

Appendix A - A Chronology of Events

Date	Event
May 31, 1791	John Boynton is born to Jeremiah and Elizabeth Boynton.
1792	Boynton's sister Elizabeth is born.
1797	Boynton's sister Sally is born.
December 28, 1798	Abigail, Boynton's first wife, is born to Ezra and Susanna Merriam.
December 11, 1807	Elizabeth R. Day, Boynton's second wife, is born.
1814	Boynton enlists in the local militia in Portsmouth N.H.
1815	Boynton's sister Elizabeth dies at age 23.
1818	Samuel Merriam is born.
1820	Boynton's sister Sally dies at age 23.
1820	Boynton moves to New Ipswich, New Hampshire to learn the tin business.
1822	Boynton moves to Templeton, Massachusetts to establish a tin business.
September 8, 1822	Boynton marries Abigail Merriam in Mason, New Hampshire.
April 11, 1823	Boynton makes the first of the more than twenty real estate purchases he will eventually make in Templeton. He purchases a one acre parcel of land with a house and barn for \$600.
1826	Mary, Day's sister, dies at age 7.
June 21, 1827	Ezra Merriam, Boynton's father-in-law, dies at age 67.
August 3, 1828	Day and Stillman Simonds publish their intention to be married.
1829	Mary Isabella, the first child of Day and Simonds, is born.
1829	Boynton hires 21-year-old David Whitcomb to work with him.
1830	Whitcomb becomes a partner Boynton's business.

- 1831 Boynton puts Whitcomb in charge of a branch operation in Leominster, MA.
- 1831 Susan, Day's sister, dies at age 18.
- 1833 Boynton and Gilman Day jointly purchase property in Winchendon for \$500.
- December 31, 1834 Boynton sells one-half interest in the tin shop property for \$1,000 to Whitcomb.
- September 19, 1835 Boynton's sister Anna dies at age 23.
- 1836 Charles, the second child of Day and Simonds, is born.
- May 1, 1836 Elnathan, Boynton's younger brother, is married in Mason, New Hampshire.
- 1839 - 1842 Boynton serves as Templeton Highway Surveyor.
- March 4, 1839 Whitcomb is sworn in as Treasurer of Templeton.
- April 1, 1839 Boynton is elected Templeton Highway Surveyor.
- October 27, 1839 Boynton's father, Jeremiah, dies at age 74 in Mason, New Hampshire.
- November 12, 1839 Boynton is elected to a two-year term as a Massachusetts State Representative from Templeton.
- 1840 Boynton has between 27 and 50 peddler carts traveling throughout northern Massachusetts.
- November 4, 1840 The Town of Templeton borrows \$5,000 from the firm of Boynton and Whitcomb, the tinware manufacturing business. The Town of Templeton borrows \$1,000 from John Boynton.
- November 8, 1841 Boynton fails to win re-election as State Representative.
- March 7, 1842 Boynton is elected Templeton Highway Surveyor.
- March 7, 1842 Whitcomb is elected Templeton Fire Warden.
- April 4, 1842 Boynton is excused from serving as Templeton Highway Surveyor.
- March 6, 1843 Boynton is elected Templeton Highway Surveyor but declines to serve.

- March 6, 1843 Whitcomb is elected Templeton Fire Warden.
- March 11, 1843 Abigail, Boynton's wife, dies of consumption at age 44.
- October 14, 1843 Boynton is appointed Postmaster of Templeton.
- November 14, 1843 Whitcomb unsuccessfully runs for State Representative from Templeton.
- June 29, 1844 Boynton is elected to lobby the State Legislature for approval of incorporation of a railroad company.
- March 31, 1845 Whitcomb is elected Templeton Highway Surveyor but declines to serve.
- April 30, 1845 The \$5,000 loan is repaid.
- 1846 Boynton retires from the tinware business and sell his share of the business to Whitcomb.
- January 1, 1846 Boynton sells Whitcomb the other one-half interest in the tin shop property, along with his interest in several other properties.
- 1848 Boynton moves back to Mason, New Hampshire.
- April 20, 1848 Boynton completes his term as the Postmaster of Templeton.
- June 24, 1848 Boynton sells his Greek Revival style home to David Whitcomb for \$2,000.
- 1849 Mary Isabella, at age 19, marries David Hale of New York.
- April 26, 1849 Elizabeth, Boynton's mother, dies at age 81.
- May 15, 1850 Stillman Simonds dies of small pox at age 42.
- August 13, 1851 Susanna Merriam, Boynton's mother-in-law, dies at age 86.
- 1854 Whitcomb moves to Worcester and enters the hardware business.
- March 28, 1854 Millers River Bank is chartered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- September 12, 1854 Millers River Bank opens.
- 1854 Boynton is living in Templeton and later moves to Athol when Millers River Bank opens.
- 1856 Boynton is succeeded as President of Millers River Bank by Seth

Hapgood.

- September 17, 1856 A town meeting is held in Mason to vote to accept Boynton's \$10,000 gift to establish the Boynton Common School Fund.
- 1865 Millers River Bank receives a federal charter and is renamed Millers River National Bank.
- 1865 Boynton moves to the home of Samuel Merriam, Abigail Merriam's nephew; this is Boynton's last residence.
- January 1865 Boynton travels to Worcester to see Whitcomb to discuss the idea to donate \$100,000 to establish a school.
- March 6, 1865 A letter is sent by Reverend Seth Sweetser and Emory Washburn to thirty leading Worcester businessmen, briefly discussing Boynton's proposal to establish a school in Worcester and requesting contributions.
- May 1, 1865 Boynton gives \$100,000 to Whitcomb to establish a school in Worcester.
- May 9, 1865 Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science comes into legal existence with the signing of the school's Articles of Incorporation by Governor John A. Andrew.
- May 13, 1865 A letter written by Sweetser and signed by Boynton details the proposed institution that Boynton contemplates and specifies Boynton's conditions for donating \$100,000 to it.
- June 12, 1865 Boynton formally approves the Articles of Incorporation.
- July 20, 1865 Boynton authorizes Whitcomb to receive and hold all of the income generated by his \$100,000 gift after May 1, 1865 and until the school buildings are ready for occupancy. The income is to be put into "The Library and Apparatus Fund."
- September 9, 1865 Day dies of paralysis at age 57.
- October 30, 1865 Boynton signs a letter extending the time for completion of the school's buildings from May 1, 1867 to May 1, 1868.
- 1866 Whitcomb leaves the hardware business. He and his son, Henry, start the Whitcomb Envelope Company.
- March 25, 1867 Boynton dies of pneumonia at age 75.

- June 5, 1867 The Board of Trustees of Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science approves a resolution that the principal building for instruction be called Boynton Hall.
- June 1, 1868 Whitcomb donates \$4,000 to the Town of Templeton in the name of John Boynton to establish and maintain a free public library and specifies that it be named Boynton Library.
- September 19, 1868 An announcement is sent out describing Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science and announcing when it is to be opened.
- December 30, 1880 Samuel Merriam dies from apoplexy (a stroke).
- 1885 Whitcomb makes a second \$4,000 donation to Boynton Library.
- 1887 Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science is renamed Worcester Polytechnic Institute.
- July 23, 1890 The Massachusetts Home Missionary Society sells Boynton's Greek Revival style home to the Trinitarian Parish of Templeton for \$1,600.
- June 17, 1927 WPI's class of 1922 gathers in Mason to dedicate a stone monument to John Boynton on the town's common. The monument reads in part: "He Opened the Door of Opportunity to Youth."
- March 6, 1933 Millers River National Bank is closed by the bank holiday.
- December 10, 1956 The First Church of Templeton purchases Boynton's Greek Revival style home for \$1.
- 1989 The Masonic School District in New Hampshire, which serves students in the towns of Mason, New Ipswich, and Greenville, names its new middle school Boynton Middle School.

Author's Note:

It should be noted that the death records for the Boynton sisters, as well as other members of Mason, were recorded by the local minister, Reverend Hill. The time of death is definitively known but the age of death could well have been speculation. The dates of birth mentioned earlier may be approximate since they were calculated based on the time of death and the recorded age at death.