

The Hamilton Whipples

Throughout Hamilton's history, from when in 1638 two Whipple brothers first obtained land in Ipswich that would later become the town of Hamilton, members of the Whipple family have been involved with its government. Their number, up through 2019, is more than 3 dozen.

Very few of Hamilton's boards, committees, commissions have not had Whipples as members and often as the chair. They were selectmen for 9 years; town clerks for 40 years; and firemen and policemen for 36 years.¹¹

17th Century

Among the early residents were Matthew^{1M} Whipple (*abt.* 1590-1647) and his brother John^{1J} Whipple (1596-1669). They were sons of Matthew (1550-1619) and Joan Whipple and came to the Bay Colony from Bocking, in Essex, England. *

The British Crown sold or gave land to subjects called "Proprietors." They appointed officials, created courts, made laws and established militia, churches, ports and towns. Proprietors recouped their investment by collecting land fees from the settlers, who purchased or leased land within the proprietor's land.

In 1638, the Massachusetts General Court granted Matthew^{1M} Whipple, a Proprietor, 225 acres in the southern part of Ipswich (*what is now in the northern part of Hamilton*). The main road from Salem to Ipswich, the Bay Path, ran through Matthew Whipple's farm. Elder Matthew^{1M} Whipple also owned land near the center of Ipswich and he held chief offices in Ipswich government.¹

Elder Matthew Whipple's son, John^{2M} Whipple (1632-95) was a lieutenant of a militia troop and deputy to the General Court for 4 years.² Sons of Lt. John^{2M} Whipple and his wife Mary (*nee Kent*) included: Matthew^{3M} (1664-1736) and Joseph^{3M} (1665-1729).

Another son of Elder Matthew^{1M} Whipple was Joseph^{2M} (1640-1708). His sons were: Capt. Matthew^{3M} (1672-1743) Whipple, Jonathan^{3M} Whipple (1679-1757)

and James^{3M} Whipple (1681-1776).

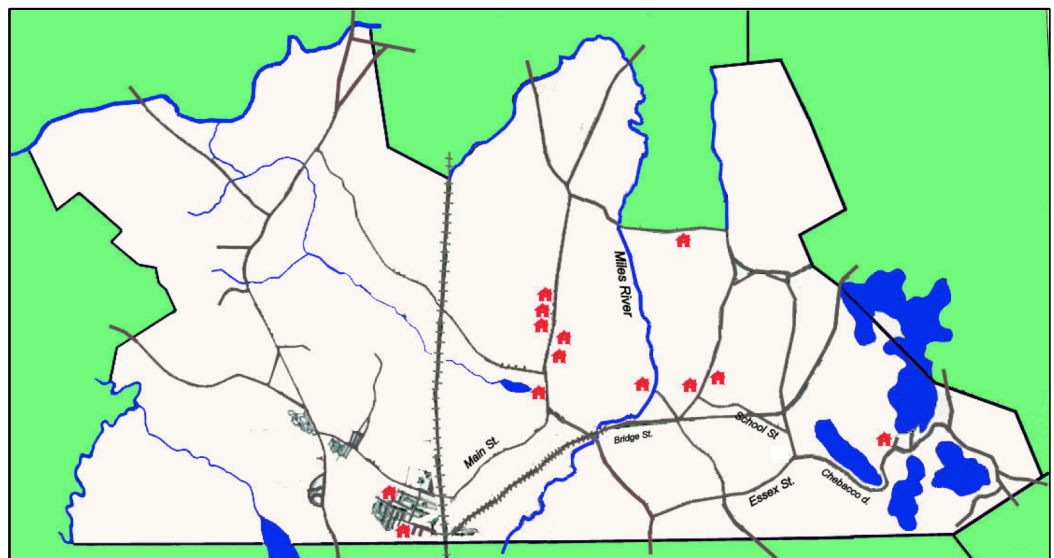
The Massachusetts General Court also granted Proprietor John^{1J} Whipple (1596-1695) 350 acres in 1639,³ (*Records do not reveal where John^{1J} Whipple's farm was.*) "Elder John" was a selectman, church deacon, a member of the school committee, and represented Ipswich as a Deputy in 1640-42, 1646 and 1650-53. He also was a Representative to the General Court, for 4 years; and captain of a militia troop; and county treasurer.²

Elder John^{1J} and his wife, Susanna (*nee Clarke*), had 11 children, one of whom was John^{2J} (1625-83). A captain of a militia troop, he and his wife, Martha (*nee Reyner*) had a son John^{3J} (1657-1722), who was a lieutenant of a militia troop.²

Capt. John^{2J} Whipple, in 1680, gave land, on which there were no buildings, to his son Matthew^{3J} (1658/1739). Some time before 1683, what is now the Whipple house on the corner of Bay Road and Farms Road (*now Cutler Road*), was built.⁴

Several Whipples fought in the Indian wars of the late 1600s. Capt. John^{2J} Whipple was at the, Mt. Hope campaign in 1675; the Narragansett and Marlborough campaigns, in 1676; the Salisbury battle in 1677; and served during the King Philips War.²

* Nearly all the birth and death dates are from Whipple.org. Superscript numbers refer to generation from first of Whipples living, J for John and M for Matthew, in Ipswich



Many Whipples had homes along Main St, (*now Bay Rd.*) and Bridge St. Map, J. Hauck, 2019

18th Century

Early in the 18th century, there was talk of creating a separate precinct in Ipswich, below the Ipswich River. Among the petitioners, in 1712, for the separation of the Hamlet, there were 8 Whipples; Matthew^{3J}; Matthew, Sr.^{3M}; Matthew, Jr.^{3M}; Matthew^{4J} (1685-1766); Jonathan^{3M}; Jonathan, Jr. (*unk.*); Jonathan (*unk.*); and James^{3M}.²

At a session of the Great and General Court of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, held in Boston, Oct. 14, 1713, Capt. Matthew^{3M} Whipple, Sr., read a petition for separation. The Court ordered it be done, since a vote of the town of Ipswich allowed the petitioners to be a separate parish.²

A week later, on Oct. 21, inhabitants of the Hamlet met at the house of Matthew^{3J} Whipple, on the corner of Farms Road and the Bay Path. Cornet (*military rank equal to what now is a 2nd lieutenant*) John^{2J} Whipple, son of Elder John^{1J} Whipple, was the moderator. The attendees voted that a "meetinghouse be built and finished before the next November." A nine-member committee, which included Dea. Nathaniel^{5J} Whipple; Cornet John^{2J} Whipple; and Capt. Matthew^{3M} Whipple, was chosen for building the Hamlet's meetinghouse.²

Matthew^{3J} Whipple was the largest contributor to building the meetinghouse. A maltster, he was a town officer, a justice of the Court of Sessions, representative to the legislature in 1718, 1719, and 1729. Matthew^{3J} Whipple was a church deacon from 1714 to 1764. His house, on the corner of Bay Path and Farms Rd., and lands were bequeathed to his sons, Matthew^{4J} and John^{4J} (1689-1781).⁸

Other Whipples living in the early Hamlet included:

Jonathan^{3M} Whipple, who married Frances (*nee Edwards*), and their son Francis^{4M} Whipple (1705-1787);

Joseph^{2M} Whipple and his wife, Sarah (*nee Quimby*);

Matthew^{3M} Whipple, his wife Bethia (*nee Lamson*) and their son William Whipple^{4M} (1703-96);

Nathaniel^{5M} Whipple (1711-17unk.), son of Matthew^{4M} and Martha (*nee Dennison*);

James^{3M} Whipple and his wife, Mary (*nee Fuller*) and their sons Daniel^{4M} Whipple (1713-17unk.), James^{4M} Whipple, Jr. (1705-59) and Jacob^{4M} Whipple (1707-89); and,

Cyprian^{3M} Whipple (1671->1708), son of John^{2M} Whipple, was a blacksmith. He and his wife, Dorothy (*nee Simmonds*) and their son Samuel^{4M} Whipple (1702->1708) moved out of town in 1708.

Many of the Whipple children, born early in the century, remained Hamlet residents, married there and had children. These included:

Francis^{4M} Whipple (1705-87), his wife, Abigail (*nee Lamson*) and their son Benjamin^{5M} Whipple, Sr. (1727-1806);

Benjamin^{5M} Whipple (1755-1824), son of John^{4M} (1695-1769), married Sarah (*nee Tuttle*) in 1780. They had a son Samuel^{6M} (1782-1865), born in the Hamlet; and

John^{5J} Whipple III (1717-94), son of Capt. John^{4J} and Dorothy (*nee Moulton*) Whipple, was a Minuteman and marched to Cambridge to fight the British. They had a son John^{6J} (1748-1806), who married Anna (*nee Tilton*); they had son, John^{7J} (1776-1858), who moved to Sherborn.

Late in the 18th century, there was talk in the Hamlet of creating a town totally separate from Ipswich. In March 1792, the Hamlet appointed a committee to negotiate with the General Court in Boston for the incorporation of the Hamlet.⁹

On Jun. 21, 1793, after obtaining the act of incorporation, the town of Hamilton held its first town meeting on Aug. 1, 1793, in the meetinghouse on the Bay Path. Dea. Nathaniel^{5J} Whipple was both the moderator and treasurer.¹⁰



Before 1683, what is now the Whipple house on the corner of Bay Road and Farms Road (now Cutler Road), was built.

Photo, Hamilton Historical Society

Several Whipples from the Hamlet volunteered to fight in the French/Indian Wars: Capt. Stephen^{5M} Whipple (1727-61) led a company in which John^{5M} Whipple (1717-94), son of John^{4M}, was a member. They fought in battles at: Fort Edwards, Lake George, 1755; Louisbourg, NY, 1758, where Stephen Whipple was wounded; Ticonderoga, Quebec, 1759; Fort Crown Point, NY, 1759; and Fort Niagara, 1759. Capt. John Whipple, in 1777 as a cavalry officer, was at the surrender of Gen. John Burgoyne.²

19th Century

By 1800, many of the 1712-petition families were gone from Hamilton, including the Davis', Fellows, Gilberts, Hubbards, Kilhams, Moultons, Perkins, Thornes and Walkers.⁵ The Hamilton population, in 1800, was 749, of which there were 50 Whipples living at 9 houses. Whipple families included:

John III^{6J} (1748-1806) and wife Anna (*nee* Tilton, 1756-1844) Whipple;

John^{5M} (1743-1832), Capt., wife Martha (*nee* Cogswell, 1741-1816) and son Edward^{6M} (1780-1861) and daughter Bridget (1782-1865) Whipple;

Jonathan^{6M} (1755-1816) and wife Martha (*nee* Whipple, 1755-1848) and sons John^{7M} (1800-1878), Oliver^{7M} (1796-1868), Stephen^{7M} (1781-1850), Nathaniel^{7M} (1779-1834) and Jonathan^{7M} (1794-1850) and daughters Martha (1783-18ukn.), Elizabeth (1786-1854), Hannah (1788-1887) and Lucinda (1791-1815) Whipple;

Matthew^{7J}, Dea. (1764-1840), wife Elizabeth (*nee* Smith, 1764-1830), and daughter Elizabeth (1798-18ukn.) Whipple;

Nathaniel^{5J}, Dea. (1720-1809), wife Mary (*nee* Appleton, 1724-1810) and daughters Mary (1745-1838), Hannah (1747-1821) and Elizabeth (1762-1849) Whipple;

Samuel^{5M} (1751-1827) and wife Hannah D. (*nee* Dodge, 1771-1843) Whipple; and

William E.^{5M} (1748-1835), wife Catherine (*nee* Appleton, 1755-1829) and son William Jr.^{6M} (1777-1857) Whipple.

In the first 25 years, more than 40 Whipples were born in the new town of Hamilton: Edward^{6M} and Clarissa had 10 children; William^{7M} and Martha, 9; Nathaniel^{7M} and Mercy, 6; Oliver^{7M} and Polly, 10; and Samuel^{6M} and Achsah, 8.

During the 1800s, three Whipples were *selectmen*: William^{7M} (1806-73) from 1839 to 1841; John^{9J} (1807-71) from 1862 to 1864; and Austin A.^{8M} (1843-1923) from 1880-84.¹¹

Assessors were: William^{7M} Whipple from 1839 to 1841; John^{7M} in 1863; and Austin A.^{8M} Whipple, in 1881 and 1882.¹¹

School committee member was; Albert L.^{9M} Whipple, from 1895 to 1899;¹¹

A *Truant Officer* was Charles E. Whipple^{9M}, from 1895 to 1897.¹¹

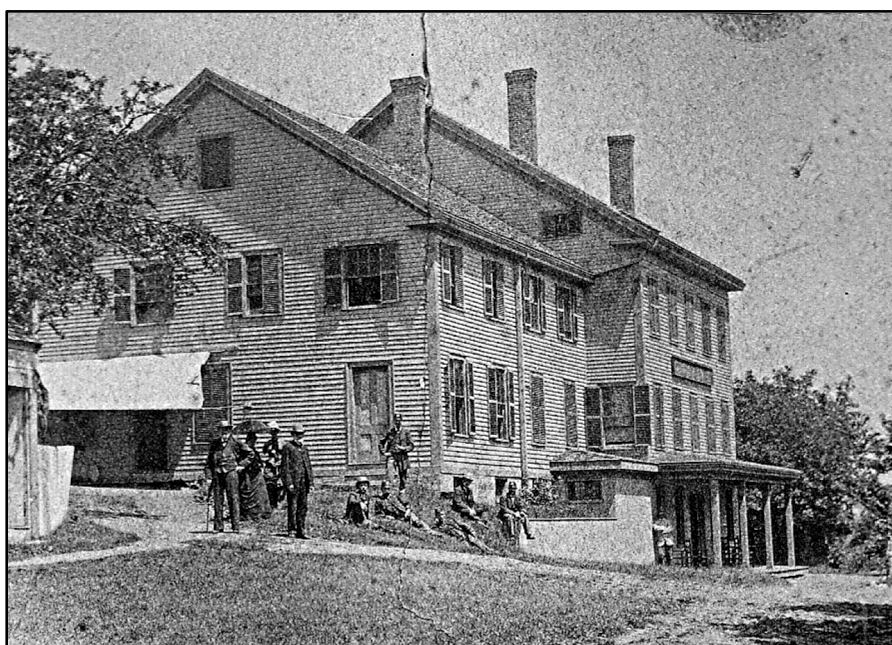
Auditors were: Austin A.^{8M} Whipple, from 1875 to 1877; Dr. Albert L.^{9M} Whipple in 1887 (*a dentist*);

The *care of tramps/travellers* was assigned to: Austin A.^{8M} Whipple, from 1877 to 85; and Emerson A.^{8M} Whipple from 1889 to 1897.¹¹

Emerson^{8M} Whipple, who owned of a 50-ac. farm at what is now 375 Bridge St., was most frequently the successful bidder for the tramps' care. Annually, the town contracted the care of tramps to the lowest bidder for providing "lodging and refreshment," of transients. This was done to keep them from hiding in barns and outbuildings.⁸

A *tax collector*, from 1892 to 1896, was Oscar F.^{8M} Whipple (1828-1901);¹¹

A *constable*, from 1896 to 1899, was Charles E.^{9M} Whipple (1864-1935). He was an ice *dealer* working out of Chebacco Lake and owned a piggery on Essex Street.⁸ He also, from 1897 to 1898, was a fire warden, a Liquor Com-



In 1859, John^{6J} Whipple built the Chebacco House hotel between Beck's Pond and Chebacco Lake, "fitting up the grounds with special reference to the entertainment of pleasure parties."
Photo, Hamilton Historical Society

missioner and a member of the town hall building committee,. ¹¹

Overseers of the poor were: William^{7M} and Austin A.^{8M} Whipple. William^{7M} served from 1841 to 1873; John^{9J} Whipple in 1862; and Austin A.^{8M} from 1882 to 1923. ¹¹

In 1859, John^{9J} Whipple (1811-85) of Boylston, son of John^{8J} (1776-1858) and Eunice (*nee Holbrook*) moved to Hamilton. He built the Chebacco House hotel between Beck's Pond and Chebacco Lake, "fitting up the grounds with special reference to the entertainment of pleasure parties," as Daniel E. Safford phrased it in his chapter on Hamilton in the History of Essex County. ²

After their father's death, John's sons, Alonzo L.^{10J} (1836-1911) and Samuel A. F.^{10J} Whipple (1838-1917) carried on the hotel business, until the Chebacco House Co. of Boston purchased it, in 1892. ⁸

Both Alonzo L.^{10J} Whipple and Samuel A. F.^{10J} Whipple were soldiers in the Civil War. They were privates, in the 41st Reg. Infantry.

Alonzo Whipple's four daughters (*Lottie, b1860; Annie, b1863; Bertha, b1870; and Cora, b1875*) were the last direct descendants of John^{1J} Whipple to be born in Hamilton.

20th Century

The 1900 federal census showed 14 Whipples living in Hamilton; ⁶ however, the Internet site Familysearch shows 25 Whipples, in the town, ⁷ one of the largest families.

Many of the Whipples served on various town boards and committees:

- *Dr. Albert L.^{9M} Whipple (1856-1944)* and his wife Grace (*nee McKay*) lived on Main St.; he was on the School Committee (1896-1902); ¹¹
- *Alonzo S.^{10J} Whipple (1835-unk.)*, son of John^{9J} and Charlotte S. Whipple, wed (1893) Alice S. Ayers;
- *Anna M. Whipple, (nee Ellen 1841-18ukn.)* widow of Edwin A.^{8M} (1832-1880), a farmer, lived Main St. near Farms Rd.
- *Arthur E.^{9M} Whipple (1872-1926)* was a Sealer of Leather (1910-26): a farm hand, he and his wife, Mabel A. (*nee unk.*), lived on Moulton near Sagamore; ^{11 4}
- *Austin A.^{8M} Whipple (1843-1923)*, a farmer, lived at what is now 824 Bay Rd. He was a selectman from 1880 to 1883; in charge of caring for tramps passing through the town, *until 1905*; and an auditor in 1923; ¹¹

Whipples on Town Committees and Offices

Position	Whipples	Began	Ended
Accountant	Francis H. ^{10M}	1950	1975
Assessor	Austin A. ^{7M}	1881	1882
	John ^{7M}	1863	1864
	William ^{6M}	1839	1841
Auditor	Albert L., Dr. ^{9M}	1887	1888
	Austin A. ^{7M}	1875	1877
Care of Tramps/Travellers	Emerson A. ^{8M}	1874	1898
Cemetery Commissioner	Raymond A. ^{10M}	1930	1955
Church Deacon	Nathaniel ^{5J}	1793	Ukn.
	Matthew ^{3J}	1714	1764
Community Preservation	Raymond ^{11M}	2005	2010
Constable	Charles E. ^{9M}	1894	1910
Election Officer	Charles E. ^{9M}	1902	1916
FinCom	Frank M.	1919	1919
	Percival D. ^{10M}	1936	1946
	Raymond ^{11M}	1988	1991
Fire Engineers	Lester M. ^{10J}	1912	1930
	Raymond A. ^{10M}	1960	1968
Fire Warden	Charles E. ^{9M}	1897	1905
Highway Surveyor	Edwin A. ^{8M}	1867	1869
Liquor Committee	Charles E. ^{9M}	1898	1902
Lockup Keeper	Samuel A. F. ^{10J}	1910	1917
Measurer Wood	Lester M. ^{10J}	1920	1930
Moderator	Nathaniel ^{5J}	1793	Ukn.
Overseer Poor	Austin A. ^{8M}	1881	1882
	William ^{6M}	1840	1841
	John ^{7M}	1862	1862
Park Commissioners	Percival D. ^{10M}	1921	1927
	Francis H. ^{10M}	1935	1943
Personnel Board	Alvin P. "Bud"	1980	1990
Playground Committee	Donna L.	1970	1978
Police Department	Francis H. ^{10M}	1940	1943
Public Welfare Agent	Francis H. ^{10M}	1940	1950
Registers of Voters	Francis H. ^{10M}	1950	1960
	Lester M. ^{10J}	1912	1920
	Samuel A. F. ^{10J}	1910	1917
Roads Commissioners	Charles E. ^{9M}	1899	1899
	Albert L., Dr. ^{9M}	1896	1905
	Oliver ^{7M}	1846	1846
	Oscar F. ^{8M}	1880	1880
	Roy W. ^{9M}	1894	1896
Sealer of Leather	Arthur E. ^{9M}	1901	1910
Selectmen	Austin A. ^{8M}	1880	1883
	John ^{7M}	1862	1864
	William ^{6M}	1840	1841
Streets Superintendent	Charles E. ^{9M}	1900	1930
Surveyor of Lumber	Charles A.	1912	1912
	Charles E. ^{9M}	1903	1910
Tax Collector	Oscar F. ^{8M}	1894	1896
TH Bldg. Committee.	Charles E. ^{9M}	1897	1898
Town Hall Janitor	Samuel A. F. ^{10J}	1910	1917
Town Clerks	Francis H. ^{10M}	1944	1975
	Samuel A. F. ^{10J}	1910	1917
Treasurer	George E. ^{9M}	1860	1860
Tree Warden	Charles E. ^{9M}	1897	1907
Truant Officer	Charles E. ^{9M}	1895	1896
Water Works Super.	Raymond A. ^{10M}	1950	1968



Lester M. and son Charles Whipple next to 1918 Autocar truck. He ran Beck's Pond ice company, started by father, Charles E. Whipple. Photo, c1927, Hamilton Historical Society

- **Charles "Charlie" E.^{9M} Whipple (1864-1935)**, an ice dealer and general contractor, and his wife Gracie H. (1867-1910, *nee Whipple*) lived on Essex St. near Chebacco Rd. He was a Truant officer (1895-1897); Constable (1897-1911); Superintendent of Streets (1909-22); Surveyor of Lumber, etc. (1909-11); a liquor commissioner from 1902 to 1915,¹¹ and Surveyor of Highways (1900-33, *upon his death it was said that "due to his efficiency Hamilton ... acquired its reputation as being the town of almost perfect roadways."*)²⁰
- **Frank M.^{9M} Whipple (1865-1944)**, a carpenter, brother of Emerson A.^{8M} Whipple, lived on Bridge St., son of Emerson A.^{8M}, was on the FinCom (1919-34);¹¹;
- **Oscar F.^{8M} Whipple (1828-1901)**, a farmer, and wife Sophia (*nee ukn.*), lived on Main St.; he was a tax collector from 1893 until 1896;¹¹ and
- **Lester M.^{10M} Whipple (1887-1963)** was a Register of Voters (1920-31), Measurer Wood (1930-32);¹¹ In 1914, The Board of Selectmen, as allowed by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 48, Section 45, appointed a 5-member Board of Engineers to govern a fire department. Lester M.^{10M} Whipple was an initial member and remained on the Board until 1931.⁹
- **Percival D.^{10M} Whipple (1895-1964)**, son of Albert L.^{9M} was a Park Commissioner (1927-64) and on the FinCom (1946-64);¹¹
- **Samuel A. F.^{10J} (1838-1917)**, son of John^{9J} and Charlotte (*nee Stone*) Whipple was the Town Clerk (1910-17), Town Hall janitor (1910-17), Lockup Keeper (1910-17) and a Register of Voters (1910-17);¹¹

Samuel A. F.^{10J} Whipple, when a young man, came to Hamilton with his father, John^{9J} Whipple, who ran the Chebacco House. After working in business in Boston, he returned to Hamilton. Upon the death of the town clerk, he took the office, which he held for 8 years. He died Dec. 21, 1917.¹⁹

Other 20th century Whipples living in Hamilton:

- **Alvin P. "Bud"^{11M} Whipple (1930-2014)**, son Raymond A.^{10M} and Ruth (*nee Perley*) Whipple, was on the Personnel Board (1990-2007);¹¹
- **Barbara F. Whipple (1930-L)**, daughter Francis H^{10M} and Lola G. Patten Whipple;
- **Donna L. (*nee Sennott*) Whipple (1930-L)**, wife of Raymond A. Whipple, Jr.^{10M}, was on the Playground Committee for many years (1978-2013);
- **Francis H.^{10M} Whipple (1904-75)**, son of Arthur E.^{9M} and Mabel A., (*nee Carey*) was the Town Clerk (1944-75), Police department (1943-75), Public Welfare Agent (1950-75), Accountant (1950-75), Register of Voters (1960-75), Park Commissioner (1943-75);¹¹
- **Dorothy J., (1917-94)**, daughter of Lester M.^{10M} and Gladys M. Whipple.
- **Edwin A.^{8M} Whipple (1831-1909)** son of Oliver^{7M} and Polly (*nee Woodbury*) and brother of Oscar F.^{8M} and Oliver^{8M} Whipple;
- **Emerson A.^{8M} Whipple (1833-1913)**, a farmer, and Anna A. (*nee Blatchford*) (1835-1921) lived on Bridge St., near School St.;
- **George S.^{9M} Whipple (1871-1930)**, son of Emerson A.^{8M} Whipple, a teamster, and wife Grace G. (*nee Kinsman*) and son Leslie^{10M} (1902-81) lived on Bridge St. near School St.;
- **Hannah M. (*nee ukn.*) Whipple (1829-1913)**, widow of Oliver^{9M} Whipple;
- **John H.^{8M} Whipple (1831-1917)**, a farmer, and wife Martha (*nee Mears*) lived on Moulton St. near Sagamore;
- **Karen Lee Whipple (1959-L)**, daughter Alvin P.^{11M} and Elaine M. Whipple;
- **Karen Lyn Whipple (1963-L)**, daughter Roger W. and Ann (*nee ukn.*) Whipple;
- **Martha P. (*nee Hood*) Whipple (1823-1910)**, widow of Stephen^{8M} Whipple (1847-1918) of Salem, lived on Main St. near Farms Rd.;
- **Oliver^{9M} Whipple (1824-75)**;
- **Percival D.^{10M} Whipple and Eleanor (*nee Robinson*, 1892-1994) Whipple**, lived on Main St.; he was one of 17 incorporators of the Community Services of Hamilton and Wenham and the first Board of Directors, in 1921.

- *Raymond A.^{10M} Whipple* (1903-85), son of Arthur E.^{9M} and Mabel A., (*nee Perley*) was a Fire Engineer (1968-85), a Cemetery Commissioner (1955-85) and on the FinCom (1968-85);¹¹
- *Phillip Whipple* (1916-ukn);
- *Reginald Whipple* (1918-ukn), son Edward W. and Emma C. (*nee MacGregor*) ;
- *Roy W.^{9M} Whipple* (1880-1930), son of Oscar F.^{8M} and Emma L. (*nee Trussell*).

21st Century

During the 1900s, nearly 20 Whipples were born in Hamilton, with 5 being children of Arthur and Mabel A. Whipple. However, in 2000, only three Whipples remained in the town.

Raymond^{11M} Whipple (1938) and his wife, Donna, live on Mill Street. He was a member of the Community Preservation Committee, the Conservation Commission and President of the Historical Society. In 2019, he led the moving of the Hamilton Historical Society records and memorabilia from the town hall basement to the Patton homestead on Asbury Street.

Elaine (nee Moad) Whipple, widow of Alvin^{11M} "Bud" Whipple, lived on Willow Street. She was active with the Hamilton Historical Society.

Near where the railroad tracks cross Bay Road and at the base of a Maple tree, there is a plaque commemorating the service of Alvin "Bud"^{11M} Whipple. His name also is on the veterans monument in front of the town hall. Alvin^{11M} "Bud" Whipple was a radioman on the USS Ft. Mandan, LSD-21, during the Korean War.²¹

Inside the town hall, there is a WWI plaque that has the name of veteran Percival D.^{10M} Whipple.

Off of Essex Street, near the Essex town line there is Whipple Road. It was built in 1972 and named for Francis H.^{10M} Whipple.

Off of Sagamore Street, in the northeast area of Hamilton, there is Sagamore Hill, which originally was called Whipple Hill.

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Near where the railroad tracks cross Bay Road and at the base of a Maple tree, there is a plaque commemorating the service of Alvin Bud^{11M} Whipple. Photo, J. Hauck, 2019