

Descendants of Thomas & Mary Treadwell of Ipswich, Massachusetts

The early settlers of Ipswich, MA, Thomas Treadwell, and Edward Treadwell, are believed to have been brothers, the sons of Thomas Tredwell of Oxfordshire, England.

Edward Treadwell

Edward Treadwell's name appears on the Ipswich records in 1637, just 3 years after the town of Ipswich was founded. Several records state that he was granted a planting lot in 1637 and a house lot on the lower side of High St in 1637-38, in or near the "Reedy Marsh". The marsh was a wetland, and Treadwell's planting lot and building lot would not have been desirable. The house lot was probably in the vicinity of where Mineral St. crosses High St.

No record exists of a house being constructed by Edward Treadwell, moved on to Connecticut and Long Island after a short time in Ipswich. The Pequot War (1636-1638) opened more territory to settlement, and Ipswich residents were among those who moved to towns like Saybrook, New Haven, and Fairfield. The English began to establish settlements on the eastern end of Long Island, such as Southold in 1640. Edward Treadwell was in New Haven by 1646, and all his children were born in Connecticut or Long Island.

Thomas & Mary Treadwell, Ancestors of the Ipswich Family

The extensive Treadwell family in Ipswich are almost certainly descendants of Thomas Treadwell, who was thirty years old when he arrived on the ship Hopewell with his wife, Mary Wilson, along with their son Thomas, one-year-old. He first settled at Dorchester but moved to Ipswich in 1638. He received a lot assignments on High St., but built a home at his planting lot on today's [Island Park Road](#), on the road to Jeffreys Road, where he owned two farms. Goodman Treadwell received a license to [open a tavern](#) in 1639, but there is no documentation that he did so.

Wikitree: "The Parish Records of Epwell, Oxfordshire, England contain baptism records for both this Thomas and Edward and name their father Thomas Tredwell^[1]. Thomas's wife Mary was the sister of Theophilus Wilson and of Martha (Wilson) Bachelor, the wife of Henry Bachelor."

Thomas Treadwell died In Ipswich on June 8, 1671. His wife Mary died December 1, 1685.

The Will of Thomas Treadwell

The will of Thomas Treadwell Sr. which he signed with his mark on June 1, 1671, is preserved in the files of the Registry of Probate, proved in Ipswich Court, on September 26, 1671. Docket 28, 115). The inventory appraised the home farm with 30 acres of upland and meadow at £210, and the Island farm with 40 acres of upland and meadow at £160. It apportioned:

- To Thomas Jr., "the Land where he now dwells in with the meadows and appurtenances belonging thereto, and half the commonage belonging to my house." He bequeathed to the junior Thomas his property on [Treadwell's Island](#) between Labor in Vain Creek and Fox Creek.
- To Nathaniel, his homestead with house, barn, upland, and meadow.
- The use of the house was provided for his wife for the rest of her life, and remembrance was made of the three daughters. He also gave his wife "the benefit of the keeping of four Cows and six sheep upon the pasture, also the Wintering five head of Cattle and six sheep, "plus the firewood from the pasture, *"Also I give to my wife all my household goods to be at her own disposing.....And if Nathaniel fails of anything he is to do for my Wife my will is that he shall forfeit ten pound every year he fails."*

Nathaniel Treadwell

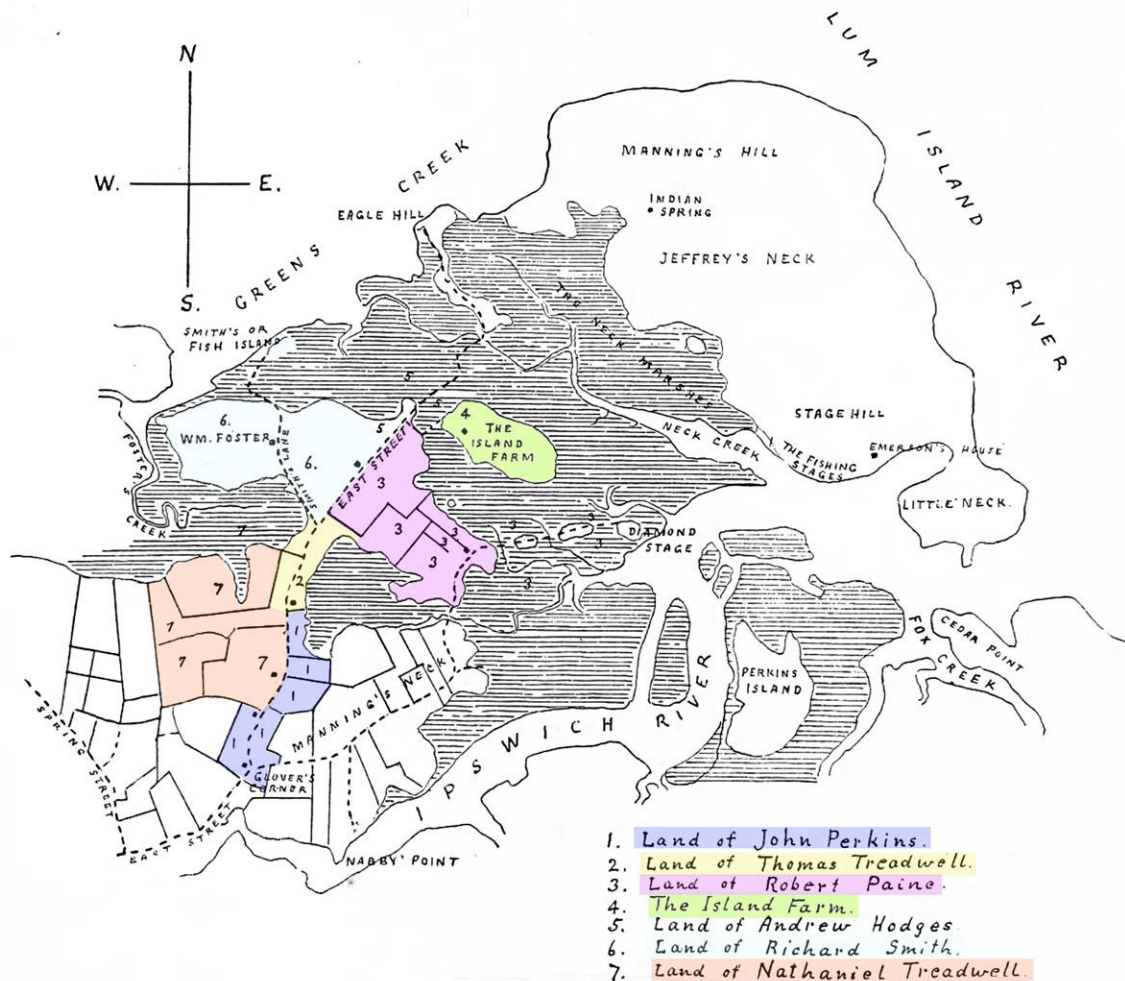
Nathaniel Treadwell, the second owner of the Island Farm, was born February 13, 1638-9. He married Abigail Wells on June 19, 1661, who died June 10, 1677. He married, second, Rebe Titcomb on March 25, 1678. His children were:

- Abigail, was born on Feb. 2, 1602.
- Mary, born Oct. 22, 1665; married Stone.
- Nathaniel, born Jan. 15, 1667; died June 3, 1672.
- Hannah, born Feb. 7, 1669; married Jo. Adams, Jr., May 22, 1690.
- Thomas, born May 25, 1672; died July 11, 1672.
- Sarah, born Aug. 15, 1674; married Brown.
- Nathaniel, born June 13, 1677; died Aug. 17, 1723.

Three days after Nathaniel Jr.'s birth the mother died. Nathaniel Treadwell's second wife, Rebecca Titcomb faced the heroic task of the mother's place before a year had passed, and the family grew again. The children of Nathaniel Sr. and Rebecca were Charles, Samuel, Ann, and Martha, whose birth dates are not recorded, but who were all living when the father divided his estate.

Nathaniel Treadwell acquired land on the opposite side of the way. He conveyed land from his farm to his son, Nathaniel, and sold a field to his nephew, Thomas. The homestead was bounded south by Capt. Matthew Perkins's land on the east, and north by his son, Nathaniel's. The Island Farm continued in the Treadwell line for nearly two hundred years

The Island Farm



Lots on Jeffreys Neck Rd. The Island Farm belonged to Thomas Treadwell Sr.

The Island Farm continued in the Treadwell line for nearly two hundred years. The road divided the farm into two parts: The east side including 29 acres, and the west side, having 37 acres. Generation after generation had dwelt in the old farmhouse and worked its fields. On Feb. 26, 1824, the seven heirs of Lieut. Moses Treadwell sold the farm to Nathaniel Scott. (236:11).

Jacob and Perkins and Sarah Treadwell

The [Jacob Perkins House](#) still stands at the intersection of Jeffreys Neck Rd. and East Street. After his first wife Elizabeth died, he married on April 10, 1692, his neighbor Sarah Treadwell, daughter of Thomas Treadwell of the Island Farm. Perkins' lot abutted the land of Nathaniel Treadwell which included the land of today's Sisters of Notre Dame. Jacob Perkins died Nov. 12, 1705, in his 44th year. In Perkins' will, which he signed Nov. 10, 1705, he bequeathed to his

children by the earlier marriage, John, Jacob, and Elizabeth, his new house with an acre of land adjoining, his new barn at the upper end of his pasture.



The Island Farm of Thomas Treadwell Sr. was at today's Island Park Rd. going toward Jeffreys Neck. Treadwell's Island was the island farm belonging to his son Thomas.

Treadwell's Island

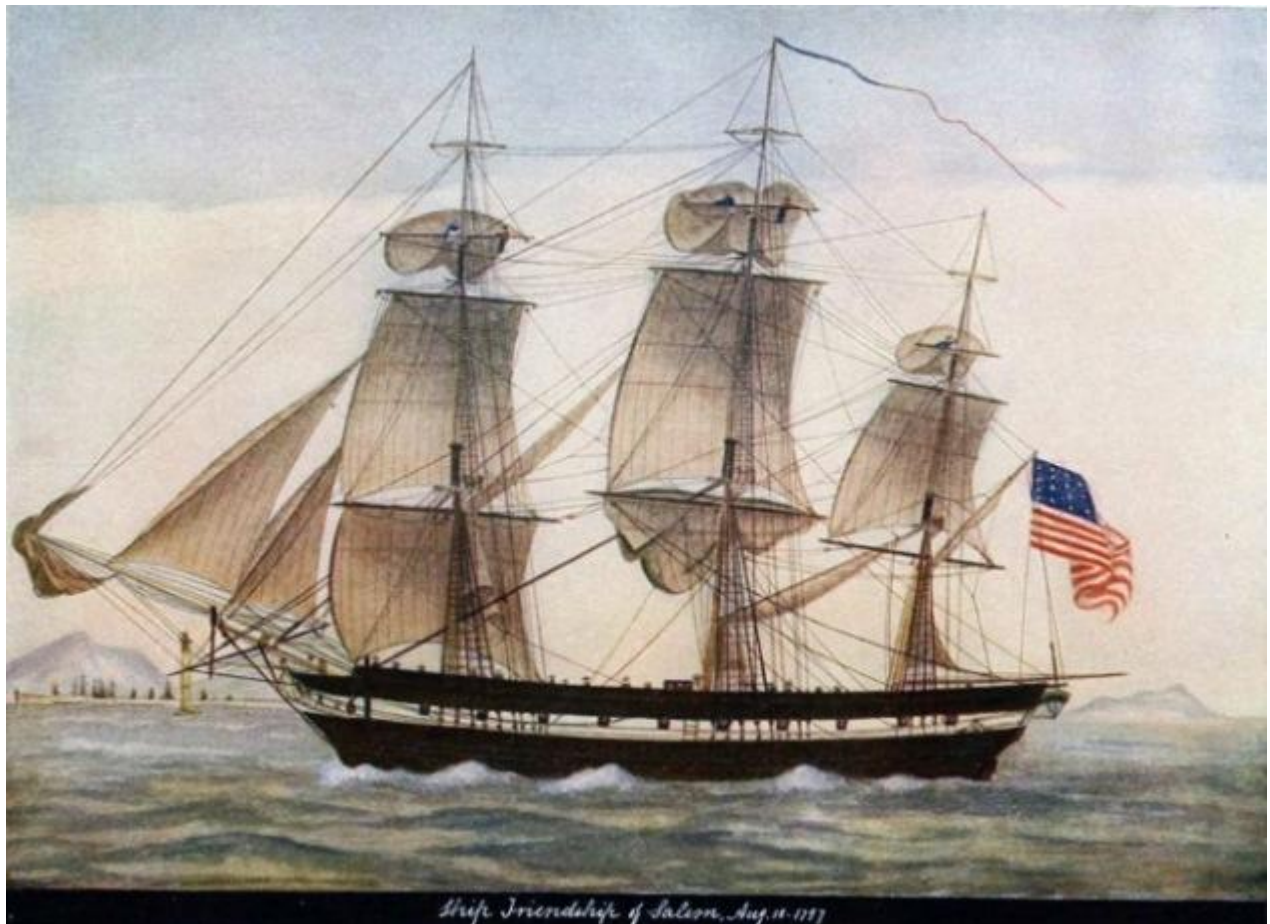
William White received from the Town a 20-acre grant, and on April 27, 1638, he exchanged this grant with Thomas Treadwell, receiving land and money. Surrounded by marsh on every side, at high tides it becomes an island, and came to be known as Treadwell's Island. He bequeathed to his son, Thomas, "the Island he now dwells in with the meadows and appurtenances belonging thereto." It included 40 acres of upland and meadow, double the size of the original grant. Unfortunately for the owners of this Island farm, access to it could be had only by boat or over the land of others during low tide.

Thomas Treadwell, the second owner, married Sarah Titcomb in 1664, and the children, born on the Island, were: Thomas, born March 3, 1665, John, born Nov. 28, 1670, Sarah, born Jan. 10, 1672; married Jacob Perkins, Mary, born Aug. 9, 1675 who died May, 1682, and Anna who died the same year. Thomas² had a son named Nathaniel. The rear wing of the [Treadwell-Wainwright House](#) on East St. may have been built by Nathaniel.

The Seafaring Treadwell Family

The Treadwell family became famous for sea-faring and ship ownership. The sloop, "[Endeavor](#)," under [Capt. Thomas Treadwell](#), was listed in the fleet in 1716. His home is still standing at 7 Summer Street. The [1748 home](#) of [Captain Jabez Treadwell](#), the son of innkeepers Nathaniel and Hannah Treadwell, is on Old England Road.

Capt Moses Treadwell, Jr. was in command of the brigantine "Adventure," 105 tons, in 1807, and was reported at Trinidad and St Lucie in 1808 and 1809. He married Mary, the daughter of Capt. Ephraim Kendall in 1805, and formed a partnership with her brother Jonathan, together owning the "Adventure" and the schooner "Hannah," 74 tons, of which Aaron Sweet was master. Capt. Treadwell was the sole owner of the "pinky" schooners, "Alert," 25 tons, "Fame," 24 tons, and the larger 90 ton schooner, "Richmond". He was master of the "Richmond" on a trip to Martinique in 1818, returning vrith a load of molasses. Yet another Captain Treadwell, probably Daniel or Nathaniel, captained that ship on West India voyages in 1820 and 1822.



The 34.2-ton Friendship was launched in Salem on May 28, 1797, and made seventeen voyages to Batavia, Canton, La Guayra, Cadiz, Leghorn, Madras, London, Hamburg, Archangel and St Petersburg. She was captured by the British on September 4, 1812. The National Park Service operated a [replica of the Friendship](#) at the Salem Maritime National Historic Site.

The ships "Friendship", "Adventure" and "[Eliza](#)" were commanded by [Capt. Charles Treadwell](#), son of [Jacob Treadwell](#) and [Elizabeth White](#), who reported from Lisbon and London in 1808. When the embargo was declared by President Jefferson, these vessels were idled in their home ports, raising great consternation in New England.

Nathaniel Treadwell was master of the sloop "Packet" in 1805. Two sailors with that name were lost at sea in 1821 and 1825. Nineteen-year-old Jabez Treadwell, son of Capt. Jabez died at Havana, in 1806, and Joseph Grafton Treadwell died at sea on board the ship "Mary Ellen," bound for Canton in July 1844 in his twenty-first year.

Captain Charles Treadwell's brother [Captain John White Treadwell](#) moved to Salem early in life and began a career in merchant shipping career. A part owner of several large merchant ships, he was a privateer during the War of 1812. Giving up that profession, he worked his way up from being a cashier at the Merchants' Bank of Salem where he eventually became the president of the bank. He was a co-founder of the Eastern Female School in Salem and the Recording Secretary for the Essex Historical Society. He married first, Susanna Kendall Farley (1787-1818), and second, Harriet Kendall Farley (1791-1852), both being daughters of Major Robert Farley. He had six children by each sister.

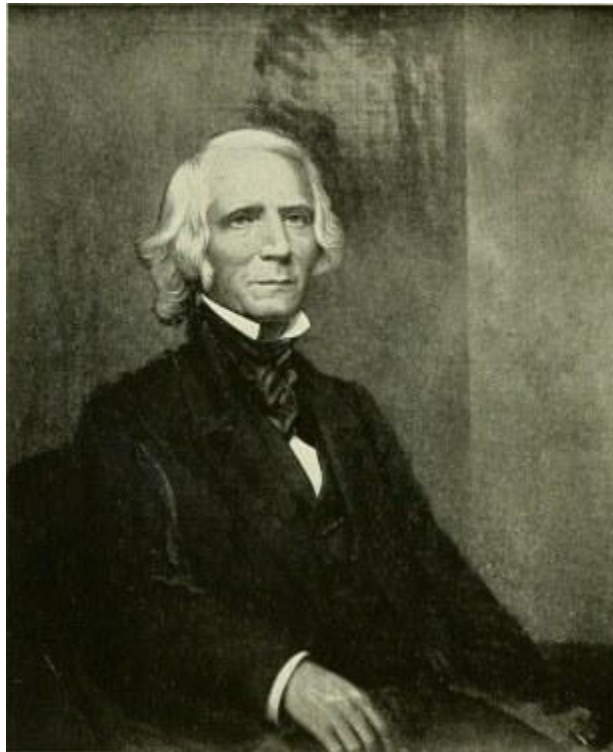
Treadwell's Inn



[Treadwell's Inn](#) is the yellow building in this 19th-century postcard.

Nathaniel Treadwell² had a son named Nathaniel³. When the 1774 Essex County [Convention](#) was held in Ipswich, delegates from all the towns, 67 in number, arrived at [Treadwell's Inn](#) on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 1774, and the Ipswich Convention began two days of deliberations. Resolutions were unanimously adopted, binding themselves to stand together in opposition to the Crown, demanding the resignation of officials holding office by Royal appointment, and declaring the Provincial Congress, soon to assemble, absolutely necessary for the common safety.

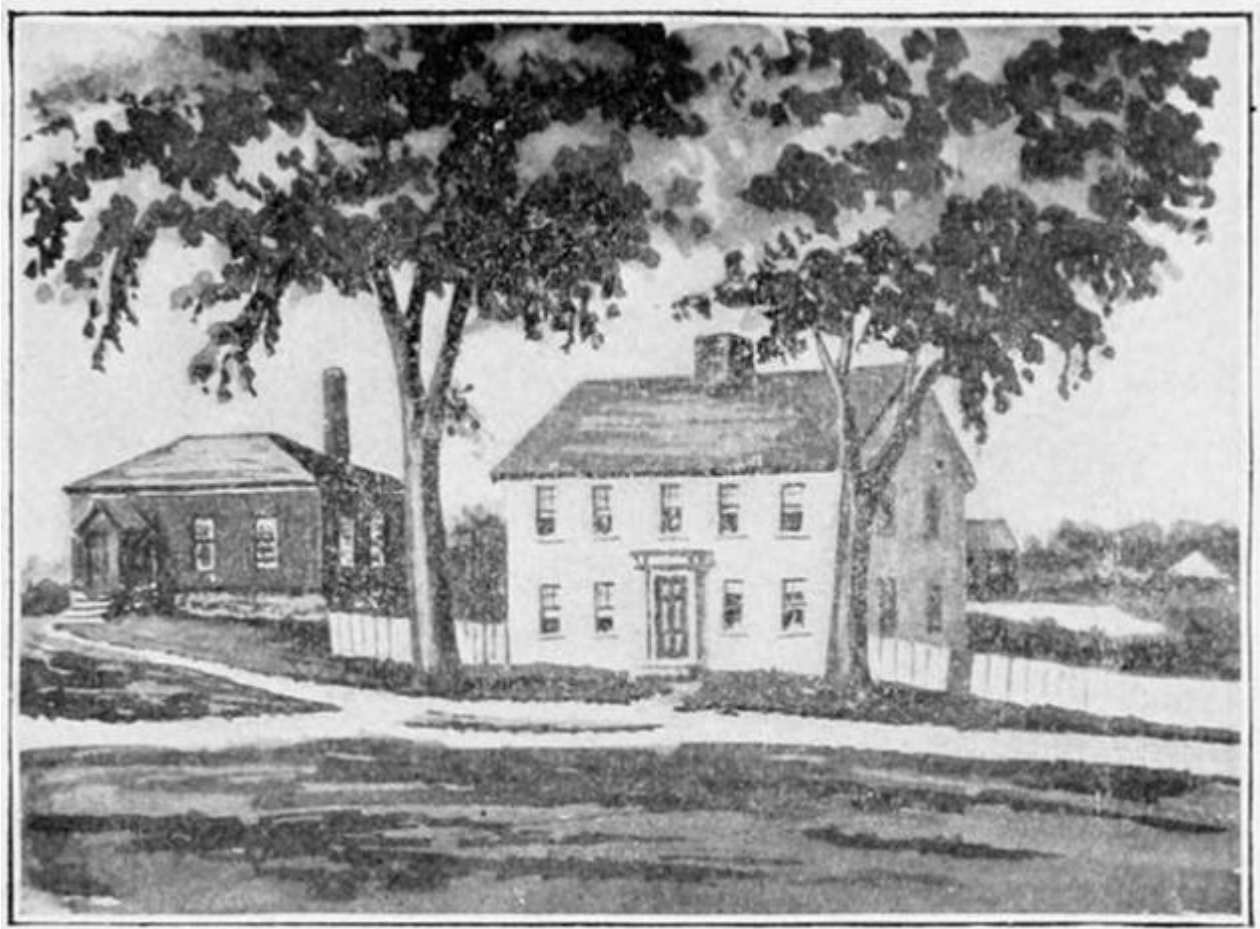
Daniel Treadwell



Daniel Treadwell was born on October 10, 1791, in Ipswich, MA. In 1820 he invented the first powered printing press in America. In 1822, he co-founded the Boston Journal of Philosophy and the Arts and was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1823. In 1826 he devised a system of turnouts for railway transportation on a single track. He invented a machine for spinning hemp for cordage in 1829 that was capable of spinning 1,000 tons a year, which he furnished in 1836 to the Charlestown Navy Yard for making cordage. From 1834 to 1845, he occupied the chair of Rumford professor at Harvard University. From 1834 to 1845, he occupied the chair of Rumford professor at Harvard University. The Ipswich Public Library received a large endowment from Professor Daniel Treadwell, whose family homestead sat at that location.

The estate of Daniel Treadwell at his death was valued at \$55,764. In his will, dated November 7, 1863, he bequeathed "to my native Town of Ipswich,... all my real estate situated in the said town, to have and to hold the same forever, the income whereof, together with the sum of four

thousand dollars, which I hereby give and bequeath to the said town for the same purpose, shall be appropriated by the said town to found a Library, to contain a collection of the standard works of the best authors, ancient and modern, but to the exclusion of the cheap literature and party newspapers of the day, for the use of the inhabitants of Ipswich and the neighboring towns; and it is my wish that the building for the said library shall be erected upon the land purchased by me near the Stone Bridge which I purchased a few years since." He further bequeathed paintings and all his papers and documents to be deposited in the library. Read: [The Memoir of Daniel Treadwell](#).



Nathaniel Treadwell purchased a house and land on N. Main St. on Nov. 3, 1761 (109: 278), and it was inherited by Moses Treadwell. His heirs sold the house with one acre of land to the Trustees of the Public Library, on July 11, 1865 (686: 160). The original, middle section of the [Ipswich Public Library](#) was constructed with financial assistance from Augustine Heard. In his will, Professor Daniel Treadwell made a large endowment.

Early Gravestones of the Treadwell Family at the Old North Burying Ground

C-143 Here lies the body of **Mr. Elisha Treadwell**, son of Mr. John Treadwell, how died September the 24th, 1732, in the 22 year of his age. Findagrave: [Elisha Treadwell 24 Mar 1710 – 24 Sep 1732](#)

C-149 Here lies the body of **Mr. John Treadwell** who died December 16, 1727, in the 58th year of his age. (Findagrave: [John Treadwell 28 Nov 1670 – 16 Dec 1727](#))

C-148 "Here lies the body of **Mrs. Martha Treadwell**, the daughter of Mr. John Treadwell, who died October 27, 1727, in the 22nd year of her age. Findagrave: [Martha Treadwell 1705 – 27 Oct 1727](#)

C-207 Here lies the body of **Mr. Nathaniel Treadwell** who died August 17th, 1723, in the 47th year of his age

D-3 Erected in memory of **Capt. Nathaniel Treadwell** who was born Sept.10th, 1700, and having acquir'd and supported the Character, of a prudent upright and serious Christian, died Feb. the 1st, 1777, aged 77 years. Nor wealth, nor Friends, nor Piety can save, One mortal from the all-devouring Grave. Yet Faith and hope in Christ who rose, may sing, Grave! where's thy conquest! where O death they sting. (F.S.) Capt. Nathaniel Treadwell. [Capt Nathaniel Treadwell 10 Sep 1700 – 1 Feb 1777](#)

[View all Treadwell gravestones at the Old North Burying Ground](#)

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Sources and further reading:

- [Jeffreys Neck and the Way Unto](#) by Thomas Franklin Waters
- [Thomas Treadwell of Ipswich, Mass., and Some of His Descendants](#), By William A. Bobbins
- [Descendants of Edward Tre\(a\)dwel Through His Son John](#)
- [Treadwell-Wainwright House](#)
- [1740 Thomas Treadwell House](#)
- [1852 Treadwell House](#)
- [Agawam House](#) (2nd Treadwell's Inn)
- [Treadwell History](#)
- [Wikitree page for Thomas Treadwell](#)
- [Hammatt Papers: Early inhabitants of Ipswich, Mass. 1633-1700](#) by Abraham Hammatt
- [Nutfield Genealogy: Treadwell of Ipswich, Massachusetts](#)
- [Nutfield Genealogy: Treadwell](#)
- [Memoir of Daniel Treadwell](#)
- [Ipswich In the Massachusetts Bay Colony Vol. II](#) by Thomas Franklin Waters