

John Fessenden (1730-1808)

- b. June 16, 1730, Cambridge, s. William and Martha (Cambridge Births, 246)
- d. 1808 (the year his estate was probated)

Worcester Co. Probate, Case 20572. Will, dated July 4, 1804

<https://www.americanancestors.org/databases/worcester-county-ma-probate-file-papers-1731-1881/image/?volumeId=26971&pageName=20572:1&rId=522873393>

Mar. (1): John Fesenden of Rutland District m. Abigail How, Oct. 31, 1763 (WVR 150; Rutland VR 138)

b. Mar. 26, 1730, dau. Hezekiah and Elizabeth (Tainter) Howe (*Geneal. of Descendants of John White of Wenham*, 53)

d. ___?

Children of John and Abigail Fessenden:

Catherine, Sept. 20, 1764 (WVR 43)

Kate m. Jacob Broaders, Sept. 16, 1779 (WVR 150)

William, April 10, 1766 (WVR 43)

d. Nov. 2, 1766 (WVR 237)

Elizabeth, Sept. 30, 1767 (WVR 43)

m. John Sanborn, Mar. 28, 1793 (WVR 150)

Abigail, June 27, 1770 (WVR 43)

described as "Single woman" in father's will,

d. Nov. 4, 1834, a. 64 (Record of Deaths)

"We the Subscribers Select Men of the Town of Westborough at the request of John Sanborn & Elizabeth his wife and M^{rs} Katharine Broaders, have considered the case of Abigail Fessenden (Single Woman) a distracted person & belonging to said Westborough, and do Adjudge her incapable of taking care of herself at present, and we do hereby certify to the Hon^{ble} Judge of Probate for the County of Worcester that in Our Opinion the said Abigail Ought to have a Guardian Appointed agreeable to the provisions of law in such cases made & provided."

For the guardianship file, see: <https://www.americanancestors.org/databases/worcester-county-ma-probate-file-papers-1731-1881/image/?volumeId=26971&pageName=20555:1&rId=49840752>

Hezekiah How, June 17, 1772 (WVR 43)

d. in Boston before July 2, 1804 (father declined to serve as administrator of his estate).

Inventory suggests he was a tavern-keeper, although he is described as a merchant.

Death was noted in *Colombian Centinel*, June 27, 1804.

<https://www.americanancestors.org/databases/suffolk-county-ma-probate-file-papers/image/?volumeId=55240&pageName=22172:1&rId=73280682>

Mar. (2): John int. Lucy Newton of Marlborough, Jan. 25, 1791

Born: Oct. 17, 1744 (Southborough VR 79)
 daughter of Absalom and Mary Ward
 mar. Ezekiel Newton 3rd, May 13, 1772 (Southborough VR 145)
 Ezekiel 3rd d. May 3, 1773 (Southborough VR 175)
 Died: Aug. 28, 1820, a. 75, **widow**, "Consumption" (Record of Deaths, 242)

Worcester Co. Probate, Case 20580. Administration, 1820

<https://www.americanancestors.org/databases/worcester-county-ma-probate-file-papers-1731-1881/image/?volumeId=26971&pageName=20580:1&rId=522873550>

Erasmus Ward, Southborough, Aug. 29, 1820: "It being inconvenient for me to administer on the Estate of my Sister, the widow Lucy Fessenden...." Asked that Lovett Peters be appointed. No indication of who the heirs were.

1764 November 21 (Wednesday). Mr. John Fessenden dines here. He takes my Sheep to the Halves. Viz. 8 of them and is to return them in two Years: half the wool each Year and half the stock.

1766 November 3 (Monday). My Wife and I at the Funeral of Mr. John Fessendens little son William.

1766 December 12 (Friday). At Eve Mr. John Fessenden came to desire Baptism for his Child, and I examine him.

1767 July 30 (Thursday). P.M. Mrs. *Abigail Fessenden* here, under Examination and I consent to propound her.

1767 August 26 (Wednesday). Old Mrs. *Kelly*, Mrs. *Dolly Rice*, Mrs. *Johnson*, Mrs. *Fessenden* (whose relation I alter and write over), Misses *Hephzibah Maynard*, *Betsy*, *Nanny* and *Suse Brigham* and Miss *Polly Baker*, here, and drink Tea (except for Mrs. *Johnson*).

1767 August 30 (Sunday). Mrs. Fessenden admitted before the Congregation.

1768 April 26 (Tuesday). Went to the Raising of a large Barn of Mr. *Fessendens*.

1768 August 26 (Friday). My sons with my own Team bring home two more Load, and a small Stock of Oake Boards from Mr. Fessendens, but which I buy of Mr. Levi Warrin.

1769 January 10 (Tuesday). Then visited at Hows, Fessendens, Phinehas Maynards and Beetons.

1769 June 18 (Sunday). Read Jer. 51, v. 24 to the End. Preached a. and p.m. on *Isa.* 63.8. Read p.m. 1 Cor. 10. Mr. Fessendens mother, and Mrs. Maynard as well as Mr. Rice dine here.

1769 August 27 (Sunday). Old Mrs. Fessenden dined here.

1769 October 29 (Sunday). Mr. Samuel Hardy of Brookfield, Mrs. Rice aforesaid, Mrs. Fessenden and Mrs. Maynard dined with us.

1769 November 5 (Sunday). Mr. Harrington, Mrs. Fessenden, and Mrs. Maynard dined here.

1769 November 26 (Sunday). Mr. Thomas Winchester dined with us; as did old Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Fessenden.

1769 December 11 (Monday). Mr. *Stevens* goes to his Daughter. A Number of Cutters go down to Capt. Ephraim Brigham's Land, and a Number of Teams came to Cart it. Some brought also from their own Land. Mr. Barnabus Newton, Deacon Wood, Capt. Benjamin Fay, Lt. Baker, Mr. Daniel Warrin, his Brother Timothy, Mr. Andrews, Capt. Maynard (from his own), Mr. Seth Morse, Mr. Tainter, Mr. Phinehas Maynard, Mr. Fessenden, Mr. Benjamin Warrin -- some from their own, some from the Ministerial Lot, in all 28 Load to Day. Several brought Meat, others Rum. They all Sup'd here.

1769 December 15 (Friday). Sent John with a Yoke of Oxen to assist Mr. Fessenden in getting a Log to Mill. (It is instead of a Log which he cut upon the Ministerial Lot and improved for Plank which he sold to Lt. Baker.) This succeeded no further than that John cutt down a great black Oake, and Mr. Fessenden sends word, that he will come when there shall be Snow.

1769 December 18 (Monday). Went over to the Ministerial Lot; a great White Oake Tree marked M has been cut down. Mr. Beeton, who was with me, says it was by Mr. *Fessenden*. Went to Mr. Benjamin Hows and to Mr. Fessendens.

1770 June 10 (Sunday). Miss Mary Steward, Mrs. Fessenden, Mrs. Maynard, Ruth Bellows, a young man Samuel Haven, and Joseph's Sister Hannah, dined here.

1770 July 6 (Friday). Beeton here, and informs me that the Committee Appointed by the Town to view the Bounds of the ministerial Lot, have challenged the little triangular piece which I formerly took up as common-Land, and bounded by the great white Oak marked M -- at How's line, and which I hear John Fessenden has cut down.

1770 July 9 (Monday). P.M. Visit old Mrs. Kelly, old Mrs. Fessenden, and her son Johns Wife.

1770 July 29 (Sunday). Old Mrs. Fessenden and Mrs. Maynard dined here.

1770 August 26 (Sunday). Mrs. Fessenden dined here. She tells me her son *Johns* wife is in an ill State, and tis feared whether She will soon be better.

1770 September 2 (Sunday). Mrs. Fessenden dined here. N.B. poor woman! She looses her sight.

1770 September 30 (Sunday). Mrs. Fessenden dined.

1770 October 21 (Sunday). Mrs. *Maynard* and Mrs. Parker (*Hannaniahs* wife) at Dinner. Mrs. Fessenden late, but dined also. I had rather have some poor widows, than the richest Ladys at my Table, especially on sacrament Dayes.

1771 May 9 (Thursday). I rode over to Mr. *Fessendens* to see his Mother....

1771 May 16 (Thursday). Old Mrs. *Fessenden* and Mrs. *Maynard* make us a Visit and dine here.

1771 June 16 (Sunday). Mr. Simon Tainter, Old Mrs. Fessenden and Mrs. Maynard dined here.

1772 April 18 (Saturday). Messrs. *Hickss* return from *Sutton*, but dont light. N.B. Mr. Hicks has informed me that Cousen Thomas Barrett being married, Brother *Champney* and Sister *Lydia* have Set up Housekeeping together in the House where Mr. William *Fessenden* dwelt.

1772 June 21 (Sunday). Hezekiah How Fessenden Baptized.

1774 September 14 (Wednesday). N.B. *Asa* in going to chop wood at the Ministerial Lot, sees Mr. *Beeton* who denys him Leave to cart through his place. My Son Breck sees Mr. *Fessenden*, who yields that we may pass through his.

1774 December 27 (Tuesday). Sophy and Hannah went over to visit Mrs. Davis, Fessenden etc.

1775 December 6 (Wednesday). Mr. *John Fessenden* came at last and brought me part of my last years Sallery -- viz. £15.12.9 Lawful Money.

1776 February 2 (Friday). Mr. *John Fessenden* was here and paid me, in Bills £67.10.0 old tenor and by Mr. *Barn. Newtons* Account £15.2.6 old Tenor in all, this time, £82.12.6 or £111.0.4 L.M.

1776 June 25 (Tuesday). P.M. Mr. *Jonathan Maynard* came to me about the Supposed Counterfeit Bill, which Mr. *John Maynard* came about and by means of his relating so many Circumstances about it, I took it of him, least it should be more and more defective by often fingering. I conclude I received it from Mr. Fessenden late Constable, on Feb. 2 last.

1776 June 26 (Wednesday). Reflecting on the Affair of the Counterfeit Bill, and concluding I had it of Mr. *Fessenden*, I endeavoured to see him at Capt. *Maynards* breaking up Team; for I heard he was to be there; but he came not.

1776 June 27 (Thursday). I again went out to the Team, to see and Speak with Mr. *Fessenden* but he was not there.... Was uneasy that I did not See Mr. *Fessenden* but could not go there o' foot.

1776 June 28 (Friday). I rode over to Mr. *Fessenden* with the Counterfeit Bill, which Mr. *Jotham Maynard* brought me. I shewed him and offered him it -- but he utterly refused to take it. Moreover he said he was willing that rational, judicious men Should Judge of it. Also that he would talk with John Maynard about it.

1776 July 9 (Tuesday). Having heard that Deacon Wood had experience in the Trouble of Counterfeit Money I went to confer with him. Wrote to Mr. *Fessenden*.

1776 September 24 (Tuesday). P.M. rode to Capt. *Maynards* who upon mention of Mr. *Fessenden* and the Counterfeit Bill told me that if I would let him, he would manage that whole Affair and he would give me as much as I was in danger of loosing by the Bill. I told him I would not deliver the Bill as a good Bill, because It had been already [*illegible*]. He replied that he did not desire I Should nor would he bring me into any Snare. He gave me a thirty Shilling and a ten Shilling Bill L.M. I went to Mr. *Maynards* and told him I was ready to deliver him his Money but he rather [*inclined?*] that I Should give it to Mr. *Jotham Maynard*. Therefore I did not deliver it to him.

1776 September 26 (Thursday). Was with Squire *Baker* and acquainted him that Capt. *Maynard* had undertaken to Settle my Difficulty with *Fessenden*.

1776 November 13 (Wednesday). Mrs. Fessenden and Mrs. Davis here p.m.

1778 April 21 (Tuesday). A.M. I was obliged to ride over to Mr. *Fessendens* about keeping my sheep.

1779 March 15 (Monday). At Mr. Fessenden's (where Mr. How lives), I talked with him (Mr. Fessenden) about his not coming to meeting -- but he gave me no Answer.

1779 June 1 (Tuesday). I attended the Funeral of Mr. Daniel How, who dyed at Mr. Fessenden's.

1779 September 16 (Thursday). Mr. Jacob Broaders was married to young Katharine Fessenden.¹

1780 May 16 (Tuesday). I rode to Mr. Fessenden to try to put out my Sheep, but in Vain. I dined there.

1781 November 28 (Wednesday). Was at Mr. *Fessendens* and at Capt. *Godfry's*.

1782 February 24 (Sunday). Mrs. *Fessenden* and Mrs. *Culloch* dined here.

¹Westborough Vital Records, 132.

1782 May 15 (Wednesday). N.B. The Neighbourhood are Alarmed at Eve, by *Nanny Beeton's* running away, and can't be found.

1782 May 16 (Thursday). This Morning, after a Stormy, wet and dark Night, she is discovered at Mr. *Fessendens*.