



**OLD COLONY
HISTORY
MUSEUM**

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Finding Aid**

**MSS-05-003 – Plymouth County Records
Rec. Group 1 – Town/City Boundaries
Series 1 – Middleboro-Taunton Boundary**

Historical & Biographical Note: Taunton is a city in Bristol County, Massachusetts founded in 1639 and shares a border with the town of Middleboro, in Plymouth County, founded in 1669. Taunton is governed by a city council and Middleboro is governed by open town meetings.

Scope & Content Note: This box contains true copies from the record book of the Town of Middleboro ranging from 1702 to 1848. These documents detail regular meetings between the selectmen of Middleboro and Taunton at the border between these towns. These documents also include an 1847 resolution for a Middleboro-Taunton road.

Series Description: Rec. Group 1, Series 1. This series contains one (1) box with two (2) folders.

Inventory:

Box:	Folder:	Contents:
1	1	Record, dated 29 September 1702, Renewal of boundary between Middleboro and Taunton, representatives met at “the Great White Oak formerly marked T:M”, signed by Philip King, John White and Henry Andrews (representing Taunton), and Joseph Vaughn and Jacob Tomson (representing Middleboro).
		Record, dated 2 November 1708, Renewal of boundary between Middleboro and Taunton, representatives met at “the heap of stones about a maple tree by the northwest side of Assonet River”, representing Taunton were the Town Selectmen Israel Thrasher, John Thrasher and Joseph Richmond, representing Middleboro were Town Selectmen Joseph Vaughn and Jacob Tomson. This document is a true copy transcribed from the Middleboro Town Book by Jacob Tomson.
		Record, dated 13 June 1721, Renewal of the boundary between Middleboro and Taunton, representatives met at “the heap of stones about the stump of a black oak tree on the southerly side of Trout Brook”, representing the selectmen of Taunton were Samuel Crossman and Ebenezer Robinson, representing Middleboro were the Town Selectmen Joseph Vaughn and Jacob Tomson.
		Record, dated 19 August 1726, Renewal of the boundary between Middleboro and Taunton, representatives confirmed the boundary ran

		from “the Assonet River at the stump of a maple tree with stones about it” to “a black oak stump on the south side of Trout Brook”, representing Taunton were Selectmen John King, Samuel Pratt and James Leonard, representing Middleboro were Selectmen Samuel Barrows and Nathaniel Southworth. This is a true copy transcribed from the Middleboro Town Book by Jacob Tomson, Town Clerk.
		Record, 12 February 1770, an affirmative vote was cast at the Middleboro meeting house to prosecute the Selectmen of Taunton for not settling a permanent location for the town boundary. This is a true copy from the Middleboro Town Book transcribed by John Morton, Town Clerk.
		Record, 19 April 1771, official order from the Massachusetts House of Representatives, based on the findings from a committee appointed by the General Court, confirming the permanent boundary line between Middleboro and Taunton, read in Court by Speaker J. Cushing and signed off by Governor John Hutchinson. This is a true copy transcribed by John Cotton.
		Record, dated 8 May 1848, certified copy from the office of the Secretary for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts of the 1771 order for the Middleboro-Taunton boundary.
	2	Record, 3 March 1847, agreement between representatives from Middleboro and a panel representing Bristol County to establish a road between Middleboro and Taunton. This is a true copy from the Records of Middleboro transcribed by Jacob B. Shaw, Town Clerk.
		Letter, dated 23 May 1823, to Captain Enoch Haskins of Middleboro from Nathan King of Taunton concerning the illness of Job Howland.