 Hampden County

Vol. I Agawam, (iii, 74 pp., mim., 1941).

Vol. V Chicopee, (xi, 296 pp., mult., dupl., and mim., October, 1939).

Vol. VIII Hampden, (iii, 99 pp., mult., dupl., 1942).

No. 10 Middlesex County

Vol. V Ayer, (iii, 150 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

Vol. XXIX Maynard, (iii, 149 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

No. 11 Norfolk County

Vol. I Avon, (ii, 83 pp., mult., dupl., May 1939).

Vol. II Bellingham, (ii, 76 pp., mult., dupl., August, 1939)

Vol. IV Brookline, (v, 350 pp., mult., dupl., 1940).

Vol. XI Holbrook, (iii, 179 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

No. 13 Suffolk County

Vol. I, Part 5 Boston, (v, 356 pp., mult., dupl., 1940).

No. 14 Worcester County

Vol. II Athol, (iii, 232 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

Vol. III Auburn, (iii, 89 pp., mim., February, 1940).

Vol. IV Barre, (iii, 132 pp., mim., 1940).

Vol. V Berlin, (iii, 108 pp., mim., 1941).

Vol. XI Clinton, (iii, 117 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

Note: The following are reprints of the sketches of history and government for use in the respective public schools of the town concerned. Since they duplicate material already included in the respective city or town inventories, these reprints are not distributed separately to official depositories of Historical Records Survey publications

Sketch of History and Government, (reprints for use of public schools).

No. 6 Franklin County

Vol. I Ashfield, (iii, 48 pp., mim., 1941).

Vol. III Buckland, (ii, 36 pp., mim., 1940).

No. 11 Norfolk County

Vol. IV Brockline, (ii, 74 pp., mult., dupl., 1940).

Vol. XI Holbrook, (iii, 54 pp., mult., dupl., 1941).

No. 14 Worcester County

Vol. IV Barre, (ii, 45 pp., mim., 1940).