

THE RECORDS OF THE CHURCHES OF BOSTON

**And
The First Church, Second Parish, and Third Parish of
Roxbury**

**Including
Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths, Admissions and Dismissals**

Transcribed by

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Introduction

In the first volume of the *Reports of the Boston Record Commissioners* series, Appendix A, there appears an extract of a report from the Joint Committee on the Public Library citing the deficiencies in the city records as they pertain to its vital records. A portion of it is worthy of repetition to illustrate the importance of the church records.

“It may be assumed that the annual number of births is about 3 in every 100 inhabitants, and the deaths about the same. 1st. From 1630 to 1700, the probable average population was 3000, giving 90 births per annum, and in 70 years 6,300 births. Our public records contain but 1,850 births. 2nd. From 1700 to 1744, the average population was 13,000, or 390 per annum, yielding for 44 years, 17,160 births. Our record has 20,000 for the whole period, so is reasonably full. 3rd From 1744 to 1807, average population 20,000; births, 600 per annum; for 63 years 37,800 births. Our records contain about 5,000 names, or not one seventh. For the century from 1744 to 1849, the births must have accounted for at least 125,000 and our records preserve the names of but 8,500, or less than seven percent. As to deaths, our record is even worse. Out of at least 60,000 deaths which have occurred in Boston between 1630 and 1810, we have record of some 4,700 only. We are fortunate that the records for marriages appears to be far better. For the period from 1630-1807, there were undoubtedly some 25,000 to 30,000 marriages. Our volumes contain about 20,000; and this part of the record is best of all. By comparison, it is reported that in the period 1735-1744, there were 5,779 baptisms recorded and from 1745-1774, some 12,284 baptisms are in the records. The custom of infant baptism enables us to obtain the births, therefore, of a great number of children, with accuracy of date sufficient for all purposes.”

As the above numbers indicate, the recording of vital statistics by the city of Boston was woefully inadequate during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Therefore the records of Boston churches become increasingly important, as they may be the only source for such information during this time period. After Ann Lainhart and I published *The New North Church Records*, we found that there was no published compilation of records for many of the other churches in Boston. Many of the records that had been published were out of print or stored in local repositories. It was our hope that these records would be made available in print and this led to the creation of *The Records of the Churches of Boston*. Discussions were held with Jane Fletcher Fiske of the New England Historic Genealogical Society and we gained her prompt and enthusiastic support for such a project. We then made a survey of where the original records were housed, and sought permission from various churches to make copies for transcription. In some cases the original records could not be located. Transcriptions of these records were made from microfilms of the copy books when available. All of the material used for transcriptions is now on deposit in the NEHGS Manuscript Collection. These transcriptions now contain all of the available baptismal, marriage, death, and admission and dismissal records of Boston churches organized before 1800. In most cases, however, the transcriptions published here extend well into the 1800s. Also included are the records of the First Church, Second Parish, and Third Parish of Roxbury.

In order to make *The Records of the Churches of Boston* as complete as possible, the Colonial Society

of Massachusetts generously allowed us to include their publications of the *Records of The First Church in Boston* and *The Records of the Trinity Church of Boston*. We are also indebted to the Massachusetts Historical Society and King's Chapel for their permission to make use of the *Records of King's Chapel*, on deposit at the Society, and to Brenda Dawson who coordinated and oversaw the copying of the pertinent records. Also, the records of the Old South Church and the Congregational Society in Boston were made available through the courtesy of Mr. Harold Field Worthley and the church.

Two of the churches organized prior to 1800, New Jerusalem and First Methodist Episcopal, have no extant records before that year and therefore were not transcribed. Copies of their later records are on deposit at NEHGS.

Robert J. Dunkle
November, 2001

Church Descriptions

Following are short descriptions of each church in Boston organized prior to 1800. Also included are the First Church, Second Parish, and Third Parish of Roxbury. The sources for these descriptions are John **Hayward**, "Boston Churches and Ministers", from *A Gazetteer of Massachusetts*, (Boston, pub. by John P. Jewett & Co., 1849) and Harvard Theological Studies, Harold Field **Worthley**, *An Inventory of The Records of The Particular (Congregational) Churches of Massachusetts Gathered 1620-1805*, (Cambridge, 1970). For further information, consult these volumes as well as the many published histories of individual churches available through NEHGS and many local libraries.

FIRST CHURCH – 1630 – UNITARIAN

Hayward

The first house of public worship in Boston was built for this society, in 1632, near the corner of State and Devonshire streets. It had mud walls, and a thatched roof. Their second house was built in 1640-1641, on Washington Street, on the lot where Joy's buildings now stand. This house was burnt in 1711, and the *Old Brick* so called, was erected on the same spot. In 1808, the *Old Brick* was sold, and their present house, in Chauncy place, out of Summer Street, was built, and dedicated on the 21st of July, of the same year. The church was constituted at Charlestown, August 27, 1630. A few years ago, this church was entirely rearranged within, at an expense of \$10,000.

A lecture has been preached at this church, on Thursday of every week, since the year 1633; at first, under the charge of the minister of the church; subsequently, and for many years, by an association of the clergy of Boston and its vicinity. On that day, all intended marriages in the city were publicly announced by the city clerk, until the practice was discontinued in 1843. In March, 1845, the Boston Association voted to relinquish the care of the lecture, and to throw it back upon the pastor of the First Church.

Clergy:

- Rev. John Wilson, installed Nov. 23, 1632, died Aug. 7, 1667, aged 78.
- Rev. John Cotton, installed Oct. 17, 1633, died Dec. 23, 1652, aged 67.
- Rev. John Norton, installed July 23, 1656, died April 5th, 1663, aged 57.
- Rev. John Davenport, installed Dec. 9, 1668, died March 15, 1670, aged 72.
- Rev. James Allen, installed Dec. 9, 1668, died Sept. 22, 1710, aged 78.
- Rev. John Oxenbridge, installed April 10, 1670, died Dec. 28, 1674, aged 65.
- Rev. J. Moody, assistant, May 3, 1684 to 1692, died July 4, 1697, aged 72.
- Rev. John Bailey, assistant, July 17, 1693, died Dec. 12, 1697, aged 53.
- Rev. Benj. Wadsworth, ordained Sept. 8, 1696, died March 12, 1737, aged 67.
- Rev. Thomas Bridge, installed May 10, 1705, died Sept. 26, 1715, aged 58.
- Rev. Thomas Foxcroft, ordained Nov. 20, 1717, died June 18, 1769, aged 72.
- Rev. Charles Chauncy, D.D., ordained Oct. 25, 1727, died Feb. 10, 1787, aged 82.
- Rev. John Clarke, D.D., ordained July 8, 1778, died April 1, 1798, aged 42.
- Rev. William Emerson, installed Oct. 16, 1799, died May 12, 1811, aged 42.
- Rev. John Lovejoy Abbott, ordained July 14, 1813, died Oct. 17, 1814, aged 31.
- Rev. Nathaniel L. Frothingham, D.D., ordained March 15, 1815.

FIRST CHURCH (U).

Worthley

The First Church was gathered (at Charlestown) on July 30, 1630, and within three months removed to Boston. It received incorporation on March 3, 1829.

The present church was constituted in 1968 by merger with Boston's Second Church, for which a separate entry is made below.

Ministers: As shown above, except John Wilson (installed teacher 1630; installed pastor 1632; died 1667.)

Ruling Elders:

Increase Nowell, (elected 1630; dismissed to Charlestown Church 1632; died 1655.)
Thomas Oliver, (elected and ordained 1632; died 1657/58.)
Thomas Leverett, (elected 1633; died 1650.)
Deacon William Colbron (sometimes "Colburn(e)" or "Colborn(e), (elected and ordained 1650; died 1662.)
Deacon Jacob Eliot, (elected and ordained 1650; died 1651.)
James Penn, (elected and ordained 1650; died 1671.)
John Wiswall, (elected 1670; died 1687.)
Lt. Thomas Clarke, (elected 1672; ordained 1673; died 1678)
Timothy Prout, (elected 1679; died 1702)
Isaac Addington, (elected 1679; died 1714/15)
Deacon Joseph Bridgham, (elected 1694/95; died 1708/09)
Those several authorities who list Deacon Henry Bridgham as ruling elder of this church are in error.]
Thomas Jackson, (elected 1694/95; died 1710)
Deacon David Copp, (elected and ordained 1701; died 1713)

Deacons:

William Gager, (elected 1630; died 1630)
William Aspinwall, (elected 1630; Hutchinsonian; banished, demitted office, removed to R. I. 1638; in Boston 1642-1653; removed to England, died ca. 1655)
William Colbron [sometimes "Colburn(e)" or "Colborn(e)"], (elected 1630; elevated to ruling elder and ordained 1650; died 1662)
Giles Firman [this is Giles the father not the son], (elected 1633; died 1634)
William Hutchinson, (elected 1636; husband of Anne Hutchinson; demitted office, removed to R.I. 1638; died 1642)
Jacob Eliot, (elected 1636; re-elected and ordained 1640; elevated to ruling elder and ordained 1650; died 1651.)
Valentine Hill, (elected and ordained 1640; died 1662)
Thomas Marshall, (elected and ordained 1650; died ca. 1665)
James Johnson, (elected and ordained 1650; dismissed from office 1667)
Richard Trusdale, (elected and ordained 1650; resigned and dismissed 1668/69; then removed to Boston's Third Church; died 1671)
Robert Sanderson (mentioned as deceased deacon 1687)
Jacob Eliot, (elected 1666-1667; dismissed from office 1668/69 for supporting those who formed Boston's Third Church; died 1680)
Edward Ransford, (elected 1666-1667; dismissed from office 1668/69 for supporting those who formed Boston's Third Church; died 1680)
Henry Bridgham, (elected and ordained 1668; died by 1671)

Robert Sanders, (elected and ordained 1668; died 1693)
 Henry Allen, (elected and ordained 1668; died 1696)
 Henry Phillips, (elected 1672; mentioned 1683)
 Joseph Bridgham, (mentioned when elev. to ruling elder 1694/95; died 1708/09)
 David Copp, (elected 1694/95; ordained 1696; re-elected 1701; elevated to ruling elder 1701; died 1713)
 John Dyer, (elected 1694/95; probably refused)
 John Marion, Jr. (elected 1695-1696; ordained 1696; re-elected 1701; died 1727/28)
 Isaiah Tay ["Toy"], (elected and ordained 1701; refused to officiate ca. 1712; dismissed to Boston's Fourth (Brattle Square) Church 1721; died 1730)
 Thomas Hubbard, (ordained 1704; died 1717)
 Samuel Marshall, (elected 1717; ordained 1719; died 1742/43)
 Jonathan Williams, (elected 1717; ordained 1719; died 1737)
 Zechariah Thayer, (elected 1728; ordained 1731; died 1735/36)
 Thomas Waite, (elected 1733/34; ordained 1735; died 1775)
 Cornelius Thayer, (elected 1736; ordained 1741; died 1745)
 Jonathan Williams, Jr., (elected 1737; ordained 1741; died 1788)
 Daniel Marsh, (elected 1747. "But to this day, January 1, 1754, declines being ordained.")
 James Thwing, (elected 1779; died 1789)
 [Not to be confused with his son, Deacon James Thwing, elected 1814, resigned 1815.]
 Jacob Williams, (elected 1779; died in Vt. ca. 1821)
 David Tilden, (elected 1789; died ca. 1814)
 James Morrill, (elected 1789; died 1833)

SECOND CHURCH – 1650 -- UNITARIAN

Hayward

This church was gathered June 5, 1650. The first house of worship was built in 1649, burnt November 27, 1676, rebuilt 1677, and destroyed by the British, January 16, 1776. It was called the *Old North*. After the return of the inhabitants to Boston, on the evacuation by the British soldiers, the Second church and society, with their minister, were invited -to worship in the house called the "*New Brick*," which was situated in Hanover Street, and taken down in March, 1844. In June, 1779, the two societies united, taking the name and records of the "Second Church."

The new edifice for the Second church, stands on the site formerly occupied by the "New Brick." It is built of red free-stone, from Connecticut, in the Gothic style. The pews, organ, and gallery fronts, are of black walnut, richly carved and ornamented. The spire is very graceful and lofty, being two hundred and twenty-six feet in height, above the level of the ground, and about two hundred and sixty above that of the sea. The church, with its buttresses, battlements, turrets, and pinnacles presents a grand and imposing appearance. It was dedicated in the summer of 1845.

Clergy of the Old North, or Second Church:

Rev. John Mayo, settled Nov. 9, 1655, left April 15, 1673. (Worthley)
 Rev. Increase Mather, D.D., settled May 27, 1664, died Aug. 23, 1723, aged 85.
 Rev. Cotton Mather, D.D., settled May 13, 1684, died Feb. 13, 1728, aged 65.
 Rev. Joshua Gee, settled Dec. 18, 1723, May 22, 1748, aged 50.
 Rev. Samuel Mather, D.D., settled June 21, 1732, left October 23, 1741, died June 27, 1785, aged 79.
 Rev. Samuel Checkley, Jr., settled Sept. 3, 1747, died March 19, 1768, aged 44.
 Rev. John Lathrop, D.D., settled May 18, 1768, died Jan. 4, 1816, aged 77.

Clergy of the New Brick.:

- Rev. William Waldron, settled May 23, 1722, died Sept. 20, 1727, aged 81.
- Rev. William Welsted, settled March 27, 1728, died Sept. 29, 1753, aged 58.
- Rev. Ellis Gray, settled Sept. 27, 1738, died Jan. 17, 1752, aged 37.
- Rev. Ebenezer Pemberton, settled March 6, 1754, died Sept. 15, 1777, aged 72

Clergy of the Second Church after the union. (Dr. Lathrop, as above.)

- Rev. Henry Ware, Jr., settled Jan. 1, 1817, left Oct. 4, 1830.
- Rev. R. W. Emerson, settled March 11, 1829, left Oct. 28, 1832.
- Rev. Chandler Robbins, settled Dec. 4, 1833, continued preaching to the same society, in the Masonic Temple, Nov. 19, 1848.

SECOND CHURCH (U).

Worthley

The church was gathered on June 5, 1650, and, was popularly known as “The Old North Church” (not to be confused with the Episcopal church similarly designated). The Second Church and Society of Boston was incorporated on Feb. 4, 1824.

Four mergers have occurred during the church’s lifetime. In 1741-1742, a group of Old Light opponents of the revival, led by junior pastor Samuel Mather, seceded and constituted Boston’s Tenth Church. In accordance with Mather’s dying wish, the surviving members of the Tenth Church returned to the Second Church in 1785-1786.

During the siege of Boston, the Second Church’s (second) meetinghouse was destroyed by the British. Following the war, in 1779 this congregation merged with that of the Seventh (“New Brick”) Church, retaining the name of the Second (“Old North”) Church.

In 1845, a merger was effected with the Church of the Saviour, the bodies being incorporated as The Second Church on Feb. 22 of that year.

In 1968, following a fire which destroyed the First Church’s building, that body and this merged to form The First and Second Church of Boston.

Ministers: as listed above.

Ruling elders:

- Michael Powell (elected 1655; died 1672)
- ___ Avery (elected 1680; probably refused.)

Deacons:

- Christopher Gibson (ordained 1670; died 1673-1676)
- John Phillips, (ordained 1670; died 1682)
- Daniel Turell [“Turil” or “Tyrill”, (elected 1678; mentioned 1693)
- ___ Stone, (elected 1678; mentioned 1693)
- ___ Hudson, (elected 1678; mentioned 1695)

[Turell, Stone and Hudson were elected “to supply the place” of deacons in 1678; they were mentioned in 1693, but it is possible that they were never ordained.]

- John Atwood, (elected 1693; ordained 1695; died 1714)
- Obadiah Gill, (elected 1693; ordained 1695; died 1701)

John Barnard, (elected 1693; ordained 1695; died 1730)
Thomas Baker, (elected 1701; mentioned 1728)
Edward Proctor, (mentioned 1718-1751)
John Buchanan, (elected 1720; mentioned 1728)
Grafton Feveryeare, (elected 1728; mentioned 1754)
William Larrabee, (elected 1728; mentioned 1749)
Edward Langdon (mentioned 1749-1763)
Thomas Tyler, (elected 1751; died 1770)
William Bordman, (elected 1771; mentioned 1799)
Deacon Jonathan Brown, (admitted 1779; died 1785)
Deacon John Tudor, (admitted 1779; died 1795)
Deacon Thomas Greenough, (admitted 1779; died 1785)

[Brown, Tudor and Greenough were admitted in 1779 from Boston's Seventh or New Brick Church, where all had served as Deacons.]

Samuel Ridgeway, (mentioned 1786; died 1799)
William Bell, (mentioned 1786-1799)
Deacon Benjamin Henderson, (admitted 1786; mentioned 1799) [Admitted 1786
from Tenth Church where he had served as a deacon.]
Samuel Parkinan, (elected 1801; removed 1824)
Thomas Lewis, (elected 1801; mentioned 1806)

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE – 1664 -- FRIENDS

Hayward

The society of Friends built the first *brick* house for public worship in Boston, on Brattle Street, in the year 1664. About the year 1717, they changed their place of worship to “Quaker Lane,” now Congress Street. They continued there until 1825. Their present place of worship is in a very neat building, on Milton place, out of Federal Street. But few of this society are in the city at present.

From the holdings of the Rhode Island Historical Society:

The first Friends in American arrived in Boston in 1656. The first public meeting there was in 1661. Small meetings for worship continued to be held, under the general oversight of Salem Monthly Meeting, which became an official preparative meeting in 1707. Boston Preparative Meeting was laid down in 1808; worship began in 1870. Boston Monthly Meeting was set off in 1883, and met in Boston's Roxbury neighborhood. Lawrence Monthly Meeting was set off in 1899.

The definitive printed work on this meeting is George Selleck *Quakers in Boston, 1656-1964: Three Centuries of Friends in Boston and Cambridge* (Cambridge, 1976).

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH – 1665 – BAPTIST

Hayward

This church was constituted at Charlestown, May 28, 1665. The first house of this society was erected on the side of what was then called the Mill pond, now Stillman Street, between Salem and Pond Streets. In 1771, this house was taken down, and a larger one erected, and which continued their place of worship until the 14th of June, 1829. Their new home, at the corner of Hanover and Union streets, was erected in 1828, and dedicated June 17, 1829.

Clergy:

- Rev. Thomas Gould, settled 1665, died Oct. 27, 1675.
- Rev. John Miles preached here a short time.
- Rev. John Russell, settled July 28, 1679, died Dec. 21, 1680.
- Rev. Isaac Hull preached here a short time.
- Rev. John Emblem, settled in 1684, died Dec. 9, 1702.
- Rev. Ellis Callender, settled 1708. He died about twenty years later.
- Rev. Elisha Callender, settled March 21, 1718, died March 31, 1738.
- Rev. Jeremiah Condy, settled Feb. 14, 1739, left 1767.
- Rev. Samuel Stillman, D.D., settled Jan. 9, 1765, died March 12, 1807, aged 70.
- Rev. Joseph Clay, settled Aug. 1, 1807, left Oct. 27, 1809.
- Rev. James N. Winchell, settled March 13, 1814, died Feb. 22, 1820, aged 28.
- Rev. Francis Wayland, D.D., settled Aug. 22, 1821, left Sept. 10, 1826.
- Rev. Cyrus Grosvenor, settled Jan. 24, 1827, left Sept. 24, 1830.
- Rev. William Hague, settled Feb. 4, 1831, left June, 1837.
- Rev. R. H. Neale, settled Sept. 17, 1837.

OLD SOUTH CHURCH – 1669 – TRINITARIAN

Hayward

This church was constituted at Charlestown, May 12, 1669. The first house of this society was of cedar, at the corner of Washington and Milk streets. Their wooden house was taken down in March, 1729, and religious services were attended, for the first time, in their present capacious brick building, on the same spot, on the 26th of April, 1730.

This house is eighty-eight by sixty-one feet. It has two tiers of galleries, and is so central and commodious, that it is frequently used on great public occasions.

“Here was delivered, in defiance of the threats of authority, and in presence of marshaled soldiery, Warren’s fearless oration on the anniversary of the massacre of the 5th of March, 1770. Here were repeatedly held the meetings of oppressed freemen, which called forth those peals of patriotic eloquence, which moved this whole country, and shook the British throne.”

Clergy:

- Rev. Thomas Thatcher, installed Feb. 16, 1670, deceased Oct. 15, 1678, aged 58.
- Rev. Samuel Willard, installed April 10, 1678, deceased Sept. 12, 1707, aged 67.
- Rev. Ebenezer Pemberton, ordained Aug. 28, 1700, deceased Feb. 13, 1717, aged 45.
- Rev. Joseph Sewell, D.D., ordained Sept. 16, 1713, deceased June 27, 1769, aged 80.
- Rev. Thomas Prince, ordained Oct. 1, 1718, deceased Oct. 22, 1758, aged 72.
- Rev. Alexander Cumming, installed Feb. 25, 1761, deceased Aug. 25, 1763, aged 36.
- Rev. Samuel Blair, installed Nov. 26, 1766, dismissed Oct. 10, 1769.
- Rev. John Bacon, installed Sept. 25, 1771, dismissed Feb. 8, 1775.

Rev. John Hunt, ordained Sept. 25, 1771, deceased Dec. 30, 1775, aged 31.
Rev. Joseph Eckley, D.D., ordained Oct. 27, 1779, deceased April 30, 1811, aged 61.
Rev. Joshua Huntington, ordained May 18, 1808, deceased Sept. 11, 1819, aged 33.
Rev. Benj. B. Wisner, D.D., ordained Feb. 21, 1821, dismissed Nov. 12, 1832.
Rev. Samuel H. Stearns, ordained April 16, 1834, dismissed March 8, 1836.
Rev. George W. Blagden, installed Sept. 28, 1836.

Third (C)

Worthley

The church was gathered by persons seceding from Boston's First Church on May 12, 1669; its Society was organized in 1735. The church was incorporated as the Old South Church on March 26, 1845; the Old South Society was incorporated in 1859.

Ministers: Same as above

Ruling elder:

Deacon Edward Raynsford (elected 1669; ordained 1669/70; died 1680)
[Raynsford was summarily dismissed from the diaconate of Boston's First Church in 1668/69 for his opposition to the settlement over that church of Rev. John Davenport, was was Deacon John Eliot.]

Deacons:

Deacon Jacob Eliot, (elected 1669; ordained 1669/70; died 1693)
Peter Bracket, (elected 1669; ordained 1669/70; died 1688)
Capt. Theophilus Frarye (elected 1684?; ordained 1685; died 1700)
Nathaniel Williams, (elected 1693; died 1714)
Capt. James Hill, (elected 1693; died 1720/21)
Capt. Samuel Checkley, (elected 1693, refused; elected 1700-1703; died 1738)
Bartholomew Green, (elected 1719; died 1732)
Daniel Henchman, (elected 1719; died 1761)
Jonathan Simpson, (elected 1733; died 1765)
Thomas Hubbard, (elected 1739; resigned 1764; died 1773)
Samuel Sewall, (elected 1763; resigned 1770; died 1771)
David Jeffries, (elected 1763; died 1785)
William Phillips, (elected 1764; resigned and removed 1793; died 1804)
Jonathan Mason, (elected 1770; died 1798)
Thomas Dawes, (elected 1786; died 1809)
Samuel Salisbury (elected 1794; died 1818)
William Phillips, Jr., (elected 1794; died 1827)

FRENCH HUGUENOT, 1686, Extinct.

Worthley

The church was gathered in 1686 by persons who migrated to America following the revocation in 1685 of the Edict of Nantes. The church building was sold to the congregation of Boston's Eleventh Church in 1748, and the surviving membership by 1764 had been absorbed into the other Boston churches.

Ministers: Laurentius Van den Bosch (ordained in the Church of England; settled in Boston 1685 and removed later that year; died 1696)
 David de Bonrepos, (settled 1686; removed 1688; died 1734)
 Ezechiel Carré, (settled 1689; removed 1691)
 Daniel Bondet, (ordained in the Church of England; settled 1694; removed 1696; died 1722)
 Pierre Daillé, (settled 1696; died 1715)
 André Le Mercier, (settled 1715; ministered to French families until died 1764)

Only a few of the lay officers of the church. are known. Mentioned in a land deed of 1704/05 are elders John Tartarien, Francis Bredon, Jean Dupuis [John Dupee], and John Portree, Elder Stephen Boutineau, after the dissolution of this church, became a member of Boston's Third Church, and served on committees there until his death in 1761.

No records of the church are extant.

KING'S CHAPEL -- 1686 -- UNITARIAN

Hayward

This was originally an Episcopal society, and was formed June 15, 1686. Their first house was of wood, and was erected in 1688, at the corner of Tremont and School streets, on the spot where their present Stone Chapel, as it is commonly called, now stands; and which was first opened for public worship on the 21st of August, 1754. The walls of this house are of Braintree or Quincy granite, and it was the first building of that material in Boston. Its interior is as beautiful as its exterior is substantial.

In 1776, the church was closed, by reason of the departure of the ministers, and many of the proprietors, in consequence of the revolution. It was occupied by the Old South congregation from 1777 to 1782. It was reoccupied in April, 1782, by the few of the former proprietors then remaining, who invited the Rev. James Freeman to become their reader. In 1786, at the desire of Mr. Freeman, a Unitarian liturgy was adopted; and the congregation has since been known as Unitarian.

Clergy:

Rev. Robert Ratcliffe, Rector, and Rev. Robert Clark, assistant, settled in 1686, left 1689.
 Rev. Samuel Miles, Rector, settled June 29, 1689, died March, 1728.
 Rev. George Hutton, A.M., settled 1693, left 1696.
 Rev. Christopher Rudge, A.M., settled March 5, 1699, left 1706.
 Rev. Henry Harris, A.M., settled April, 1709, died Oct. 16, 1729.
 Rev. Roger Price, Rector, settled June 25, 1729, left Nov. 21, 1746.
 Rev. Thomas Howard, A.M., settled 1731, died April 15, 1736.
 Rev. Addington Davenport, A.M., settled 1741, left 1744.
 Rev. Henry Caner, D.D., Rector, settled April 11, 1741, left March 10, 1776.
 Rev. Charles Brockwell, A.M., settled 1747, died Aug. 20, 1755.
 Rev. John Troutbeck, A.M., settled 1775, left in 1775.
 Rev. James Fregran, D.D., ordained by the society, and settled April 21st, 1783, died Nov. 14, 1835.
 Rev. Samuel Cary, settled Jan. 1, 1809, died Oct. 22, 1815.
 Rev. F. W. P. Greenwood, D.D., settled Aug. 29, 1824, died Aug. 2, 1843, aged 46.

Rev. Ephraim Peabody, settled Jan. 11, 1846.

King's Chapel

Worthley

The Proprietors of King's Chapel organized on June 15, 1686. Although the church relinquished its connection with the Church of England about the time of the Revolutionary War, and adopted a revised prayer book embodying anti-Trinitarian sentiments in 1785, it retained a quasi-episcopalian form of government, so that it falls outside the realm of this study.

BRATTLE STREET CHURCH – 1699 – UNITARIAN

Hayward

This church was formed December 12, 1699. The present house of this society was erected in 1772, and opened for worship July 25, 1776. The interior of this house is finished in a style as appropriate and beautiful as any in the city. A wooden house for that purpose had stood on the same site from 1698 to that time.

Clergy:

Rev. Benjamin Colman, D.D., from Aug. 4, 1699, to Aug. 29, 1747, aged 73.
Rev. William Cooper, D.D., settled May 23, 1716, died Dec. 13, 1743, aged 50.
Rev. Samuel Cooper, D.D., settled May 22, 1746, died Dec. 20, 1783, aged 58.
Rev. Peter Thatcher, D.D., settled Jan. 12, 1785, died Dec. 16, 1802, aged 51.
Rev. J. S. Buckminster, settled Jan. 30, 1805, died June 9, 1812, aged 28.
Rev. Edward Everett, LL.D., settled February 8, 1814, left March 5, 1815.
Rev. John C. Palfrey, D.D., settled June 17, 1818, left May 22, 1830.
Rev. S. K. Lothrop, installed June 17, 1834.

FOURTH (U), Extinct.

Worthley

The church was gathered on Dec. 12, 1698, and was variously known as the Brattle Street Church, the Brattle Square Church, and because of its publication in 1699 of a platform of practice differing from that of the other Puritan churches, was frequently referred to as "The Manifesto Church." The undertakers were originally organized in 1697, and the Proprietors of the Church in Brattle Square incorporated in 1822. In 1871, a new church building was erected, but proved financially so burdensome that in 1876 the building was sold, and church and society became extinct.

Ministers: Benjamin Colman, D.D., (ordained 1699 England; settled here 1699; died 1747)
Eliphalet Adams, (settled as assistant 1701-1704; died 1753)
William Cooper, D.D., (ordained 1716; died 1743)
Samuel Cooper, D.D., (settled 1744; ordained 1746; died 1783)
Peter Thacher, D. D., (installed 1785; died 1802)
Joseph S. Buckminster, (ordained 1805; died 1812)

Ruling elders: none.

Deacons: Thomas Brattle, (elected 1699; resigned 1701)
Capt. (later Major) Benjamin Davis, (elected 1699; resigned 1702)

Richard Draper, (elected 1701; died 1729)
 John Kilby, (elected 1702; died 1722)
 Benjamin Gibson, (elected 1717; mentioned 1745)
 Jacob Parker, (elected 1722; mentioned 1724)
 John Phillips, (elected 1729; mentioned 1745)
 Capt. Ebenezer Storer, (died 1761)
 Ebenezer Storer, (mentioned 1766; resigned 1773; died 1807)
 [“[John] Boyle’s Journal of Occurrences in Boston, 1759- 1778,” *NEHGR*,
 LXXXIV (1930), 142-171, 248-272, 357-382, LXXXV (1931), 5-28, 117-133,
 makes frequent reference to the Fourth Church, of which Boyle was a member,
 and under date of 1761 records the death of the elder Deacon Storer. The
 Deacon Storer who resigned his church office in 1773 was the son of Capt.
 Storer; from 1771 until his death. in 1807, he also served as Treasurer of
 Harvard College.
 Daniel Bell, (resigned 1786)
 Timothy Newall, (mentioned 1788-1790)
 Capt. John Gore, (elected 1788)
 Samuel Barrett, (elected 1788; resigned 1792)
 James Laninan (Landman), (elected 1788; removed 1804)
 Nathaniel Hall, (elected 1793; removed 1804)
 Moses Grant, (elected 1793; mentioned 1805)
 Peter Thacher, (elected 1804)

NEW NORTH CHURCH – 1714 – UNITARIAN

Hayward

The present house of worship belonging to this society, at the corner of Hanover and Clark streets, was dedicated May 2, 1804. Their old house on that spot was erected in 1714. The church was formed May 5, 1714.

Clergy:

Rev. John Webb, settled Oct. 20, 1714, died April 16, 1750.
 Rev. Peter Thatcher, settled Jan. 28, 1720, died Feb. 26, 1739, aged 61.
 Rev. Andrew Eliot, D.D., settled April 14, 1742, died Sept. 13, 1772, aged 59.
 Rev. John Eliot, D.D., settled Nov. 3, 1779, died Feb. 14, 1813, aged 59.
 Rev. Francis Parkman, D.D., settled Dec. 8, 1813.
 Rev. Amos Smith, settled as colleague, Dec. 7, 1842, dismissed 1847.

FIFTH (U), Extinct.

Worthley

The church was gathered on May 5, 1714 as the Fifth or New North Church, the latter name indicating its derivation from Boston’s Second (Old North) Church. The Members of the New North Society were incorporated in 1803. In 1863, the Fifth Church and Society undertook to merge with Boston’s Bulfinch-Street Church and Society, an action concluded with the dissolution of the Fifth Society in 1884, although the resulting merged church itself became extinct shortly thereafter.

Ministers: Same as above

- Ruling elders: John Baker, (elected 1720; ordained 1721; mentioned 1746)
 Deacon Caleb Lyman, (elected 1720; ordained 1721; died 1743)
 Deacon John Dixwell, (elected 1720; ordained 1721; died 1725)
 Deacon Samuel Barrett, (elected 1725; ordained 1726; died 1736)
 Deacon Joshua Cheever (elected 1736; ordained 1737; mentioned 1750)
 William Parkman, (elected 1743; died 1775)
- Deacons: Caleb Lyman, (elected 1714; elev. to ruling elder 1720; died 1743)
 John Barrett, (elected 1714; ordained 1721)
 John Dixwell, (elected 1717; elevated to ruling elder 1720; died 1725)
 Joseph Webb, (elected 1720; ordained 1721; mentioned 1739)
 Joshua Cheever, (elected 1720; ordained 1721; elevated to ruling elder 1736;
 mentioned 1750)
 Samuel Barrett, (elected 1723; ordained 1724; elevated to ruling elder 1725; died
 1736)
- Ephraim Hunt, (elected and ordained 1726; mentioned 1736)
 Josiah Langdon, (elected 1736; ordained 1737; died ca. 1742)
 Samuel Grant, (elected 1742; mentioned 1776)
 John Barrett, (elected 1742; mentioned 1776)
 Samuel Holland, (elected 1752; resigned 1774; died ca. 1793)
 Gibbins Sharp, (elected 1774; mentioned 1805)
 Capt. Samuel Barrett, (elected 1776; died 1798)
 Capt. John Simpkins, (elected 1776; d 1831)
 Joseph Kettell, (elected 1798; died 1815)

[Ephraim Eliot's *Historical Notices of the New North Religious Society in the Town of Boston, with anecdotes of the Reverend Andrew and John Eliot &c. &c.* (Boston, 1822) holds the first three deacons elected were Robert Comby, Edward Proctor and James Clark; however, as he notes, they were elected deacons of New North before being dismissed from Old North, a procedure sufficiently unusual so that Rev. Cotton Mather refused to grant the three dismissions. New North then elected its first deacons, Lyman and Barrett.

NEW SOUTH CHURCH – 1719 – UNITARIAN

Hayward

The neat and beautifully located stone church belonging to this society, is on Church Green, so called, at the union of Bedford and Summer Streets. It was dedicated December 29, 1814. Their first house, on same spot, was dedicated January 8, 1717. The church covenant was signed by the members, April 15, 1719.

Clergy:

- Rev. Samuel Checkley. settled April 15, 1719, died Dec. 1, 1769, aged 73.
 Rev. Penuel Bowen, settled April 28, 1766, left May 12, 1772.
 Rev. Joseph Howe, settled May 19, 1773, died Aug. 25, 1775, aged 28.
 Rev. Oliver Everett, settled Jan. 2, 1782, left May 26, 1792.
 Rev. John T. Kirkland, D.D., LL.D., settled Feb. 5, 1794, left Nov., 1810, died April 26,
 1840, aged 70.
 Rev. Samuel C. Thacher, settled May 15, 1811, died Jan. 2, 1818, aged 32.
 Rev. F. W. P. Greenwood, settled Oct. 21, 1818, left December, 1820.
 Rev. Alexander Young, D.D., settled Jan. 19, 1825.

SIXTH (U), Extinct.

Worthley

The church was gathered on April 15 1719 as the Sixth or New South Church. The Proprietors (frequently referred to in the records as “the Society”) were incorporated in 1805.

The years 1866-1868 saw the Sixth Church merging with the Suffolk Street Chapel and the Concord Street Chapel, but the body thus formed did not long survive the merger.

Ministers: Same as above

Ruling elders: none.

Deacons: Henry Hill, (mentioned 1719; died 1726)
Deacon Daniel Powning, (mentioned 1728 died 1735)
Daniel Loring, (elected 1726)
Samuel Adams, (elected 1726; died 1748)
Samuel Bridgham, (elected 1730/31; ceased to act 1750; died 1759)
Richard Checkley, (elected 1736; ceased to act 1739)
Thomas Hill, (elected 1742; died 1778)
Samuel Hewes, (elected 1748; ceased to act 1764)
Richard Boynton, (elected 1764; mentioned 1788)
John Preston, (elected 1776; mentioned 1793)
Samuel Dyer, (elected 1778; dismissed 1782)
Daniel Bates, (elected 1782; died 1812)
Joseph Field, (elected 1796; mentioned 1835)

NEW BRICK CHURCH – 1722 – Seventh Extinct.

Worthley

The church was gathered on May 23, 1722 as the Seventh or New Brick Church, its Society having been organized in 1719 by persons seceding from Boston’s Fifth Church. In 1779, following the destruction of the meetinghouse of Boston’s Second Church by British troops, the Seventh and Second Churches merged into one, retaining the title of the older body.

Ministers: William Waldron, (ordained 1722; died 1727)
William Welsted, (ordained 1728; died 1753)
Ellis Gray, (ordained 1738; died 1753)
Ebenezer Pemberton, D.D., (installed 1754; died 1777)

Ruling elders: Deacon James Halsey (elected 1735; mentioned 1763)

Deacons: Solomon Townsend, (elected 1723; mentioned 1727)
William Lee, (elected 1723; died 1769)
James Halsey, (elected 1733; elevated to ruling elder 1735; mentioned 1763)
Ebenezer Bridge, (elected 1738; accepted 1742; died 1746)
George Holmes, (elected 1747)
John Tudor, (elected 1747; mentioned 1786)

Thomas Greenough, (mentioned 1757; died 1785)
Jonathan Brown, (mentioned 1769; died 1785)
[Deacons Tudor, Greenough, and Brown continued in that office following the merger in 1779.]

CHRIST CHURCH – 1722 – EPISCOPAL

Hayward

This church is in Salem Street, near Copp's Hill. It was built in 1723, and first opened on the 20th of December of that year. The society was formed September 5, 1722. The house is seventy feet by fifty. The steeple is one hundred and seventy-five feet high. This church has a peal of eight bells, on all of which are inscriptions. Three are as follows: "We are the first ring of bells cast for the British Empire North America, A. R. 1744." "Abel Rudball, of Gloucester, cast us all Anno 1744." "God preserve the Church of England, 1744."

Clergy:

Rev. Timothy Cutler, D.D., settled Dec. 29, 1723, died Aug. 7, 1765.
Rev. James Greateon, settled May 30, 1760, left Aug. 31, 1767.
Rev. Nather Byles, Jr., settled Sept., 1768, left April, 1775.
Rev. Stephen Lewis, settled Aug., 1778, left Sept., 1784.
Rev. William Montague, settled June, 1787, left May, 1792.
Rev. William Walter, D.D., settled May 29, 1792, died Dec. 5, 1800.
Rev. Samuel Haskell, settled May, 1801, left Sept., 1803.
Rev. Asa Eaton, D.D., settled Aug. 23, 1803, left May, 1829.
Rev. William Crowell, A.M., instituted June 24, 1829, left June, 1840.
Rev. John Woart, A.M., instituted Nov. 1, 1840.

FEDERAL STREET CHURCH – 1727 – UNITARIAN

Hayward

This church was formed by Irish Presbyterians in 1727. It adopted the Congregational order in 1786. Their first place of worship was a barn, converted into a meeting house in 1729. On the same spot, a convenient wooden building was erected in 1744.

In this house the federal constitution was adopted, on the 7th of February, 1788. The present beautiful church, on the place of the two former, at the corner of Federal and Berry streets, was dedicated November 23, 1809.

Clergy:

Rev. John Moorehead, settled March 31, 1730, died December 2, 1773.
Rev. Robert Annan, instituted 1783, dismissed 1786.
Rev. Jeremy Belknap, D.D., instituted April 4, 1787, died June 16, 1798.
Rev. John S. Popkin, D.D., ordained July 10, 1799, dismissed Nov. 28, 1802.
Rev. William F. Channing, D.D., ordained June 1, 1803, died Oct. 2, 1842, aged 62.
Rev. Ezra S. Gannett, D.D., ordained June 30, 1824.

ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH (U).

Worthley

The church was gathered in 1729 by Irish immigrants whose background prompted them to employ the presbyterian form of church government. The church was then popularly known as “the church of the Presbyterian Strangers,” and (because of its location) “the Presbyterian Church in Long Lane.”

In August of 1786, the church voted to adopt congregational polity, and in the following year settled the Arminian Jeremy Belknap as its minister, foreshadowing the gradual shift to a Unitarian theology.

The Proprietors of the Meeting House in Federal Street (as Long Lane was now named) were incorporated in 1805. In 1862, this body was reincorporated as the Proprietors of the Arlington Street Church (the present location).

Ministers: Same as above.

Ruling elders: The church employed such officers during its presbyterian phase, but due to the scarcity of early records, their names are unknown.

Deacons: again, the records for the presbyterian period are of no help. The names of three deacons for the congregational period are known:

William McNeil, (mentioned 1786)
Francis Wright, (mentioned 1786-1808)
Henry Hunter, (elected 1794; died 1808)

When the Rev. John Moorhead died in 1773, three members of the congregation took over the management of the church and society affairs. Because they proceeded in a somewhat high-handed manner, on April 5, 1774, they were impeached by the Proprietors, and dismissed from their trust. One of the three, William Mcklpine, refused to relinquish the records, taking them with him to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and thence to Glasgow, Scotland where he died in 1788. These records are presumed lost.

The extant records, unless otherwise noted, are owned by the church and deposited with the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston.

HOLLIS STREET CHURCH – 1732 – UNITARIAN

Hayward

The first meetinghouse, on the ground where the present church stands, was built of wood, in 1732, dedicated June 18, and the church formed November 14, the same year. This house was burnt April 24, 1787. It was rebuilt in 1788. In 1810, the building was sold and taken down, and the materials removed to a neighboring town, for the construction of a place of worship. The new house was dedicated January 1, 1811.

Clergy:

Rev. Mather Byles, D.D., settled Dec. 20, 1732, left 1777, and died July 5, 1788.
Rev. Ebenezer Wight, settled Feb. 25, 1778, left the same year.

Rev. Samuel West, D.D., settled March 12, 1789, died April 10, 1808, aged 70.
 Rev. Horace Holley, LL.D., settled March 9, 1809, left August 24, 1818, died July 31, 1827, aged 47.
 Rev. John Pierpont, settled April 14, 1819, dismissed May, 1845.
 Rev. David Fosdick, installed March 3, 1846, dismissed 1847.
 Rev. T. S. King, settled November, 1848.

EIGHTH (U), Extinct.

Worthley

The church was gathered on Nov. 14, 1732, and soon became known as the Hollis Street Church. The Proprietors of the Meeting House were incorporated in 1809. The church itself was incorporated on Feb. 14, 1884. In October of 1887, the church merged with Boston's South Congregational Church and Society, which in 1925 sold its property and merged with Boston's First Church.

Ministers: Same as above

Ruling elders: none.

Deacons: John Clough, (elected 1732; died 1746-1753)
 Joseph Payson, (elected 1732; died 1746)
 John Eliot, (elected 1742; ceased to act 1769-1773)
 Benjamin Church, (elected 1747; died 1781)
 Caleb Davis, (elected 1769; died 1797)
 Thomas Bayley, (mentioned 1808; ceased to act 1808-1811)
 William Brown, (elected 1783; died 1816)
 Elisha Ticknor, (elected 1798; resigned and dismissed to Old South Church, Boston 1808)

TRINITY CHURCH – 1734 – EPISCOPAL

Hayward

The cornerstone of the first church of this society, at the corner of Summer and Hawley streets, was laid by the Rev. Roger Price, the 15th of April, 1734. The house, which was of wood, was taken down in 1828 and the present splendid Gothic edifice, of unhewn granite, was erected on the same spot, and solemnly consecrated, November 11, 1829. Both the exterior and interior of this building are very beautiful. The organ in this church is of superior tone, and is said to be one of the most costly in the country.

Clergy

Rev. Addington Davenport, installed May 8, 1740, died Sept. 8, 1746.
 Rev. William Hooper, installed Aug. 28, 1747, died April 5, 1767.
 Rev. William Walter, D.D., assistant minister, Oct. 1763, rector 1767, left 1775.
 Rev. Samuel Parker, D.D., assistant minister 1774, rector 1799, died Dec. 7, 1804.
 Rev. John S. J. Gardiner, D.D., assistant minister 1792, rector 1805, died 1830.
 Rev. George W. Doane, D.D., assistant minister 1828, rector 1830, left 1833.
 Rev. John H. Hopkins, D.D., assistant minister Feb. 1831, left Nov. 1832.

Rev. Jonathan N. Wainwright, D.D., rector March, 1833, left Jan. 1838.
Rev. John L. Watson, assistant minister June 1, 1836, left at Easter, 1846.
Rt. Rev. Manton Eastburn, D.D., consecrated bishop, Dec.29, 1842.
Rev. Thomas N. Clark, assistant minister June 1, 1847.

WEST CHURCH – 1737 – UNITARIAN

Hayward

This church was constituted January 3, 1737. The first meetinghouse of this society was of wood, on the spot where the present church now stands, in Lynde Street, near Cambridge Street. It was erected in 1736, taken down in 1806, and the present church built, and dedicated November 27th, the same year. The house is very handsome, and is seventy-five by seventy-four feet. It contains one hundred and fourteen pews on the lower floor, and fifty in the galleries.

Clergy:

Rev. William Hooper, settled May 18, 1737, left Nov. 19, 1746.
Rev. Jonathan Mayhew, D.D., settled June 17, 1747, died July 8, 1766, aged 46.
Rev. Simeon Howard, D.D., settled May 6, 1767, died Aug. 13, 1804, aged 71.
Rev. Charles Lowell, D.D., settled Jan. 1, 1806.
Rev. Cyrus A. Bartol, settled March 1, 1837.

NINTH (U), Extinct.

Worthley

The church was gathered on Jan. 3, 1737 as The West Church, popularly known as the Lynde Street Church, of Boston. The West Boston Society was incorporated in 1806. The church disbanded in 1889, due to a sharp decline in its membership.

Ministers: Same as above

Ruling elders: none.

Deacons: Capt. James Gooch, (elected 1737; removed 1739; died 1786)
[Deacon Gooch was among those who followed the Rev. Mr. Hooper into
Episcopalianism in 1747, when the latter (recently reordained) returned to
Boston to organize Trinity Church and become its first rector.]
John Dorrall, (elected 1739; ceased to act 1747)
Col. Henry Berry, (elected 1739; ceased to act 1758; died 1760)
Thomas Foster, (elected 1757; died 1789)
Daniel Jones, (elected 1757; died 1800)
Capt. Martin Gay, (elected 1773; removed 1776; died 1809)
Charles Cushing, Esq., (elected 1793; died 1810)
Joseph Nye, Esq., (elected 1793; resigned and removed to Boston's Third Church
1801; died 1816)
John Avery, Esq., (elected 1801; died 1806)

SAMUEL MATHER'S CHURCH – Tenth, extinct.

Worthley

The church was gathered on May 9, 1742 by Old Lights who separated from Boston's Second Church. It was generally known as "Samuel Mather's Church," Mather being its first and only minister. On his death in 1785, in accordance with his dying wish, the surviving members of the Tenth Church reunited with the Second Church.

Minister: Samuel Mather, D. D. (installed 1742; died 1785)

Ruling elders and deacons: there being virtually no extant records, very little is known of the Tenth Church's lay officers. The records of Boston's Second Church report that one Benjamin Henderson served as a deacon in the Tenth Church, that in 1786 he transferred his membership to the Second Church, and served as a deacon there until 1799.

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH – 1743 – BAPTIST

Hayward

This church was formed in 1743, and a house of worship was built on the border of the Mill Pond, near Salem Street, now Baldwin place, and dedicated March 15, 1746. A new building was erected on the same spot in 1810, seventy-five by eighty feet, and dedicated January 1, 1811.

Clergy:

Rev. Ephraim Bound, ordained Sept. 7, 1743, died June 18, 1765.

Rev. John Davis, ordained Sept. 9, 1770, dismissed July 19, 1772.

Rev. Isaac Skillman, D.D., commenced his labors in September, 1773, without a formal installation; dismissed Oct. 7, 1787.

Rev. Thomas Gair, installed April 22, 1788, died April 27, 1790.

Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D.D., installed Oct. 11, 1790, died Aug. 29, 1825.

Rev. James D. Knowles, ordained Dec. 28, 1825, dismissed Sept. 20, 1832.

Rev. Baron Stowe, installed Nov. 15, 1832, dismissed 1848.

THE SCHOOL STREET CHURCH – Eleventh, Extinct.

Worthley

The church was gathered on Feb. 17, 1748 by New Lights separating from the several Boston congregations, and was popularly known as "The School Street Church," and "The Rev. Andrew Crosswell's Church." It disbanded soon after Crosswell's death in 1785.

The building was sold to the Roman Catholic community in Boston, and so became the first church building to be used by members of that faith in New England,

[Some miscellaneous marriage records were published by Jeremiah Colburn, "Marriages in Boston, Mass, from the Original Certificates of the Clergymen Officiating," *NEHGR*, XXXIV (1880), 94-96 (covers 1743).]

Minister: Andrew Crosswell (installed 1748; died 1785)

Ruling elders and deacons: there being no extant records, virtually nothing is known of the Eleventh Church's lay officers.

FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH – 1785 – UNIVERSALIST

Hayward

This society was organized in 1785. Their place of worship has ever been at the corner of Hanover and Bennet streets. Their first house formerly belonged to another society, (Dr. Mather's) and was built about the year 1740. It was a large wooden building, and the only church of that material in Boston, at the time of its removal, in 1838, for the erection of a large and handsome building in its place.

Clergy:

Rev. John Murray, settled Oct. 24, 1793, died Sept. 3, 1815, aged 74.

Rev. Edward Mitchell, settled Sept. 12, 1816, left Oct. 6, 1817, died in New York 1834.

Rev. Paul Dean, settled Aug. 19, 1813, left April 6, 1823.

Rev. Sebastian Streeter, settled May 13, 1824.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS – 1788 -- ROMAN CATHOLIC

Hayward

Mass was first celebrated in Boston, in an old French church, on School Street, November 22, 1788.

The Church of the Holy Cross, in Franklin Street, was consecrated by Bishop Carroll, of Baltimore, Maryland, on the 29th of September, 1803. This church is one hundred and fifteen by seventy-two feet, and has a spacious basement story, which, in 1827, was converted into a chapel, capable of seating two thousand children.

Former Clergy:

Rev. N. La Poterie, in 1788.

Rev. John Thayer, June 10, 1790.

Rev. F. A. Matignon, D.D., Aug. 20, 1792.

Rev. John L. de Cheverus, D.D., Oct. 3, 1796, was consecrated bishop of Boston, Nov. 1, 1810.

Rev. William Taylor, V.G., 1821.

Rev. Benedict Fenwick, D.D., was consecrated bishop in the room of Dr. Cheverus, who returned to France, Nov. 1, 1825, and was archbishop of Bordeaux, until he died, July 19, 1836, aged 69.

Clergy, 1845:

Rt. Rev. B. Fenwick, D.D. Bishop Fenwick died August 11th, 1846, aged 64, and was succeeded by his coadjutor, the Rt. Rev. J. B. Fitzpatrick, D.D., a native of Boston.

Rev. Richard B. Hardy.

Rev. George F. Haskins.

Rev. P. F. Lyndon.

Rev. James McGuire.

Rev. Peter Crudden.

Rev. A. Manahan, D.D.

Rev. N. O'Brien.

Rev. J. J. Williams.

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH – 1792 – METHODIST

Hayward

No fraternity of Christians denominated Methodists, existed in Boston until the year 1784, when the Rev. William Black became a regular preacher. A society was formed in 1792, and in 1795 this society built a neat chapel at the north part of the city, which was dedicated May 15, 1796. At that time there were but fifty communicants. The celebrated George Whitefield had preached in Boston previous to that time, but no society was formed under his ministrations.

The cornerstone of a new chapel, for the accommodation of this society, was laid on the 30th of April, 1828; on which occasion a large concourse of people assembled, and by the breaking of the floor, a large portion of the audience were precipitated into the cellar, many persons were severely injured; three lost their lives. This house is on North Bennet Street. It was dedicated September 28, 1828.

Preacher. 1848

Rev. W. H. Hatch.

ROXBURY

FIRST CHURCH OF ROXBURY – 1632

Worthley

The church was gathered in 1632. Precinct¹ records commence in “parish 1733, gradually to be replaced by the rubric records.” The First Religious Society was incorporated in 1825. In 1868, Roxbury was annexed to Boston.

Ministers: Thomas Welde, (installed pastor 1632; removed 1641; died 1660/61)
John Eliot, (ordained teacher 1632; died 1690)
Samuel Danforth, (ordained pastor 1650; died 1674)
Nehemiah Walter, (ordained 1688; died 1750)
Thomas Walter, (ordained 1718; died 1724/25)
Oliver Peabody, (ordained 1750; died 1752)
Amos Adams, (ordained 1753; died 1775)
Eliphalet Porter, D. D., (ordained 1782; died 1853)

Ruling elders:

John Miller, (elected ca. 1637; removed 1639; died 1663)
[Later minister at Rowley, Yarmouth and Groton successively.]
Isaac Heath, (elected ca. 1637; died 1660/61)
John Bowles, (elected 1674; died 1680)
John Peirpoynt, (elected 1674; died 1682)
Samuel Williams, (elected 1677; died 1698)
John Bowles, Jr., (elected 1688; died 1691)

Deacons: [James De Normandie et alii., *A Memorial Service in the First Church in the First Church in Roxbury, November 9, 1915* (Boston, 1914) pp. 5 and 9, names as “our first deacon” one William Pyncheon, and as “the first ruling elder” Isaac Heath. The records, however, make no mention of Pyncheon.]

George Alcock, (elected at Dorchester 1631?; ordained Roxbury 1632; died 1640)
William Parke, (ordained 1632; died 1683)
Philip Eliot, (ordained ca. 1640; died 1657)
Giles Paison [Payson], (elected 1671/72; died 1688/89)
William Gary, (ordained before 1687; died 1712)
Samuel Scarborough, (ordained before 1700; died 1714/15)
John Paison, (ordained before 1705; died 1719)
John Mayo, (ordained before 1711; died 1732/33)
John May, (ordained before 1711; died 1730/31)
John Paison, (ordained before 1732; included in the Second Precinct when it was set off in 1738/39; served as deacon there until died 1747/48)
Edward Ruggles, (ordained before 1732; removed 1753; died 1765)
Samuel Gridley, (ordained 1736; died 1776)
Deacon Stephen Williams, (elected and ordained 1753; died 1773)
Ebenezer Craft, (ordained 1753; died 1791)
William Girdley, (ordained 1773; died 1786)
Samuel Sumner, (ordained 1779; died 1813)
David Weld, (ordained 1785; died 1821)
Nehemiah Munroe, (ordained 1787; died 1828)
Joshua Felton, (ordained 1787; died 1816)

ROXBURY – SECOND PARISH, West Roxbury

Worthley

The church of the West Parish in Roxbury was gathered on Nov. 2, 1712. The West Precinct in Roxbury was incorporated in 1733. The West Parish was itself incorporated in 1772. In 1851, West Roxbury was set off as a town, although the First Parish in West Roxbury did, not receive incorporation until 1866. In 1874, West Roxbury was annexed to Boston, and the First Parish was reincorporated. in 1890.

Ministers: Ebenezer Thayer, (ordained 1712; died 1733)
Nathaniel Walter (ordained 1734; died 1776)
Thomas Abbot, (ordained 1773; dismissed 1783; died 1789)
John Bradford, (ordained 1785; died 1825)

Ruling elders: none.

Deacons:

Joseph Lyon, (elected 1713)
Nathaniel Brewer, (elected 1713)
Isaac Newel, (elected 1720)
Ichabod Davis, (elected 1734; ordained 1736)
Nathaniel Brewer, (elected 1735; ordained 1736)
John Davis, (mentioned 1744; resigned 1774; died 1776)
Ezra Davis, (elected 1754; removed 1773)
David Weld, (elected 1772; mentioned 1790)
Ephraim Murdock, (elected 1774; resigned 1787; died 1803)
Noah Davis, (elected 1787; died 1807)

Unless otherwise noted, the records are owned and held by the church.

ROXBURY – THIRD PARISH, Jamaica Plain

Worthley

The church was gathered on Dec. 11, 1770 as the Church of the Third Parish in Roxbury. The Third Parish had been partially organized in 1769; it was fully incorporated in 1772. In 1864, with the designation of the area by its modern name, the organization was incorporated as the First Congregational Society of Jamaica Plain.

Ministers: William Gordon, D.D., (installed 1772; dismissed 1786; died 1807)
Thomas Gray, D.D., (ordained 1793; died 1847)

Ruling elders: none.

Deacons:

Joseph Brewer, (elected ca. 1771; mentioned 1778)

Ezra Davis, (elected ca. 1771; mentioned 1782)
Nathaniel Weld (mentioned 1775-1801)
Isaac Williams (mentioned 1794-1799)

The records are owned and held by the church.

Worthley:

- BOSTON, Brattle Square or Street (see Boston, Fourth).
- BOSTON, Church in Church Green (see Boston, Sixth).
- BOSTON, [Andrew] Croswell's Church (see Boston, Eleventh).
- BOSTON, Federal Street Church (see Boston, Arlington Street Church).
- BOSTON, Hollis Street Church (see Boston, Eighth).
- BOSTON, Church in Long Lane (see Boston, Arlington Street Church).
- BOSTON, Lynde Street Church (see Boston, Ninth).
- BOSTON, Manifesto Church (see Boston, Fourth).
- BOSTON, [Samuel] Mather's Church (see Boston, Tenth).
- BOSTON, New Brick Church (see Boston, Seventh).
- BOSTON, New Church at the South End (see Boston, Eighth).
- BOSTON, New North Church (see Boston, Fifth).
- BOSTON, New South (Free) Church (see Boston, Sixth).
- BOSTON, Old Brick Church (see Boston, First).
- BOSTON, Old North Church (see Boston, Second).
- BOSTON, Old South Church (see Boston, Third).
- BOSTON, Church of the Presbyterian Strangers (see Boston, Arlington Street Church).
- BOSTON, Roxbury, East Precinct (see Boston, Roxbury, First).
- BOSTON, Roxbury, Second Parish (see Boston, Roxbury, West Roxbury).
- BOSTON, Roxbury, Third Church (see Boston, West Roxbury).
- BOSTON, Roxbury, Third Church and Parish (see Boston, Jamaica Plain).
- BOSTON, Roxbury, West End, Precinct and Parish (see Boston, West Roxbury).
- BOSTON, School Street Church (see Boston, Eleventh).
- BOSTON, West Church (see Boston, Ninth).