

A Weston Timeline

(Taken from *Farm Town to Suburb: the History and Architecture of Weston, Massachusetts, 1830-1980* by Pamela W. Fox, 2002)



Map of the Watertown Settlement (from Genealogies of the Families and Descendants of the Early Settlers of Watertown, Massachusetts. . . Vol 1, by Henry Bond, M.D.

17th CENTURY

1630 Sir Richard Saltonstall and Rev. George Phillips lead a company up the Charles River to establish the settlement of Watertown, which included what is now Watertown, Waltham, Weston, and parts of several adjoining towns. Weston was known as *Watertown Farms* or the *Farm Lands*.

Below: Sir Richard Saltonstall



1642 First allotments of land in the Farm Lands. Settlers used the land primarily for grazing cattle.

1673 Approximate time when farmers began to take up residence in what is now Weston. On Sundays, they traveled nearly seven miles from The Farms to the Watertown church.

1673 First post rider is dispatched from New York City to Boston, traveling over mostly Indian trails. Weston was located on the Upper Road, the most popular of three “post roads” used by travelers.

1679 Richard Child establishes a gristmill at Stony Brook near what is now the Waltham town line. Later a sawmill at the same location was used to saw timber for the early houses of Weston.

1695 Weston farmers begin building their own crude, 30-foot-square “Farmers’ Meeting House.”



One Chestnut Street,

c. 1696 One Chestnut Street House has long been considered the oldest house remaining in Weston. The house was originally “one over one” room.

1698 The General Court grants settlers their formal petition to establish a separate *Farmers’ Precinct*, also referred to as the *Third Military Precinct*, the *precinct of Lt. Jones’s Company*, or the *Westernmost Precinct*. The name *Weston* is thought to come from its location at the far western end of Watertown.