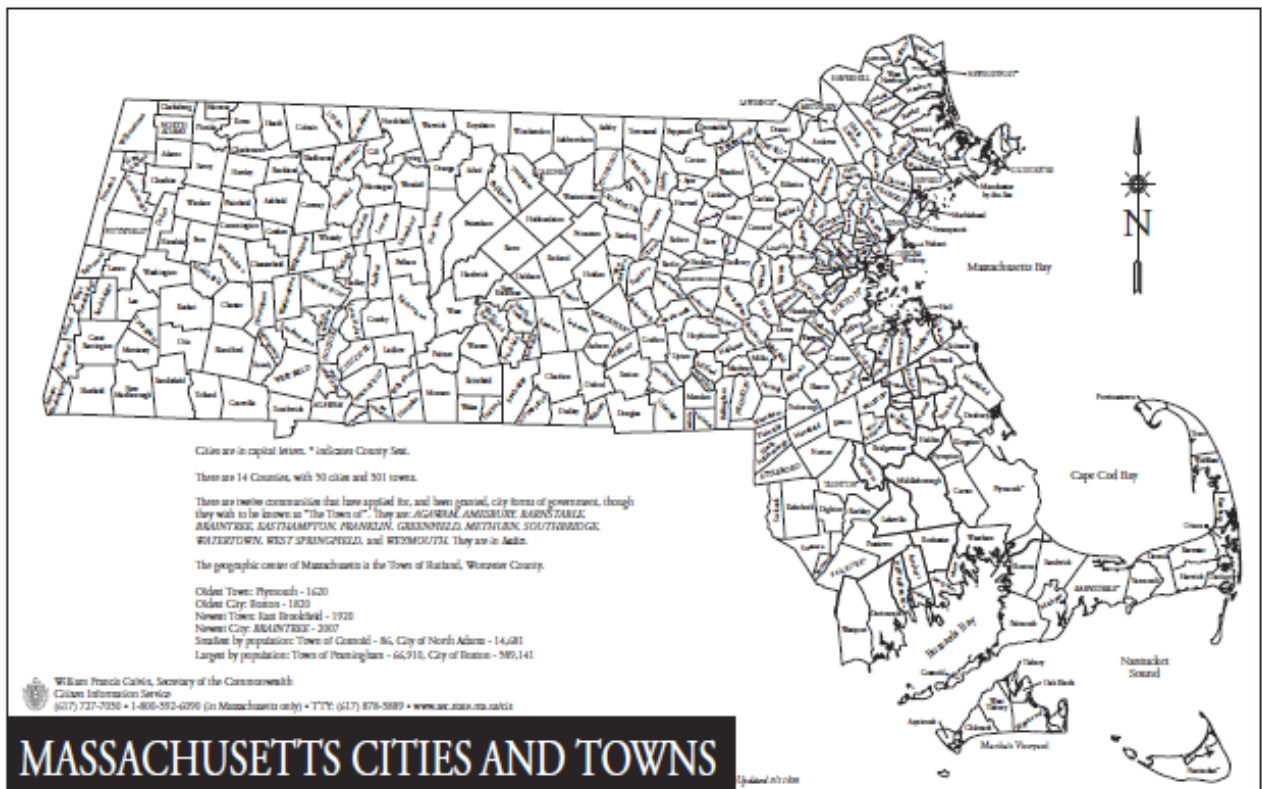


The Hometowns of Massachusetts' African American Soldiers, Marines and Patriots of the Revolutionary War



NATIONAL MALL LIBERTY FUND DC
www.libertyfunddc.org
 Maurice A. Barboza
mbarboza@libertyfunddc.org
 703-299-0408

Number of African American Patriots by Municipality

Municipality	#	Municipality	#	Municipality	#	Municipality	#
Abington	5	Dorchester	7	Marblehead	15	Sheffield	5
Acton	3	Douglas	1	Marlborough	5	Shelburne	7
Adams	3	Dracut	6	Marshfield	4	Shrewsbury	2
Amesbury	8	Dunstable	5	Martha's Vineyard	5	South Hadley	3
Amherst	3	East Bridgewater	1	Mashpee	2	Southampton	5
Andover	23	Eastham	4	Medfield	6	Spencer	2
Arlington	1	Easton	3	Medford	15	Springfield	10
Ashby	1	Edgartown	2	Medway	5	Stockbridge	9
Ashfield	2	Essex	1	Mendon	2	Stoneham	11
Attleborough	3	Falmouth	12	Methuen	1	Stoughton	5
Auburn	1	Fitchburg	1	Middleborough	10	Stow	2
Barnstable	9	Framingham	14	Middleton	5	Sturbridge	2
Barre	4	Franklin	3	Monson	1	Sudbury	4
Becket	1	Freetown	17	Montague	1	Sunderland	1
Bedford	6	Georgetown	1	Nantucket	5	Sutton	3
Belchertown	3	Gloucester	3	Natick	11	Swansea	10
Bellingham	5	Grafton	9	Needham	3	Taunton	17
Berkley	4	Granville	5	New Braintree	1	Templeton	1
Berkshire	8	Great Barrington	6	Newbury	18	Tewksbury	4
Beverly	11	Groton	4	Newburyport	9	Topsfield	2
Billerica	4	Hadley	4	Newton	2	Tyringham	2
Bolton	3	Halifax	1	Northampton	10	Upton	3
Boston	93	Hampshire	6	Northborough	1	Uxbridge	1
Boxford	3	Hanover	8	Northfield	1	Waltham	5
Braintree	9	Hardwick	4	Norton	4	Ware	2
Bridgewater	40	Harvard	3	Oakham	1	Wareham	3
Brookfield	4	Harwich	6	Oxford	2	Warren	3
Brookline	4	Hatfield	4	Palmer	3	Warwick	1
Cambridge	13	Haverhill	2	Paxton	3	Watertown	6
Cape Ann	1	Hingham	7	Pelham	5	Wellfleet	1
Carlisle	1	Holden	2	Pembroke	5	Wenham	4
Charlestown	10	Holliston	6	Pepperell	2	West Springfield	7
Charlton	5	Ipswich	9	Petersham	2	West Stockbridge	2
Chatham	3	Kingston	4	Pittsfield	12	Westborough	1
Chelmsford	3	Lancaster	23	Plymouth	26	Westfield	6
Chelsea	2	Lanesborough	4	Plympton	5	Westford	2
Cheshire	3	Lee	1	Raynham	2	Weston	1
Chester	1	Leicester	13	Reading	10	Westport	1
Chesterfield	5	Lenox	1	Rehoboth	15	Weymouth	1
Cohasset	2	Leominster	1	Richmond	4	Whately	1
Colrain	4	Lexington	9	Rochester	6	Wilbraham	3
Concord	15	Lincoln	5	Rowley	3	Williamstown	1
Conway	3	Littleton	5	Roxbury	5	Wilmington	1
Cummington	1	Ludlow	1	Salem	25	Woburn	16
Danvers	13	Lunenburg	4	Salisbury	3	Worcester	21
Dartmouth	25	Lynn	5	Sandisfield	3	Wrentham	5
Dedham	5	Malden	7	Sandwich	17	Yarmouth	2
Deerfield	4	Manchester	2	Scituate	10		
Dighton	16	Mansfield	4	Sharon	3		

Facts about Massachusetts' African American Soldiers, Marines and Patriots of the Revolutionary War

- African Americans served in all of the major battles of the Revolutionary War (1775-1783), from Lexington and Concord to Yorktown.
- Revised estimates suggest that between 5,000 and 10,000 could have served as soldiers, marines and civilian workers (referred to interchangeably as soldiers and patriots).
- For generations, historians had estimated that at least 5,000 served; however, less than half were known until *Forgotten Patriots, African American and American Indian Patriots of the Revolutionary War* was published by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution in 2008.
- At least 1,570 patriots served in the Continental Army and state militia of Massachusetts.
- At least 1,174 patriots are connected by birth, enlistment or residence to a Massachusetts community ("resident soldiers.")
- 31 percent of the 5,000 known patriots resided in Massachusetts
- 48 percent of the 5,000 known patriots resided in Massachusetts and Connecticut.
- 194 of the 351 municipalities of Massachusetts are connected to one or more patriots. (234 municipalities existed during the Revolutionary War.)
- 336 patriots are not associated with a community.
- 51 patriots were residents of neighboring states and served in Massachusetts units.
- 9 patriots are associated with a county but not a town.
- Descriptive lists record them as Negro, black, mulatto, yellow, wool hair, colored, brown, dark, copper, Azorean, Iberian, African, part Indian, man of color and "former enslaved man."
- Most black patriots had typical European surnames; however, 20 used the town of "Boston" as a surname and 46 took the surname "Freeman" to express their aspirations. At least one "Freeman" also used the surname "Liberty."
- These are the names of a few wives -- Hannah Woods; Cate Green, Rhoda, Phoebe Rosier (described as Indian)
- The patriots served in many roles: soldier, sailor, marine, patriotic service, cook's mate, waiter, barber, landsman, drummer, fifer, carpenter, servant, and gentleman soldier. (The vast majority were fighting men. All were put in harm's way.)
- Sailors served on board the Frigate Boston, Schooner Resolution, Ship Essex, Privateer Thomas, Ship Pilgrim and Ship Deane, among others.
- Boys served on the Brigantines Hazard and Independence.
- At least 59 soldiers applied for a pension.
- At least seven soldiers died in service.
- 33 towns in Middlesex County were home to 193 soldiers, the highest of any county. Woburn (16) had the most. Counties ranking second and third are Essex (167) and Plymouth (136).
- The total for Middlesex County represents 16 percent of the state's total and 5 percent of the nation's total of resident soldiers.
- Boston (93) had the highest number of resident soldiers of any municipality, representing 79 percent of Suffolk County's total and 8 percent of the state's total.
- The 117 resident soldiers of Suffolk County, including Boston, represent 10 percent of the state's 1,177 resident soldiers and 3 percent of the nation's.
- These towns sent between 21 and 40 patriots into battle: Bridgewater (40), Plymouth (26), Dartmouth (25), Salem (25), Andover (23), Lancaster (23) and Worcester (21).

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	COUNTY	CITY
BACON	PRINCE	NANTUCKET	Nantucket
Boston	PETER	NANTUCKET	Nantucket
Boston	SILAS	NANTUCKET	Nantucket
MINGO	THOMAS	NANTUCKET	Nantucket
PEASE	MICHAEL	NANTUCKET	Nantucket