April 11, 2007

Case No. M022307B

Thank you for your request for research on your Diamond, Mullins, and Gardner ancestors.

Research Report:

John Webster Diamond and Sarah Bradford were married at Boston, Mass., on January 1, 1775, by Rev. Samuel Stillman.[1] The groom's middle name was apparently rendered as "Webber" in the marriage record, but as "Webster" in the intentions. "Webster" was the correct name.

We did not find birth records of any children of John Webster Diamond in the published Vital Records of Boston. However, on June 8, 1783, John and Sarah Diamond baptized two children at the New North Church in Boston: Thomas Webster Diamond and Joseph Bradford Diamond.[2] Sarah Diamond signed the Covenant at that church the same day.[3]

John Webster Dimond [sic] of Boston died intestate prior to February 22, 1788, when Sarah Dimond of Boston, widow, was admitted administratrix of his estate.[4] Samuel Clark, tailor, and Thomas Chamberlain, both of Boston, were bound with Sarah Dimond "for the faithful discharge of said trust." There is no further record of the administration in Suffolk County, Mass., Probate Records.

We did not find John Webster Diamond or Sarah Diamond in Robert J. Dunkle and Ann S. Lainhart, *Deaths in Boston, 1700-1799* (Boston, 1999), or *Inscriptions and Records of the Old Cemeteries of Boston* (Boston, 2000).

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[1] *A Volume of Records Relating to the Early History of Boston, Containing Boston Marriages From 1752 to 1809* (Boston, 1903), p. 76 (photocopy enclosed). Samuel Stillman was pastor of the Baptist church in Boston's North End.

[2] Thomas Bellows Wyman, compiler, Robert J. Dunkle, transcriber, and Ann S. Lainhart, editor, *The New North Church Boston 1714* (Baltimore, Md., 1995), p. 35 (photocopy enclosed).

[3] *Ibid*.

[4] Suffolk Co., Mass., Probate Records, Docket #19010, 87:120 (photocopies enclosed).

We did not find any listing for John Webster Diamond or Sarah Diamond in the Grantor and Grantee Indexes of Suffolk County, Mass., Deeds through 1799, so they apparently owned no land in Boston.

A "M^{rs}. Diamond" was listed in Boston in the 1790 Census.[5] The household consisted of two males under age 16 and one female. That was probably Sarah Diamond and her two sons, but we cannot be certain.

A Sarah Diamond married Perrick Rint at Boston on December 25, 1790.[6] We were not able to identify that woman. It is possible that she was John Webster Diamond's widow.

We could not find a birth record of John Webster Diamond, but we did find his baptismal record. He was baptized at the New North Church in Boston on March 18, 1749/50, the son of John and Elizabeth Diamond.[7] Elizabeth Diamond was admitted to membership in that church on January 23, 1736/37.[8] Five other children of John and Elizabeth Diamond were baptized at the New North Church, as follows:[9]

Thomas Smith Diamond, March 27, 1737
Priscilla Diamond, December 10, 1738
Anne Diamond, October 4, 1741
Elizabeth Diamond, October 12, 1746
William Diamond, July 27, 1755

John and Elizabeth Diamond were also the parents of a daughter Rebekah, who was baptized in Haverhill, Mass., on November 26, 1752.[10] The baptismal record did not identify the child's mother, but we know that she was a daughter of John and Elizabeth Diamond because deeds indicate that the John Diamond who was married to Elizabeth lived in Haverhill around the time Rebekah was born (see below).

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[5] 1790 U.S. Census, Boston, Suffolk Co., Mass., M637-4, p. 39 (photocopy enclosed).
[6] *A Volume of Records Relating to the Early History of Boston, Containing Boston Marriages From 1752 to 1809, op. cit.,* p. 461 (photocopy enclosed).
[7] Thomas Bellows Wyman, *op. cit.*, p. 35 (photocopy enclosed). The year would have been 1750 by the calendar in use today.
[8] *Ibid.*
[9] *Ibid*.
[10] *Vital Records of Haverhill, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849*, vol. I: Births (Topsfield, Mass., 1910), p. 92 (photocopy enclosed).

We could not find a marriage record of John and Elizabeth Diamond, but a 1762 deed indicated that Elizabeth's mother was named Mindwell Smith (see below). Therefore, Elizabeth's maiden name must have been Smith (unless her father died and her mother remarried a man named Smith, but we do not believe that was the case). That would account for the middle name of Thomas Smith Diamond.

The paternal grandparents of John Webster Diamond were Thomas Diamond and Ann Webster, who were married at Boston on January 2, 1706, by Increase Mather.[11]

Ann Webster, who was born as Anna Webster at Boston on February 9, 1682, was one of two children of Henry and Esther Webster.[12] John Webster, the other child of Henry and Esther Webster, was born at Boston on September 28, 1688.[13] John Webster and Mary Smith were married at Boston on May 21, 1713, by Rev. Dr. Cotton Mather.[14]

We did not find a death record or a probate record of Henry Webster, but he had to have died prior to December 24, 1697, when Esther Webster married Richard Henchman.[15]

According to gravestone inscriptions in Copp's Hill Burial Ground in Boston, Richard Henchman died on February 15, 1724, aged 70 years, and "M^{rs} Easter Henchman Late Widdow Of M^{r} Richard Henchman" died on May 5, 1731, aged 75 years.[16]

Esther Henchman's will, written on April 12, 1729, was proved on May 17, 1731.[17] She left her property, both real and personal, to her son John Webster and her daughter Ann

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[11] *A Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston Containing the Boston Marriages From 1700 to 1751* (Boston, 1898), p. 9 (photocopy enclosed).
[12] *A Report of the Record Commissioners Containing Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths 1630-1699* (Boston, 1883), p. 159 (photocopy enclosed).
[13] *Ibid.*, p. 182 (photocopy enclosed).
[14] *A Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston Containing the Boston Marriages From 1700 to 1751*, *op. cit.*, p. 48 (photocopy enclosed).
[15] *A Report of the Record Commissioners Containing Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths 1630-1699*, *op. cit.*, p. 235 (photocopy enclosed).
[16] Robert J. Dunkle and Ann S. Lainhart, comp., *Inscriptions and Records of the Old Cemeteries of Boston* (Boston, 2000), p. 253 (photocopy enclosed).
[17] Suffolk Co., Mass., Probate Records, 29:33-5 (photocopies enclosed). The signing of the will by Esther Henchman was witnessed by Elizabeth Marwood, Elizabeth Hunniwell, and Quinbonner Marsh, but when the will was proved, only Elizabeth Hunniwell was present in Boston. Elizabeth Marwood and Quinbonner Marsh were then "in parts beyond the seas."

Dimond. Her estate was to be equally divided between them, but "as it is my desire That the House shall not be Sold, but to be held in Possession of Either my Son or Daughter, it is my Will that they do agree that a Price may be set on the said House and Ground and that whoever of the two, either Son, or Daughter, that shall be the Purchaser shall pay to the Seller, Ten pounds besides the half Value of the House & Ground &c and it is also my Will, That my Negro Jane be sold to such Person as she her Self shall Like or approve and to no other but Such as she shall Like." She also willed that John Webster and Ann Dimond "pay as a Legacy unto my Sister Elizabeth Howard Twenty five pounds."

On May 9, 1733, John Webster, mariner, and his wife Mary, and Thomas Diamond, mariner, and his wife Anne, all of Boston, sold the real estate which they had inherited from Esther Henchman to Amos Breed of Boston, mariner, for 600 pounds "in bills of Credit on the province of the Massachusetts bay."[18] The property was described as "in the present Tenure & Occupation of Thomas Diamond." It was located in the North End of Boston, bounded on the West (the front) by North Street; North by the house and land of Samuel Holland; East (the rear) by land of the heirs of Samuel Greenwood; and South by the house and land of Richard Huniwell. The late Richard Henchman, described as a schoolmaster, had left the property to his wife Esther and her heirs by his will dated May 9, 1720.

We identified three children of Thomas and Ann (Webster) Diamond:

1. Thomas Diamond was born at Boston on November 19, 1708.[19] We found no further record of him. He does not seem to have inherited a share of his father's real estate, so we suspect that he died before his father.
2. William Diamond was born at Boston on March 23, 1710/11.[20] He died on September 20, 1711, aged 6 months, and was buried in Copp's Hill Burial Ground in Boston.[21]

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[18] Suffolk Co., Mass., Deeds, 47:320-1 (photocopies enclosed).

[19] *A Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston, Containing Boston Births From A.D. 1700 to A.D. 1800* (Boston, 1894), p. 55 (photocopy enclosed).

[20] *Ibid.*, p. 74 (photocopy enclosed).

[21] Robert J. Dunkle and Ann S. Lainhart, comp., *Inscriptions and Records of the Old Cemeteries of Boston*, *op. cit.*, p. 215 (photocopy enclosed). A John Diamond who died in 1763 was also listed on that page. He was evidently the John Diamond who, with his wife Hannah, baptized children at the New North Church between 1723 and 1730/31. Based upon the age on his gravestone, he must have been born around 1691. The Margaret Diamond listed on that page was a daughter of John and Hannah, but she was not baptized at

3. John Diamond was born at Boston on September 18, 1713.[22]

We looked at every transaction involving either Thomas Diamond or John Diamond in Suffolk County and Essex County, Mass., Deeds. Those deeds, along with the probate record of Thomas Diamond, prove conclusively that Thomas Diamond's son John was the John Diamond who married Elizabeth.

We found the following transactions involving Thomas Diamond or his wife Ann (listed in chronological order):
- On August 19, 1714, John Maverick of Boston, cabinet maker, and his wife Elizabeth, mortgaged their property on Middle Street in Boston to Thomas Diamond of Boston, mariner, for 50 pounds.[23] The witnesses were John Ballantine Jr. and Benjamin Rolfe. Anne Diamond, wife and Attorney of Thomas Diamond, discharged the mortgage on June 28, 1716.
- On August 7, 1715, David Robertson of Boston, shipwright, and his wife Elizabeth, sold a parcel of land in the North End of Boston to Thomas Diamond of Boston, mariner, for 180 pounds.[24] It was bounded on the East by North Street; West and North by land owned by the seller; and South "upon Irelands Land." The witnesses were William Bacon and John Goldthwaite. (The parcel may have been located across the street from Esther Henchman, whose property was bounded by North Street on the West.)
- On September 7, 1715, John Cutler, surgeon, and Francis Wainwright, merchant, both of Boston, quitclaimed their rights in the parcel sold by David Robertson to Thomas Diamond on August 7, 1715, to Thomas Diamond of Boston, mariner, for 3 pounds.[25]
- On March 19, 1716/17, Ann Diamond, wife and Attorney of Capt. Thomas Diamond of Boston, mariner, and Capt. David Robertson of Boston, shipwright, agreed to adjust the boundaries of the property sold by Robertson to Thomas Diamond on August 7, 1715.[26] The witnesses were Samuel Cunnabell and Joshua Pratt.

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the New North Church (she was born about 1721, based on the age on her gravestone). That John Diamond family was probably related to your Diamonds, but we do not know how.

[22] *A Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston, Containing Boston Births From A.D. 1700 to A.D. 1800*, *op. cit.*, p. 89 (photocopy enclosed).

[23] Suffolk Co., Mass., Deeds, 28:245 (photocopies enclosed).

[24] *Ibid.*, 30:19-20 (photocopies enclosed).

[25] *Ibid*., 30:20 and 7:128 [it was recorded twice] (photocopies enclosed).

[26] *Ibid.*, 31:124 (photocopy enclosed).

- On June 1, 1717, Nicholas George of Boston, mariner, sold the following to Thomas Diamond of Boston, mariner, for 10 pounds: "A Certain Smal Triangular Peice of Land in the North End of Boston…being part of Garden Land on the Back side of my Old House opposite the New North Meeting House, bounded North Easterly on Land of the s^{d}. Thomas Diamond…."[27] Nicholas George's wife Mary relinquished her dower rights. The witnesses were Samuel Cunnabell and Esther Henchman.
- On September 9, 1737, Thomas Diamond of Boston, mariner, mortgaged the property that he purchased from David Robertson to James Smith of Boston, merchant, for 400 pounds.[28] The mortgage was collateral and security for a debt for which both Thomas Diamond and John Webster gave their bond. Ann Diamond relinquished her right of dower. The witnesses were Benjamin Rolfe Jr. and William Morto[n?]. James Smith discharged the mortgage on October 2, 1738.
- On October 14, 1738, Thomas Diamond, "late of Boston in the County of Suffolk in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England mariner (but now of Haverhill in the County of Essex, and Province aforesaid)," sold the property that he had purchased from David Robertson to Jonathan Snelling of Boston, mariner, for 1900 pounds "in good and lawful Publick Bills of Credit of the Province."[29] There was apparently a brick dwelling house on the property. Ann Diamond relinquished her dower rights. The witnesses were Henry Laughton and Grant Webster (the latter was the son of John Webster). The buyer and seller were referred to as Capt. Jonathan Snelling and Capt. Thomas Diamond at the end of the deed.
- On July 22, 1741, James McHard [?] of Haverhill, Mass., merchant, sold a tract of land in Haverhill containing an estimated 20 acres to Thomas Diamond of Haverhill, mariner, for 450 pounds.[30] The parcel was bounded on the West by the highway; North partly by land of Deacon James Ayer and partly by land of John Ayer; East by land in possession of the heirs of the late John White, Esq.; and South partly by land of Deacon James Ayer and partly by land in possession of Timothy Ayer and John Ayer. James McHard's wife Margaret signed the deed with her husband. The witnesses were Isaac Johnson and Grant Webster.
- On June 6, 1743, Moses Hazzen of Haverhill, Mass., gentleman, sold a tract of land in Haverhill containing an estimated 8¼ acres to Thomas Diamond of Haverhill, gentleman,

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[27] *Ibid.*, 32:113-4 (photocopies enclosed).
[28] *Ibid.*, 54:232-3 (photocopies enclosed).
[29] *Ibid.*, 57:109-10 (photocopies enclosed).
[30] Essex Co., Mass., Deeds, 85:158 (photocopy enclosed is best available).

for 31 pounds.[31] The parcel was bounded in part by "the pond commonly called the little pond." Moses Hazzen's wife Abigail signed the deed with her husband. The witnesses were Reuben Page and John Eatton.

The above deeds show that Thomas Diamond moved from Boston to Haverhill sometime between September 9, 1737 and October 14, 1738. We did not find the death of Thomas Diamond or of Ann Diamond in the published Vital Records of Haverhill. However, we did find the probate record of "Capt Thomas Diamond late of Haverhill…Dec^{d} Intestate," who must have died shortly before August 10, 1752, at which time administration of his estate was granted to "his son John Diamond of Boston."[32] The Inventory of Thomas Diamond's estate included several interesting items, one being "a Negro maid" valued at £40.[33] His land holdings were "Ab^{t}. 21 Acres of Land wth. y^{e} buildings thereon" and "A pasture near y^{e} house of 8¼ acres," which must have been the parcels he purchased from James McHard and Moses Hazzen, respectively.

We found the following transactions involving John Diamond or his wife Elizabeth (listed in chronological order):
- On August 15, 1749, John Diamond of Boston, mariner, and Elizabeth, his wife, mortgaged a house and land on Back Street in the North End of Boston to Stephen Boutineau of Boston, merchant, for 100 pounds.[34] The property was bounded on the West (the front) on Back Street, there measuring 39 feet 6 inches; East (the rear) on land then or formerly in possession of Robert Cox, there measuring 46 feet; South on land of Messrs. Langstaff and Richardson, there measuring 61 feet; and North on land of Mr. Thomas Boucher, there measuring 71 feet. The witnesses were William Bowen and William Story. Stephen Boutineau discharged the mortgage on December 19, 1755.
- On August 8, 1753, John Diamond of Haverhill, Mass., yeoman, sold a tract of land in Haverhill containing about 7 acres to John Ayer of Haverhill, tanner, for 18 pounds.[35] The parcel was bounded by land in the possession of the heirs of the late John Ayer; by land belonging to Deacon James Ayer; "Whites or common"; and by land belonging to the buyer. (It looks as if it was part of the 20 acre parcel purchased by Thomas Diamond from James McHard in 1741, but John Diamond appears to have sold that entire property

[31] *Ibid.*, 100:47-8 (photocopies enclosed).
[32] Essex Co., Mass., Probate Records, Old Series, 330:519 (photocopy enclosed).
[33] *Ibid.*, 331:376 (photocopy enclosed).
[34] Suffolk Co., Mass., Deeds, 77:30-1 (photocopies enclosed).
[35] Essex Co., Mass., Deeds, 100:191-2 (photocopies enclosed).

to Stephen Boutineau on December 19, 1755 [see below].) The witnesses were James Ayer and Jonathan Sargent.
- On March 11, 1754, John Diamond of Haverhill, Mass., yeoman, sold a tract of land in Haverhill containing an estimated 8¼ acres to Joseph Badger Jr. of Haverhill, yeoman, for 40 pounds.[36] Its boundaries were described as follows: "easterly on the high way that leads from s^{d}. Diamonds to s^{d}. Badgers southerly on dea^{n} James Ayers Land westerly on Land of Zebadiah Sargent, northerly partly on the little pond and partly on s^{d}. Badgers own Land." (It was evidently the land that Thomas Diamond bought from Moses Hazzen in 1743, although the boundaries were described somewhat differently.) The witnesses were Wintrup [sic] Bayley and William Greenleaf.
- On November 26, 1755, John Diamond of Boston, mariner, and Elizabeth, his wife, mortgaged a house and land on Back Street in the North End of Boston to Stephen Boutineau of Boston, merchant for 73 pounds, 6 shillings, 8 pence.[37] (The boundaries were the same as those in the deed of August 15, 1749.) Stephen Boutineau discharged the mortgage on September 17, 1756.
- On December 19, 1755, John Diamond of Boston, mariner, sold a tract of land in Haverhill containing an estimated 20 acres to Stephen Boutineau of Boston, merchant, for 40 pounds.[38] The parcel was bounded on the West by the highway; North partly by land of Deacon James Ayer and partly by land of John Ayer; East by land in possession of the heirs of the late John White Esq.; and South partly by land of Deacon James Ayer and partly by land in possession of Timothy Ayer and John Ayer. (The boundaries were the same as those of the estimated 20 acre parcel that Thomas Diamond purchased from James McHard in 1741.) The witnesses were William Story and Henry Alline Jr.
- On September 14, 1756, Stephen Boutineau of Boston, merchant, quitclaimed the land in Haverhill described in the deed dated November 19, 1755, to John Diamond of Boston, mariner, for 40 pounds.[39] Stephen Boutineau's wife Mary relinquished her dower rights. The witnesses were Philip Godfred Kast and William Story.
- On September 15, 1756, John Diamond of Boston, yeoman, sold a tract of land in Haverhill containing an estimated 16 acres, "with the Mansion double House, Chaise House Barn & all other the Edifices & buildings whatsoever thereon standing," to Philip Godfrid Kast of Boston, physician, for 171 pounds.[40] The parcel was bounded on the

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[36] *Ibid.*, 98:228 (photocopy enclosed).
[37] Suffolk Co., Mass., Deeds, 87:254-5 (photocopies enclosed).
[38] Essex Co., Mass., Deeds, 102:235 (photocopies enclosed are best available).
[39] *Ibid.*, 103:120 (photocopies enclosed).
[40] *Ibid.*, 104:18 (photocopy enclosed is best available).

West by the highway; North partly by land of Deacon James Ayer and partly by land of John Ayer; East "also on the Land of the said John Ayer"; and South partly by land of Deacon James Ayer and partly by land of Timothy Ayer, deceased, and John Ayer.[41] Elizabeth Diamond relinquished her dower rights. The witnesses were John Steel and Samuel Mather Jr.

- On November 15, 1758, John Diamond of Boston, mariner, and Elizabeth, his wife, mortgaged a house and land on Back Street in the North End of Boston to John Proctor of Boston, schoolmaster, for 40 pounds.[42] (The boundaries were the same as those in the deed of August 15, 1749.) Ezekiel Price and Benjamin Hurd were witnesses. John Proctor discharged the mortgage on April 7, 1762.
- On November 30, 1758, John Diamond of Boston, mariner, and Elizabeth, his wife, mortgaged a house and land on Back Street in the North End of Boston to Benjamin Harrod of Boston, baker, for 40 pounds.[43] (The boundaries were the same as those in the deed of August 15, 1749.) John Prince and William Owen were witnesses. Benjamin Harrod discharged the mortgage on April 20, 1762.
- On April 3, 1762, Elizabeth Diamond of Boston, widow, sold the property described as follows to John Prince of Boston, felt maker, for 106 pounds, 13 shillings, 4 pence: "a certain peice of Land situate in Back street at the Northerly part of Boston aforesaid with such part of the House and Edifices as stand thereupon bounded as follows viz^{t}. Westerly on said Street there measuring eighteen feet six inches, Northerly on the house and land of Thomas Boucher there measuring twenty five feet three inches, Easterly on the other part of said House now occupied by my mother there measuring eighteen feet six inches, Southerly on a passageway of four feet nine inches wide leading from said Street to that part of the House and Land improved by my Mother there measuring twenty five feet three inches. Also one other peice of Land on the Southerly side of said passageway bounded Westerly on said Back Street there measuring fifteen feet six inches, Southerly on land of Freeman Pulcifer & Mr Clark there measuring fifty four feet three inches, Easterly on land of the heirs and assigns of Robert Cock deceased there measuring twenty

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[41] The boundaries were the same as those of the estimated 20 acre parcel that Thomas Diamond purchased from James McHard in 1741, except on the East. It now appears that the 7 acres sold by John Diamond to John Ayer in 1753 *were* in fact a portion of the 20 acre parcel, even though 16 plus 7 adds up to 23, not 20. (The numbers were estimates, after all.) However, we cannot explain how John Diamond could have sold what seems to have been the entire parcel to Stephen Boutineau in 1755 if he had already sold a third of it to John Ayer in 1753.

[42] Suffolk Co., Mass., Deeds, 92:116-7 (photocopies enclosed).

[43] *Ibid.*, 92:130-1 (photocopies enclosed).

four feet, and Northerly on a passage way of four feet nine inches wide there measuring sixty feet six inches…Hereby reserving at all times the free and uninterrupted liberty and privilege of passing and repassing the said Way, and also of the pump Well and Water, and of the privy House standing in said last described peice of Land paying one third part of the charges in repairing said pump Well and privy House."[44] John Prince undertook to pay off the mortgages with which the property was encumbered, one to John Proctor and one to Benjamin Harrod (see the two prior transactions above), "out of the consideration sum of this deed." Elizabeth Diamond signed, while "**Mindwell Smith my Mother**, in testimony of her free consent to these presents and Release of her Dower of and in the aforegranted premises" made her mark [emphasis added]. John Green and John Meirs were witnesses.

- On September 29, 1766, Mindwell Smith and Elizabeth Diamond of Boston, widows, mortgaged the property described as follows to John Prince of Boston, felt maker, for 29 pounds: "a certain peice or parcel of Land situate in back Street at the Northerly part of Boston aforesaid with such parts of the house and Edifices as stand thereupon as follows viz^{t} Westerly on the other part of said house and land now belonging to the said John Prince there measuring Twenty two feet six inches more or less Southerly also on land of the said John Prince there measuring thirty six feet six inches more or less. Easterly on land now or late belonging to the heirs of Robert Cock deced there measuring Twenty five feet more or less and Northerly on the house and land of John Marston there measuring Twenty four feet six inches more or less…Together with the privilege of a passage way of four feet nine inches wide leading from back street up to the hereby granted premises and also of the pump, well and water…."[45] The witnesses were John Steel and Rachel Steel. (There is no notation on the deed of the mortgage having been discharged.)

There is no record of any division of the estate of Thomas Diamond, but the deeds seem to show that John Diamond came to possess all of the land listed in his father's inventory. That suggests that he was the only surviving child of Thomas Diamond, since he would probably have shared the estate with any living siblings.

The above deeds indicate that John Diamond was living in Haverhill in August 1753 and in March 1754. He probably moved there from Boston after his father's death in 1752 to

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[44] *Ibid.*, 97:271-2 (photocopies enclosed).
[45] *Ibid.*, 109:154 (photocopy enclosed).

administer the estate. His daughter Rebekah was baptized in Haverhill on November 26, 1752. He probably moved back to Boston prior to his son William's baptism at the New North Church on July 27, 1755. A deed proves that he was definitely living in Boston in November 1755. He seems to have remained there until his death.

The deeds indicate that John Diamond died after November 30, 1758, and before April 3, 1762. It is possible that he died before December 8, 1758, because on that date Elizabeth Diamond appeared before a Justice of the Peace and acknowledged the indenture between her and her husband and Benjamin Harrod, but John Diamond did not. That was unusual, because John Diamond acknowledged every other deed in which he was the Grantor. But Elizabeth Diamond was described as the "Wife of John Diamond" on December 8, 1758, not as his widow, so perhaps her husband was merely absent at the time.

We did not find your John Diamond or Elizabeth Diamond in Robert J. Dunkle and Ann S. Lainhart, *Deaths in Boston, 1700-1799* (Boston, 1999), or *Inscriptions and Records of the Old Cemeteries of Boston* (Boston, 2000), and we did not find them in the indexes of Suffolk County, Mass., Probate Records.

We did not find any record of Elizabeth Diamond after September 1766. It is possible that she remarried. An Elizabeth Dimmond was married to Joseph Clough at Boston on July 16, 1769, by Rev. Samuel Stillman.[46] That could conceivably have been the widow of John Diamond, but it seems more likely to have been her daughter Elizabeth, who was baptized in 1746.

We used up all of the allotted time on John Webster Diamond and his family, so we never got to the Mullins or Gardners.

Suggestions for further research:

We can try to identify the father of Elizabeth Diamond. We did not find any record of the purchase of the Back Street property by John Diamond, so he may have inherited it from his father-in-law. The fact that Mindwell Smith relinquished her dower rights in that property in 1766 also suggests that it may have once belonged to her husband. We

[46] *A Volume of Records Relating to the Early History of Boston, Containing Boston Marriages From 1752 to 1809, op. cit.,* p. 47 (photocopy enclosed). Samuel Stillman was the same Baptist Minister who married John Webster Diamond and Sarah Bradford.

carefully noted all the boundaries of the Back Street property so that we can more easily identify it among properties owned by Smiths.

We can attempt to identify the parents of Sarah Bradford.

We may be able carry the Diamond line back further.

Thank you again for your research request. Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance.

This report was prepared by one of the NEHGS research staff. If you have questions or would like our staff to research this case further, please contact me at the address, e-mail, or telephone number below.

Sincerely,

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