

ST. GEORGE'S STONE BROTHERS TO AMERICA IN 1635

Simon Stone departed from Ipswich, England, on the Ship Increase on April 15, 1635, sometimes recorded as 1634. With Simon was his wife, Joan, and children Frances, Ann, Simon II, Marie, and John who was 5 weeks old. They landed in Massachusetts Bay in July.



Simon's brother, Gregory Stone, followed later in 1635. The name of the ship is unknown. With Gregory was his second wife, Lydia, and 8 children: John, Daniel, David (3 children by his first wife Margaret), Elizabeth, Samuel, and Sarah Stone, who was 3 years old; also John and Lydia Cooper, Lydia's children by her first marriage.

Gregory and Simon Stone were descendants of the Anglo-Saxon Stone family. They had been yeoman farmers in and around Essex County, England, since the 14th century, and earlier. The brothers were baptized in the church St. George the Martyr in Great Bromley, Simon baptized in 1585 and Gregory in 1592. At least four preceding generations of the Stone family were baptized in St. George's, and were buried in the churchyard.

SIMON AND GREGORY STONE'S ANCESTORS, WHO LIVED IN OR NEAR ARDLEIGH AND GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX COUNTY

1. William atte Stone (1365-1430)
The prefix "atte" was used in early generations
2. Walter atte Stone (b. 1390, d. after 1431)
3. John Stone (1420-1487)
4. Simon (or Symond) Stone (b. 1450, d. 1506-1511)
5. David (Davy) Stone (1480-1543)
6. Simon (Symonde) Stone (1507-1557)
7. Rev. David Stone (b. 1540, d. after 1597)
Sons Simon Stone (b. 1585 England, d. 1665 Mass.)
and Gregory Stone (b. 1592 England, d. 1672 Mass.)

On April 29, 1904, American descendants of Gregory and Simon Stone dedicated a beautiful stained glass window, located on the north wall of St. George's Church. A metal plate below the window is engraved: "To the Glory of God and to the Memory of Simon and Gregory Stone, Brothers, who were born in this parish, baptized in this Church, and emigrated to Massachusetts in New England in 1634, this Window is erected by American Descendants." A smaller plaque was placed under the window later. It is engraved "The descendants of GREGORY & SIMON STONE have given generously towards the cost of repairing this Church. July 1985"

DETAILS OF THE STONE WINDOW

The top pane is a dove, representing the Holy Spirit.

The 6 panes under the dove: (left to right) a cherub; the seal of Massachusetts; the middle 2 panes represent the bow and stern of the Ship Increase; the seal of Essex County; a cherub.

The 6 lower panes: The left pane illustrates St. Gregory the Great with the pane underneath showing St. Gregory speaking to the captive English children at the marketplace in Rome. The center pane illustrates St. Mary the Virgin holding the infant Christ with the pane underneath showing the Annunciation of the Virgin. The right pane illustrates St. Simon the Apostle with the pane underneath showing the call of St. Simon by Christ. The Latin inscription across the bottom panes reads "Saecula praeterita in Saecula ventura" which translates to "The Generations pass into the coming Generations".



IN AMERICA: Arriving in New England in 1635, the brothers settled in Watertown, Massachusetts, which was founded in 1630 on the Charles River. In 1931 the Watertown Founders Monument was dedicated. The monument is inscribed with the names of founders, including Gregory and Simon Stone. It is located on Charles River Road in Watertown.

Simon and Gregory, respected community leaders, were church deacons. In Watertown, Simon built a two story home between Mount Auburn and the Charles River. It stayed in the family for over 200 years. It was located in what is now the Cambridge Cemetery. Acres of arbors and farmland, maintained by the Stone family for 7 generations, now comprise the majority of the magnificent Mount Auburn Cemetery. The Cambridge and Mount Auburn cemeteries are across the street from each other, as Coolidge Ave. was cut through the Stone property, dividing it into two parts. Simon Stone and many members of his family were buried in The Old Burying Place located at 264 Arlington St. in Watertown.

(Stone descendants placed a memorial in the Old Burying Place in Watertown.)

IN MEMORY OF SIMON STONE 1586-1665 AND GREGORY STONE
1592-1672 SONS OF DAVID AND URSULA STONE
BORN IN GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX COUNTY, ENGLAND
WHO EMIGRATED TO NEW ENGLAND IN 1635 AND SETTLED IN WA-
TERTOWN

THIS MEMORIAL IS ERECTED BY THE STONE FAMILY ASSOCIATION IN GRATE-
FUL REMEMBRANCE OF THESE EARLY SETTLERS WHO IN THEIR LOVE OF
CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY LEFT THEIR HOMES AND SO MUCH THAT WAS
DEAR TO THEM IN ENGLAND AND BY THEIR COURAGE, TOIL, AND SACRIFICE
HELPED TO FOUND THIS COMMONWEALTH.



In 1637, Gregory Stone moved his family from Watertown to neighboring Cambridge. Both are now part of Greater Boston. The brothers lived within 5 miles of each other. Gregory built a two story home overlooking Garden Street, his lot extending back to Spark Street. The home stayed in the family for over 130 years. It was purchased by Harvard University in 1841. The home was torn down. The location was at 66 Garden Street, where the Harvard Quadrangle Recreational Athletic Center stands today. Gregory was buried in the Old Burying Ground in Cambridge. To find his grave, enter the cemetery adjacent Christ Church, located at Zero Garden St. Gregory Stone's memorial is a short walk from the entrance.

This brochure was written on Oct. 17, 2023 by Gail Bayless Mathews Pucci, of Lilburn Georgia, USA. Gail is descended from Simon Stone.
REFERENCES: (1) Books by J. Gardner Bartlett (see below). (2) Book A PIONEER IN NEW ENGLAND IN 1635 (1887) by Caroline Orne. The booklet STONE, DEACON SIMON STONE OF WATERTOWN, MASS. (1868) by Caroline Orne, based on her letter written to her niece, Mrs. W.W. Parker (Harriet Bell Parker). (3) Book THE STONE FAMILY, American Genealogical Research Institute, 1975. (4) Records found through Ancestry.com and the Watertown library. Thanks for help from Ben Stone, Jr., of California, a distant cousin descended from Gregory Stone.

INFORMATION: St. George's Church and the Stone family, <https://www.greatbromley.org.uk/stone-family-connection>

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Contact in the United States: Ben Stone Jr.: beox@sonic.net

GENEALOGY: Many publications concerning family history may be purchased or, in some cases, may be read through genealogical services, or historical society and organization websites. Books with information about Gregory and Simon Stone are:

(1) J. Gardner Bartlett wrote GREGORY STONE GENEALOGY (1918) and SIMON STONE GENENALOGY (1926).

(2) Robert Charles Anderson is the author of THE GREAT MIGRATION, IMMIGRANTS TO NEW ENGLAND 1634-1635 (2009).

Gregory and Simon Stone are referenced in Vol. 6, pages 546 to 558.

TOURISM: Find information about Colchester, including the Castle & Museum, through a web search for Colchester Essex.

To learn about Essex County, see <https://www.tripadvisor.com>, and search for Essex, England, UK.

To learn about Triptree Fruit Farm tours, museum, tea rooms, jams & other products, <https://www.tiptree.com>.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH FROM THE U.S.: Donations made to St. George's Church, from the U.S., can be made through The Society for the Preservation of Ancient Churches (SPAC), a 501c3 organization. Donations are tax deductible. Indicate that the donation should go to St. George's Church. Please send checks, payable to SPAC, to Society for the Preservation of Ancient Churches, 3331 Reservoir Road, N.W., Washington, DC 20007.