PISCATAQUA AREA PLACE NAMES AND HISTORY

by Sylvia Fitts Getchell

Adams Point. Formerly known as Matthews Neck, q.v.

Agamenticus. York. Originally the name applied by the Indians to what is now called York River. Early settlers used the term for the area about the river. [Used today only for Mount Agamenticus (in York)]

Ambler's Islands. Three small islands off Durham Point near the mouth of Oyster River.

Ambush Rock. In Eliot. Where Maj. Chas. Frost was killed by Indians July 4, 1697 (about a mile N. of his garrison on his way home from Church at Great Works).

Appledore Island. Named for a Parish in Northam, England. Early named Hog Island. Largest of the Isles of Shoals. Now in ME. [Name Appledore was used 1661-1679 for all the islands when they were briefly a township under Mass. Gov’t.]

Arundel. See Cape Porpus.

Acbenbedick River. Sometimes called the Little Newichawannock. Now known as Great Works River. First mills (saw mill and stamping mill) in New England using water power built here 1634 by carpenters sent to the colony by Mason. [Leader brothers took over the site (1651) for their mills. See also Great Works.]

Ass Brook. Flows from Exeter into Taylor’s River.

Atkinson’s Hill. In SW part of Back River District of Dover. Part in Dover, part in Madbury. Also known as Laighton’s Hill (Leighton’s).


Back River District. Lands between Back River & Durham line from Cedar Point to Johnson's Creek Bridge. Part now in Madbury, part in Dover.

Badger’s Island. Originally Wither’s Island. In Piscataqua River opposite Strawberry Bank. Memorial Bridge now crosses here. Also as Berry’s Island & Langdon’s Island before it became Badger’s. Well known early shipyards here.

Barbadoes. District on present borders of Dover and Madbury.

Beard’s Creek. First inlet below Durham Falls on N side of Oyster River.

Bellarny River. Rises in Chesley’s Lower Pond (Swayne’s) in Barrington. Becomes Back River (Dover) at head of tide water.

Berry’s Brook. Joins Seavey’s Creek to flow into Little Harbor. In Rye.

Berry’s Island. See Badger’s Island.
Berwick. Newichawannock. Settled as trading post 1630’s. Became Parish of Unity in town of Kittery. Berwick a separate town 1713. (Including South Berwick, North Berwick and a small part of Lebanon.)

Blackwater River. Flows N from Seabrook into Hampton Harbor.

Bloody Point. Early a district of Dover. (The neck of land between the Long Reach and the W branch of the Piscataqua.) Became chief part of Newington.


Bound House. Built by MA 1636 to establish claim to lands N of those granted by their charter and actually within the Mason Grant. Site now probably in Seabrook.


Braveboat Harbor. Tidal inlet NE of Champernowne’s Island at boundary of Kittery and York.

Breakfast Hill. Now in SE Greenland and W Rye. Where Portsmouth men surprised an Indian raiding party (1696) and rescued captives.

Brentwood. Set off from Exeter in 1742. Included lands now in Fremont.

Brew House Point. NW angle of Kittery Point.


Bristol. Early name for Dover. York was also briefly called Bristol, as was Pemaquid.

Bristol, England. Commercial city in West Country, an area from which many settlers came to NH.

Broad Cove. Several of this name. One W shore of Spruce Creek in Kittery; one in Newington shore of Piscataqua between Fox Point and Stephen’s (Beans’s) Point; one on Lubberland shore of Great Bay near Smith lands (now in Newmarket); one on Rollinsford shore of the Newichawannock.

(The) Broads. Area in W branch of Piscataqua off Broad Cove (Newington) and SW of Dover Point.

Broth Hill. Height of land in S end of Durham village. Coolbroth (Colbath) family lived here.

Campron River. Lamprey River, q.v.

Cape Neddick. Small settlement in York. Cape itself is the promontory in York at the tip of which is the island or “Nubble” where Nubble Lighthouse stands.

Cape Neddick River. Rises in Chase’s Pond and flows into Atlantic N of the headland.


Cape Porpus River. Now the Mousam River in Kennebunk, but rarely applied to a small stream in Cape Porpus.
Castle. Earthen redoubt built by the mid 17th century. At NE angle of Great Island. Later became Fort William & Mary.

Cedar Point. A bound of Dover, Durham and Madbury. On upper shore of Piscataqua at SW side of Royall’s Cove.

Champernowne’s Creek. Rises in Great Swamp. Flows through Greenland and into Great Bay E of Packer’s Point. Now called Packer’s Creek (and Pierce’s Creek).

Champernowne’s Island. W of Braveboat Harbor and on NE side of the mouth of the Piscataqua. (Now known as Gerrish and Cutts Islands).

Chesley’s Islands. Two small islands in Great Bay off Lubberland Shore of Newmarket. Joseph Chesley Garrison was near here. Later known as Channel’s Islands.

Christian Shore. In Portsmouth SW of Freeman’s Point.

Cochecho. Dover, NH. Early used to distinguish between the settlement at the lowest falls of the Cochecho and that at Dover Neck.

Cochecho Point. The tip of Dover on Rollinsford side. (Often spelled Cochecho by error). The point NE of the mouth of the Cochecho River.

Cochecho River. Rises among ponds of New Durham and Middleton and empties into the Newichawannock between Cochecho Point (NE) and Thompson’s Point (SW).

Cold Harbor. Region in Eliot along the Newichawannock S of Sturgeon’s Creek. (Small English inns which gave shelter without fire were called “Cold Harbours”). Emery’s Inn here (1650) was run in connection with his ferry (later Morrell’s) across the Newichawannock. The ferry landed at Harford’s on the Dover side.

Cow Cove. Half mile below the falls in Newichawannock River on E shore. Cattle sent to the colony by Capt. John Mason 1634 were landed here.

Crockett’s Neck. Next neck of land N of Kittery Point on E shore of Spruce Creek.

Crommett’s Creek (Crummit’s). Tidal inlet flowing into Great Bay W of Mathews Neck. Separates Lubberland from Durham Point. Name derives from Jacob Crommett grant (1771). Earlier as Long Creek, Mathews Creek.

Crommett’s Ferry. Across Lamprey River at Lower Narrows below Young’s Cove. Philip Crommett bought land here and his ferry was licensed 1671.

Crooked Lane. A channel of the Piscataqua N of Dennett’s and Seavey’s Islands and S of Gunnison’s Neck and Kittery Foreside.

Cutts Island. E end of Champernowne’s Island. Separated from W part by small creek and marsh. (W end is now Gerrish Island).
**Danville.** Set off from Kingston as town of Hawke in 1760. Name changed in 1836 to Danville.

**Denbow’s Brook.** One branch rises at the Moat, another in Long Marsh. Valentine Hill (1655) hoped to use this brook and canal (probably first canal projected in New England) to draw water from Lamprey River into Oyster River to supply his mill. Now called Longmarsh Brook. In Durham.

**Dennett’s Island.** In Portsmouth Harbor opposite Kittery Foreside. Purchased 1806 to establish Portsmouth Navy Yard. Later (1866) Seavey’s Island which was only separated by a narrow channel (“Jenkins’ Gut”) was added to the Yard, the former channel becoming (1899) Dry Dock No.2.

**Doe’s Neck.** Also known as Goddard’s Neck, Newmarket Neck, Lamprey River Neck. Neck of land (in Newmarket) between Lamprey River and Goddard’s Creek.

**Dover.** Early called Hilton’s Point, Upper Piscataqua, Cochecho, Bristol, called Northam 1641. Name Dover restored 1642. Included Durham, Newington, Somersworth, Rollinsford, Madbury and Lee.

**Dover Combination.** Agreement for self-government signed 22 Oct 1640.

**Dover Neck.** Neck of land extending between the Fore and Back Rivers to the main body of the Piscataqua.

**Dover Point, Hilton Point.** Lower end of Dover Neck.

**Dunn’s Woods.** Torr’s Woods. q.v.

**Durham.** Settled as Oyster River District of Dover. Became separate town in 1732. Included Lee and a small part of Newmarket.

**Eagle Point.** On W bank of Spruce Creek, N of Broad Cove in Kittery.

**East Kingston.** Separated from Kingston 1738.

**Eliot.** Set off from Kittery in 1810. Previous designation was Sturgeon’s Creek.

**Eppeford; Merryland (now in Wells); Great Plains; Mousam (now in Kennebunk).** Names designating interior of ancient Wells, from the bounds of York eastward.

**Epping.** Set off from Exeter in 1742. Settlers who asked for separation of Epping were said to be “living at Tuckaway or thereabouts”.

**Exeter.** Settled spring, 1638 by Rev. John Wheelwright and his followers, banished from Massachusetts Bay Colony. Town included Newmarket, Newfields, Brentwood, Epping, Fremont, and (after 1692) Stratham.

**Exeter Combination.** Agreement for self-government 4 July 1639.

**Fernald’s Islands.** (Two) Originally Puddington’s Islands. Smaller was later Dennett’s Island and larger one Seavey’s Island. Became site of U.S. Naval Shipyard.

**Fifield’s Island.** Elevated tract in salt marsh S of Little River in Hampton.
**Follett’s Brook.** Rises in Lee and empties into Piscassic River in Newmarket.

**Footman’s Islands.** Two small islands near Lubberland shore of Great Bay SSW of Adams Point.

**Fore River.** The part of the E branch of Piscataqua on the fore or E side of Dover Neck (tidal water) between the mouth of the Cochecho and Hilton’s Point.

**Fort William.** Wooden garrison (1690) on Kittery Point on site of present Fort McClary.

**Fort William and Mary.** Before 1694 known as the Castle. On NE angle of Great Island. Rebuilt and strengthened several times during the French and Indian Wars. On 14-15-16 December 1774 local area patriots raided the Fort taking away gunpowder, cannon and other military supplies, one of the earliest events of the American Revolution. In 1808, the fort was renamed Fort Constitution.

**Fox Point.** Prominent headland on Newington shore of Piscataqua between Little Bay and Broad Cove. It was Newington terminus of old Piscataqua bridge which crossed over Goat Island to Tickle Point in Durham.

**Frank’s Fort.** Small Island in the Long Reach of Piscataqua above Eliot Neck.

**Freetown.** Part of Madbury N of Hick’s (or Moharimet’s) Hill.

**Fremont.** Set off from Brentwood 1764 as town of Poplin.

**Frenchman’s Creek.** Flows into Royall’s Cove. In Back River District of Dover.

**Fresh Creek.** Empties into Cochecho River on NE side not far from mouth. Part of creek is on bounds between Dover and Rollinsford. In early times whole river above tide water called Fresh Creek.

**Fresh River.** Name applied to several area rivers above their first falls.

**Frost’s Point.** In Rye between Little Harbor and mouth of Piscataqua.

**Furber’s Strait.** The Narrows between Great and Little Bays where Furber’s Ferry ran.

**Garrison Hill.** In Dover. Small hill where Heard’s garrison stood was early called this. Later the Great Hill near it adopted the name. No garrison ever stood on the Great (now Garrison) Hill but it was surrounded by several. (Heard’s to the W; Otis’ to the S and Wentworth’s to the E.)

**Gerrish Island.** W end of Champernowne’s Island. On NE side of mouth of the Piscataqua River.

**Goat Island.** Island in Piscataqua between Cedar Point in Durham and Fox Point in Newington. Piscataqua toll bridge (1794) made use of this island. Also an island in Piscataqua between Great Island and Seavey’s Island. Also another off Cape Porpus in Maine.

**Goddard’s Creek (Lubberland Creek).** John Goddard, one of Mason’s carpenters of 1634 settled on the neck between the Creek and the mouth of Lamprey River. Goddard’s Creek until 1870 was a bound between Newmarket and Durham, the neck being part of Newmarket. In 1870 a large adjacent slice of Lubberland (Smith lands) was annexed to Newmarket.
Gonic. See Squamanagonic Falls.

[The] Gore. Now mostly in Newington. For many years an ungranted section of land between Portsmouth and the Bloody Point District of Dover.

Gorgeana. Agamenticus given city charter 1642 under the name Gorgeana. When Massachusetts took over gov’t of Province of Maine they renamed the town York (1652)

Gosport. That part of Isles of Shoals within NH (the southern islands- Star, White, Lungen). Town of Gosport from 1715 until 1876 when became part of Rye.

Great Bay. Tidal salt water bay enclosed between Durham and Newmarket on the N and W; Greenland on the S; and Newington on the E and N. So named as early as 1643.

Great Boar’s Head. Headland in town of Hampton, NH.

Great Cove. In Kittery. Later known as Spinney’s Cove.

Great Falls. Early name for major falls in Salmon Falls River. Village district area of Somersworth.

Great Hill. Early name for Garrison Hill in Dover. Also a high hill S of Lamprey River Village in Newmarket. Also a hill in Lubberland (now in Newmarket) near head of Goddard’s Creek. (Latter also called Chesley’s Hill, Rocky Hill.) Also a hill in Hampton.

Great House. Built at Strawberry Bank by Chadbourne.

Great Island. Largest island in the mouth of Piscataqua River. Early a district of Portsmouth. Separate town 1693 (New Castle) at which time it included parts of the mainland (now in Rye).

Great Pond. In Kingston.

Great Works. Early sawmills at the falls of the Asbenbedick River in what is now South Berwick. Leader brothers’ mills (1651) operated 19 saws and were known as the “Great Works”. [Earlier mills built here 1634 by Mason’s carpenters (John Goddard, James Wall, William Chadbourne) were the first using water power in New England.]


Gunnison’s Ferry. Kept by Elihu Gunnison across the entrance of Spruce Creek from Gunnison’s Neck to Kittery Point.

Gunnison’s Neck. On shore of Piscataqua W of entrance to Spruce Creek. The neck between Spruce Creek and Crooked Lane.

Hampton. Settled by Rev. Stephen Bachelder and his followers Oct. 1638 under a grant from Massachusetts. Included Kingston, East Kingston, Danville, Hampton Falls, Kensington, North Hampton, a part of Seabrook and small part of Rye and Sandown. In the boundary settlement of 1741 South Hampton and Newton were determined to also be in NH as was the rest of Seabrook. Because the
western reaches of ancient Hampton had by 1741 already become separate towns, Hampton made no further claim to the added territory and it was also made into separate townships.

**Hampton Falls.** Separated from Hampton by a gradual process, 1709, 1712. Separate parish in 1718. Included Kensington and part of Seabrook.

**Hawke.** Now Danville, q.v.

**Hilton’s Patent.** Granted by Plymouth Council 12 Mar. 1629/30 to Edward Hilton. He sold this (Squamscott Patent) to a group of Bristol and Shrewsbury merchants in 1631. Thomas Wiggin became agent for their interests.

**Hilton’s Point.** Dover Point. The lower tip end of Dover Neck. Where Edward Hilton settled perhaps as early as 1623 and certainly before 1628.

**Hog Island.** Early name for Appledore Island. One of the Isles of Shoals.

**Hogsty Cove.** On Newington shore of Great Bay just S of Furber’s Strait.

**Hook-Island Falls.** In Lamprey River on E side of Lee Hook.

**[The] Hoppers.** Several in early Dover and Madbury. Best known was a 100’ deep hollow in woods near W bounds of Dover.

**Horn’s Woods.** In the heart of Lubberland district in S Durham and N Newmarket.

**Horse Hill.** In Kensington.

**Indigo Hill.** In Somersworth about ¼ mile below Great Falls.

**Isinglass River.** Rises in Bow Pond in Strafford. Empties into Cochecho near NW boundary of Dover.

**Isles of Shoals.** Islands off NH coast. Northern islands [Hog (Appledore); Smutynose; Cedar; and Duck] are in Maine. Southern ones (Star; White; Lunging) are in NH. Base for early fisheries.

**Jocelyn’s Neck.** Locke’s Neck. Now in Rye, NH.

**Johnson’s Creek.** In Durham. Flows into Oyster River from N between Bunker’s Creek and Beard’s Creek.

**Keeneborough.** Brentwood.

**Kennebunk.** Set off in 1820 from E end of Wells, Maine.

**Kennebunk River.** Ancient bounds between Cape Porpus and Wells.

**Kennebunkport.** Includes Cape Porpus and Goose Rocks.

**Kensington.** Separated from Hampton Falls in 1737.

**King’s Town.** Kingston.
**Kingston.** Chartered as a town 1694 from Hampton lands. Early settlement interrupted by Indian wars. Included East Kingston, Danville and a small part of Sandown.

**Kittery.** Settled in 1630’s. Town 1647. Maine side of Piscataqua River. Included Eliot, South Berwick, Berwick, North Berwick, and a small part of Lebanon. Submitted to gov’t of Massachusetts 1652. (Maine was part of MA from 1652 until 1820.)

**Knight’s Ferry.** See Trickey’s Cove.

**Knox’ Marsh.** See Nock’s Marsh.


**Lamprey Iron Works.** Site unknown. Most early refs. to “Lamprey River” refer to the area around the First Falls *(now in Newmarket)*. The works were “building at Lamprill River” 1719. They were operating before 20 May 1722 when Gov. Shute confirmed the grant (made 1719) of the “Two Mile Streak” to the proprietors of the works.

**Lamprey River.** Rises in Northwood and flows through seven towns before draining into the Great Bay at Newmarket. Indians called it the Piscassic. Featured in boundary disputes between Dover and Exeter. Its First Falls fell on boundary line in settlement of 1652.

**Lamprey River Village.** Now Newmarket.

**Langdon’s Island.** See Badger’s Island.

**Leathers City.** District in Barrington above Bodge’s Pond.

**Lee.** Set off as separate parish from Durham, 1766.

**Lee Hook.** Bend in Lamprey River in S part of Lee.

**Leighton’s Hill (Laighton’s).** See Atkinson’s Hill.

**Little Bay.** Basin between Newington and Durham Point. Great Bay flows into upper end of Little Bay through the Narrows at Furber’s Strait. At lower end of Little Bay on Newington shore is Fox Point where waters join the Piscataqua.

**Little Boar’s Head.** Headland in North Hampton, NH.

**Little Harbor.** Regional name for the bank of the Piscataqua SW of Great Island. Now in Rye. Little Harbor itself is the sheltered water S of Great Island.

**Little River.** Name of several streams: one flows into Salmon Falls River on Berwick side; one in York flows into Atlantic at York Beach; one in North Hampton formerly flowed into Atlantic at Plaice Cove; one rising at Mendum’s Pond in Barrington flows into the Lamprey S of Lee Hill.

**Locke’s Neck.** Earlier known as Jocelyn’s Neck. In Rye N of Jenness Beach and S of Rye Harbor.
**Long Reach.** Stretch in Piscataqua River between Frank’s Fort and the narrows below Boiling Rock. Name also given as district to its shores.

**Lower Patent.** Grant to Capt. John Mason and others (1631) both sides of Piscataqua for five miles westward. (Grant to lands lower down the river as distinguished from Hilton’s Upper Patent.)

**Lower Piscataqua Settlement.** Portsmouth area.

**Lubberland.** District on upper shore of Great Bay. Except for Goddard’s neck (in Newmarket) the area was early part of Oyster River District of Dover. Since 1870 mostly in Newmarket.

**Madbury.** Name derived from Madbury, Co. Devon, whence Champernowne family came. Separate parish of Dover and town privileges 1755.

**Mallego.** N branch of Bellamy River. Rises Cate’s Pond in Barrington and empties into Bellamy at the Hook in Madbury.

**Mason Grant.** In 1622 Sir Ferdinando Gorges and Capt. John Mason received a grant to lands between the Kennebec and Merrimac Rivers. In 1629 Mason was granted the area between the Piscataqua and the Merrimac. Gorges retained his claim to the N part of the original grant and it became Maine. Mason’s lands became the New Hampshire colony. Mason also had another confirming grant 1631.

**Mason Hall.** A house was built by 1623 by David Thompson on land that became Odiorne’s Point in Rye. The original or perhaps a later house was sometimes called “Captain Mason’s stone house”. However, Masons’ exact connection (if any) with Thompson’s settlement is not clear. “Mason Hall” was really a term used by Mason in his will for his entire Manor or Plantation of New Hampshire.

**Mast Cove.** In Kittery on E shore of Piscataqua N of Mendum’s Cove and S of Great (Spinney’s) Cove. Another Mast Cove on NE shore of Newichawannock above Frank’s Fort in Eliot. Also Upper Mast Cove on Eliot shore above Sturgeon Creek.

**Mathew’s Neck (Mathes).** On Durham shore at Narrows between Great and Little Bays. Now known as Adams Point.

**Merryland.** See note under Eppeford.

**Mitchell’s Line.** Eastern portion of NH/MA boundary surveyed 1741 by George Mitchell. Began three miles N of mouth of Merrimac River following a curved line three miles distant from the course of the river to Pawtucket Falls and thence due westward.

**Moat Island.** In Packer’s Falls District of Durham. An arm of Lamprey River encircles the island.

**Moharimet’s Hill.** Now Hick’s Hill. At Madbury corner W of the former railway station. Named for a 17th century Indian sagamore.

**Mousam.** See note under Eppeford.

**Mousam River.** Original Indian name for what was called for a time the Cape Porpus River.
**Muchadoe.** Steep hill in Barrington, NE of the Meeting House.

**Nanney’s Island.** In Great Bay off Woodman Point (on Newington shore).

**New Castle, (Great Island).** Early a part of Portsmouth. Separate town 1693 (NH’s fifth town) at which time it included lands now in Rye. Since 1791 town of New Castle has consisted only of Great Island itself.

**New Somerseshire.** Name given briefly 1629-1639 to the Province of Maine.

**Newfields.** So called for Edward Hilton’s “New fields” on the Squamscot River to which he moved at some time between 1633 and November 1637. Part of Exeter 1628-1727. Part of Newmarket 1727-1849. Separate town 1849 as South Newmarket. Original name restored 1895.

**Newichawannock.** Indian village near Salmon Falls. English used the name for the adjoining river from head of tide water down to the main body of the Piscataqua at Hilton’s Point.

**Newington.** Originally part of Dover. Separate parish (Bloody Point) 1713. Name changed to Newington 1714.

**Newmarket.** Originally the N part of Exeter. Separate parish 1727. It included from 1727-1849 the lands that became Newfields. In 1870 it received a slice of old Lubberland from Durham. Lamprey River Village which grew up at the First Falls of the Lamprey became the center of Newmarket. (Sometimes in early times spelled New Market.)

**Newtown.** District in upper part of Lee between Wheelwright’s Pond and Madbury.

**Nock’s Marsh.** Named for Thomas Nock. In W Dover.

**Nook Lane.** In Hampton. Former name of High St. E of Five Corners.

**Norfolk Co., Mass.** Formed in 1643 to include the towns between the Merrimac and Piscataqua Rivers. Between 1641 and 1643 the NH Piscataqua settlements had, one by one, petitioned to be governed by Massachusetts. They again became a separate colony after the English Civil War and restoration of the monarchy, 1679. For a time, however, they shared a mutual governor even though they were again separate provinces.

**North Berwick.** Separated from Berwick 1831. (Settled early as a part of Kittery).

**North Hampton.** Originally part of Hampton. Parish (North Hill) 1738. Town in 1742.

**North Hill Parish.** Set off as separate parish in Hampton 1738. Became town of North Hampton, 1742.

**North River.** Tributary of the Lamprey. Rises in pond on borders of Northwood and Nottingham.

**Northam.** Name given briefly to Dover 1640-1642. After Northam, Co. Devon, from which area several settlers came.

**Nottingham.** Town granted 1722 when Gov. Shute was governor of NH (as well as governor of Mass.).
**Nubble.** Small island off the tip of Cape Neddick.

**Odiorne’s Point.** Point of land SW of the mouth of Piscataqua River. Now part of Rye. Thomson landed here 1623. Early known as Pannaway and in 18th century as Rendez-vous Point. Named for a family long resident on the point.

**Ogunquit.** Fishing village in town of Wells, Maine. Now a separate town.

**Oyster River.** Rises in Wheelwright’s Pond in Lee and empties into Piscataqua at mouth of Little Bay. Oyster River Plantation originally a district of Dover. See Durham.

**Packer’s Falls.** In Lamprey River in S. Durham. Name also used for the district on both sides of the Lamprey here.

**Pannaway Manor.** Name given to David Thomson’s early settlement on what became Odiorne’s Point in Rye. Building had been erected there by 1623.

**Piscataqua.** See Piscataqua.

**Pepperell Cove.** In Piscataqua River between Kittery Point and Gerrish Island.

**Picked Rock.** Bound in abutment of bridge over Lamprey River in Newmarket. Originally a bound mark on line between Exeter and Dover (and later between Newmarket and Durham and between Rockingham and Strafford Counties.)

**Pickpocket Mills.** Mill rights here (at an upper falls of Squamscot River) granted as early as 1652. Now on bounds between Exeter and Brentwood. Name probably derives from Pequacket Indians.

**Pipe Stave Landing.** Lower Landing. On E shore of Newichawannock River at Richard Nason’s grant. Head of navigation at low tide. Land later owned by Hamilton family.

**Piscassic.** Name given to districts in both Newfields and Newmarket that border the river and especially to the area around First Falls.

**Piscassic River.** Original Indian name for the Lamprey. Now used for its principal tributary which flows from Fremont through Brentwood, Epping, Newfields and Newmarket, entering the Lamprey in Newmarket below the Water Works.

**Piscataqua Plantation.** Two settlements (Upper and Lower) each taking in settlers on both sides of the river.

**Piscataqua River.** E branch rises in East Pond in Wakefield; W branch in Great and Little Bays. They join at Hilton’s Point. E branch from source to Lower Falls at Berwick is the Salmon Falls River. From head of tide water down to the main body of the Piscataqua it is the Newichawannock.

**Plaice Cove.** In Hampton. Little River formerly flowed into Atlantic here.

**Plymouth Council.** (Council for New England) Formed 1620. Granted (1622) to Capt. John Mason and Ferdinando Gorges the lands between the Merrimac and Kennebec Rivers. In 1629 they divided their
grant. Gorges took N part and Mason the lands between the Merrimac and the Piscataqua. The Council also granted (1622) 6,000 acres and one island to David Thomson and associates. In 1629/30 they granted Edward Hilton his Upper Patent. In 1631 they confirmed Mason’s grant to NH.

**Pomeroy’s Cove.** On Fore River at lower end of Dover Neck.

**[The] Pool.** Deep sheltered area in Piscataqua between upper end of Great Island and town of Portsmouth. A usual anchorage for the mast ships.

**Poplin.** Fremont.

**Portsmouth.** Grew into a city at Strawberry Bank. Originally included New Castle, Rye, Greenland, and part of Newington. *first settlers called it “Strawbery Banke”*. 

**Powwow River.** Flows through East Kingston and Newton. Empties into the Merrimac.

**Pull-and-Be-Damned Point.** Henderson’s Point. SW angle of Seavey’s Island. Reef obstructed Piscataqua Channel here until 1905 when U.S. Gov’t blew up and removed the ledges.

**Quamphegan.** Lands of Sagamore Rowles who (1650) sold to Thomas Spencer. Bounded between two little fresh creeks. Name was extended to the falls near the present bridge at South Berwick. Later used for the river and region on both sides of it.

**Quamphegan Falls. (Quampegan).** In the Newichawannock River at South Berwick Counting House.

**Quamscot.** Squamscot. q.v.


**Rand’s Hill.** In Hampton. Elevated area on Rte. 1 SE of Drakeside Rd. intersection [E and in front of Gen. Moulton House].

**Rendez-vous Point.** Early (18th century) name for Odiorne’s Point (now in Rye).

**Ring Swamp.** In Hampton. “The Ring” area enclosed by Winnacunnet Rd., Park Ave. and Rte. 1. E part was swampy. Meeting House Green was in S part of “The Ring”.

**Rollinsford.** Quamphegan and Salmon Falls, NH. Set off from Somersworth 1849.

**Roundabout.** A great ox-bow in the Squamscot River in Exeter above Sinkler’s Reach.

**Royall’s Cove.** On S shore of Back River District of Dover. N of Cedar Point.

**Rye.** Originally part of Portsmouth, then part of New Castle. Became separate parish 1726 to include Sandy Beach, the Odiorne Point/Frost Point peninsula, and Little Harbor. N section of Hampton was added 1730. In 1791 a mainland remnant of New Castle was added, in 1876 the NH portion of the Isles of Shoals was annexed to Rye.

**Sagamore Creek.** Large creek in lower Portsmouth. Its mouth is on the boundary with Rye.
Salmon Falls. In Salmon Falls River. The village of Salmon Falls (at the falls) is the only village area of Rollinsford.

Salmon Falls River. Northern part of the E branch of the Piscataqua which is the Salmon Falls River from its source to the head of tidewater. The three rivers (Salmon Falls, Newichawannock and Piscataqua) form part of boundary between New Hampshire and Maine.

Sandown. Incorporated in 1756. Sandown Meeting House (1773) still standing. See also Kingston.

Sandy Beach. Early name for what became the beach area of Rye.


Scotland. District in S York. After Cromwell’s victories at Dunbar and Worcester (1650-51) many captured Highlanders were sent to America as bondservants. Some settled in this area of York after their terms of indenture were served. The McIntire Garrison in York is still standing in “Scotland”.

Seabrook. Set off from Hampton Falls 1768. Southern part was in border area restored to NH by 1741 settlement of NH-MA line.

Seavey’s Creek. Large creek in N Rye. Flows into Little Harbor. This creek nearly made ancient Pannaway Manor an island.

Seavey’s Island. NW of Great Island. In 1866 became the larger of the two islands (now joined) making up the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Shackford Point. Point on S side of mouth of Lamprey River.

Shankhassick. Indian name for Oyster River.

Shapley’s Line. Boundary line between Hampton, NH and Salisbury, MA (1657). Surveyed by Capt. Nicholas Shapleigh (and settled by five commissioners) from middle of Hampton River mouth WNW. See also Mitchell’s Line which replaced it as the border between NH and MA. in 1741.

Shrewsbury Patent (“Squamscott Patent’). Merchants from Shrewsbury, England, were investors in this grant which they purchased from Edward Hilton. The Shrewsbury men did not emigrate to NH.

Sinkler’s (Sinclair’s) Reach. Long straight section of Squamscot River below the Roundabout.

Sligo. District in Rollinsford below Quamphegam.

Smith’s Isles. So called by Capt. John Smith 1614. Known now and from early years as the Isles of Shoals.

Smuttynose. One of the Isles of Shoals. Now in Maine.

Snadoun Hill. (Snowdon). Name given to Mount Agamenticus by Capt. John Smith.

Somersworth. Set off from Dover as parish in 1729. Became a town 1754. Included Rollinsford until 1849.
South Berwick. Separated from Berwick 1814. Early called Newichawannock and Quamphegan (Quampegan).

South Hampton. Formed as a town 1742 from parts of Salisbury and Amesbury, MA. which were found to be within the Province of NH when the Province boundary was settled in 1741. See also Mitchell’s line.

South Newmarket. See Newfields.

Spinney’s Cove. (Creek). Early known as Great Cove. E side of Piscataqua on boundary between Kittery and Eliot.

Spruce Creek. Large tidal inlet in Kittery. Flows into Piscataqua between Kittery Point and Gunnison’s Neck.

Squamanagonic Falls. In the Cochecho River. A village in Rochester which grew up at these falls is now called Gonic.

Squamscot Falls. First Falls of Squamscot River (Exeter River).

Squamscot Patent. Included Hilton Point and lands which now form town of Stratham as well as parts of Exeter, Greenland and a small part of Hampton. Capt. Thomas Wiggin lived on the lands which became Stratham which were taxed in Hampton 1657-1692 and after 1692 in Exeter.

Squamscot River. Exeter River.

Star Island. One of the Isles of Shoals. Now part of Rye NH (1715-1876 see Gosport.) In 1679 NH became again a separate colony and in 1680 many residents of Hog Island moved to Star Island in order to move out of the jurisdiction of Massachusetts.


Strawberry Bank. Neck of land between creeks (North and South Mill Ponds) which grew into the town (city) of Portsmouth. Mason’s colonists of 1631 settled here. Name changed to Portsmouth 1654.

Sturgeon’s Creek. Flows into Newichawannock in Eliot.

Swamscot. Squamscot, q.v.

Tatnuck. Neighborhood at head line of South Berwick adjoining Wells and land taken from York

Taylor’s River. Rises in a pond in Hampton Falls. Flows SE becoming border between Hampton Falls and Hampton until it reaches salt marsh. Where the Hampton Falls River joins it, it becomes the Hampton River.

Thompson’s Island. In Boston Harbor. David Thompson (Thomson), first known settler of NH, was at Pannaway 1623 but moved c. 1626 to this island and died soon after.
**Thompson’s Point.** On W side of the mouth of the Cochecho River. A regional name for that stretch of the Piscataqua. (Named for another Thompson – not David).

**Three Turk’s Heads.** Mount Agamenticus.

**Tickle Point.** Neck of land just below mouth of Oyster River. (Cedar Point is the lower side of Tickle Point.) [See also note under Fox Point.]

**Tole End Falls.** Second falls of Cochecho River.

**Torr’s Woods.** In Dover S of Bellamy River and W of Drew’s Hill.

**Traip’s Point (Tripes).** On Kittery Foreside opposite Dennett’s Island. Railway to Navy Yard took a part of this land.

**Trickey’s Cove.** On Newington shore W of Bloody Point. Trickey and later Knight ran a ferry from Bloody Point to Hilton’s Point and also to the Kittery shore landing there at Leighton’s Point.

**Tuckaway.** Lands NW of Exeter toward Pawtuckaway Mts. Pawtuckaway River flows into the Lamprey in Epping.

**Turtle Pond.** In Lee between Oyster River and Wheelwright Pond. The Battle of Wheelwright Pond (a running battle with Indians) began near here 6 July 1690.

**Twelve Shares.** Large tract of woodland in Hampton and North Hampton on both sides of town line between Mill road and Little River Road [now Woodside Road.]

**Two Mile Streak.** Strip of land two miles wide granted 1719 to proprietors of the Lamprey Iron Works (to supply fuel – charcoal). Now in Barrington.

**Unity.** See Berwick.

**Upper Patent.** Hilton’s Patent, q.v.


**Warehouse Point.** On S shore of Kittery Point E of Fort McClary. Wm. Hilton kept an ordinary here in home built 1635 by Alexander Shapleigh.

**Wecanacohunt.** Hilton’s Point.

**Wednesday Hill.** In Lee N of Lamprey River.

**Wells.** Settled as a town on Webhannet River. Made township by Massachusetts to include Ogunquit and Kennebunk.

**Welsh Cove.** (Welshman’s Cove). On Newington shore of Little Bay N of Furber’s Point.

Whitcher’s Falls (Whittier’s). Second falls of Cochecho River. Named for Obadiah Whittier (1797). See also Tole End Falls.

Wigwam Row. In Hampton. In declivity parallel to and below the S side of Exeter Road between Rte. 1 and Towle Farm Road.

Winnacunnet. Hampton.

Winnacunnet River. Hampton River.

Winnicut River. Flows into S shore of Great Bay in Greenland.

Wither’s Island. Later called Langdon’s and still later Badger’s Island, q.v.

Woodman Point. In Newington on N shore of Great Bay.

Woodman’s Ferry. From Withers Point to Strawberry Bank (1692)

York. Called Agamenticus by Indians, mariners and merchants; Bristol by Mr. Maverick. Chartered 1641 as city Gorgeana by Sir Ferdinando Gorges [first house 1630 (Edward Godfrey)]. Became town of York in 1652 when submitted to Massachusetts gov’t which continued until 1820 when Maine became a separate state.

Zion’s Hill. Rocky hill in the center of Lamprey River Village (Newmarket).