

# Sears Family Association™

## Newsletter

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### EDITOR'S EDGE

Dear Sears Family:

I only seem to be able to produce one of these newsletters each year. This is the 21<sup>st</sup> in a series. I guess the press of ending a year without publishing anything is my muse. I realized that I have quite a compilation of Sears photos and haven't shared them with everyone so here goes. Some are courtesy of the Nickerson Family Association and I hope you will consider joining our cousin's activities.

<http://www.nickersonassoc.org/> Please let me know if you have other photos which we can include in our collection.

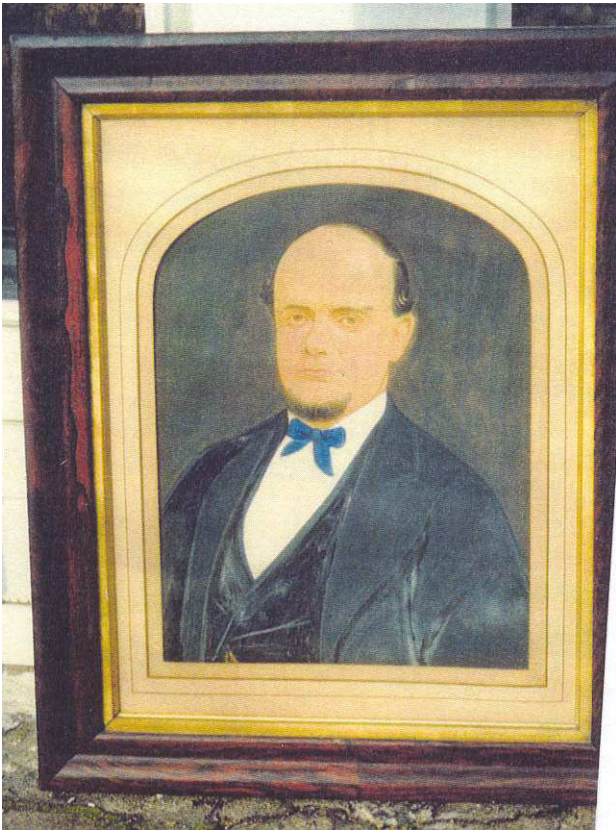
I'm still working three jobs, day job at Northrop Grumman working on airplane software, night job for the University of Phoenix teaching e-business and consulting for database administration. Then there's our church which takes a great deal of time since I am on the board and the pastor left last month. That all leaves precious little time for genealogy but I have added nearly 3,000 people (the total number of people in the database is 54,449) to our database in the past year. Please let me know if you would like more information about how these people are connected to the Sears family. I have subscriptions with Ancestry.com and NEHGS [www.NewEnglandAncestor.org](http://www.NewEnglandAncestor.org) which gives me access to a tremendous amount of census, newspaper and other genealogy data.

I have made additions or changes to over 500 Sears records in our database since the last Newsletter. Here is the list so you can let me know if there is someone you would like more information about. There are currently 51,873 records in the database with nearly 19,000 of them having the Sears surname. Use the book Index or search by Record Identification Number (RIN).

*Family Tree*- I have a number of copies (12"x18") of the Richard Sears family tree in the masthead of our newsletter. Let me know if you want me to send you a copy or two. Email me: [LRSears@CapeCod.net](mailto:LRSears@CapeCod.net)



**Richard Sears [68](abt 1590 – 1676)** This is the popular image of Richard Sears although there have been some questions about its authenticity. So far no one claims it to be another individual. Richard came to the east precinct of Yarmouth, Plymouth Colony about 1639 and is the inspiration for this family association.



**Bradley Sears [6700](1804-1884)** Bradley Sears was a farmer, and lived on part of the old homestead in South East, 4 miles from Brewsters on the Harlem railroad.

"Mr S. did not seem robust in his early years; a tendency to asthma was with him in his boyhood, but there must have been much vigor in his frame.

He was ill comparatively little; only two severe illnesses, and they of short duration, and of a nature that might affect the strongest physical manhood.

In his early married life, in the prosecution of an avocation for a little while followed, he was able to endure readily the fatigue associated with riding horseback even as far as Lake Erie.

His death was the first break in the family circle; father, mother, and all the children God gave to them have been permitted to live together till the father's four-score years have been reached.

During the summer of 1884, when the illness began separating him from more active care, he was disposed to give the reminiscences of his early life; to tell of his father, and of his own wishes and hopes in his young manhood, and the memories of the church service and life in the old church.

But especially was there always grateful dwelling upon the comforts and blessings of his own home.

His children were to him pride and joy, and with that trembling of the lip and moistening of the eye, they who knew him the more readily recall, he would speak of their unfailing kindness; of their anticipation of every want; of how good God had been to him and his.

He did not seem to be an old man, the years had not so told upon him. The face was un wrinkled, and the frame was vigorous. Till the last summer he was permitted to be actively employed in the concerns of his home.

When the difficulty of breathing, and the heart trouble abated, some thought him better, and there was the entertainment of hope.

But especially upon his own spirit as the end drew near, there was the conviction of approaching death.

He would tell the children of what he desired to have done upon the farm, as soon as he would not be here, while to his pastor, who was often with him, he spoke of his consciousness of himself as a sinner, and of his great trust in Christ as Saviour, and of the absence of the fear of death. It had been a growing peace, and as the spirit advanced into the depths of the shadow, the darkness had passed, clinging with tender affection to the beloved with him, yet content to go at the Father's call, so quietly the spirit slipped from earth.

It was as the morning hour advanced that death came. And so for him 'the night passed and the morning came.'

His tombstone in Milltown Cemetery is a large one shaped like a bier

BRADLEY SEARS

BORN APR 24 1804 - DIED SEPT 29, 1884

HIS WIFE

MARY NORRIS

BORN JULY 7, 1800 - DIED NOV 26, 1890

GEORGE B. SEARS

BORN JULY 19, 1836 - OCT 30, 1899

His will copied by Sister Penelope Mary

Be it remembered that here... to wit; on the twenty-seventh day of October in the year one thousand eight-hundred and eighty five Mary Sears the widow and George Sears, Melissa Sears, Annie Sears and Rachel Sears all of the Town of Southeast in the County of Putnam and state of New York the children and only heirs at law and next of Kin of Bradley Sears late of the Town of Southeast in the said county of Putnam deceased appeared in open court before the surrogate of the County of Putnam and made application to have the the said last will and Testament which relates to both real and personal estate proved.

And thereupon no one appearing to oppose the probate of such will such proceedings were thereupon had that - the surrogate took the proof of said will will hereinafter set forth upon upon this twenty-seventh day of October in the year One thousand eight hundred and eighty-five and he adjudged the said will to be a valid will of real and personal estate and the proofs thereof to be sufficient which said last will and testament and proofs are as follows that is to say.

In the name of God Amen.

I Bradley Sears of the Town of Southeast in the County of Putnam and the state of New York Farmer being of sound and disposing mind and memory do make, ordain, publish and declare this my last will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say

First. I direct my executor hereinafter named to pay my funeral expenses and all my just debts and liabilities.

Second. As it is my wish and desire that the home may not be broken up upon my [Page 423]

decease, and as my children are aware of the source through which my property has come to me I give devise and bequeath to my dearly beloved wife Mary Sears all my property of which

I may die possessed, both real and personal and mixed, whatsoever and wheresoever the same may be for her own use and benefit and separate use during her lifetime and upon her decease, I do give devise and bequeath the same unto my dear children Annie, Melissa, Rachel and George to be divided equally between them share and share alike.

Thirdly. The legacy and devise to my said wife is intended to be and is to be taken by her in lieu and xxx of dower in my said estate.

Fourthly. I hereby revoke all former wills by me made.

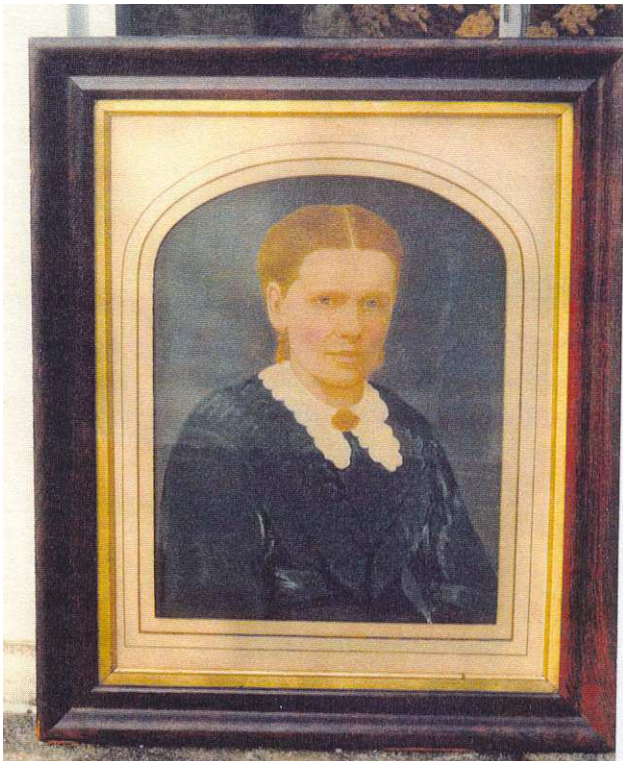
Fifthly. I hereby nominate and appoint my daughter Melissa Sears Executrix and my son George Sears Executor of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have unto this my last will and testament written on one sheet of paper subscribed my name and set my seal this twenty-first day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy five.

Bradley Sears (BS)

Signed and declared by the testator Bradley Sears as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses

Abram J Miller Brewsters, NY  
James K Smith " "



Mary (Norris) Sears [9380](1806-1890) wife of Bradley Sears.



**Frederick Richard Sears, III [806] (1881 – 1947)**

"Two years after graduation, I went to work, first in Boston and then in New York. In 1919 I gave up business, and since then have divided my time for the most part between Florida and [.....]

"While in college, I took part in a Peary Relief [Expedition.] After graduation I passed two years on a trip around [the world.] During 1917 I spent nine months in South America, primarily in Bolivia. Since then I have passed several months of each year in Europe.

"In August 1924, I was married to Miss Norma Fontaine of Toronto, Canada.



**Eleonora "Eleo" Randolph Sears [805](1882-1968)**

Eleonora Randolph Sears, paved the way for women's entrance into sports at the turn of the century. In the early days of the century, when sports for proper young ladies

seemed limited to such gentle pursuits as croquet, Eleonora Sears excelled in horseback riding, tennis, squash, marathon walking and numerous other activities.

She drove motor cars in the first days of the automobile, was one of the first women to fly in an airplane, became a crack shot with rifle and pistol, sailed yachts with championship skill and indulged in baseball, football and even boxing.

Miss Sears, who was usually called Eleo, was acclaimed as one of the country's greatest women athletes and as one of the most striking sports personalities of her time.

Besides her sports activities, she was acknowledged as a leader of the social world embracing Boston's North Shore, Newport, RI, New York and other capitals [sic] of social splendor.

Miss Sears was the daughter of a wealthy and socially prominent family, one of Boston's oldest, and was a great-great-granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson. She delighted in startling Boston's Brahmins with her athletic exploits.



**Nathan Sears [7291](1821 – 1904)**

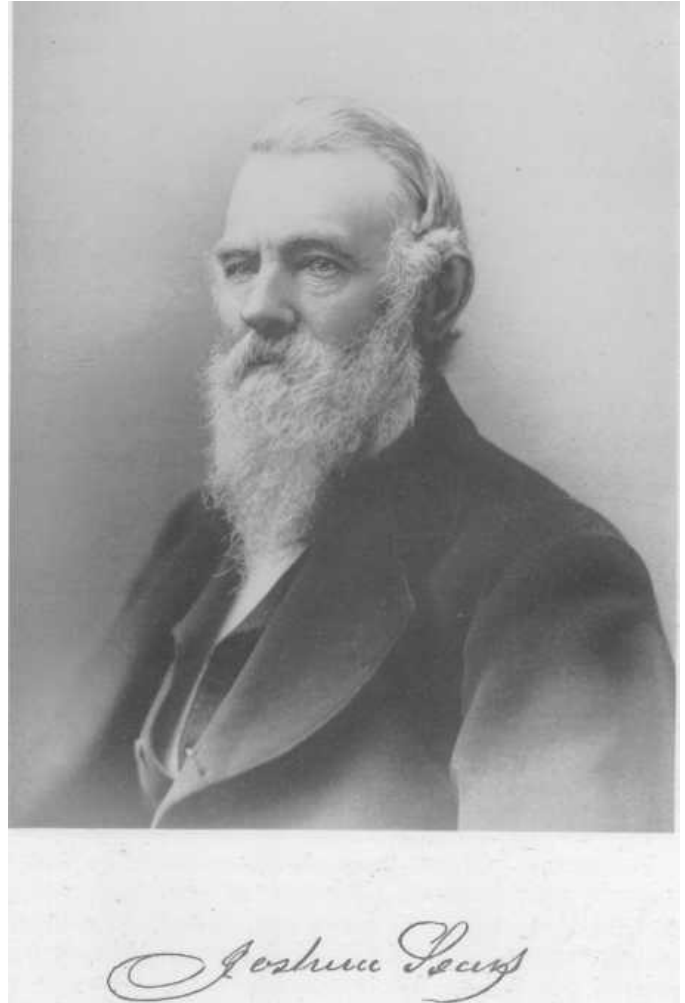
Photo from the History of Barnstable County, p. 574 Nathan Sears was born in the old family homestead, still standing, which was built by his grandfather in the last century, and which is now the home of Henry H Sears, the great-grandson of the builder. The common school and the old Academy at East Dennis furnished the means for his education until he was fourteen years of age when he went to sea as cook. He served in various capacities in coasting and foreign voyages until 1852, when he retired.

The same year he went into the fishing and mercantile business as one of the firm Kelly, Sears & Co., until 1875, when he assumed the care of his farm.

Mr Sears resides in his beautiful house, erected in 1848, in East Dennis, within a stone's cast of the house in which he, as well as his father, was born.

He has found his time fully occupied with his varied business interests and has therefore avoided the busy arena of politics. A republican in his convictions, he has filled no other offices than such comparatively unimportant ones as pertain to his immediate locality.

He renders material aid to the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and is open-handed in all public enterprises. In the evening of an industrious and varied life, he enjoys a competency amid the scenes of his childhood, and the confidence of all who know him.



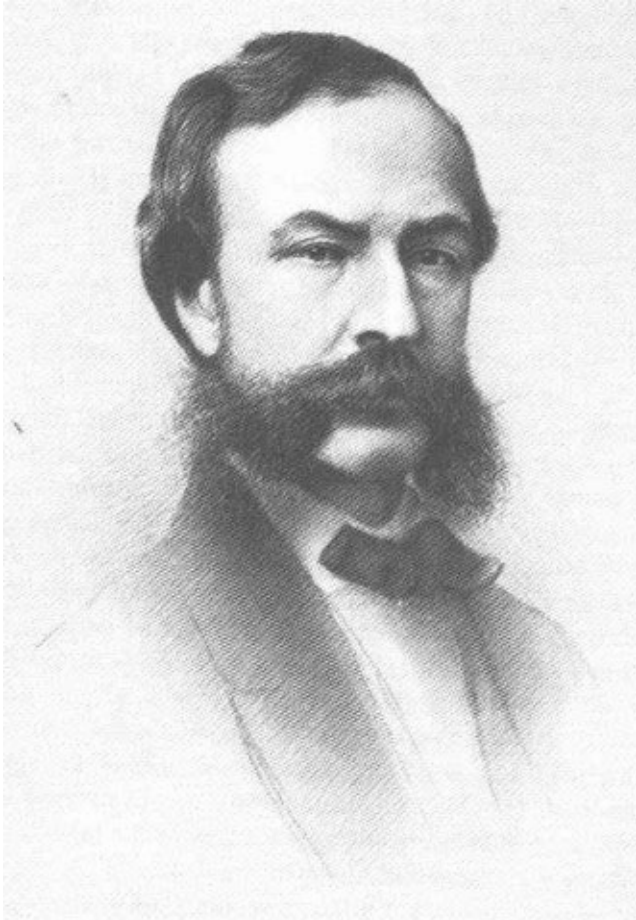
**Joshua Sears [7302](1817 – 1885)**

Photo from the History of Barnstable county-Capt Joshua Sears at ten years of age chose the profession in which in after life he so greatly excelled. He was mate at the age of twenty-three, and at thirty, in 1847, was in command of the 'Burmah,' his first ship. His ambition was to command the best ships, and his scrupulous neatness on board, and conscientious preservation of any property entrusted to his care, enabled him to choose his vessels. He was engaged entirely in foreign voyages, visiting the East Indies nineteen times, and often touching at China and the Sandwich Islands.

His experience of forty years on the sea was more extensive and responsible in its nature than most of his contemporaries. His many long voyages had dangers, but his careful command insured crew, ship and cargo against accident and loss. He

was married 11 Jun 1840, to Minerva, dau of Wm & Sally (Small) Handren, of Harwich. She accompanied the captain on four long voyages, the last being in the 'Wild Hunter,' and around the world. He left the sea during the war of the rebellion, retiring to his pleasant home in East Dennis, where he died 22 Mar 1885.

He was much beloved by the entire community for his genial, uniformly kind and upright character and by the ship owners and the commercial world for his fine, just and reliable dealings. His record is one of honor, of honest labor and well done duties. He was not only a model as a seaman, and officer, but in preserving old friendships and in making others happy by kind and generous deeds.



**Hon Philip Howes Sears [7424](1819 – 1898)**

Engraving from [www.sociallaw.com](http://www.sociallaw.com) The Sears Collection - The books were left untouched in the cellar of one of Boston's grandest houses for a century. When the owner of the books switched from practicing law to being an insurance executive, his and his father's private collection of law books were no longer needed, and apparently forgotten. Until now...

The Social Law Library acquired the Sears Collection of law books through a gift from Lawrence Coolidge of Boston. Mr. Coolidge inherited the collection when he purchased the famous Second Harrison Gray Otis House on Mount Vernon Street, in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of Boston. Philip and Francis Sears had lived in the house in the 19th century, but when they moved out, the books were left behind, untouched, and unused, like a forgotten legal time capsule. In late December, 2002, the Library was generously offered this collection, as an intact look at practicing law over a century ago, and now, as a lasting part of Boston's legal history.



**Polly Kingsley [8017] (1819 – 1876)**

Daughter of Hannah Sears, (Mrs Cyrus Kingsley) Mrs Cyrus H Kingsley of Lysander, Onondaga county, died at that place. She was 100 years old on Dec 12, 1897. Five of the nine children born to her are living, the eldest being 82 years old and the youngest 60 years.



**Sarah Carlisle (Choate) Sears [10472](1858-1935)** wife to Joshua Montgomery Sears, niece of the Ambassador to the Court of St James in 1900, Sarah was a water colorist and flower painter. Gardner bought a pastel by her in 1915 (photographer) gave a Matisse to Mrs Gardner. They lived 12 Arlington, corner of Wash and Summer sts. She received medals at Chicago Exposition 1893, Paris 1900, Buffalo 1901, St Louis 1904



**Louis Clifton Sears [11360] (1873-1940)** The photograph was taken by The Ritz Portraits, 40 Temple Place, Boston, Massachusetts.

912 5th Ave  
Ft Worth, Texas  
Aug 20, 1912

Mr Isaac B Sears  
East Dennis, Mass

Dear Friend

Your very welcome letter was received and thoroughly appreciated by all the family. We have not been East together since the Past times we were at the Cape on account of the travel being too hard to afford that trip. Business has been very bad ever since the panic of 1907 and particularly so for the past three years - owing to the crop failures and the high prices on all articles of consumption. I had to make a business trip to Troy, NY. Left home on July 25th and came back on Aug 15th. Engaged my trip as much as I could without my two Marys. Had a good many splendid auto rides over the hills around Troy and Albany. Found very comfortable weather and a relief from our hot weather- We know that you ahve not forsaken us and we don't want you to do so. You letters are very much appreciate and I cannot tell you how much I really do care for them. They come from the land that I love best and are from + about my people- We do want to come to Dennis again and will do so when we can afford it. I took very nearly \$1,000 to amke a two weeks trip from here - I should say that

you did have a tempest and I hope the church was not badly damaged- It has always been a stately church to me-

I suppose Mr David H Sears will rebuild his ice house as you have to have a storage place. It will soon be cranberry time and I hope you will have an abundant yield. If I were at your home now I would certainly tease you for some of your cured herring and a nice cucumber fresh from your garden for my breakfast- I haven't had any nice salt pork, cod-fish and boiled potatoes since I was at the Cape - Frequently I fry salt pork for breakfast as I like it better than bacon- Yes - I lost my father + Uncle Joseph and we feel their loss. Father had been so weak and had suffered so much pain it was God's mercy- We heard of the death of Mr Peter Kelley and also of Mr Chapman's daughter - Father was very fond of Mr Peter. We are sorry to hear of Mr Isaih Sears feebliness - you say he is 78 - How old are you? You have a mentality of a man of 60 and you write beautifully. I am so glad to see you take such an active interest in all that is happening. Miss Ruth will be nearer to you now.

I have never forgotten how nice she was to me, when I had my vacation at your house. You were all so nice to me and let me have such a nice time, You will always have plenty of summer folks on the Cape as there is no better place in all the world to live. When I was a boy there were some very fine ball players at East Dennis and also some crack tennis men. I remember the yacht races and how the Ariel and the Eclipse used to always win over the Nobscusset. Senator Beveridge of Indiana used to spend his summers at the Cape - It is really wicked of you to tell me about the clams and the fresh lobsters when you know I like them so much but you always did like to tease. What do you think of the Presidential nominations. Texas is all Democratic and my Rep vote don't count.

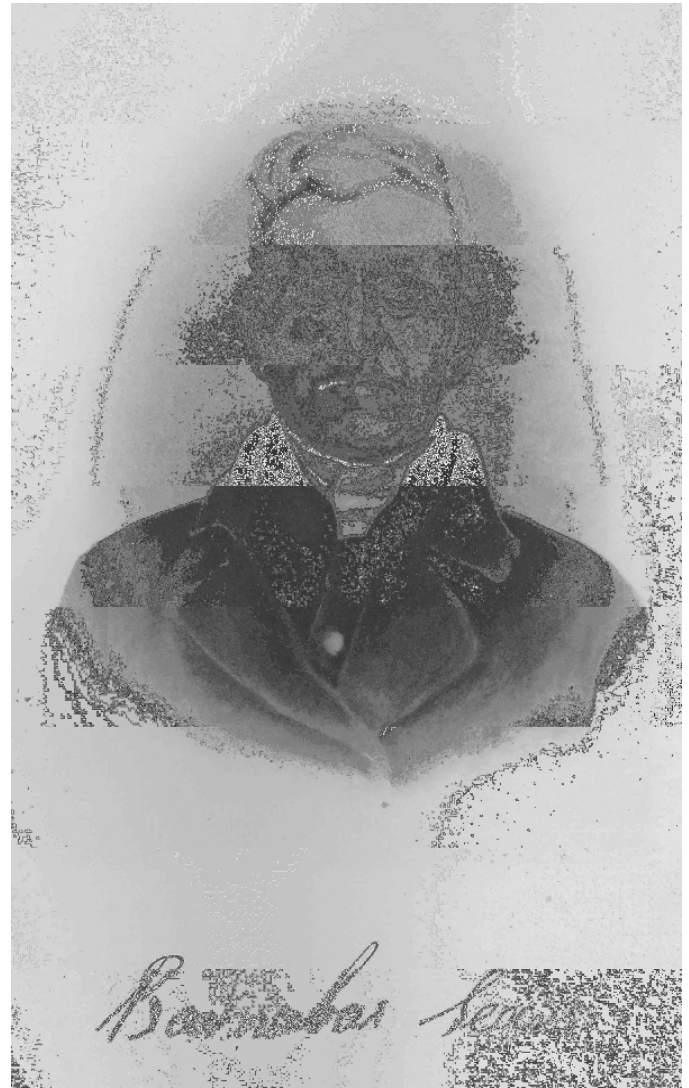
I prefer Roosevelt to Taft and yet think Teddy a dangerous man. I don't think him dishonest as far as money goes but think he is saturated with a lust for power and that he is not sane on that subject or safe. Taft I think is too ponderous, heavy, judicial and probably devoted to the money interests. I am afraid it looks like Wilson for a winner.

That was nice of you to clean up the cemetery but you always do nice things and it is because you are big hearted. We don't do much this hot weather but read. We have put Star, our horse, out on pasture to let him run and enjoy himself. Jack our bulldog is dead. We have Mary's own dog, Tinker Bell, a fox terrier and she is a nice \_\_\_\_\_. My address is 912 5th Ave and please don't loose it because we want to hear from you.

Please remember us to all those that we know and wish our love to Mrs Sears - Ruth and to you -

Yours

Louis Clifton Sears [11360]



**Barnabas Sears [8643] (1790 – 1875)**

Phot from the History of Barnstable County, p 499 - The early life of Barnabas Sears was spent at sea, shipping at the age of nine in his father's vessel, he and another boy taking a man's share. He was most successful on the sea, rapidly rising to master. About 1820 he was induced to step ashore to engage in the then lucrative business of salt manufacturing at S Yarmouth. He manufactured salt 18 years, and passed the remainder of his days in the cultivation of his farm. He enjoyed the full confidence of his townsmen, but would never accept any trust that would interfere with his social and business relations. His life was one of marked loyalty to truth and honesty, and his ready sympathy and genial nature won for him many friends who sincerely mourned his death. His five remaining sons reside in S Yarmouth in five adjacent houses.

Of these, John K., the eldest, lives farthest west, and east of him the other four, by a curious coincidence, in the order of their births, to David, the youngest, who lives farthest east.

!Yarmouth Register 22 Dec 1865 "In these days, when we all do fade as a leaf, and so many are called to the Spirit Land in early life, Golden Weddings are of rare occurrence, but such an event did occur in South Yarmouth on the evening of the 12th inst., in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the nuptials of our highly esteemed citizens, Mr and Mrs Barnabas Sears."



**Emeline "Emily" F Sears [10629] (1842 – 1891)** Photo courtesy of the Nickerson Family Association. m. to Lorenzo Dow Nickerson by Rev Wm C Reed, Congregationalist



**Sylvester Berry Sears [10631] ( 1847 – 1895)** Photo courtesy of the Nickerson Family Association. Brother to Emily and Harriet. Married to Tabitha C Kelley by E J Moore clergyman



**Harriet Jane Sears [10630] (1844 – 1930)** Photo courtesy of the Nickerson Family Association. m. Dennis "Dennie" Small Nickerson and had a daughter Dennette S Nickerson.





**Elizabeth Ann "Lizzie" Currell [14869] (1844-1907)** daughter of Thankful Atilla Sears and Edward Currell. Jim Taggart notes - Very little is know concerning the birth of my great-grandmother, Elizabeth A Currell Trekell, and I have found nothing that particularly substantiates the idea that one or both her parents were American Indians.

Family records have her date and place of birth as May 1844, at the Shawnee Methodist Indian Mission and Manual Labor School in the Kansas Territory. Kansas did not become a state until 1861 and official birth records were not made in 1844. I have never been able to find out whether the Methodists at the Mission made any records of births and I have seen none in the Indian Bureau records I have reviewed.

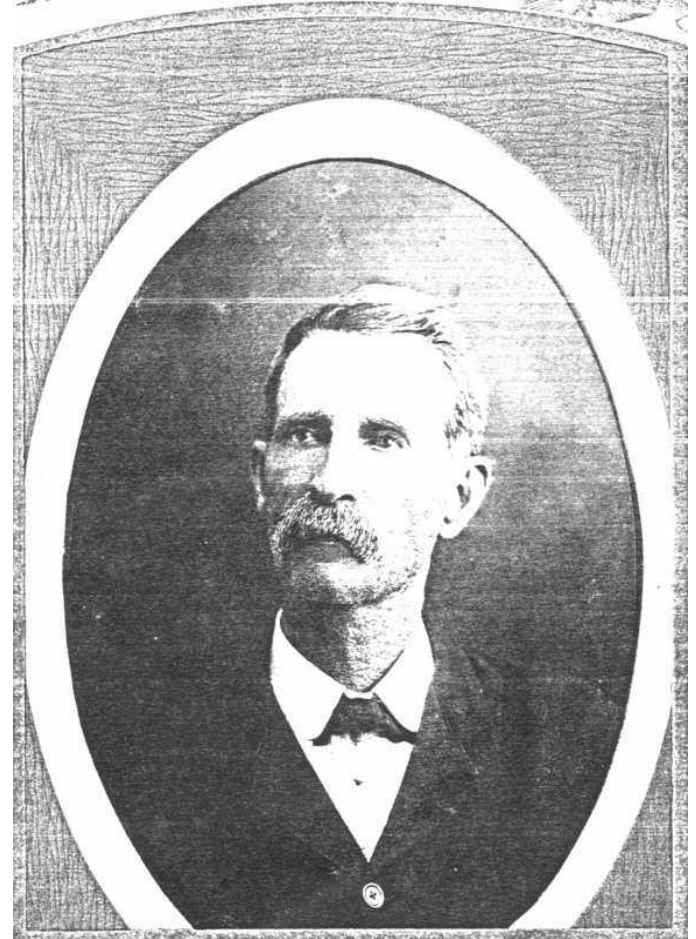
It seems probable to me that her natural father was Edward Currell who was the teacher of shoe and bootmaking at the School beginning in the Spring on 1841, but it is still possible that Elizabeth was one of the many young Indian or part-Indian children who lived at the Mission. Many of these children were orphans.

All of the Indian children at the Mission were required to assume an English-language name, and many chose or were given the name of a known person.

In the student rosters made by the Mission officials during the 1840's. I have found two Indian students with the surname Currell.

Rev Thomas Johnson, who was operating the Mission and School once wrote that he had many times watched young Indian girls, many only seventeen years of age, come down the stairs (in one of the Mission buildings) to marriage with a white settler and commented that besides many of these young women being eligible for 200 acres of land from their tribe's treaty lands, they made good wives. (This seems to be an implication that the housewifery training and education given by the Mission and School was an enhancement to marriage to a white man!) I imagine that young orphaned Indian children might also have been attractive to a white

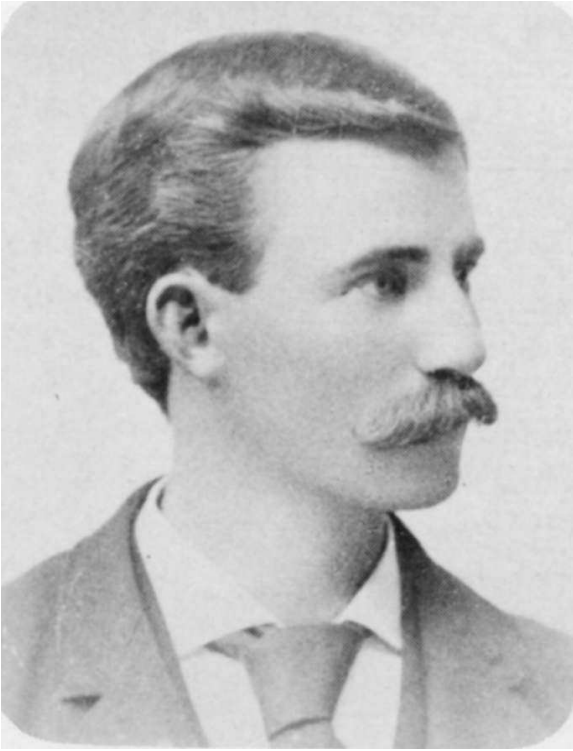
couple anxious to have a family, and perhaps that is what happened to Elizabeth and perhaps to her older brother, Charles J Currell. I don't think that any Indian land would have been in the Indian Territory and I have found no record that Edward Currell ever lived anywhere in the Kansas Territory except at the Mission. Also, it seems doubtful that adoption would have entailed any land transfer.



**Franklin Trekell [14871] (1840-1908)** husband of Lizzie Currell.



**William Albert Trekell and Stella Arrena Connelly**



**William Albert Trekell [15834](1872-?)** Great grandson of Joseph Sears, Will was born at West Union, Mo., Dec. 21, 1872. His father, Franklin Trekell, born July 12, 1840, at Independence, Mo., and mother, Lizzie A. (Elizabeth Anne) Currell, born Aug. 5, 1844 at Shawnee Mission, Kans., were married March 3, 1864, at West Union, Cass Co., Mo. To this union were born four girls and seven boys. William Albert was the sixth child. His younger days were spent at West Union and near Wellington, Kans. In May, 1892 he graduated from Conway Normal College, Conway Springs, Kans. Then after harvest and before the great race of Sept. 16, 1893, he, three brothers and one sister made preparations for the "run" into Oklahoma Territory.

His oldest brother, Thomas Edward, had made the run into Old Oklahoma, staking a town lot in Guthrie, and living there; he preferred to make the run into the "Strip" from the s. side. Will preferred to make the run from the s. also, because he wanted a lot in Enid. He wasn't quite 21 years old and many people on the north line knew it. So, he crossed the "Land of Promise" on a train from Caldwell, to Hennessey the evening before the run and at noon the next day made the run on a train of cattle cars, numbering about 42, which hadn't "been cleaned since cattle were shipped in them."

Will jumped off the train without considering its speed. In his own words, he said "I landed on the slope of the fill just s. of the Elm Street bridge, went head-over-heels down the slope and landed sitting up in a patch of sandburs. I picked out a few before starting, though I might have run faster had I let them cling to the seat of my pants. I dashed s.w across the townsite looking for a lot to stake but people were everywhere, so close together I could see no opening until I thought I saw one w. of the s.w. corner of the Square. I stuck a stake there, and men on both sides yelled, 'Hey, you're in the street there.' Looking east and west of me, I saw no settlers, so decided they were right; I had staked in the street. I pulled my stake and dashed s.e. across the block s. of the Square and across Two Street. I could have staked a lot there but did not choose to stake in the low ground, so ran on across the railroad and, finding a place where claimants were not so close together, I demanded of two where the lots were they claimed. Each one walked to his

claim, and I said I believed there was room enough between them for me, so stuck my stake there. It proved to be a good guess; I had staked a lot no one else claimed."

A short time later, after Will was 21 and old enough to prove a claim, he bought a quarter section for \$1 per acre, adjoining the quarter his sister, Laura, had staked s.e. of Hunter; and they built a half-dugout on the line and lived together for a time.

Later, he built a house on his quarter and met and married his first wife, Stella Ar-rena Connolly, a neighbor girl. Stella was born Sept. 6, 1875 at Canton, Kans., and they were married Dec. 29, 1896, in Enid. Stella died Jan. 23, 1910 after 13 years and 25 days of marriage and the births of four children.



**Louisa Willis Sears [10632] (1849 - )** Photo courtesy of the Nickerson Family Association.

m. ae 20 to Luther H Chase by William C Reed, pastor of Cong Ch So Dennis



**George Washington "Nessmuk" Sears [11382](1821-1890)** born in the "South Gore," now known as Webster, MA, on the border of Douglass Woods, and near the Nipmuck Indian reservation.

Before he was five years old he formed an abiding friendship for a young Indian named "Nessmuk," (wood duck,) from whom he imbibed his love for woodcraft, and became a devotee of nature in her wildest and roughest of aspects; a lover of field sports; a hunter, angler, trapper and canoeist; an uneducated man withal, save the education that comes of long and close communion with nature, and a perusal of the best English authors.

Endowed by nature with an instinctive love of poetry, Mr Sears early dropped into the habit of rhyming, jotting down his thoughts on paper, or as often happened, when in the woods, on birch bark.

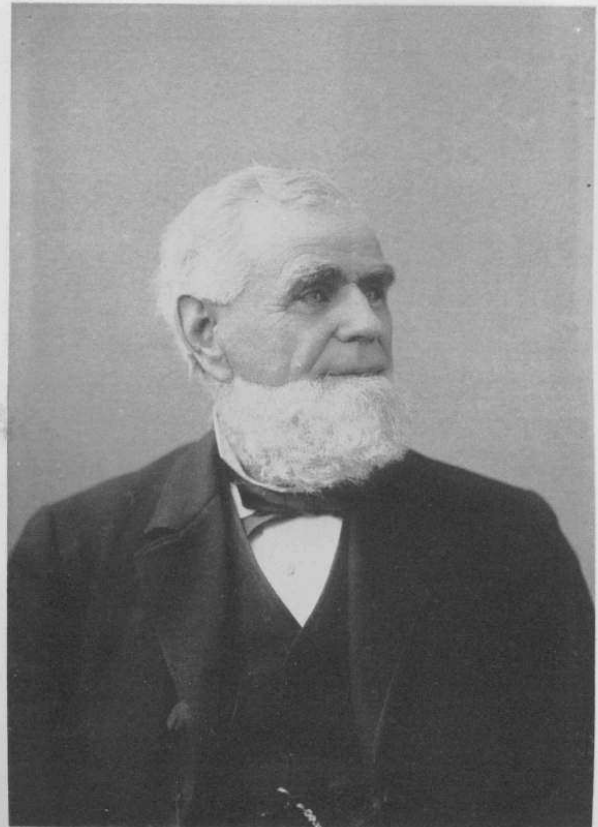
Under the pseudonym of "nessmuk," he has written much for the "Spirit of the Times," and "Forest and Stream," and has published a work entitled "Woodcraft," and a volume of poetry called "Forest Runes."

During the Civil War, Mr Sears served in the "Bucktail" Regt PA Vols, and was discharged for physical disability at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, PA. Now resides (1880) in Wellsboro, PA. His lifelong joy it was to camp and canoe in the Eastern woods, especially New York's Adirondack Mountains....' "Sears wrote about the loon '[The bird] settled within ten rods of the canoe, raised himself on hind legs (they are very hind, and he has no others), turned his white, clean breast to me and gave me his best weird, strange song. Clearer than a clarion, sweeter than a flute, loud enough to be heard for miles. Never, as my soul lives, will I draw a bead on a loon. He is the very spirit of the wildwoods.

Fisherman he may be. He catches his daily food after his nature... Don't, please don't, emulate Adirondack Murray [ a local hunter] and waste two dozen cartridges in the attempt to demolish a loon.' On his tombstone he wanted 'Life is the dulllest of jokes--/He's a fool who supposes it serious./ Death puts a nub to the hoax/ And the rest is immensely mysterious.'



**Jason Spurr Lamson & Abbie Lucy Sears [12720](1861-1935)** and their family. Standing left-right: Luella, Dede, Lizzie, Suzie Jason and Abbie in center Sitting left-right: Bertha, Jessie, Blanche, Harriet, Photo taken abt. 1901-1902.



*John K. Sears*

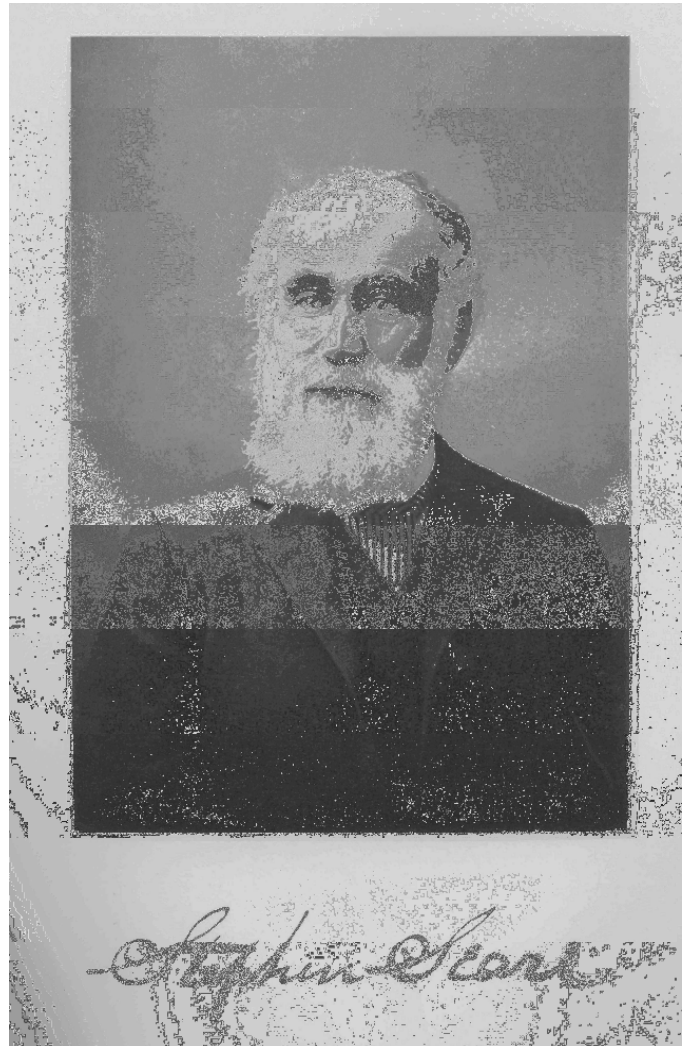
**John Kelley Sears [11548] (1816-1908)** Photo from History of Barnstable County, p 500. John Kelly Sears passed nearly seventeen of the first years of his life at home, in acquiring a common school education, and assisting his parents. Instead of a love for the sea, his mind early turned to mechanics, and at 17 he went to Nantucket to learn the carpenter's trade.

At 21 he was a master builder, and was in business for himself, which he continued there until 1850. The great fire of

1846 interrupted the business of Mr Sears at Nantucket, and after a strong desire to visit California, from which he was restrained, he returned to S Yarmouth in 1850. The seeming need of a mill at his place at S Yarmouth induced him with his brother Barnabas to erect in 1854, a commodious building in which planing, sawing and grinding were done for the community.

House building was at the same time extensively carried on, and he now points with pride to his own, and many other beautiful residences of which he was the master builder. In 1865, the planing works were discontinued, and in 1869 the building was removed to the yard at Hyannis, where he had purchased the lumber business of Sam'l Snow. This business was at once greatly enlarged, additional buildings were erected, and in 1874, a branch yard was established at Middleboro, which is continued under the name of JK & B Sears. Another branch lumber yard was established in 1882, at Woods Hole.

The active progressive nature of Mr Sears has precluded all desire to hold official trusts, but in 1860 and again in 1861 as a true experiment of republican principles, he consented to represent his district in the legislature, since which he has promptly declined all honors. Wherever he has resided he has taken a leading interest in the Sunday Schools. The Methodist church of his village, now enjoys both his liberal material and spiritual aid. Broad in his views, he has sought to do his duty towards God, and towards man and the impression he has made upon his fellow men is that of a life grounded upon honest principles. Having no children of his own, he has filled the position of parent, in his munificence to those of others.



**Stephen Sears [11549] (1822-1907)** in 1886 Sturgis Crowell and Stephen Sears bought Standish Hall on Main St in South Yarmouth, added a story and lengthened the building, to accommodate a stage with wings and dressing room. Rechristened Standish Opera House, it was the place where local entertainments as well as many travelling theater company productions, medicine shows, and magic acts took place. In 1906, Frank Sears, nephew of Stephen (David Franklin?) bought the building and continued to run it for the same purpose.

Stephen Sears during his boyhood improved the educational advantages afforded him, early developing a love for mechanics and kindred arts. At sixteen years of age he went to sea, where he was steadily employed until 1848, and later he acted for thirteen months as first officer on Philadelphia steamers. Since Mr Sears retired from the sea he has constantly some trust connected with the social or civil interests of his town. He was teacher of the seminary in Harwich four years, and taught fifteen years in grammar schools, the last four in Newport, RI. He was the agent for ten years for New England for the educational works of Harper, Appleton and Sheldon & Co. He was president of the County Teachers Assn. for five years. In his social relations his usefulness is no less marked.

He has been Superintendent of Sunday Schools thirty years of his life, and, although really with his wife, a member of Dr Bates Meth Epis Church of Boston, he now superintends the school of the Bap Ch, S Yarmouth, and renders to that society his spiritual and material aid. For five years he was president of the Cape Cod Musical Assn, and has been otherwise largely interested in the libraries, lodges and

societies of his town and country. In civil and municipal affairs his worth is acknowledged by his reelection.

He acts on the Street Comm, and has been chairman of the Board of Selectman for six years. His labors are manifold, yet accomplished with that precision and sound judgement which characterize him. Among the citizens of Yarmouth none are more identified with the welfare and prosperity of the community than he. In every object for the good of society, his labor and means are employed, and he commands the respect of his townsmen for his ready skill in mechanics, his undoubted integrity in municipal affairs, his liberal benefactions, and his symmetrical social and religious life. (History of Barnstable County; pg 499-502 by: Simeon Deyo)

Stephen Sears conveyancer, surveyor, selectman, etc. 75 Main, South Yarmouth Yarmouth Massachusetts 1890 Directory



**Leslie R Sears [13](1892-1954)** Son of Elkanah Howes Sears and Lelia T Eldridge was a registered civil engineer in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He graduated from MIT and was a corporal in Co G, 22d Engineers building small scale re-supply railroads in France during WW I. He retired in 1952 to his Main street home in East Dennis with his wife Harriet (Thurston) Sears, after serving 20 years with the Metropolitan District Commission of Massachusetts.

Prior to this position, he worked several years for the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. He was a graduate of MIT, and a member of the Massachusetts Engineers Association, the Audubon Society and the Masonic Lodge in Needham.



(Top) East Dennis Clam Bake - 1922

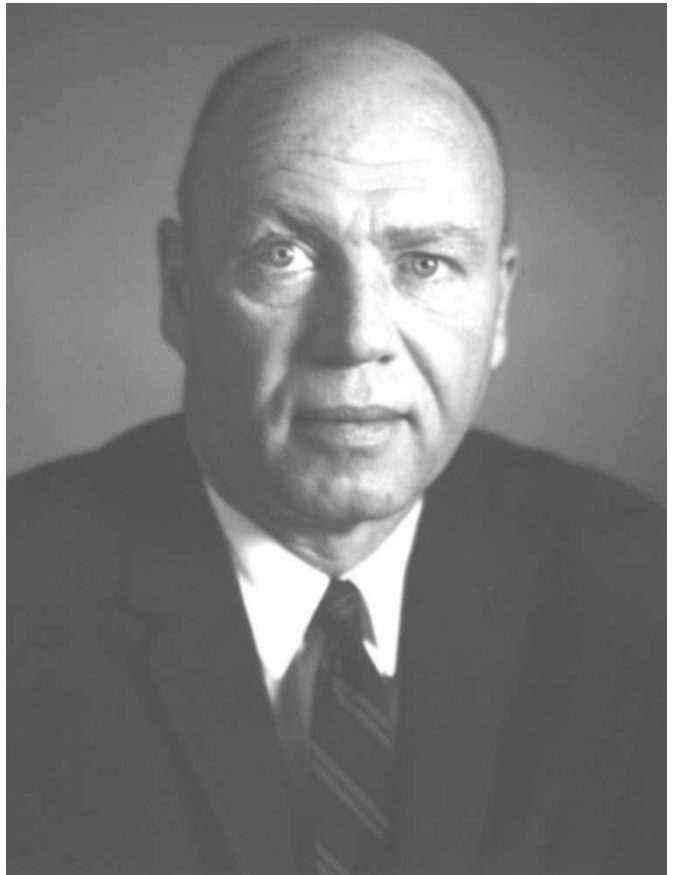
Left Side	Right Side
Katherine Sears (rear)	Edmund Sears[588]
Sam Sears	Lelia Tabitha Eldredge
Mabel Williams Sears	Lelia Estelle "Stella" Sears
	James William "Billy" Sears[17]
	Lelia Dorr [15706]

(Middle) Lelia Estelle "Stella" Sears [19](1887-1970) daughter of Elkanah Howes Sears and Lelia Tabitha Eldredge

(Bottom) Stella, daughter Lelia Dorr(1915-2001) and husband Harvey Dorr



**Thomas Everett Sears [17890] (1882 - ?)** Founded T E Sears, Inc in 1919. The Thomas E. Sears Insurance Agency, Inc was founded in Boston and has expanded it's offices beyond Boston to the towns of Hudson, Shrewsbury and Uxbridge Massachusetts. We are an independent insurance agency specializing in personal and business insurance in the state of Massachusetts. Whos Who in N.E. 1938 Vol 3 MIT 1903. m., ch., Chicago M and National Boards of Fire Underwriters, pres. Thomas E Sears Inc, 1919  
 Home in 1910: 22-WD BOSTON, Suffolk, Massachusetts  
 Race: White Gender: Male Series: T624 Roll: 623 Part: 3 Page: 188A Year: 1910  
 Age: 37 years Estimated birth year: 1882 Birthplace: Hawaii;Honolulu Race: White Home in 1920: Braintree, Norfolk, Massachusetts Roll: T625\_721 Page: 14A ED: 158 Image: 0250; occup:Insurance dealer



**Richard Warren Sears [54911] (1915-?)** Son of Thomas Everett Sears. Vice President and Director of Thomas E Sears, Inc Insurance company until 1973



**Richard Warren Sears [14593] (1863-1914)** Founder of Sears, Roebuck and Co. Never has been connected with Richard Sears of Yarmouth.



**Louis Martin Sears [26061] (1885-1960)** Biography and Genealogy Master Index, 2d ed, Gale Research, ISBN 0-8103-1094-5, p140; AmAu&B, IndAu 1917, WhNAA

!BIRTH-BIOGRAPHY: W J Burke and Will D Howe, Editors, American Authors and Books; 1640-1940; New York, Gramercy Publishing Co, 1943; pp 674-675; Book in Duncan Public Library, Duncan, OK; Educator, author. John Slidell (1925); Purdue University (1925); Jefferson and the Embargo (1927); A History of American Foreign Relations (1927); George Washington (1932); etc. History dept, Purdue University, since 1920.

Steve Helmreich contributed a treasure trove of information about Prof Sears on 1 Dec 2001 (2025 Corbett Dr, Las Cruces, NM 88001 (505)522-3675. Steve's father was a colleague of Prof Martin at Purdue.



**Maj Gen Leslie "Les" R Sears, Jr [11] (1928-1985)** a Cape Codder at heart built his dream home in East Dennis after retiring from 30 years military service. General Sears was born in S. Weymouth, MA. He served with the US Navy as an electronic technician on the aircraft carrier, USS Boxer out of Treasure Island, San Francisco Bay, during 1946-48 and upon his discharge attended Boston University where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration in 1950.

General Sears entered the Army in 1951 and was assigned as radar officer, 685th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, Camp Edwards, Cape Cod, MA.

After serving three years in Germany with US Army, Europe, as an anti-aircraft artillery platoon leader and assistant finance officer, he attended the Finance Officer's Basic Course, Ft Benjamin Harrison, IN.

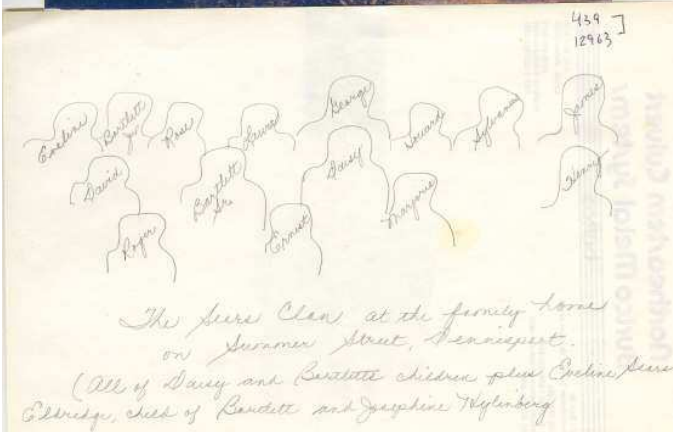
Upon graduation he was assigned as Finance and Accounting Officer, Springfield Armory, MA. Two years later he became a student at the Harvard Business School, Boston, and in 1960 received his Master's degree in Business Administration. He graduated first in his class and was offered an assignment in Washington, DC by the Chief of Finance.

He was subsequently assigned as an automatic data processing systems staff officer, Office, Chief of Finance, Washington, DC and was a key individual in the development of the computerized payroll system-Joint Uniform Military Pay System (JUMPS).

In 1963-64 General Sears attended the Command and General Staff College, Ft Leavenworth, KA. After graduation he was ordered to Vietnam where he became Chief, Management Section, Office of the Comptroller, US Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV).

Returning to the United States, General Sears served as a member of the Department of the Army Board of Inquiry on Army Logistics Systems (Brown Board) from Jul 1965 until April 1967

General Sears was designated Comptroller, Headquarters, US Army Materiel Command, Washington, DC, on 1 Dec 1972.



- Bartlett Freeman Sears [12963] (1863-1927)** photo from Mariesther Sears Robbins. He named his first three children after his sisters. His first wife Josephine died in childbirth with Ida. Most of the information on this line came from his second wife, **Daisy's**(1879-1932), Birthday Book.
- Bartlett Freeman Sears, Jr** (1910-1992). He served as park commissioner and then as highway surveyor for the Town of Dennis for many years. He retired in 1952. Mr Sears was a member of the First Baptist Church of Harwich and Dennis Port and he served as deacon emeritus.
- Rose Marion "Rosie" Sears** (1908-1995).
- Laura Data Sears** (1900-1951).
- George Baker "Bub" Sears** (1906-1998). He worked as a carpenter and mason for several contracting companies in the mid-Cape area until his retirement in 1997. A longtime member of the Massachusetts Beach Buggy Association, he was known as the "Mayor" of North Beach in Chatham.
- Howard Dexter Sears** (1903-1970).
- Sylvanus Sampson "Venie" Sears** (1912-1985).
- James Morgan Sears** (1894-1981).
- David Harris Sears** (1917-1946).
- Henry Clinton "Nink" Sears** (1914-1977).
- Roger Gorham Sears** (1921-2001) the last of 15 children, he was a World War II Army veteran and an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. Roger was a self-employed mason contractor.
- Ernest Everett "Skip" Sears** (1924-1945) was a paratrooper in the US Army in WW II and was killed at the Battle of the Bulge.
- Marjorie Elizabeth Anis Sears** (1919-1992).