

# NAMES OF PLACES IN WINCHESTER

## Past & Present

### **ABERJONA RIVER & ABERJONA POND**

Formerly also spelled Abbajona, "Aberjona" is believed to be a native name. Its meaning is unknown. It is probably related to the term "Aberginians" or Abarginny-men" which colonists William Wood, Capt. Edward Johnson, and John Greene used in relation to the indigenous people. Aberjona Pond was a swampy section of the river to the west of the railroad below Swanton Street which disappeared in 1968 when the river was channeled into three culverts now lying under Ciarcia Field (aka Skillings Field).

### **ADAMS SCHOOL**

Named for John Quincy Adam, this former schoolhouse was built in 1857 on Swanton Street near Washington Street and was replaced in 1876 by the Chapin School.

### **AIGREMONT**

The name used by Oren and Rena Sanborn for their house on High Street. See also Sanborn House.

### **AMBROSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

The current Ambrose School was built on the site of the first Ambrose School which was built during the late 1940s as the Marycliff Academy, a Catholic girls' school. After purchasing the site in 1969, the Town turned it into a public elementary school and named it for former Town Engineer Howard Ambrose (1909-1970). Ambrose, a Winchester native, had worked for the town since 1931 as a member of the engineering staff, as assistant town engineer (1950), Planning Board Engineer (1956), and town engineer (1967). Spring 1971 Town Meeting approved the name, and the dedication ceremony was held the next January.

### **ANDREWS HILL**

Now known as Mount Pisgah, this hill (like Andrews Road) was named for Hiram Andrews, a farmer who owned much of the land in the area in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **BACON FIELD**

Used for baseball from at least the 1860s until the creation of Manchester Field, this field was formerly located at the southwest corner of Bacon and Church streets. Like the street, it was named for the Bacon family which owned considerable property and mills north of the Mystic Lakes.

### **BACONVILLE**

A name formerly applied to the area at the north end of the Mystic Lakes where Robert Bacon and his family maintained mills and where many mill workers lived.

### **BELLINO PARK - JOSEPH M. BELLINO PARK**

This park was named for Heisman Trophy winner Joe Bellino (1938-2019), a Winchester native and Winchester High School graduate (class of 1956). An outstanding athlete in high school, Bellino was awarded the Heisman Trophy in 1960 while starting halfback at the U.S. Naval Academy. He played for the New England Patriots for three seasons beginning in 1965 before retiring from football. In 1977 he was elected to the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. Town Meeting voted the name in 2003, and the park was dedicated on November 20, 2004. Hitherto an open area, the land was set aside for park use in 1996 when Town Meeting voted to rezone and combine the parcel at Winn Square with former Woburn Loop land to create a public park.

### **BLACK BALL POND**

Alternate name for Judkins Pond prior to the filling in of the northern end of the pond during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**BLIND BRIDGE**

A colonial-era bridge (possibly an alternate name to Long Bridge) which crossed Horn Pond Brook at Main Street. According to town historian Henry Chapman, it was possibly named because the growth of trees and brush about it concealed it from the traveler.

**BORGGAARD BEACH - CLARENCE S. BORGGAARD BEACH**

Fall 1993 Town Meeting named the beach near the Packer Tennis Courts for a Town Meeting member who was instrumental in making the reopening of the beach at Wedge Pond for swimming a reality.

**BOWERY**

An obsolete unofficial name used in the 20<sup>th</sup> century for the area of Main Street just north of Lake Street.

**BROOKS PARKHURST TOWN FOREST**

Formerly known as the Clara G. Brooks Woods, the Town Forest was named after Mrs. Shepard Brooks (1845-1939), last owner of the large Peter Chardon Brooks estate in Medford and Winchester, and for the Parkhurst family. The Town purchased the property, acquired for Town by a group of citizens including Richard Parkhurst, a neighbor of the woods, in 1941.

**CENTER FALLS DAM**

Constructed at the same time as the Converse Bridge, this dam was designed by Herbert Kellaway as part of a river-improvement plan carried out in 1914 and 1915.

**CHANE SQUARE - DANIEL THURSTON AND VIVIAN BRYSON CHANE SQUARE**

Town Meeting named the plot of land at the intersection of Maple Road and Valley Road during the spring of 1993. Daniel Chane (1908-1982), a vice-president of the New England Power Company in Boston, served on the School Committee, Finance Committee, and Zoning Board of Appeals, and as a member of Town Meeting.

**CHAPIN SCHOOL**

This former school was built in 1876 on Swanton Street (across from Cedar St.) and named for Dr. Alonzo Chapin. An Amherst graduate educated in Philadelphia, he and his wife were missionaries in the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii). They came to Winchester when they had to leave the islands for the sake of Mrs. Chapin's health. Dr. Chapin practiced medicine in Winchester for thirty years and served on the School Committee (1852, 1866-1876).

**CHEFALO PARK - HARRY E. CHEFALO PARK**

By a vote of the 2002 Fall Town Meeting, what was commonly known as Wadleigh Field was named to commemorate Harry Chafalo's longtime service to the community. The Chamber of Commerce named him Citizen of the Year in 1987.

**CIARCIA FIELD - JOHN H. "JAKE" CIARCIA ATHLETIC FIELD**

The high-school play field, popularly known as Skillings Field, was officially named for Jake Ciarcia by Town Meeting in 1995. Ciarcia (1933-2005) was a life-long resident of Winchester who served as Town Engineer for 24 years, retiring in 1994. The Chamber of Commerce named him Citizen of the Year in 1986.

**COLD BRIDGE**

Colonial name for the first bridge built across the Aberjona River at the site of the current Converse Bridge, so named for the cold temperatures at the time of construction.

**COLUCCI SQUARE**

The intersection of Swanton and Florence Streets was dedicated on Columbus Day in 1946 to Private Ralph W. Colucci, killed in action in France on Oct. 12, 1944. Colucci was a member of the 26th Infantry

Division, 104th Infantry Regiment.

### **COMMON**

Reserved for common use, the Winchester Town Common lies before the First Congregational Church, the first church formed in Winchester. In colonial times, the first Common, used for grazing, was located near Winter Pond. The current Common was originally part of the Converse farm and remained farmland for about two centuries. When two Woburn men purchased it in 1851 for resale as house lots, six men of the Congregational Society bought the land to prevent just that. Over the next several years the owners refused to sell the land for development, preferring to offer it to the town for a common. After several Town Meeting discussions on the subject (and some controversy), the town did purchase the land for \$7,000 in 1867. Over the years, it has had various features, including a bandstand, jet fountain, tiered fountain, planter, flagpole, and a succession of plantings.

### **CONVERSE BRIDGE**

Built in 1915, this bridge was named for the first settler, Edward Converse, who built a dam at the site of the current Center Falls Dam and Converse Bridge in the 1640s.

### **CUTTER BROOK**

Former name for the tributary from Cutters Pond to the Aberjona River.

### **CUTTERS POND**

Named for the Cutter family which built mills along Horn Pond Brook, Cutter Pond was created as a mill pond and disappeared after the abandonment of the mills.

### **CUTTER VILLAGE**

Former name of the area along north Main Street where several members of the Cutter family built their homes. The Cutters maintained mills on Horn Pond Brook. The name survives in the name of an apartment house at 780 Main St.

### **DAVIDSON PARK – GEORGE T. DAVIDSON PARK**

This park, created in 1932, was named for Park Commissioner George T. Davidson (1877-1954) in 1949. A native of Boston, Davidson spent most of his life in Winchester. Also a member of the Warrant Committee and Board of Selectmen, he was a park commissioner for 30 years, starting in 1917. This park was formed as part of the Town's 1930s river improvement project extending from the Town center to Washington Street. A basin was created as a flood expansion area and around it, in the Park Commissioners words, "some 280,000 square feet of swamp area were reclaimed."

### **DOHERTY APARTMENTS – JOHN L. DOHERTY APARTMENTS**

The Town's second senior housing complex, which opened in 1978 on Westley Street, was named for a construction engineer and executive who lived in Winchester for 42 years and was a member of the Winchester Housing Authority member when he died in 1975 at age 75.

**ECHO LAKE** See Wedge Pond.

### **ELLIOTT PARK**

Alfred D. Elliott, a native of Winchester and a builder by profession, spent his entire life in the town and spent much of it as a community volunteer, as an assessor, a Rotarian, and a director of Winning Farm, Winchester Hospital, and the Co-operative Bank. In 1960, he rallied a coalition of volunteers to aid the Park Department in improving the Common. In 1929, the Town purchased the property along Main Street in front of Wedge Pond. In 1966, two years after Elliott died, the Rotary, with assistance from the Garden Club and Park Department, laid out a park named for Elliott. A plaque was affixed to a rock base in December 1966 and the park dedicated the next spring.

### **EVERETT HEIGHTS**

This name was applied for a short time to Myopia Hill while Edward Everett owned land on either side of Cambridge Street. Everett (1794-1865) was a former president of Harvard University, Governor of Massachusetts, U.S. Senator, Secretary of State, minister to Great Britain, candidate for vice-president, and orator at Gettysburg along with President Lincoln. He purchased 16 acres of the original Squaw Sachem farm from the Wyman family in 1858. Everett Avenue was also named for him.

### **FLATS**

Designating the area west of the town center along and north of Church Street out to Cambridge Street, the Flats is so named apparently because it is flat land. The area was formerly known as Wyman Plains.

### **GIFFORD SCHOOL**

This former school (building demolished) was located on Church St. in the center of town. It was named for Stephen M. Gifford of Duxbury, chairman of the Committee on Towns when the town founders were petitioning the legislature for the incorporation of Winchester. The school moved to the primary school building at Washington and Myrtle streets, and later a new Gifford School was built on Main Street near the site of the later McCall School.

### **GINN FIELD**

During Winchester's parks movement of the 1890s, Edwin Ginn (1838-1914), a successful publisher of educational textbooks, an ardent promoter of the peace movement, and a noted philanthropist, purchased six acres above Bacon Street next to his own estate and gave them to the Metropolitan Park Commission, later the Metropolitan District Commission. Ginn Field was laid out as a playground in 1938. In 1980 the Winchester Historical Commission erected a plaque in Ginn's memory.

### **GLEN GREEN**

A descriptive name for an open space next to Glen Road.

### **HAGGERTY, WILLIAM P. ENTRANCE**

In spring 1997, Town Meeting named the south entrance of Town Hall for this former Town Hall custodian.

### **HIGHLAND SCHOOL**

A former school located on Highland Avenue at Eaton Street, discontinued in 1943 and its building demolished.

### **HIGHLANDS**

Designating the district around Cross and Washington streets, the name was also formerly applied to:

- **HIGHLAND PLAYGROUND:** first name for Leonard Field
- **HIGHLANDS STATION:** a house built on Cross Street by the railroad so that its second floor could be used as a railroad station
- **HIGHLAND BETHANY SOCIETY:** an unsectarian religious society whose Sunday School met in the waiting room of the Highlands railway station until 1886 when a chapel was built on Cross Street

### **HILL SCHOOL**

One of the first schools built in Winchester, this former school was located on High Street near the junction with Ridge Street and named for its location.

### **HORN POND BROOK**

The brook is named for Horn Pond in Woburn from which the brook originates. The pond was named for its shape.

### **HORN SQUARE - JOHN T. "JAKE" HORN SQUARE**

Fall 1984 Town Meeting voted to name the general area at the intersection of Main Street and Thompson Street for Jake Horn (1915-1983), a native of Winchester who was maintenance foreman with the DPW for 34 years. A veteran member of the American Legion, he served as marshal for the Veterans and Memorial Day parades for 37 years.

#### **INDIAN HILL**

One of the western hills.

#### **JENKS SENIOR CENTER**

Constructed in 1978, this building was named for a couple whose generous gift made it possible, Mr. and Mrs. James Jenks.

#### **JOHNS BASEBALL DIAMOND**

The baseball diamond on Ginn Field was named for Arthur L. Johns by Spring 1997 Town Meeting. Johns was a former president of the Middlesex Bar Association.

#### **JUDKINS POND**

This pond was named for J. B. Judkins who owned a quantity of land between Washington Street and the banks of the Aberjona River.

#### **KNOWLTON FIELD - HENRY T. KNOWLTON FIELD**

Henry Knowlton was a football player, physical educator, coach, and athletic director. The gridiron section of Manchester Field was named for him by Spring 1974 Town Meeting.

#### **LEONARD FIELD - AUGUSTUS M. LEONARD FIELD**

Originally known as the Highland Playground, Leonard Field was completed on Washington Street near Cross Street in 1921 with a baseball diamond and backstop and play equipment. The field was renamed for Gus Leonard (1895-1918), a 1914 graduate of the high school who was killed in France during World War I. According to the newspaper account, "Gus' Leonard was a young man of whom his town may well be proud, always enthusiastic about the things that counted most, always willing and doing, a gentleman at all times." Though named in 1921, the field's dedication was delayed until Memorial Day in 1925.

#### **LEONARD POND**

Called Leonard Pond because of its proximity to Leonard Field, the pond was designed in 1928 as a flood expansion area along the river. It opened for swimming in 1933. Beset off and on with water quality issues, it was closed for swimming in the late 1980s.

#### **LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Named for President Abraham Lincoln, the first Lincoln School used to stand at Oak and Westley streets. The second (and current) Lincoln School was built as Winchester High School in 1904 and was used as a junior high school from 1956 to 1972. It was, in fact, the building that first bore the name of McCall Junior High School. The building was converted to an elementary school in 1972.

#### **LOCKE FARM CONSERVATION AREA**

Acquired as conservation land in 1972, this 10-acre parcel was formerly farmland owned by the Locke family for about two centuries.

#### **LONG POND**

A descriptive name for a pond in the Middlesex Fells Reservation.

#### **LONGE BRIDGE**

Built in 1641, this bridge crossed Horn Pond Brook and was named because “the place was so boggy that it swallowed up much wood before it could be made passable.” [Woburn Records, Vol. 1, p. 4, quoted in Henry Chapman, *History of Winchester*, p. 57.]

#### **LORING AVENUE PLAYGROUND**

Former name of McDonald Field.

#### **LYNCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (former Lynch Junior High School)**

In the naming of the second junior high school built in Winchester, Town Meeting in 1961 honored two brothers who were killed in the two theaters of World War II, Andrew Lynch (1914-1945) and Robert Lynch (1917-1944). Both were graduates of Winchester High School. Staff sergeant Robert Lynch entered the service in August 1942 and was a radio gunner based in England. After completing 24 missions, he was reported missing in action during an Allied raid over Germany in October 1943. In January he was reported killed in action. Posthumously he was awarded the Flying Cross with oak leaf clusters. Andrew Lynch, having joined the army in Feb. 1941, was one of the first from Winchester to go overseas. He saw service in several major engagements. After having twice won the Purple Heart, Pfc Lynch was killed in action in the Philippines in April 1945. The Lynch Junior High became the Lynch Elementary School in 1980.

#### **MANCHESTER FIELD**

When originally named, Manchester Field was a park lying between the railroad and the parkway, while the river wound to the east along the base of the hill where the McCall School now sits. It was named for Forrest C. Manchester (1859-1899), a lawyer and member of Winchester’s first park commission (1893), who spearheaded the town’s parks movement in the 1890s. The field was begun in the 1890s along with the Mystic Valley Parkway and finished in 1902. Originally owned by the Metropolitan Park Commission, its management was turned over to the town in 1905. A memorial to Manchester, who died before the project’s completion, was erected in 1931. To create a larger playing field, the river was rerouted in 1946, and the field was shifted to its present position.

#### **MARYCLIFF ACADEMY**

The Marycliff Academy was built in 1947 next to the Sanborn House as a Catholic girls’ school. In 1969, it was bought by the Town and converted into the Ambrose School. Marycliff retained the name it had when located in Arlington.

#### **MAURER AUDITORIUM**

Town Hall Auditorium was named in 2001 for W. Chad Maurer, Winchester’s town manager from 1985 until his death in 1999. It was while Maurer was town manager that Town Hall was renovated.

#### **MCCALL MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Samuel Walker McCall (1851-1923), a former governor of Massachusetts, was one of Winchester’s most respected figures. Born in Pennsylvania, he grew up in Illinois and attended school in New Hampshire. A Dartmouth graduate, he practiced law before entering politics. He was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives and then to Congress from the 8th Massachusetts district. He served as governor from 1916 to 1919. President Wilson named him to the US Tariff Commission in 1920. McCall came to Winchester about 1881, living first on Washington Street but moving about 1904 to a new house on Myopia Hill which was part of a development he and George Fernald planned with the assistance of the Olmsted Brothers firm. McCall lived out his life in Winchester. When he died in November 1923, the entire town went into mourning. The junior high school, then using what is not the Lincoln Elementary School building, was named after him in 1961 when a second junior high school (now the Lynch Elementary School) was built. In 1973 the junior high school was moved back into the building now known as the McCall Middle School.

#### **McDONALD FIELD - ELIZABETH C. MCDONALD FIELD**

This field opened in 1925 as the Loring Avenue Playground. Renamed in 1968, the field was dedicated in 1969 to the memory of Elizabeth McDonald (1885-1966), a teacher, Town Meeting member for most of the years from 1929 until her death, and member of several municipal committees, including a committee that studied the condition of Horn Pond Brook and promoted its cleaning in the 1950s. When the field was dedicated, a plaque was erected which pays tribute to “a staunch friend of recreation, beloved community leader, master educator, and fearless advocate of social justice, who served this town for over 50 years.”

#### **MCDONOUGH SQUARE - FESTUS MCDONOUGH SQUARE**

Spring 1990 Town Meeting named the general area at the intersection at the Arthur Street and Loring Avenue for Festus McDonough (1931-1954) who was killed in the Korean War. McDonough, who served with the Ordnance Corps in an ammunition company of the Army, went overseas in December 1952 and was on active duty from then until the end of the war when he was reported missing and later dead.

#### **MILL POND**

Part of the Aberjona River, this pond was formed when Edward Converse, the first settler of this area, built a dam across the river about 1641 to power a grist mill. A mill stood at the same site until the town acquired the land in 1911. Converse’s dam was at the site of the present Center Falls Dam at Converse Bridge. In former centuries, there were also mills ponds at the Cutter, the Symmes/Bacon, and Richardson mills; however, none has survived except the pond in the downtown.

#### **MOUNT PISGAH**

Bearing a Biblical name, this hill was acquired in 1903 by the town which built water standpipe on top in 1912 to provide water for the west side of town. It was abandoned in 1945.

#### **MULLEN PLAYGROUND - HERBERT STANLEY “BABE” MULLEN**

Located at Ridge Street and Lockeland Road, this field was named for Herbert Mullen (1906-1980), superintendent of the Park Department from 1947 to 1976. A Winchester native and life-long resident, Mullen also served for 40 years as a special police officer and was also a former call fireman. According to the 1976 Annual Report, “Babe’s sense of humor and congenial nature made him one of this town’s most popular employees.” The playground was dedicated on Nov. 13, 1982.

#### **MURACO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Francis Muraco, class of Winchester High School 1965, was a 21-year-old Marine corporal killed in the Province of Quang Tui, Vietnam, on Thanksgiving Day 1967. During the next year Town Meeting voted unanimously to name the town’s new elementary school, known as the Tufts School (after Tufts Road), for Corp. Muraco, the second Winchester boy to die in Vietnam. In 1969, the school was dedicated in his honor.

#### **MURPHY APARTMENTS – MARY E. MURPHY APARTMENTS**

In 1976 the Town’s first senior housing complex, which opened in 1974 on Palmer Street, was named by the Housing Authority for its then chairman.

#### **MYOPIA HILL**

Overlooking the Mystic Lakes, this hill was named for the Myopia Club, which began with a group of boys who used to play together, at first around Wedge Pond, and who took on the name “Myopia,” since they were all near-sighted, in 1876 when they took up baseball. The club acquired a clubhouse on the hill in 1879. In 1882, when more members were interested in hunting than in playing ball, they changed the name of the club to the Myopia Fox Hounds.

#### **MYSTIC LAKES**

In earlier times known as Mystic Pond, the lakes derived their name from the native “Missi-Tuk,” meaning great tidal river.

### **MYSTIC SCHOOL**

This former school, now used by the Recreation Department, was named for the Mystic Lakes and River. The Mystic district, including the area annexed from Medford, was one of the original school districts when Winchester was incorporated. Several buildings bearing the name were built successively in the district. The last, built on Main Street, opened in 1925.

### **MYSTIC STATION**

Former name of the Wedgemere train station.

### **NOONAN SCHOOL**

The former Noonan School was dedicated in 1924 in memory of William J. Noonan (1896-1918), who died in France during the first world war. Noonan was a Winchester native and graduate of WHS, class of 1914. He enlisted in the Marines at Boston in May 1917. After training, he was sent overseas that September. He served at St. Nazaire, from where he went into the front-line trenches. At Belleau Wood, Chateau-Thierry in July he was severely wounded. He returned to action in September, to be killed a month later in the fighting at Blanc Mont Ridge. The building is now used for senior housing.

### **NORTH END**

A term current in the 20<sup>th</sup> century for the northern end of Main Street and the area to its east up to the railroad tracks.

### **O'CONNELL PLAZA - EDWARD F. O'CONNELL PLAZA**

A vote of the Fall 2005 Town Meeting named the area at the corner of Washington and Mount Vernon streets where the Honor Roll is for Ed O'Connell (1926-2005). A diplomat, O'Connell served Winchester for more than 30 years in public office. He was a member of the Board of Selectmen, Board of Library Trustees, School Committee, and Town Meeting and also served on several charitable boards. In 2000, the Chamber of Commerce named him Citizen of the Year.

### **PACKER-ELLIS TENNIS COURTS**

Tennis had been played at the shore of Wedgemere Court from the 19<sup>th</sup> century on. The Town courts along Palmer Street were named in 1949 for Rev. William S. Packer (1875-1958), rector at the Parish of the Epiphany, who served for twenty years as a Park Commissioner (1922-1945). He was an ardent tennis enthusiast under whose supervision the Town built tennis facilities in four sections of the Town. For many years the courts were maintained by a life-long Winchester resident with his own landscaping business, Donald R. Ellis (1927-2002). Fall 2002 Town Meeting renamed the courts the Packer-Ellis Tennis Courts "in recognition of the decades of volunteer service to maintain the quality of these courts on a par with that achieved by his predecessor, William S. Packer."

### **PALMER STREET PLAYGROUND**

The street was named for Irving S. Palmer, a mahogany wood dealer who owned land at lower end of Wedge Pond and whose widow gave the Town one and one-quarter acres for a playground in 1913. The Town bought further land in 1917 and developed it chiefly for tennis.

### **PARKHURST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Lewis Parkhurst (1856-1949), a Dartmouth graduate, was principal of the Winchester High School for five years beginning in 1886. He resigned to join the publishing house of Ginn & Company, in which he eventually became a partner. He was president of the Middlesex National Bank in Winchester (est. 1897). He served as a Water Commissioner, chaired the Committee of Public Safety during WWI, was an incorporator of Winchester Hospital, and was a member of the Unitarian Church building committee, the Planning Board, the Winchester committee for the Massachusetts Tercentenary, and the committee to build a new high school. He was influential in the development of the park system and was a substantial donor to the War Memorial. The first proposal for the school name was Indian Hill School, but the amendment to make

it the Lewis Parkhurst School was what Town Meeting passed.

#### **THE PLAINS**

A term used in the 20<sup>th</sup> century for an area between Washington Street and the railroad tracks around Swanton Street.

#### **POND PLAIN**

An obsolete designation for the land west of the Mystic Lakes, where Robinson Circle is now situated.

#### **PRINCE SCHOOL**

The Prince School, demolished in the 1920s, was named for Frederick O. Prince, who proposed and negotiated the naming of the town for Col. William Parsons Winchester. Prince, who lived in a home overlooking Wedge Pond, served twice as Town Meeting Moderator, as a representative to general court, and as one of the first School Committee members. He became the first captain of the Winchester Light Guard and later became a lieutenant colonel. At some time after the Civil War, Prince returned to Boston where he was mayor from 1877 to 1881. He was the father of the Prince boys responsible for the naming of Myopia Hill. The school building was built as the high school, but after a new high school built, it was converted to a grammar school and given the name "Prince."

#### **QUILL CIRCLE - HENRY F. QUILL CIRCLE**

The rotary at the intersection of Mount Vernon, Main, and Church streets and Shore Road was named for Henry Quill (1937-1992) at the Spring 1993 Town Meeting. A native of Winchester, Quill was an attorney who became involved in the community, serving on the Park Board, as president of the Winchester Business Association and the Kiwanis, and as a director of the Winchester Trust Company. He also coached Little League and girls' soccer.

#### **RANGELEY**

This development was named by David N. Skillings, a native of Maine, who presumably named the area for Rangeley, Maine.

#### **RUMFORD SCHOOL**

An early school, named for Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford (1753-1814), of Woburn. Rumford was a scientist, inventor, and adventurer who served as an agent for the Tories during the Revolution and settled in England following the Revolution.

#### **RUSSELL BROOK**

A tributary of Horn Pond Brook, until the 1930s when it was culverted it could be seen entering Winchester from Woburn just east of the Woburn Loop railroad and running southwest to Horn Pond Brook. The path of the brook crossed Main Street north of Russell Road and ran west until it emptied into Horn Pond Brook north of Carter Street. The brook got its name, as did Russell Road, from the Russell family which once owned the land between Main and Cross streets where both are located.

#### **SACHEM SWAMP**

Located at the intersection of Johnson Road and Olde Village Drive, this conservation area (acquired 1975), was named for the Squaw Sachem who originally owned the land, as well as all of Winchester.

#### **SALTMARSH TERRACE**

In 2011, Town Meeting voted to dedicate the Common to former state representative Sherman W. "Whip" Saltmarsh (b. 1929). In 2019 the Select Board approved the design of a garden terrace with a fountain and benches on the Common facing Waterfield Road.

#### **SANBORN HOUSE**

At 15 High Street, this historic house, named Aigremont by the first owner, was built during 1906-07 for Oren C. Sanborn, son of the founder of the Chase and Sanborn Company, on two previously undeveloped adjacent lots totaling about nine and a half acres. The Sanborn family lived there until 1920. In 1945, the property was purchased for the Marycliff Academy, a Catholic girls' school. The Sanborn House was used as a dormitory for the nuns. In 1969, a special Town Meeting authorized the town to purchase the entire property. The Marycliff Academy was converted into the Ambrose School. The Sanborn House has been used for a variety of purposes. It is currently leased to the Winchester Historical Society for conversion into an historic/cultural center.

#### **SANDY'S ISLAND - SANDRA S. RODGERS ISLAND**

The island in Mill Pond was named the by Town Meeting in 2001 in honor of the local philanthropist who landscaped the island and surrounding area and restored a bridge to the island.

#### **SAWMILL BROOK**

This brook, running from the area of the reservoirs in the Middlesex Fells to Washington Street and now almost entirely piped underground, was named for a sawmill built at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century by Jeduthan Richardson.

#### **SHORE ROAD FIELD**

Created during the 1930s on landfill at what had been the upper end of Judkins Pond, this field used to be located on the site of the current high school.

#### **SKILLINGS FIELD**

Officially renamed Ciarcia Field, the high school field has been popularly called Skillings Field since it was created. Like Skillings Road, the name came from the David N. Skillings Jr. estate adjacent to Judkins pond (site of the current Jenks Senior Center). After the town purchased the site in 1943, the house was raised and the hill leveled to make way for the present parking lot by the Jenks Center Senior. Skillings Road opened in 1957 and was named by Town Meeting the next year.

#### **SMITH POND**

For centuries this pond had reportedly been dried up, but in 1910 Josiah Locke Smith (1826-1911), who owned farmland to the west of Ridge Street, dammed the stream (Menchen Run) and turned it back into a pond. Since 1966 it has been a conservation area.

#### **SPRING POND**

Marked on a few early maps, this natural spring disappeared under Upper Mystic Lake when the Charlestown Water Works built a dam at The Partings in 1864, enlarging the upper end of the lake.

#### **STANTON PLOT**

An unofficial name applied to a kite-shaped piece of land which formerly existed at the junction of Main and Washington streets but has since been incorporated into the Lincoln School lot. It took its name from J. C. Stanton, one of Winchester's first selectmen, who owned the plot before selling it to the Town.

#### **STANTON'S POND**

This small pond, presumably named for the Stanton family, formerly lay along the outlet from Wedge Pond to the Aberjona River on the western side of the Woburn Loop. It is not so named on most maps.

#### **SUCKER BROOK**

Originating in Woburn and flowing through what is currently conservation land, this brook bears a descriptive name.

#### **SWANTON STREET PARK**

Unofficial first name for Bellino Park.

### **SWARTZ FACILITY - RANDALL W. SWARTZ WATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

The town's water treatment plant was completed in 1996 to put the reservoirs in compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act and the Surface Water Treatment Rule. Fall 2000 Town Meeting named it for Randall Swartz (1946-2000), a member of the Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Water System Review Committee, Waste Study Committee, and Town Meeting.

### **SYMMES CORNER**

The intersection of Main and Bacon streets has long been known as Symmes Corner after the Symmes family which owned much of the land in that section of Winchester for many generations. Zachariah Symmes was, in fact, one of the first recipients of a land grant in what is now Winchester territory.

### **SYMMES RIVER**

This name was applied in Colonial times to a portion of the Aberjona River that flowed through the Symmes family farm just before it emptied into the Mystic Pond.

### **TRIANGLE**

The Triangle designates the section of the North End of Winchester bordered by the Woburn town line to the north, Washington Street down to the intersection with Skillings Road to the east, and the combination of Skillings Road, Middlesex Street, and Sylvester Avenue to the west, a section roughly in the shape of a triangle.

### **TURKEY HILL**

One of the western hills

### **TURKEY SWAMP**

Named for the wild turkeys that used to be common there, Turkey Swamp disappeared with the creation of the South Reservoir in the Middlesex Fells.

### **VINSON-OWEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

This school, which opened in 1961, was named for Maribel Vinson Owen and her daughters Maribel and Laurence, championship skaters who were killed on Feb. 15, 1961, when the plane taking the U.S. Figure Skating team to the world championships in Prague crashed in Belgium killing everyone on board. Maribel Vinson, who later married skating partner Guy Owen, was a nine-time winner of the national women's figure skating championships and was three times a member of US Olympic teams. Daughter Maribel won the National Junior Pairs title in 1956, the National Pairs Championships in 1961, and was a featured performer in the Boston Skating Club's "Ice Chips" show. Laurence Owen won both the National US Ladies Championships and the North American Championships. The sisters were chosen to be on the US Olympics team, but at ages 20 and 16 they were both lost in the crash.

### **WADLEIGH FIELD**

Former (unofficial) name of Chafalo Park, so called because it was the site of the Wadleigh School.

### **WADLEIGH SCHOOL**

This grammar school was named for Edwin A. Wadleigh, lawyer, clerk of the Superior Court, member of School Committee (1860-1865, 1879-1887), and editor of the *Evening Star*. After he died 1886, his name was given to grammar school built on the lot formerly occupied by the Gifford School at Washington and Myrtle streets. In 1901, a second Wadleigh School was built there opposite Town Hall. Winchester's first school house to be made of stone and brick, it was demolished in 1962.

### **WASHINGTON SCHOOL**

Named for George Washington, the first building of this name was located on Cross Street near Washington Street. It was converted into the New Hope Baptist Church about 1920 and is now a private residence.

The last building of the name was built on Highland Avenue and was converted into an apartment building.

#### **WATERFIELD BRIDGE**

Along with the Converse Bridge, this bridge was built in 1914-15 as part of the town's river improvement plan designed by Herbert Kellaway. Both bridges were named in honor of Winchester's colonial heritage.

#### **WEDGE POND**

This pond, named for its shape by the earliest settlers, was renamed Echo Lake by a group of citizens in 1860. Though they held a christening ceremony with speeches, band music, and fireworks, the name was not formerly adopted by Town Meeting, was not universally accepted, and did not take.

#### **WEDGEMERE**

A name coined by Charles P. Curtis in 1860 for the area around Wedge Pond, where his own house was located. The name was revived in the 1880s for a tennis club and also applied to a choral association. In the 1890s it was used by a housing syndicate developing land in the Flats.

#### **WEDGEMERE STATION**

Originally, the railroad station just north of the Mystic Lakes was called "Mystic." In the 1890s it was changed to Wedgemere by the Boston & Maine Railroad to avoid confusion with Mystic Park in Somerville.

#### **WILDWOOD CEMETERY**

The cemetery, which bears a descriptive name, began in 1851 when the Town purchased the first 10 acres and began selling lots in 1852. Amasa Farrier of Stoneham designed the original plan of lots, carriage-ways, and footpaths. The Town acquired 30 additional acres in 1886, and J. O. Goodwin, a civil engineer in Medford, drew a new plan in 1887. Additional lots were subsequently added, and the cemetery currently comprises about 75 acres of land.

#### **WILDWOOD SQUARE**

An unofficial designation for the plot at the junction of Wildwood, Fletcher, and Willow streets.

#### **WILLOW RIVER**

Prior to 1934, the Aberjona River crossed the street in two sections. The southern-most one was called Willow River. In 1934, the river was rechanneled, eliminating the ne Willow River, and a new Washington Street Bridge over the river was constructed

#### **WINN SQUARE - ROBERT M. WINN SQUARE**

In November 1984, Town Meeting voted to name a 9,479 square foot parcel of Town land at the intersection of Main and Swanton streets to honor the civic contributions of this respected resident of the North End. Winn (1907-1983) was a mailman who was active in town athletic programs, was a Finance Committee member, and served as a Town Meeting member for over 20 years.

#### **WINTER POND**

The origin of this name is uncertain, possibly named for the season or for the Winter family for whom Winter Hill in Somerville may have been named. The latter idea was put forth by William R. Cutter in *The Winchester Record*, II, p. 422.

#### **WOBURN LOOP**

In 1844, a branch of the railroad running about parallel with Main Street from just above the Center to the Woburn line opened. It and the railroad bed which lay idle after the railroad was discontinued in the 1960s became known as the Woburn Loop. In 1983, Town Meeting voted to acquire the land from the MBTA. Much of it is now privately owned. Part of it was used for Bellino Park.

**WRIGHT'S CORNER**

An obsolete name for the intersection of High and Ridge streets, named for Thomas Wright whose house stood at that corner in Colonial times. The Josiah Locke House currently stands at that site.

**WYMAN PLAINS**

Since the Wyman family owned a large section of land above Church Street during Colonial and Federal times, the area was once known as Wyman Plains.

**WYMAN SCHOOL**

One of the town's original schools, the first Wyman School building on Cambridge Street was named for Deacon Marshall Wyman near whose home the schoolhouse was built. Later buildings were located on Church Street, and the last was converted to condominiums.

**ZION'S HILL**

Like Mt. Pisgah, a biblical name for one of the western cluster of hills.