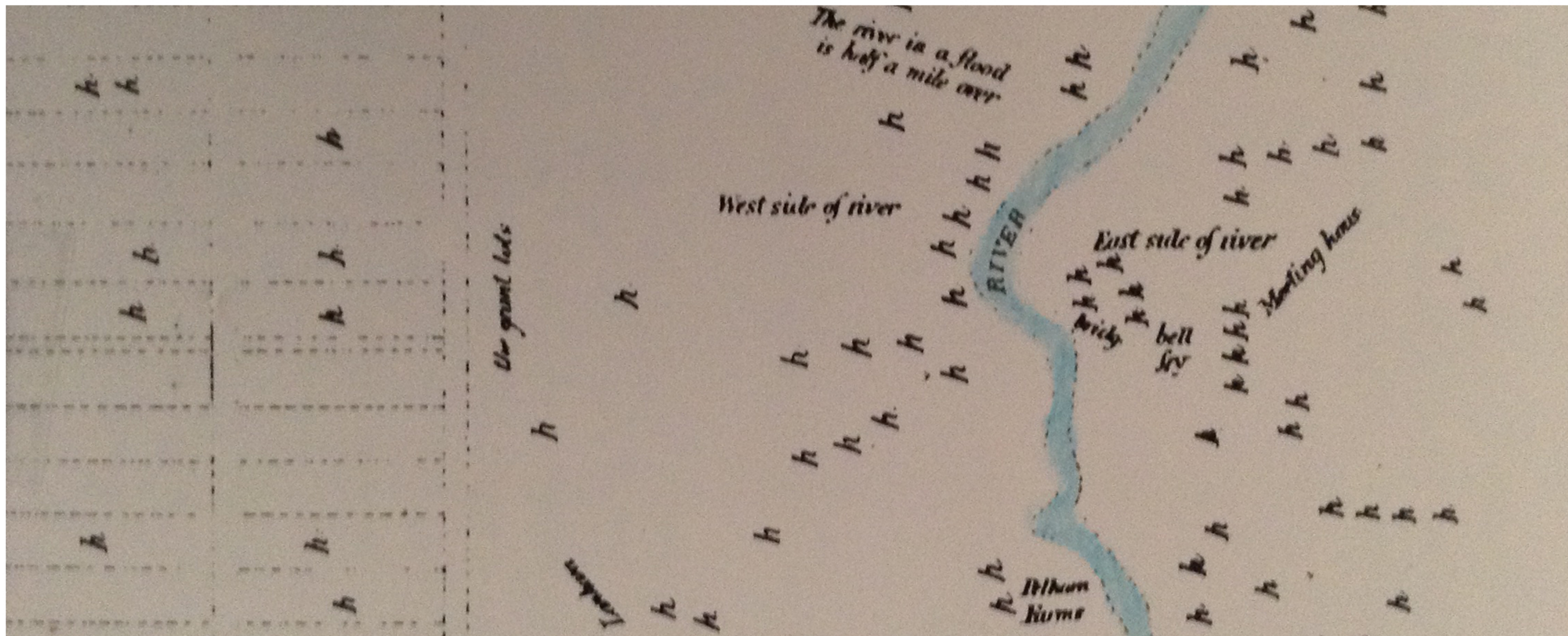


1700-1730



Plot of Sudberry Township Drawn in 1708, the map shows an equal number of houses on both sides of the Sudbury River. Total population: 650

In the early 1700s, Sudbury enjoyed economic prosperity and growth, in part because of extended peacetime plus England's "benign neglect" of the colonies.



The Walker House built before 1670 and remodelled by 1700 is typical of the one and half story houses that would still have been in use in the early 1700s

The landscape was changing as stumps rotted and fields could be laid out and plowed. Cereals such as wheat could be grown. Subsistence housesteads became farmsteads. Agricultural production increased. More mills were established throughout the town milling wheat flour. Sudbury became a successful farm community which it remained for the next 150 years.

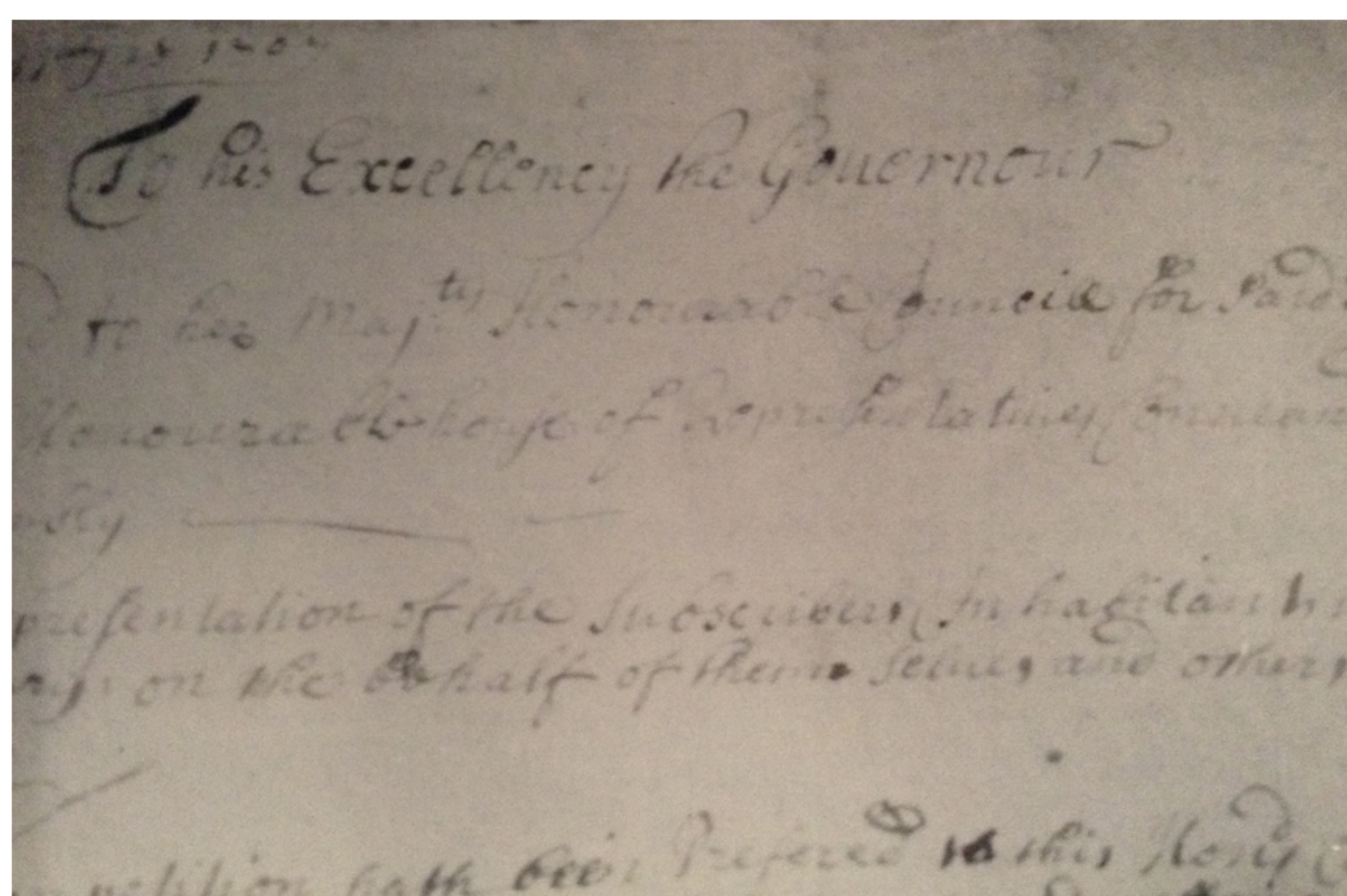
New bridges and roads were constructed, especially to serve the "Rocky Plain" (the modern Town Center) which was only now being developed. The Post Road between Boston and New York which ran through Sudbury had been in use for over fifty years.

Sudbury was required to maintain armed companies, ready to fight Indians and the French, but conflicts were rare. During Queen Anne's War (1704-13), Sudbury endured rumors of impending attacks, but none materialized. In 1724-5, Sudbury men helped suppress an Native American uprising in Rutland with only a few casualties.

The location of the meetinghouse on the east side of the Sudbury River became a big issue. All residents were required to attend Sunday church all-day plus secular town meetings. The Sudbury River was impassible for much of the winter and spring, imposing hardship on the residents west of the river. The west residents petitioned the general court to create two precincts. The split into two precincts happened and Israel Loring became the first minister on the west side in 1722. By 1730 Loring's Parsonage was built.

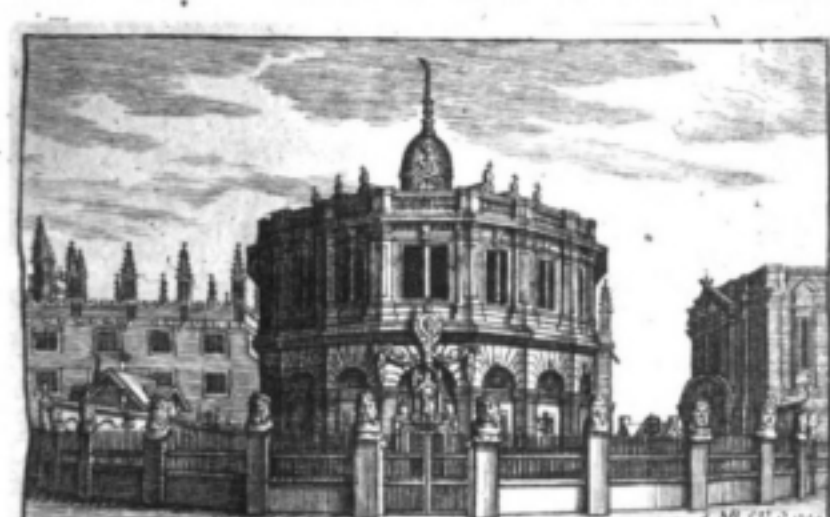


The Rice family fowling piece, used in the Revolutionary war, is a typical example of the weaponry of the period. The piece was made in Holland by C. Hendrick Sleur before 1740



The 1707 Sudbury Petition to the General Court regarding the splitting of Sudbury into two precincts

A SHORT
INTRODUCTION
OF
GRAMMAR
GENERALLY TO BE USED;
Compiled and set forth for the bringing up of
all those that intend to attain to the Know-
ledge of the LATIN TONGUE.
To which are added usefull Observations by way of
Comment out of ancient and late Grammarians.



OXFORD, At the THEATER. 1709.

Education became more important, as the Age of Reason everywhere gains momentum. In 1701, the General Court began to enforce laws requiring formal education. In 1702, Sudbury built its first schoolhouse and hired its first schoolmaster. Harvard admitted its first Sudbury boy soon thereafter. To gain admittance to Harvard, a boy had to demonstrate proficiency in Greek and Latin so they studied books such as Lily's grammar imported from England.



The Loring Parsonage was built in 1730 when the town center on the west side of the river was established. Much modified over the years, this is how it looked in the 1880s.